



FPX Nickel Corp.
TSX-V:FPX

Baptiste Nickel Project

Initial Project Description

PREPARED BY
ERM Consultants Canada Ltd.

DATE
January 2026

REFERENCE
0689082



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction and Project Overview

FPX Nickel Corp. (FPX) is proposing to construct and operate the Baptiste Nickel Project (the Project), a greenfield open pit nickel mine located 80 kilometres (km) northwest of Fort St. James, British Columbia (BC; Figure 1). The Project and portions of the Transmission Line and access route are within the territories of the Binche Whut'en, Lake Babine Nation, Nadleh Whut'en, Nak'azdli Whut'en, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, Stelat'en First Nation, and Yekooche First Nation.

The Project has a planned operational mine life of 28 years, with an estimated average annual processing rate of 108,000 tonnes per day of ore (a mining rate of 60 million tonnes [Mt]/year) for the first 5 years (Phase 1), increasing to an estimated average annual processing rate of 162,000 per day of ore (a mining rate of 120 Mt per year) thereafter (Phase 2). Based on production capacity the Project is reviewable under BC's *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018) and the federal *Impact Assessment Act* (2019), and will require provincial and federal authorizations for construction, operation, and closure of the Project.

For the purposes of the EA, the primary contact person at FPX is:

Name: Nigel Fisher, Vice President, Environment

Address: FPX Nickel Corp.
Suite 320, 1155 Pender Street
Vancouver, BC, Canada, V6E 2P4

Email: nfisher@fpxnickel.com

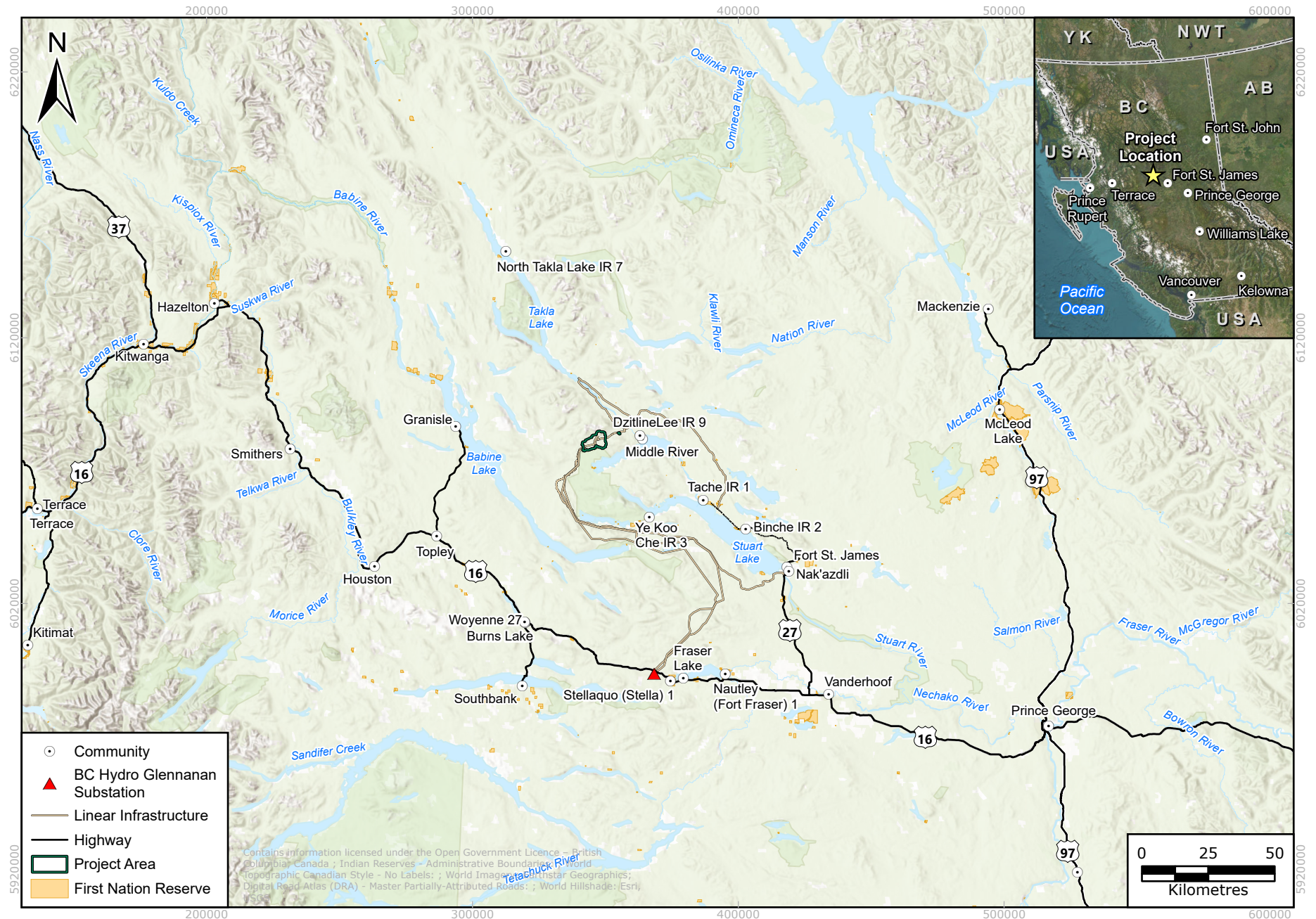
Phone: 604-416-4666

This Initial Project Description (IPD) provides an early Project overview intended to support collaboration with First Nations, government agencies, and the public during the Early Engagement phase of the regulatory process. Early Engagement is an important preparatory phase to identify engagement approaches, potential interests, issues, and concerns early in the environmental assessment (EA) process and chart a path for resolution. FPX recognizes that this is a long-term Project and is committed to working directly with local communities and First Nations through collaboration and with respect to plan and develop it in a responsible manner.

Project Need and Purpose

Nickel is a critical mineral required for the transition to a low-carbon economy and which enable renewable energy technologies. The Project represents an opportunity to responsibly develop a domestic, low-carbon nickel source that is aligned with First Nations, as well as British Columbia and Canada's Critical Minerals strategies. The Project is anticipated to contribute substantive benefits to the region and the province, as well as Canada. The region has seen a decline in employment associated with an adverse change in the forestry sector, historically the largest employment sector in the area. With an estimated Construction phase of 3 years, and as a multigenerational project with a mine life of 28 years, the Project would support long-term economic diversification, growth and resiliency.

FIGURE 1 PROJECT LOCATION



Benefits would include:

- Direct and indirect employment for First Nation and non-First Nation individuals from surrounding communities—approximately 1,000 direct jobs and 3,200 indirect jobs on and offsite sustained each year during operation;
- Partnership, support and stewardship opportunities with First Nations—implementing collaborative approaches and policies seeking to support local communities, including First Nation communities, benefits from substantial and lasting benefits and opportunities provided by Project development activities;
- Provincial revenue through taxes, royalties, and other fees paid to the government; contributing to public services and infrastructure development—an estimated \$20 M annually in municipal taxes, \$200 M annually in provincial taxes, and adds \$45 B to Canada’s GDP;
- Support Canada’s pathway to a low-carbon economy in producing nickel with a low carbon intensity (<1.5 tCO_{2e}/tNi—within the lowest 10% of nickel mines globally); and
- Deliver on meeting Canada’s climate change commitments by producing nickel in the lowest decile of carbon intensity, and that could be used in batteries for 1.3 M EVs per year.

Project Description and Project Alternatives

The Project is in the early stages of development, with alternative designs and locations still being considered for several major components. Significant engineering design work and mine planning remain to be done. FPX values the opportunity for collaboration with local communities and understands the importance of integrating First Nations knowledge and perspectives into early Project design and the decision-making process. FPX has been working with First Nations to seek to establish a collaborative design process to better define the final Project design and returning land use (closure) concepts.

Based on engineering and planning work completed to date, the following key Project components will be required:

Mine and Mine Ancillary Facilities

- Open Pit
- Water Management Systems
- Non-contact Water Diversion Ditches
- Mine Services Building(s), including:
 - Mine Dry
 - Truck Shop
 - Light Vehicle Shop
 - Tire Change
 - Mine Office
 - Truck Wash
 - Mine Warehouse
- Fuel Station Facility

Mine and Mine Ancillary Facilities (*cont’d*)

- Operational Ore Stockpile
- Laydown Areas
- Explosives Storage Facility
- Haul Roads and Mine Site Roads

Process and Process Ancillary Facilities

- Primary Crushing
- Covered Coarse Ore Stockpile/Reclaim
- Process Plant, including:
 - Primary Grinding
 - Secondary Grinding
 - Magnetic Separation

Process and Process Ancillary Facilities (cont'd)

- Regrinding
- Froth Flotation
- Tailings Leach Circuit
- Dewatering Circuits
- Control Room
- Reagents and Reagent Storage
- Concentrate Handling
- Plant Services Building(s), including:
 - Plant Maintenance
 - Plant Dry
 - Assay and Metallurgical Laboratories
 - Offices
 - Plant Warehouse
- Water Management Systems
- Plant Site Roads

Mine Waste and Water Management Facilities

- Temporary Ore and Overburden Stockpile
- Overburden and Rock Stockpile
- Topsoil Stockpiles
- Tailings Facility
- Tailings Distribution Pumps and Pipelines
- Freshwater Pond(s)
- Water Reclaim Pumps and Pipelines
- Water Management Ponds and Ditches
- Non-contact Water Diversion Ditches
- Fresh, Process, and Potable Water Storage and Distribution Systems
- Potable Water Well(s)

General Ancillary Facilities

- High Voltage Substation
- E-houses and Control Rooms
- Onsite Transmission Lines
- Utilities
- Administration Services Building(s), including:
 - Offices
 - General Warehouse
 - First Aid
 - Emergency Response/Ambulance Bay
- Core Shack
- Laydown(s)
- Accommodation Facility
- Helipad(s)
- Gatehouse(s) and Truck Scale
- Sewage Treatment Facilities
- Incinerator(s)

Offsite Infrastructure

- Transmission Line
- Access Road(s)
- Freshwater Supply System
- Logistics and Administration Centre

Temporary Facilities

- Various temporary facilities to support construction

The Baptiste orebody is a large, geologically consistent, and near surface resource that is most efficiently and effectively mined by open pit methods based on geological geotechnical considerations. The Open Pit has been optimized to promote a consistent ore production rate while meeting material requirements to support construction of the Tailings Facility. The mine plan targets nearer-surface, higher-grade zones early in the mine life to optimize metal production and strip ratio. The result is a mine with a low overall strip ratio (approximately 0.6:1, i.e., removing 0.6 t of waste material for every tonne of ore, making it an economically favourable and efficient ratio), including a particularly low strip ratio during the early years of mining.

FPX is proposing a 3-year Construction phase followed by a 28-year Operations phase. As previously noted, Operations is broken into two subphases, with Operations Phase 1 anticipated to include the first 5 years, and Operations Phase 2 commencing in Year 6 with the commissioning of a Process Plant expansion to increase the processing rate.

The Project is anticipated to generate air emissions, water discharge, sanitary sewage, domestic waste, and hazardous waste. Based on the direct and acquired energy greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for the Construction, Operations, and Closure phases of the Project, the total net GHG emissions summed over all Project years are 2,593,469 tCO_{2e}. Water emissions include the discharge of contact water (i.e., water that has been in contact with potential sources of contamination) and the diversion of non-contact water (i.e., from upstream catchments that have not been in contact with mine workings) to the receiving environment.

The Tailings Facility is the key feature for the integrated waste and water management facilities that will be progressively developed, operated, and reclaimed over the life of mine. As noted, supplementary freshwater is anticipated to be required. If the water balance is in surplus, contact water will be discharged. Pending an assessment of potential effects and outcomes of a Best Achievable Technology study consistent with regulatory requirements, should water treatment be required or be proposed in an EA application, it will meet the appropriate Technology Readiness Level under the *Technology Readiness Assessment Interim Guidance* (Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation 2022). This includes Technology Readiness Level 7 for the EAC Application.

Alternative means of carrying out the Project have and will continue to be considered, including transmission line route and interconnection, the mine access road route, freshwater supply source, water management, tailings management, the mining fleet, and waste management options. FPX Nickel is not aware of any viable alternatives to the Project in British Columbia that would provide a source of low-carbon nickel in the proposed timeframe.

First Nations

FPX has identified eight potentially impacted First Nations based on the Project location within their territories, as summarized alphabetically in Table 1.

TABLE 1 FIRST NATION TERRITORIES IN THE VICINITY OF THE PROJECT

First Nations Territories that Fully Overlap the Project Area	First Nations Territories that Partially Overlap the Project Area or Offsite Infrastructure (Access Road[s] and/or Transmission Line)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Binche Whut'en • Takla Nation • Tl'azt'en Nation • Yekooche First Nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Babine Nation • Nadleh Whut'en • Nak'azdli Whut'en • Stellat'en First Nation

FPX has an ongoing commitment to meaningful and effective engagement with all First Nations potentially affected by the Project. It is considered a fundamental aspect of Project success that engagement with First Nations be integrated in the design and planning phase of the Project and continue throughout the life of the Project.

Existing Biophysical and Human Environments

Project-specific baseline studies have generally been conducted during two distinct periods: (1) 2011 to 2014 and (2) 2021 to present. To date, Project-specific baseline studies have focused on the Project Area, although some desktop work has been completed for the transmission line and access road. Beginning in 2026, FPX plans to initiate field baseline studies for offsite components e.g., transmission line and access road to inform the EAC Application.

Temperatures at the Baptiste Meteorological Station follow a seasonal cycle, with July typically being the warmest month and January the coldest. The warmest temperature ever recorded at the station was 35.2°C on 28 June 2021, while the coldest recorded temperature was -31.6°C on December 26, 2021.

The Project is located in the North Central Interior hydrologic zone, as defined in the BC Stream Inventory (Coulson and Obedkoff 1998). The Project Area is in the Stuart-Takla watershed. The three main subwatersheds associated with the proposed Project Area are Khast'an-i Koh (Baptiste Creek), Sidney Creek and Paula Creek.

The Project is located in the Fraser Basin Ecoregion with three Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification zones represented within the Project Area: Sub-Boreal Spruce (SBS) at lower elevations, Boreal Altai Fescue Alpine (BAFA) at the highest elevations, and Englemann Spruce-Subalpine Fir (ESSF) found in between these two zones.

Observations from the wildlife studies completed to date include the following:

- During summer and autumn, caribou utilize high- and low-elevation habitats. Moose appear to be broadly distributed at low elevations and are the most abundant ungulate in the area. Other ungulates include elk, mule deer, and white-tailed deer.
- Grizzly bears were captured on remote cameras, including three sows with cubs. Grizzly bears are broadly distributed in the area.
- Wolverine, fisher, Canada lynx, and olive-sided flycatcher are broadly distributed in the area. Woodland caribou in the Project Area belong to the Takla herd, which are a sub-herd of Southern Mountain caribou. This population is Red listed in BC and listed as Threatened under Schedule 1 of the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA; 2002). The Project Area overlaps with the federally designated caribou Critical Habitat for the Takla herd, as well as caribou Ungulate Winter Range.

The main fish assemblage proximal to the Project consists of rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), longnose sucker (*Catostomus catostomus*), and Dolly Varden / bull trout (*Salvelinus malma / confluentus*). In the greater study area, various other species were documented during spring and fall spawner surveys downstream of the Project Area, including peamouth chub (*Mylocheilus caurinus*), mountain whitefish (*Prosopium williamsoni*), and kokanee and sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*—Takla-Trembleur-Stuart population). These species have only been documented in the lower reaches of Paula, Sidney, and/or Baptiste creeks.

White Sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*; Nechako River population) are known to occur in the Middle River upstream and downstream of the Project Area and are a SARA Schedule 1-listed species (Endangered; BC Red listed). The lower 1.5 km of the Middle River, and approximately 1.5 km out from its mouth into Trembleur Lake, are designated critical habitat under SARA (2024). Further, Sockeye salmon Designatable Unit 20 (Takla-Trembleur-EStu [early Stuart] population) and Designatable Unit 21 (Takla-Trembleur-Stuart S [Late Stuart] population) were assessed as Endangered in 2017 (COSEWIC 2017) and overlap with the Project. No other Species at Risk fish species have been identified in the Project Area.

The Project is located within the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (population 37,737; Statistics Canada 2023), and the closest municipality to the Project is the District of Fort St. James (population 1,386), located approximately 160 km driving distance away from the Project. There are several First Nations within the vicinity of the Project, including on-reserve communities as well as First Nation territories that cover broad areas of land.

First Nation territories support a diverse range of traditional practices, many of which continue in the present day. Harvesting activities support the sustenance of communities and culture, and can fluctuate seasonally, including fishing (sockeye salmon, whitefish, trout, kokanee, and ling cod), hunting (moose, deer, bear, caribou, and elk), trapping, and resource gathering (medicinal plants, roots, herbs, mushrooms, and berries).

The Project Area is located within the boundaries of four family keyohs, which are territories stewarded by families as part of a traditional hereditary governance system of the Dakelh people of the Stuart-Trembleur Lake area (e.g., Nak'azdli Whut'en 2021; Tl'azt'en Nation 2024). The four keyohs that overlap with the Project Area are the Duncan/Hallman Keyoh, Basil/Anatole Keyoh, Joseph Keyoh, and Felix Keyoh. Engagement with the four keyoh families is ongoing.

Land and resource use within the area surrounding the Project includes mining, forestry, trapping, guided hunting, commercial recreation, and outdoor recreation (including wildlife viewing, boating, angling, hunting, camping, and hiking).

There are no active grazing tenures near or overlapping with the Project. There is an oil and gas pipeline reserve/notation (6408710) and right-of-way (9708459) overlapping with the Project, held by the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Initiatives and Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Ltd., respectively. Two provincially registered traplines (TR 726 T005 and TR 726 T006) overlap with the Project Area.

No federal or provincial parks are overlapped by the Project, though Rubyrock Lake Park, a (41,233 ha) park is located 0.2 km south of the Project Area. Trembleur Lake Park is located 5.1 km southeast of the Project Area. Additional parks and protected areas include Sutherland River Park and Sutherland River Protected Area, near the proposed Transmission Line, and Stuart Lake Park, near the North Access Road.

The Nechako economic region in North Central BC supports a variety of agricultural and natural resource industries, including forestry and mining. The Nechako region also has a growing outdoor tourism industry.

The Project is located in the Nechako Local Health Area, which is an administrative subregion within the Northern Interior Health Service Delivery Area of Northern Health. Northern Health provides health care and support services to residents within its boundaries, including hospital care, home and community care, public health initiatives, mental health and addiction services, and environmental health.

The Stuart Lake Hospital in Fort St. James is the closest hospital to the Project, and is moving to a new and larger facility, expected to be fully operational by the fall of 2025 (Pawliw 2024). Other support services in Fort St. James include the Fort St. James Health Centre; emergency fire, police, and ambulance services; and the Fort St. James Search and Rescue. Fort St. James also has a municipal water, sewer, and garbage infrastructure.

Public and Environmental Safety

Based on engagement completed to date, general concerns with the potential for accidents and the need to protect the environment have been raised. As part of ongoing engagement, FPX is continuing to seek an understanding of the issues and concerns that First Nations, local government, rightsholders, stakeholders, and the public have regarding potential accidents and malfunctions related to the Project. An analysis of the risk of key malfunctions and accidents will be part of the EAC Application, along with potential effects and mitigation measures to reduce the potential of occurrence.

Summary of Engagement

FPX has been engaging with First Nations potentially affected by the Project for more than a decade. As such, engagement activities in the Early Engagement Phase will continue to build on established relationships and continue to foster a process of meaningful participation. FPX adopts a proactive and inclusive engagement approach, to achieve the following outcomes:

- Meaningful Early and Ongoing Engagement;
- Formalized Agreements; and
- Inclusive Participation.

FPX has established several venues for engaging and collaborating with First Nations on the development of the Project, including a leadership table, a technical table, and focused workshops.

FPX has also been actively engaging with federal and provincial government entities that currently have or are anticipated to have a role in regulating the Project, as well as local governments and the public.

The primary interests and concerns raised by First Nations based on engagement completed to date are summarized in Table 2. While this table provides a high-level summary of topics discussed, it is not intended to be exhaustive or representative of all the interests and concerns of all First Nations, which continue to be defined through bilateral and collaborative Project design meetings.

To date, FPX held six public open houses at the FPX office in Fort St. James, as well as one in Vanderhoof and another in Fraser Lake, as a means to introduce the Project to local communities and gather feedback. Interests and concerns raised during these events, as well as FPX's approach to address each issue, are summarized in Table 3.

TABLE 2 **SUMMARY OF INTERESTS AND CONCERNS RAISED BY FIRST NATIONS**

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Business, Employment, Procurement, and Economic Opportunities	Employment opportunities related to the Project, including opportunities for First Nation-owned businesses	<p>FPX continues to engage First Nations and affiliated businesses on Project development opportunities. FPX is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project. Pending further engagement, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide a point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualification requirements for major job types onsite; • Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy, and discussing potential economic opportunities for local businesses; • Working to coordinate the interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Supporting community bursaries for First Nation members; • Identifying appropriate methods to communicate the Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities; and • Developing appropriate monitoring metrics.
Community Well-Being	Concerns pertaining to the potential for social challenges associated with mining projects, including addressing social infrastructure gaps and impacts from industrial camps, including the addiction crisis and community safety	FPX is seeking to collaboratively design and develop the Project with First Nations. This included co-developed approaches to addressing potential social impacts (e.g., data collection and assessment) and supporting community-led strategies for closing social infrastructure gaps.
Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing	Need for clear and consistent communication throughout the Project, to ensure all community members, regardless of access level, can stay informed and involved	FPX has participated in community and Keyoh meetings, providing Project related information to members and establishing a model for future engagement. FPX is seeking to support First Nations in providing project information and tailoring communication to support access to information (e.g., an increase in online Project information).
Environmental Assessment Process	Need for First Nation self-determined processes and assessments to evaluate the project	FPX will continue to seek to engage First Nations to evaluate opportunities for nation-led processes for evaluation of the Project.

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Fish and Fish Habitat, Including Water Quality	The state of salmon habitat and the environmental sensitivity of the Project area for salmon, white sturgeon and steelhead, including Sidney Creek, Middle River, and Trembleur Lake	FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies, including fish and fish habitat, hydrology and water quality to inform Project design and assessment, including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses. FPX's approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies (e.g., sharing baseline workplan). FPX is also developing early plans for fisheries stewardship to support First Nations-led fisheries management. Early engagement has informed the IPD for the protection of fish and fish habitat (e.g., siting of major project facilities to avoid habitat used by salmon and reducing the need to cross Sidney Creek).
Indigenous Knowledge	Importance of incorporating Indigenous Knowledge into the Project	The incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge is a core objective of the collaborative approach that FPX has taken with respect to the development of the environmental baseline workplan and execution of studies. FPX will continue to pursue methods to engage with First Nations on the review of programs and the potential for the development and incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge.
Reclamation and Land Use	Concerns about reclamation standards and land use during and after the Project	FPX conducted a reclamation inspection of exploration drill sites with First Nation representatives and will continue engagement around land use and reclamation and restoration to incorporate needs into the Project plan.
Whitebark Pine	Concerns about the impact of Project activities on Whitebark Pine	FPX has developed a conceptual Whitebark Pine Stewardship Plan for the Project for collaborative review, refinement and implementation by First Nations. This plan was informed by baseline collected with multiple First Nations in 2024. Further, FPX has developed an exploration phase Whitebark Pine Management Plan (Shas-Ti Environmental LP 2025) and revised based on input from First Nations. This plan was implemented with First Nation monitors in 2025.
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	The effects and cumulative effects on wildlife population and on habitat during all phases of the Project, especially as it relates to food security, including moose and caribou and their habitats	Exploration activities have been informed by First Nation review of work plans including the development of environmental management plans (e.g., exploration phase caribou management plan and reclamation planning). Based on early engagement, FPX has prioritized early stewardship activities and baseline work including caribou and wildlife. Activities to date include the development of a draft baseline work plan and conceptual caribou stewardship plan for development and implementation with First Nations including TI'azt'en Nation.

TABLE 3 SUMMARY OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE ISSUES AND INTERESTS RAISED

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Accidents and Risk Mitigation	Prevention and mitigation of risks associated to accidents that could damage the environment	FPX will identify and assess potential risks associated with accidents and malfunctions which may have adverse environmental effects, and where identified include measures to reduce risk in the design, operation and closure of the Project. The assessment will be made publicly available through the EA process.
Business, Employment, Procurement, and Economic Opportunities	Local businesses and community organizations seeking opportunities to provide support and collaborate leading to lasting benefits for communities provide support and collaborate	<p>FPX is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project, pending further engagement, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualifications requirements for major job types onsite; • Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy; • Discussing potential economic opportunities for local businesses and working to coordinate interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Identifying appropriate methods to communicate Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities; and • Developing appropriate monitoring metrics.
Community Well-Being	Social programs to support opioid crisis and possibility of transient employees and influence of money coming to the community	Work with community leadership, to develop approaches to engage community members during Project planning to develop community well-being mitigation and monitoring (e.g., identification and implementation of financial planning sessions).
Environmental Impacts	Environmental impacts including air quality, water stewardship (quality and quantity) and wildlife (including caribou)	<p>FPX is undertaking baseline studies to collect information to inform Project design and assessment and where required develop mitigation. To date this has prioritized early action based on community feedback as part of exploration and environmental stewardship measures (e.g., habitat restoration and reclamation trials).</p> <p>FPX will continue to provide updates on baseline study findings and stewardship plans and the results of assessments as they become available.</p>
Indigenous Knowledge	The importance of respecting and including First Nations throughout the Project lifecycle	Continue engagement and collaborative mine design processes through the development of agreements with all First Nations potentially affected by the Project, supporting ongoing recognition and respect for Indigenous rights throughout the Project implementation.

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Land Access	The impact of the Project on access to private properties or recreation areas	The mine site does not overlap private property and has been designed to support continued access along existing or realigned forest service roads. The proposed access road and transmission line options seek to align with existing disturbance and linear corridors. FPX will seek to work with land tenure holders and land users to maintain access and will continue to communicate Project updates.
Traffic	Changes in traffic patterns	FPX has identified multiple potential access routes to the Project for further collaborative decision with First Nations and communities as reflected in the Initial Project Description. A traffic study is planned as part of further engineering study, and the results will be shared during public consultation.

Potential Project Effects

The potential effects of the Project on environmental, economic, social, heritage, and human health will be assessed in the EAC Application. The assessment will focus on specific Valued Components (VCs) identified in collaboration with First Nations, government agencies, and the public. The assessment of potential effects to VCs will include consideration of mitigation measures and plans to avoid, minimize, rehabilitate, or offset impact; residual and cumulative effects associated with the Project; and reasonably foreseeable developments. A preliminary list of possible Project effects is presented in Table 4.

TABLE 4 POTENTIAL PROJECT EFFECTS

Component	Potential Effect
Physical Environment	
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fugitive dust emissions from material handling, blasting, vehicle, and processing can increase ambient particulate matter concentrations that can negatively affect human and wildlife health. Increases in dust fall deposition can affect vegetation and waterbodies. Combustion emissions from vehicles and equipment can result in increases in ambient concentrations of NO₂, SO₂, and other contaminants that can negatively affect human health and vegetation.
Noise and Vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise from mining can result in increases in noise levels for human and wildlife receptors. Vibrations from blasting and equipment may affect human and wildlife receptors. Vibration can impact geotechnical stability near Project infrastructure.
Geology, Soils, and Terrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of soil profile and changes to terrain from vegetation removal, overburden removal, waste storage rock, and development of open pit mine. Changes to soil quality due to changes in chemical and physical soil characteristics during mining and reclamation activities. Long-term storage of soils can lead to loss of soil productivity.

Component	Potential Effect
Physical Environment (<i>cont'd</i>)	
Groundwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to groundwater quality and quantity from ML/ARD or chemical contamination (e.g., fuel spills) or over-extraction. • Changes to groundwater quality and quantity from mining interaction with the groundwater table, resulting from changes to topography, including disturbance to bedrock and surficial materials. • Changes to groundwater quality interactions between groundwater and mine-influenced surface water. • Changes to groundwater quality from water infiltration through waste rock, pit walls, mine pits, etc.
Hydrology and Surface Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in water quality downstream of the Project from discharge of treated mine contact water, site runoff erosion/sedimentation, blasting residue leaching, interactions with groundwater, accidents/spills, or ML/ARD risks. • Potential effects could change concentrations of key parameters, including metals, physical parameters (pH, temperature, turbidity/total suspended solids, etc.), which affect suitability to downstream uses, toxicity to aquatic life, and nutrient levels. • Changes in flow regime and sediment loading in watercourses. • Erosion/deposition associated with changes in surface water flow regime. • Changes in groundwater-surface water interactions.
Biological Environment	
Fish and Fish Habitat / Aquatic Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct loss or change in quantity of aquatic habitat due to mine infrastructure. • Changes in quantity and quality of aquatic habitat resulting from the alteration of stream flows. • Changes in water quality resulting in potential health effects to aquatic resources and aquatic species (e.g., fish, benthic invertebrates, amphibians, and birds). • Changes in the amount, suitability, migration, and distribution of habitats (including sediment quality) for fish or aquatic organisms.
Vegetation and Ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss and/or alteration of ecosystems, vegetation, and wetlands from land clearing and mine construction. • Health effects on vegetation due to changes in air, water, soil quality, and dust deposition. • Deposition of dust on plants and soil, which can result in an uptake of metals to plants, which are then consumed by wildlife.
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss and/or alteration of wildlife habitats, including migratory bird and caribou habitat, from land clearing and mine construction. • Sensory disturbance to wildlife (light and noise). • Disruption of wildlife (e.g., bears and small furbearers) and seasonal movement patterns in regional and local landscapes. • Direct mortality of wildlife due to wildlife-vehicle collisions and indirect mortalities from Project operations. • Changes to population dynamics, potentially including moose, bears, and small furbearers due to changes to predator-prey dynamics. • Health effects on wildlife due to changes in air, water, and soil quality. • Loss of riparian habitats affecting waterbirds and amphibians that use lentic and lotic environments.

Component	Potential Effect
Social, Health, and Economic Environment	
Community Infrastructure and Services, and Community Well-Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to and/or maintenance of community and individual health and well-being. • Health and safety of workers and the public. • Changes to local community services and infrastructure due to either Project demand or Project driven population change.
Human Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to particulate matter concentrations (e.g., PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀), which may cause health risks to the workforce. • Deposition of dust to plants and soil, which can result in the uptake of metals to plants, which are then consumed by people. • Health effects due to changes in water quality. • Increased levels of noise and traffic that can cause stress or harm, such as sleep disturbance. • Potential effects are related to the Project's potential impacts to the biophysical environment and to social and economic factors (e.g., related to food security, transmission of knowledge, and employment).
Employment and Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial and local economic stimuli via Project procurement and contracting for goods, services, and personal services, and consumer spending of employees. • Employment, income, and local government revenue generation and gross domestic product benefits. • Changes to employment, employment income, and training. • Changes to gross domestic product. • Changes to local government revenues and expenditures. • Changes to the wage and non-wage economy due to Project-driven changes in hunting, trapping, and gathering. • Changes to the local population and demographics due to Project driven labour market changes.
Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to opportunities associated with public and tenured land and resources, including changes to the use of and/or access to certain public lands and waters and availability of certain species. • Changes in the ability to access preferred locations used for traditional purposes. • Changes to the safe and productive use of the land for traditional purposes by First Nations. • Changes in the presence, absence, abundance, quality or spatial distribution of fresh water, terrestrial, or other resources that are currently used for traditional purposes. • Changes in the quality of experience associated with the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes as a result of items such as increased activity in the area, noise, dust, and light. • Changes to First Nations interests including socio-economic status, community well-being, and cultural sustainability (e.g., the ability to transfer Indigenous Knowledge).
Visual Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to the visual landscape. • Changes to nighttime ambient light conditions.
Physical and Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to resource integrity and increased or decreased accessibility to palaeontological, archaeological, or historical sites during all Project phases.

Component	Potential Effect
Components of the Environment that are Within the Legislative Authority of the Federal Government	
Fish and Fish Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct loss or change in quantity of aquatic habitat due to mine infrastructure. • Changes in the quantity and quality of aquatic habitat resulting from alteration of stream flows. • Changes in water quality resulting in potential health effects to aquatic resources and aquatic species (e.g., fish, benthic invertebrates, amphibians, and birds). • Changes in the amount, suitability, migration, and distribution of habitats (including sediment quality) for fish or aquatic organisms.
Aquatic Species at Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct loss or change in the quantity of aquatic habitat due to mine infrastructure. • Changes in the quantity and quality of aquatic habitat resulting from the alteration of stream flows. • Changes in water quality resulting in potential health effects to aquatic resources and aquatic species (e.g., fish, benthic invertebrates, amphibians, and birds). • Changes in the amount, suitability, migration, and distribution of habitats (including sediment quality) for fish or aquatic organisms from road upgrades or sediment/erosion inputs at stream crossings.
Migratory Birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss and/or alteration of migratory bird habitat from land clearing and mine construction.
Aeronautical and Marine Navigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential impact to aeronautical navigation from communication towers or utility poles and wires. • Potential impact to watercraft navigating near stream crossings or about instream works, e.g., water intakes.
Potential Changes Outside of BC and Canada	
Potential Changes Outside of BC Within Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No potential effects are anticipated outside of BC within Canada.
Potential Changes on Federal Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No potential effects are anticipated on federal lands.
Potential Changes Outside of Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No potential effects are anticipated outside of Canada.

Closing

Through this Initial Project Description FPX is providing an early overview of the Baptiste Nickel Project. This document is intended to initiate and support the Early Engagement phase of the provincial and federal environmental assessment processes. Once a Joint Summary of Issues and Engagement is issued by the Environmental Assessment Office and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, the next step will be to respond to feedback received and prepare a Detailed Project Description for the Environmental Assessment Office. In the Detailed Project Description, FPX will present a more refined design that considers the collaboration and review provided by government agencies, First Nations, and the public.

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS TO THE INITIAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Contributor	Credentials	Relevant Experience
Nathan Braun ERM Consultants Canada Ltd.	MA	20+ years in impact assessment
François Landry ERM Consultants Canada Ltd.	MSc	29+ years in impact assessment
Philip Jakob ERM Consultants Canada Ltd.	MSc	20+ years experience in socio-economic analysis
Sarah Peerless ERM Consultants Canada Ltd.	MEM, PMP	14 years in engagement and impact assessment
Jonathan Ward ERM Consultants Canada Ltd.	MSc, RPBio, PBIol	14 years in engagement and impact assessment
Mark Welsh ERM Consultants Canada Ltd.	MSc, RPBio	13 years in impact assessment
Andres Soux ERM Consultants Canada Ltd.	MSc	20+ years in air quality, climatology, and impact assessment

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	I
LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS TO THE INITIAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION	XVI
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	XXII
1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. PROPONENT INFORMATION	2-1
3. PROJECT OVERVIEW	3-1
3.1 PROJECT NEED, PURPOSE, AND BENEFITS	3-1
3.2 PROJECT LOCATION	3-3
3.3 PROJECT GEOLOGY, HISTORY, STATUS, AND EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE	3-12
3.3.1 Geology	3-12
3.3.2 Project History	3-13
3.3.3 Status and Existing Infrastructure	3-13
3.4 EXISTING PERMITS AND APPROVALS	3-14
4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION	4-1
4.1 SUMMARY OF PROJECT COMPONENTS	4-4
4.1.1 Open Pit	4-5
4.1.2 Processing and Ancillary Facilities	4-5
4.1.3 Tailings Facility	4-6
4.1.4 Material Management	4-10
4.1.5 Water Management Facilities and Stewardship	4-11
4.1.6 Roads	4-12
4.1.7 Power	4-14
4.2 PROJECT DESIGN OR SITING CONSTRAINTS	4-14
4.3 PROJECT PHASES AND ACTIVITIES	4-16
4.4 PROJECT WORKFORCE	4-19
4.4.1 Accommodations	4-21
4.5 EMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, AND OTHER WASTE	4-22
4.5.1 Greenhouse Gas Emissions	4-22
4.5.2 Water Emissions	4-32
4.5.3 Other Wastes	4-33
4.6 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROJECT	4-33
4.7 ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT	4-33
5. REGULATORY AND POLICY FRAMEWORK	5-1
5.1 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	5-1
5.2 OTHER PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL PERMITS, LICENCES, AND APPROVALS REQUIRED FOR THE PROJECT	5-2

5.3	FEDERAL MATTERS	5-5
5.4	PROPOSED REGULATORY SCHEDULE AND PROJECT MILESTONES	5-6
6.	FIRST NATIONS	6-1
6.1	BINCHE WHUT'EN	6-1
6.2	LAKE BABINE NATION	6-2
6.3	NADLEH WHUT'EN	6-3
6.4	NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN	6-5
6.5	STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION	6-6
6.6	TAKLA NATION	6-7
6.7	TL'AZT'EN NATION	6-9
6.8	YEKOOCHE FIRST NATION	6-10
7.	EXISTING BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	7-1
7.1	CLIMATE	7-5
7.2	SURFACE WATER	7-6
7.3	GROUNDWATER	7-8
7.4	ECOSYSTEMS AND VEGETATION	7-9
7.5	WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE HABITAT	7-11
7.6	FISH AND FISH HABITAT	7-14
8.	EXISTING HUMAN ENVIRONMENT	8-1
8.1	LOCAL COMMUNITIES	8-1
8.1.1	Municipalities	8-1
8.1.2	First Nation Communities	8-3
8.2	USE OF LANDS AND RESOURCES FOR TRADITIONAL PURPOSES	8-5
8.3	LAND USE PLANS, LAND USE DESIGNATIONS, WATER RIGHTS, AND TENURES	8-6
8.4	PARKS AND PROTECTED AREAS	8-10
8.5	LOCAL ECONOMY	8-10
8.6	HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	8-11
8.7	HERITAGE RESOURCES	8-12
8.8	VISUAL RESOURCES	8-13
9.	PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY	9-1
10.	SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT	10-1
10.1	FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT	10-1

10.1.1	Venues of Engagement	10-2
10.1.2	Summary of Engagement with First Nations	10-4
10.1.3	Summary of Key Interests and Concerns	10-7
10.2	SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC	10-11
10.3	SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENTS	10-13
10.4	ONGOING ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	10-20
11.	POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF THE PROJECT	11-1
11.1	EFFECTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT ON THE PROJECT	11-1
11.2	POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE ENVIRONMENT OUTSIDE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND CANADA	11-1
11.3	POTENTIAL CUMULATIVE EFFECTS	11-1
12.	CLOSING	12-1
13.	REFERENCES	13-1

APPENDIX A	ENGAGEMENT PLAN
APPENDIX B	CONCORDANCE TABLES
APPENDIX C	MIGRATORY BIRDS POTENTIALLY IN THE PROJECT AREA

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE 1	FIRST NATION TERRITORIES IN THE VICINITY OF THE PROJECT	V
TABLE 2	SUMMARY OF INTERESTS AND CONCERNS RAISED BY FIRST NATIONS	IX
TABLE 3	SUMMARY OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE ISSUES AND INTERESTS RAISED	XI
TABLE 4	POTENTIAL PROJECT EFFECTS	XII
TABLE 3.2-1	GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES OF COMPONENTS	3-3
TABLE 3.2-2	DECAR PROPERTY MINERAL CLAIMS	3-5
TABLE 3.2-3	DISTANCE TO FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES AND RESERVES	3-8
TABLE 4.1-1	ESTIMATED MINE WASTE	4-8
TABLE 4.1-2	GLOBAL INDUSTRY STANDARD ON TAILINGS MANAGEMENT STATUS	4-8
TABLE 4.1-3	SUMMARY OF CURRENT TRAFFIC VOLUMES IN THE PROJECT AREA	4-13
TABLE 4.1-4	SUMMARY OF PREDICTED TRAFFIC VOLUMES FOR THE PROJECT	4-14
TABLE 4.2-1	MAJOR COMPONENT SITING FLEXIBILITY	4-15
TABLE 4.3-1	PROJECT PHASES AND ACTIVITIES	4-17
TABLE 4.4-1	PROJECT EMPLOYMENT BY DEPARTMENT AND PHASE	4-20
TABLE 4.4-2	PROJECT EMPLOYMENT PROFILES	4-20

TABLE 4.5-1	PROJECT GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY YEAR IN CARBON DIOXIDE (CO ₂), METHANE (CH ₄), AND NITROUS OXIDE (N ₂ O) EQUIVALENT	4-24
TABLE 4.5-2	MAXIMUM GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS DURING CONSTRUCTION, OPERATIONS, AND CLOSURE	4-31
TABLE 4.7-1	ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT BEING CONSIDERED	4-34
TABLE 5.2-1	SUMMARY OF ANTICIPATED PROVINCIAL PERMITS, LICENCES, AND APPROVALS REQUIRED FOR THE PROJECT	5-2
TABLE 5.2-2	SUMMARY OF ANTICIPATED FEDERAL PERMITS, LICENCES, AND APPROVALS REQUIRED FOR THE PROJECT	5-4
TABLE 5.4-1	PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE AND PROJECT MILESTONES	5-6
TABLE 6-1	FIRST NATION TERRITORIES IN THE VICINITY OF THE PROJECT	6-1
TABLE 7-1	SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL, CURRENT, AND PLANNED BASELINE STUDIES	7-1
TABLE 7.4-1	ECOSYSTEMS OF MANAGEMENT CONCERN WITH POTENTIAL TO OCCUR IN THE AREA OF THE PROJECT	7-9
TABLE 7.4-2	PLANT SPECIES AT RISK WITH THE POTENTIAL TO OCCUR IN THE AREA OF THE PROJECT	7-10
TABLE 7.4-3	CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT PLANT SPECIES	7-10
TABLE 7.5-1	WILDLIFE SPECIES AT RISK WITH THE POTENTIAL TO OCCUR WITHIN THE AREA OF THE PROJECT	7-12
TABLE 7.5-2	CULTURALLY IMPORTANT WILDLIFE SPECIES	7-13
TABLE 7.6-1	CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT FISH SPECIES	7-15
TABLE 8.1-1	MUNICIPALITY DESCRIPTIONS	8-1
TABLE 8.1-2	KEY FIRST NATION COMMUNITY DESCRIPTIONS	8-4
TABLE 8.3-1	POTENTIALLY AFFECTED TENURE HOLDERS	8-8
TABLE 10.1-1	PROJECT-RELATED ENGAGEMENT WITH FIRST NATIONS	10-4
TABLE 10.1-2	SUMMARY OF INTERESTS AND CONCERNS RAISED BY FIRST NATIONS	10-7
TABLE 10.2-1	SUMMARY OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE ISSUES AND INTERESTS RAISED	10-11
TABLE 10.3-1	FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS POTENTIALLY INVOLVED	10-13
TABLE 10.3-2	PROJECT-RELATED ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS	10-14
TABLE 10.3-3	PROJECT-RELATED ENGAGEMENT WITH PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES	10-16
TABLE 11-1	POTENTIAL PROJECT INTERACTIONS	11-2
TABLE 11-2	POTENTIAL PROJECT EFFECTS AND MANAGEMENT APPROACH	11-3
TABLE 11.3-1	HISTORIC, CURRENT, AND REASONABLY FORESEEABLE PROJECTS IN THE REGION	11-8

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE 1	PROJECT LOCATION	II
FIGURE 1-1	PROJECT LOCATION	2
FIGURE 3.2-1	DECAR PROPERTY MINERAL CLAIMS	3-4
FIGURE 4-1	MAJOR MINE SITE INFRASTRUCTURE	4-2
FIGURE 4-2	OFFSITE INFRASTRUCTURE	4-3
FIGURE 4.1-1	PROCESS FLOW DIAGRAM	4-7
FIGURE 8.3-1	PROJECT LOCATION WITHIN THE FORT ST JAMES LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (LRMP), LAKES DISTRICT LRMP, MORICE LRMP, AND VANDERHOOF LRMP	8-7
FIGURE 11.3-1	HISTORIC, CURRENT, AND REASONABLY FORESEEABLE PROJECTS IN THE REGION	11-9

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

%	percent
AIA	Archaeological Impact Assessment
BAFA	Boreal Altai Fescue Alpine
BC	British Columbia
CH ₄	methane
CIRNAC	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
CO ₂ e	carbon dioxide equivalent
Cooperation Agreement	Impact Assessment Cooperation Agreement between Canada and British Columbia
CSFN	Carrier Sekani First Nations
CSTC	Carrier Sekani Tribal Council
DFO	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
DPD	Detailed Project Description
EA	Environmental Assessment
EAA	<i>Environmental Assessment Act</i>
EAC Application	Environmental Assessment Certificate Application
EAO	Environmental Assessment Office (British Columbia)
ECCC	Environment and Climate Change Canada
EMLI	Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (now Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals)
Engagement Plan	Baptiste Nickel Project Engagement Plan
ENV	Ministry of Environment and Parks
ERM	ERM Consultants Canada Ltd.
ESSF	Englemann Spruce-Subalpine Fir
EV	electric vehicle
FNHA	First Nations Health Authority
FPIX	free, prior, and informed consent
FPX	FPX Nickel Corporation
FSR	forest service road

GBA Plus	Gender-Based Analysis Plus
GHG	greenhouse gas
GWh	gigawatt hour(s)
H	half year
ha	hectare(s)
IA	impact assessment
IAA	<i>Impact Assessment Act</i>
IAAC	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
IPD	Initial Project Description
JEG	Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth
km	kilometre(s)
kt	kilotonne(s)
L	litre(s)
LOM	life of mine
LRMP	Land and Resource Management Plan
m	metre(s)
MHP	mixed hydroxide precipitate
ML/ARD	metal leaching / acid rock drainage
mm	millimetre(s)
Mm ³	cubic megametre(s)
MoF	Ministry of Forests
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
Mt	million tonne(s)
MW	megawatt(s)
Ni ₃ Fe	awaruite
NO ₂	nitrogen dioxide
OTCQB	Over-The-Counter Quotation Bureau
PFR	Preliminary Field Reconnaissance
Project	Baptiste Nickel Project
Q	quarter

ROM	run-of-mine
SARA	<i>Species at Risk Act</i>
SBS	Sub-Boreal Spruce
SO ₂	sulphur dioxide
t	tonne(s)
t/m ³	tonne(s) per cubic metre
tCH ₄ e	tonne(s) methane equivalent
tCO ₂ e	tonne(s) carbon dioxide equivalent
tCO ₂ e/GWh	tonne(s) of carbon dioxide equivalent per tonne of gigawatt hour
tCO ₂ e/tNi	tonne(s) of carbon dioxide equivalent per tonne of nickel
tN ₂ Oe	tonne(s) nitrous oxide equivalent
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
VC	Valued Component
WLRS	Ministry of Water Land and Resource Stewardship
Y	year

1. INTRODUCTION

FPX Nickel Corporation (FPX) is proposing to construct and operate the Baptiste Nickel Project (the Project), a greenfield open pit nickel mine located 80 kilometres (km) northwest of Fort St. James, British Columbia (BC; Figure 1-1). The Project represents an opportunity to responsibly develop a domestic, low-carbon nickel source that is aligned with First Nations', BC's and Canada's Critical Minerals Strategy. The Project will involve construction, operations, closure, and reclamation of an open pit, a processing plant, and other onsite and offsite mine-related components.

The Project has a planned operational mine life of 28 years, with an estimated average annual processing rate of 108,000 tonnes per day of ore (a mining rate of 60 million tonnes [Mt]/year) for the first 5 years (Phase 1), increasing to an estimated average annual processing rate of 162,000 per day of ore (a mining rate of 120 Mt per year) thereafter (Phase 2). The Project will produce two nickel co-products: with at least 90 (%) of the contained nickel will be high-grade awaruite (Ni_3Fe) concentrate (in briquette form) and less than 10% will be a mixed hydroxide precipitate (MHP) product. The nickel awaruite concentrate will be marketed directly to stainless steel producers or can be further refined to produce battery-grade nickel sulphate for the electric vehicle (EV) battery material supply chain. The MHP product will also be sold as feedstock to producers of battery-grade nickel sulphate.

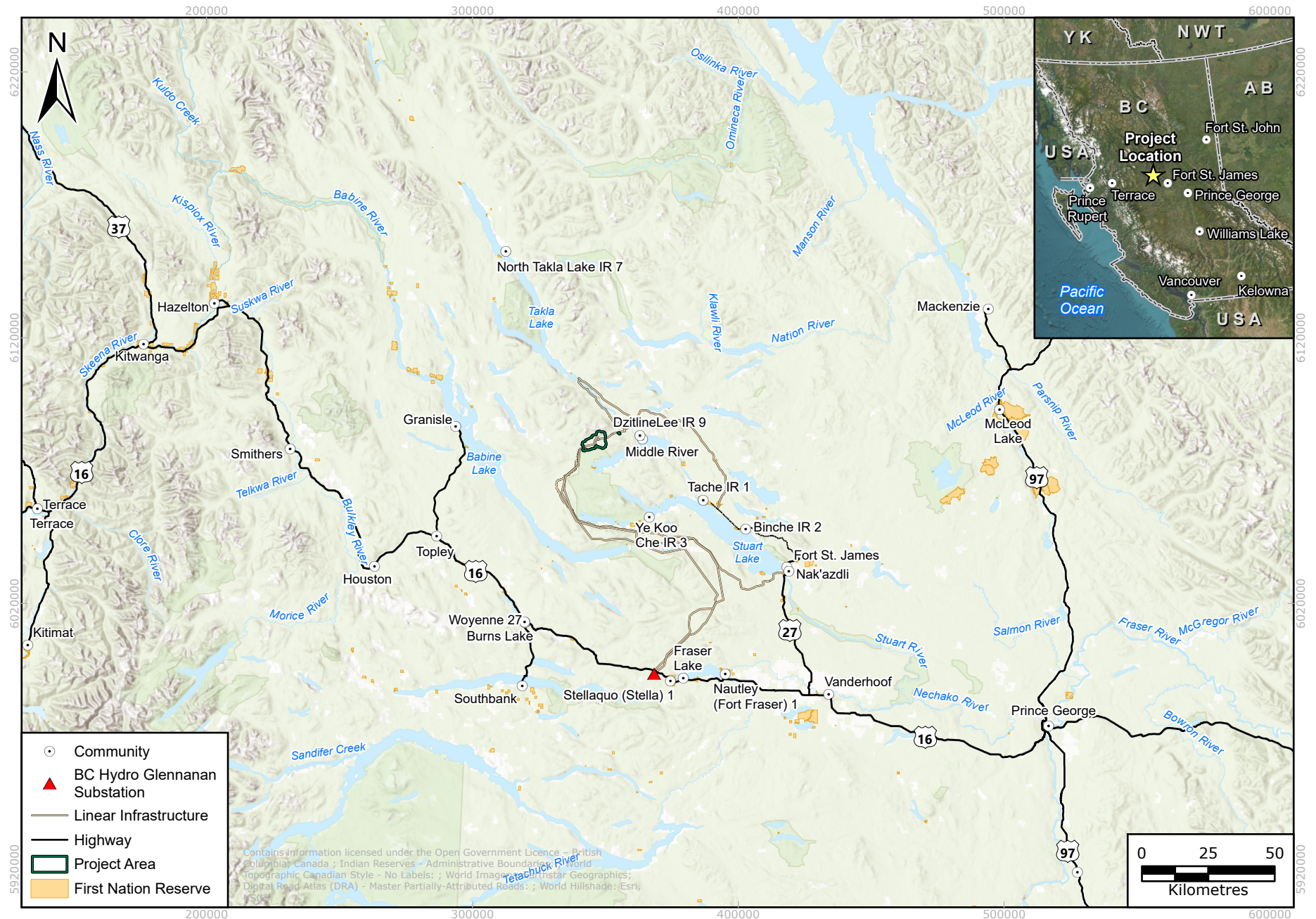
FPX believes the Project has an important role to play in addressing climate change and the transition to a low-carbon economy. The nickel products would be responsibly produced at a low carbon intensity and would help Canada achieve its climate change commitments by producing nickel that could be used in approximately 1.3 million EVs per year.

Pursuant to Section 3(1) and Table 6 of the Reviewable Projects Regulation (2019) the Project will have a production capacity of $\geq 75,000$ tonnes/year of mineral ore, as well as potential greenhouse gas (GHG) emission triggers pursuant to Section 4(1) of the Reviewable Projects Regulation (2019). The Project is therefore reviewable under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA; 2018). Based on an ore production capacity over 5,000 tonnes per day and the proposed new mill, the Project is also reviewable under Section 18 (c) and (d) of the federal Physical Activities Regulations under the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA; 2019).

The purpose of this Initial Project Description (IPD) is to provide an early Project overview intended to support collaboration with First Nations, government agencies, and the public during the Early Engagement phase of the regulatory process. Early Engagement is an important preparatory phase to identify engagement approaches, potential interests, issues, and concerns early in the environmental assessment (EA) process and chart a path for resolution. FPX recognizes that this is a long-term Project and is committed to working directly with local communities and First Nations through collaboration and with respect to plan and develop it in a responsible manner.

As required under Section 13(1)(b) the EAA, a companion document to this IPD is the Baptiste Nickel Project Engagement Plan (the Engagement Plan; FPX 2025); the key parts of which are summarized in this document and included in full as Appendix A. As required by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC), the IPD includes a summary of engagement (see Section 10, Summary of Engagement).

FIGURE 1-1 PROJECT LOCATION



2. PROPONENT INFORMATION

The Project proponent is FPX Nickel Corp., based in Vancouver, Canada. FPX has focused on its flagship Baptiste Nickel Project but also holds a portfolio of exploration projects in Canada including Newfoundland and Labrador, northern BC and southern Yukon that have similar geological characteristics to that of the Baptiste deposit. FPX is publicly traded on the TSX-V under the symbol FPX, and on the Over -The-Counter Quotation Bureau (OTCQB) under the symbol FPOCF. FPX's work reflects the company's values of Safety, Respect, and Collaboration.

For the purposes of the EA, the primary contact person at FPX is:

Name: Nigel Fisher, Vice President, Environment

Address: FPX Nickel Corp.
Suite 320, 1155 Pender Street
Vancouver, BC, Canada, V6E 2P4

Email: nfisher@fpxnickel.com

Phone: 604-416-4666

The alternate contact person for the EA is:

Name: Tim Bekhuys, Senior Vice President, Environment and Sustainability

Address: FPX Nickel Corp.
Suite 320, 1155 Pender Street
Vancouver, BC, Canada, V6E 2P4

Email: tbekhuys@fpxnickel.com

3. PROJECT OVERVIEW

This section provides an overview of the Project, outlining the need for the Project, as well as its purpose, potential benefits, location (including mineral tenures), mining history, current status, and existing permits and approvals. For the purposes of the IPD, the term “Project Area” is used as a collective term to describe an area that includes the mine site footprint, an associated Accommodation Facility located nearby, plus a 200 m buffer. Several linear components, including access roads, Freshwater Supply System and a Transmission Line, extend outside of the Project Area and are considered offsite infrastructure.

3.1 PROJECT NEED, PURPOSE, AND BENEFITS

The Project has the potential to serve as an essential and foundational link in the Canadian supply chains for clean technology and renewable energy. The Project will supply these sectors along with the traditional stainless steel industry with some of the most sustainably produced nickel in the world, while creating a positive legacy for First Nations and local communities, driving responsible economic growth across central BC.

Nickel is a critical mineral sought out globally, given its role in enabling the energy transition and the decarbonization of the economy as well as being a key component in manufacturing. It is commonly used in stainless steel products, electroplating and energy storage systems, such as EV batteries (Natural Resources Canada 2025).

In 2021 and reaffirmed in 2024, nickel was identified as one of Canada’s critical minerals in that the supply chain is threatened, there’s a reasonable chance of production in Canada, it is essential to Canada’s economic or national security, and it is required for the national transition to a sustainable low-carbon and digital economy, or to position Canada as a sustainable and strategic partner within global supply chains. The Project is being advanced aligned with Canada, BC, and First Nations Critical Mineral Strategies.

In 2022, global nickel consumption grew 4% from 2021 to 3.0 Mt to 3.3 Mt in 2022. The increase in nickel demand in recent years is due to stainless steel production and the EV battery sector. Increasing nickel content in EV batteries supports lighter and more compact batteries with extended ranges and faster charging. Total annual demand for nickel is forecast to approximately double between 2023 to 2040 to approximately 6.2 Mt by 2040 driven by demand from cleantech and EVs to meet the climate pledges made by countries globally. By 2030 the expected mine supply of nickel is not anticipated to meet demand (IEA 2025).

This demand forecast includes Canada’s climate plans and targets introduced through Canada’s 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan. The World Bank Group, in its report titled Minerals for Climate Action: The Mineral Intensity of the Clean Energy Transition, states that the production of minerals such as nickel, iron and cobalt could need to increase by as much as 500% by 2050 to meet the growing demand for clean energy technologies (WBG 2020).

In 2023, Canada ranked sixth in global nickel production producing 159 kt of nickel (4.5% of global nickel production) and exported nickel and nickel-based products valued at \$6.7 billion (Natural Resources Canada 2025). None of this production was in BC. The Baptiste Project would increase Canada’s nickel production by 1.7 Mt over a 28-year mine life or approximately 40% annually. This is the equivalent of meeting nickel demand for 1.3 M electric vehicles per year, and

it could be supplied to the market as some of the lowest carbon-intensive nickel in the world. This anticipated low-carbon intensity is possible due to FPX's expected ability to connect to the clean BC Hydro grid, the mine designed to incorporate low-carbon innovation and the unique properties of awaruite.

The mineral resource found at Baptiste offers a unique opportunity to supply low carbon nickel to domestic supply chains. The nickel resource at Baptiste is a metallic nickel-iron mineral (Ni_3Fe) called awaruite and offers several advantages compared to traditional nickel sources. Traditional nickel production is obtained from sulphide or laterite (oxide) deposits and requires concentration at the mine site followed by downstream, energy-intensive smelting, and/or primary refining processes.

Awaruite has strong magnetic properties, which allows for magnetic separation from the host rock and the mineral contains no sulphur, thereby allowing it to bypass the energy-intensive smelting process. This has been substantiated through pilot test work funded by the Government of Canada, which proves out that the majority (>80%) of awaruite can be recovered from host rock through magnetic separation and can be processed into high-grade concentrates exceeding 60% nickel content without the need for smelting. Magnetic separation or physical separation supports a reduction in the use processing reagents relative to standard flotation and increased water recycling. Further mineralogy of the deposit contains brucite which naturally sequesters atmospheric carbon and may support a net-zero mine.

The Project is anticipated to contribute substantive benefits to the region and the province, as well as Canada. The region has seen a decline in employment associated with an adverse change in the forestry sector, historically the largest employment sector in the area. With an estimated capital cost of US\$2.2B, a construction phase of 3 years, and as a multigenerational project with a mine life of 28 years, the Project would support long-term economic diversification, growth and resiliency. Benefits would include:

- Direct and indirect employment for First Nation and non-First Nation individuals from surrounding communities—approximately 1,000 direct jobs and 3,200 indirect jobs on and offsite sustained each year during operation;
- Partnership, support and stewardship opportunities with First Nations—implementing collaborative approaches and policies seeking to support local communities, including First Nation communities, benefits from substantial and lasting benefits and opportunities provided by Project development activities;
- Provincial revenue through taxes, royalties, and other fees paid to the government; contributing to public services and infrastructure development—an estimated \$20M annually in municipal taxes, \$200 M annually in provincial taxes and add \$45 B to Canada's GDP;
- Support Canada's pathway to a low-carbon economy in producing nickel with a low carbon intensity (<1.5 tCO₂e/tNi—within the lowest 10% of nickel mines globally); and
- Deliver on meeting Canada's climate change commitments by producing nickel in the lowest decile of carbon intensity and that could be used in batteries for 1.3 M EVs per year during mine operations.

Further detail on specific benefits and opportunities will be determined as collaboration and planning for the Project progress.

3.2 PROJECT LOCATION

The Project is in the Nechako region of central BC on provincial Crown land. The closest communities are Fort St. James and Vanderhoof, approximately 82 km and 126 km from the Project Area, respectively.

FPX is considering two potential access road routes that would utilize existing roads, upgrades and require limited new road construction: a northern route originating at Stuart Lake Highway/ BC-27N and Tachie Road and a southern route originating at Highway 27 and Sowchea Road (see Figure 4-2 and Section 4.1.6 for more information). Both routes largely utilize existing provincial or municipal roads, and any new sections or sections requiring upgrades are provincial crown land. If the southern access road is selected, it is anticipated the northern route would still be used in construction and for personnel transportation and emergency egress.

Two potential Transmission Line alignments are being considered between the Project Area and BC Hydro's Glenannan Station (see Figure 4-2 and Section 4.1.7 for details). Both Transmission Line alignments are largely on provincial Crown land, but do cross several private land parcels as well as statutory right-of-way near Highway 16 and the Glenannan Station. At this time, FPX has not entered into discussion with specific landowners as FPX continues to study and engage on a preferred alignment.

Coordinates for the centre of the Project Area, Accommodation Facility, and start and end position of key offsite infrastructure are provided in Table 3.2-1. For the access road options, the start position is approximately where it leaves the Project Area, and the end position is where the existing roads intersect Highway 27.

TABLE 3.2-1 GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES OF COMPONENTS

Component	Start (Lat/Long)	Finish (Lat/Long)
Project Area (Centre)	54.85260506, -125.38995507	
Accommodation Facility ^a (Centre)	54.88248198, -125.25741514	
Access Road (Northern Route)	54.4736147, -124.1896445	54.85880326, -125.39218382
Access Road (Southern Route)	54.4168307, -124.27431804	54.86450974, -125.38588545
Transmission Line (Option 1 and 2)	54.07543419, -125.01393679 ^b	54.8685903, -125.38055355
Freshwater Supply System ^c	54.86552142, -125.38430726	54.81318153, -125.27586145

Notes:

^a Considered part of the Project Area but separated geographically.

^b BC Hydro Glenannon Substation.

^c Trembleur Lake Shoreline.

The Project Area, totalling 4215 hectares (ha), is located entirely within the Decar Property claims package which is 100% owned by FPX. The Decar Property consists of 76 contiguous mineral claims (Table 3.2-2; Figure 3.2-1), conferring title to subsurface mineral tenure only, and is 45,256.64 ha.

FIGURE 3.2-1 DECAR PROPERTY MINERAL CLAIMS

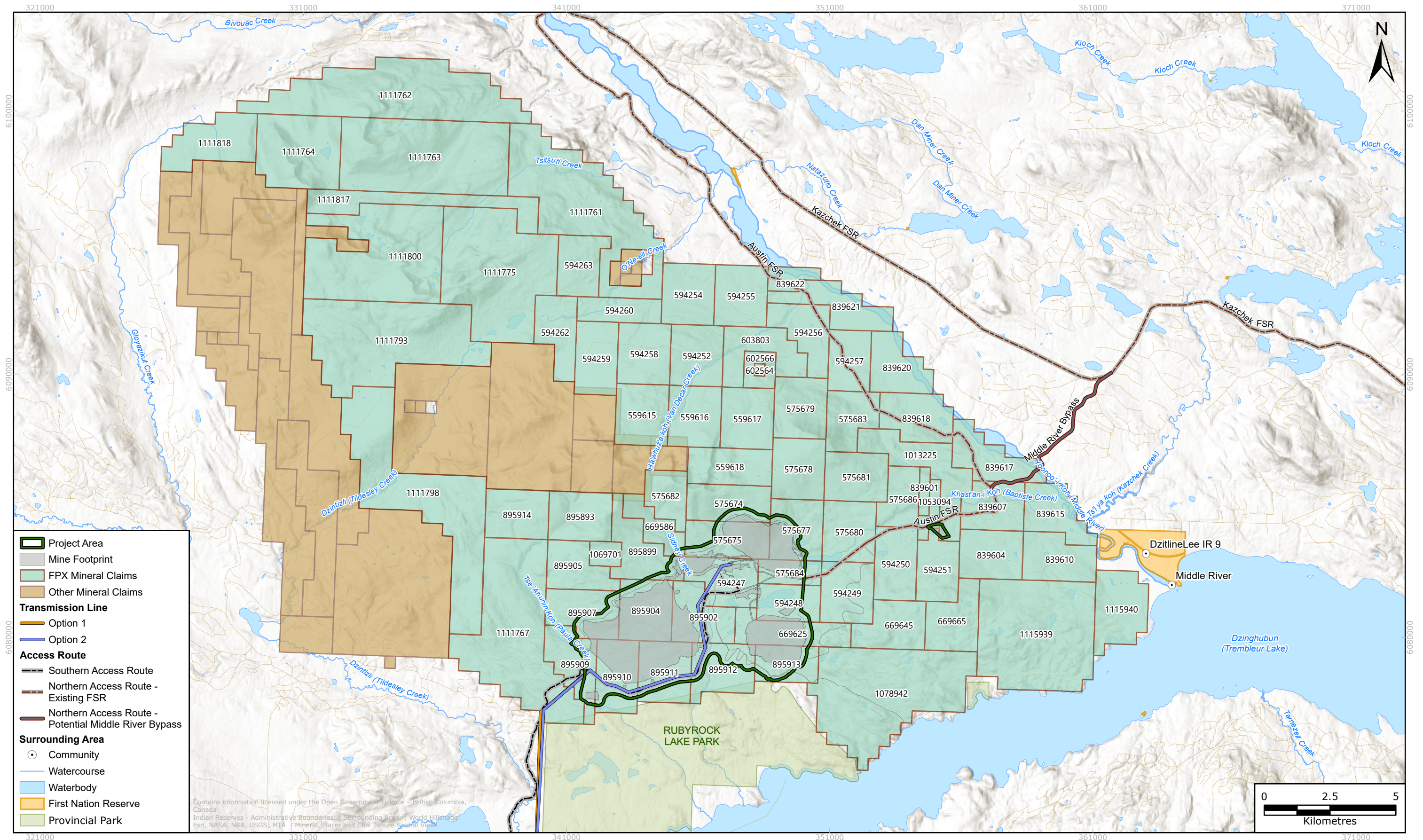


TABLE 3.2-2 DECAR PROPERTY MINERAL CLAIMS

Tenure Number	Claim Name	Owner	Issue Date	Good-To Date	Area (ha)	Overlap Description
559615	WILL 1	FPX (100%)	31-May-07	14-Nov-33	464.76	Legacy claim
559616	WILL 2	FPX (100%)	31-May-07	14-Nov-33	464.76	Legacy claim
559617	WILL 3	FPX (100%)	31-May-07	14-Nov-33	464.76	-
559618	WILL 4	FPX (100%)	31-May-07	14-Nov-33	446.35	-
575674	WILL 5	FPX (100%)	8-Feb-08	14-Nov-33	446.49	-
575675	WILL 6	FPX (100%)	8-Feb-08	14-Nov-33	446.63	-
575677	WILL 7	FPX (100%)	8-Feb-08	14-Nov-33	465.19	-
575678	WILL 8	FPX (100%)	8-Feb-08	14-Nov-33	464.95	-
575679	WILL 9	FPX (100%)	8-Feb-08	14-Nov-33	464.72	-
575680	WILL 10	FPX (100%)	8-Feb-08	14-Nov-33	465.19	-
575681	WILL 11	FPX (100%)	8-Feb-08	14-Nov-33	446.38	-
575682	WILL 12	FPX (100%)	8-Feb-08	14-Nov-33	297.65	Legacy claim
575683	WILL 13	FPX (100%)	8-Feb-08	14-Nov-33	390.4	-
575684	WILL 14	FPX (100%)	8-Feb-08	14-Nov-33	223.37	-
575686	WILL 15	FPX (100%)	8-Feb-08	14-Nov-33	316.24	-
594247	BAP 1	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	446.78	-
594248	BAP 2	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	335.14	-
594249	BAP 3	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	465.43	-
594250	BAP 4	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	446.7	-
594251	BAP 5	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	390.88	-
594252	KAR 1	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	464.53	-
594254	KAR 2	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	464.29	-
594255	KAR 3	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	464.29	Mineral reserve, district lot
594256	KAR 4	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	427.27	Mineral reserve, district lot
594257	KAR 5	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	371.63	Mineral reserve, district lot
594258	-	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	464.52	-
594259	KAR 7	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	445.97	Legacy claim
594260	KAR 8	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	297.19	-
594262	KAR 9	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	408.72	-

Tenure Number	Claim Name	Owner	Issue Date	Good-To Date	Area (ha)	Overlap Description
594263	KAR 10	FPX (100%)	14-Nov-08	14-Nov-33	389.92	-
602564	-	FPX (100%)	14-Apr-09	14-Nov-33	18.58	-
602566	-	FPX (100%)	14-Apr-09	14-Nov-33	148.66	-
603803	VAN 1	FPX (100%)	3-May-09	14-Nov-33	464.51	District lot
669586	BAP 6	FPX (100%)	16-Nov-09	14-Nov-33	260.51	Legacy claim
669625	BAP 7	FPX (100%)	16-Nov-09	14-Nov-33	446.96	-
669645	BAP 8	FPX (100%)	16-Nov-09	14-Nov-33	446.94	-
669665	BAP 9	FPX (100%)	16-Nov-09	14-Nov-33	446.91	-
839601	MID 1	FPX (100%)	3-Dec-10	3-Dec-33	74.4	-
839604	MID 2	FPX (100%)	3-Dec-10	3-Dec-33	446.66	District lot
839607	MID 3	FPX (100%)	3-Dec-10	3-Dec-33	427.88	District lot
839610	MID 4	FPX (100%)	3-Dec-10	3-Dec-33	465.28	Mineral reserve, district lot
839615	MID 5	FPX (100%)	3-Dec-10	3-Dec-33	427.9	Mineral reserve, district lot
839617	MID 6	FPX (100%)	3-Dec-10	3-Dec-33	464.9	Mineral reserve, district lot
839618	MID 7	FPX (100%)	3-Dec-10	3-Dec-33	464.75	Mineral reserve, district lot
839620	MID 8	FPX (100%)	3-Dec-10	3-Dec-33	427.39	Mineral reserve, district lot
839621	MID 9	FPX (100%)	3-Dec-10	3-Dec-33	464.33	Mineral reserve, district lot
839622	MID 10	FPX (100%)	3-Dec-10	3-Dec-33	148.55	Mineral reserve, district lot
895893	NEY 1	FPX (100%)	2-Sep-11	2-Sep-33	446.56	Legacy claim
895899	NEY 2	FPX (100%)	2-Sep-11	2-Sep-33	465.29	Legacy claim
895902	NEY 3	FPX (100%)	2-Sep-11	2-Sep-33	446.92	-
895904	NEY 4	FPX (100%)	2-Sep-11	2-Sep-33	465.52	-
895905	NEY 5	FPX (100%)	2-Sep-11	2-Sep-33	390.91	-
895907	NEY 6	FPX (100%)	2-Sep-11	2-Sep-33	465.54	-
895909	NEY 7	FPX (100%)	2-Sep-11	2-Sep-33	447.11	Provincial park (partial)
895910	NEY 8	FPX (100%)	2-Sep-11	2-Sep-33	447.16	Provincial park (partial)

Tenure Number	Claim Name	Owner	Issue Date	Good-To Date	Area (ha)	Overlap Description
895911	NEY 9	FPX (100%)	2-Sep-11	2-Sep-33	465.76	Provincial park (partial)
895912	NEY 10	FPX (100%)	2-Sep-11	2-Sep-33	465.74	Provincial park (partial)
895913	NEY 11	FPX (100%)	2-Sep-11	2-Sep-33	335.31	Provincial park (partial)
895914	NEY 12	FPX (100%)	2-Sep-11	2-Sep-33	446.56	-
1013225	-	FPX (100%)	26-Sep-12	2-Sep-33	632.33	-
1053094	BT GROUP	FPX (100%)	12-Jul-17	12-Jul-32	111.62	-
1069701	NEY13	FPX (100%)	16-Jul-19	12-Jul-32	111.67	-
1111761	093_006	FPX (100%)	6-Mar-24	15-May-29	1,725.91	-
1111762	093_009	FPX (100%)	6-Mar-24	15-May-29	1,761.49	-
1111763	093_007	FPX (100%)	6-Mar-24	15-May-29	1,780.94	-
1111764	093_006	FPX (100%)	6-Mar-24	15-May-29	871.91	-
1111767	093_001	FPX (100%)	6-Mar-24	15-May-29	1,862.51	-
1111775	093_004	FPX (100%)	6-Mar-24	15-May-29	1,782.62	-
1111793	093_003	FPX (100%)	6-Mar-24	15-May-29	1,820.87	-
1111798	-	FPX (100%)	6-Mar-24	15-May-29	1,860.48	-
1111800	093_005	FPX (100%)	6-Mar-24	15-May-29	1,708.18	-
1111817	093_012	FPX (100%)	6-Mar-24	15-May-29	575.32	-
1111818	093_011	FPX (100%)	6-Mar-24	15-May-29	575.07	-
1115939	TMR1	FPX (100%)	12-Sep-24	15-May-29	1,787.81	-
1115940	TMR2	FPX (100%)	12-Sep-24	15-May-29	539.95	-
1078942	HARD NICKEL 4	FPX (100%)	30-Sep-20	20-Jan-34	863.26	-

Notes:

% = percent; FPX = FPX Nickel Corporation; ha = hectare(s)

Dash (-) = not applicable

No Project components will overlap the provincial park.

The Project and portions of the Transmission Line and access route are within the territories of the Binche Whut'en, Lake Babine Nation, Nadleh Whut'en, Nak'azdli Whut'en, Stellat'en First Nation, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation. Reserves (as defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Indian Act* [1985]) within 100 km of the Project Area are listed in Table 3.2-3.

TABLE 3.2-3 DISTANCE TO FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES AND RESERVES

First Nation Reserve Name	Distance Between Reserve and Project Component (km)				
	Distance From Project Area (km)	Transmission Line Option 1	Transmission Line Option 2	North Access Route Road	South Access Route Road
Binche Whut'en					
Bihl 'K' A 18	12	19	20	0.96	19
Binche 10	71	36	30	5	18
Binche 12	60	28	21	3	21
*Binche 2	56	20	13	0	13
Binche Bun 7	60	29	22	4	22
Chundoo Lh'tan La 45	55	20	13	0.3	13
Chuz Ghun 8	61	33	27	9	24
Lhoh Cho 29	67	51	45	26	39
O K'ay Wha Cho 26	6	17	17	2	17
Tes Gha La 7A	62	31	24	6	21
Lake Babine Nation					
Alphonse Tommy 7	90	92	92	77	91
Augier Lake 22	43	17	17	47	18
Babine 16	91	92	92	77	91
Babine 25	43	38	38	48	36
Babine 26	43	43	43	41	42
Babine 6	89	90	90	75	90
Babine Lake 20	67	67	67	61	66
Babine Lake 21B	38	15	14	43	15
Babine Lake 21	99	100	100	84	100
Babine River 21A	98	100	100	83	99
Casdaded 8	88	89	89	75	89
Chanoodandidalch 14	66	67	67	60	65
Chapel Park 28	69	40	43	74	44
Clotalairquot 4	93	94	94	78	94
Michell Pierre 12	60	60	60	54	59
Nedoats 11	58	58	58	51	58
Nedoats 13	60	60	60	53	60

First Nation Reserve Name	Distance Between Reserve and Project Component (km)				
	Distance From Project Area (km)	Transmission Line Option 1	Transmission Line Option 2	North Access Route Road	South Access Route Road
Lake Babine Nation (cont'd)					
Ne-Tsaw-Greece 10	69	69	69	62	68
No-Cut 5	92	94	94	78	93
Pinkut Lake 23	47	22	22	52	23
Tadinlay 15	70	70	70	63	69
Tahlo Lake 24	85	86	86	69	86
Tsak 9	78	78	78	69	78
*Woyenne 27	67	39	41	72	42
Nadleh Whut'en					
Canyon Lake 7	84	6	9	44	23
Fondeur 9	96	21	23	39	24
Fraser Lake 2	94	16	17	50	31
*Nautley 1	95	18	19	49	31
Ormonde Creek 8	83	6	8	44	23
Seaspunkt 4	93	13	12	58	37
Yensischuck 3	98	20	22	50	32
Nak'azdli Whut'en					
Beaver Islands 8	65	15	9	11	8
Carrier Lake 15	96	53	50	20	27
Great Bear Lake 16	110	63	61	31	37
Inzana Lake 12	37	52	50	11	50
Mission Lands Indian Reserve No. 17	79	28	25	5	3
*Nak'azdli	80	27	24	5	0.72
Nehounlee Lake 13	88	38	36	6	12
Six Mile Meadow 6	86	24	21	15	7
Sowchea 3	74	18	16	13	2
Sowchea 3A	74	18	15	13	3
Stuart Lake 10	59	15	9	6	8
Stuart Lake 9	61	15	9	8	8
Tatsadah Lake 14	107	48	46	25	26

First Nation Reserve Name	Distance Between Reserve and Project Component (km)				
	Distance From Project Area (km)	Transmission Line Option 1	Transmission Line Option 2	North Access Route Road	South Access Route Road
Nak'azdli Whut'en (cont'd)					
Tatselawas 2	93	30	28	19	13
Uzta 4	84	35	32	2	9
Uzta 7A	86	36	34	4	10
Williams Prairie Meadow 1A	81	32	30	0.09	7
Stellat'en First Nation					
Binta Lake 2	107	37	37	98	77
*Stellaquo 1	89	5	4	60	41
Takla Nation					
Bear Lake 1A	145	148	148	124	148
Bear Lake 1B	162	165	165	141	165
Bear Lake 4	172	175	175	152	175
Bear River 3	184	187	187	163	187
Cheztainya Lake 11	91	94	94	70	94
Driftwood River 1	136	139	139	115	139
Klewaduska 6	177	180	180	156	180
Kotsine 2	124	127	127	103	126
North Tacla Lake 10	106	109	109	85	109
North Tacla Lake 11A	106	109	109	85	109
North Tacla Lake 12	108	119	119	97	119
*North Tacla Lake 7	75	79	79	54	78
North Tacla Lake 7A	77	80	80	56	80
North Tacla Lake 8	75	78	78	54	78
Tacla Lake 9	62	64	64	43	64
Tsaytut Island 1C	162	164	164	141	164
Tsupmeet 5	171	174	174	150	174
Tl'azt'en Nation					
Bihl 'K' A Chah 20	36	9	3	22	6
Bihl 'K' A 6	40	9	4	16	6
Camsell Lake 30	47	2	2	18	0.31
Carsoosat 17	30	20	14	18	17

First Nation Reserve Name	Distance Between Reserve and Project Component (km)				
	Distance From Project Area (km)	Transmission Line Option 1	Transmission Line Option 2	North Access Route Road	South Access Route Road
TI'azt'en Nation (cont'd)					
Chuz Teeslee 41	42	34	29	2	29
Dlah Koh 31	20	33	33	8	33
Dzin TI'at 46	6	5	5	9	6
Dzitline Lee 9	6	20	20	3	20
Ihch'az Uz Ta Tsoh 44	30	8	4	29	4
Jus K'ay TI'oh 32	29	16	11	23	13
K'ay Noo 47	32	19	15	16	16
Keom Cho 38	40	13	8	10	9
Kuz Che 5	25	31	27	10	28
La Tse Cho Diz I 33	30	16	10	22	13
Metso A Choot 23	33	39	39	14	39
Nak'a Lat 39	16	19	16	17	15
Natazutlooh 25	11	21	21	1	21
Noo Kat 42	10	21	21	9	21
North Road 19	82	32	29	0.86	6
Shas Dzuhl Koh 35	44	1	5	26	3
Sisul TI'o K'ut 14	45	20	15	0	15
Sisul TI'o K'ut 21	45	22	17	0.19	17
Skooby Island 48	29	6	2	30	2
Ta Duhl' 36	24	3	3	27	2
*Tache 1	38	18	13	2	14
Tanizul 43	23	28	22	18	24
Teeslee 15	20	32	30	11	32
Teh Noo'n Che 49	24	28	28	3	28
TI'o Ba 22	37	35	31	0.53	31
Tsay Cho 4	23	35	30	10	31
Tsaz Chech 27	22	36	36	6	36
Tsaz Chech 28	21	35	35	4	35
Tsaz Cheh Koh 24	14	29	29	1	29
Tse Bay Ha Tine A 34	37	3	2	30	0.49
Tsun Tine Ah 37	39	28	23	4	23
Wha T'a Noo 40	44	33	28	2	28

First Nation Reserve Name	Distance Between Reserve and Project Component (km)				
	Distance From Project Area (km)	Transmission Line Option 1	Transmission Line Option 2	North Access Route Road	South Access Route Road
Yekooche First Nation					
Nan TI' at 13	37	2	5	36	4
Ucausley 16	30	5	2	30	1
*Ye Koo Che 3	30	9	5	25	6
Ye Koos Lee 11	28	6	2	29	2

Notes:

km = kilometre(s)

“*” represents main reserve.

First Nations and their reserves listed alphabetically.

Distance is measured in a straight line from closest point of the Project Area perimeter to the Reserve perimeter, and from nearest point on linear infrastructure to Reserve perimeter. Distances are rounded to the nearest kilometre for distance greater than 1 km, and to the second decimal place for distance less than 1 km.

Existing forest service roads along the North Access Route that may be used by the Project pass through two Reserves, specifically Binche 2 for 1995 m and Sisul TI'ó K'ut 14 for 1533 m. While FPX has not currently identified any road upgrades required with the two Reserves, this will be confirmed as Project planning progresses. No other federal lands will be used for the Project.

3.3 PROJECT GEOLOGY, HISTORY, STATUS, AND EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

3.3.1 GEOLOGY

Bedrock encountered within the Baptiste property falls within the Cache Creek terrane and can be subdivided locally into four major geological formations comprising the Rubyrock igneous complex, Sitlika assemblage, Trembleur ultramafites, and Sowchea succession. Recoverable nickel is hosted by the nickel-iron alloy mineral awaruite (Ni₃Fe) which occurs entirely within the Trembleur ultramafites. Trembleur ultramafic rocks are composed of variably altered and structurally deformed peridotites and dunitites. Awaruite deposits are formed by the serpentinization of magmatic olivine that leads to the liberation of nickel and iron and subsequent formation of awaruite. Awaruite occurs as disseminated grains that are homogeneously distributed within the peridotite.

The Baptiste Deposit is currently defined for approximately 3,000 m in a west-northwest to east-southeast direction, and for 400-1,500 m from north-northeast to south-southwest. Diamond drilling has delineated mineralization to vertical depths of at least 200-300 m, with 13 of 28 holes drilled deeper than 300 m ending in mineralization and mineralization remaining open at depth. The Deposit is in fault contact with Sitlika metavolcanic rocks to the southwest and grades into massive peridotite with lower grade mineralization to the north and northwest. The Sitlika assemblage contains (meta-)sediments and (meta-)volcanics. Trembleur ultramafites and Sitlika assemblage are intruded by gabbro and altered dikes of the Rubyrock igneous complex, which show a close spatial association with each other as well as fault and carbonate alteration zones. Bedrock is typically overlain by approximately 10 metres to 70 metres of overburden within the study area (KP2023).

3.3.2 PROJECT HISTORY

Mining exploration activity on or adjacent to the Decar Property has occurred since the 1970s. Exploration entities focused on chromite and platinum group metals from the mid 1970s to mid 1980s, and on listwanite-hosted gold from 1987 to 1994. Awaruite was first identified at the Decar Property in 1983 but did not become a focus of exploration until the mid 1990s. Nickel hosted in awaruite (and additional low-sulphur nickel minerals, such as heazlewoodite, bravoite, and pentlandite) were first identified at the Decar Property in 1996.

The identification of nickel at the Decar Property resulted in sporadic rock sampling and metallurgical work from 1996 to 2006, when First Point Minerals Corp. (now FPX) staked 15 mineral claims on the property. FPX then conducted 4 years of additional staking, geological mapping and sampling, geophysical surveys, and metallurgical test work. In 2009, the Decar Property was optioned to Cliffs Natural Resources Inc., who funded additional exploration work (including diamond drilling), a maiden resource, and updated resource and a Preliminary Economic Assessment between 2009 and 2013. FPX reacquired the options in 2015 and conducted additional mapping, surface sampling, and diamond drilling in 2017 and 2021. Since this time, FPX has steadily grown the Decar Property to its current size of 76 claims. No known mineral extraction has occurred at the Decar Property.

In 2023, the Project received federal funding through Natural Resources Canada's Critical Minerals Research, Development and Demonstration program (Natural Resources Canada 2023). The funding enabled FPX's to demonstrate the technical and economic feasibility of the Project's nickel refinement process at the pilot scale.

In September 2024, the Province of BC identified the Project as a project to be included in the Province's newly established Critical Minerals Office.

3.3.3 STATUS AND EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

No mining-related infrastructure has been previously constructed at the Project. Existing disturbance from timber harvesting and mineral exploration, including associated road building activities, are prevalent and ongoing in the landscape. Temporary or seasonal camps, drill pads and trails and monitoring wells have been developed as part of exploration, authorized under permit from the Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals (previously the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation [EMLI]) since 2010. Existing infrastructure near the Project is limited to forest service roads (FSRs) and forestry activities, including camps. The Austin FSR transects the centre of the Project Area from east to west along the south side of Baptiste Creek. There are several existing peripheral roads, though most are overgrown within old cut blocks. Existing disturbance in the Project Area, including roads and harvested cutblocks, totalling 792 ha.

Based on a search of BC's Contaminated Site Registry, there are no known contaminated sites within the Project Area.

3.4 EXISTING PERMITS AND APPROVALS

The Project is in the predevelopment stage and has been subject to Notice of Work permitting through the Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals. FPX hold permits for exploration, including a *Mines Act* (1996) Permit (MX-13-208), Occupant Licence to Cut (L52643), and Short-Term Water Use Approvals (7003303). To support baseline programs, additional permits have been issued, including Archaeology Inspection Permit 2022-0362 and annual permits for fisheries and wildlife studies.

4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This section provides an overview of the key Project components and anticipated activities. The Project has been designed in accordance with FPX's values and objectives, with the resulting configuration aimed at minimizing environmental, socio-economic, and First Nation effects, while maximizing opportunities to contribute to Canada's decarbonization efforts. Key tenets of the Project's design philosophy include minimizing the site footprint, optimizing the site water balance, utilizing lower-carbon technologies, demonstrating environmental stewardship, and employing lower-impact processing methods compared with more traditional nickel sources.

The Project remains in the early stages of development, with alternative designs and locations under consideration for several major components. Significant engineering design work and mine planning remain to be completed and will continue to be informed by ongoing feedback from First Nations and regulators. The Project design and associated management measures will be guided by the requirements of the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia, including Section 6.10.1(7) related to the design of dumps and stockpiles, and the 2024 updates related to water management and tailings storage facilities. Codes such as those related to design for seismic hazards will also form part of the design of the Project. In addition, any water treatment systems considered for closure or post-closure will be designed in agreement with the Province's Technology Readiness Levels Guidance (MIN-21 Interim Guidance on Technology Readiness Assessment). These requirements will be integrated into ongoing design refinement and reflected in subsequent permitting stages, including the EAC Application and *Mines Act* (1996) Permit submissions based on the Joint Application Information Requirements (JAIR), to ensure consistency with current regulatory standards and best practices.

FPX values the opportunity for collaboration with local communities and recognizes the importance of integrating First Nations knowledge and perspectives into early Project design and decision-making. FPX is working with First Nations to establish a collaborative design process that supports the co-development of final Project design and closure concepts, including returning land use considerations that align with shared environmental, cultural, and economic objectives.

The Project Area and preliminary arrangement of major infrastructure is presented on Figure 4-1. Preliminary routing of offsite infrastructure and the options being considered are presented on Figure 4-2.

FIGURE 4-1 MAJOR MINE SITE INFRASTRUCTURE

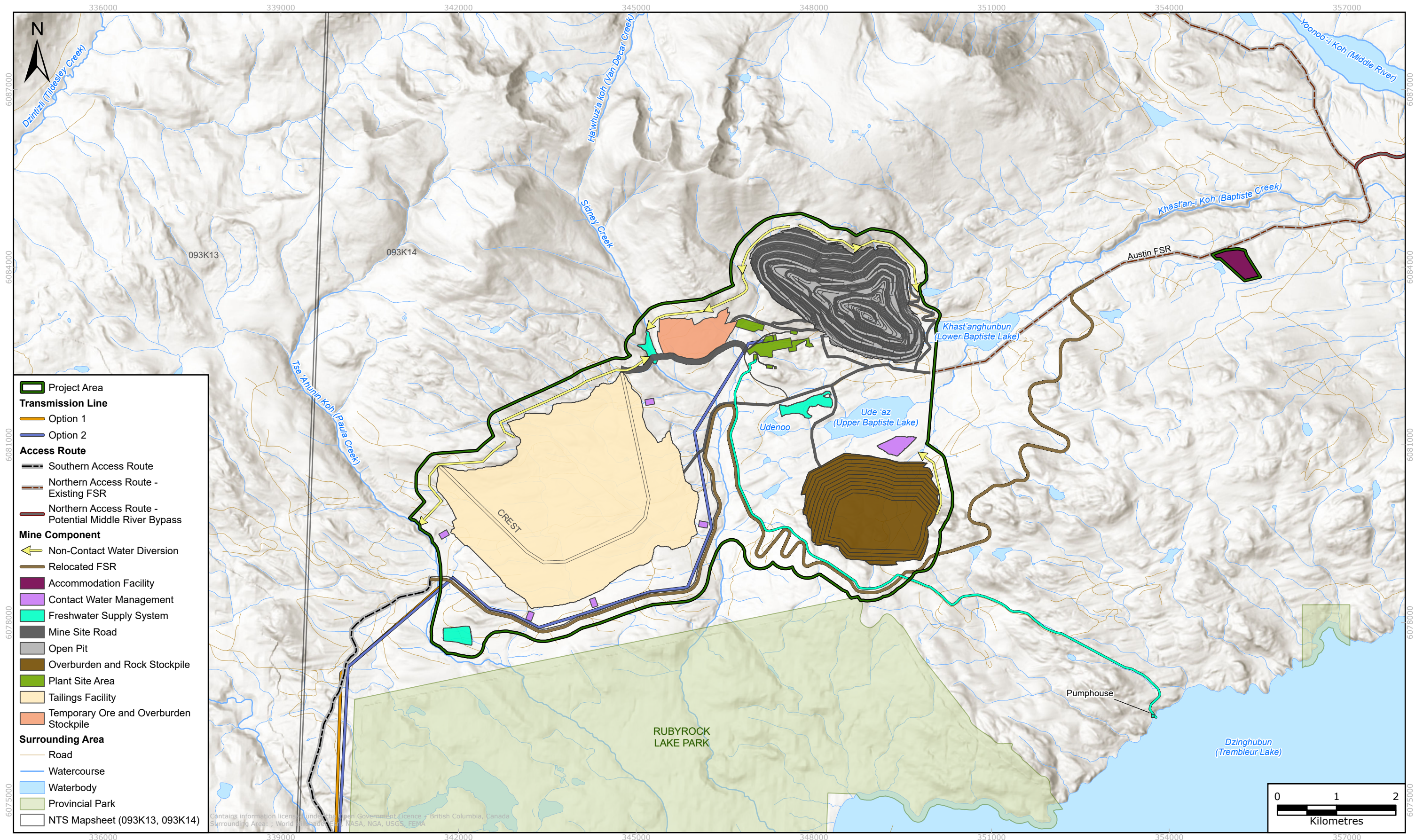
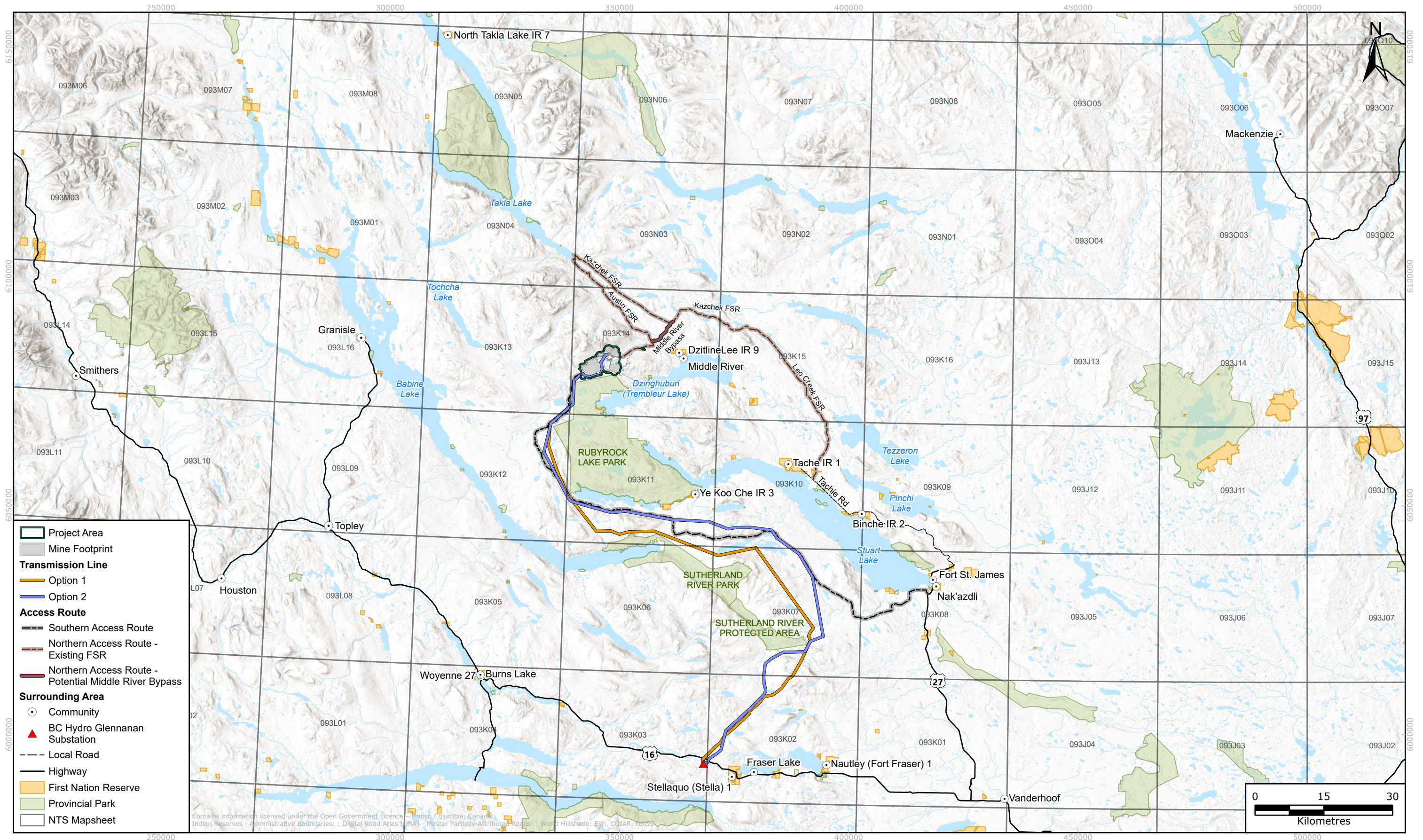


FIGURE 4-2 OFFSITE INFRASTRUCTURE



4.1 SUMMARY OF PROJECT COMPONENTS

Based on engineering and planning work completed to date, the following key Project components will be required:

Mine and Mine Ancillary Facilities

- Open Pit
- Water Management Systems
- Non-contact Water Diversion Ditches
- Mine Services Building(s), including:
 - Mine Dry
 - Truck Shop
 - Light Vehicle Shop
 - Tire Change
 - Mine Office
 - Truck Wash
 - Mine Warehouse
- Fuel Station Facility
- Operational Ore Stockpile
- Laydown Areas
- Explosives Storage Facility
- Haul Roads and Mine Site Roads

Process and Process Ancillary Facilities

- Primary Crushing
- Covered Coarse Ore Stockpile/Reclaim
- Process Plant, including:
 - Primary Grinding
 - Magnetic Separation
 - Regrinding
 - Froth Flotation
 - Tailings Leach Circuit
 - Dewatering Circuits
 - Control Room
 - Reagents and Reagent Storage
 - Concentrate Handling
- Plant Services Building(s), including:
 - Plant Maintenance
 - Plant Dry
 - Assay and Metallurgical Laboratories

Process and Process Ancillary Facilities (cont'd)

- Offices
- Plant Warehouse
- Water Management Systems
- Plant Site Roads

Mine Waste and Water Management Facilities

- Temporary Ore and Overburden Stockpile
- Overburden and Rock Stockpile
- Topsoil Stockpiles
- Tailings Facility
- Tailings Distribution Pumps and Pipelines
- Freshwater Pond(s)
- Water Reclaim Pumps and Pipelines
- Water Management Ponds and Ditches
- Non-contact Water Diversion Ditches
- Fresh, Process, and Potable Water Storage and Distribution Systems
- Potable Water Well(s)

General Ancillary Facilities

- High Voltage Substation
- E-houses and Control Rooms
- Onsite Transmission Lines
- Utilities
- Administration Services Building(s), including:
 - Offices
 - General Warehouse
 - First Aid
 - Emergency Response/Ambulance Bay
- Core Shack
- Laydown(s)
- Accommodation Facility
- Helipad(s)
- Gatehouse(s) and Truck Scale

General Ancillary Facilities (cont'd)

- Sewage Treatment Facilities
- Incinerator(s)

Offsite Infrastructure

- Transmission Line
- Access Road(s)

General Ancillary Facilities (cont'd)

- Freshwater Supply System
- Logistics and Administration Centre

Temporary Facilities

- Various temporary facilities to support construction

4.1.1 OPEN PIT

The Baptiste orebody is a large, geologically consistent, and near surface resource that is most efficiently and effectively mined by open pit methods based on geological geotechnical considerations. The Open Pit has been optimized to promote a consistent ore production rate while meeting material requirements to support construction of the Tailings Facility. The mine plan targets nearer-surface, higher-grade zones early in the mine life to optimize metal production and strip ratio. The result is a mine with a low overall strip ratio (approximately 0.6:1, i.e., removing 0.6 t of waste material for every tonne of ore, making it an economically favourable and efficient ratio), including a particularly low strip ratio during the early years of mining.

The ore extraction rate will generally be commensurate with the process production rate, including the planned Phase 2 expansion, which will be commissioned in approximately Year 6. During Operations Phase 1, approximately 40 Mt of ore and up to 60 Mt of total material (ore and waste) will be moved per year. During Operations Phase 2, approximately 60 Mt of ore and up to 120 Mt of total material will be moved.

The mining fleet is anticipated to include electric drills, electric excavators, haul trucks, dozers, graders, wheel loaders, and ancillary equipment. As the mine plan sufficiently develops, haul trucks will likely be converted to run via electric trolley assist, with trolley-assist lines being installed in-pit first, then outside of the pit as mining progresses.

During the later years of Operations, and in alignment with goals of optimizing the site footprint and water balance, some of the waste rock, and potentially the tailings, will permanently be stored in the bottom of the Open Pit.

The mine dewatering system will divert non-contact water and remove contact run-off from precipitation events, groundwater inflows, and any design storm events. Water collected within the Open Pit will be transferred to the Process Water Pond or Tailings Facility for reuse around the site, including for mineral processing, dust suppression, and general use.

4.1.2 PROCESSING AND ANCILLARY FACILITIES

The Process Plant will be composed of several buildings that house the main process circuits and process ancillary facilities. In general, most of these facilities will be in enclosed buildings, situated in proximity to each other, and located to the west of the Open Pit entrance. Separate ancillary facilities are required in the processing, mining, and general site areas.

The Process Plant will be developed in a phased approach, with the operating Phase 1 facilities expanded to support the increased throughput rate in operating Phase 2. Wherever practical,

FPX has applied an integrated phased approach to development, to minimize site footprint and maximize post-expansion operating efficiency.

A summary-level process flow diagram is presented on Figure 4.1-1. At the start of the processing facilities, a primary crushing station will reduce run-of-mine (ROM) ore to an appropriate size for further processing. Depending on the crushing technology selected, a single primary crushing station may suffice for the complete life of mine (LOM), or a second primary crushing station may be added to support the operating Phase 2 expansion.

Primary crushed ore will be conveyed to the Covered Coarse Ore Stockpile facility. A single stockpile will be sufficient for operating Phase 1, and a second enclosed stockpile will be added to support the operating Phase 2 expansion. Ore will be reclaimed from each stockpile by feeders and then conveyed to the main Process Plant building.

The main Process Plant building will house the primary grinding, secondary grinding, magnetic separation, regrinding, froth flotation, tailings leach, dewatering, concentrate handling, and reagent circuits. The main Process Plant building will be expanded to support the operating Phase 2 expansion. The processing circuits within the main Process Plant building will either be initially sized for operating Phase 2 requirements, or expanded for operating Phase 2 requirements, dependent on a best-value approach.

Products produced by the Process Plant include an awaruite concentrate that will be shipped in briquette form or as a concentrate and an MHP nickel concentrate that will be shipped in a filter cake form. Both products will be bagged and containerized separately, then shipped offsite to market.

Process ancillary facilities include Power Distribution and Utilities, Water Management Systems, a Control Room, Reagent Storage, Parking, and a Plant Services Building. The Plant Services Building will likely be a single building that includes Offices, Plant Maintenance, the Assay Laboratory, the Metallurgical Laboratory, the Plant Warehouse, and the Plant Dry.

Mining ancillary facilities include the Mine Services Building, Truck Wash, Power Distribution and Utilities, Water Management Systems, Explosives Storage Facility, Parking, Outdoor Storage, and Fuel Station Facility. The Mine Services Building will likely be a single building that includes a Truck Shop, Light Vehicle Shop, Mine Warehousing, Mine Dry, and Mine Office. Adjacent to the Mine Services Building and on the same pad, will be the Truck Wash, Power Distribution and Utilities, Water Management Systems, Parking, Outdoor Storage, and a Fuel Station Facility. The Explosives Storage Facility area will be located and operated in compliance with regulatory guidelines.

General site ancillary facilities include the Administration Services Building, Gatehouse, Truck Scale, Accommodation Facility, water systems, water ponds, utilities, Helipad, Core Shack, the main High Voltage Substation, and onsite power distribution. The Administration Services Building will include Offices, First Aid, an Ambulance Bay, and general warehousing. Adjacent to the Administration Services Building will be Parking and outdoor storage areas.

4.1.3 TAILINGS FACILITY

The Tailings Facility is the key component for integrated waste and water management and will be progressively developed and operated over the LOM. The Preliminary Feasibility Study mine plan includes the following materials to be managed within, or for use in construction of the Tailings Facility. Expected mining waste streams are outlined in Table 4.1-1.

FIGURE 4.1-1 PROCESS FLOW DIAGRAM

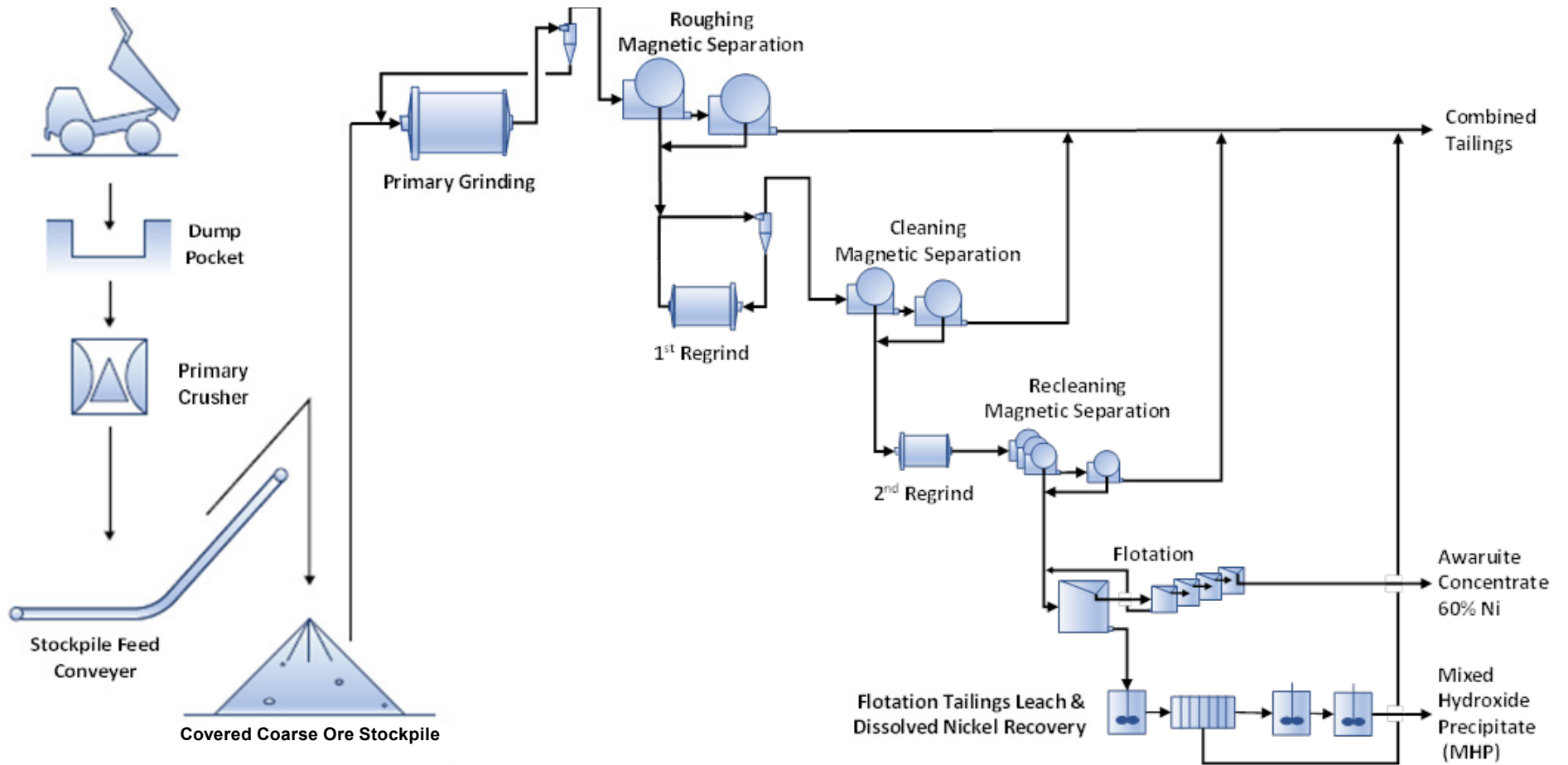


TABLE 4.1-1 ESTIMATED MINE WASTE

Material	Tonnage (Mt)	Volume (Mm ³)
Tailings ^a	1,488	992
Overburden ^b	96	48
Class A Waste Rock ^c	602	301
Class B Waste Rock ^d	178	89

Notes:

Mm³ = cubic megametre(s); Mt = megatonne(s); t/m³ = tonne(s) per cubic metre

^a Assumed tailings average final dry density 1.5 t/m³.

^b Assumed waste rock and overburden average dry density 2.0 t/m³.

^c Class A waste rock comprises below cutoff grade Trembleur ultramafite and mafic dike materials. Preliminary geochemical test work indicates these materials are suitable for unrestricted use (as a construction material or stored in close proximity to the Open Pit).

^d Class B waste rock comprises Sitlika Metasediments. Preliminary geochemical test work indicates these materials may present low potential for metal leaching. Use/storage of these materials is proposed where runoff or contact water is actively managed, e.g., encapsulated within the tailings facility and thereby limiting oxidation potential.

4.1.3.1 SITE SELECTION

For safe management of mine waste and water, FPX is committed to following the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management. Table 4.1-2 summarizes the first three topic areas of this standard and the associated status of implementation for the Project.

TABLE 4.1-2 GLOBAL INDUSTRY STANDARD ON TAILINGS MANAGEMENT STATUS

Relevant Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management Topic Areas		Status
I	Communities	<p>Engagement with potentially affected Indigenous communities and Keyoh families has occurred consistently throughout the development of the Project. FPX is committed to establishing collaborative decision-making processes with First Nation communities to collaboratively define the Project. The Project is in the early stages of development. The following three initiatives reflect the most significant engagement activities with First Nations to date, specifically regarding the Tailings Facility siting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2023, early engagement with potentially Project-affected Indigenous communities was initiated through three mine closure visioning workshops. Key takeaways of these sessions included the importance of respect for people and the land, and the protection of species and habitats of special importance. • FPX supported the establishment of a collaborative decision-making process with potentially Project-affected First Nation community leaders through the formation of the First Nations Leadership Table. This table has met seven times since 2024. • A First Nations Technical Table with independent technical representatives from the engaged First Nations was formed, and a mine design technical workshop was held in May 2025 to review and evaluate feasible candidate sites for tailings management. This table reports up to the First Nations Leadership Table.

Relevant Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management Topic Areas		Status
II	Knowledge Base	Preliminary environmental and geotechnical information available from environmental baseline studies (2011 to 2014 and 2022 to present) and drill programs (2011 to 2013, 2019, 2021, and 2022) have been used to develop Tailings Facility design concepts and inform early trade-off studies. This knowledge base will continue to grow as more studies are advanced and continue to inform Tailings Facility design.
III	Design	From 2021 to 2023, preliminary Tailings Facility siting assessments were conducted, which were based on the methodology proposed in the <i>Guide to the Management of Tailings Facilities</i> (Mining Association of Canada 2017) and Guidelines for the Assessment of Alternatives for Mine Waste Disposal (ECCC 2016). Based on the engagement with potentially affected First Nations summarized above and the current knowledge base available from environmental and geotechnical studies, the preferred location for tailings management is presented below in the report. FPX will continue to assess tailings management design alternatives through the EA process as engagement with potentially affected communities continues and the knowledge base expands to inform future assessments.

Notes:

EA = environmental assessment; ECCC = Environment and Climate Change Canada; FPX = FPX Nickel Corporation; Project = Baptiste Nickel Project

Informed by engagement with potentially affected First Nations (summarized in Table 4.1-2) and the current knowledge base available from environmental and geotechnical studies, FPX's preferred location for the Tailings Facility is presented in Figure 4-1 and described below. FPX will continue to assess tailings management design alternatives through the EA process as engagement with potentially affected communities and Project design continue. This may include revisions to design and water management measures, including the citing or the selection of other alternatives.

4.1.3.2 TAILINGS FACILITY DESIGN

The Tailings Facility is located proximal to and west of the Open Pit. The facility includes a rock fill starter dam and a centreline-raised cyclone sand dam shell with a low permeability glacial till core and a rockfill toe buttress. The rock could be sourced locally, e.g., within the Tailings Facility footprint, or suitable rock from the Open Pit could be hauled to the facility for construction. Surplus waste rock from the Open Pit will be stockpiled with overburden in a rock stockpile location east of Sidney Creek (and the Tailings Facility). Three sides of the Tailings Facility are contained by contiguous cyclone sand dams (east, south, and west), while the Tailings Facility would be contained by natural sloping topography to the north. This configuration limits the footprint and catchment of the Tailings Facility.

The Tailings Facility and dams will be designed consistent with the BC Mines Health Safety and Reclamation Code (EMLI 2024) including section 10.5.7 for seismicity requirements. During the Pre-Feasibility Study, seismic ground motion parameters determined by the probabilistic seismic hazard analysis indicate the seismic hazard is low which is typical for central and northern British Columbia.

Further design will be informed by alternatives assessments.

4.1.3.3 TAILINGS DISTRIBUTION

Tailings will be conveyed from the Process Plant site to the Tailings Facility through dedicated pipelines. Tailings will initially flow by gravity to the Tailings Facility, and then a tailings pumping system will be installed to support tailings deposition as the height of the Tailings Facility rises above the elevation of the Process Plant site.

The Tailings Distribution Pipelines will be added to facilitate discharge of tailings within the Open Pit in the last 2 years of Operations. The Open Pit dewatering system will also be upgraded in the last 2 years of Operations to transition water reclaim primarily from the Open Pit rather than from the Tailings Facility.

4.1.4 MATERIAL MANAGEMENT

It is anticipated that two stockpiles will be required to support mining operations, including a Temporary Overburden and Ore Stockpile, and an Overburden and Rock Stockpile. The Temporary Overburden and Ore Stockpile will temporarily store ore generated during pre-stripping of the initial operating years and will provide operational flexibility during mining. Stockpiled ore will later be processed to supplement open pit production and maintain the concentrator feed so that it is fully utilized. Any stockpiled ore remaining at the end of LOM will be processed in the concentrator, such that the stockpile is completely removed prior to mine closure.

The Overburden and Rock Stockpile will consist of overburden mined in pre-stripping and early operating years as well as surplus mine waste rock not utilized in construction of the Tailings Facility and suitable for storage in the stockpile (see Section 4.1.4.1). As mine operations continue, additional material will be used for site and Tailings Facility reclamation toward the end of Operations. To support reclamation, topsoil stockpile/s are envisioned local to main Project facilities.

4.1.4.1 METAL LEACHING AND ACID ROCK DRAINAGE

Bedrock encountered within the Baptiste property falls within the Cache Creek terrane and can be subdivided locally into four major geological formations comprising the Rubyrock igneous complex, Sitlika assemblage, Trembleur ultramafites, and Sowchea succession. Awaruite (Ni_3Fe) is the mining target, and its mineralization occurs entirely within the Trembleur ultramafites. Trembleur ultramafic rocks are composed of variably altered and structurally deformed peridotites and dunites and make up the core of the proposed open pit. This unit is fault-bounded by the Sitlika assemblage in the south and the Sowchea succession in the north. Both of these peripheral units contain (meta-)sediments and (meta-)volcanics. Trembleur ultramafites and Sitlika assemblage materials account for approximately 80% and 20% of the waste rock to be generated, respectively. Bedrock is typically overlain by overburden that has been encountered to a maximum depth of approximately 70 metres (m) below ground surface within the study area.

Current geochemical test work reflects analysis of 402 mine rock and overburden samples from the drill core, five tailings samples from select streams of the mill flow sheet, and kinetic testing, which is a combination of humidity cells (nine), saturated and unsaturated tailings columns, and field bins onsite (four). Test work re-initiated in 2022 is ongoing and has focused on expanding the existing sample database under consideration of industry best practice sampling and analytical techniques informed by metal leaching / acid rock drainage (ML/ARD) at mine sites in BC (BC Ministry of Energy and Mines 1998).

The propensity of potentially acid generating rock is low due to excess neutralization potential (carbonates and ultramafic silicates) where only the Sitlika assemblage contains an appreciable proportion of potentially acid generating rock (20%), i.e., less than 5% of the overall materials balance, while other units (including tailings) have negligible potentially acid generating occurrences. Much of the neutralization potential contained in the ultramafites and mafic dikes in particular is in the form of mafic silicate minerals (e.g., serpentine/olivine) rather than carbonates. Conversely, neutralization potential in Sitlika assemblage lithologies is mostly attributed to carbonate phases. Characteristics of the majority of mine rock samples analyzed to date show the total sulphur content is typically low (less than 0.2%).

A preliminary assessment of the geochemistry of the ore and waste rock identified two management classes for waste rock materials: Class A, comprised of ultramafites and mafic dikes, is designated for use in the construction of the Tailings Facility embankment due to its low ML/ARD potential. Class B, composed of the Sitlika assemblage, is recommended to be managed within the Tailings Facility in conditions that will limit contact with oxygen.

Geochemical test work is ongoing and will be used to refine material handling strategies with the objective to protect water quality through the prevention of onset of acid rock drainage and minimize the potential for neutral-pH metal leaching from mine rock, tailings, and overburden facilities. Planned geochemical test work includes infill static and kinetic testing for in- and outside-of-the-pit bedrock and overburden materials to be disturbed during mine development, as well as the characterization of additional tailings streams and representative composite tailings samples. In combination, these data will be used for the generation of geochemical source terms informing site-wide water quality modelling.

4.1.5 WATER MANAGEMENT FACILITIES AND STEWARDSHIP

The conceptual site water management plan for the Project includes collection of water in the Tailings Facility supernatant pond, along with the collection of runoff water downstream of all other Project infrastructure/disturbance, which will then be pumped to a process water pond near the plant site. From there, it will be distributed around the site for reuse.

Water management ponds will be constructed downstream of the Tailings Facility to collect surface runoff during and after construction of the dams, along with seepage collected in the foundation drainage network. A pumping system will be installed within each pond to match any seepage inflows and maintain a lower operating water level.

Non-contact diversions will be constructed upslope of the Tailings Facility, the Open Pit as well as the Temporary Ore and Overburden Stockpile and Overburden and Rock Stockpile area to divert water and maintain natural drainage patterns.

Water stored within the Tailings Facility pond will be reclaimed for use in mineral processing utilizing multiple barge-mounted vertical turbine pumps. Two barges, each holding pumps, will be installed during the first phase of Operations, with a third barge installed during the second phase of Operations, as the throughput increases, to manage the resulting increased water available for reclaim.

4.1.5.1 WATER SUPPLY

Considering FPX's objectives of minimizing the Project footprint and promoting water stewardship, the Project is being designed to reduce freshwater requirements. Further, magnetic processing supports increases water recycling relative to other processing methods (e.g., flotation).

However, a relatively small amount of fresh water will be required for make-up purposes, as well as for potable, gland seal, and other low-volume/higher-purity requirements (e.g., fire water).

Two potential water intake locations have been identified, specifically Trembleur Lake and Middle River. Both options carry similar construction and operability considerations with an approximately 15 km pipeline, access, and pump stations required for either option. The preferred option is Trembleur Lake, as shown on Figure 4-2. Fresh water will be pumped from Trembleur Lake to a freshwater pond, and then gravity-fed to the freshwater tank for further distribution around the mine site. The Freshwater Supply System may also be used to support freshwater storage and to achieve instream flow requirements.

FPX will continue early engagement and collaboration with local communities about their views and will also conduct environmental baseline data collection to provide a basis to confirm the preferred design of the Freshwater Supply System and intake location.

4.1.5.2 WATER TREATMENT

Baseline data collection and collaborative mine design is ongoing, including incorporating measures to protect water quality. Pending an assessment of potential effects and outcomes of a Best Achievable Technology study consistent with regulatory requirements, should water treatment be required or be proposed in an EA application, it will meet the appropriate Technology Readiness Level under the *Technology Readiness Assessment Interim Guidance* (EMLI 2022). This includes Technology Readiness Level 7 for the EAC Application.

4.1.6 ROADS

The Project is currently accessible by road from the town of Fort St. James by an existing road network of paved highway and gravel FSRs, totalling approximately 170 km. The most direct route heads 2.3 km north of Fort St. James along Stuart Lake Highway/BC-27N to the Tachie Road, then follows the Tachie Road for 39 km to the Leo Creek FSR. The Leo Creek FSR is then followed northwest for 38.5 km, followed by 48 km on the Leo-Kazcheck FSR (or 300 Road), 2 km to Leo-Sakenichie FSR (or 900 Road) to cross the Middle River bridge, and then 38 km on the Middle River FSR (or 700 Road) to reach a 1 km long road leading to the Baptiste Deposit area.

Two potential access road routes are being evaluated, as shown on Figure 4-1:

- A northern route that requires maintenance for year-round serviceability, 68 km of existing FSRs, implementing a Middle River Bypass Road (7 km long), including an approximate 250 m long bridge, followed by maintenance to an approximate 5 km section of the Austin FSR, and finally a 16 km realignment of Austin FSR around the footprint of the proposed Tailings Facility. The resulting overall road length from Highway 27 north of Fort St. James to the Project would be approximately 132 km.

- A southern route, which requires maintenance for year-round serviceability, would access the Project by a separate, approximately 144 km long network of gravel FSRs and new road construction. From Highway 27 south of Fort St. James, the route would utilize Sowchea Road and Lind Lake Pit Road, then run along the Cunningham FSR for approximately 90 km past the Yekooche community turnoff, and finally a new 43 km section of road connecting the Cunningham FSR to the Austin FSR. FPX is also investigating the feasibility of several minor deviations along the southern route that have been identified by First Nations and others.

Either route will be maintained with sufficient width (typically 20 m) to establish a right-of-way, including a 10 m running width. FPX will continue engagement including with First Nations to discuss and establish a preferred route for accessing the Project. Depending on the preferred route, the other, or portions thereof, may be maintained as a secondary personnel and egress route to a 3-season road standard.

Anticipated Project vehicle traffic includes the delivery of construction supplies and materials, delivery of construction and operating equipment, delivery of operating supplies and materials, and transit of personnel to and from the site. Construction supplies and materials would be trucked to the Project from various locations in BC and potentially out of province directly by vendors or utilizing third-party transport companies. Materials would include items such as building supplies, process equipment, mine equipment, cable, piping, and construction equipment. During the mine life, consumables and commodities are required to support processing (grinding media, reagents, spare parts, concentrate bags, etc.), mining (explosives, fuel, lubricants, spare parts, ground support, etc.), and general site operation (food, camp supplies, spare parts, fuel, office supplies, etc.). These consumables and commodities are expected to be sourced from various locations, but it is anticipated that many of the required supplies, materials, construction equipment, etc. will be sourced from the local region.

Once the Project is operational, FPX proposes packaging the awaruite concentrate (in briquette form) and MHP product (in filter cake form) in approximately 2 to 3 t bulk bags. These bulk bags would be loaded into standard shipping containers, which would then be transported by truck via third-party transport company to container shipping hubs. From the third-party shipping hub, the containers would transfer the products to markets by a combination of commercial shipping modes.

Table 4.1-3 provides the current traffic volume from representative locations on both Highway 27 and Highway 16, and Table 4.1-4 provides the predicted daily average Project-related traffic volume estimates, which will be verified as Project definition matures.

TABLE 4.1-3 SUMMARY OF CURRENT TRAFFIC VOLUMES IN THE PROJECT AREA

Parameter	Highway 27, Necoslie (Stuart River) Bridge, Fort St. James (2023)	Highway 16, Bednesti, 49 km West of Prince George (2015 to 2024)
Annual Average Daily Traffic	3,377	4,201
Summer Average Daily Traffic	3,702	5,610

TABLE 4.1-4 SUMMARY OF PREDICTED TRAFFIC VOLUMES FOR THE PROJECT

Phase	Estimated One-Way Trips Per Day (Average)
Construction	200
Operations	100
Closure	100

The predicted traffic volumes for the Project predominantly consist of passenger vehicles (approximately 30% to 40%). On average during Operations, it is anticipated five loaded trucks per day (10 standard shipping containers) will be required to transport the briquettes/concentrate produced. Based on publicly available data (Table 4.1-3), this increase represents about 3% to 6% relative to current traffic levels on Highway 27 in and around the Fort St. James municipality.

4.1.7 POWER

During Phase 1 Operations, the Project will require approximately 165 megawatts (MW) of power (total site power consumption will be 1,476 gigawatt hours [GWh] per annum). During Phase 2 Operations, an additional 83 MW (total site power consumption will be 2,136 GWh per annum) will be required (total operating power requirement of 248 MW) for the remaining operational life.

Power will be supplied to the Project through a 230 kilovolt overhead transmission line with a ~40 m wide right-of-way, from BC Hydro's Glenannan substation, located approximately 10 km west of Fraser Lake, BC. In January 2023, BC Hydro assessed the connection to the Glenannan substation through a formal study and deemed it technically viable. Typical poles will be wooden with a height of 20 m, with the transmission line design based on Canadian Standards Association standards e.g., CSA C22.3 NO. 1-20 and provincial practices.

The transmission line alignments are shown on Figure 4-1. Option 1 is 145 km long, as presented in the Project's Preliminary Feasibility Study, and this alignment remains under consideration for the IPD. Option 2 is currently the preferred alignment, developed based on outcomes of early engagement, and is approximately 156 km long. Both alignments avoid provincial parks and known archaeologically sensitive areas. The final transmission line alignment will be determined based on engineering and environmental studies and after collaboration with First Nation communities and land tenure holders.

Once the Transmission Line is constructed and operational, electrical power will be received onsite at the main site substation. Once electricity arrives at the site, it will be stepped down and distributed via a single substation electrical room during Phase 1, with a second substation electrical room added for Phase 2.

4.2 PROJECT DESIGN OR SITING CONSTRAINTS

A summary of key Project components and their design flexibility is provided in Table 4.2-1. All design components will meet applicable standards, such as the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines for British Columbia (EMLI 2024) and Dam Safety Guidelines (CDA 2013).

TABLE 4.2-1 MAJOR COMPONENT SITING FLEXIBILITY

Design Component	Flexibility Status	Rationale
Location of Ore Body	Fixed	Not applicable—the ore body is fixed.
Mining Method (i.e., Open Pit)	Fixed	Not applicable—the ore body is not suitable for underground mining methods, including block caving, due to geological and geotechnical conditions.
Ore Processing	Fixed	<p>The proposed location was selected based on topography, open pit proximity and mine infrastructure, and foundation conditions.</p> <p>Milling technology—conventional semi-autogenous grinding and ball milling were selected after comparing these options to high-pressure grinding rolls and various other comminution circuit configurations.</p> <p>Metal separation techniques—conventional magnetic separation, followed by froth flotation, were selected; previously, gravity concentration and whole ore flotation were also evaluated.</p>
Concentrate Transportation	Fixed	<p>Bagged concentrates will be trucked in standard shipping containers to Prince George, where they will be handed over to commercial shippers. The concentrates could also be trucked to other commercial shipping hubs, depending on customer preference.</p> <p>Bulk shipping of concentrates is not desirable due to the high-grade of products and downstream user requirements.</p>
Tailings Management	Flexible	<p>Alternate Tailings Facility locations—potential locations for tailings management have been assessed as part of technical studies; Tailings management within the Open Pit in later stages of Operations is also an option for a portion of the total tailings produced.</p> <p>Alternate Tailings Facility returning land use design—Options will include alternatives for cover material/design, vegetation, and water management strategy.</p>
	Fixed	<p>Alternate tailings management technologies—tailings will be delivered to the Tailings Facility as a conventional slurry due to throughput, topography, and climate constraints; however, facility design will include options for short- and long-term tailings conditions (drained or undrained).</p> <p>Alternate dam design—dam design options are constrained by location selection: a west option as presented herein requires use of cycloned sand and waste rock to construct the dam and the 2023 Preliminary Feasibility Study facility can be constructed solely from available waste rock; however, design options include, for example, the use of core zone or cyclone sand for buttressing.</p>
Location of Accommodation Facility	Flexible	Alternate facility locations—this is influenced by the Tailings Facility siting.
Power Source and Infrastructure	Flexible	Different route options/refinement from the Glenannan substation to the Project.

Design Component	Flexibility Status	Rationale
Water Source and Management	Flexible	Alternate source type (surface water versus groundwater)—surface is preferred.
		Alternate locations—surface: primary options are Middle River or Trembleur Lake; groundwater: can be at multiple locations but would likely be in the same catchments as Middle River / Trembleur Lake.
		Alternate treatment systems—no preference; as needed (water quality data to be established).
Discharge Locations	Flexible	Alternate locations—dependent on the Tailings Facility location; water stewardship is a consideration for discharge location siting (returning water to the same catchment).
Worker Transportation	Flexible	Road transportation from local communities to the Project. Personnel to fly to Prince George Airport by commercial or charter flights and then bused to site. They could also fly into other local airports by charter and then bused to site, e.g., Vanderhoof and Fort St. James airports.
Worker Residency	Flexible	Alternate locations: Personnel will be based onsite and reside in the Accommodation Facility. Provision for residents in communities close to the Project to reside at home will be considered, e.g., Middle River.
Worker Schedule	Flexible	Alternate rotation schedules—the assumption for the Construction phase is that most personnel will work 12-hour shifts per day, on a 4-week in, 2-week out rotation. There will be some minor requirements for night-shift work, with this potentially increasing during peak construction periods. During Operations, shifts are assumed to be two 12-hour shifts per day, but there will be a wider range of rotation schedules, such as 4 days on / 3 days off, 7 days on / 7 days off, and 14 days on / 14 days off.
Vehicular Access	Flexible	Alternate access routes—northern or southern road access options are under consideration.

To support consideration of development options for the Project, alternatives assessment work is ongoing, and further information is provided in Section 4.7, Alternative Means of Carrying Out the Project.

4.3 PROJECT PHASES AND ACTIVITIES

The Project schedule is broadly divided into the following phases: Construction, Operations, Closure and Post-Closure. An overview of the Project phases, durations, and associated key activities are presented in Table 4.3-1.

Phases of the Project include a 3-year Construction phase followed by a 28-year Operations phase. Appropriate seasonal work windows for wildlife and fish will be incorporated into planning the Project construction schedule. No other seasonal timing constraints have been identified.

TABLE 4.3-1 PROJECT PHASES AND ACTIVITIES

Phase	Duration	Activities
Construction	Year -3 to Year 0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of Initial Accommodation Facility, followed by sequential expansion to full capacity • Construction of offsite Access Road • Pioneering of onsite road • Site clearing/grubbing/logging • Batch plant and other temporary construction facilities • Environmental management • Stockpiling of overburden, topsoil, and other material suitable for reclamation or construction uses • General earthworks, site levelling, foundations, and buried services • Development of onsite utilities and services • Construction of mine, plant, and service road • Pre-stripping pit development and dewatering • Construction of Process Plant • Construction of plant, mine, and general ancillary facilities • Construction of Tailings Facility starter dam, and tailings discharge and water reclaim pipelines • Construction of electrical transmission line, high voltage and medium voltage substations, and the site-wide distribution system • Construction of water management systems, such as drainage ditches, the Water Treatment Plant, and water collection sumps and ponds • Transportation of materials and supplies to support construction, the Accommodation Facility, and other site operations
Operations—Phase 1	Year 1 to Year 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mining the Open Pit at up to 60 Mt per annum, including drilling, blasting, and excavation activities • Transportation of ore to the Process Plant • Transportation of waste rock to the Tailings Facility • Mineral processing at approximately 40 Mt per annum • Transportation of tailings to Tailings Facility via tailings pipeline • Ongoing Tailings Facility dam raises • Transportation of concentrates to Prince George • Transportation of materials and supplies to support construction, the Accommodation Facility, and other site operations • Maintenance of infrastructure (e.g., roads and transmission line rights-of-way) • Progressive reclamation of disturbed areas where possible • Stockpiling topsoil and other material suitable for reclamation or construction uses • Reclamation planning and reporting • Implementing the Environmental Management System

Phase	Duration	Activities
Operations— Phase 1 (<i>cont'd</i>)	Year 1 to Year 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of Phase 2 components in Year 4 and 5, including upgrades to the following key components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Process Plant ◦ High Voltage Substation ◦ Tailings Distribution System ◦ Truck Shop • Minor expansion of various ancillary buildings such as the Administration Services Building and Plant Services Building, among others
Operations— Phase 2	Year 6 to Year 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mining the Open Pit at up to 120 Mt per annum • Mineral processing at approximately 60 Mt per annum • Continuation of Phase 1 activities
Closure	Year 29 to Year 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demolition and removal of processing and mine support facilities • Sampling and remediating the site including contaminated soils • Deactivation of mine site roads, pipelines, and Transmission Line (select access may be maintained for monitoring purposes) • Utilization of topsoil and overburden piles to recontour and scarify disturbed areas as appropriate • Construction of Tailings Facility regrading, cover, or spillway, as necessary • Environmental monitoring • Maintenance of water management structures and treatment
Post-Closure	Year 31+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental monitoring of water quality and reclamation • Engineering inspections for Tailings Facility and water management dams, as required • Implementation of follow-up measures, maintenance, and repairs, as required • Pit lake formation, tailings dewatering, water treatment, if required, and transition to steady-state water management

Note:

Mt = million tonne(s)

As previously noted, Operations is broken into two subphases, with Operations Phase 1 anticipated to include the first 5 years, and Operations Phase 2 commencing in Year 6 with the commissioning of a Process Plant expansion to increase the processing rate.

It is anticipated that Closure activities would be completed within a period of 3 years following the end of Operations. Post-Closure monitoring of reclamation success, geotechnical and chemical stability, is anticipated to occur for several decades. Based on initial geochemical analysis the tailings facility will not require a water cover and will undergo managed dewatering during closure. Further, the open pit will refill and where/when requirements are met natural drainage patterns can be re-established. The Project site will be progressively reclaimed towards the end of the Operations phase and at the end of mining. The primary objective of Closure activities will be to achieve safe closure consistent with GISTM principles including but not limited to:

- Respect the rights of First Nations and potentially impacted persons and meaningfully engage at all phases of the Tailings Facility lifecycle, including closure;
- Develop and maintain an interdisciplinary knowledge base to support safe tailings management throughout the Tailings Facility lifecycle, including closure that can be used to inform decisions throughout the Tailings Facility lifecycle;
- Design, implement and operate monitoring systems to manage risk at all phases of the facility lifecycle, including closure;
- Establish and implement levels of review as part of a strong quality and risk management system for all phases of the Tailings Facility lifecycle, including closure; and
- Publicly disclose and provide access to information about the Tailings Facility to support public accountability.

4.4 PROJECT WORKFORCE

FPX anticipates that local communities, including First Nation communities, will benefit from substantial and lasting opportunities provided by Project development activities. Engagement with local Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities has identified that maximizing meaningful local employment at the Project is a priority for local communities and that readiness for this opportunity is to be supported from the beginning at this stage of Project development.

FPX has and will continue to explore opportunities and processes that will support the goals of local communities and, at this time, some examples of this include: the establishment of a First Nations student bursary fund; the development of careers-focused informational materials for community open houses; engagement with local academic institutions (College of New Caledonia and the University of Northern British Columbia); engagement with the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation and Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills; and engagement with industry associations such as the Battery Metals Association of Canada, the Mining Association of British Columbia, and the Centre of Training Excellence in Mining.

To support maximization of local supplier engagement, FPX has implemented a *Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy*¹ which sets out FPX's commitments to prioritizing local and Indigenous businesses. This policy supports current field programs, and effectiveness is tracked by the company. It is anticipated that this Policy will be reviewed and updated, including during the EA process, as required to support advancement into future Construction and Operations phases. This may also include identification and communication of appropriate monitoring metrics to inform effectiveness of plans and refine policies and programs supporting local employment and contracting.

Staffing requirements have been estimated by Project phase including through benchmarking against similar regional mining operations and are presented in Table 4.4-1. During Operations, Phases 1 and 2 will have an approximate total headcount of approximately 592 and 939 full time jobs over 28 years, respectively based on a 2 weeks on, 1 week off schedule. Employment associated with operations transitioning from Phase 1 to Phase 2 and as well as ancillary or external staff (such as contractors and vendor representatives) would be an additional 10% of these totals resulting in approximately 1,000 full time jobs over the 28-year Operations.

¹ <https://fpxnickel.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Supplier-Diversity-and-Local-Procurement-Policy.pdf>.

TABLE 4.4-1 PROJECT EMPLOYMENT BY DEPARTMENT AND PHASE

Role	Construction	Operations— Phase 1	Operations— Phase 2	Closure
Process Plant, Maintenance, Tailings Management, and Laboratory Services	640	175	272	100
General and Administrative—Labour	100	73	82	50
Mine: Labour, Maintenance, and Supervision	170	314	555	100
Contractor (Indirect)	130	-	-	-
Vendor Representatives	90	-	-	-
Camp Services	300	30	30	50
Total	1,430	592	939	300

Notes:

Dash (-) = not applicable

Operations exclude ancillary or external staff (such as contractors and vendor representatives), who would add 10% to these totals, including those required for operations phase build out to phase 2 in operations Year 5.

FPX will generate detailed workforce estimates for each phase of the Project categorized by Training, Education, Experience and Responsibilities (TEER) requirements, or similar, for the common job profiles required. These profiles will help determine the capacity of the local workforce to meet the Project's employment needs and prioritize skills training that can be provided or facilitated to prepare the local workforce for the employment opportunities that the Project will provide. Table 4.4-2 provides a limited example of the direct employment profiles.

TABLE 4.4-2 PROJECT EMPLOYMENT PROFILES

Position	Fixed Requirements	Potential Requirements
Entry Level Positions		
Haul Truck Driver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physically fit and mobile Appropriate Class or driver's permit, if required to drive outside of the mine site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of accredited driver's training course through a vocational school or community college Certification for transporting dangerous goods
Heavy Equipment Operator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physically fit and mobile 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical training and a valid certificate for specific equipment High school diploma or equivalent Valid driver's licence and good driving record
Skilled Trades and Technical Support Careers		
Electrician	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of a 4-year apprenticeship program that combines classroom instruction with on-the-job training Journeyman Trade Certificate in Electrical trade Red Seal certificate in Electrical trade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High school diploma or equivalent

Position	Fixed Requirements	Potential Requirements
Skilled Trades and Technical Support Careers (cont'd)		
Millwright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journeyman Trade Certificate as Industrial Mechanic/ Millwright (check the requirements for your province or territory) Knowledge of mining operations and mining equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red Seal certification as Industrial Mechanic/Millwright High school diploma or equivalent
Science and Engineering Careers		
Geologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor's degree in geology or earth sciences Eligible for registration as Geoscientist in Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Registration, PGeo Wilderness survival training
Environmental Biologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varies with level of responsibility and role, e.g., from applied science training programs through to Bachelors Degree and from 6 to 10 years of experience with environmental assessment, impact surveys, field studies of endangered species and/or wetland delineation projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Master's degree in environmental science, preferably biological sciences or related field such as environmental science, natural science, hydrology, ecology or botany Professional Registration e.g., RPBio or PAg
Mining Engineer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor's degree in mining engineering Eligible for Registration as Engineer in Training Specialized software skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Registration, PEng

Source: Mining Industry Human Resources Council (2025).

4.4.1 ACCOMMODATIONS

The Project will require approximately 1,500 beds in an Accommodation Facility to support construction. For early construction works, the facility will have approximately 300 beds, with the remaining 1,200 beds added sequentially as the Project ramps up to the peak of the Construction phase.

During the Operations phase, approximately 500 beds will be used, with the remaining beds retained to support the Phase 2 construction, capital works, and the increased Phase 2 operating workforce.

Construction of the Phase 2 expansion will require approximately 750 of the retained beds. Once Phase 2 of the Project is operational, the operational camp will require approximately 800 beds (an increase of approximately 300 beds in comparison with Phase 1). FPX anticipates retaining these operational beds until mine closure.

The Accommodation Facility is anticipated to include individual rooms, washrooms, and associated required facilities such as potable water and sewage treatment plants, recreational areas, first aid facilities, kitchen and dining rooms, camp offices, laundry, parking, utilities, power distribution, and storage spaces.

4.5 EMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, AND OTHER WASTE

The Project is anticipated to generate air emissions, water discharge, sanitary sewage, domestic waste, and hazardous waste. Additional design work is currently underway to minimize emissions and their impact to the environment. This section includes a general discussion of anticipated direct Project emissions to air (including estimated GHG emissions), land, and water.

4.5.1 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

GHG emissions will be generated during the Project from Construction to Operations and Closure. An initial estimate of GHG emissions by the Project was calculated using the methodology in Section 3 of the *Strategic Assessment of Climate Change* (ECCC 2020). GHG emissions estimates will be reviewed as the Project design is further refined. Based on the *Strategic Assessment of Climate Change*, net GHG emissions are quantified as follows:

$$\text{Net GHG emissions} = \text{Direct GHG emissions} + \text{Acquired energy GHG emissions} - \text{CO}_2 \text{ captured and stored} - \text{Avoided domestic GHG emissions} - \text{Offset credits}$$

At this stage, only direct GHG emissions (also referred to as Scope 1) and acquired energy GHG emissions (Scope 2) can be quantified based on available information. All other terms in the net GHG emissions equation are assumed to equal to or less than zero. Net GHG emissions were calculated for the Project's Construction, Operations and Closure phases.

4.5.1.1 DIRECT GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Direct GHG emissions are generated by activities that are within the defined scope of the Project and include:

- Emissions from mobile and stationary combustion;
- Emissions from explosives use;
- Emissions from land use change; and
- Emissions from industrial processes (limestone usage).

At this stage of the Project, estimates of diesel fuel usage for mobile and stationary sources and explosives amounts were calculated during the Preliminary Feasibility Study or Post-Preliminary Feasibility Study value engineering work. These estimates are used to calculate the direct GHG emissions for the Project. The Baptiste Preliminary Feasibility Study reported a LOM average carbon intensity of 2.4 tCO₂e/tNi on a Scope 1+2 basis. While this included electric shovels and drills as part of the mine fleet, approximately 85% of this carbon intensity is due to diesel consumption, with the remainder from other fuels (propane and gasoline), minor use of limestone for neutralization in the Process Plant, and a minor contribution from BC Hydro's grid electricity emission intensity factor (11.3 t of carbon dioxide [CO₂] equivalent [tCO₂e] per tonne of gigawatt hour [tCO₂e/GWh] in 2023). Further refinement of the Project design has reduced the carbon intensity over the LOM to an average below 1.5 tCO₂e/tNi. This has been achieved through:

- Improved in-pit loading efficiency, reduced haul truck counts, and optimization of ore/waste handling through optimized bench heights and 400 t haul trucks;
- Autonomous hauling during portions of the Operations phase; and
- Trolley assist, both in pit and outside the pit, during portions of the Operations phase.

This value would place the Project within the lowest decile (10%) of current global nickel production. At this stage of the Project, no detail has been established for land use changes. Clearing of vegetation creates carbon sources, and restoration of vegetation causes carbon sinks over time. Land use carbon sources and sinks have not been evaluated at this stage of the Project and, therefore, an estimate of GHG emissions from land use changes has not been included.

The global warming potentials for GHGs and emissions factors for diesel and blasting fuel emulsion were derived from values published by ECCC (2024a, 2024b). The GHG emissions factors for ammonium nitrate fuel oil were obtained from the *Energy and GHG Emissions Management Reference Guide* published by the Mining Association of Canada (2014).

Propane will likely be used as part of the Project to heat some of the buildings, although no estimate of the volume of propane to be used is available. It is assumed that the GHG emissions from propane will be much smaller than those from diesel and, therefore, the estimated direct GHG emissions totals provided in this report are considered a reasonable initial estimate.

Table 4.5-1 shows the diesel and explosives amounts for each year of the Project and the associated direct GHG emissions for those years. The Construction phase of the Project is denoted by negative year values and the Operations and Closure phases are denoted by positive year values, with Year 1 marking the start of mine production.

No estimates of fuel or explosives usage is available for the Closure. Therefore, a conservative assumption has been applied that the direct GHG emissions for the Closure phase are, on average, equal to the direct emissions during the first year of construction.

The total Construction phase direct GHG emissions are estimated to be 84,880 tCO_{2e}, the total Operations phase direct GHG emissions are estimated to be 1,848,554 tCO_{2e}, and the total Closure phase direct GHG emissions are estimated to be 17,947 tCO_{2e}.

At this stage of the Project, the same estimates of diesel fuel usage for carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_{2e}) were also used to calculate the direct GHG emissions for methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O) equivalent for the Project. These emissions are relatively small (the total over the entire Project is 96 t CH₄ equivalent [tCH_{4e}] and 56 t N₂O equivalent [tN₂Oe]) and are anticipated to remain insignificant; however, the details included are based on the latest information available.

4.5.1.2 ACQUIRED GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Acquired GHG emissions are associated with the generation of electricity, heat, steam, or cooling, purchased or acquired from a third-party for the Project. Acquired energy GHG emissions for the Project include emissions associated with the generation of and losses associated with transmission of purchased or acquired electricity from BC Hydro.

The estimated operating load for the Construction phase is 20 MW in Year -1 only (owing to approximately 2 years for construction and commissioning of the Transmission Line). It is assumed that this load is continuous for all hours of the year. This electricity load would result in an annual consumption of 160 GWh, and the estimated operating load for Operations Phase 1 and 2 of the Project total 165 and 248 MW, respectively. Therefore, the total acquired electricity per year is 1,476 GWh in Phase 1 (Years 1 through 5) and 2,136 GWh in Phase 2 (Years 6 through 28).

TABLE 4.5-1 PROJECT GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY YEAR IN CARBON DIOXIDE (CO₂), METHANE (CH₄), AND NITROUS OXIDE (N₂O) EQUIVALENT

Emissions Source	Units	Years of Construction		
		-		
		-3	-2	-1
Diesel	L	956,462	12,012,718	16,948,153
Blasting Fuel	L	-	265,500	531,000
Emulsion (Explosives)	t	-	4,500,000	9,000,000
ROM Nickel Mined	t	-	-	-
Electricity Consumed	GWh	0	0	160
Diesel GHG Emissions	tCO ₂ e	2,564	32,200	45,430
Blasting GHG Emissions	tCO ₂ e	-	712	1,423
Emulsion GHG Emissions	tCO ₂ e	-	851	1,701
Electricity Consumption GHG Emissions	tCO ₂ e	0	0	1,808
Net GHG Emissions	tCO ₂ e	2,564	33,762	50,362
Other GHG Emissions				
Net Methane Emissions	tCH ₄ e	0.1	1.7	2.4
Net Nitrous Oxide Emissions	tN ₂ Oe	0.1	1.0	1.4

Emissions Source	Units	Years of Operation						
		Phase 1					Phase 2	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Diesel	L	10,840,156	11,847,360	16,632,562	17,183,736	11,920,264	9,447,612	7,929,746
Blasting Fuel	L	708,000	708,000	708,000	708,000	708,000	1,062,000	1,062,000
Emulsion (Explosives)	t	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	18,000	18,000
ROM Nickel Mined	t	36,683	48,433	50,771	48,040	48,311	73,248	73,723
Electricity Consumed	GWh	1,476	1,476	1,476	1,476	1,476	2,136	2,136
Diesel GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	29,057	31,757	44,584	46,061	31,952	25,324	21,256
Blasting GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	1,898	1,898	1,898	1,898	1,898	2,847	2,847
Emulsion GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	2,268	2,268	2,268	2,268	2,268	3,402	3,402
Electricity Consumption GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	16,680	16,680	16,680	16,680	16,680	24,134	24,134
Net GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	49,903	52,603	65,430	66,907	52,798	55,707	51,638
Other GHG Emissions								
Net Methane Emissions	tCH _{4e}	1.6	1.8	2.4	2.5	1.8	1.5	1.3
Net Nitrous Oxide Emissions	tN ₂ Oe	0.9	1.0	1.4	1.5	1.0	0.9	0.7

Emissions Source	Units	Years of Operation						
		Phase 2						
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Diesel	L	9,170,098	9,754,855	14,665,231	26,520,360	35,149,882	33,664,687	30,140,697
Blasting Fuel	L	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000
Emulsion (Explosives)	t	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
ROM Nickel Mined	t	66,440	71,770	73,406	61,561	67,390	71,390	74,811
Electricity Consumed	GWh	2,136	2,136	2,136	2,136	2,136	2,136	2,136
Diesel GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	24,580	26,148	39,310	71,088	94,219	90,238	80,792
Blasting GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	2,847	2,847	2,847	2,847	2,847	2,847	2,847
Emulsion GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	3,402	3,402	3,402	3,402	3,402	3,402	3,402
Electricity Consumption GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	24,134	24,134	24,134	24,134	24,134	24,134	24,134
Net GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	54,963	56,530	69,692	101,470	124,601	120,620	111,174
Other GHG Emissions								
Net Methane Emissions	tCH _{4e}	1.4	1.5	2.2	3.9	5.1	4.9	4.4
Net Nitrous Oxide Emissions	tN ₂ Oe	0.8	0.9	1.3	2.3	3.0	2.8	2.6

Emissions Source	Units	Years of Operation						
		Phase 2						
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Diesel	L	38,597,920	35,500,110	29,185,368	29,476,137	28,284,258	28,302,115	26,008,780
Blasting Fuel	L	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000
Emulsion (Explosives)	t	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
ROM Nickel Mined	t	68,920	72,162	64,646	57,348	60,243	61,789	64,688
Electricity Consumed	GWh	2,136	2,136	2,136	2,136	2,136	2,136	2,136
Diesel GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	103,462	95,158	78,231	79,011	75,816	75,864	69,717
Blasting GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	2,847	2,847	2,847	2,847	2,847	2,847	2,847
Emulsion GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	3,402	3,402	3,402	3,402	3,402	3,402	3,402
Electricity Consumption GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	24,134	24,134	24,134	24,134	24,134	24,134	24,134
Net GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	133,844	125,540	108,614	109,393	106,198	106,246	100,099
Other GHG Emissions								
Net Methane Emissions	tCH _{4e}	5.6	5.1	4.2	4.3	4.1	4.1	3.8
Net Nitrous Oxide Emissions	tN ₂ Oe	3.3	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.2

Emissions Source	Units	Years of Operation						
		Phase 2						
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Diesel	L	25,597,219	23,928,490	24,019,728	28,095,851	24,415,115	27,312,035	17,061,363
Blasting Fuel	L	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000	1,062,000	743,400	283,200
Emulsion (Explosives)	t	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	12,600	4,800
ROM Nickel Mined	t	69,290	73,507	72,431	70,342	59,371	59,371	59,371
Electricity Consumed	GWh	2,136	2,136	2,136	2,136	2,136	2,136	2,136
Diesel GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	68,613	64,140	64,385	75,311	65,445	73,210	45,733
Blasting GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	2,847	2,847	2,847	2,847	2,847	1,993	759
Emulsion GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	3,402	3,402	3,402	3,402	3,402	2,381	907
Electricity Consumption GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	24,134	24,134	24,134	24,134	24,134	24,134	24,134
Net GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	98,996	94,523	94,767	105,693	95,827	101,718	71,533
Other GHG Emissions								
Net Methane Emissions	tCH _{4e}	3.7	3.5	3.5	4.1	3.6	3.9	2.4
Net Nitrous Oxide Emissions	tN ₂ Oe	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.1	2.3	1.4

Emissions Source	Units	Years of Closure						
		-						
		29	30	31	32	33	34	35
Diesel	L	956,462	956,462	956,462	956,462	956,462	956,462	956,462
Blasting Fuel	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Emulsion (Explosives)	t	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ROM Nickel Mined	t	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electricity Consumed	GWh	160	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diesel GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	2,564	2,564	2,564	2,564	2,564	2,564	2,564
Blasting GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Emulsion GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electricity Consumption GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	1,808	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net GHG Emissions	tCO _{2e}	4,372	2,564	2,564	2,564	2,564	2,564	2,564
Other GHG Emissions								
Net Methane Emissions	tCH _{4e}	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Net Nitrous Oxide Emissions	tN _{2Oe}	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Notes:

CO₂ = carbon dioxide; CO_{2e} = carbon dioxide equivalent; GHG = greenhouse gas; GWh – gigawatt hour(s); L= litre; ROM = run-of-mine; tCH_{4e} = tonne(s) methane equivalent; tCO_{2e} = total carbon dioxide equivalent; tN_{2Oe} = total nitrous oxide equivalent

Dash (-) = not applicable

BC Hydro's GHG intensity is 11.3 tCO₂e/GWh (Province of BC 2024). Based on this intensity, the annual acquired energy GHG emissions for the Project are 16,680 GWh in Phase 1 (Years 1 through 5) and 24,134 GWh in Phase 2 (Years 6 through 28) tCO₂e. The Construction phase in Year -3 is 1,808 tCO₂e. The first year after Operations (start of Closure, Year 29) is conservatively assumed to be the same as the final year of Construction (before the Transmission Line is decommissioned). Based on these annual amounts, the total acquired energy GHG emissions for all phases of the Project is 642,089 tCO₂e.

Table 4.5-1 shows the power consumption for each year of the Project and the associated acquired GHG emissions for those years.

4.5.1.3 CARBON DIOXIDE CAPTURED AND STORED, AVOIDED DOMESTIC GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, AND OFFSET CREDITS

Due to their ultramafic mineralization, the Project's mine waste and tailings have the potential to sequester CO₂ through carbonation of brucite and other magnesium-based minerals. For reference, the Project's tailings contain an average of approximately 1% brucite. This has been demonstrated through multiple field- and laboratory-based test work campaigns in tandem with the University of British Columbia, as well as carbonation modelling work with independent consultants.

FPX continues to pursue the means to promote carbon sequestration in the Baptiste Tailings Facility; however, in line with our conservative approach to project development, no benefit thereof is currently considered within the Project economics or carbon intensity. FPX will be assessing these as the Project advances in collaboration with key stakeholders for input on technological advancements. The Project is not currently expected to directly contribute to avoiding domestic GHG emissions.

4.5.1.4 NET GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Based on the direct and acquired energy GHG emissions for the Construction, Operations, and Closure phases of the Project, the total net GHG emissions summed overall Project years are 2,593,469 tCO₂e. The maximum annual net GHG emissions for the Project are in Year 15 with 133,844 tCO₂e. See Table 4.5-2 for a summary of emissions by Project phase. Table 4.5-2 also shows the total net GHG emissions for the Construction (86,688 tCO₂e), Operations (2,487,027 tCO₂e), and Closure (19,755 tCO₂e) phases.

Under the *Climate Change Accountability Act* (2007), BC has committed to reducing the total provincial GHG emissions to 40% below 2007 levels by 2030 (38,800,000 tCO₂e per year) and to 60% below 2007 levels by 2040 (25,900,000 tCO₂e per year). While the Project is not expected to be operating as of 2030, the net GHG emissions from the Project at peak are estimated to be 134,344 tCO₂e, which represents 0.35% of the *Climate Change Accountability Act's* 2030 target. Also, the net GHG emissions from the Project at peak represent 0.52% of the *Climate Change Accountability Act's* 2040 target.

TABLE 4.5-2 MAXIMUM GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS DURING CONSTRUCTION, OPERATIONS, AND CLOSURE

Project Phase	Maximum Net Emissions	Direct Emissions	Acquired Energy Emissions	CO ₂ Captured and Stored	Avoided Domestic Emissions	Offset Credits	Total Net Emissions for the Project by Phase	Total Net Emissions for the Project
	Maximum Annual CO ₂ e (t)						CO ₂ e (t)	
Construction	50,362	48,554	1,808	0	0	0	86,688	2,593,469
Operations—Phase 1	66,907	50,227	16,180	0	0	0	287,641	
Operations—Phase 2	133,844	109,710	23,634	0	0	0	2,199,385	
Closure	4,372	2,564	1,808	0	0	0	19,755	

Notes:

CO₂ = carbon dioxide; CO₂e = carbon dioxide equivalent; t = tonne(s)

4.5.1.5 NET-ZERO PLAN

According to the *Strategic Assessment of Climate Change* (ECCC 2020) a credible net-zero plan is required for projects with a lifetime that extends beyond 2050. Additionally, the Province of BC is proposing (Government of BC 2023a) to implement the Net-Zero New Industry Policy as part of the *Greenhouse Gas Industrial Reporting and Control Act* (2014). This policy requires new facilities to develop net-zero plans that must be approved by the Climate Action Secretariat before the facility is permitted to proceed. In 2050, and each year thereafter, facilities will be required to achieve net-zero emissions.

Following decarbonization efforts, including in the Project design, the remaining emissions are primarily (95%) related to diesel consumption and use of supplied power. As the calculation of net GHG emissions is updated through the continued development of the Project, including quantifying and updating all inputs, a net-zero plan will be developed to satisfy final provincial requirements and those of the *Strategic Assessment of Climate Change*.

4.5.2 WATER EMISSIONS

Water emissions include the discharge of contact water (i.e., water that has been in contact with potential sources of contamination) and the diversion of non-contact water (i.e., from upstream catchments that have not been in contact with mine workings) to the receiving environment. FPX is considering a closure plan that would support re-establishing natural drainage patterns, as such the three main subwatersheds (Khast'an-i Koh [Baptiste Creek], Sidney Creek and Paula Creek) in the Project Area may receive discharge depending on the final Project design, results of water-related modelling, and collaborative design with First Nations. Water discharge monitoring would be a fundamental component of the Environmental Management System. Water will meet provincial permit limits and relevant federal standards prior to discharge.

The Tailings Facility is the key feature for the integrated waste and water management facilities that will be progressively developed, operated, and reclaimed over the LOM. As noted, supplementary freshwater is anticipated to be required. If the water balance is in surplus, contact water will be discharged. Site water management will be informed by a water stewardship plan, based on the following principles:

- Recognize that water is a shared resource integral to ecosystem function, mine operations, and First Nation cultural practices;
- Integrate water stewardship into mine development, and operational and returning land use (closure) planning, and assess potential risks and opportunities in project designs;
- Identify opportunities for the efficient use of water and reduce waste and emissions to minimize adverse effects at the earliest stages of project design and planning;
- Consider appropriate spatial and temporal scales when making decision regarding water use;
- Collaborate with First Nations and water users that may be influenced or affected by site water use and discharge;
- Mitigate impacts by minimizing the surface disturbance of Project activities to the greatest extent possible and by applying the environmental mitigation hierarchy: avoid, minimize, restore, and offset;

- Meet all applicable legislative and regulatory requirements; and
- Support watershed scale initiatives that promote water conservation, efficiency in use, and water security, and consider climate change and climate resiliency.

FPX will continue to evaluate aspects of the Project design, including alternatives for mine waste and water management, informed by future technical and environmental studies, and early and ongoing collaboration with First Nations.

4.5.3 OTHER WASTES

During Operations and Closure, FPX will operate onsite sanitary sewage treatment facilities, with the largest demands from the Process Plant area and Accommodation Facility. However, during the Construction phase, temporary sanitary sewage systems may be used. Design, selection, and location of these facilities will be consistent with applicable legislation.

Refuse management will support a waste reduction, diversion, and recycling program by waste stream or type. Tailored by mine phase, provision will be made to support refuse management. It is anticipated that this will require a combination of designated and marked bins; an incinerator; hazardous waste storage areas; and waste storage, transfer, and handling areas. Material, including hazardous waste, will be transported offsite to regulated third-party disposal or recycling facilities on a routine basis. Waste management will be informed by applicable guidance (e.g., BC Guidelines for Industrial Camp Regulation [Ministry of Health 2017]), Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako's (RDBN's) Regional District Bylaws and solid waste management plan, and where required, legislation and regulatory approvals.

4.6 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROJECT

FPX has considered potential alternatives to the Project that are technically and economically feasible. The possible alternatives are: (1) not undertaking the Project, (2) changing the timing of the Project, and (3) changing the location of the Project.

The "no Project" alternative would neither provide the positive socio-economic effects associated with the Project's development nor contribute to Canada's decarbonization goals, thereby not fulfilling the purpose of the Project.

The second alternative, changing the Project timing, would generally have the same environmental effects and socio-economic benefits as those associated with proceeding with the Project as proposed.

The third alternative, changing the location, is not possible, as the ore body is fixed, and FPX is not aware of any viable alternatives of similar scale to the Project, including synergies with existing infrastructure or operations.

4.7 ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT

Table 4.7-1 provides a summary of the potential alternative means of carrying out the Project that FPX has considered to date that are technically and economically feasible. FPX will continue to consider potential alternative means as design work, environmental studies, and engagement with First Nations and other stakeholders advance.

TABLE 4.7-1 ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT BEING CONSIDERED

Component/ Activity	Alternatives Being Considered	Preferred Option
Transmission Line Interconnection and Alignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different interconnection points to BC Hydro grid • Different Transmission Line alignments 	<p>FPX has evaluated interconnection points to the BC Hydro grid at both Kennedy and Glenannan substations. The Glenannan substation is the preferred location, as directed by BC Hydro.</p> <p>Two preliminary Transmission Line alignments have been identified (see also Section 4.1.7 and Figure 4-2), with Option 2 being the preferred alignment. Further refinement will be a topic of collaboration including with First Nations. The Transmission Line alignment Option 2 has been informed by preliminary engagement including following existing roads and corridors, avoiding known archaeological sites and provincially protected areas.</p>
Access Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different access routes (i.e., the northern route, and southern routes 1 and 2) 	<p>Based on studies conducted to date, FPX has identified two credible options for access routes to the Project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Northern route from existing Highway 27 and portions of Tachie Road, including the Middle River bypass and the Austin FSR realignment; and 2. Southern route, largely utilizing the Cunningham FSR with a newly constructed extension to the Project which would also provide an alternate emergency egress for Yekooche. <p>The preferred access road option, or potentially a combination thereof, has not been selected and will be a specific topic for collaboration including with First Nations. These alternatives have been identified as they are primarily existing routes and connect local communities to the Project Area.</p>
Freshwater Supply Source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different source locations (i.e., Trembleur Lake and Middle River) 	<p>Both options are technically viable and have similar length pipelines. Middle River would have a more complex intake structure and has SAR critical habitat in the Middle River (white sturgeon), however the pipeline would be largely accessed along existing FSRs or previously disturbed areas. Trembleur Lake has been selected as the preferred option as the pipeline is equidistant with the Middle River option, would largely follow an existing road, the lake would provide a more stable hydrological regime, and the intake would avoid SAR critical habitat.</p>
Water Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Stewardship Plans • Alternative discharge locations 	<p>The site's water balance is contingent on the tailing's facility location. Based on water stewardship principles and strategies, alternative options may be considered.</p>
Tailings Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Siting of the Tailings Facility 	<p>Potential locations for tailings management have been assessed within a 20 km radius from the Open Pit. Site selection was guided in part by engagement with potentially affected First Nations.</p>

Component/ Activity	Alternatives Being Considered	Preferred Option
Tailings Management (<i>cont'd</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Siting of the Tailings Facility (<i>cont'd</i>) 	<p>As noted in Table 4.2-1, two Tailings Facility locations advanced to a technical study level. Both design options are technically viable, and have similar regulatory requirements and support a compact footprint. The location as presented herein would result in less direct loss of fish-bearing waters and would retain Upper Baptiste Lake. For this reason, this location is selected as the preferred option.</p> <p>FPX is committed to continued engagement and collaboration with potentially affected First Nations on design and siting of key Project components, including the Tailings Facility. Continued technical studies will further guide final siting of the Tailings Facility, including a multiple accounts analysis in support of the EAC Application and Schedule 2 permitting framework, which includes opportunities for additional engagement and collaborative decision making.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different dam materials 	<p>Dam design options are constrained by location selection. Based on materials characterization and handling, construction of the dam may include different approaches e.g., rock fill and cyclone sand or a combination thereof.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-pit storage versus external facility 	<p>In-pit storage will be maximized to the extent possible but is only feasible in the later stages of Operations for a portion of the waste rock and total tailings produced.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different cover options at closure 	<p>Based on preliminary geochemistry analysis FPX anticipates that the Tailings Facility will not require a wet or low-permeability cover at closure, eliminating the need for a tailings pond at the Post-Closure phase. Stockpiled topsoil and overburden will be rehandled to the tailings surface to facilitate revegetation.</p>
Accommodation Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different locations 	<p>A site east of the mine site has been selected as the preferred option (Figure 4-1) given proximity to mine operations, flat topography, adjacent to the existing Austin FSR in an area of existing disturbance (forest cutblock).</p>
Mining Fleet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diesel versus electric 	<p>Mining haul fleet is planned as diesel for Phase 1. As mining and technology advances, the mining fleet is anticipated to transition to electric trolley assist.</p>
Waste Management (Sewage, Hazardous, and Solid Waste)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different sewage management approaches 	<p>The preferred option for sanitation management is an onsite sewage treatment facility, with reuse of water for processing or dust control.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different waste management approaches 	<p>An incinerator will be used onsite for combustible waste disposal. Any other material, including hazardous waste, will be transported offsite to regulated third-party disposal or recycling facilities.</p>

Notes:

FSR = forest service road; FPX = FPX Nickel Corporation; km = kilometre; Project = Baptiste Nickel Project

5. REGULATORY AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

5.1 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The Project has an estimated maximum production capacity of 120 Mt of ore per year. Pursuant to Sections 3(1) and 4(1) of the Reviewable Projects Regulation (2019), the proposed maximum production capacity for the Project exceeds the criteria of 75,000 t of mineral ore per year, potentially includes GHG emission triggers, and will therefore require a provincial EA in accordance with the BC *EAA* (2018). The specific Reviewable Projects Regulation (2019) triggers include:

- Part 3 (Mine Projects), Table 6; Row 2 Mineral Mines: (1) A new mine facility that, during operations, will have a production capacity of greater than or equal to 75,000 t of mineral ore per year; and
- Effects Thresholds 4(1): a new facility that will emit 380,000 t or more per year of one or more GHGs directly from Project facilities, measured in CO_{2e}, determined in accordance with Part 3 of the Greenhouse Gas Emission Reporting Regulation (2015; potential trigger).

The Project is also reviewable under the federal *IAA* (2019) Physical Activities Regulations based on the daily ore production capacity of over 5,000 t per day. The specific triggers include:

- Section 18(c) (Mines and Metal Mills): "The construction, operation, decommissioning and abandonment of: (c) a new metal mine, other than a rare earth element mine, placer mine or uranium mine, with an ore production capacity of 5,000 t/day or more"; and
- Section 18(d) (Mines and Metal Mills): "a new metal mill, other than a uranium mill, with an ore input capacity of 5,000 t/day or more."

Pursuant to the *IAA* (2019) and the Cooperation Agreement (Government of Canada 2019), it is anticipated the Project will be assessed by a substituted federal IA. The Cooperation Agreement indicates how the province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada will work together on project IAs that are required by both levels of government. This agreement is intended to facilitate a more predictable and timely process, increase efficiency and certainty, and result in assessments that draw on the best available expertise, supporting the shared principle of "one project, one assessment." Further to the Cooperation Agreement, in 2025, IAAC, Natural Resources Canada, the EAO and the BC Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals developed a *Commitment Statement for the Development of Critical Mineral Projects*. The Commitment Statement has the objective of furthering alignment efforts related to permitting and authorizations, which aim to result in increased coordination and integration, which would eliminate duplication across the full range of regulatory requirements for critical minerals projects.

Pending collaboration on processes with First Nations, FPX anticipates that the Province will make a request to the federal Minister of ECCC to approve the substitution of the BC EA process for the federal IA process. If the substitution request is approved, the Province would commit to meet the legislative requirements of the federal IA process and fulfill the conditions for substitution under the *IAA* (2019) set out in the Cooperation Agreement and the Substitution Decision. At the end of the assessment process, the BC EAO will provide its report to both the provincial and federal ministers for their consideration and decision-making.

Submission of the IPD is the first known entry of the Project into a provincial EA or federal IA process. Concordance with these requirements is provided in Appendix B.

5.2 OTHER PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL PERMITS, LICENCES, AND APPROVALS REQUIRED FOR THE PROJECT

FPX will require several permits to construct and operate the Project. Key provincial and federal permits that may be required are listed in Table 5.2-1 and Table 5.2-2, respectively. The need for a provincial water lot lease is not anticipated.

TABLE 5.2-1 SUMMARY OF ANTICIPATED PROVINCIAL PERMITS, LICENCES, AND APPROVALS REQUIRED FOR THE PROJECT

Authorization	Responsible Agency	Legislation	Purpose
<i>Mines Act</i> Permit	Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals (previously the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation)	<i>Mines Act</i> (1996), Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in BC (EMLI 2024)	Approves the mine plan and reclamation program.
Water System Construction Permit Water System Operating Permit	Ministry of Health	<i>Drinking Water Protection Act</i> (2001) Drinking Water Protection Regulation (BC Reg 237/2018)	Authorizes construction and operation of potable water supply systems.
Industrial Camp Approval	Regional Health Authority	<i>Public Health Act</i> (2008) Industrial Camp Regulations (2012)	Establishment and operation of the Accommodation Facility.
Food Facility—Health Approval Application	Ministry of Health	<i>Drinking Water Protection Act</i> (2001)	Approves opening and operation of food service facility.
Sewage Registration	Ministry of Health	<i>Environmental Management Act</i> (2003)	Authorizes sewage treatment plant.
<i>Environmental Management Act</i> Permit (Effluent)	ENV	<i>Environmental Management Act</i> (2003)	Authorizes discharges from TSF, open pit, overburden and rock stockpile runoff and seepage, and sedimentation ponds and seepage.
<i>Environmental Management Act</i> Permit (Air)	ENV	<i>Environmental Management Act</i> (2003)	Authorizes Process Plant discharges.
Hazardous Waste Registration	ENV	<i>Environmental Management Act</i> (2003) Hazardous Waste Regulation (BC Reg 42/2024)	Required to register hazardous waste facility.

Authorization	Responsible Agency	Legislation	Purpose
Fuel Storage Registration	ENV	<i>Environmental Management Act (2003)</i>	Authorizes fuel storage.
Water Licence and Use Approvals (Section 9, Public Environmental Safety, and Section 10, Summary of Engagement)	ENV	<i>Water Sustainability Act (2014)</i>	Authorizes storage, use, or diversion of surface water or groundwater for one or more purposes.
Approval for Works in and about a Stream (Section 11, Potential Effects of the Project)	ENV	<i>Water Sustainability Act (2014)</i>	Approves changes in or about a stream.
Investigation or Inspection Permit	WLRS	<i>Heritage Conservation Act (1996)</i>	Undertake AIA.
Site Alteration Permit	WLRS	<i>Heritage Conservation Act (1996)</i>	Required to alter an archaeological site (should any be identified and impacted by the Project).
Occupant Licence to Cut	MoF	<i>Forest Act (1996)</i>	Authorizes cutting and removal of timber on Crown land.
Road Use Permit	MoF	<i>Forest Act (1996)</i>	Authorizes use of existing roads.
Special Use Permit	MoF	<i>Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act (1996)</i>	Construction and maintenance of mining access roads on Provincial forest land.
Fish Collection Permit	WLRS	<i>Wildlife Act (1996)</i>	Required for fish salvage (e.g., data collection).
Wildlife Permit	WLRS	<i>Wildlife Act (1996)</i>	Required for amphibian / small mammal capture and release.
Licence of Occupation, Land Lease or Statutory Right-of-Way, Land Lease or Statutory Right-of-Way and Land Lease or Statutory	WLRS	<i>Land Act (1996)</i>	Required to occupy Crown land (e.g., Transmission Line, temporary borrow and gravel pits, and construction staging areas).
Explosives Magazine Storage and Use Permit	Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals (previously the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation)	<i>Mines Act (1996)</i>	To store and use explosives.

Notes:

AIA = Archaeological Impact Assessment; ENV = Ministry of Environment and Parks; MoF = Ministry of Forests; Project = Baptiste Nickel Project; WLRS = Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

TABLE 5.2-2 SUMMARY OF ANTICIPATED FEDERAL PERMITS, LICENCES, AND APPROVALS REQUIRED FOR THE PROJECT

Authorization	Responsible Agency	Legislation	Purpose
Impact Statement	IAAC	<i>Impact Assessment Act</i> (2019)	Required for an ore production capacity over 5,000 t/d.
Explosives Permit	Natural Resources Canada	<i>Explosives Act</i> (1985)	Required to manufacture, store, and use explosives.
<i>Fisheries Act</i> Authorization	DFO	<i>Fisheries Act</i> (1985)	Required if the Project will result in the harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction of fish habitat or death of fish.
Schedule 2 Amendment	ECCC	Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations (SOR/2002/222)	Deposit of deleterious mine waste in waters frequented by fish.
Migratory Bird Permit	ECCC	<i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i> (1994)	Required if nesting habitats used by migratory birds might be impacted or if Project activities occur during the nesting season (e.g., clearing of vegetation).
Species at Risk Permit	ECCC	<i>Species at Risk Act</i> (2002)	Authorizes an activity affecting listed wildlife species, any part of its critical habitat, or the residences of its individuals.
Environmental Emergency Registration	ECCC	<i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i> (1999) Environmental Emergency Regulations, 2019 (SOR/2019-51)	Registers substances over specified volumes. The site must have the suitable emergency response plan for the substances.
Nuclear Safety Authorization	Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission	<i>Nuclear Safety and Control Act</i> (1997)	Required for possession of instruments containing radioactive material, such as nuclear density gauges (portable and fixed).
Radio Licence	Industry Canada	<i>Radiocommunications Act</i> (1985)	Authorizes use of radio equipment onsite.
Navigable Waters Approval	Transport Canada	<i>Canadian Navigable Waters Act</i> (1985)	Required for works that take place within navigable waters that do not meet works established under the Minor Works Order and that may interfere with navigation.

Authorization	Responsible Agency	Legislation	Purpose
Transportation of Dangerous Goods Permit	Transport Canada	<i>Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act</i> (1992)	Authorizes transportation and handling of dangerous goods.
Aeronautical Obstruction Clearance	Transport Canada	Canadian Aviation Regulations (SOR/96-433)	Aeronautical interference from communication towers or transmission line poles or wires.

Notes:

DFO = Fisheries and Oceans Canada; ECCC = Environment and Climate Change Canada; Project = Baptiste Nickel Project

Permit applicability and scope will be confirmed as Project planning advances and will be determined in consultation with regulatory agencies.

FPX is not aware of any relevant government policies that may not be compatible with the Project. FPX is not aware of any applicable international agreements between the Province of British Columbia or Government of Canada and other international governments that may be relevant to the Project.

5.3 FEDERAL MATTERS

Table 3.2-3 identified the distance of Reserves to the Project Area, Transmission Line options, and access route roads, and the assessment will identify the potential changes to the environment to Reserves in proximity to the Project. Existing forest service roads along the North Access Route that may be used by the Project pass through two Reserves, specifically Binche 2 for 1995 m and Sisul TI'o K'ut 14 for 1533 m. While FPX has not currently identified any road upgrades required with the two Reserves, this will be confirmed as Project planning progresses. No other federal lands will be used for the Project.

The Project is not expected to result in changes to the environment in a province other than BC or outside of Canada. The Project is not expected to result in changes to interprovincial or international waters. The Project has received federal funding under Natural Resources Canada's Critical Minerals Research, Development and Demonstration program (Natural Resources Canada 2023) and under the Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund (Natural Resources Canada 2025).

Under section 95 of the *IAA* (2019), the Project will undergo a Strategic Assessment of Climate Change (ECCC 2020). To FPX's knowledge, no other regional or strategic assessments, studies, or plans have been undertaken in the area surrounding the Project under Sections 92, 93, or 95 of the *IAA* (2019).

The Project has the potential to affect components within the legislative authority of the Federal Government including fish and fish habitat (Section 7.6), aquatic species at risk (Section 7.6), migratory birds (Section 7.5), and aeronautical and marine navigation. Effects to components of the environment that are within the legislative authority of the federal government are presented in Table 11-2. It is anticipated the Project will require several federal permits, licensees or authorizations to construct and operate the Project (Table 5.2-2).

5.4 PROPOSED REGULATORY SCHEDULE AND PROJECT MILESTONES

Major Project milestones and the anticipated EA schedule are summarized in Table 5.4-1. This timeline is subject to change, based on ongoing engineering work, engagement, and discussions with the EAO and IAAC. The schedule assumes a substituted federal IA will be approved and therefore the terminology and timing follows the BC EA process. Should this not be the case, the schedule will be reassessed.

TABLE 5.4-1 PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE AND PROJECT MILESTONES

Legislated Time	Milestone/Activity	Start Date	End Date
Regulatory Milestones			
	FPX engages with EAO and IAAC about the Project and potential regulatory process	Q3 2024	Ongoing
	FPX provides the draft IPD and draft Engagement Plan to First Nations for review and comment	Q4 2025	Q4 2025
	FPX submits the IPD and Engagement Plan to EAO and IAAC in fulfillment of BC <i>EAA</i> and federal <i>IAA</i> requirements	Q1 2026	
Early Engagement (90 Days)	The EAO issues Designation as Reviewable Project Order and accepts the IPD and Engagement Plan within 10 days of submission, formally starting the Early Engagement phase of the BC EA process	Q1 2026	
	IAAC issues an acceptance letter to FPX and begins Planning Phase of the IAA process	Q1 2026	
	FPX engages with First Nations, local governments, and stakeholders on the IPD per the engagement Plan	Q1 2026	Q4 2026
	EAO makes the substitution request	Q1 2026	
	Joint (EAO and IAAC) public comment period on the IPD	Q1 2026	
	Joint (EAO and IAAC) engagement and public information sessions	Q1 2026	
	EAO and IAAC issue the Joint Summary of Issues/Engagement (JSOIE)	Q2 2026	
	Technical Advisory Committee / Community Advisory Committee is formed	Q3 2026	
	FPX submits the DPD to EAO in fulfillment of BC <i>EAA</i> requirements	Q2 2027	

Legislated Time	Milestone/Activity	Start Date	End Date
Process Planning (120 Days)	EAO issues a Readiness Decision	Q2 2027	
	Federal Minister issues the substitution decision	Q2 2027	
	EAO issues the Process Order	Q3 2027	
Application Development and Review (180 Days)	FPX submits the EAC Application to the EAO	2029+	
	EAO releases direction for the final EAC Application	2029+	
Effects Assessment (150 Days)	FPX submit the final EAC Application	2029+	
	EAO releases the Assessment Report	2029+	
Decision (30 Days)	EA Certificate and Decision Statement are issued	2029+	
	FPX submits Joint Application for <i>Mines Act</i> (1996) and <i>Environmental Management Act</i> (2003) permits	2029+	
	Issuance of <i>Mines Act</i> (1996), <i>Environmental Management Act</i> (2003), and other permits	2029+	

Project Activity/Milestones

	Site Investigations, baseline studies, technical studies	Ongoing
	Construction	Approximately 3 years (following issuance of permits and approvals)
	Operation	Approximately 28 years
	Closure	Approximately 2 years
	Post-Closure	Decades+

Notes:

BC = British Columbia; DPD = Detailed Project Description; EA = environmental assessment; *EAA* = *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018); EAC Application = Environmental Assessment Certificate Application; EAO = Environmental Assessment Office (BC); Engagement Plan = Baptiste Nickel Project Engagement Plan; FPX = FPX Nickel Corporation; H = Half Year; *IAA* = *Impact Assessment Act* (2019); IAAC = Impact Assessment Agency of Canada; IPD = Initial Project Description; Project = Baptiste Nickel Project; Q = Quarter; Y = Year

6. FIRST NATIONS

This section provides an overview of FPX’s understanding of the First Nations potentially affected by the Project. Consistent with BC EAO Early Engagement guidance and through publicly available information and direct engagement FPX has identified eight potentially impacted First Nations based on the Project location within their territories, as summarized in Table 6-1. A brief description of the territories of each First Nation, listed alphabetically, and the Project’s location within these territories, is provided in the following sections together with a high-level description of the nation’s population, governance and main communities.

TABLE 6-1 FIRST NATION TERRITORIES IN THE VICINITY OF THE PROJECT

First Nations Territories that Fully Overlap the Project Area	First Nations Territories that Partially Overlap the Project Area or Offsite Infrastructure (Access Road[s] and/or Transmission Line)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Binche Whut’en • Takla Nation • Tl’azt’en Nation • Yekooche First Nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Babine Nation • Nadleh Whut’en • Nak’azdli Whut’en • Stelat’en First Nation

FPX has an ongoing commitment to meaningful and effective engagement with all First Nations potentially affected by the Project. It is considered a fundamental aspect of Project success that engagement with First Nations be integrated in the design and planning phase of the Project and continue throughout the life of the Project. Engagement on the Project is outlined in the Engagement Plan and a summary of engagement is provided in Section 10.

6.1 BINCHE WHUT’EN

The Binche Whut’enne, meaning “the people of Binche Whut’en,” are part of the Dakelh (Carrier) people. Binche Whut’en has 10 reserves within their territory. In 2019, Binche Whut’en separated from Tl’azt’en Nation and was officially constituted by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) as a separate band (Government of BC 2024a). Binche Whut’en operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band and holds elections every 3 years. The last election was held in April 2023 (Binche Whut’en 2024).

The Binche Whut’enne recognize and honour long-standing cultural systems that include Keyoh Holders as the hereditary heads and stewards of Keyoh, which are ancestral family territories under Dakelh law. The Binche Keyoh Bu Society, established under the *Societies Act* of British Columbia, is responsible for matters related to the Nation’s territory, excluding reserve lands.

Binche Whut’en Consultative Boundary has two distinct areas, of which the southern area spans 1,256,050 ha, encompassing Stuart Lake and the Southerland River Protected Area to the south and extends north past Tchentlo Lake and Nation Lake. The Project Area and some of the offsite infrastructure are within this area. As of July 2025, the Binche Whut’en has 239 registered members (CIRNAC 2025a), and their main on-reserve community, Binche 2, has a population of 118 (Statistics Canada 2021) and is located northwest of Fort St. James on north shore of

Stuart Lake, at the mouth of Pinchi Creek (CIRNAC 2025a). The nearest service centres are Fort St. James (30 min by road), Vanderhoof (1 hour), and Prince George (2.5 hours).

Binche Whut'en upholds the right to self-determination and govern themselves according to Dakelh ways, respectful of clan traditions, Dakelh values, cultural teachings, family, and community knowledge. Traditional laws, bylaws, and codes protect their people, lands, and animals. Governance is transparent and performance-based, guided by principles of fairness, honesty, equity, and sustainability (CIRNAC 2024a).

Agreements and Treaty Negotiations

On 12 March 2019, CIRNAC constituted Binche Whut'en as a newly recognized First Nation, officially separating them from Tl'azt'en Nation.

Binche Whut'en holds the *Forest & Range Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement* (2022, 2024) with the Province of BC (CIRNAC 2024a). This agreement outlines a consultation process for potential adverse impacts of proposed forest and range resource development activities within Binche Whut'en territory and revenue sharing contribution to support the capacity of the Binche Keyoh Bu Society.

At this time, FPX has a Project Development Memorandum of Agreement with the Binche Keyoh Bu Society, which was signed in the first Quarter (Q1) of 2022.

6.2 LAKE BABINE NATION

The Lake Babine Nation is part of the Dakelh (Carrier) people. It is the third largest First Nation in BC, by membership. Lake Babine Nation operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band and holds elections every 3 years. The last election was held in June 2024 (Lake Babine Nation 2024).

Lake Babine Nation has a total territory of 1,378,039 ha, extending northwards from Burns Lake to Babine River Corridor Provincial Park. The nation's territory partially overlaps with the Project Area, as well as with a portion of the proposed offsite infrastructure.

As of July 2025, Lake Babine Nation has 2,570 registered members (CIRNAC 2025b). The Nation has 24 reserves with official designations under CIRNAC but has 27 reserves with Indian Registry numbers (two have become provincial parks and one currently has a Reserve designation underway). The nation's main on-reserve community, Woyenne 27, has a population of 548 (Statistics Canada 2023) and is adjacent to the village of Burns Lake (CIRNAC 2025b). The nearest service centre is Houston (1 hour by road), and the nearest city is Prince George (2.5 hours).

Lake Babine Nation upholds core values that include respect, honesty, tradition, and health and wellness, and acknowledge the important roles of leaders, members, staff, and Elders in improving their communities. Speaking the Nad'uten language and practising their culture are vital aspects of their identity (CIRNAC 2025b).

Agreements and Treaty Negotiations

As of June 2024, Lake Babine Nation is in Stage 4, Agreement-in-Principle negotiations, of the BC Treaty Commission's negotiation process. The Nation holds the following agreements with the Province of BC (Government of BC 2024b):

- *Foundation Agreement—Amending Agreement #2* (2023): outlines provincial funding commitments to Lake Babine Nation for negotiation and implementation support, economic development, forestry activities, and program enhancements;
- *Land Transfer Agreement* (2023): outlines a land transfer in fee simple to Lake Babine Nation to provide economic opportunities and protect cultural or environmental values;
- *Incremental Treaty Agreement, Amending Agreement* (2018): outlines amendments of certain provisions in relation to land transfers;
- *Environmental Assessment Collaboration Agreement* (2021): sets out processes and decision making for EAs with Lake Babine Nation;
- *Interim Forestry Agreement* (2024): sets out a relationship and outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities;
- *Foundation Pathway Agreement* (2017): confirms interim commitments and measures to build momentum and demonstrate mutual good faith in advancing reconciliation;
- *Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding to Guide Rights Implementation and Reconciliation Negotiations* (2018): sets out government-to-government relationships and confirms the principles, topics, engagement structures, and funding commitments to guide tripartite work between Lake Babine Nation, the Province of BC, and Government of Canada;
- *25-year Foundation Agreement Letter of Understanding* (2016): sets out government-to-government relationship for socio-economic opportunities and management of land and resource use; and
- *Reconciliation Framework Agreement* (2016): provides a framework for a new relationship that includes government-to-government structures, land protection and stewardship measures, land opportunities, a comprehensive forestry relationship, and community development initiatives.

Lake Babine Nation is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the Prince Rupert Gas Transmission natural resource development project/operation (Government of BC 2024b).

At this time, FPX does not have Project-specific agreements with Lake Babine Nation.

6.3 NADLEH WHUT'EN

Nadleh Whut'enne, meaning "people who live where the salmon return," are part of the Yinka Dene (Carrier) Nation (Yinka Dene Language Institute n.d.). Nadleh Whut'en operates as a Section 11 Band and holds elections every 4 years. The last election was held in April 2024 (Nadleh Whut'en 2024).

Nadleh Whut'en territory encompasses a total area of 523,011 ha and includes three reserves located between Fraser Lake and the Nechako River, along the banks of the Nadleh River, and another reserve on the south shore of Fraser Lake. The territory does not overlap with the Project Area but does overlap with the proposed offsite infrastructure. The main Nadleh Whut'en on-reserve community, Nautley (Fort Fraser 1), has a population of 227 (Statistics Canada 2023) and is located near the southern shore of Fraser Lake (Nadleh Whut'en 2024). The nearest service centre is Vanderhoof (0.5 hours by road), and the nearest city is Prince George (1.5 hours by road). Nadleh Whut'en has a total registered membership of 629 as of July 2025 (CIRNAC 2025c).

Nadleh Whut'enne are organized into five clans: Lhtseh'yoo (Frog), Duntem'yoo (Bear), Luksilyoo (Caribou), Lhtsumus'yoo (Owl, Grouse), and Tsayoo (Beaver). They continue to practice the Bah'lats (potlatch) system of traditional governance, which plays a crucial role in their cultural and social structure (CIRNAC 2024c).

Agreements and Treaty Negotiations

The Province of BC and seven Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN), including Nadleh Whut'en, signed the Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement in 2025, which supports CSFN's goals of self-determination, self-governance and practise of culture, traditions and customs (Government of BC 2025a). The agreement reflects a mutual intention to develop a clear plan for regional economic development, aligning CSFN's community priorities with broader regional opportunities to support a more inclusive and resilient economy. It also outlines how all parties will collaborate on land and resource management within CSFN's Territories, including provisions related to forestry (ibid.).

Nadleh Whut'en holds the following agreements with the Province of BC (CSFN 2025):

- *Environmental Stewardship Initiative CSFN Omineca Demonstration Project Renewal Agreement* (2018): sets out a relationship and process for collaborative land and resource planning between the Province of BC, CSTC, and CSFNs;
- *Interim Forestry Revenue Sharing Agreement* (2021): outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities;
- *Environmental and Socio-Cultural Initiatives Agreement* (2015): outlines the process for economic opportunities as well as environmental and cultural stewardship during development activities for CSFN's claim areas; and
- *Collaboration Agreement* (2015): creates a new government-to-government relationship for management of land and natural resource development; socio-economic opportunities; and measures that protect cultural, burial, and sacred sites for CSFN's claim areas.

Nadleh Whut'en is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the following natural resource development projects or operations (CSFN 2025):

- Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project; and
- Pacific Trails Pipeline Project.

At this time, FPX does not have Project-specific agreements with Nadleh Whut'en.

6.4 NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN

Nak'azdli, meaning "People from where the Stuart River begins to flow," are part of the Dakelh (Carrier) people. Nak'azdli Whut'en operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band and holds elections every 4 years. The last election was held in August 2024 (Nak'azdli Whut'en First Nation 2024).

Nak'azdli Whut'en territory encompasses 2,582,832 ha, extending northwards from Prince George past Omineca Provincial Park. The territory does not overlap with the Project Area but does overlap with proposed offsite infrastructure. As of July 2025, the Nak'azdli Whut'en has a total registered membership of 2,111 (CIRNAC 2025c). The Nak'azdli Whut'en's main on-reserve community, Nak'azdli, has a population of 528 (Statistics Canada 2023) and is located next to Fort St. James (CIRNAC 2025c). Several families also live on Indian Reserve #1A up the North Road at Four-Mile and William's Prairie Meadow. The nearest service centre is Fort St. James, which is adjacent to the community, and the nearest city is Prince George (2 hours by road).

The Nation has four clans: Lhts'umusyoo (Beaver), Lusilyoo (Frog), Kwun Ba Whuten (Caribou), and Lohjabou (Bear). The Nation is deeply connected to the land, with families having ties to their hunting and fishing territories passed down through generations. Nak'azdli community embraces these traditions, ensuring that their cultural practices and heritage are preserved and passed on to future generations (CIRNAC 2025c).

Agreements and Treaty Negotiations

The Province of BC and seven Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN), including Nak'azdli Whut'en, signed the Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement in 2025, which supports CSFN's goals of self-determination, self-governance and practise of culture, traditions and customs (Government of BC 2025a). The agreement reflects a mutual intention to develop a clear plan for regional economic development, aligning CSFN's community priorities with broader regional opportunities to support a more inclusive and resilient economy. It also outlines how all parties will collaborate on land and resource management within CSFN's Territories, including provisions related to forestry (ibid.).

Nak'azdli Whut'en is in Stage 4, Agreement-in-Principle, of the BC Treaty Commission's negotiation process as of May 2024 (Government of BC 2024c).

Nak'azdli Whut'en holds the following agreements with the Province of BC (Government of BC 2024c):

- *Economic and Community Development Agreement (2012, 2015)*: sets out a relationship for socio-economic opportunities when undertaking development activities within Nak'azdli Whut'en claim areas;
- *Environmental Stewardship Initiative CSFN Omineca Demonstration Project Renewal Agreement (2018)*: sets out a relationship and process for collaborative land and resource planning between the Province of BC, CSTC, and CSFNs;
- *Forest & Range Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (2024)*: sets out a process to consult on potential adverse impacts of proposed forest and range resource development activities and outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities;

- *Interim Forestry Revenue Sharing Agreement (2021)*: outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities;
- *Environmental and Socio-Cultural Initiatives Agreement (2015)*: outlines the process for economic opportunities as well as environmental and cultural stewardship during development activities for CSFN's claim areas; and
- *Collaboration Agreement (2015)*: creates a new government-to-government relationship for management of land and natural resource development; socio-economic opportunities; and measures that protect cultural, burial, and sacred sites for CSFN's claim areas.

Nak'azdli Whut'en is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the following natural resource development projects or operations (Government of BC 2024c):

- Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project; and
- Pacific Trails Pipeline Project.

At this time, FPX does not have Project-specific agreements with Nak'azdli Whut'en.

6.5 STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION

Stellat'en, meaning "people of Stella," are part of the Dakelh (Carrier) people. Stellat'en First Nation operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band and holds elections every 2 years. The last election was held in July 2025 (Stellat'en First Nation 2025).

Stellat'en First Nation territory has a total area of 694,176 ha, encompassing part of Sutherland River Protected Area to the north, and extending west from Fort Fraser to the western end of Francois Lake. This territory does not overlap with the Project Area but does overlap with the proposed offsite infrastructure. As of July 2025, Stellat'en First Nation has 641 registered members (CIRNAC 2025d). The First Nation's main on-reserve community, Stellaquo (Stella 1), also known as Stellako, has a population of 189 (Statistics Canada 2023) and is located on the west banks of Nadleh Bun (Fraser Lake; CIRNAC 2025d). Its nearest service centre is Vanderhoof (45 minutes by road) and the nearest city is Prince George (2 hours).

Stellat'en society is organized into four matrilineal clans: Bear, Beaver, Frog, and Caribou. They continue to practice the Bah'lats (potlatch) system of traditional governance, which plays a significant role in their social and cultural life. They honour their ancestors by maintaining traditional practices and sharing their stories, ensuring that their heritage is passed down to future generations (CIRNAC 2025d).

Agreements and Treaty Negotiations

The Province of BC and seven Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN), including Stellat'en First Nation, signed the Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement in 2025, which supports CSFN's goals of self-determination, self-governance and practise of culture, traditions and customs (Government of BC 2025a). The agreement reflects a mutual intention to develop a clear plan for regional economic development, aligning CSFN's community priorities with broader regional opportunities to support a more inclusive and resilient economy. It also outlines how all parties will collaborate on land and resource management within CSFN's Territories, including provisions related to forestry (ibid.).

Stellat'en First Nation holds the following agreements with the Province of BC:

- *Environmental Stewardship Initiative CSFN Omineca Demonstration Project Renewal Agreement* (2018): sets out a relationship and process for collaborative land and resource planning between the Province of BC, CSTC, and CSFNs;
- *Interim Forestry Revenue Sharing Agreement* (2021): outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities;
- *Mountain Pine Beetle Agreement* (2010): provides an economic opportunity for Stellat'en Nation to apply for a nonreplaceable forest licence to assist mountain pine beetle management in the Prince George Timber Supply Area;
- *Environmental and Socio-Cultural Initiatives Agreement* (2015): outlines the process for economic opportunities as well as environmental and cultural stewardship during development activities for CSFN's claim areas; and
- *Collaboration Agreement* (2015): creates a new government-to-government relationship for the management of land and natural resource development; socio-economic opportunities; and measures that protect cultural, burial, and sacred sites for CSFN's claim areas.

Stellat'en First Nation is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the following natural resource development projects or operations (CSFN 2025):

- Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project; and
- Pacific Trails Pipeline Project.

FPX does not have Project-specific agreements with Stellat'en First Nation.

6.6 TAKLA NATION

The following description of Takla Nation was provided by the Takla Nation:

Takla Nation's ancestry is traced to Sekani, Ned'u'tin, Dakehl, and Gitksan peoples. The modern Takla Nation is comprised of two formerly separate bands – the Fort Connolly Band, and the North Takla/Tacla Band. The Fort Connolly Band was comprised of primarily Sekani people who occupied the region spanning from Bear Lake (Sustut) to the Rocky Mountain trench, known to themselves as Sustut'enne (Brown 2002; Dewhirst 1995) and to others as the Sasuchan (Jeness 1937:11). The Fort Connolly Band were considered Sekani by the Department of Indian Affairs (DIA). The North Takla Band was comprised of Sekani, Ned'u'tin, and Dakehl people who occupied the region spanning from Takla Lake region to the Wolverine Range, and was described as Carrier by the DIA (Canada Census 1921). The Fort Connolly and North Takla bands amalgamated in 1959. The primary Takla Nation community is at Takla Landing, but many members live in more isolated settlements at Bukley House, Bear Lake, Germansen Landing, and other communities such as Prince George or Fort St. James.

At the time of the first European exploration of region in the early 19th century, fur traders encountered Sekani people who are ancestral to Takla Nation both to the south of and the north of the Project Area (Harmon 1820:195-196, 215-216; H.B.C.A. 1826, Fort St. James Post, September 23, October 24). Sekani people, ancestral to many members of Takla Nation are known to have harvested resources in the region as part of their highly mobile way of life. Current Takla members hold a trapline overlapping with the northern extremity of the Project Area.

The Takla Nation is a Section 11 Band with a custom electoral system that elects one Chief and four Councillors, one of whom is also Deputy Chief. Council terms are 4 years long, with elections held on staggered basis every 2 years. The most recent Takla Nation by-election took place in September 2023 (Takla Nation 2024).

Takla Nation territory has a total area of 4,895,588 ha, extending northwards from Inzana Lake up to Tatlatui Provincial Park, and fully overlaps with the Project Area. As of July 2025, the Takla Nation has 17 designated reserves and 961 registered members (CIRNAC 2025e). The Takla Nation's main on-reserve community, North Tarka Lake 7, has a population of 214 (Statistics Canada 2023) and is located on the eastern shore of Takla Lake, 2.5 hours by road from Fort St. James (CIRNAC 2025e).

Agreements and Treaty Negotiations

The Province of BC and seven Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN), including Takla Nation, signed the Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement in 2025, which supports CSFN's goals of self-determination, self-governance and practise of culture, traditions and customs (Government of BC 2025a). The agreement reflects a mutual intention to develop a clear plan for regional economic development, aligning CSFN's community priorities with broader regional opportunities to support a more inclusive and resilient economy. It also outlines how all parties will collaborate on land and resource management within CSFN's Territories, including provisions related to forestry (ibid.).

Takla Nation affirms its involvement in a settlement with the Government of Canada regarding the "3-for-1 land exchange" which would attribute new reserves to the nation, including reserves near the Project Area.

As of December 2023, Takla Nation is in Stage 4, Agreement-in-Principle, of the BC Treaty Commission's negotiation process (Government of BC 2023b). In addition, Takla Nation holds the following agreements with the Province of BC (Government of BC 2023b):

- *Environmental Stewardship Initiative CSFN Omineca Demonstration Project Renewal Agreement* (2018): sets out a relationship and process for collaborative land and resource planning between the Province of BC, CSTC, and CSFNs;
- *Interim Forestry Revenue Sharing Agreement* (2021): outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities;
- *Environmental and Socio-Cultural Initiatives Agreement* (2015): outlines the process for economic opportunities as well as environmental and cultural stewardship during development activities for CSFN's claim areas;
- *Collaboration Agreement* (2015): creates a new government-to-government relationship for management of land and natural resource development; socio-economic opportunities; and measures that protect cultural, burial, and sacred sites for CSFN's claim areas; and
- *Tse Key Nay—BC Protocol Agreement for Reclamation, Remediation and Monitoring of Mine Sites* (2008): describes government-to-government relationship for management of reclamation, remediation, and monitoring activities within territories, including that of Takla Nation.

Takla Nation is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the following natural resource development projects or operations (Government of BC 2023b):

- Kemess Mine; and
- Prince Rupert Gas Transmission.

At this time, FPX does not have Project-specific agreements with Takla Nation.

6.7 TL'AZT'EN NATION

The Tl'azt'enne, meaning "people by the edge of the bay," are part of the Dakelh (Carrier) people. Tl'azt'en Nation communities are in closest proximity to the Project Area, with three reserves located within 15 km: Dzitline Lee 9 (Middle River), Dzin Tl'at 46, and Noo Kat 42. Tl'azt'en Nation is governed by a Chief and seven Councillors, and operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band, conducting elections every three years. The most recent election took place in August 2024 (Tl'azt'en Nation 2024).

Tl'azt'en territory covers 700,875 ha, fully encompassing the Project Area and most of the proposed offsite infrastructure. This territory extends north to Takla Lake and south to include most of Stuart Lake.

As of July 2025, the Tl'azt'en Nation has 1,558 registered members (CIRNAC 2025f). The Nation's main on-reserve community, Tache 1, has a population of 400 (Statistics Canada 2023) and is located 65 km north of Fort St. James at the mouth of the Tachie River on Stuart Lake. Tache is also where the main administrative offices are located. Other communities include Dzitl'ainli (Dzitline Lee/Middle River), which is located on Leo Creek Road alongside Trembleur Lake, and K'uzche, which is located on the Tachie River (CIRNAC 2025f). The nearest service centre is Fort St. James (45 minutes by road) and the nearest city is Prince George (2.5 hours).

Tl'azt'enne celebrate and practice long-standing traditions of harvesting foods and medicine, as caretakers of the land. They recognize and honour cultural systems that include Elders, Keyoh Holders, and a hereditary system of governance based on a matrilineal clan system, where children inherit their clan membership from their mothers. Community members actively engage in traditional activities such as hunting, fishing, and gathering (Tl'azt'en Nation 2024).

Agreements and Treaty Negotiations

As of January 2024, Tl'azt'en Nation is in Stage 4, Agreement-in-Principle, of the BC Treaty Commission's negotiation process (Government of BC 2024d).

The Province of BC and seven Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN), including Tl'azt'en Nation, signed the Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement in 2025, which supports CSFN's goals of self-determination, self-governance and practise of culture, traditions and customs (Government of BC 2025a). The agreement reflects a mutual intention to develop a clear plan for regional economic development, aligning CSFN's community priorities with broader regional opportunities to support a more inclusive and resilient economy. It also outlines how all parties will collaborate on land and resource management within CSFN's Territories, including provisions related to forestry (ibid.).

In addition, Tl'azt'en Nation holds the following agreements with the Province of BC (Government of BC 2024d):

- *Environmental Stewardship Initiative Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN) Omineca Demonstration Project Renewal Agreement (2018)*: sets out a relationship and process for collaborative land and resource planning between the Province of BC, CSTC, and CSFNs;
- *Interim Forestry Revenue Sharing Agreement (2021)*: outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities;
- *Environmental and Socio-Cultural Initiatives Agreement (2015)*: outlines the process for economic opportunities as well as environmental and cultural stewardship during development activities for CSFN's claim areas; and
- *Collaboration Agreement (2015)*: creates a new government-to-government relationship for management of land and natural resource development; socio-economic opportunities; and measures that protect cultural, burial, and sacred sites for CSFN's claim areas.

Tl'azt'en Nation is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project, which is a natural resource development project (Government of BC 2024d).

At this time, FPX does not have Project-specific agreements with Tl'azt'en Nation.

6.8 YEKOOCHÉ FIRST NATION

The Yekoochet'en, meaning "people of Yekooche" (also known as the Portage Band), are part of the Dakelh (Carrier) people. Yekooche First Nation operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band, with a Chief and Council serving 4-year terms with staggered elections every second year. The most recent election took place in April 2024 (Yekooche First Nation 2024).

Yekooche First Nation territory has a total area of 811,689 ha, and encompasses the Skeena and Fraser watersheds, including Stuart, Trembleur, Babine, and Cunningham lakes. The proposed Project Area is adjacent to this territory, and a large portion of the proposed linear infrastructure overlaps with the territory. As of July 2025, the Yekooche First Nation has 223 registered members (CIRNAC 2025g). The First Nation's main on-reserve community, Yekooche 3, has a population of 90 (Statistics Canada 2023) and is located on the south shore of Stuart Lake, approximately 1.5 hours west of Fort St. James (by road) and 3 hours from Prince George (CIRNAC 2025g). Its nearest service centre is Fort St. James and its nearest city is Prince George.

Yekoochet'en value the wisdom and teachings of their Elders, who play a crucial role in preserving their language, traditions, and cultural practices. The potlatch system is an important cultural practice for clan membership and social events (CIRNAC 2025g).

Agreements and Treaty Negotiations

As of September 2024, the Yekooche First Nation is in Stage 5, Negotiation to Finalize a Treaty, of the BC Treaty Commission's negotiation process. Yekooche First Nation holds the following agreements with the Province of BC (Government of BC 2024e):

- *Agreement-in-Principle (2005)*: provides the basis for a Final Agreement with groundwork for implementation of a treaty. Proposed Treaty lands encompass an area of 5,960 ha (14,727.47 acres) of provincial Crown land and 379.8 ha (938.51 acres) of existing Indian reserves within the core area of the Yekooche Statement of Intent area. The land package joins three of the reserves into one contiguous parcel. The fourth reserve, on Babine Lake, is surrounded by private land and Sutherland River Provincial Park (Government of BC 2005);
- *Forest & Range Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (2021)*: outlines a process for potential adverse impacts of proposed forest and range resource development activities within Yekooche First Nation territory and a revenue sharing contribution to support the capacity of Yekooche First Nation; and
- *Road Maintenance Equipment and Training Grant Funding Agreement (2024)*: provides the basis for funding the acquisition of road maintenance equipment and delivery of related training, aimed at enhancing local road infrastructure and skills capacity for Yekooche First Nation.

Yekooche First Nation is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the following natural resource development projects or operations (Government of BC 2005):

- Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project; and
- Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project.

At this time, FPX has a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Yekooche First Nation, signed July 2024.

7. EXISTING BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

This section summarizes the existing biophysical setting in the Project Area, based on information available to date. This section has been informed by Project-specific studies completed, as well as provincial and federal datasets.

Project-specific baseline studies have generally been conducted during two distinct periods: (1) 2011 to 2014 and (2) 2021 to present. Refer to Table 7-1 for a list of baseline studies and activities completed to date and in some cases ongoing baselines studies in 2025. Future work may be subject to permits and collaborative and synergistic study design processes with First Nations, tenure holders and government agencies.

TABLE 7-1 SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL, CURRENT, AND PLANNED BASELINE STUDIES

Discipline	Years Active	Study Activities
Biophysical Environment		
Climate	2011 to Current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation and operation of an onsite meteorological station.
	2021 to 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-instrumentation of the existing climate station. Completion of snow course surveys from 2024 to 2026. Installation and operation of a summer tipping bucket rain gauge network from 2024 to 2026. Continued operation of the meteorological station.
Air Quality	2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dustfall monitoring from 2024 to 2026. Summer particulate matter monitoring in 2004 and 2026.
Hydrology	2011 to 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of three hydrometric stations in 2011. Irregular manual flow monitoring at surface water monitoring stations.
	2022 to 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of eight hydrology monitoring stations and monthly surface water flow measurements at each station. Development of annual discharge hydrographs for each monitoring station.
	2024 to 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued monitoring and development of the hydrometric monitoring network operated in the Project Area in 2023. Establishment of five new sites for monitoring in 2024 near the existing water quality sites on Sidney Creek, Paula Creek, Middle River, upper Baptiste Creek, Camp Creek, and Nickel Creek to expand the current spatial distribution of hydrometric data. Continued monitoring and collecting stage-discharge measurements at the hydrometric monitoring station on the Tachie River. Monthly winter low-flow discharge measurements at hydrometric monitoring sites to estimate baseflow under ice. Monthly open water season stage-discharge measurements at each of the hydrometric monitoring sites for rating curve development and maintenance.

Discipline	Years Active	Study Activities
Biophysical Environment (cont'd)		
Hydrogeology	2011 to 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundwater quality sampling and water level monitoring at five exploration boreholes.
	2021 to 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drilling of eight boreholes was completed to characterize hydrogeological conditions. These wells underwent hydraulic testing, and were selectively instrumented and/or installed as monitoring wells.
	2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment a long-term quarterly groundwater monitoring program for baseline groundwater quality and hydraulics (water elevation). Quarterly sampling of four existing monitoring wells, water level monitoring, and vibrating wire piezometer datalogging at six locations. Installation of groundwater monitoring wells at eight locations. Six of the proposed locations will include paired well installations for a total of 14 monitoring wells. Hydrogeologic characterization of the local glacial deposits (overburden) and bedrock stratigraphy. Characterization of hydrostratigraphic units and predevelopment groundwater flow paths and characterization of potential groundwater–surface water interactions.
Geochemistry	2011 to 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sampling and analysis of ore, overburden, and waste rock lithologies.
	2021 to 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geochemical characterization of ore, overburden, waste rock, and tailings. Development of preliminary ML/ARD classification and material handling plans.
	2024 to 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing kinetic test work. Increase the overall number of samples collected to increase confidence and close spatial gaps. Target primary waste rock lithologies to reflect proportions of expected disturbance volumes. Increase the sampling density of waste rock units that are considered geochemically variable. Incorporate the characterization of overburden horizon samples across the pit footprint.
Terrain, Surficial Geology, and Soils	2023 to 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terrain hazard and unique geological landform desktop and field mapping. Assessment of avalanche and seismic hazards.

Discipline	Years Active	Study Activities
Biophysical Environment (cont'd)		
Fish and Fish Habitat	2011 to 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of 1:20k reconnaissance surveys, spring and fall spawning surveys, tissue chemistry, and fish community sampling (streams and lakes). • Completion of surveys targeting the main watercourses and associated tributaries (i.e., Camp, Nickel, Baptiste, Sidney, and Paula creeks) and waterbodies (i.e., upper and lower Baptiste, and Nickel lakes) near the Project.
	2021 to 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of 1:20k reconnaissance surveys, spring and fall spawning surveys, tissue chemistry, and fish community sampling (streams and lakes).
	2024 to 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of 1:20k reconnaissance surveys, lake bathymetry, spring and fall spawning surveys, and summer stream and lake fish community surveys.
Aquatic Resources	2013, 2022 to 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of lentic (physical lake, algal community, sediments, benthic invertebrates, tissue chemistry) and lotic surveys (sediment, periphyton biomass, benthic invertebrates, tissue chemistry).
	2024 to 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of the lentic and lotic programs, implemented in 2022/2023 with the expansion of the baseline program to include additional watercourses/waterbodies, as well as deploy supplemental sampling techniques to further enhance the aquatic baseline data set.
Water Quality	2011 to 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting monthly water quality monitoring at 10 to 15 sites along the main watercourses and their tributaries.
	2021 to 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of 12 surface water quality monitoring stations co-located with hydrology stations monitoring water temperature, pH, conductivity, specific conductivity, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity, and sampled quarterly in 2022 and monthly since May 2023. • Initiation of weekly (5-in-30) water quality sampling during periods of increased hydrographic fluctuations (e.g., fall 2023) at all stream sites. • Conducting laboratory analyses for physical tests (total suspended solids, total dissolved solids, alkalinity, and water hardness), total and dissolved nutrients, total organic and inorganic carbon, anions, and total and dissolved metals.
	2024 to 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of monthly and weekly sampling (5-in-30 sampling during spring freshet and fall rain periods) at stream sites and quarterly sampling at lake sites. • Establishment of six new stream and five new lake stations for monitoring in 2024. • Creation of data platform to allow for the management, sharing, and illustration of current, baseline, and historical water quality data. • Addition of chromium speciation (hexavalent and trivalent) to existing laboratory analyses.

Discipline	Years Active	Study Activities
Biophysical Environment (cont'd)		
Wildlife	2011 to 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife habitat mapping, and seasonal wildlife transects to determine the presence of mammal, bird, and amphibian species and winter caribou surveys.
	2021 to 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife data collection (building on previous programs) focused on Species at Risk, species valued by First Nations, species known to be sensitive to changing landscapes, and species of regional or management importance.
	2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted wildlife surveys, including: songbird breeding, waterfowl breeding, waterfowl migration, raptor breeding, raptor stick-nest, common nighthawk breeding, Clark's nutcracker survey, bank swallow breeding, amphibian breeding, remote camera (ungulates and carnivores), wolverine, fisher, American marten winter habitat, wildlife habitat assessment, grizzly bear den, bat foraging/roosting, and wildlife feature survey.
Ecosystems/ Wetlands	2011 to 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducting whitebark pine surveys. Conducting vegetation surveys focused on rare and invasive plants, plant tissue, and terrestrial ecosystem mapping ground truthing.
	2021 to 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducting vegetation field surveys, including terrestrial ecosystem mapping, rare plants and communities surveys, noxious weeds surveys, and plant tissue chemical analyses. Whitebark pine occurrence recordings.
	2024 to 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary terrestrial ecosystem mapping, including vegetation, terrain, and soils classification. Wetland and riparian classification, rare plant surveys, whitebark pine extent/distribution surveys, invasive and noxious weed surveys.
Human Environment		
Socio-Economic	2024 to 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desktop data collection.
Land and Resource Use	2024 to 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desktop data collection.
Visual Resources	2024 to 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desktop-based preliminary selection of viewpoints for viewshed modelling.
Archaeology/ Cultural Heritage and Palaeontology	2011 to 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of the Archaeology Overview Assessment and Preliminary Field Reconnaissance survey.
	2021 to 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of the Archaeological Overview Assessment for the Project Area (2022). Completion of preliminary archaeological assessments for proposed drilling and seismic lines throughout the claim area (2022). Completion of an AIA in 2023, focused on the areas to the north, west, and south of Ude'az (upper Baptiste Lake).
	2024 to 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Archaeological survey of unassessed areas within the Project Area, as well as shovel test areas of potential, and completion of the AIA interim reporting. Draft palaeontological fossil impact assessment.

Notes:

AIA = Archaeological Impact Assessment; ML/ARD = metal leaching / acid rock drainage; Project = Baptiste Nickel Project

To date, Project-specific baseline studies have focused on the Project Area, although some desktop work has been completed for the transmission line and access road. Beginning in 2026, FPX plans to initiate field baseline studies for offsite components e.g., transmission line and access road to inform the EAC Application.

7.1 CLIMATE

The Project is located in a remote area and there are no nearby meteorological stations with suitable multi-year and recent year publicly available data. Long-term climate records are available from Fort St. James (ECCC ID 1092975) and Burns Lake (ECCC ID 1091174). Currently there is one operating meteorological station at the Project, installed in 2012 by the previous owner of the Project and operated by FPX since August 2021. Station and sensors were installed according to sensor siting guidelines. In 2024 the climate station was supplemented with tipping bucket rain gauges and snow core surveys which have been maintained into 2025.

Key findings from meteorological data collected at the station during the 2024 reporting period and historically include:

- Temperatures at the Baptiste Meteorological Station follow a seasonal cycle, with July typically being the warmest month and January the coldest. The warmest temperature recorded at the station was 31.2 degrees Celsius (°C) on 21 July 2024, while the coldest recorded temperature was -31.4°C on 12 January 2024.
- The warmest temperature ever recorded at the station was 35.2°C on 28 June 2021, while the coldest recorded temperature was -31.6°C on December 26, 2021. The mean daily temperature across all available data from 2014 to 2024 is 2.6°C.
- The total precipitation measured between January and December 2024 was 740.3 millimetres (mm), which was higher than Fort St. James and Topley Landing regional stations climate normals (1981 to 2010). The wettest recorded month was November, with 121.0 mm, while the driest Month was August, with 23.2 mm of precipitation. A total of 55 percent (%) of the annual total fell as rain, and 48% fell as snow.
- Snow depth was measured from January to December 2024 and compared with long-term measurements dating back to 2014. In 2024, the annual mean snowpack depth was 17.2 centimetres (cm), which lower than the average of the historical annual mean snowpack depth (26.9 cm) from 2014 to 2023. The maximum daily snowpack for the current reporting period was 75.6 cm, December 2024. The first snow-free day occurred on 3 May, and snow began to re-accumulate on 10 October.
- The dominant wind direction is north to northwest, with a large majority of the measurements classified as "light" wind (0.5 to 2 metres per second [m/s]) for all seasons.
- Solar radiation: The maximum mean daily value for this reporting period was 361 Watts per square metre (W/m²) on 7 June, which was 18% higher than the maximum mean daily value from 2023 (296 W/m²). The maximum 1-hour value in 2023 was 1,044 W/m², recorded on 5 July. The monthly mean solar radiation was recorded highest in July (260 W/m²).

- Evaporation: the maximum total monthly evaporation, 117 mm, was recorded in the month of July, followed by 83.6 mm in August. The highest evaporation occurs in the hottest months, and a decreasing trend is visible into the fall, similar to solar radiation.
- The dominant wind direction is from north to northwest, with a majority of the measurements classified as “light” wind (0.5 to 2 m per second) for all seasons.

Meteorological studies are planned to continue in 2026 to characterize existing site conditions to inform Project design, e.g., water stewardship, air quality modelling, and the potential for weather and climate effects on the Project.

7.2 SURFACE WATER

The Project is located in the North Central Interior hydrologic zone, as defined in the BC Stream Inventory (Coulson and Obedkoff 1998). This region contains a series of mountain ranges running in a general northwest-southeast axis. Precipitation levels are classified as moderate, and the surface permeability is classified as fairly good, largely due to the sedimentary and fractured nature of the bedrock (Coulson and Obedkoff 1998). The Project Area is in the Stuart-Takla watershed. The three main subwatersheds associated with the proposed Project Area are Khast’an-i Koh (Baptiste Creek), Sidney Creek and Paula Creek. Khast’an-i Koh (Baptiste Creek) flows into Yoonoo’I Koh (Middle River) approximately 5 km, respectively, northwest of Dzinghubun (Trembleur Lake); Sidney Creek flows south from the western side of Mount Sidney Williams (Tselkun), directly into Dzinghubun (Trembleur Lake). The outflow from Dzinghubun (Trembleur Lake) flows southeast into Nak’albun (Stuart Lake), which is the lowest catchment of the Stuart-Takla watershed. Nak’albun (Stuart Lake) drains southeast to the Nechakoh (Nechako River) which continues southeast into the Fraser River near Prince George, approximately 200 km southeast of the Conceptual Mine Site Area. Khast’an-i koh (Baptiste Creek) is the main watercourse draining the Baptiste deposit and is headed by a number of lakes.

Hydrology studies were conducted from 2011-2014 and reinitiated in 2022 and the monitoring network expanded to waterbodies across the Project Area and in select tributaries. To date, 14 hydrometric stations have been installed and are operating in 2025 across a range of watershed sizes and elevations following provincial hydrometric standards. Key findings from the hydrometric network through end 2024 include:

- Streamflow patterns observed in 2022 through 2024 were typical of the regional streamflow regime, with the majority of runoff resulting from snowmelt during freshet in the spring and early summer. Runoff generated across the monitoring network was within the normal range for the region (Ahmed 2015).
- The hydrographs for monitoring locations in the region of the Project Area are bi-modal, generally with the largest peak driven by snowmelt (spring freshet), and a second, smaller peak later in the season, driven by precipitation.
- In 2024, freshet started in early May, peaking through early June, with flows receding at all monitoring locations through the summer period and into early fall. Characteristic for this area, precipitation events later in the fall (late September through October) result in elevated fall flows.

- Influence of catchment topography and runoff and is evident with peak flows in smaller higher elevation streams occurring in fall while Baptiste Creek is influenced by peak flow attenuation in lakes.
- Annual low flows typically occur during the late winter period when precipitation is stored as snow and groundwater inputs reach an annual minimum. Summer 7-day low flows were similar to the annual lows in the 2024 monitoring year, occurring during the summer.
- Grade A hydrometric data is available for creeks draining the Project Area and fully developed rating curves exist at 7 sites. For where complete rating curves exist, the normalized root mean square error (RMSE) was below 11% indicating a good fit between the stage and discharge.
- Mean annual runoff in the Project Area of 400mm is estimated from long-term data series and evapotranspiration is approximately 56% or 274 mm.
- Baseline monitoring 2022-2024 results and regional data are indicative of a drier than average period relative to the historical record.

Similar to hydrology studies, surface water baseline studies were conducted from 2011-2014 and reinitiated in 2022 and the number of sample stations expanded to waterbodies across the Project Area. To date 18 water quality stations in creeks and 6 lakes have been sampled. Key findings from the water quality baseline studies through the end of 2024 include:

- In streams Alkalinity exhibited seasonal fluctuations, inversely correlated with streamflow, while hardness ranged from soft to moderately hard. Conversely nutrient concentrations were correlated with streamflow. Total dissolved solids (TDS) followed similar seasonal trends, peaking during low-flow periods. Total suspended solids (TSS) and turbidity remained low except during spring (Freshet) and fall seasons. Dissolved oxygen was generally lowest in summer and below BC water quality guidelines in upper Baptiste Creek during this time. Freshwater aquatic life guideline exceedances are also observed in the Project Area for total aluminum, and total and dissolved forms of copper, chromium, iron, nickel, and mercury. QA/QC results indicated that the surface water quality data is of good quality.
- In lakes thermal stratification was observed between May and September (except in Dzinghubun (Trembleur Lake), with full mixing in December. Concentrations of nitrogen species remained below WQGs across all monitored lakes. In contrast, phosphorus levels varied, with concentrations increasing with depth under conditions of lake stratification at select stations. Freshwater aquatic life guideline exceedances were observed in lakes in the Baptiste Watershed including total trivalent and hexavalent chromium, total and dissolved manganese and total copper.

Surface water baseline studies commenced in 2011 and reinitiated in 2022 are planned to continue in 2026 and include hydrology and water quality. These studies will help characterize the existing environment, support the development of water-related modelling and an integrated mine site water balance, and inform Project design.

7.3 GROUNDWATER

The bedrock geology in the Project Area is composed of Carboniferous-to-Jurassic-aged rocks that belong to the Cache Creek terrane. Glacial (overburden) deposits consist of till; colluvium; and glaciofluvial, fluvial, and glaciolacustrine deposits. Till is the most common glacial deposit within this area, with the most extensive morainal deposits located in the south end of the conceptual study area. Deposits of more permeable material (glaciofluvial) were mapped within linear depressions inferred to be meltwater channels. Some of these meltwater channels were mapped along Sidney Creek and its tributaries, which also includes more recent fluvial deposits. Glaciolacustrine deposits (potential aquitards) were not mapped, although they are expected to exist beneath the glacial till and glaciofluvial deposits (Polar Geoscience Ltd. 2018).

Preliminary groundwater studies were initiated in 2012, with eight boreholes establishing the historic monitoring and piezometric well network. Additional well installations and monitoring relevant to groundwater were completed in various stages through 2023 for groundwater quality sampling and groundwater elevation monitoring.

The monitoring results prior to 2023 will supplement the baseline monitoring sampling to be completed in 2024, 2025, and planned for 2026. The 2024 sampling focused on re-establishing the baseline sampling on the quarterly schedule, which will continue in 2025. Key findings include:

- Manual groundwater monitoring results and the continuous water level readings indicate that the highest groundwater elevations occur generally in June (post-freshet), and the lowest groundwater levels occur in the late winter (March through April). Low amplitude seasonal variability was observed at HG7 (consistent with historical reports) and 21GT-04.
- The field pH measured in the groundwater was circumneutral to slightly basic, ranging from 7.09 to 9.65.
- The water types between all the wells were similar, reflecting a magnesium bicarbonate groundwater type, with a slightly stronger sodium influence near Sidney Creek.
- The only parameter measured above BC CSR Aquatic Life standard was dissolved chromium in one well. Chromium speciation was completed for one quarterly sampling event, and the results confirmed total chromium was dominantly hexavalent chromium, and the results exceeded the BC CSR standard.
- The groundwater results were compared to BCWQG for Aquatic Life for screening and conservative purposes. The groundwater quality data showed elevated concentrations of total aluminum and chromium, total and dissolved iron, dissolved strontium, and dissolved nickel (in one instance). Overall, wells proximal to Sidney Creek had the most elevated parameters, followed by samples collected near to Khas t'anghunbun (Lower Baptiste Lake).

The 2026 program will focus on additional monitoring of well installations, ongoing monitoring and sampling, establishing the conceptual site model, and expanding the hydrogeological understanding based on main features of the Project Area and Project-related infrastructure.

7.4 ECOSYSTEMS AND VEGETATION

The Project is located in the Fraser Basin Ecoregion with three Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification zones represented within the Project Area, including Sub-Boreal Spruce (SBS) at lower elevations, Boreal Altai Fescue Alpine (BAFA) at the highest elevations, and Englemann Spruce-Subalpine Fir (ESSF) found in between these two zones. Four SBS subzone variants are present: Babine Moist Cold (mc2), Mossvale Moist Cool (mk1), Takla Wet Cool (wk3), and Takla Wet Cool—Douglas fir phase (wk3a). Two ESSF subzone variants are present: Omineca Moist Very Cold (mv3) and the associate parkland variant Moist Very Cold Parkland (mvp). The mapped polygons within the BAFA zone are not generally classified into subzones.

Vegetation field surveys for the Project completed to date have included preliminary terrestrial ecosystem mapping, rare ecosystems and plants surveys, noxious weeds surveys, and plant tissue chemical analyses.

A list of ecosystems of management concern with the potential to occur in the Project Area are provided in Table 7.4-1. A list of potential plant Species at Risk for the biogeoclimatic zones present in the Project Area is presented in Table 7.4-2 (BC Conservation Data Centre 2024). While no formal field investigations for culturally significant plant species have been completed to date, a draft list of known species has been developed based on engagement completed to date and publicly available information (Shaw and Young 2012). These are presented in Table 7.4-3.

TABLE 7.4-1 ECOSYSTEMS OF MANAGEMENT CONCERN WITH POTENTIAL TO OCCUR IN THE AREA OF THE PROJECT

Conservation Status	Ecosystems of Management Concern
Red Listed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hudson Bay clubrush / rusty hook-moss • Sandberg bluegrass—slender wheatgrass • Saskatoon/slender wheatgrass
Blue Listed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black cottonwood—hybrid white spruce / red-osier dogwood • Black spruce / buckbean / peat-mosses • Douglas fir—hybrid white spruce / knight’s plume • Douglas fir—hybrid white spruce / thimbleberry • Few-flowered spike-rush / hook-mosses • Glaucous bluegrass herbaceous vegetation • Hybrid white spruce / horsetails / leafy mosses • Lodgepole pine / black huckleberry / reindeer lichens

TABLE 7.4-2 PLANT SPECIES AT RISK WITH THE POTENTIAL TO OCCUR IN THE AREA OF THE PROJECT

Life Form	Scientific Name	English Name	BC List (Conservation Status)	SARA (2002)
Lichen	<i>Collema coniophilum</i>	Crumpled tarpaper	Red	Schedule 1 Threatened (2017)
	<i>Fuscopannaria ahlneri</i>	Corrugated crackers	Blue	-
	<i>Nephroma isidiosum</i>	Pebbled paw	Blue	-
	<i>Nephroma occultum</i>	Cryptic paw	Blue	Schedule 1 Special Concern (2007)
	<i>Peltigera gowardii</i>	Northwest waterfan	Red	Schedule 1 Special Concern (2018)
Vascular Plant	<i>Acorus americanus</i>	American sweet-flag	Blue	-
	<i>Botrychium paradoxum</i>	Two-spiked moonwort	Blue	-
	<i>Oxytropis nigrescens</i> var. <i>uniflora</i>	One-flower oxytrope	Unknown	-
	<i>Pinus albicaulis</i>	Whitebark pine	Blue	Schedule 1 Endangered (2012)
	<i>Polemonium boreale</i>	Northern Jacob's-ladder	Blue	-
	<i>Polemonium californicum</i>	California Jacob's ladder	Red	-

Notes:

BC = British Columbia; km = kilometre(s); SARA = *Species at Risk Act* (2002)

Search considered a 100 km radius of the Project Area.

TABLE 7.4-3 CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT PLANT SPECIES

Plant Name	
<p>Ts'ootsun <i>Abies lasiocarpa</i> (Hook.) Nutt. (Pinaceae) Balsam, sub-alpine fir</p>	<p>Latalba <i>Achillea millifolium</i> L. (Asteraceae) Yarrow</p>
<p>Dats'an angut <i>Juniperus communis</i> L. (Cupressaceae) Juniper</p>	<p>K'us <i>Alnus tenuifolia</i> Nutt. (Betulaceae) Alder</p>

Plant Name	
<p>K'entsi <i>Cornus stolonifera</i> Michx. (Cornaceae) Red willow, red osier dogwood</p>	<p>Chundoo <i>Pinus contorta</i> Douglas ex Loudon (Pinaceae) Jack pine, lodgepole pine</p>
<p>Tsalhtse' <i>Viburnum edule</i> (Michx.) Raf. (Caprifoliaceae) Cranberry</p>	<p>T'ughus <i>Populus tremuloides</i> Michx. (Salicaceae) Poplar, trembling aspen</p>
<p>Ningwus <i>Shepherdia canadensis</i> (L.) Nutt. (Elaeagnaceae) Soapberry</p>	<p>Duje <i>Vaccinium membranaceum</i> Douglas ex Torr. (Ericaceae) Huckleberry</p>
<p>Ludimusjek <i>Rhododendron groenlandicum</i> Oeder (Ericaceae) Labrador tea</p>	<p>Chunach'ulh (latin name unknown) Black birch</p>
<p>'Ut'ankal <i>Rubus idaeus</i> L. (Rosaceae) Raspberry</p>	<p>K'emai' Saskatoon</p>
<p>Hoolhghulh <i>Oplopanax horridus</i> (Sm.) Miq. (Araliaceae) Devil's club</p>	<p>Yuntumai Low brush blueberry</p>
<p>Dunih t'an <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> (L.) Spreng. (Ericaceae) Kinnikinnick</p>	

7.5 WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE HABITAT

Project-specific wildlife field studies were conducted from 2012 to 2013 (Allnorth Consultants Ltd. 2013) and from 2022 to 2024 (Shas-Ti Environmental LP 2023; 2024). The 2022 to 2024 wildlife field programs focused on amphibians, mammals, and birds, with an emphasis on species of management concern, species considered culturally significant to First Nations, and species of management importance. Observations from the studies completed to date include the following:

- During summer and autumn, caribou utilize high- and low-elevation habitats. Moose appear to be broadly distributed at low elevations and are the most abundant ungulate in the area. Other ungulates include elk, mule deer, and white-tailed deer.

- Grizzly bears were captured on remote cameras, including three sows with cubs. Grizzly bears are broadly distributed in the area.
- Wolverine, fisher, Canada lynx, and olive-sided flycatcher are broadly distributed in the area.

Woodland caribou in the Project Area belong to the Takla herd, which are a sub-herd of Southern Mountain caribou. This population is Red listed in BC and listed as Threatened under Schedule 1 of the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA; 2002). The portions of the Project Area overlaps with southern extent of the federally designated caribou Critical Habitat for the Takla herd, as well as caribou Ungulate Winter Range.

There is a total of 32 wildlife Species at Risk with potential to occur in the Project Area, which are summarized in Table 7.5-1 (BC Conservation Data Centre 2024). A preliminary list of wildlife species in the area that are considered culturally significant to local First Nations is provided in Table 7.5-2. Migratory birds (as defined by the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*) with the potential to occur within the Project Area are listed in Appendix C.

TABLE 7.5-1 WILDLIFE SPECIES AT RISK WITH THE POTENTIAL TO OCCUR WITHIN THE AREA OF THE PROJECT

Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	BC List (Conservation Status) ^a	SARA (2002) ^b
Birds			
American Bittern*	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	Blue	-
American Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis atricapillus</i>	Blue	-
American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	Red	-
Bank Swallow*	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Yellow	Schedule 1 Threatened
Barn Swallow*	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Yellow	Schedule 1 Threatened
Common Nighthawk*	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	Blue	Schedule 1 Special Concern
Double-Crested Cormorant	<i>Nannopterum auritum</i>	Blue	-
Eared Grebe*	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Blue	-
Evening Grosbeak*	<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>	Yellow	Schedule 1 Special Concern
Great Blue Heron*	<i>Ardea herodias herodias</i>	Blue	-
Gyr Falcon	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>	Blue	-
Red-Necked Phalarope*	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	Blue	Schedule 1 Special Concern
Rusty Blackbird	<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>	Blue	Schedule 1 Special Concern

Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	BC List (Conservation Status) ^a	SARA (2002) ^b
Birds (cont'd)			
Short-Eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Blue	Schedule 1 Special Concern
Olive-Sided Flycatcher*	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Yellow	Schedule 1 Special Concern
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	Red	Schedule 1 Special Concern
Rough-Legged Hawk	<i>Buteo lagopus</i>	Blue	-
Surf Scoter*	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>	Blue	-
Swainson's Hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	Red	-
Mammals			
Fisher	<i>Pekania pennati</i>	Blue	-
Grizzly Bear	<i>Ursus arctos</i>	Blue	Schedule 1 Special Concern
Little Brown Myotis	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	Blue	Schedule 1 Endangered
Mountain Goat	<i>Oreamnos americanus</i>	Blue	-
Northern Myotis	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Blue	Schedule 1 Endangered
Wolverine	<i>Gulo gulo luscus</i>	Blue	Schedule 1 Special Concern
Woodland Caribou (Southern Mountain Population)	<i>Rangifer tarandus</i>	Red	Schedule 1 Threatened
Amphibians			
Western Toad	<i>Anaxyrus boreas</i>	Yellow	Schedule 1 Special Concern

Notes:

BC = British Columbia; SARA = *Species at Risk Act* (2002)* Migratory bird species as defined by the *Migratory Bird Convention Act, 1994*.^a BC Conservation Data Centre (2024).^b Government of Canada (2024).

TABLE 7.5-2 CULTURALLY IMPORTANT WILDLIFE SPECIES

Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	Species Dakelh Name
Moose	<i>Alces alces</i>	khuda
Woodland Caribou	<i>Rangifer tarandus caribou</i>	whudzih
Black Bear	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	sus

Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	Species Dakelh Name
Grizzly Bear	<i>Ursus arctos</i>	shas
Fisher	<i>Pekannia pennati</i>	chunih cho
American Marten	<i>Martes americana</i>	chunih
Canada Lynx	<i>Lynx canadensis</i>	wasi
Beaver	<i>Castor canadensis</i>	tsa

7.6 FISH AND FISH HABITAT

Fish and fish habitat studies completed to date have targeted the main watercourses (i.e., Baptiste, Sidney, and Paula creeks) and associated tributaries and waterbodies (i.e., upper and lower Baptiste lakes) within the Project Area. Surveys have included spring spawning, 1:20,000 habitat reconnaissance, fish communities in lakes and creeks, fish tissue, and fall spawning. Baseline results indicate that these main watercourses are fish-bearing, though several of their tributaries are confirmed or assumed non-fish-bearing. The fish assemblage consists of rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), longnose sucker (*Catostomus catostomus*), and Dolly Varden / bull trout (*Salvelinus malma / confluentus*). In the broader study area, various other species were documented during spring and fall spawner surveys downstream of the Project Area, including peamouth chub (*Mylocheilus caurinus*), mountain whitefish (*Prosopium williamsoni*), and kokanee and sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*—Takla-Trembleur-Stuart population). These species have only been documented in the lower reaches of Paula, Sidney, and/or Baptiste creeks.

White Sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*; Nechako River population) are known to occur in the Middle River upstream and downstream of the Project Area and are a SARA Schedule 1-listed species (Endangered; BC Red listed). The lower 1.5 km of the Middle River, and approximately 1.5 km out from its mouth into Trembleur Lake, are designated critical habitat under SARA (2024). Primary threats to the Nechako River population include loss of habitat associated with altered flow and channelization works, altered hydrograph components, low population size, and reduced/altered food supply (COSEWIC 2023).

Further, Sockeye salmon Designatable Unit 20 (Takla-Trembleur-Estu [Early Stuart] population) and Designatable Unit 21 (Takla-Trembleur-Stuart S [Late Stuart] population) were assessed as Endangered in 2017 (COSEWIC 2017) and utilize downstream portions of the same watersheds as the Project Area is located. Sockeye salmon (and Kokanee) spawn in the lower reaches of Baptiste, Sidney, and Paula Creeks. No other Federally listed Species at Risk fish species have been identified in the Project Area, however bull trout (provincially blue listed) are known to occur through much of Baptiste Sidney and Paula creeks.

In 2018, Paula Creek and Sidney Creek were designated Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds under the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (2002). This designation establishes quantitative management objectives for forest activities in these watersheds, for example, riparian vegetation retention.

Culturally significant fish species in the Project Area are presented in Table 7.6-1.

TABLE 7.6-1 CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT FISH SPECIES

Species Common Name	Species Dakelh Name
Sockeye Salmon	talo
Kokanee	gesul
Lake Trout	bit
White Sturgeon	lhecho
Dolly Varden / Bull Trout	tsabai
Rainbow Trout	duk'ai
Mountain Whitefish / Lake Whitefish	lhoh
Burbot ^a	-

Note:

^a Referred to as lingcod by First Nations.

8. EXISTING HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

This section provides an overview of the existing human environment in the Project vicinity, including a discussion of the social, economic, land use, heritage, and human health context, based on a preliminary review of publicly available data. Further analysis will include the development of comprehensive baseline studies based on primary and secondary research, together with stakeholder engagement.

8.1 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

8.1.1 MUNICIPALITIES

The Project is located within the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (population 37,737; Statistics Canada 2023), and the closest municipality to the Project is the District of Fort St. James (population 1,386), located approximately 160 km driving distance away from the Project. Table 8.1-1 describes the municipalities within the vicinity of the Project, based on the 2021 Census of Population and other publicly available information.

The communities in Table 8.1-1 are highlighted due to their population size and location in proximity to the Project and/or along planned access or Transmission Line routes. Development of the socio-economic baseline study may incorporate additional communities, based on research findings and/or feedback gathered through engagement. The socio-economic baseline study will provide a more extensive examination of regional conditions, supplemented by engagement with municipalities and community members.

TABLE 8.1-1 MUNICIPALITY DESCRIPTIONS

Community	Description
Fort St. James	<p>Fort St. James is a district municipality located on the southeastern shore of Stuart Lake, 82 km southeast of the Project (approximately 160 km by road). Fort St. James is positioned on the north end of Highway 27, which connects to Highway 16 west of Vanderhoof.</p> <p>The population of Fort St. James was 1,386 in 2021, of which 22% identified as Indigenous and 7% as a visible minority. About 50% of the population were women, and 19% were under 15 years of age and 16% were over 64 years. The community had a labour force of 680 people (64.5% participation rate). Industries related to natural resources include agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting (5.1% of the labour force in 2021), and mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction (4.4%). In 2021, 10.3% of the labour force was employed in occupations in manufacturing and utilities, including those related to wood processing and manufacturing operations such as sawmills. The unemployment rate in Fort St. James was 9.6% in 2021, which was lower than that of the Bulkley-Nechako Regional District overall (10.2%).</p> <p>In 2020, the average total income in Fort St. James was \$62,300, which is considerably higher than both the provincial and regional district averages (\$54,450 and \$51,250, respectively). Similarly, the average employment income in the municipality was \$59,100 in 2020, compared to \$50,520 in BC overall and \$48,240 in the regional district.^a</p>

Community	Description
Vanderhoof	<p>Vanderhoof is a district municipality located approximately 225 km southeast of the Project by road. The community is located on Highway 16 approximately 95 km west of Prince George.</p> <p>The population of Vanderhoof was 4,346 in 2021, of which 11% identified as Indigenous and 7% as a visible minority. About 50% of the population were women, and 19% were under the age of 15, and 17% were over 64 years of age. Vanderhoof had a labour force of 2,245 people and its participation rate was 65.3%. The manufacturing industry employed 16% of the labour force, compared to the 8.9% employment in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, and 1.3% in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction. The unemployment rate in Vanderhoof was 8.2% in 2021—lower than that of the regional district.</p> <p>In 2020, the average total income in Vanderhoof was \$50,640, which is slightly lower than both the provincial and regional district averages. In 2021, the average total employment income in Vanderhoof was \$49,120, which is similar to the broader regional levels.</p>
Fraser Lake	<p>Fraser Lake is a village located on Yellowhead Highway 16, approximately 265 km by road from the Project (via Fort St. James).</p> <p>The 2021 population of Fraser Lake was 965 in 2021, with 19% of residents identifying as Indigenous, and 3% as visible minority. Approximately 47% of the population were women, and 18% were under the age of 15, and 21% were over 64 years of age. The labour force was made up of 445 people (55.3% participation rate). In 2021, 9% of its labour force was employed in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction. This is slightly more than those employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting (7.9%). In 2021, 31.5% of Fraser Lake's labour force was employed in manufacturing. At 12.4%, the unemployment rate in Fraser Lake was several points higher than that of both the Bulkley-Nechako Regional District and the province overall.</p> <p>In Fraser Lake, the average total income in 2020 was \$53,800. The average employment income for residents in 2020 was \$59,200, indicating that earnings from jobs were higher than from other income sources. Additionally, the average employment income in Fraser Lake was considerably higher than both the provincial and regional district averages (\$50,520 and \$48,240, respectively).</p>
Burns Lake	<p>Burns Lake is a village located on the Yellowhead Highway 16, 335 km southwest from the Project by road (via Fort St. James).</p> <p>In 2021, the population of Burns Lake was 1,920, of which 16% identified as Indigenous, and 6% as a visible minority. About 50% of the population were women, and 19% were under the age of 15, and 20% over 64 years. Burns Lake had a labour force of 885, with a participation rate of 68.3%. The unemployment rate in Burns Lake (7.9%) was lower than that of both the Bulkley-Nechako Regional District and the province overall. In 2021, 1.7% of the labour force in Burns Lake was employed in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction. Among industries related to natural resources, agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting accounts for 6.8% and manufacturing for 9.6% of Burns Lake's labour force employment.</p> <p>The average total income in Burns Lake in 2020 was \$52,000. Additionally, the average employment income for residents in 2020 was \$54,800, which was higher than that of both the regional district and province.</p>

Community	Description
Prince George	<p>Prince George is a city located in the Fraser-Fort George Regional District at the junction of Yellowhead Highway 16 and Alaska Highway 97, approximately 320 km southeast of the Project by road (via Fort St. James). It is also the junction of north-south and east-west bound railways. Prince George is the primary service centre for northern BC, including health care, university, and other services.</p> <p>In 2021, Prince George had a population of 76,708, of which 15% identified as Indigenous and 11% as a visible minority. Approximately 50% of the population were women, and 17% were under the age of 15, and 16% were over 64 years. The community had a labour force of 41,275 people, with a participation rate of 66.3% and unemployment rate of 9.4%. In 2021, 1.1% of Prince George's labour force was employed in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction, and 3.1% in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting. The manufacturing industry employed 7.4% of the municipality's labour force.</p> <p>In 2020, the average total income in Prince George was \$55,150, which is close to the Fraser-Fort George Regional District average (\$55,400) and the provincial average. The average employment income in Prince George was \$52,550 for the same period.</p>
Mackenzie	<p>Mackenzie is a district municipality located in Fraser-Fort George Regional District on Highway 39, approximately 249 km from the Project by road (via Fort St. James).</p> <p>In 2021, Mackenzie had a population of 3,281, of which 12% identified as Indigenous and 5% as a visible minority. Approximately 47% of the population were women, and 17% were under the age of 15, and 17% were over 64 years years of age. Mackenzie had a labour force of 1,905 people, with a participation rate of 67.1% and an unemployment rate of 12.3%. In 2021, 4.5% of Mackenzie's labour force was employed in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction, compared to 13.4% in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, and 19.9% in manufacturing.</p> <p>In 2020, the average total income in Mackenzie was \$55,800, which was similar to the values reported for BC and Fraser-Fort George Regional District. Mackenzie's average employment income was \$53,350 in the same year.</p>

Source: Statistics Canada (2023a).

Notes:

\$ = dollar; % = percent; km = kilometre; BC = British Columbia; Project = Baptiste Nickel Project; "women" includes women and/or girls as well as some non-binary persons

^a As per Statistics Canada's definition, total income refers to the sum of certain incomes over a specified reference period. This includes income from employment and other sources, such as investments, pensions, child or spousal support payments, and government benefits. Employment income recipients are a subsection of this group, focused on full time actively employed workers whose incomes may be obscured in the total income averages, depending on the other income recipients included in those averages.

8.1.2 FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES

There are several First Nations within the vicinity of the Project (see Section 6, First Nations, for more information), including on-reserve communities that may experience direct or indirect effects from the Project (described in Section 11), as well as First Nation territories that cover broad areas of land and used for traditional purposes (see Section 8.2). An overview of First Nation communities within the vicinity of the Project is provided in Table 8.1-2, including, where available, population, labour market, and income data from the 2021 Census.

TABLE 8.1-2 KEY FIRST NATION COMMUNITY DESCRIPTIONS

Community	Description
Dzitline Lee 9	<p>Dzitline Lee 9 is a reserve of Tl'azt'en Nation located next to Middle River. Middle River and Dzitl'ainli are other place names attributed to the community. Dzitline Lee 9 is located approximately 9 km directly east of the Project Area, and 110 km from Fort St. James. The reserve is situated on 373.5 ha of land on the north side of Trembleur Lake on the bank of the Middle River. Census data indicates that Dzitline Lee 9 had a population of 15 people in 2021.</p>
Ye Koo Che 3	<p>Ye Koo Che 3 is the main on-reserve community of the Yekooche First Nation. Ye Koo Che 3 is located approximately 30 km from the Project Area and 88 km from Fort St. James. It is situated on 191.6 ha of land along the northwest arm of Stuart Lake at the mouth of Nancut Creek.</p> <p>In 2021, Ye Koo Che 3 had population of 90 and a labour force of 25 people, according to census data. The population comprised 56% women, and 28% were under the age of 15, and 6% were over 64 years. There were 35 occupied private dwellings on the reserve.</p>
Tache 1	<p>Tache 1 is a reserve of Tl'azt'en Nation located approximately 39 km from the Project Area and 65 km north of Fort St. James at the mouth of the Tachie River on Stuart Lake across 817.4 ha. The reserve is the largest of the Tl'azt'en Nation's communities and the location of its main administrative offices and community services.</p> <p>According to census data, Tache 1 had a population of 400 and 120 occupied private dwellings in 2021. The population comprised 57% women, and 26% were under the age of 15, and 9% over 64 years of age. The labour force in Tache 1 comprised 125 people, of which 11.5% were employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, and 7.7% in manufacturing. The labour force participation rate was 42.4%, compared to an employment rate of 16%. The average total income and average employment income in Tache 1 in 2020 were \$33,600 and \$25,200, respectively.</p>
Binche 2	<p>Binche 2 is the main on-reserve community of the Binche Whut'en. Binche 2 is located 57 km from the Project Area on the north shore of Stuart Lake and at the mouth of Pinchi Creek across 373.5 ha of land.</p> <p>The 2021 Census population of Binche 2 was 118, with 45 occupied private dwellings. The population comprised 56% women, and 21% were under the age of 15, and 17% over 64 years. The reserve had a labour force of 40 people, with a 44.4% participation rate. The unemployment rate in Binche 2 was 25%.</p>
Woyenne 27	<p>Woyenne 27 is the main on-reserve community of Lake Babine Nation. The community is located approximately 68 km from the Project Area and 99 km from Fort St. James. It is situated on 12.6 ha of land adjacent to Burns Lake.</p> <p>In 2021, Woyenne 27 had a total population of 548, with 129 private dwellings. Women made up 52% of the population, and 24% of the population were under the age of 15, and 9% over 64 years. The community had a labour force of 165 people, and a 39.8% participation rate. 27% of the labour force were employed in public administration, and 15% in health care and social assistance, compared to 9% in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting. The unemployment rate in Woyenne 27 was 12.1%.</p> <p>In 2020, the average total income and average employment income in Woyenne 27 was \$32,200 and \$35,600, respectively.</p>
North Tacla Lake 7	<p>North Tacla Lake 7 is the main on-reserve community of the Takla Nation located on the Takla Landing on the eastern shore of Takla Lake on 63.1 ha. North Tacla Lake 7 is located approximately 75 km away from the Project Area and 194 km from Fort St. James.</p> <p>In 2021, the population of North Tacla Lake 7 was 243, with 90 occupied private dwellings. The population comprised 49% women, and 24% were under the age of 15, and 8% over 64 years. North Tacla Lake 7 has a labour force of 105 people, of which similar proportions are employed in mining, quarrying, oil and gas extraction, and manufacturing (9.5% each). The labour force participation rate was 65.6%, compared to an unemployment rate of 28.6%.</p>

Community	Description
Nak'azdli	<p>Nak'azdli is a reserve of the Nak'azdli Whut'en located in and adjacent to the town of Fort St. James (82 km from the Project) across an area of 297 ha.</p> <p>As per the 2021 Census, Nak'azdli had a population of 528 and 205 occupied private dwellings. The population comprised 46% women, and 19% were under the age of 15, and 12% over 64 years. Nak'azdli had a labour force of 190 people, and a 44.2% participation rate. Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction industries employed 13.2% of the labour force, compared to 7.9% employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, and 5.3% in manufacturing. The unemployment rate in Nak'azdli was 13.2%.</p> <p>In 2020, the average total income and average employment income in Nak'azdli was \$37,600 and \$33,200, respectively. These income levels were significantly lower than those recorded in neighbouring Fort St. James (average total income of \$62,300 and average employment income of \$59,100).</p>
Stellaquo (Stella) 1	<p>Stellaquo (Stella) 1 (also known as Stellako) is the main on-reserve community of Stellat'en First Nation. The community is located at the mouth of the Stellaquo River, on the banks of Fraser Lake (Nadleh Bun). The reserve is 830.5 ha in size, and is located approximately 89 km from the Project Area and 60km from Fort St. James.</p> <p>According to the 2021 Census, the population was 189 with 75 occupied dwellings. The population comprised 44% women, and 18% were under the age of 15, and 13% over 64 years. The labour force consisted of 75 people, with a participation rate of 48.4%. Of those employed, 30% worked in public administration, 23% in wholesale trade, while 15% worked in mining, quarrying or oil and gas extraction, with similar rates for agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, as well as construction.</p>
Nautley (Fort Fraser) 1	<p>Nautley (Fort Fraser) 1 is the main on-reserve community of Nadleh Whut'en. The community sits on 563.5 ha of land, located approximately 95 km from the Project Area and 45 km from Fort St. James, on the eastern shore of Fraser Lake (Nadleh Bun).</p> <p>In 2021, the population of Nautley (Fort Fraser) 1 was 227, with 85 occupied private dwellings. The population comprised 47% women, and 20% were under the age of 15, and 11% over 64 years. The labour force was 105 people, with a participation rate of 58.3%. Of those employed, 20% worked public administration, while 10% worked in mining, quarrying or oil and gas extraction, with a similar proportion working in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting.</p>

Source: Statistics Canada (2023); CIRNAC (2025a, 2025b, 2025c, 2025d, 2025e, 2025f, 2025g, 2025h).

Notes:

\$ = dollar; % = percent; CIRNAC = Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada; ha = hectare(s); km = kilometre(s); "women" includes women and/or girls as well as some non-binary persons

Census data from 2021 are the primary source of reserve-specific population estimates but is limited because it reflects a snapshot of the population at a specific moment. The population of First Nation communities may vary with seasonal activity associated with traditional land use.

There may be other First Nation settlements or seasonal camps in the Project vicinity that are not listed in Table 8.1-2. Continued engagement with First Nations will provide a more comprehensive understanding of the communities and territories that may be impacted by the Project.

8.2 USE OF LANDS AND RESOURCES FOR TRADITIONAL PURPOSES

First Nation territories support a diverse range of traditional practices, many of which continue in the present day. Harvesting activities support the sustenance of communities and culture, and can fluctuate seasonally, including fishing (sockeye salmon, whitefish, trout, kokanee, and ling cod), hunting (moose, deer, bear, caribou, and elk), trapping, and resource gathering (medicinal plants,

roots, herbs, mushrooms, and berries). Seasonal camps are used for food harvesting, preparation, and storage. Waterways and lakes provide drinking water and hold ecological and cultural importance, offering critical fishing resources and travelling routes to reach seasonal camps, traditional meeting grounds, gathering places, and neighbouring communities. Existing research and FPX First Nation engagement underscore the central role of the land and water for traditional and contemporary uses essential to the socio-cultural, economic, and physical and mental well-being of First Nations in the vicinity of the Project (e.g., Jokinen et.al 2015; Firelight 2017; Shaw and Young 2012). A preliminary review of publicly available sources also indicates several First Nations have conducted studies related to fisheries and water monitoring (e.g., Nak'azdli Whut'en 2021; CSTC 2004).

The Project Area is located within the boundaries of four family keyohs, which are territories stewarded by families as part of a traditional hereditary governance system of the Dakelh people of the Stuart-Trembleur Lake area (e.g., Nak'azdli Whut'en 2021; Tl'azt'en Nation 2024). The four keyohs that overlap with the Project Area are the Duncan/Hallman Keyoh, Basil/Anatole Keyoh, Joseph Keyoh, and Felix Keyoh. Engagement with the four keyoh families is ongoing.

Additional information on traditional land and resource use in the Project Area and how the Project components and activities may interact with or affect this use (described in Section 11) will primarily be identified through future engagement with First Nations and supplemented by Indigenous Knowledge studies that the Project is supporting.

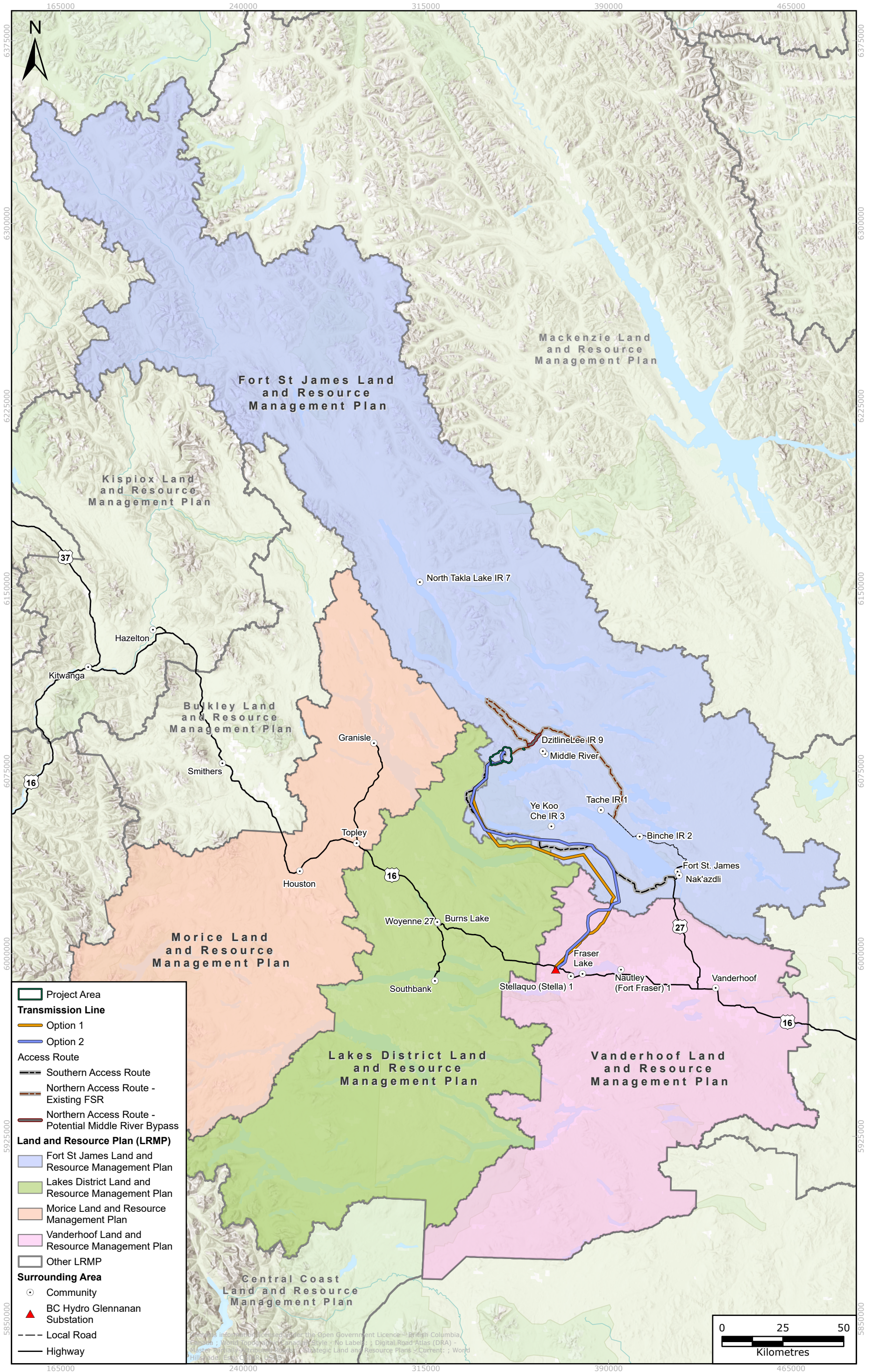
8.3 LAND USE PLANS, LAND USE DESIGNATIONS, WATER RIGHTS, AND TENURES

The Project Area is located within the boundaries of the Fort St. James Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP). The Transmission Line also overlaps with the Fort St. James LRMP as well the Lakes District LRMP and Vanderhoof LRMP (Government of BC 1999). Figure 8.3-1 shows the Project relative to regional LRMPs.

The Fort St. James LRMP, approved in March 1999, is a consensus-based plan that provides policy direction for resource management and values. The plan classifies Crown land within the area into 36 resource management zones, each of which has specific resource values, objectives, and strategies that guide what type of activities (e.g., timber harvesting, trapping, guide outfitting, angling, and recreation) and at what level of intensity are permitted in each zone. The Project is located in the "Resource Development" zone, which is defined as lands with existing or future potential for intensive resource development, where resource development such as mineral extraction and timber harvesting are emphasized to minimize its impacts on other resources through strategies, and are in full compliance with existing regulations, where access is relatively unrestricted (MoF 1999).

The Project Area, transmission line options, and access route roads are within the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako's (RDBN) Fort St. James Electoral Area C. This area is covered by the Fort St. James Official Community Plan (RDBN 2024).

FIGURE 8.3-1 PROJECT LOCATION WITHIN THE FORT ST JAMES LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (LRMP), LAKES DISTRICT LRMP, MORICE LRMP, AND VANDERHOOF LRMP



Land and resource use within the area surrounding the Project and that may be affected by the Project (for a list of potential affects see Section 11) includes mining, forestry, trapping, guided hunting, commercial recreation, and outdoor recreation (including wildlife viewing, boating, angling, hunting, camping, and hiking).

Table 8.3-1 identifies the tenure holders that are potentially affected by the Project, including with transmission line Options 1 and 2, as well as the Southern and Northern Access Routes to their intersection with Highway 27, within a conservative 400 metre buffer area. This spatial area reflects the potential requirement to establish and upgrade portions of the access route to make it suitable for Project use. Importantly, while tenure holders are identified for each option, there is considerable overlap among the options and tenure holders; that is, the options for Transmission Line Options 1 and 2, as well as the Southern Access Route broadly intersect with the same set of tenure holders.

TABLE 8.3-1 POTENTIALLY AFFECTED TENURE HOLDERS

Tenure Purpose	Project Area	Transmission Line Option 1^a	Transmission Line Option 2	Southern Access Route^b	Northern Access Route^c
Agriculture	-	-	-	1 (7407854)	-
Commercial	-	-	-	1 (0284414)	1 (0260271)
Environment, Conservation, Recreation	-	1 (0203897)	-	1 (7408627)	5 tenures
First Nations	-	2 (both 7408298)	2 (both 7408298)	2 (both 7408298)	-
Forestry	4 active tenures	19 active tenures	17 active tenures	15 active tenures	27 active tenures
Guide Outfitter	2 (710010, 710023)	8 guiding certificates	7 guiding certificates	7 guiding certificates	4 guiding certificates
Industrial	-	-	-	-	3 (7408705, 7408706, 7409728)
Institutional	-	-	1 (0067244)	-	-
Miscellaneous Land Use	-	-	-	-	1 (7409997)
Quarrying	-	-	1 (7410188)	5 tenures	2 (0244198, 0303401)
Residential	-	-	-	3 (7405076, 7405841, 0292048)	1 (7408652)
Transportation	-	-	-	-	2 (7405715, 0227453)
Trapline	2 (TR 726 T005, TR 726 T006)	16 traplines	14 traplines	13 traplines	13 traplines

Tenure Purpose	Project Area	Transmission Line Option 1 ^a	Transmission Line Option 2	Southern Access Route ^b	Northern Access Route ^c
Utility	2 (6408710, 9708459)	11 tenures	14 tenures	5 tenures	9 tenures
Wind Power	-	1 (7410361)	1 (7410361)	-	-

Notes:

All linear infrastructure routes include a 400 m buffer.

^a Transmission line options, described in in Section 4.1.7, follow distinct but similar routes intersecting many of the same tenures.

^b The southern access road route is a combination of existing gravel FSRs as well as some new road segments, as described in Section 4.1.6, and is aligned with a portion of the transmission line route options.

^c The northern access road route follows an existing road network of paved road and gravel FSRs to the Project Area, described in detail in Section 4.1.6.

There are no active water licenses in the Project Area, while the nearest active license is a public license for 51.8 m³/day held by Tl'azt'en Nation that has Middle River listed as the source, downstream 13 km to the east of the Project Area.

There are 34 private land parcels next to Rubyrock Lake Park, on the shore of Trembleur Lake, which is located approximately 3.6 km south of the Project Area. These properties are only accessible via Trembleur Lake, which may also provide a source of water to residents of the private land parcels. There are also private land parcels near Fort St. James and Fraser Lake, at the ends of the north access road and Transmission Line, respectively, as well as some land parcels along Stuart Lake along the north access road.

There are no active grazing tenures near or overlapping with the Project. Most agricultural activities including one range tenure are located near Fort St. James, near the end of the north access roads.

The Project Area overlaps with Prince George Timber Supply Area Block B. It also overlaps with forestry tenures, including a Master Licence to Cut Section 47.4 (M02372) held by Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Ltd., and two SB TSL S20 single mark tenures (TA0210 and TA0671) held by an individual and 1077336 BC Ltd. There is also an Old Growth Management Area (SKE_LKN_8) located 3.8 km west of the Project Area.

Furthermore, there is an oil and gas pipeline reserve/notation (6408710) and right-of-way (9708459) overlapping with the Project, held by EMLI and Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Ltd., respectively.

Two provincially registered traplines (TR 726 T005 and TR 726 T006) overlap with the Project Area, and there are four registered trapline cabins near the Project, located near Chu Lake, Takla Lake, Kazchek Lake, and south of Tchentlo Lake.

Project components overlap with Wildlife Management Units, all of which support hunting consistent with regulations and prohibitions under the *Wildlife Act* (1996). The Project Area is within Wildlife Management Unit 7-26 and overlaps with two guide outfitting tenures (Certificates 710010 and 710023). The closest hunt camp is located by Fleming Lake (Licence of Occupation 7401054), and the closest fish camp is located by Trembleur Lake (7403069). Recreation sites

and trails closest to the Project include Kazchek Falls and Kazchek Fall Trails, Island Lake Trail, and Babine Lake Wagon Trail.

The Project Area is located on mineral tenures entirely held by FPX (shown on Figure 3.2-1). Other mineral tenures held in the vicinity include those held by AC/DC Battery Metals Inc. and seven individuals.

8.4 PARKS AND PROTECTED AREAS

No federal or provincial parks are overlapped by the Project. Rubyrock Lake Park, a (41,233 ha) park located 0.2 km south of the Project Area, borders three lakes: Trembleur, Cunningham, and Stuart Lake (BC Parks 2024a). The primary role of Rubyrock Lake Provincial Park is to provide representation of the Babine Upland Ecoregion. The park also captures unique Douglas fir shoreline ecosystems, and provides important representation of moist, very cold Englemann spruce-subalpine fir forests (ESSF mv1). One blue listed ecosystem is found in the park-hybrid white spruce / hardhack (*Picea engelmannii* x *glauca* / *Spiraea douglasii*) SBS dw3 (06), which is dominated by Douglas fir, saskatoon, and false sarsaparilla (WLRs 2005).

Trembleur Lake Park is located 5.1 km southeast of the Project Area and has no facilities. However, it has an anchorage and sandy beach used for wildlife viewing, boating, hunting, fishing, swimming, canoeing, and cycling. Marine-accessible and wilderness camping are allowed (BC Parks 2024b).

Additional parks and protected areas include Sutherland River Park and Sutherland River Protected Area, near the proposed Transmission Line, and Stuart Lake Park, near the North Access Road. Sutherland River Park and Protected Area, often visited by land users or by boat via Babine Lake, is located south of the proposed Transmission Line (non-overlapping), offering activities including wilderness camping, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, fishing, and hunting (BC Parks 2024c).

8.5 LOCAL ECONOMY

The Nechako economic region in North Central BC supports a variety of agricultural and natural resource industries. Agricultural activity in the region is primarily in the Bulkley Valley (west) and Nechako Valley (east), and there is significant crop production near the city of Vanderhoof (Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako 2019). While an ongoing economic driver, forestry operations in the region have been curtailed in recent years, resulting in impacts on the local economies. A recent analysis of the forestry industry in BC concluded that the sector is facing significant competitive challenges (BC Council of Forest Industries 2025), while the BC government's forecast show a 17% decline in timber harvests over traditional volumes by 2025 that is likely to persist through to 2075 (Government of BC 2025b). As a result of the decline of timber products over the years, the main sawmills in Fraser Lake and Vanderhoof were closed in 2024 (CBC News 2024; West Fraser 2024), impacting employment in the region, including among First Nations (Stellat'en First Nation 2024). These announcements come following permanent shift reductions in several nearby sawmills, including in Houston and Prince George, and across the province (Canadian Forest Industries 2023), which resulted in many workers in the sector seeking employment opportunities in other industries (Canadian Forest Industries 2025).

Mining continues to provide regional employment through several active and proposed major projects (Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills 2023). The Mount Milligan mine is located approximately 78 km from the Project Area and 155 km northwest of Prince George. The mine employed about 485 people as of early 2024, with a proposed mine expansion that would extend its mine life to 2035 (Mining.com 2024). The Blackwater Gold mine, located approximately 180 km from the Project Area and 110 km south of Vanderhoof, recently commenced operations and has an expected 450 full time annual workforce during its 22-year operating life (Artemis Gold Inc. 2024; Government of BC 2023c). The molybdenum mine at Endako (approximately 87 km from the Project) employed many residents of Fraser Lake but has been under care and maintenance since 2015 (Paul 2024).

The Nechako region also has a growing outdoor tourism industry. Efforts are being made across the region to further develop its tourism infrastructure, but it is still in the early stages for many communities. The District of Fort St. James, for instance, released a 5-year plan to improve tourism, including investing in existing community assets and marketing campaigns (District of Fort St. James 2021). Fort St. James' emphasis on tourism occurred following the closure of the Conifex Mill in the District in 2018, and the resulting loss of 300 jobs for the local economy (Duran 2019). The sawmill has since reopened under new ownership in 2022 (Paul 2023), but studies highlight anxiety around new businesses like restaurants and retailers opening amid the general downturn of the forestry industry (Downing et al. 2020).

As part of the development of a socio-economic baseline, additional analysis of primary and secondary data will be conducted to further characterize the existing industry and business profile in the region, as well as to gain a deeper understanding of regional economic development initiatives and priorities.

8.6 HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Project is located in the Nechako Local Health Area, which is an administrative subregion within the Northern Interior Health Service Delivery Area of Northern Health. Northern Health provides health care and support services to residents within its boundaries, including hospital care, home and community care, public health initiatives, mental health and addiction services, and environmental health.

The Stuart Lake Hospital in Fort St. James is the closest hospital to the Project, and is moving to a new and larger facility, expected to be fully operational by the fall of 2025 (Pawliw 2024). Other support services in Fort St. James include the Fort St. James Health Centre; emergency fire, police, and ambulance services; and the Fort St. James Search and Rescue. Fort St. James also has a municipal water, sewer, and garbage infrastructure.

School District 91, Nechako Lakes, covers Fort St. James and the surrounding area. The school district includes nine public elementary schools, six public secondary schools, and three independent schools (Government of BC 2024f). Of these, there are two elementary schools (one public and one operated by Nak'azdli First Nation) and one secondary school in Fort St. James.

Vanderhoof, also within the Nechako Local Health Area, is the second-nearest service community to the Project. Vanderhoof has a hospital, health centre, and ambulance station, and is scheduled

to open a new integrated primary and community care facility in 2025 (Government of BC 2023d). Additional examination of the existing health conditions related to the future baseline study will include other Local Health Areas within the vicinity of the Project, such as Burns Lake and Prince George.

The Project is located within the Northern Region of the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), which is tasked with overseeing the delivery of First Nations Health Programs in BC in coordination with provincial health ministry and health authorities. The FNHA offers community-based services to First Nations, with a strong focus on health promotion and disease prevention. The FNHA's services include primary health care, family health, mental health, communicable disease prevention, and environmental health, among others. As part of the First Nations-led Primary Health Care Initiative, the FNHA is planning to open the Dadzi Wellness Centre to serve Dak'elh communities near Fort St. James (FNHA 2024; Black Press Media 2024).

A preliminary review of health and community conditions suggests that rural areas in BC, particularly in the Northern and Interior regions, experience a higher risk of fatal overdoses from illicit drugs (e.g., Hu et al. 2022). Over the past decade, drug-related deaths, including deaths related to fentanyl, have increased across the province, and Northern Health maintains the highest rate of unregulated drug deaths among all of BC's health authorities (BC Coroners Service 2024). Existing conditions including the social determinants of health and key barriers to treatment and prevention among different populations particularly as it relates to gender and Indigenous populations, will be investigated further in the baseline study.

8.7 HERITAGE RESOURCES

Heritage sites are non-renewable resources that are finite in number and susceptible to disturbance because of developments. They are an important resource that is protected for their historical, cultural, scientific, and educational value to the general public, local communities, and First Nation Nations. In BC, archaeological sites, whether recorded or not, and designated heritage sites are afforded protection under the *Heritage Conservation Act* (1996) and/or the *Local Government Act* (1996).

The summary presented below is a review of the previous work completed within the FPX Nickel Property as of April 2024:

- In February 2022, FPX applied for a Heritage Inspection Permit for the mineral claim area. On 25 August 2022, Permit 2022-0362 was granted, with no specific comments from First Nations provided by the Archaeology Branch. The permit expires on 30 May 2025 and all reporting for work completed under the permit is due at that time.
- In July 2022, an Archaeological Overview Assessment for the 2022 Project Area was completed. The Archaeological Overview Assessment summarized previous archaeological assessments, including overlapping Archaeological Overview Assessments, Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIAs), and Preliminary Field Reconnaissance (PFR) assessments. Areas of high archaeological potential within the Project Area, as it was defined in 2022, were then summarized and shown on mapping for the report.

- In the summer of 2022, during the Heritage Inspection Permit review period, preliminary archaeological assessments for proposed drilling and seismic lines throughout the claim area were completed from 7 to 13 June. For the 2022 Project Area east of Khas't'anghunbun (lower Baptiste Lake), preliminary archaeological assessments were completed from 3 to 11 August. As the work was completed prior to permit issuance, a notice of intent was sent to affected Nations on 9 May 2022 to notify that fieldwork would be conducted as a PFR. During the PFR assessments, two new sites (GfSh-8 and GfSh-9) were identified, one site (GfSh-3) was revisited, and 58 Areas of Potential were identified. The results of the PFR assessments were presented in interim PFR reports titled *22A0141-001: PFR of 2022 Target Areas within FPX Nickel's Decar Properties* (Horrell 2022) and *22A0141-002: PFR of FPX Nickel's Decar Property Footprint* (Harris and Dreyer 2022).
- In 2023, additional assessments were completed as an AIA from 10 to 19 October, which focused on the areas to the north, west, and south of Ude'az (upper Baptiste Lake). Two additional Areas of Potential and no sites were identified as a result of the work around Ude'az. The results of the AIA are presented in an interim report titled *AIA of FPX Nickel's Baptiste Nickel Project—Upper Baptiste Lake Area* (Kawei 2024).
- In 2025, the Heritage Inspection Permit was extended, both spatially to cover potential linear infrastructure, e.g., the road and Transmission Line, as well as temporally, extending the duration over which site investigations may occur. To date, no archaeology work specific to the Project has been undertaken along the Transmission Line or access roads.

A preliminary fossil impact assessment study has been undertaken to determine if a fossil impact assessment is required. The assessment concluded low likelihood of risk to fossils in the Project Area. Based on results, and subject to review with First Nations and the Government of BC, no further fieldwork is planned for fossils within the Project Area.

8.8 VISUAL RESOURCES

Trembleur Lake is part of the Stuart-Trembleur-Takla Lakes boating system, a 300 km network of lakes and navigable rivers that has become an important tourist destination in the region. In recognition of this, the Province has designated some landscapes around the Project as scenic and has established Visual Quality Objectives, which communicate a desired limit to the visual disturbance of those landscapes. Although these objectives have no regulatory requirement for non-forest harvesting activities, the Fort St. James LRMP directs that “visually important areas with tourism, recreational or other significance be managed in a manner that recognizes those values” (Government of BC 1999).

The area has been an important source of timber harvesting, and the Baptiste Creek valley and adjacent areas have been harvested since the early 1990s. In the Project Area, there are a number of cut blocks at various stages of regrowth that serve as the primary source of existing visual disturbance. Forest access roads also run throughout the Project Area.

As part of the development of a visual resources baseline, key viewpoints will be identified and visited to document the current visual condition of the landscape.

9. PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY

Section 25(2)(c) of the *EAA* and Section 22(1)(a)(i) of *IAA* require that the risk of malfunctions or accidents be considered in every EA. Unplanned events that could arise from Project-related malfunctions or accidents associated with Project activities may result in effects on environmental, economic, social, cultural, or health values and/or effects to First Nations' interests. An analysis of the risk of key malfunctions and accidents will be part of the EAC Application, along with potential effects and mitigation measures to reduce the potential of occurrence.

Based on engagement completed to date, general concerns with the potential for accidents and the need to protect the environment have been raised. As part of ongoing engagement, FPX is continuing to seek an understanding of the issues and concerns that First Nations, local government, rightsholders, stakeholders, and the public have regarding potential accidents and malfunctions related to the Project. In response to these concerns, FPX seeks to develop approaches to resolve the concerns including, where needed, developing mitigation measures.

Potential effects from accidents or malfunctions would be assessed in the EAC Application and could include:

- Spill incidents affecting the land, water, or air, including the release of hazardous materials stored onsite (reagents, fuel, or oils);
- The release of contaminants to watercourses;
- Slope failures in the Open Pit or rock and overburden stockpile;
- Failure of stockpiles;
- Failure or breach of water containment structures;
- Motor vehicle accidents;
- Accidents resulting from explosive malfunctions such as fly rock or excessive noise;
- Fire or fire-related explosions; and
- Prolonged power failure.

Prior to construction, emergency response, emergency preparedness, and community response plans will be developed with input from First Nations and regulators consistent with the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code (EMLI 2024). Planning will include potentially affected communities and First Nations in the identification of potential hazards, emergency communications, and responses. These plans will include contact information for First Nations, BC government agencies, and affected communities so they can be notified in the event of an emergency and engaged in larger responses, as needed. Further, this may provide an opportunity for mutual aid agreements.

10. SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT

FPX's approach to engagement began at the exploration and the early planning phase and will extend through the life of the Project, with a focus on inclusivity, fairness, and open dialogue. FPX emphasizes the following core values:

- **Respect:** A commitment to human rights, consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). This includes acknowledging the rights of Indigenous peoples and integrating their perspectives into the Project planning processes and development.
- **Collaboration:** Open and transparent communication and building long-term relationships with Indigenous communities and Project interested parties, such that decision-making processes are informed by local communities.
- **Safety and Inclusion:** FPX promotes a safe and inclusive work environment, emphasizing physical and psychological safety. This extends to respecting the cultural and environmental values of the communities involved and establishing engagement methods that are tailored to those communities.

FPX has developed an Engagement Plan for early Project engagement, included in Appendix A. Through proactive and ongoing engagement, FPX is seeking to build lasting and meaningful relationships with First Nations, community leaders, governments, and the public. To enable meaningful dialogue, FPX will provide information on proposed plans and activities and gather feedback that will inform the Project's design and development.

A priority of the Project shared value creation and the integration of Indigenous values and perspectives into planning and decision-making, and FPX is committed to planning in a manner that provides First Nations with the resources to participate in this process. FPX acknowledges and respects the rights and distinct cultures, perspectives, and aspirations of Indigenous participants, and will work with local communities to advance self-determined goals.

FPX will also incorporate principles of Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) to identify, understand, and mitigate potential barriers that could limit engagement participation from specific groups potentially affected by the Project.

10.1 FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT

As stated in the company's Indigenous Peoples Policy,² FPX recognizes Indigenous peoples' right to free, prior, and informed consent (FIPC) for activities occurring within their territories, as an integral part of UNDRIP, and is committed to Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action 92³ including but not limited to:

- Commitment to meaningful consultation, building respectful relationships, and obtaining the FIPC of Indigenous peoples before proceeding with economic development projects.

² <https://fpxnickel.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Indigenous-Peoples-Policy.pdf>.

³ Government of Canada. 2025. *Delivering on Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action*. <https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1524494530110/1557511412801>.

- Ensuring that Aboriginal peoples have equitable access to jobs, training, and education opportunities in the corporate sector, and that Aboriginal communities gain long-term sustainable benefits from economic development projects.
- Providing education for management and staff on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, UNDRIP, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

It is with this understanding that the Project is being designed from its earliest stages of definition to allow for flexibility in making decisions that will further shape potential outcomes. FPX's goal is collaborative decision-making with Indigenous Rights Holders and stewards of the land—an approach that is aligned with published Critical Minerals strategies of Canada (Natural Resources Canada 2022), BC (Government of BC n.d.), and First Nations (First Nations Energy and Mining Council 2024).

FPX has been engaging with the First Nations potentially affected by the Project for more than a decade. As such, engagement activities in the Early Engagement Phase will continue to build on established relationships and continue to foster a process of meaningful participation. FPX adopts a proactive and inclusive engagement approach to achieve the following outcomes:

- Early and ongoing engagement: engaging with First Nation communities that starts at the exploration phase, integrating their knowledge into environmental baseline studies and Project design.
- Formalized agreements: developing formal agreements with First Nations that set the framework for participation, economic benefits, and future consent-based decision-making, based on principles of FIPC.
- Inclusive participation: creating long-term, multigenerational economic benefits, including local employment, training, and partnerships with First Nation- and community-owned businesses, as well as prioritizing the engagement of Indigenous businesses, through representation in field programs, and supporting educational opportunities for Indigenous youth to prepare for long-term roles in the Project.

10.1.1 VENUES OF ENGAGEMENT

FPX has established several venues for engaging and collaboration with First Nations on the development of the Project.

Direct Engagement

FPX participates in bilateral knowledge sharing, providing presentations to First Nation Chiefs, Councils, technical staff and community members. The objective is to share Project investigations and plans as they develop in order to gather inform the planned work and to enter into collaborative agreements to align with the values and priorities of each Nation. To date this has included the following:

- First Nation Leadership Table;
- First Nation Technical Table;

- Workshops;
- Community Presentations; and
- Leadership and Staff Meetings.

First Nation Leadership Table

FPX jointly established the Project First Nation Leadership Table with Binche Whut'en, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation in July 2024. The Leadership Table has been convened seven times and has expanded to include all potentially affected First Nations, including Lake Babine Nation, Nak'azdli Whut'en, Nadleh Whut'en, and Stelat'en First Nation. The Tl'azt'en Nation Chief and Council have declined to participate in meetings held in 2025; however, participation will continue to be available for future meetings as the intent of the table is to provide an avenue for dialogue and information sharing for matters of collective interest.

The intended purpose of this Leadership Table is to provide a solutions-focused venue to share information, coordinate discussion and provide oversight on the Project which creating structure for engagement including issues identification and resolution. A key objective of the Table is to design a transparent process in which the First Nations can collaborate to determine their preferred approach to be involved in the Project's development, which includes exploring partnership opportunities.

FPX understands that First Nation participants at the Leadership Table represent different perspectives in their communities as they may at times present views as community leaders, clan members, organizations representatives, Elders, or other groups, providing diverse perspectives on the Project, the relationship between FPX and First Nations, interactions with their communities, concerns about Project development, and opportunities to be explored. Participants also bring a forward-looking view to the potential Project impacts and opportunities that face future generations.

The Leadership Table has convened eight times, the last in October 2025, with regular meetings planned approximately every 2 to 3 months moving forward.

First Nation Technical Table

The Leadership Table recognized the importance of evaluating the Project together, avoiding minimizing potential environmental impacts, and supporting each First Nation in making informed decisions regarding the Project. The Leadership Table identified a need to convene a Technical Table to facilitate discussions of a technical nature such as design, siting, scope of studies, and other specific technical topics.

There have been three Technical Table workshops in 2025. The first was held from 27 to 28 May 2025 to review mine design alternatives, specifically Tailings Facility options, the second workshop was held on 10 and 11 September to discuss offsite linear infrastructure, and a third workshop took place October 28, 2025, to discuss potential nation-led and collaborative assessments of the Project. The nature and ongoing focus of the Technical Table discussions will be determined by the Leadership Table.

Workshops

The two standing Tables were borne out of a series of workshops FPX convened with participation from Tl'azt'en Nation, Binche Bu Keyoh Society, Yekooche First Nation and Takla Nation (Economic Development only) on Mine Closure Vision in 2023 and Economic Development in 2024.

The workshops were designed to learn about the values, interests, and concerns of First Nation communities, and to explore how to incorporate Indigenous Knowledge into the Project's early design and development.

Community Presentations

FPX has worked, and will continue to work, with First Nation leaders to identify appropriate venues for delivering informative presentations and answering questions from community members.

These presentations range from half-day open houses to participation at Annual General Assemblies and information booths at community events.

The objective of direct engagement with First Nation communities is to help residents learn about the Project and the EA process, while enabling FPX to respond to questions and incorporate feedback into planning.

10.1.2 SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT WITH FIRST NATIONS

Table 10.1-1 provides an overview of FPX's engagement to date with First Nations. FPX has participated in multiple meetings with First Nations leadership, Keyoh holders, and designated staff for the purpose of sharing information pertaining to upcoming programs.

TABLE 10.1-1 PROJECT-RELATED ENGAGEMENT WITH FIRST NATIONS

Period	Activity	First Nation Participants	Description
2008 to 2021	Early consultations	Binche Whut'en ^a Tl'azt'en Nation	FPX (formerly First Point Minerals Corp.) met with Tl'azt'en Nation representatives to initiate consultations during the earliest stages of mineral exploration, which included mapping and selective sampling.
May 2012	Exploration MoU	Binche Whut'en ^a Tl'azt'en Nation	FPX signed an MoU with Tl'azt'en Nation and four Keyoh families whose territories are within the proposed claim boundaries of the Project. The MoU identifies and defines common principles and values, to conduct mineral exploration programs accordingly.
2021 to 2022	Initial community outreach and knowledge sharing	Binche Whut'en ^a Tl'azt'en Nation	Knowledge sharing with Elders, including tours of the proposed Project area; cultural awareness training by the First Nation for non-Indigenous employees and contractors; blessing ceremonies; and the inspection of reclamation sites from exploration drilling.

Period	Activity	First Nation Participants	Description
June 2022	Memorandum of Agreement (MoA)	Binche Whut'en	FPX signed an MoA with the Binche Bu Keyoh Society for Project development with respect to cultural and environmental interests, ongoing community consultation and engagement activities, and socio-economic benefits for the Binche community.
2022 to 2023	Environmental and cultural baseline studies	Binche Whut'en	Initiation of cultural and environmental baseline studies and early environmental stewardship, led by Shas-Ti Environmental LP and with participation by Binche Whut'enne (members).
2023 to 2024	Community outreach and knowledge sharing	Binche Whut'en Tl'azt'en Nation Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	FPX meetings with Chief and Council, nation staff, presentations about the Project in communities, site tours, and sharing of values and priorities to shape collaborative decision-making processes.
2023 to 2024	Environmental and cultural baseline studies	Binche Whut'en Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	Expansion of cultural and environmental baseline studies and early environmental stewardship led by First Nation businesses and with participation by First Nation community members.
July 2023	Termination of MoU	Tl'azt'en Nation	Tl'azt'en Nation terminates the 2012 Exploration MoU.
16 May 2023 5 July 2023 4 October 2023 26 September 2024	3x Mine Closure Visioning workshops (2023) 1x Economic Development workshop (2024)	Binche Bu Keyoh Society Takla Nation (Economic Development only) Tl'azt'en Nation Yekooche First Nation	Community workshops hosted by FPX to share First Nation environmental, cultural and economic values and perspectives related to the Project.
2024 to Present	Ongoing Bilateral meetings	Binche Whut'en Lake Babine Nation Nadleh Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Stellat'en First Nation Takla Nation Tl'azt'en Nation Yekooche First Nation	Continued engagement with Binche Whut'en and Binche Bu Keyoh Society, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation, and introductory meetings and engagement with Lake Babine Nation, Nadleh Whut'en, Nak'azdli Whut'en, and Stellat'en First Nation. FPX held meetings with each nation's leadership, as well as follow-up meetings with technical staff regarding early Project design options, sharing results of the early baseline studies, conceptual stewardship plans, and listening to each nation's interests and concerns. Discussions included preferred engagement mechanisms, participation in collaborative meetings and formalized agreements.

Period	Activity	First Nation Participants	Description
July 2024	MoU	Yekooche First Nation	FPX signed an MoU establishing a framework for communication, capacity and further participation in the Project.
16 July 2024 18 October 2024 5 December 2024	First Nation Leadership Table	Binche Whut'en Takla Nation TI'azt'en Nation ^b Yekooche First Nation	FPX jointly established the Leadership Table to enable meetings of leaders from First Nations to discuss their preferred approach to collaborative engagement regarding the Project.
August 2024 to Present	Public open houses in Fort St. James, Vanderhoof, and Fraser Lake	Binche Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Takla Nation TI'azt'en Nation	Public open houses held in local communities every two to three months to provide information about early Project planning and to gather feedback, attended by members of some First Nations.
November 2024 to Present	Community presentations	Binche Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Stellat'en First Nation TI'azt'en Nation Yekooche First Nation	Presentations to First Nation community members or information booths at community events to provide updates about the Project and EA process, and to hear members' concerns and interests.
11 March 2025 14 May 2025 10 June 2025	First Nation Leadership Table	Binche Whut'en Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	FPX sponsors meetings of leaders from three First Nations to discuss collaborative engagement opportunities regarding the Project. TI'azt'en Nation declined to participate in the meetings.
27-28 May 2025	First Nation Technical Table	Binche Whut'en Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	Initial Technical Table to introduce participants and discuss technical aspects of the Project including mine design alternatives.
30 July 2025	First Nation Leadership Table	Binche Whut'en Lake Babine Nation Nadleh Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Stellat'en First Nation Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	Leadership Table expanded to include invitations to representatives of eight First Nations, to discuss collaborative engagement opportunities regarding the Project, including linear infrastructure components.
10-11 September 2025	First Nation Technical Table	Binche Whut'en Lake Babine Nation Nadleh Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Stellat'en First Nation Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	Technical Table to review and discuss options for the offsite linear infrastructure of the Project.

Period	Activity	First Nation Participants	Description
September to October 2025	Bilateral meetings and Information Sharing	Binche Whut'en Lake Babine Nation Nadleh Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Stellat'en First Nation Takla Nation TI'azt'en Nation Yekooche First Nation	FPX met with First Nations to provide Project updates and to share draft versions of the Initial Project Description and Engagement Plan for First Nation review and input.
1 October 2025	First Nation Leadership Table	Binche Whut'en Lake Babine Nation Nak'azdli Whut'en Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	Meeting of Leadership Table with participation by the EAO and IAAC. FPX provided a summary of the IPD and EP and next steps in the Project assessment process.
28 October 2025	First Nation Technical Table	Binche Whut'en Lake Babine Nation Nak'azdli Whut'en Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	Technical Table to explore First Nation-led and collaborative assessment approaches to the Project's linear features.
November to December 2025	Bilateral meetings and Information Sharing	Binche Whut'en Nadleh Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Stellat'en First Nation TI'azt'en Nation Yekooche First Nation	FPX had ongoing correspondence and meetings with First Nations to provide Project updates, discuss preferred approaches to the Project assessment and ongoing collaboration.

Notes:

^a In 2019, Binche Whut'en separated from TI'azt'en Nation and was officially constituted by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) as a separate band.

^b TI'azt'en Nation participated as an observer in the December meeting.

10.1.3 SUMMARY OF KEY INTERESTS AND CONCERNS

The principle interests and concerns raised by First Nations are summarized in Table 10.1-2. While this table provides a high-level summary of topics discussed to date, it is not intended to be exhaustive or representative of all the interests and concerns of all First Nations, which continue to be defined through bilateral and collaborative Project design meetings.

TABLE 10.1-2 SUMMARY OF INTERESTS AND CONCERNS RAISED BY FIRST NATIONS

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Agreements	Need for a formal agreement about exploration and development activities	FPX seeks to establish formal agreements with First Nations that establish the framework for participation, economic benefits, and consent-based decision-making, based on principles of FPIC, ensuring that the Project activities continue to respect Indigenous rights and community input.

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Business, Employment, Procurement, and Economic Opportunities	Business opportunities and employment for member businesses and individuals, as well as the need for training programs for community members	<p>FPX continues to engage First Nations and affiliated businesses on Project development opportunities. FPX is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project, pending further engagement, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualifications requirements for major job types onsite; Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy; Discussing potential economic opportunities for local businesses, and working to coordinate interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Supporting community bursaries for First Nation members; • Identifying appropriate methods to communicate Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities; and • Developing appropriate monitoring metrics.
Community Well-Being	Concerns pertaining to the potential for social challenges associated with mining projects including addressing social infrastructure gaps and impacts from industrial camps including the addiction crisis and community safety	FPX is seeking to collaboratively design and develop the Project with First Nations. This includes co-developed approaches to addressing potential social impacts (e.g., data collection and assessment) and supporting community-led strategies for closing social infrastructure gaps.
	New access roads and transmission lines could improve housing availability, community access, and services (especially electricity) for First Nation communities	<p>As part of a collaborative design approach with First Nations, FPX is engaged with First Nation to study how the potential access road and new transmission line could benefit their communities.</p> <p>Technical Tables are planned to assess linear features (road and transmission line) in the fall of 2025. First Nations and other levels of government.</p>
Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing	Involvement in the collaborative design process for Project development, and the need for clear and consistent communication throughout the Project, to ensure all community members, regardless of access level, can stay informed and involved	<p>FPX has attended bilateral meetings with all First Nations on which the Project is located, and is supporting the First Nation Leadership Table and Technical Tables as a collaborative forum for information sharing and decision-making.</p> <p>FPX has participated in community meetings providing Project related information to members and establishing a model for future engagement. FPX is seeking to support First Nations in providing project information and tailoring communication to support access to information (e.g., an increase in online Project information).</p>

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Cultural Awareness	The importance of the Project to be aware and respectful of First Nation culture	FPX has supported cultural awareness training from Elders for non-Indigenous members of the FPX board, FPX staff, and field contractors covering topics such as historical trauma, substance abuse, and the rights of Indigenous peoples to protect culture and land, and will continue to seek opportunities to collaborate with First Nations to reinforce cultural values and perspectives in the Project.
Environmental Assessment Process	Need for First Nation self-determined processes and assessments to evaluate the project, and adequate time to allow for these processes to effectively take place	FPX will continue to seek to engage First Nations to include Nation-led processes for evaluation of the Project. FPX's approach to date and going forward will be to advance and evaluate the Project in collaboration with First Nations.
Fish and Fish Habitat, Including Water Quality	Water quality and sediment control and related impacts to important fish habitats, including salmon, and the environmental sensitivity of the Project Area, including Sidney Creek, Middle River, and Trembleur Lake	FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies including fish and fish habitat, hydrology and water quality to inform Project design and assessment including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses. FPX's approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies (e.g., sharing of baseline workplans). FPX is also developing early plans for fisheries stewardship to support First Nations led fisheries management. Early engagement has informed the IPD for the protection of fish and fish habitat (e.g., siting of major project facilities to avoid habitat used by salmon and reducing the number new creek crossings in the Project Area and linear infrastructure).
Indigenous Knowledge	Importance of incorporating Indigenous Knowledge into the Project	Early and ongoing identification and incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge is a core objective of the collaborative approach that FPX has taken with respect to development of the environmental baseline workplan and execution of studies including Project Design. FPX will continue to pursue methods to engage with First Nations on the review of programs and the potential for the development and incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge into programs and Project design, including support Indigenous Knowledge studies.
Land Access	Increased access to First Nation territory via the enhancement of the road infrastructure to the mine site and the construction of the transmission line is a concern	FPX is working to advance a collaborative design process with First Nations including the implementation of the Leadership Table and Technical tables. Further review of linear development in the selection, design, study and analysis is anticipated commencing in the fall of 2025. The IPD reflects early engagement outcomes such as those related to linear project components, in reducing new disturbances for the access roads and transmission line by utilizing existing linear features (e.g., roads).

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Reclamation and Land Use	Concerns about reclamation standards and land use during and after the Project	Inclusion of returning land use (closure) planning is being informed by ongoing baseline studies and collaborative design processes. This has included exploration stage reclamation inspection of exploration drill sites with First Nation representatives to inform returning land use, and FPX will continue engagement around returning land use planning to inform Project design.
Traffic	Concern about increased traffic near First Nation communities	<p>FPX is working to advance a collaborative design process with First Nations including the implementation of the Leadership Table and Technical Tables. Further review of linear development in the selection, design, study and analysis is anticipated commencing in the fall of 2025. The IPD reflects early engagement outcomes related to linear project components e.g., access road and transmission line seeking to reduce new disturbance and utilize existing linear features (e.g., roads).</p> <p>Part of the assessment will be an evaluation of traffic safety for communities and development of appropriate mitigation strategies in collaboration with First Nations.</p>
Whitebark Pine	Concerns about the impact of Project activities on Whitebark Pine	FPX has developed a conceptual Whitebark Pine Stewardship Plan for the Project for collaborative review, refinement and implementation by First Nations. This plan was informed by baseline collected with multiple First Nations in 2024. Further, FPX has developed an exploration phase Whitebark Pine Management Plan (Shas-Ti Environmental LP 2025) and revised based on input from First Nations. This plan was implemented with monitors from First Nation businesses in 2025.
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	The effects and cumulative effects on wildlife population and on habitat during all phases of the Project, especially as it relates to food security and cultural significance, including moose and caribou and their habitats	<p>FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies including for wildlife and wildlife habitat to inform Project design and assessment including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses. FPX's approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies (e.g., sharing baseline work plan). This has been applied to exploration activities in the development and implementation of environmental management plans.</p> <p>FPX is also developing plans for caribou stewardship to support First Nations-led stewardship. Plan implementation commenced in 2025 with the evaluation of terrestrial lichen restoration opportunities.</p> <p>Early engagement has informed the Initial Project Description by clustering planned facilities in close proximity to the fixed project components (e.g., nickel deposit).</p>

10.2 SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC

FPX has engaged with the public in the development of the IPD and will continue to be proactive in creating various opportunities for the public to participate in and contribute to the Project, including local in-person meetings and online resources.

FPX has identified tenure holders and members of the public who may have interests in the Project through an analysis of publicly available data and community forums. Various members of the public will be engaged with, including all potentially affected:

- Private landowners;
- Tenure holders (e.g., prospectors, holders of provincially registered traplines, and forestry lots/tenures);
- Land users (e.g., guide outfitters, hunters, fishers, and recreational users); and
- Non-governmental organizations with an interest in the area.

In June 2024, FPX opened their Community Office in Fort St. James and that year hosted three open houses. Between January and November 2025, FPX hosted four more open houses in Fort St. James, as well as two in Vanderhoof, two in Fraser Lake, and one in Burns Lake, with approximately 380 participants in total. A summary of issues or interests raised at the open houses is provided in Table 10.2-1. The open houses are designed to inform attendees about the Project and provide updates on planning and assessments. These events also provide an important forum for discussing potential effects, allowing members of the public to express their interests and concerns. FPX seeks to strengthen its relationship with community members, enhance open communication, and build awareness of Project related opportunities, such as environmental stewardship, procurement, and employment opportunities.

TABLE 10.2-1 SUMMARY OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE ISSUES AND INTERESTS RAISED

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Accidents and Risk Mitigation	Prevention and mitigation of risks associated to accidents that could damage the environment	FPX will identify and assess potential risks associated with accidents and malfunctions which may have adverse environmental effects, and where identified include measures to reduce risk in the design, operation and closure of the Project. The assessment will be made publicly available through the EA process.
Air Quality and Fugitive Dust	Dust from operations and traffic could affect the environment and community health	FPX is undertaking environmental baseline studies to collect information to inform Project design and assessment and where required develop mitigation, including potential effects on air quality and dust. FPX will continue to provide updates on baseline study findings.

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Business, Employment, Procurement, and Economic Opportunities	Local businesses and community organizations seeking opportunities to participate in the Project leading to lasting benefits for communities to provide support and collaborate	<p>FPX is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project, pending further engagement, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualifications requirements for major job types onsite; • Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy; • Discussing potential economic opportunities for local businesses and working to coordinate interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Identifying appropriate methods to communicate Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities; and • Developing appropriate monitoring metrics.
Community Well-Being	Social programs to support opioid crisis and possibility of transient employees and influence of money coming to the community	Work with community leadership, to develop approaches to engage community members during Project planning is ongoing by FPX in seeking to develop community well-being mitigation and monitoring (e.g., identification and implementation of financial planning sessions).
Environmental Impacts	Environmental impacts including water stewardship (quality and quantity) and wildlife (including caribou)	<p>FPX is undertaking baseline studies to collect information to inform Project design and assessment and where required develop mitigation. To date this has prioritized early action based on community feedback as part of exploration and environmental stewardship measures (e.g., habitat restoration and reclamation trials).</p> <p>FPX will continue to provide updates on baseline study findings and stewardship plans and the results of assessments as they become available.</p>
Indigenous Knowledge	The importance of respecting and including First Nations throughout the Project lifecycle	Continue engagement and collaborative mine design processes through the development of agreements with all First Nations potentially affected by the Project, supporting ongoing recognition and respect for Indigenous rights throughout the Project implementation.
Land Access	The impact of the Project on access to private properties or recreation areas	The proposed access road and transmission line options seek to align with existing disturbance and linear corridors. The mine site does not overlap private property and has been designed to support continued access along existing or realigned forest service roads. FPX will seek to work with land tenure holders and land users to maintain access and will continue to communicate Project updates.

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Traffic	Changes in traffic patterns	FPX has identified multiple potential access routes to the Project for further collaborative decision with First Nations and communities as reflected in the Initial Project Description. A traffic study is planned as part of further engineering study, and the results will be shared during public consultation.

10.3 SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENTS

Numerous federal and provincial government agencies and local governments will participate in the EA process, be involved in reviewing the EAC Application, or be regulatory agencies or permittees of the Project. Table 10.3-1 provides a list of the governments and agencies that will be engaged with for the Project.

TABLE 10.3-1 FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS POTENTIALLY INVOLVED

Federal Government Agencies	Provincial Government Agencies	Local and Regional Governments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) • Department for Women and Gender Equality (WAGE) • Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) • Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) • Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) • Health Canada (HC) • Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) • Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) • Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) • Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) • Transport Canada (TC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) • Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals (MCM) • Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions (MECS), various divisions including the Climate Action Secretariat • Ministry of Environment and Parks (ENV) • Ministry of Forests (MoF) • Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) • Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth (JEG) • Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MoTT) • Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS) • Northern Health (NH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Prince George • District of Fort St. James • District of Vanderhoof • Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN) • Village of Fraser Lake • Village of Burns Lake

While informal discussions about the Project have taken place over the past decade, formal engagement by FPX with government agencies began in earnest in 2024. Table 10.3-2 provides a summary of meetings held with representatives from local and regional governments, while Table 10.3-3 summarizes meetings with federal and provincial government agencies.

TABLE 10.3-2 PROJECT-RELATED ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS

Date	Government Represented	Details
8 May 2024	Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN)	Project overview meeting: FPX provided an overview of the Project and proposed timelines affirming plan to have IPD for submission to BC and Federal EA in 2025.
8 May 2024	District of Vanderhoof	Project overview meeting: FPX provided an overview of the Project and proposed timelines affirming plan to have IPD for submission BC and Federal EA in 2025 and offered meeting and time to review and discuss. Noted Project is at the Prefeasibility Study stage.
22 May 2024	District of Fort St. James	Introductory meeting: FPX met with the Economic Development Manager of the District of Fort St. James to introduce the Project. Focus for the District included transitioning jobs from forestry to mining. The district discussed having three points of contact for the community to express concerns: FPX local office, District Office, and Nak'azdli office. The District mentioned FPX could engage with the Mt Milligan Sustainability Committee for feedback/discussion.
11 June 2024	District of Fort St. James	FPX provide a project overview and highlighted the Project from a sustainability perspective and on a collaborative design process.
23 September 2024	District of Fort St. James	Economic development meeting: FPX met with the District of Fort St. James to discuss the District's Economic Development Strategy. The district discussed its plan to increase their community members' quality of life through accessibility and transit and increased housing.
24 October 2024	District of Vanderhoof	DoVH communicated to FPX the importance of education transition for forestry works into mining sector. Training and education requirements and the importance of a Community Benefits Agreement that would guarantee employment for local Vanderhoof residents.
28 January 2025	District of Fort St. James	FPX appeared before Mayor and Council to present the latest update to the Project planning. FPX discussed the economic impacts, status of the transmission line and road access selection process and timeline of the projects development and plan to enter the EA by the fourth Quarter of 2025. District of Fort St. James had questions about limited housing to support influx of employees during operation, road route selection and potential impacts from traffic.
12 March 2025	Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN)	FPX met with RDBN to discuss Project updates and proposed timeline for the EA process. FPX acknowledged RDBN's interest in the Project's waste management (e.g., solid and liquid waste including volume, handling, and location of waste offsite). RDBN also expressed the need to develop an emergency response plan and potentially a local housing support plan for local communities when the Project is in Construction and Operations phases.
15 May 2025	Village of Fraser Lake	Village of Fraser Lake attended the FPX Open House held in Fraser Lake to provide introductions and to receive general information around the Project. Key topics raised by the Village of Fraser Lake included employment and housing and requested future opportunities to learn more.

Date	Government Represented	Details
18 August 2025	District of Vanderhoof	FPX met with the District of Vanderhoof to provide Project updates. The discussion included setting a regular cadence for meetings with staff and with Mayor and Council in order to share project information and community priorities (e.g., employment, local business procurement, and housing needs).
19 August 2025	District of Fort St. James	FPX met with the District of Fort St. James to provide Project updates and set a regular meeting cadence with Mayor and council. FPX expressed their goal to work with the municipalities and share information on community priorities such as employment, local business procurement and assessing housing needs.
21 August 2025	Village of Fraser Lake	FPX met with The Village of Fraser Lake to discuss Project updates and housing, business and procurement, employment and potential transportation options for local employees.
14 September 2025	District of Vanderhoof	FPX met with the District of Vanderhoof to discuss the Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund (CMIF) implementation and Environmental Assessment process, including exploring a community liaison/advisory committee structure, and community benefits focused on local jobs.
21 October 2025	Regional District of Bulkey-Nechako (RDBN)	FPX met with the RDBN to share Project updates and develop a mechanism for collaboration on the Transmission Line and access road through the Critical Mineral Infrastructure Fund including feedback on the alignments, community engagement, and the Environmental Assessment process. Discussions focused on road and transmission alignments, with RDBN suggesting use of existing disturbances and recommending fibre-line inclusion to support community connectivity. RDBN emphasized integrated waste management and emergency planning. Broader topics included housing, procurement, connectivity, and service impacts.
21 October 2025	Village of Fraser Lake	FPX met with the Village of Fraser Lake to share Project updates, and to develop a mechanism for collaboration on the Transmission Line and access road through the Critical Mineral Infrastructure Fund, the Environmental Assessment process, and strengthened engagement. Topics discussed included infrastructure funding, housing, workforce transition, and long-term community benefits, as well as ongoing collaboration through a Community Liaison Committee.
24 October 2025	District of Vanderhoof	FPX met with the District of Vanderhoof to provide Project updates, develop a mechanism for collaboration on the Transmission Line and access road alignments through the Critical Mineral infrastructure Fund collaboration. The discussion covered FPX's sustainability initiatives, low-carbon mining approach, 2025 field program, and restoration work, including lichen and Whitebark Pine programs. Key topics included transportation logistics, local employment, and potential coordination through a Community Liaison Committee.

Date	Government Represented	Details
24 October 2025	District of Fort St. James	FPX met with the District of Fort St. James to provide Project updates, develop a mechanism for collaboration on the Transmission Line and access road through the Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund collaboration including feedback on the alignments, and discuss community priorities. Topics included workforce and housing capacity, and the transition of forestry workers into mining. FPX outlined the 2025 field program, road and Transmission Line options, and environmental baseline studies, with the District emphasizing coordination on road upgrades, traffic management, and protection of sensitive areas, and potential coordination through a Community Liaison Committee.
31 October 2025	Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN)	FPX sent a follow-up email to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako to provide updates on the Project, the anticipated Environmental Assessment process, and the implementation of the Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund, while also seeking input from the RDBN on Transmission Line and access route options.
26 November 2025	Village of Fraser Lake	FPX met with the Mayor and Council to provide a Project update. Council raised several topics, including the potential for use of the Trout Forest Service Road as an alternate route, opportunities for the Village to support future housing development in collaboration with FPX, and the importance of creating local employment and training pathways for youth.
27 November 2025	City of Prince George	FPX met with the City of Prince George staff to provide an overview of the Project and schedule a presentation to Council and staff in early 2026.
8 December 2025	District of Vanderhoof	FPX presented a Project update to the District of Vanderhoof who emphasised the importance of supporting local community members to access Project employment opportunities.

TABLE 10.3-3 PROJECT-RELATED ENGAGEMENT WITH PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Date	Government Representative	Details
12 April 2024	BC Environmental Assessment Office	FPX met with the EAO to introduce the Company and the Project.
18 April 2024	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	FPX met with IAAC to introduce the Company and the Project.
9 May 2024	Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development	FPX met with MoF to provide Company and Project introductions and outline next steps in the Project design. Parties agreed to maintain regular cadence to meetings (e.g., monthly/quarterly) given MoF role in both exploration permitting and the EA process.
6 June 2024	Ministry of Water, Land, and Resources Stewardship	FPX met with WLRS to provide an introduction to the Company and the Project, provide information on the status of FPX baseline studies and engagement with WLRS and MoF.

Date	Government Representative	Details
3 July 2024	Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship	FPX held a follow-up meeting with WLRS regarding stewardship initiatives.
8 July 2024	Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development	FPX held a meeting with the MoF to discuss road, traffic requirements and understand forestry use and planning for resource roads. FPX and the MoF discussed transmission line alignment and the need for input from First Nations in consideration of transmission line and access road alignment development.
14 August 2024	Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development	FPX provided a Project update.
28 August 2024	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	FPX provided DFO Ecosystems with a Project status update, and informed DFO of baseline data being collected to support regulatory process seeking to collaborate and support ongoing work. DFO noted that Tuzist'ol T'ah is comprised of Binche Whut'en, Yekooche First Nation, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation and Nak'azdli Whut'en and that DFO and the Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance are focused on recovery of upper Fraser Salmon. DFO is planning a workshop in Prince George BC in the first Quarter of 2025.
5 September 2024	Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship	Meeting held with WLRS to collaboratively advance stewardship and to understand the related activities being undertaken by BC with regarding to fish and wildlife stewardship.
19 November 2024	Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation	FPX had an introductory meeting with the JEG Regional Manager of Bulkley-Nechako/North Central to provide initial Project information and update on current Project status.
25 November 2024	Environmental Assessment Office, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Ministry of Mines and Critical Minerals	FPX provided an overview of the Project, the Project benefits and desire to collaborate with First Nations on the design of the project and assessment process.
13 December 2024	BC Government Executive Branch, Ministry of Mines and Critical Minerals	FPX introduced the Project and the approach to engagement with First Nations, including the Leadership Table, and highlighted the importance for direct provincial engagement with First Nations.
18 December 2024	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	FPX met with IAAC to provide a Project summary and update.
14 January 2025	Ministry of Transportation and Transit	FPX Nickel met with MOTT to introduce the Company and the Project and MOTT confirmed they will review and comment on EA documents, as traffic and road safety is within their mandate. FPX provided an overview of the Project and the anticipated traffic volumes based on the Prefeasibility Study and ongoing collaborative evaluation of potential access routes. MOTT presented work to date and planned work, axle restrictions of Tachie road, and offered to provide more information, e.g., on junction analysis and design basis.

Date	Government Representative	Details
20 March 2025	Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals, Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	FPX met with MCM and WLRS to review a conceptual caribou stewardship plan. WLRS noted the work underway with First nations on Takla Herd management and completion of a population count.
26 March 2025	MoF	FPX met with MoF to provide a Project update. Discussion around 2025/26 permitting, sources of forestry information for economic modelling to identify IPD needs, and receive updates on MoF resource road upgrades.
2 April 2025	Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation	FPX and MIRR met for an introductory meeting. FPX provided a presentation introducing the Project.
8 April 2025	Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals; Ministry of Environment and Parks; Environmental Assessment Office	FPX met with MCM, ENV, and the EAO to introduce the Project and discuss IPD information needs.
11 April 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	FPX met with the EAO and the IAAC to discuss EA process readiness.
23 April 2025	Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals	A meeting was held with representatives from Binche Whut'en, Takla Nation, Yekooche First Nation, and the MCM. The discussion focused on collaboration, with each representative expressing working respectfully together to study the project while developing a preferred project description and associated business opportunities together.
25 April 2025	Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals	FPX met with MCM and TI'azt'en Nation to discuss the need to establish a government-to-government framework for the Project and provide Project-related updates to TI'azt'en Nation members.
20 May 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada; Critical Minerals Office; and the Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals	FPX presented a Project update and approach to meeting IPD requirements. Discussion was held regarding baseline work plans, early stewardship initiatives, and outcomes from engagement.
22 May 2025	Ministry of Environment and Parks	FPX met with ENV with a co-developed agenda to introduce the Project and information needs for the IPD. FPX presented a summary of climate, hydrology, surface water quality, sediment and aquatics. ENV highlighted the importance of baseline programs (e.g., air quality, water quality and hydrology) in determining readiness for the EA process.
9 June 2025	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship; Ministry of Forests	FPX met with WLRS and MoF to provide an update on the Project and to review baseline data to support the development of IPD and baseline work plan. It was noted that new disturbance should be minimized and where possible to follow existing roads/linear corridors.
10 June 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	The EAO and IAAC presented to the Leadership Table to introduce the EA process and discussed the role of the EAO in the regulatory process, and the role of IAAC regarding assessing the potential impacts of the Project on the exercise of rights to Indigenous Peoples of Canada.

Date	Government Representative	Details
16 June 2025	Department of Fisheries and Ocean Canada; Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	FPX met with DFO and WLRS to introduce the Project. The baseline work to date and information needs for IPD were reviewed along with FPX initiatives in developing early First Nation-led stewardship plans. It was noted the Project should consider in early design the inclusion of freshwater storage onsite to mitigate potential instream flow effects to fish and fish habitat, linear corridors design to avoid instream works where possible, and established guidance for roads and transmission lines.
16 June 2025	Environment and Climate Change Canada; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	FPX presented to ECCC and the IAAC to introduce the Company and the Project. The meeting was to identify any initial feedback on information needs from baseline studies and the IPD.
23 June 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada; Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals	FPX held a meeting with the EAO, MCM, and IAAC. A project update was provided and review of revised guidance for the Initial Project Description and IAAC Tailored Impact Assessment Guidelines as well as updates from engagement and how the IPD would be developed to meet those requirements.
19 August 2025	Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	ECCC reviewed FPX's baseline reports, copying the Impact IAAC. ECCC provided comments for FPX's consideration on water quality baseline programs.
22 August 2025	Ministry of Environment and Parks (ENV)	ENV reviewed FPX's baseline reports and provided comments on hydrology and water quality for FPX's consideration as baseline programs continue.
1 October 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	IAAC and the EAO were invited to present at the First Nation Leadership Table to provide an overview of their respective assessment processes, funding opportunities, Indigenous participation options and lessons learned from prior EAs.
2 October 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada; Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals	FPX provided a site tour for representatives of the regulatory agencies to travel on potential access routes and see the Baptiste Project site.
22 October 2025	Ministry of Forests	FPX met with Ministry of Forests to provide an update on the Project, the EA process, and collaborative approach to defining road/Transmission Line alignment. Discussion included 2026 permitting requirements, Whitebark Pine stewardship.
13 November 2025	Ministry of Forests	FPX met with the Ministry of Forests to discuss transmission line routing in relation to the Top and Peta Lake Recreation Sites. MOF indicated that the 350 m setback is likely sufficient to mitigate visual impacts, particularly if routing follows existing roads or disturbed areas. MOF did highlight potential noise impacts of the transmission line to Top, Peta, and Stern Lakes, especially during winter ice-fishing periods. FPX noted ongoing evaluation of alignments to select a preferred route for further baseline and engineering studies.

Date	Government Representative	Details
27 November 2025	Ministry of Mines and Critical Minerals	FPX met with the Major Mines Office, following meeting in April 2025 to review the IPD, identify where requested information was presented and discuss subsequent steps in the EA process.
1 December 2025	Ministry of Forests and Ministry of Water Land and Resource Stewardship	FPX met with MOF and WLRS to seek early input into transmission line and road options to inform the identified of a preferred alignment for baseline studies and to identify information needs for regulatory processes. Issues and mitigations discussed included avoiding Forest Recreation Sites, vehicle-wildlife interactions, access management and consideration in EA and permitting for overlapping land use in developing mitigations.
8 December 2025	Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth	FPX met with the Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth to discuss the need for training opportunities for community members, in order to support job readiness for communities in Northern British Columbia.

Notes:

DFO = Fisheries and Oceans Canada; IPD = Initial Project Description; MoF = Ministry of Forests; WLRS = Ministry of Water Land and Resource Stewardship

10.4 ONGOING ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

FPX is committed to building respectful and transparent communication with all individuals and groups that have an interest in the Project by proactively engaging with First Nations, stakeholders, and the public, as well as local, provincial, and federal government agencies, in order to design and implement a Project that aligns with the interests and goals of First Nations and local communities. More details about this proactive approach can be found in the Project's Early Engagement Plan.

Engagement will extend beyond initial efforts to inform groups about the Project, by providing opportunities for community participants to contribute to the Project's design, development, operation, closure, and reclamation plans. In order to achieve this objective, FPX will utilize several mechanisms for communication and engagement, recognizing that no single approach will meet the needs of any given group or individual, while prioritizing local and Indigenous Knowledge throughout the Project planning process.

FPX has implemented a system for recording Project engagement activities, and tracking interests and concerns that are raised. Records of engagement, as well as a report of how interests and concerns have been incorporated into the Project design, will be included in the EAC Application.

11. POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF THE PROJECT

This section discusses how the Project might interact with the physical, biological, and human environments and possible Project-related environmental and social effects. Table 11-1 indicates potential interactions that might occur during the Project's Construction, Operations, and Closure phases.

The potential effects of the Project on environmental, economic, social, heritage, and human health will be assessed in the EAC Application. The assessment will focus on specific Valued Component (VCs) identified in collaboration with First Nations, government agencies, and the public. The assessment of potential effects to VCs will include consideration of mitigation measures and plans to avoid, minimize, rehabilitate, or offset impact; residual and cumulative effects associated with the Project; and reasonably foreseeable developments. A preliminary list of potential effects and example management approaches are provided in Table 11-2.

11.1 EFFECTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT ON THE PROJECT

Environmental factors could lead to effects on Project infrastructure or activities, which, in turn, could affect VCs. These factors include climate change and natural hazards, such as seismic events, volcanic events, avalanche events, extreme weather events, and fire. Risks associated with climate change and environmental factors will be assessed in the EAC Application, and appropriate mitigations will be incorporated into Project design and management plans.

11.2 POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE ENVIRONMENT OUTSIDE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND CANADA

As the Project is in central BC, approximately 340 km from the nearest interprovincial border (Alberta) and 290 km from the nearest international border (United States of America), no changes to the environment outside BC or Canada are anticipated.

11.3 POTENTIAL CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

The EAC Application will include a cumulative effects assessment to evaluate the Project's potential cumulative effects on environmental, economic, social, cultural, and health values. The assessment will consider changes arising from the combined influence of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects and activities (Table 11.3-1).

The assessment will be guided by the BC Cumulative Effects Framework (CEF) data and associated guidance (e.g., EAO 2025), which provide the basis for evaluating landscape-scale cumulative effects in combination with existing disturbances, current conditions, and reasonably foreseeable future developments. Additionally, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) Geospatial data, tools and services will be used to inform and evaluate cumulative effects.

TABLE 11-1 POTENTIAL PROJECT INTERACTIONS

Project Component	Physical Environment					Biological Environment			Social, Health, and Economic Environment					
	Air Quality	Noise and Vibration	Geology, Soils, and Terrain	Groundwater	Surface Water	Fish and Fish Habitat / Aquatic Resources	Vegetation and Ecosystems	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	Community Infrastructure and Services, and Community Well-Being	Human Health	Employment and Economy	Non-Traditional Land Use	Visual Resources	Physical and Cultural Heritage
Project Construction and Operations (Overview Level)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Open Pit	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X	X
Explosives Storage Facility	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X				X
Mine Buildings (Mine Services Building, Offices, Laboratory, Plant Maintenance Building, E-Houses and Control Room, Administration Building, Plant Warehouse, Plant Maintenance, Reagent Storage, Core Shack, Accommodation Facility, Gatehouse, Emergency Response / Ambulance Bay)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X
Stockpiles (Operational Ore Stockpile, Temporary Ore and Overburden Stockpile, and Topsoil Stockpiles)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X
Mine Roads (Haul and Service Roads)		X	X		X	X	X	X	X				X	X
Primary Sizer	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X
Stockpiles (Coarse Ore Stockpile/Reclaim, Coarse Ore Stockpile 1 and 2)		X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X
Process Plant	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X
Water Ponds (Process Water Pond and Freshwater Pond)		X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X
Tailings Facility, Including the Tailings Distribution System and Water Reclaim System		X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X
Non-Contact Water Management Ponds		X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X
Non-Contact Water Diversion Ditches		X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X
Fresh, Process, and Potable Water Storage and Distribution Systems		X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X
Potable Water Wells		X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X
Transmission Line	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X				X	X
Access Road		X	X		X	X	X	X			X		X	X
Freshwater Supply System		X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X
Temporary Facilities to Support Construction	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X

TABLE 11-2 POTENTIAL PROJECT EFFECTS AND MANAGEMENT APPROACH

Component	Potential Effect	Example Management Approach
Physical Environment		
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fugitive dust emissions from material handling, blasting, vehicle, and processing can increase ambient particulate matter concentrations that can negatively affect human and wildlife health. Increases in dust fall deposition can affect vegetation and waterbodies. Combustion emissions from vehicles and equipment can result in increases in ambient concentrations of NO₂, SO₂, and other contaminants that can negatively affect human health and vegetation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimize removal of vegetative cover (vegetation retention) through the design stage by stacking, reuse of previously disturbed areas/linear corridors, and revegetating as soon as practical. Use cyclones, bag houses and air scrubbers for particulate collection as determined through the Best Achievable Technology Assessment. Operate the Project vehicle fleet and equipment efficiently to minimize GHG emissions utilizing low emission (electric/hybrid) vehicles where possible. Stabilize and revegetate soil stockpiles. Apply dust suppressants or crusting agents where suitable including watering of haul roads when required and consider reducing speed limits. Utilize electrified equipment/building heating designs where possible, instead of fossil fuels, and implement energy conservation programs. Provide electrical power to the Project so onsite generation is not required or is minimized. Make use of in-pit waste rock disposal to reduce the land clearing footprint. Target lower GHG intensity, higher efficiency transportation methods for people, supplies, and products. Implement an air quality and fugitive dust control management plan.
Noise and Vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise from mining can result in increases in noise levels for human and wildlife receptors. Vibrations from blasting and equipment may affect human and wildlife receptors. Vibration can impact geotechnical stability near Project infrastructure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use noise minimization equipment where appropriate. Install engineering controls on equipment (e.g., mufflers, buildings or enclosures, and air intake treatments). Maintain equipment on a regular basis (e.g., replace worn parts and lubricate as required). House stationary equipment or use material to create berms and barriers. Consider vibration as part of geotechnical design criteria, if required, and include potential vibration impacts in reviews of geotechnical stability. Follow best management practices for blasting and vibration when in and around fish and fish habitat. Implement a noise management plan, including scheduling blasting events during daytime hours or other times to accommodate identified receptors.
Geology, Soils, and Terrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of soil profile and changes to terrain from vegetation removal, overburden removal, waste storage rock, and development of open pit mine. Changes to soil quality due to changes in chemical and physical soil characteristics during mining and reclamation activities. Long-term storage of soils can lead to loss of soil productivity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct soil salvage, soil stockpile, and soil placement management. Implement an erosion and sediment control plan. Implement a soils management plan and a returning Land Use (Reclamation and Closure) Plan, incorporating soil salvage plans, and targeted end land use objectives.
Groundwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes to groundwater quality and quantity from ML/ARD or chemical contamination (e.g., fuel spills) or over-extraction. Changes to groundwater quality and quantity from mining interaction with the groundwater table, resulting from changes to topography, including disturbance to bedrock and surficial materials. Changes to groundwater quality interactions between groundwater and mine-influenced surface water. Changes to groundwater quality from water infiltration through waste rock, pit walls, mine pits, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement groundwater management and monitoring plans through all Project phases to confirm, resource status and update water quality models and predictions incorporating seepage management as part of design. Implement an erosion and sediment control plan. Maximize contact water recycling for process water to reduce supplementation from non-contact sources. Utilize best management practices, engineered controls, and monitoring of chemical/fuel storage and use to prevent accidental spills/releases. Implement a returning land use (Reclamation and Closure) Plan, including a closure water management plan.

Component	Potential Effect	Example Management Approach
Physical Environment (cont'd)		
Surface Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in water quality downstream of the Project from discharge of treated mine contact water, site runoff erosion/sedimentation, blasting residue leaching, interactions with groundwater, accidents/spills, or ML/ARD risks. • Potential effects could change concentrations of key parameters, including metals, physical parameters (pH, temperature, turbidity/total suspended solids, etc.), which affect suitability to downstream uses, toxicity to aquatic life, and nutrient levels. • Changes in flow regime and sediment loading in watercourses. • Erosion/deposition associated with changes in surface water flow regime. • Changes in groundwater-surface water interactions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate water stewardship planning throughout the mine lifecycle, designing for closure to minimize the generation of mine contact water and to reestablish natural drainage patterns at the end of mine life. • Integrate water management into reclamation and closure planning, ensuring post-closure hydrologic stability and protection of downstream water quality. • Implement a Surface Water Management Plan during construction, operations, and closure to manage contact and non-contact water, incorporating diversion structures, sediment control, and flow attenuation. • Implement a Metal Leaching and Acid Rock Drainage (ML/ARD) Management Plan consistent with the BC Mines Health Safety and Reclamation Code and BC Guidelines for Metal Leaching and Acid Rock Drainage and MEND 1.20.1 to predict, monitor, and mitigate geochemical risks. • Characterize and manage mine waste geochemistry (e.g., waste rock, tailings, ore stockpiles) through static and kinetic testing to guide appropriate material handling and storage. • Incorporate source control and mine design measures (e.g., tailings storage facilities, water management ponds, active treatment systems) to prevent or minimize contamination of surface and groundwater. • Utilize best management practices and engineered controls for the storage, handling, and use of chemicals and fuels to prevent accidental spills and releases. • Develop a site-wide water management system that maintains a stable water balance and can accommodate extreme precipitation or drought conditions. • Implement surface and groundwater monitoring programs during all phases to detect, assess, and respond to water quality or quantity changes. • Prepare a Closure and Post-Closure Plan that ensures long-term protection of water quality and structural stability of containment facilities. • Apply adaptive management to refine mitigation and management measures based on monitoring results, new information, or changing climatic conditions. • Incorporate Best Achievable Technologies (BAT) for water treatment, diversion, and storage design to minimize environmental risk and improve long-term sustainability.
Biological Environment		
Fish and Fish Habitat / Aquatic Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct loss or change in quantity of aquatic habitat due to mine infrastructure. • Changes in quantity and quality of aquatic habitat resulting from the alteration of stream flows. • Changes in water quality resulting in potential health effects to aquatic resources and aquatic species (e.g., fish, benthic invertebrates, amphibians, and birds). • Changes in the amount, suitability, migration, and distribution of habitats (including sediment quality) for fish or aquatic organisms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid and/or minimize Project direct loss of aquatic habitat through selection of mine pit and waste rock storage locations that do not directly interact with fish-bearing waterbodies. • Incorporate design measures to avoid direct e.g., minimize mine footprint and indirect e.g., instream flow changes through mine design. • Implement appropriate management practices (e.g., Standards and Practices for Instream Works, including fish friendly stream crossings, water intakes and cross streams perpendicular) and environmental management plans (e.g., erosion and sediment control plan). • Develop stewardship plans collaboratively and synergistically with First Nations led initiatives to compensate for unavoidable harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction of fish habitat. • Implement surface water quality management. • Develop Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plans to determine effectiveness of mitigation and implement changes based on adaptive management.
Vegetation and Ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss and/or alteration of ecosystems, vegetation, and wetlands from land clearing and mine construction. • Health effects on vegetation due to changes in air, water, soil quality, and dust deposition. • Deposition of dust on plants and soil, which can result in an uptake of metals to plants, which are then consumed by wildlife. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement appropriate management practices and ecosystem/species management plans. • Avoid and/or minimize Project interaction with sensitive and at risk ecosystem and biodiversity elements (i.e., reduce the size and timing of impacts). • Design for closure by developing returning land use vision and plans manage for invasive plant establishment, and minimize vegetation losses through reuse of existing disturbed areas. • Minimize mine footprint through progressive and interim reclamation. • Implement appropriate management practices and plans to minimize loss of sensitive vegetation/ ecosystems through design, and preserve land capacity for reclamation (soil quality) to endemic ecosystems and minimize potential for health effects (metal uptake). • Develop stewardship plans collaboratively and synergistically with First Nations led initiatives to offset unavoidable effects to listed species e.g., Whitebark Pine. • Implement a returning land use (Reclamation and Closure) Plan incorporating specific end land use objectives. • Implement an air quality and dust control plan. • Implement a storm water runoff control plan.

Component	Potential Effect	Example Management Approach
Biological Environment (cont'd)		
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss and/or alteration of wildlife habitats, including migratory bird and caribou habitat, from land clearing and mine construction. Sensory disturbance to wildlife (light and noise). Disruption of wildlife (e.g., bears and small furbearers) and seasonal movement patterns in regional and local landscapes. Direct mortality of wildlife due to wildlife-vehicle collisions and indirect mortalities from Project operations. Changes to population dynamics, potentially including moose, bears, and small furbearers due to changes to predator-prey dynamics. Health effects on wildlife due to changes in air, water, and soil quality. Loss of riparian habitats affecting waterbirds and amphibians that use lentic and lotic environments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design for closure by developing a returning land use vision and plan for reestablishment of wildlife-supporting ecosystems at the end of mine life. During design and operation, develop collaborative management plans that enhance wildlife-supporting ecosystems and align with First Nations stewardship initiatives. Minimize Project and human-wildlife interactions through effective waste management, traffic management, minimized stray light, and camp hardening. Implement a Reclamation and Closure Plan incorporating targeted end-use objectives such as wildlife habitat restoration. Mitigate habitat loss for migratory birds by reusing existing disturbances where possible and conducting timely reclamation. Conduct habitat and vegetation clearing outside the migratory bird nesting period in compliance with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) Avoidance Guidelines and the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act (1994)</i>. Implement erosion and sediment control measures, such as sedimentation ponds and stabilization practices, to prevent habitat degradation. Develop mitigations informed by best management practices for wildlife protection and habitat conservation. Implement a Traffic Management Plan to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and manage transportation-related disturbance. Implement lighting controls (e.g., direction, shielding, reduced intensity) to minimize light pollution and attraction risks to migratory birds and nocturnal species. Use wildlife deterrents e.g., near waterbodies containing substances harmful to birds and wildlife. Apply activity restriction windows for sensitive wildlife periods (e.g., breeding, denning). Apply exclusion techniques to prevent wildlife access to hazardous or operational areas. Develop and implement monitoring programs based on best available science and RISC standards to verify effectiveness of mitigation measures. Follow the mitigation hierarchy—avoid, minimize, restore, and offset residual impacts where avoidance is not possible.
Social, Health, and Economic Environment		
Community Infrastructure and Services, and Community Well-Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes to and/or maintenance of community and individual health and well-being. Health and safety of workers and the public. Changes to local community services and infrastructure due to either Project demand or Project driven population change. Changes to social well-being associated to changes in income or Project workforce participation, including increased consumption of drugs or alcohol. Changes in risk of sexual and gender-based violence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct community management planning with First Nations, local governments, and interested parties to address the provision of services and potential effects on community health and well-being. Work with local government authorities and emergency service organizations (e.g., health, protective, and fire services) to plan for and adjust to anticipated population changes and associated service demands. Develop community-based monitoring programs incorporating Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) to identify and address differentiated population effects. Integrate GBA Plus into project design, assessment, and engagement processes to ensure inclusive, equitable decision-making. Implement anti-violence, cultural awareness, and sensitivity training for the workforce to promote respectful and safe interactions within the workplace and local communities. Mitigate potential gender-based violence risks by coordinating with community service providers and establishing clear workforce conduct and response policies. Identify and support local and Indigenous employment, contracting, and training opportunities, including partnerships with Indigenous Services Canada programs where applicable. Identify and support employment, contracting, and training opportunities for women and youth. Develop employee occupational health and safety plans aligned with regulatory requirements and best practices. Implement employee assistance programs that provide access to upskilling, financial planning, and mental health or accommodation support. Seek input from First Nations and local communities on returning land use and closure objectives to ensure post-closure land uses align with shared priorities. Implement Reclamation and Closure Plans consistent with agreed-upon land use objectives and community expectations. Plan for workforce transition and closure support, including retraining, severance, or relocation assistance. Implement a Traffic Management Plan to manage community safety and minimize transportation-related impacts.

Component	Potential Effect	Example Management Approach
Social, Health, and Economic Environment (cont'd)		
Human Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to particulate matter concentrations (e.g., PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀), which may cause health risks to the workforce. • Deposition of dust to plants and soil, which can result in the uptake of metals to plants, which are then consumed by people. • Health effects due to changes in water quality. • Increased levels of noise and traffic that can cause stress or harm, such as sleep disturbance or traffic accidents. • Potential effects are related to the Project's potential and perceived impacts to the biophysical environment and to social and economic factors (e.g., related to food security, transmission of knowledge, and employment). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement an air quality and dust control plan. • Implement a water stewardship plan for storm water runoff control plan. • Implement a traffic management plan. • Monitor workers' exposure to air quality / dust factors and utilize enhanced dust controls to minimize health effects from dust exposure.
Employment and Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial and local economic stimuli via Project procurement and contracting for goods, services, and personal services, and consumer spending of employees. • Employment, income, and local government revenue generation and gross domestic product benefits. • Changes to employment, employment income, and training. • Changes to gross domestic product. • Changes to local government revenues and expenditures. • Changes to the wage and non-wage economy due to Project-driven changes in hunting, trapping, and gathering. • Changes to the local population and demographics due to Project-driven labour market changes. • Changes in local inequality due to changes in distribution of income and wages, with potential negative effects on First Nation populations, and particularly women and the elderly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement returning land use (Reclamation and Closure) Plans consistent with returning land use objectives. • Implement skills inventory, training, and skills development with First Nations and local communities. • Conduct employment planning and implement measures to support local training, employment and contracting. • Plan for local procurement of goods and services. • Transition planning for mine workers at the end of mine life. • Support First Nations with a skills inventory, training, and skills development.
Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to opportunities associated with public and tenured land and resources, including changes to the use of and/or access to certain public lands and waters and availability of certain species. • Changes in the ability to access preferred locations used for traditional, cultural and spiritual purposes, including seasonal camps. • Changes to the safe and productive use of the land for traditional purposes by First Nations, including fishing, hunting, trapping, and the gathering and harvesting of plants, including medicinal plants. • Changes in the presence, absence, abundance, quality or spatial distribution of freshwater, terrestrial, or other resources that are currently used for traditional, non-traditional and recreational purposes. • Changes in the quality of experience associated with the current use of lands and resources for traditional, non-traditional and recreational purposes as a result of Project effects such as increased activity in the area, noise, dust, and light. • Changes to Indigenous interests including socio-economic status, community well-being, and cultural sustainability (e.g., the ability to transfer Indigenous Knowledge). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek and implement input on maintaining commercial tenure and recreational access and returning land use objectives. • Implement returning land use (Reclamation and Closure) plans consistent with land use objective. • Work cooperatively with First Nations to identify concerns and develop specific mitigation plans that address use of lands and resources to facilitated ongoing access. • Incorporate Indigenous Knowledge and traditional land use in Project planning. • Maintain an ongoing dialogue with First Nations to identify and recognize that their specific interests and concerns are understood and that such First Nations have the information required to inform consideration of potential effects. • Mitigation as discussed earlier for noise, dust, water quality, traffic, are culturally appropriate. • Develop participation agreements with First Nations.
Visual Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to the visual landscape. • Changes to nighttime ambient light conditions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek and implement input on end land use objectives. • Progressive reclamation. • Use of LEDs and full cutoff fixtures for outdoor lighting.

Component	Potential Effect	Example Management Approach
Social, Health, and Economic Environment (cont'd)		
Physical and Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes to resource integrity and increased or decreased accessibility to palaeontological, archaeological, or historical sites during all Project phases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct an AIA. Develop an archaeology chance find procedure. Implement a heritage resources management plan that outlines any areas where ground disturbance should be avoided and mitigative strategies if disturbance to archaeological sites is anticipated e.g., site alteration permitting if required.
Components of the Environment that are Within the Legislative Authority of the Federal Government		
Fish and Fish Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct loss or change in quantity of aquatic habitat due to mine infrastructure. Changes in the quantity and quality of aquatic habitat resulting from alteration of stream flows. Changes in water quality resulting in potential health effects to aquatic resources and aquatic species (e.g., fish, benthic invertebrates, amphibians, and birds). Changes in the amount, suitability, migration, and distribution of habitats (including sediment quality) for fish or aquatic organisms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid and/or minimize Project direct loss of aquatic habitat through selection of mine pit and waste rock storage locations that do not directly interact with fish-bearing waterbodies. Incorporate design measures to avoid direct, e.g., minimize mine footprint and indirect, e.g., instream flow changes through mine design. Implement appropriate management practices (e.g., Standards and Practices for Instream Works, including fish friendly stream crossings, water intakes and cross streams perpendicular) and environmental management plans (e.g., erosion and sediment control plan). Develop stewardship plans collaboratively and synergistically with First Nations led initiatives to compensate for unavoidable harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction of fish habitat including for the relocation of fish within these areas. Implement surface water quality management. Develop Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plans to determine effectiveness of mitigation and implement changes based on adaptive management.
Aquatic Species at Risk ^a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct loss or change in the quantity of aquatic habitat due to mine infrastructure. Changes in the quantity and quality of aquatic habitat resulting from the alteration of stream flows. Changes in water quality resulting in potential health effects to aquatic resources and aquatic species (e.g., fish, benthic invertebrates, amphibians, and birds). Changes in the amount, suitability, migration, and distribution of habitats (including sediment quality) for fish or aquatic organisms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid and/or minimize Project direct loss of aquatic habitat through the selection of mine pit and waste rock storage locations that do not directly interact with fish-bearing waterbodies. Implement appropriate management practices (e.g., Standards and Practices for Instream Works) and environmental management plans (e.g., erosion and sediment control plan). Implement a fish habitat stewardship plan that considers effects to Sockeye salmon Designated Units 20 and 21, and compensates for unavoidable harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction of fish habitat. Implement surface water quality management.
Migratory Birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss and/or alteration of migratory bird habitat from land clearing and mine construction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigate habitat loss to migratory birds by reusing existing disturbances, where possible, and conducting timely reclamation. Conduct habitat clearing outside of the migratory bird nesting period wherever possible to avoid effects on nesting birds and to comply with Avoidance Guidelines and other provisions of the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act (1994)</i>.
Aeronautical and Marine Navigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential impact to aeronautical navigation from communication towers or utility poles and wires. Potential impact to watercraft navigating near stream crossings or about instream works, e.g., water intakes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement markings or lighting where required. Develop construction and operational plans in consideration of aircraft and boating including potential water body crossings and instream works. Following requirements of minor work orders where required.
Potential Changes Outside of BC and Canada		
Potential Changes Outside of BC Within Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No potential effects are anticipated outside of BC within Canada. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Potential Changes on Federal Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No potential effects are anticipated on federal lands. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Potential Changes Outside of Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No potential effects are anticipated outside of Canada. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

Notes:

AIA = Archaeological Impact Assessment; BC = British Columbia; GHG = greenhouse gas; LOM = life of mine; ML/ARD = metal leaching / acid rock drainage; N/A = not applicable; NO₂ = nitrogen dioxide; PM_{2.5} = fine particulate matter with a diameter of 2.5 microns or less; PM₁₀ = particulate matter with a diameter of 10 microns or less; Project = Baptiste Nickel Project; SARA = *Species at Risk Act (2002)*; SO₂ = sulphur dioxide

^a Excludes marine plants, which will not be impacted by the Project.

TABLE 11.3-1 HISTORIC, CURRENT, AND REASONABLY FORESEEABLE PROJECTS IN THE REGION

Name of Project/ Activity	Dates Active	Proponent (if Applicable)	Distance to Proposed Project
Historic			
Bell Mine	1970 to 1992	Glencore Canada Corp.	52 km
Equity Silver Project	1980 to 1994	Goldcorp Canada Ltd.	87 km
Granisle Mine	1965 to 1982	Glencore Canada Corp.	45 km
Kemess Mine ^a	1998 to 2011	AuRico Metals Inc.	250 km
Pinchi Lake Mine	1940 to 1975	Teck Metals Ltd.	60 km
Current			
Endako Mine	1965 to present ^b	Thompson Creek Metals Company Ltd.	90 km
Mount Milligan Mine	2013 to present	Centerra Gold Inc.	84 km
Ongoing Natural Resource Extraction—Timber Harvesting	Continuous	Multiple	Surrounding Areas
Proposed/Reasonably Foreseeable			
Nithi Mountain Wind Project	2024 to present	Stellat'en First Nation / Innergex	102 km
North Coast Transmission Line	2024 to present	BC Hydro	57 km
Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project	2013 to present	NW Infrastructure Limited Partnership	0 km
Tenas Coal Project	2018 to present	Telkwa Coal Ltd.	113 km

Notes:

EA = environmental assessment

^a The property includes the past producing Kemess South mine, which operated from October 1998 to March 2011; the Kemess Underground Project, which received an Environmental Assessment Certificate in March 2017; and the Kemess East Project, which is currently in the exploration phase.

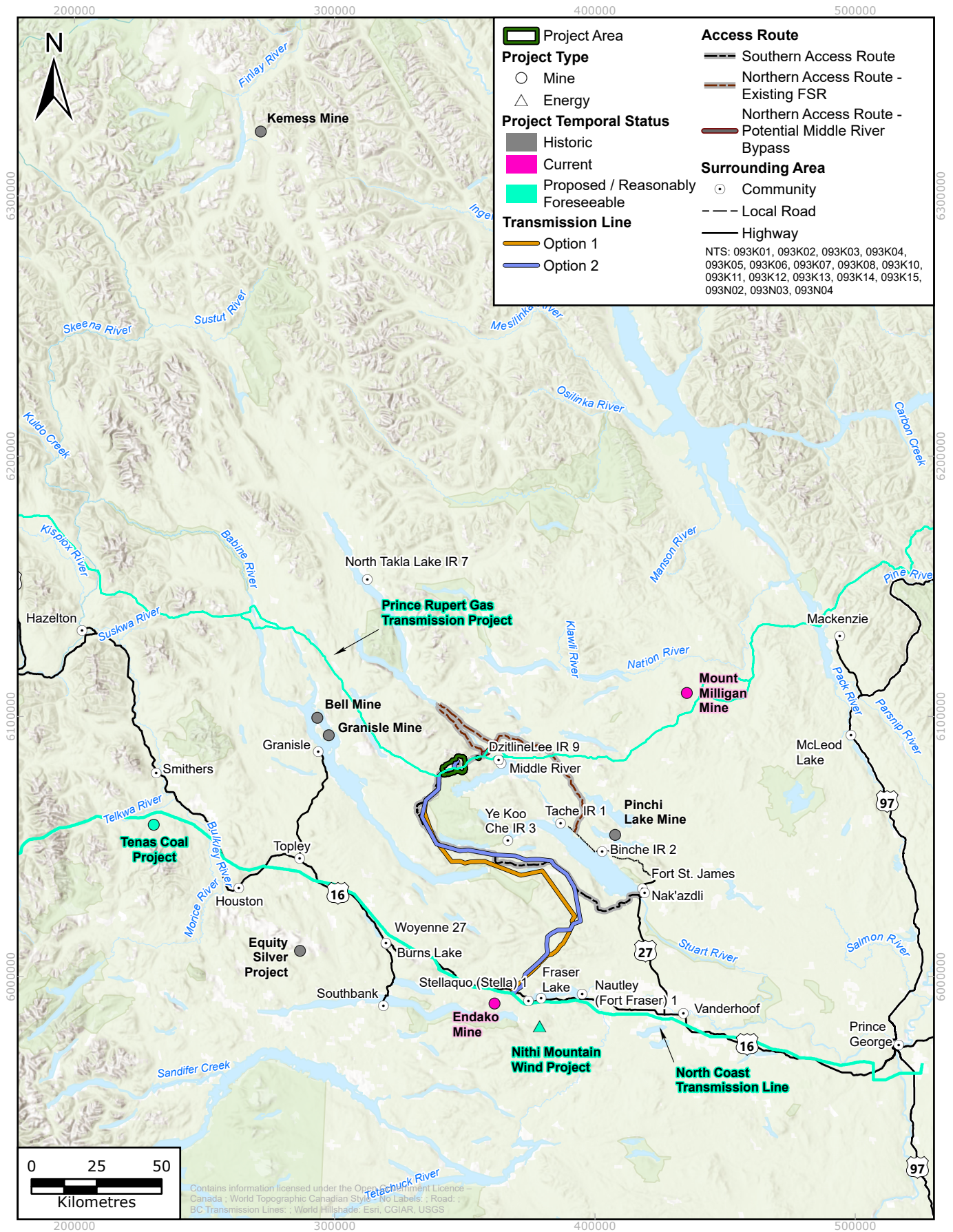
^b The Endako Mine has been in care and maintenance since 2015.

^c The start date for "Proposed/Reasonably Foreseeable" projects generally refer to the date a project entered an EA or Call for Power process.

Table 11.3-1 and Figure 11.3-1 presents historical, active, and reasonably foreseeable projects and activities within the vicinity of the Project that may contribute to cumulative effects at a regional scale based on publicly available information. Other activities that may interact cumulatively with the Project's residual effects include recreational use, guide outfitting, hunting, trapping, commercial recreation, First Nations harvesting and traditional use, forestry, mineral exploration, and transportation.

FPX anticipates ongoing engagement with First Nations, regulatory agencies, and communities of interest to refine the scope and methods of the cumulative effects assessment.

FIGURE 11.3-1 HISTORIC, CURRENT, AND REASONABLY FORESEEABLE PROJECTS IN THE REGION



12. CLOSING

The Baptiste Nickel Project is a proposed greenfield open pit nickel mine located approximately 82 km northwest of Fort St. James, BC. The Project and portions of the Transmission Line and access route are within the territories of the Binche Whut'en, Lake Babine Nation, Nadleh Whut'en, Nak'azdli Whut'en, Stellat'en First Nation, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation. The Project will involve construction, operations, closure, and reclamation of an Open Pit, a Process Plant, and other onsite and offsite mine-related components including road access and a Transmission Line.

Nickel is a critical mineral required for the transition to renewable energy technologies. The Project represents an opportunity to responsibly develop a domestic, low-carbon nickel source that is aligned with First Nations, BC and Canada's critical minerals strategies. It would also contribute substantial benefits to the region, BC, and Canada, including supporting decarbonization and meeting Canada's climate commitments. With an estimated Construction phase of 3 years, and a mine life of 28 years, these benefits would include extensive employment opportunities; partnership and support opportunities with First Nations, and municipal and provincial revenue through taxes, royalties, and other fees.

Based on the Project's anticipated production capacity, it is reviewable under both the BC *EAA* and the federal *IAA*. Through this IPD, FPX is providing an early overview of the Project with the intention that this document will form the basis for the Early Engagement phase of the EA process. The EA process will be initiated when the EAO and IAAC accept the IPD and seek public comments. Regulators, agencies, First Nations, and the public will have the opportunity to provide initial feedback on the Project and its components.

13. REFERENCES

Legislation and Regulations

Canadian Aviation Regulations, 1996, SOR/96-433

Canadian Environmental Protection Act, SC 1999, C 33.

Canadian Navigable Waters Act, RSC 1985, C N-22.

Climate Change Accountability Act, SBC 2007, C 42.

Drinking Water Protection Act, SBC 2001, C 9.

Drinking Water Protection Regulation, BC Reg 237/2018.

Environmental Assessment Act, SBC 2018, C 51.

Environmental Emergency Regulations, 2019, SOR/2019-51.

Environmental Management Act, SBC 2003, C 53.

Explosives Act, RSC 1985, C E-17.

First Nations Land Management Act, SC 1999, C 24.

Fisheries Act, RSC 1985, C F-14.

Forest Act, RSBC 1996, C 157.

Forest and Range Practices Act, SC 2002, C 69.

Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act, RSBC 1996, C 159.

Greenhouse Gas Emission Reporting Regulation, BC Reg 249/2015.

Greenhouse Gas Industrial Reporting and Control Act, SBC 2014, C 29.

Hazardous Waste Regulation, BC Reg 42/2024.

Heritage Conservation Act, RSBC 1996, C 187.

Impact Assessment Act, SC 2019, C 28, s 1.

Indian Act, RSC 1985, C I-5.

Land Act, RSBC 1996, C 245.

Local Government Act, RSBC 1996, C 1.

Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations, SOR/2002/222.

Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994, SC 1994, C 22.

Mines Act, RSBC 1996, C 293.

Nuclear Safety and Control Act, SC 1997, C 9.

Physical Activities Regulations, SOR/2019-285.

Public Health Act, SBC 2008, C 28.

Radiocommunication Act, RSC 1985, C R-2.

Reviewable Projects Regulation, BC Reg 243/2019.

Species at Risk Act, SC 2002, C 29. s 15.3.

Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, SC 1992, C 34.

Water Sustainability Act, SBC 2014, C 15.

Wildlife Act, RSBC 1996, C 488.

Other Sources

Allnorth Consultants Ltd. 2013. *Decar Nickel Property EBS Program 2012–2013 Baseline Study Report Terrestrial Wildlife*. Prepared for Cliffs Natural Resources Exploration Canada Inc. by Allnorth Consultants Ltd., Vancouver, BC.

Artemis Gold Inc. 2024. *Artemis Gold Provides Q1 Update on Blackwater Mine Construction Progress*. Released 24 April 2024. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.artemisgoldinc.com/news/media-releases/2024/artemis-gold-provides-q1-update-on-blackwater-mine-construction-progress>.

BC Conservation Data Centre (British Columbia Conservation Data Centre). 2024. *BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer*. BC Ministry of Environment, Victoria, BC. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <http://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/eswp>.

BC Coroners Service (British Columbia Coroners Service). 2024. *Unregulated Drug Deaths—Summary*. Accessed September 2025. Retrieved from: <https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiMDg2ZGZmOGItZGQ1Ny00NTY3LThiYmEtYmExN2M0YmFjYTUxIiwidCI6IjZmZGI1MjAwLTNkMGQtNGE4YS1iMDM2LWQzNjg1ZTM1OWFkYyJ9>.

BC Council of Forest Industries (British Columbia Council of Forest Industries). 2025. *Competitiveness and Sustainability in the BC Forest Sector: A Comparison Across International Forest Jurisdictions*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://cofi.org/wp-content/uploads/OKelly-Acumen-Competitiveness-Sustainability-Study-in-the-BC-Forest-Sector-Technical-Report.pdf>.

BC EAO (British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office). 2025. *Information Bulletin: Relationship between the Cumulative Effects Framework and Environmental Assessment*. Accessed November 2025. Retrieved from: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/cumulative-effects/guidance/cef_bulletin_relationship_between_cumulative_effects_framework_and_environmental_assessment.pdf.

BC Parks (British Columbia Parks). 2024a. *Rubyrock Lake Park*. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://bcparks.ca/rubyrock-lake-park/>.

BC Parks. 2024b. *Trembleur Lake Park*. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://bcparks.ca/trembleur-lake-park/>.

BC Parks. 2024c. *Sutherland River Protected Area*. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://bcparks.ca/sutherland-river-protected-area/>.

- Black Press Media. 2024. *10 First Nations primary care centres set to welcome patients in BC*. Released 3 September 2024. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www.northislandgazette.com/news/10-first-nations-primary-care-centres-set-to-welcome-patients-in-bc-7515960>.
- Brown, D. 2002. "Carrier Sekani Self-Government in Context: Land and Resources." *Western Geography* 12:21-67. Canada.
- Canada Census. 1921. *Bear Lake and North Tacla Lake*.
- Canadian Forest Industries. 2023. *Sinclar permanently curtails production at Nechako Lumber*. Industry News. Released 3 August 2023. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.woodbusiness.ca/sinclar-permanently-curtails-production-at-nechako-lumber/>.
- Canadian Forest Industries. 2025. *Industry News: What Happened in Vanderhoof After the Sawmill Closed*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.woodbusiness.ca/what-happened-in-vanderhoof-after-the-sawmill-closed/>.
- CBC News. 2024. *West Fraser Timber to permanently shutter sawmill in Fraser Lake, BC, cutting 175 jobs*. CBC News. Accessed November 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/west-fraser-timber-to-permanently-shutter-sawmill-in-fraser-lake-b-c-cutting-175-jobs-1.7091613>.
- CDA (Canadian Dam Association). 2013. *Dam Safety Guidelines 2007 (2013 Edition)*. Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication Data.
- CIRNAC (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada). 2025a. *First Nations Profiles, Binche Whut'en*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=730&lang=eng.
- CIRNAC. 2025b. *First Nations Profiles, Lake Babine Nation*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=607&lang=eng.
- CIRNAC. 2025c. *First Nations Profiles, Nak'azdli Whut'en*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=614&lang=eng.
- CIRNAC. 2025d. *First Nations Profiles, Stelat'en First Nation*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=613&lang=eng.
- CIRNAC. 2025e. *First Nations Profiles, Takla Nation*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=608&lang=enghttps://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=608&lang=eng.
- CIRNAC. 2025f. *First Nations Profiles, Tl'azt'en Nation*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=617&lang=eng.

- CIRNAC. 2025g. *First Nations Profiles, Yekooche First Nation*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=728&lang=eng.
- COSEWIC. 2017. *COSEWIC Assessment and Status Report on the Sockeye Salmon *Oncorhynchus Nerka*, 24 Designatable Units in the Fraser River Drainage Basin, in Canada*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: <http://www.registrelepsararegistry.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=en&n=24F7211B-1>.
- COSEWIC (Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada). 2023. *COSEWIC Annual Report 2022 to 2023*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry/cosewic-annual-reports/2022-2023.html>.
- Coulson, C.H., and Q. Obedkoff. 1998. *British Columbia Streamflow Inventory*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/acat/public/viewReport.do?reportId=2227>.
- CSFN. 2025. *Our Story*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.csfns.ca/about/our-story/>.
- CSTC (Carrier Sekani Tribal Council). 2004. *Strategic Plan for a Watershed Based Approach to Facilitating First Nations' Co-Management of the Anadromous Resources of the Upper Fraser Watershed*. Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: https://upperfraser.ca/docs/resource/UFFCA_Strategic_Plan_Final.pdf.
- Dewhirst, J. 1995. *An Aboriginal Sustenance Impact Assessment of the Kemess South Gold-Copper Project: A Status Report*. Prepared for El Condor Resources.
- District of Fort St. James. 2021. *2021—2026 Tourism Strategy*. Released 15 June 2021. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: <https://fortstjames.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/150/?preview=80256>.
- Downing, R., J. Iverson, S. McPhail, S. Robinson, and J. Stone. 2020. *Fort St. James CED Assessment*. Released March 2020. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: <https://fortstjames.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/150/?preview=83098>.
- Duran, E. 2019. *Fort St. James Declares Financial Crisis Following Sawmill Closure*. CBC News. Updated 17 July 2019. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/fort-st-james-financial-crisis-sawmill-closure-1.5215996>.
- ECCC (Environment and Climate Change Canada). 2016. *Guidelines for the Assessment of Alternatives for Mine Waste Disposal*. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-pollution/sources-industry/mining-effluent/metal-diamond-mining-effluent/tailings-impoundment-areas/guidelines-alternatives-mine-waste-disposal.html>.

- ECCC. 2020. *Strategic Assessment of Climate Change*. Accessed April 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/conservation/assessments/strategic-assessments/climate-change.html>.
- ECCC. 2024a. *Emission Factors and Reference Values*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/pricing-pollution-how-it-will-work/output-based-pricing-system/federal-greenhouse-gas-offset-system/emission-factors-reference-values.html>.
- ECCC. 2024b. *Global Warming Potentials*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/greenhouse-gas-emissions/quantification-guidance/global-warming-potentials.html>.
- EMLI (British Columbia Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation). 2022. *Technology Readiness Assessment – Interim Technical Guidance*. Retrieved from: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/waste-management/industrial-waste/industrial-waste/mining-smelt-energy/guidance-documents/min-21_interim_guidance_on_technology_readiness_assessment.pdf.
- EMLI. 2024. *Health, Safety and Reclamation Code (HSRC) for Mines in British Columbia*. April 2024. Victoria, BC. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/mineral-exploration-mining/documents/health-and-safety/code-review/minescode_april_2024_web.pdf.
- Firelight. 2017. *Industrial Camps and Indigenous Communities: Promoting Healthy Communities in Settings of Industrial Change*. Accessed October 2024. Retrieved from: <https://firelight.ca/news/industrial-camps-and-indigenous-communities-promoting-healthy-communities-in-settings-of-industrial-change>.
- First Nations Energy and Mining Council. 2024. *First Nations Critical Minerals Strategy*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: https://fns.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2024March4_FNLC_PR_re_CM_Strategy_FINAL_w-Report.pdf.
- FNHA (First Nations Health Authority). 2024. *First Nations-led Primary Health Care Initiative*. Accessed September 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/health-system/first-nations-led-primary-health-care-initiative>.
- FPX (FPX Nickel Corp.). 2025. *Baptiste Nickel Project Engagement Plan*. Prepared for FPX Nickel Corporation by ERM Consultants Canada Ltd., Vancouver, BC.
- Government of BC (Government of British Columbia). n.d. *Phase 1: BC Critical Minerals Strategy*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/mineral-exploration-mining/bc-geological-survey/critical-minerals/phase_1_bc_critical_minerals_-_digital.pdf.
- Government of BC. 1999. *Fort St. James Land and Resource Management Plan*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/natural-resource-use/land-water-use/crown-land/land-use-plans-and-objectives/omineca-region/fortstjames-lrmp/fortstjames_lrmp_plan.pdf.

- Government of BC. 2005. *Yekooche First Nation Agreement-in-Principle*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/agreements/aip_yekooche.pdf.
- Government of BC. 2023a. *Net-Zero New Industry Intentions Paper*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/climate-change/ind/nzni/net-zero-new-industry-intentions-paper.pdf>.
- Government of BC. 2023b. *Takla Nation*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/takla-lake-first-nation>.
- Government of BC. 2023c. *Blackwater Mine Moves Forward, Creating Jobs, Economic Opportunities*. News Release. Released 9 March 2023. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2023EMLI0008-000279>.
- Government of BC. 2023d. *Integrated Primary, Community Care Facility Coming to Vanderhoof*. News Release. Released 13 November 2023. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2023HLTH0139-001771>.
- Government of BC. 2024a. *Binche Whut'en*. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/bi-nche-first-nations>.
- Government of BC. 2024b. *Lake Babine Nation*. Accessed November 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/lake-babine-nation>.
- Government of BC. 2024c. *Nak'azdli Band*. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/nak-azdli-band>.
- Government of BC. 2024d. *Tl'azt'en Nation*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/tl-azt-en-nation>.
- Government of BC. 2024e. *Yekooche First Nation*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/yekooche-first-nation>.
- Government of BC. 2024f. *Schools in Nechako Lakes School District*. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://studentsuccess.gov.bc.ca/schools/in-school-district/091>.

- Government of BC. 2025a. *Carrier Sekani Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement*. March 31. Retrieved from: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/agreements/carrier_sekani_pathway_forward_30_agreement.pdf.
- Government of BC. 2025b. *Land & Forest: Trends in Timber Harvest in BC*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.env.gov.bc.ca/soe/indicators/land/timber-harvest.html>.
- Government of Canada. 2019. *Impact Assessment Cooperation Agreement between Canada and British Columbia*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/corporate/acts-regulations/legislation-regulations/canada-british-columbia-impact-assessment-cooperation/canada-bc-cooperation-agreement.html>.
- Government of Canada. 2024. "Subsections 2(1), 42(2) and 68(2), List of Wildlife Species at Risk." In: Species at Risk Act. *Schedule 1*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: https://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/species/schedules_e.cfm?id=1.
- Harris and Dreyer. 2022. *22A0141-002: PFR of FPX Nickel's Decar Property Footprint*. Unpublished.
- Horrell. 2022. *22A0141-001: PFR of 2022 Target Areas within FPX Nickel's Decar Properties*. Unpublished.
- Hu, K., B. Klinkenberg, W.Q. Gan, and A.K. Slaunwhite. 2022. "Spatial-temporal Trends in the Risk of Illicit Drug Toxicity Death in British Columbia." *BMC Public Health* 22, 2121. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-022-14586-8>.
- IEA (The International Agency). 2025. *Nickel: Outlook for key transition minerals*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.iea.org/reports/nickel-2>.
- Jeness, D. 1937. *1937 The Sekani Indians of British Columbia*. National Museum of Canada, Bulletin 84. King's Printer, Ottawa.
- Jokinen, L., et al. 2015. *Community Health Risks and Opportunities Associate with Resource Development in Tl'azt'en Nation, Canada*. Accessed October 2024. Retrieved from: <https://firelight.ca/news/industrial-camps-and-indigenous-communities-promoting-healthy-communities-in-settings-of-industrial-change>.
- Kawei. 2024. *AIA of FPX Nickel's Baptiste Nickel Project—Upper Baptiste Lake Area*. Unpublished.
- Lake Babine Nation. 2024. *2024 Lake Babine Nation Elections Updates*. Accessed November 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.lakebabine.com/2024-lake-babine-nation-election-updates/>.
- Mining Association of Canada. 2014. *Towards Sustainable Mining—Energy and GHG Emissions Management Reference Guide*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: https://mining.ca/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/2021/06/EnergyandGreenhouseGasEmissionsManagementReferenceGuide2014.pdf.
- Mining Association of Canada. 2017. *Guide to the Management of Tailings Facilities – Third Edition*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: https://mining.ca/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/2021/06/MAC-Guide-to-the-Management-of-Tailings-Facilities-2017_0.pdf.

- Mining Industry Human Resources Council. 2025. *Mining Needs You: Career Profiles*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://miningneedsyou.ca/career-profiles/>.
- Mining.com. 2024. *Royal Gold strikes deal with Centerra Gold to boost Mount Milligan mine life*. Released 14 February 2024. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.mining.com/subscribe-login/?id=1139484>.
- Ministry of Energy and Mines. 1998. *Guidelines For Metal Leaching And Acid Rock Drainage At Minesites In British Columbia*. Retrieved from: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/mineral-exploration-mining/documents/permitting/mine-exploration-and-discovery/ml-ard_guidelines.pdf.
- Ministry of Health. 2017. *BC Guidelines For Industrial Camps Regulation*. Retrieved from: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/keeping-bc-healthy-safe/industrial-camps/bc_guidelines_for_industrial_camps_regulation.pdf.
- Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills. 2023. *2023 British Columbia Major Projects Inventory Fourth Quarter 2023*. Labour Market Development Division. Accessed September 2025. Retrieved from: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economic-development/economic-development/develop-economic-sectors/mpi/mpi-2023/mpi_report_q4_2023.pdf.
- MoF (Ministry of Forests). 1999. *Fort St. James Land & Resource Management Plan*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/crown-land-water/land-use-planning/regions/omineca/fort-st-james-lrmp> (accessed September 2024).
- Nadleh Whut'en. 2024. Homepage. Accessed April 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www.nadleh.com/>.
- Nak'azdli Whut'en First Nation. 2024. Homepage. Accessed April 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www.nakazdliwhuten.ca/>.
- Nak'azdli Whut'en. 2021. *Planning Report A Companion Document to the Nak'azdli Land Stewardship Plan*. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www.nakazdliwhuten.ca/sites/default/files/2023-04/Nakazdli%20LSP%20Report%20Ver%201.0%20February2022.pdf>.
- Natural Resources Canada. 2022. *The Canadian Critical Minerals Strategy*. Ottawa: Government of Canada. December.
- Natural Resources Canada. 2023. *Critical Minerals Research, Development and Demonstration Program*. Accessed 27 August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/campaign/critical-minerals-in-canada/federal-support-for-critical-mineral-projects-and-value-chains/critical-minerals-research-development-and-demonstration-program.html>.
- Natural Resources Canada. 2025. *Nickel Facts*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://natural-resources.canada.ca/our-natural-resources/minerals-mining/mining-data-statistics-and-analysis/minerals-metals-facts/nickel-facts/20519>.
- Paul, B. 2023. *New Fort St. James Mill Rolls Out First Load of Lumber*. Burns Lake Lakes District News. Released 19 April 2023. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.burnslakelakesdistrictnews.com/news/new-fort-st-james-mill-rolls-out-first-load-of-lumber-6320714>.

- Paul, B. 2024. *Moon River Capital to acquire stake in Endako Molybdenum Mine near Fraser Lake*. Interior News. Released 9 May 2024. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.interior-news.com/local-news/moon-river-capital-to-acquire-stake-in-endako-molybdenum-mine-near-fraser-lake-7356119>.
- Pawliw, B. 2024. *New Stuart Lake Hospital in Fort Saint James Slated to Open in Fall of 2025*. My Prince George Now. Released 14 March 2024. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.myprincegeorgenow.com/193864/news/new-stuart-lake-hospital-in-fort-saint-james-slated-to-open-in-fall-of-2025/>.
- Polar Geoscience Ltd. 2018. *Terrain Hazard Assessment*. Prepared for FPX Nickel Corp. by Polar Geoscience Ltd., Squamish, BC.
- Province of BC (Province of British Columbia). 2024. *Electricity Emission Intensity Factors for Grid-Connected Entities*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change/industry/reporting/quantify/electricity>.
- Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN). 2024. *Fort St. James Rural Official Community Plan*. https://www.rdbn.bc.ca/application/files/4617/3326/0722/Area_C_OCP_Sch_A.pdf.
- Shas-Ti Environmental LP. 2023. *2022 Decar Wildlife Data Summary Report*. Prepared for FPX Nickel Corp. by Shas-Ti Environmental LP, Fort St. James, BC.
- Shas-Ti Environmental LP. 2024. *2022–2023 Baptiste Nickel Wildlife Data Summary Report DRAFT*. Prepared for FPX Nickel Corp. by Shas-Ti Environmental LP, Fort St. James, BC.
- Shas-Ti Environmental LP. 2025. *Whitebark Pine Management Plan*. Prepared for FPX Nickel Corp. by Shas-Ti Environmental LP, Fort St. James, BC.
- Shaw L.R., and J. Young. 2012. "Ethnobotany of Tl'azt'en Nation: Plant Use and Gathering Site Characteristics." *Ethnobiology Letters* 3: 1–12.
- Statistics Canada. 2023. *Census Profile, 2021 Census*. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&DGUIDlist=2021A0006590296&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0>.
- Statistics Canada. 2023. *Census Profile, 2021 Census*. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=Woyenne%2027&DGUIDlist=2021A00055951827&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0>.
- Statistics Canada. 2023. *Census Profile, 2021 Census*. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=Nak%27azdli&DGUIDlist=2021A00055951803&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0>.
- Statistics Canada. 2023. *Census Profile, 2021 Census*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&DGUIDlist=2021A00055951802&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1,4&HEADERlist=0>.

- Statistics Canada. 2023. Table. *Census Profile*. 2021 Census of Population. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2021001. Ottawa, ON. Released 15 November 2023. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>.
- Stellat'en First Nation. 2024. *Community News: Fraser Lake Sawmill Closing*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.stellaten.ca/fraser-lake-sawmill-closing/>.
- Stellat'en First Nation. 2025. *Homepage*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.stellaten.ca/>.
- Takla Nation. 2024. *Takla Nation Website*. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://www.taklafn.ca/>.
- TI'azt'en Nation. 2024. *Homepage*. Accessed April 2024. Retrieved from: <https://tlaztensation.ca/>.
- TI'azt'en Nation. 2024. *Our Story*. Accessed September 2024. Retrieved from: <https://tlaztensation.ca/our-story/>.
- West Fraser. 2024. *West Fraser Announces Closure of Fraser Lake Sawmill*. Accessed July 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www.westfraser.com/investors/news/news-releases/west-fraser-announces-closure-fraser-lake-sawmill>.
- WLRS (Ministry of Water Land and Resource Stewardship). 2005. *Rubyrock Lake Provincial Park, Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan, Omineca Region 2005*. 2005. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: https://nrs.objectstore.gov.bc.ca/kuwyyf/rubyrock_lake_pk_pszp_20051031_85464c9a54.pdf.
- Yekooche First Nation. 2024. *Homepage*. Accessed April 2024. Retrieved from: <https://yekooche.com/>.
- Yinka Dene Language Institute. n.d. *About the Dakelh Language*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://ydli.org/about-dakelh>.

APPENDIX A ENGAGEMENT PLAN



FPX Nickel Corp.
TSX-V:FPX

Baptiste Nickel Project

Engagement Plan

PREPARED BY
ERM Consultants Canada Ltd.

DATE
January 2026

REFERENCE
0689082



CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION	1-1
1.1	COMPANY CONTACT INFORMATION	1-1
2.	PROJECT OVERVIEW	2-1
2.1	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	2-1
2.2	PROJECT LOCATION	2-1
3.	ENGAGEMENT PRINCIPLES	3-1
3.1	PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES	3-1
3.2	FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT PRINCIPLES	3-2
3.2.1	First Nations Outcomes	3-3
4.	ENGAGEMENT APPROACH	4-1
4.1	ENGAGEMENT PLANNING	4-2
4.2	ENGAGEMENT TRACKING	4-3
4.2.1	Feedback and Grievance Mechanisms	4-4
5.	ENGAGEMENT APPROACH WITH FIRST NATIONS	5-1
5.1	EARLY ENGAGEMENT	5-1
5.1.1	Community Engagement	5-2
5.1.2	Mine Closure Visioning Workshops	5-2
5.2	GOVERNANCE AND AGREEMENTS	5-3
5.3	INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE	5-5
5.3.1	Incorporating Indigenous Knowledge into Initial Project Design	5-6
6.	FIRST NATION ENGAGEMENT	6-1
6.1	FIRST NATION LEADERSHIP AND TECHNICAL TABLES	6-1
6.2	BINCHE WHUT’EN	6-6
6.2.1	Relevant Agreements	6-7
6.2.2	Engagement to Date	6-8
6.2.3	Issues and Interests	6-8
6.2.4	Planned Early Engagement Phase	6-10
6.3	LAKE BABINE NATION	6-10
6.3.1	Relevant Agreements	6-12
6.3.2	Engagement to Date	6-12
6.3.3	Issues and Interests	6-13
6.3.4	Planned Early Engagement Phase	6-14
6.4	NADLEH WHUT’EN	6-15
6.4.1	Relevant Agreements	6-15
6.4.2	Engagement to Date	6-16

6.4.3	Issues and Interests	6-17
6.4.4	Planned Early Engagement Phase	6-18
6.5	NAK’AZDLI WHUT’EN	6-18
6.5.1	Relevant Agreements	6-19
6.5.2	Engagement to Date	6-20
6.5.3	Issues and Interests	6-20
6.5.4	Planned Early Engagement Phase	6-22
6.6	STELLAT’EN FIRST NATION	6-23
6.6.1	Relevant Agreements	6-23
6.6.2	Engagement to Date	6-24
6.6.3	Issues and Interests	6-25
6.6.4	Planned Early Engagement Phase	6-25
6.7	TAKLA NATION	6-26
6.7.1	Relevant Agreements	6-27
6.7.2	Engagement to Date	6-28
6.7.3	Issues and Interests	6-28
6.7.4	Planned Early Engagement Phase	6-30
6.8	TL’AZT’EN NATION	6-30
6.8.1	Relevant Agreements	6-31
6.8.2	Engagement to Date	6-32
6.8.3	Issues and Interests	6-33
6.8.4	Planned Early Engagement Phase	6-33
6.9	YEKOOCHÉ FIRST NATION	6-36
6.9.1	Relevant Agreements	6-37
6.9.2	Engagement to Date	6-38
6.9.3	Issues and Interests	6-38
6.9.4	Planned Early Engagement Phase	6-40
7.	PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT	7-1
7.1	MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC	7-1
7.1.1	Engagement to Date	7-1
7.1.2	General Public Issues and Interests	7-1
7.2	TENURE HOLDERS	7-4
7.2.1	Engagement to Date	7-5
7.2.2	Tenure Holders’ Issues and Interests	7-5
7.3	PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS	7-6
7.3.1	Engagement to Date	7-7
7.3.2	Private Property Owners’ Issues and Interests	7-8
7.4	OTHER PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS	7-9
7.4.1	Other Public Interests and Issues	7-9
7.5	PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC	7-10
8.	ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENTS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES	8-1
8.1	GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES	8-1
8.2	LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	8-1
8.2.1	Engagement to Date	8-2

8.2.2	Local Government Issues and Interests	8-4
8.2.3	Planned Early Engagement with Local Government Agencies	8-6
8.3	PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES	8-6
8.3.1	Engagement to Date	8-7
8.3.2	Planned Engagement with Provincial and Federal Government Agencies	8-11
9.	DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING	9-1
10.	REFERENCES	10-1

APPENDIX A	CONCORDANCE WITH BC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICE ENGAGEMENT PLAN GUIDELINES
APPENDIX B	FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE 1.1-1	PROJECT PROPONENT INFORMATION	1-2
TABLE 4-1	MECHANISMS OF ENGAGEMENT	4-1
TABLE 4.1-1	FIRST NATION TERRITORIES IN THE VICINITY OF THE PROJECT	4-3
TABLE 5.1-1	FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT FORUMS	5-1
TABLE 5.1-2	PROJECT FIRST NATION GOVERNANCE ACTIVITIES AND AGREEMENTS	5-4
TABLE 6-1	SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT WITH FIRST NATIONS	6-2
TABLE 6.2-1	BINCHE WHUT’EN FIRST NATION CONTACTS	6-7
TABLE 6.2-2	SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY BINCHE WHUT’ENNE	6-8
TABLE 6.2-3	PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH BINCHE WHUT’EN	6-10
TABLE 6.3-1	LAKE BABINE NATION CONTACTS	6-11
TABLE 6.3-2	SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY LAKE BABINE NATION	6-13
TABLE 6.3-3	PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH LAKE BABINE NATION	6-14
TABLE 6.4-1	NADLEH WHUT’EN KEY CONTACTS	6-15
TABLE 6.4-2	SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY NADLEH WHUT’EN	6-17
TABLE 6.4-3	PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH NADLEH WHUT’EN	6-18
TABLE 6.5-1	NAK’AZDLI WHUT’EN NATION CONTACTS	6-19
TABLE 6.5-2	SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY NAK’AZDLI WHUT’EN	6-21
TABLE 6.5-3	PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH NAK’AZDLI WHUT’EN	6-22
TABLE 6.6-1	STELLAT’EN FIRST NATION CONTACTS	6-23
TABLE 6.6-2	SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY STELLAT’EN FIRST NATION	6-25
TABLE 6.6-3	PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH STELLAT’EN FIRST NATION	6-25
TABLE 6.7-1	TAKLA NATION CONTACTS	6-27
TABLE 6.7-2	SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY TAKLA NATION	6-29

TABLE 6.7-3	PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH TAKLA NATION	6-30
TABLE 6.8-1	TL'AZT'EN NATION CONTACTS	6-31
TABLE 6.8-2	SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY TL'AZT'EN NATION	6-34
TABLE 6.8-3	PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH TL'AZT'EN NATION	6-36
TABLE 6.9-1	YEKOOCHÉ FIRST NATION CONTACTS	6-37
TABLE 6.9-2	SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY YEKOOCHÉ FIRST NATION	6-38
TABLE 6.9-3	PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH YEKOOCHÉ FIRST NATION	6-40
TABLE 7.1-1	GENERAL PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES UNDERTAKEN BY FPX	7-2
TABLE 7.1-2	PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE ISSUES AND INTERESTS RAISED	7-3
TABLE 7.2-1	POTENTIALLY AFFECTED TENURE HOLDERS	7-4
TABLE 7.2-2	PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE INTERESTS AND CONCERNS RAISED	7-6
TABLE 7.3-1	PRIVATE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT TRANQUILITY BAY ON TREMBLEUR LAKE	7-6
TABLE 7.3-2	ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES TO DATE WITH PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS	7-7
TABLE 7.3-3	SUMMARY OF ISSUES AND INTERESTS RAISED BY PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS	7-8
TABLE 7.4-1	LIST OF PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR ENGAGEMENT	7-9
TABLE 7.4-2	PUBLIC INTERESTS AND ISSUES	7-10
TABLE 7.5-1	PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC	7-11
TABLE 8.2-1	LIST OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS IDENTIFIED FOR ENGAGEMENT	8-1
TABLE 8.2-2	SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS	8-2
TABLE 8.2-3	LOCAL GOVERNMENT ISSUES AND INTERESTS	8-5
TABLE 8.2-4	PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	8-6
TABLE 8.3-1	FEDERAL, PROVINCIAL, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES INVOLVED	8-7
TABLE 8.3-2	SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT WITH PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS	8-7
TABLE 8.3-3	PLANNED ENGAGEMENT WITH PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS	8-12

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE 2.1-1	BAPTISTE NICKEL PROJECT LOCATION	2-2
FIGURE 2.2-1	PROJECT COMPONENTS	2-4

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BC	British Columbia
CIRNAC	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
CSFN	Carrier Sekani First Nations
CSTC	Carrier Sekani Tribal Council
DFO	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
DPD	Detailed Project Description
EA	Environmental Assessment
EAA	<i>Environmental Assessment Act, SBC 2018, c.51</i>
EAO	Environmental Assessment Office
EP	Engagement Plan
EV	Electric Vehicle
FPX	FPX Nickel Corp.
FPIC	Free, prior, and informed consent
IAA	<i>Impact Assessment Act</i>
IAAC	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
IBA	Impact and Benefit Agreement
IPD	Initial Project Description
LSA	Local Study Area
MHP	Mixed hydroxide precipitate
MoA	Memorandum of Agreement
MoF	Ministry of Forests
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
PFS	Pre-feasibility study
RDBN	Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
the Project	The Baptiste Nickel Project
UFFCA	Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
UNGPs	United Nations Guiding Principles
WLRS	Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship

SYMBOLS AND UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

ha	hectare
km	kilometre
km ²	square kilometre
kt/d	kilotonnes per day
Mt	megatonne
Mt/year	megatonnes per year
tpd	tonnes per day

1. INTRODUCTION

FPX Nickel Corp. (FPX) is working to advance and initiate early engagement and baseline data collection to inform the design of the Baptiste Nickel Project (the Project) in preparation for entering the regulatory approval process. This Engagement Plan (EP) has been developed to support engagement with First Nations, stakeholders, the public and government agencies in informing this process at an early stage of Project design. It is focused on the Project Area and proposed offsite linear infrastructure (access road options and Transmission Line).

The purpose of this EP is to provide a summary of all engagement conducted prior to the start of the Early Engagement phase of British Columbia's (BC) Environmental Assessment (EA) process, and to outline FPX's proposed strategic approach for the entire Early Engagement phase of the Project. As required under BC's *Environmental Assessment Act*, SBC, c.51 (EAA) Early Engagement Policy¹, the EP accompanies the Initial Project Description (IPD)². The IPD provides an early Project overview intended to support engagement with First Nations, government agencies, and the public to determine EA process requirements and the design of the Project. Please refer to the IPD for a more detailed overview of the proposed Project.

While in many respects, the engagement process around the Project is still in its early phase, early baseline studies and workshops with First Nations have identified several key community priorities, including:

- Protection of the environment (land and water) and species of special importance, such as salmon, moose, and caribou;
- Promotion of economic opportunities for local communities and First Nations; and
- Respect for First Nations rights and culture.

This EP is intended to meet the requirements under Section 13 of the EAA and has been developed consistent with the BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) Early Engagement Policy and other guidance documents³. Along with the IPD, the EAO's approval of this EP will commence the Early Engagement phase of the regulatory process. This Early Engagement phase will support ongoing meaningful engagement on the Project with First Nations, the public, municipalities, provincial and federal government agencies, and other stakeholders.

1.1 COMPANY CONTACT INFORMATION

A summary of the Project proponent (FPX) is presented in Table 1.1-1.

¹ EAO. 2024. Early Engagement Policy. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/environmental-assessments/guidance-documents/2018-act/early_engagement_policy_version_1.pdf.

² The Project is reviewable under BC's *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA; 2018), as well as Canada's *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA; 2019). Only BC requires an Engagement Plan to accompany the Initial Project Description.

³ EAO 2019. Guidance Documents Related to Environmental Assessments. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/environmental-assessments/environmental-assessment-process/guidance-materials> (accessed July 2024).

TABLE 1.1-1 PROJECT PROPONENT INFORMATION

Baptiste Nickel Project – FPX Nickel Corp.	
Proposed Project Name	Baptiste Nickel Project
Proponent Name	FPX Nickel Corp.
Website	https://fpxnickel.com
Primary Contact Information	
Name	Nigel Fisher
Title	Vice President, Environment
Email	nfisher@fpxnickel.com
Secondary Contact Information	
Name	Tim Bekhuys
Title	Senior Vice President, Environment and Sustainability
Email	tbekhuys@fpxnickel.com

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

2.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

FPX is proposing to construct and operate the Baptiste Nickel Project (the Project), a greenfield open pit nickel mine located 80 kilometres (km) northwest of Fort St. James, BC (Figure 2.1-1). The Project represents an opportunity to responsibly develop a domestic, low-carbon nickel source that is aligned with First Nations', BC's and Canada's Critical Minerals Strategy. The Project will involve construction, operations, closure, and reclamation of an open pit, a processing plant, and other onsite and offsite mine-related components.

The Project has a planned operational mine life of 28 years, with an estimated average annual processing rate of 108,000 tonnes per day of ore (a mining rate of 60 million tonnes [Mt]/year) for the first 5 years (Phase 1), increasing to an estimated average annual processing rate of 162,000 per day of ore (a mining rate of 120 Mt per year) thereafter (Phase 2). The Project will produce two nickel co-products: with at least 90 (%) of the contained nickel will be high-grade awaruite (Ni₃Fe) concentrate (in briquette form) and less than 10% will be a mixed hydroxide precipitate (MHP) product. The nickel awaruite concentrate will be marketed directly to stainless steel producers or can be further refined to produce battery grade nickel sulphate for the electric vehicle (EV) battery material supply chain. The MHP product will also be sold as feedstock to producers of battery-grade nickel sulphate.

FPX believes the Project has an important role to play in addressing climate change and the transition to a low-carbon economy. The nickel products would be responsibly produced at a low carbon intensity and would help Canada achieve its climate change commitments by producing nickel that could be used in approximately 1.3 million EVs per year.

The Project has the potential to serve as an essential and foundational link in the Canadian supply chains for clean technology and renewable energy. The Project will supply these sectors along with the traditional stainless steel industry with some of the most sustainability produced nickel in the world, while creating a positive legacy for First Nations and local communities, driving responsible economic growth across central BC.

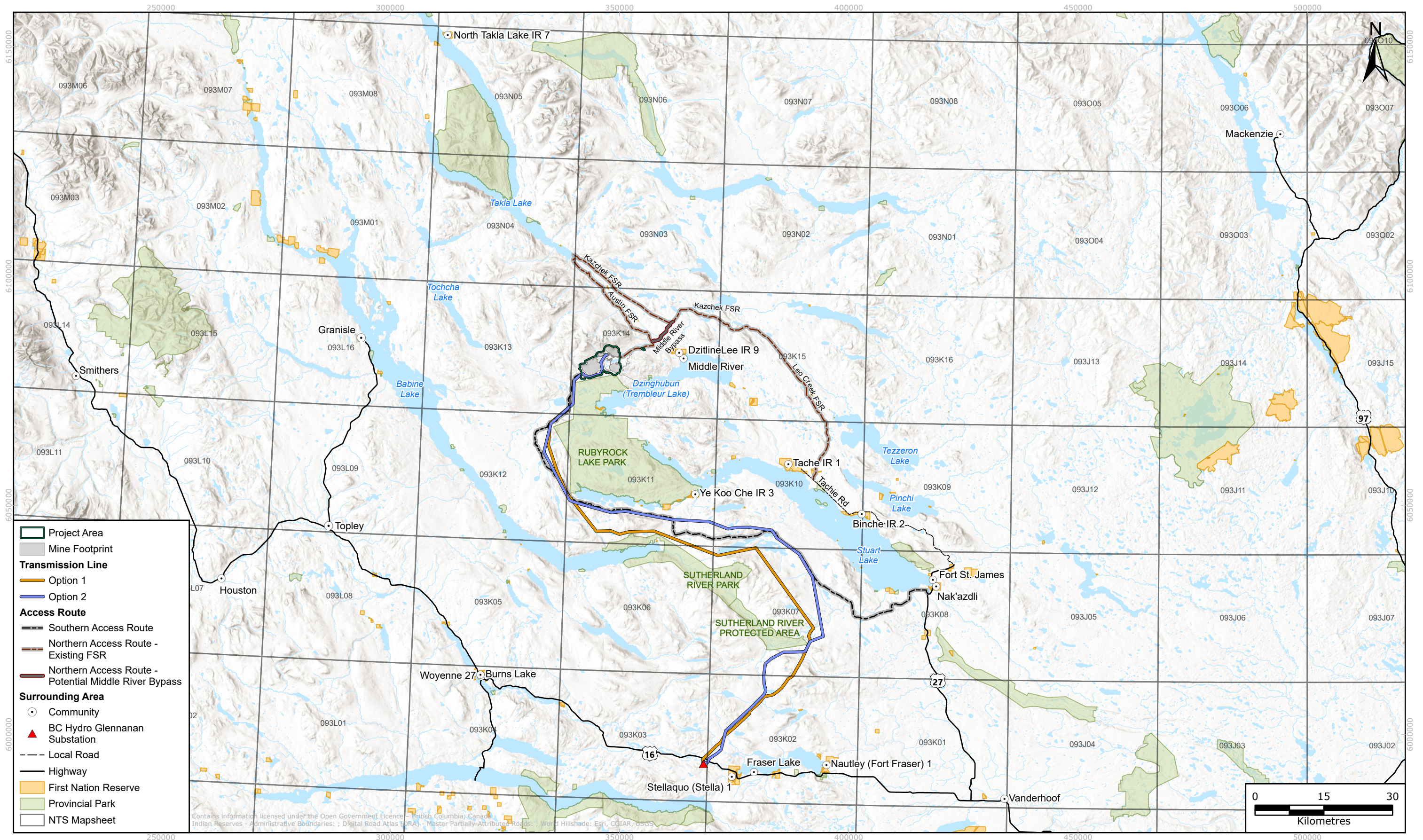
2.2 PROJECT LOCATION

The Project and portions of the Transmission Line and access route are within the territories of the Binche Whut'en, Lake Babine Nation, Nadleh Whut'en, Nak'azdli Whut'en, Stelat'en First Nation, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation. The Project is in the Nechako region of central BC on provincial Crown land. The location is shown on Figure 2.1-1, with the closest non-indigenous communities of Fort St. James and Vanderhoof being approximately 82 km and 126 km from the Project Area, respectively. Several First Nation communities are located in the area, including three Tl'azt'en Nation reserves within 15 km of the Project Area, Dzitline Lee 9 (Middle River), Dzin Tl'at 46, and Noo Kat 42, as well as their main on reserve community Tache 1 (38 km from Project Area), and the main communities of Binche Whut'en (Binche 2, 56 km), Nak'azdli Whut'en (Nakazdli, 80 km), Takla Nation (North Tacla Lake 7, 75 km), and Yekooche First Nation (Yekooche 3, 30 km).-

The Project Area, totalling 4215 hectares (ha), is located entirely within the Decar Property claims package which is 100% owned by FPX. The Decar Property consists of 76 contiguous mineral claims, conferring title to subsurface mineral tenure only, and is 45,256.64 ha.

As summarized on Figure 2.2-1, the Project includes several components, the Project Area as well as linear infrastructure components, made up of potential access roads and a Transmission Line. As the Project is still in the early stages of planning, these components will be further defined through information gathered during ongoing baseline studies and engagement, such as those outlined in this plan.

FIGURE 2.2-1 PROJECT COMPONENTS



3. ENGAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

FPX's approach to engagement began at the exploration and the early planning phase and will extend through the life of the Project, with a focus on inclusivity, fairness and open dialogue. FPX emphasizes the following core values:

- **Respect**—A commitment to human rights, consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). This includes acknowledging the rights of Indigenous peoples and integrating their perspectives into the Project planning processes and development.
- **Collaboration**—Open and transparent communication, building long-term relationships with Indigenous communities and Project interested parties, such that decision-making processes are informed by local communities.
- **Safety and Inclusion**—FPX promotes a safe and inclusive work environment, emphasizing physical and psychological safety. This extends to respecting the cultural and environmental values of the communities involved and establishing engagement methods that are tailored to those communities.

3.1 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of engagement is to support dialogue between FPX and potentially impacted parties, grounded in the principles outlined above and carried out in accordance with the regulatory and permitting requirements of the EAA and IAA. Overall, engagement allows the Project to meet various requirements, including:

- Communicate information about the Project and the EA process and other regulatory processes with potentially impacted parties;
- Create opportunities for community participants to provide input to FPX, which will be continually integrated in the Project's planning, development, operation, and closure and reclamation phases;
- Develop the Project in alignment with the interests and goals of communities and First Nations; and
- Incorporate Indigenous Knowledge in the Project and in the EA process, including the alignment of the Project with laws and custom of First Nations (see Section 3.2).

Through proactive and ongoing engagement, FPX is seeking to build lasting and meaningful relationships with First Nations, community leaders, governments, and the public. To enable meaningful dialogue, FPX will provide information on proposed plans and activities in a clear and timely manner and gather feedback that will inform the Project's design and development.

A priority of the Project is the integration of Indigenous values and perspectives into planning and decision-making, and FPX is committed to planning in a manner that provides First Nations with time and resources required to participate in this process. FPX acknowledges and respects the rights and distinct cultures, perspectives, and aspirations of Indigenous participants, and will work with local communities to advance self-determined goals.

FPX will also incorporate principles of Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) to identify, understand, and mitigate potential barriers that could limit engagement participation from specific groups potentially affected by the Project.

3.2 FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

FPX's corporate office is in Vancouver, BC, on the territories of the $x^w m \theta k w \acute{a} y \acute{a} m$ (Musqueam), $S k w x w \acute{u} 7 m e s h$ (Squamish), and $s \acute{a} l i l w \acute{a} t \acute{a} \ddot{a}$ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. Our employees live and work on the territories of many First Nations. The Project and portions of the Transmission Line and access route are within the territories of the Binche Whut'en, Lake Babine Nation, Nadleh Whut'en, Nak'azdli Whut'en, Stellat'en First Nation, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation.

As stated in the company's Indigenous Peoples Policy⁴, FPX recognizes Indigenous peoples' right to free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) for activities occurring within their territories, as an integral part of UNDRIP, and is committed to Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action 92⁵ including but not limited to:

- Commitment to meaningful consultation, building respectful relationships, and obtaining the free, prior, and informed consent of Indigenous peoples before proceeding with economic development projects.
- Ensure that Aboriginal peoples have equitable access to jobs, training, and education opportunities in the corporate sector, and that Aboriginal communities gain long-term sustainable benefits from economic development projects.
- Provide education for management and staff on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

It is with this understanding that the Project is being designed from its earliest stages of definition, allowing for flexibility in making decisions that will further shape potential outcomes. FPX's goal is collaborative decision-making with Indigenous Rights Holders and stewards of the land, an approach is aligned with published Critical Minerals strategies of Canada⁶, BC⁷ and First Nations⁸.

⁴ <https://fpxnickel.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Indigenous-Peoples-Policy.pdf>

⁵ Government of Canada. 2025. Delivering on Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action. <https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1524494530110/1557511412801>

⁶ [Critical-minerals-strategyDec09.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/mineral-exploration-mining/bc-geological-survey/critical-minerals/phase_1_bc_critical_minerals_-_digital.pdf)

⁷ https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/mineral-exploration-mining/bc-geological-survey/critical-minerals/phase_1_bc_critical_minerals_-_digital.pdf

⁸ [First-Nations-Critical-Minerals-Stratgy-BC-FN-Energy-Mining-Council-Mar-4-2024.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/mineral-exploration-mining/bc-geological-survey/critical-minerals/phase_1_bc_critical_minerals_-_digital.pdf)

3.2.1 FIRST NATIONS OUTCOMES

FPX has been engaging with the First Nations potentially affected by the Project for more than a decade. As such, engagement activities in the Early Engagement Phase will continue to build on established relationships and continue to foster a process of meaningful participation. FPX adopts a proactive and inclusive engagement approach, to achieve the following outcomes:

- **Early and Ongoing Engagement**—Engaging with First Nation communities that starts at the exploration phase, integrating their knowledge into environmental baseline studies and Project design.
- **Formalized Agreements**—Developing formal agreements with First Nations that set the framework for participation, economic benefits, and future consent-based decision-making, based on principles of FPIC.
- **Inclusive Participation**—Creating long-term, multi-generational economic benefits, including local employment, training, and partnerships with First Nation and community-owned businesses. Prioritizing the engagement of Indigenous businesses, through representation in field programs, and supporting educational opportunities for Indigenous youth to prepare for long-term roles in the Project.

4. ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

FPX is committed to building respectful and transparent communication with all individuals and groups that have an interest in the Project, by proactively engaging with First Nations, stakeholders and the public, as well as local, provincial and federal government agencies, and non-government organizations, in order to design and implement a Project that aligns with the interests and goals of local First Nations and communities. This engagement approach requires FPX to seek ongoing opportunities and establish agreements with community participants to provide input on the Project that can be integrated into the Project’s design, development, operation, and closure and reclamation plans. To achieve these objectives, FPX will implement multiple engagement mechanisms, recognizing that no single approach will meet the needs of every group or individual. Therefore, several parallel avenues will be provided to ensure a diversity of perspectives can be heard.

There are multiple mechanisms being employed by FPX to engage the public and share information about the Project, as outlined in Table 4-1.

TABLE 4-1 MECHANISMS OF ENGAGEMENT

Engagement Mechanism	Detail/Objective
Initial community meetings / presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce the conceptual Project and its components • Learn from communities about their relationship with land and resources • Determine opportunities and mechanisms for further dialogue
Project update meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular meetings to inform community members about the Project design developments and gather feedback • Present draft regulatory documents such as the IPD, Detailed Project Description (DPD), and EA to resolve questions and solicit feedback for the project design
Community office (Fort St. James)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a local physical space for community engagement • Share information on Project developments • A space for ongoing engagement with local communities
Leadership Tables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a space for collaborative decision making • The objective is to allow leaders to openly discuss issues and interests, solve problems, and build initiatives that are a benefit to all involved
Technical Table presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations and workshops by Project engineers, scientists and/or Indigenous Knowledge holders on topics of interest to inform and engage community members
Notifications and media releases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness among the public of Project development and direct individuals and groups to sources of more information and engagement mechanisms
Community open houses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information on Project developments • Directly engage and collect feedback with local communities and individuals

Engagement Mechanism	Detail/Objective
Virtual open house (in development)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide accessible on-line information on the Project, EA process and developments • A mechanism that responds to requests from engaged parties for information sharing that is accessible from anywhere, at any time, allows visitors review information, interact with content and pose questions and comments at their convenience • Gather and hear valued input and feedback from the public
Site visits and tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect Indigenous knowledge from First Nation Elders and other community members • Provide government agencies with information about the Project and infrastructure involved
Community boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information about open houses, community events, and training and employment opportunities • Direct people to other Project information sources
Community surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect information from community members • Identify interests and concerns that need to be addressed
FPX website and social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information on the Project developments • Invite feedback through community engagement channels • Will be updated on an ad hoc basis and when milestones are achieved
Mail, email, and phone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated mechanisms for communication of interests and concerns from individuals and groups, especially via email (community@fpxnickel.com)

4.1 ENGAGEMENT PLANNING

Throughout the exploration and pre-feasibility phase of the Project, FPX has engaged with local communities to learn about their interactions with the land and use of resources. This initial engagement has been complemented by desktop research and GIS analysis to identify the main parties that may be directly or indirectly affected by Project activities.

Key groups identified include:

First Nations—Through publicly available information and direct engagement FPX has identified eight potentially impacted First Nations based on the Project location within their territories, as summarized in Table 4.1-1. FPX seeks to actively engage with all these First Nations and any other First Nations that may present an interest or concern about the Project.

The public—Residents of communities near the Project, as well as land users such as hunters, fishers, and recreational users, who may have interests in the Project. These interests may relate to potential changes in access to parks and other recreational sites, as well as changes in noise levels, dust, and traffic volumes on recreational access roads.

Private landowners—Property owners in the vicinity of the Project may have interests or concerns related to potential changes in land access, noise, dust, traffic volumes, or other impacts on the enjoyment of their land. Private landowners have been identified through GIS analysis of the area and through engagement with local communities.

Tenure holders in the area (e.g., registered trapline holders, guide outfitters, mineral tenure holders, forest tenure holders, and grazing tenure holders)—Identified through GIS analysis of publicly available data of registered tenures within the Project Area as well as the broader area of potential direct and indirect effects, which includes the proposed linear infrastructure (access roads and Transmission Line).

Business organizations, non-government organizations, and academic institutions—Local and regional businesses and business groups, non-government organization and academic institutions have been identified through community meetings and research of publicly available information. These groups are considered important potential participants that can help maximize the positive social and environmental impacts of the Project.

Municipal and regional governments—The Project is located within the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, with the District of Fort St. James being the closest municipality to the Project. Fraser Lake, Vanderhoof and Prince George are other municipalities along the transportation and access corridor of the project. These regions and municipalities may experience economic and employment benefits from the project, while there may also be an impact on their infrastructure and services.

Federal and provincial government agencies—Numerous federal and provincial government agencies will participate in the EA process, be involved in reviewing the Environmental Assessment Certificate Application, or be regulatory agencies or permittees of the Project.

TABLE 4.1-1 FIRST NATION TERRITORIES IN THE VICINITY OF THE PROJECT

First Nations Territories that Fully Overlap the Project Area	First Nations Territories that Partially Overlap the Project Area or Offsite Infrastructure (Access Road[s] and/or Transmission Line)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Binche Whut’en • Tl’azt’en Nation • Takla Nation • Yekooche First Nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Babine Nation • Nadleh Whut’en • Nak’azdli Whut’en • Stelat’en First Nation

4.2 ENGAGEMENT TRACKING

FPX uses an engagement tracking system to record all Project-related engagements, and to track interests and concerns raised by First Nations and other community participants. FPX will use this system to record feedback as part of the Early Engagement process and throughout the Project, with the principal purpose of providing reports to the Project team to allow them to integrate feedback in informed decision making, and to track how questions, issues, and interests raised have been addressed. Consultations with federal, provincial and local government agencies and regulators are also tracked. The engagement tracking system supports FPX in monitoring how questions, issues, concerns, and interests raised have been considered or addressed, and the efforts undertaken to do so.

Engagement records and other information collected are protected from unauthorized use, and personal information will not be included in public records without prior, informed consent.

Confidentiality is a priority when sharing information provided by First Nations, as well as information collected by FPX directly within their communities, none of which will be shared with the public without prior, informed consent.

4.2.1 FEEDBACK AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISMS

FPX is proactively seeking feedback by engaging with various groups throughout the Project design and planning phase, in various collaborative and bilateral forums. These activities are tailored based on community input, and are scheduled in locations and at times that work best for the communities involved, normally in the afternoons or on the weekends, in order to maximize participation.

FPX takes all grievances seriously and engages senior management in the process. Each grievance is documented, thoroughly investigated, reported on, and addressed in accordance with our Grievance Procedure. Furthermore, FPX has implemented a Whistleblower Policy⁹, providing an independent, confidential, and anonymous channel for individuals—including employees, contractors, and community members—to report concerns related to potential illegal activities or violations of FPX's Code of Conduct.

⁹ <https://fpxnickel.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Whistleblower-Policy.pdf>

5. ENGAGEMENT APPROACH WITH FIRST NATIONS

5.1 EARLY ENGAGEMENT

FPX has an ongoing commitment to meaningful and effective engagement with all First Nations potentially affected by the Project. It is considered a fundamental aspect of Project success that engagement with First Nations be integrated in the design and planning phase of the Project and continue throughout the life of the Project.

Local First Nation collaboration is being sought to help analyze and design the Project, while determining each nation’s preferred approach to be involved in the development and assessment of the Project. FPX seeks to engage with nations through multiple complementary processes of regular communication and collaboration, as summarized in Table 5.1-1.

TABLE 5.1-1 FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT FORUMS

Forum	Detail/Objective
Bilateral meetings	<p>Knowledge sharing opportunities with presentations by FPX leadership and Project experts to First Nation Chiefs, Councils, Keyoh holders, and technical staff.</p> <p>The objective is to share Project investigations and plans as they develop in order to gather feedback, and to enter into collaborative agreements to align with the values and priorities of each nation.</p>
Early community workshops (Mine Closure Visioning)	<p>Collaborative workshops hosted by FPX for First Nations’ technical staff, youth, Elders and local subject matter experts to discuss how to best inform approaches to various aspects of the Project design and planning, with a particular focus on designing for returning land use and consideration of mine closure from the outset of the Project.</p> <p>The objective is to allow for shared learning and is a space for Elders and other Indigenous Knowledge holders to help define key aspects of importance with an intersectional approach of cultural awareness, on themes ranging from environmental stewardship, economic development, and community well-being, amongst others.</p>
First Nations Leadership Table	<p>Building upon the early community workshops, FPX facilitated the establishment of a collaborative space for the leaders of Binche Whut’en, Takla Nation, Tl’azt’en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation to meet and discuss shared interests and concerns about the Project. As of July 30, 2025, the Leadership Table was expanded to include Stellat’en, Nadleh, Nak’azdli, and Lake Babine nations.</p> <p>The objective is to promote collaboration and enable decision-making between the Project and First Nations, and to build initiatives that are a benefit to all involved.</p>
First Nations Technical Tables	<p>Reporting up to the Leadership Table, FPX facilitated the establishment of Technical Tables as a collaborative space to discuss various design and environmental aspects of the Project between FPX technical team and experts representing the participating nations at the Leadership Table.</p> <p>The objective is to combine various perspectives, including western scientific knowledge with local and Indigenous Knowledge, in order to design technical aspects of the Project in a way that will maximize potential benefits for local communities, and protect the environment. To date, the Technical Table has reviewed mine tailings management options and linear infrastructure (Transmission Line and roads). It is anticipated that additional sessions will be planned and topics selected based on the guidance and direction of the Leadership Table and needs for Project design decision-making.</p> <p>Findings from the Technical Tables are reported back to the Leadership Table for consideration by the nations.</p>

Forum	Detail/Objective
Baseline assessments	<p>Project cultural and environmental baseline investigations that have been completed by First Nation-affiliated businesses. Shas-Ti Environmental (a limited partnership between Ecofor Consulting, Binche Whut'en, and Yekooche First Nation) Sasushan Environmental LP (a partnership between Environmental Dynamics Inc. and Sasuchan Development Corporation which is the economic arm of the Takla Nation).</p> <p>The objective is for the Project to be informed by Indigenous experience and knowledge while providing economic opportunities and capacity development for local First Nation-affiliated businesses, as well as training for Indigenous youth.</p>
Community Presentations	<p>FPX has worked with First Nation leaders to identify appropriate venues for delivering informative presentations and answering questions from community members. These presentations range from half-day open houses to participation at Annual General Meetings, and information booths at community events.</p> <p>The objective is to help the community learn about the Project and the EA process, while enabling FPX to respond to questions and incorporate feedback into planning.</p>

5.1.1 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Throughout the history of exploration of the Project, FPX has engaged with First Nations leadership, community members, staff, and Keyoh family members. Throughout the early assessment and exploration phase of the Project, FPX has focussed engagement activities on the First Nations that could be most directly affected by the mine site, given its location within their territories. As the Project becomes more defined, FPX is committed to continue building open and transparent relationships with all First Nations that have territories in the vicinity of the Project.

During the Early Engagement phase, FPX will continue to seek opportunities to collaborate directly with First Nations, in order to cultivate mutual trust, and to understand the values, interests and concerns of the people whose territories are most affected by the Project. FPX will host additional open houses accessible to community members, participate in community events, facilitate workshops and discussions, and provide tours of the Project Area. These will include consideration for a wide range of participants from the communities, including both Elders and youth, as well as persons of all genders, so as to maximize the opportunity for mutual learning and respect.

5.1.2 MINE CLOSURE VISIONING WORKSHOPS

In 2023, FPX held three Mine Closure Visioning workshops designed to learn about the values, interests, and concerns of First Nation communities, and to explore how best to incorporate Indigenous Knowledge into the Project's early design and development. These workshops were attended by members of Binche Bu Keyoh Society, TI'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation. Some important themes emerged from these discussions, including:

- Importance of the land for First Nations, as an integral part of their culture and especially for hunting and gathering, requiring the incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge and local expertise in wildlife and vegetation studies, as well as mitigation planning.
- Caribou, in particular, is a species of high importance for First Nations in the area to be further studied during the planning phase and protected throughout the Project, including the mine closure phase.

- Water stewardship is essential to healthy communities and needs to be managed transparently, and the mine design must incorporate protection of water and specific focus and protection (avoidance) of salmon habitat, and the creation of salmon habitat enhancements.
- The Project must create of generational employment opportunities as a positive legacy for prosperity, and planning should focus on establishing youth training programs and enabling safe workplaces for youth, women, and young men by incorporating Indigenous-led safety protocols.
- The Project must support healthy communities by working with leaders, Elders and youth during the planning phase to find opportunities to strengthen communities.
- Support wellness centers and programs before they are needed, especially if the mine delivers new income opportunities for the community.
- *'Alhgoh 'uts'ut'en* (we all work together) a Dakelh value that supports continued collaboration through workshops and the pairing of modern scientific methods with traditional knowledge in baseline studies.

These themes were not considered to be an exhaustive list of priorities, but provided FPX with a preliminary understanding of the perspectives held by local First Nations, in order to build these into its approach to Project planning. From what was heard during these informative sessions, FPX developed its values and collaborative approach to Project design, prompting the establishment of the Leadership Table and Technical Table for the early engagement phase.

In 2024, FPX held another workshop to engage with the economic development arms of Binche Whut'en, Takla Nation, TI'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation with the intent of defining how best to communicate contract opportunities and to identify First Nation businesses that can provide goods and services to the Project, specifically for field programs.

5.2 GOVERNANCE AND AGREEMENTS

FPX recognizes that each First Nation has established governance structures and norms and is committed to engaging with each nation on their terms, and will seek to support each nation's capacity to be active participants in the Project. Part of this approach includes proactively pursuing bilateral meetings with each First Nation while also providing opportunities for collaborative forums between First Nations. Ultimately, FPX seeks to establish formal agreements with First Nations that establish the framework for participation, economic benefits, and consent-based decision-making, based on principles of FPIC, ensuring that the Project activities continue to respect Indigenous rights and community input.

The current Project governance activities and agreements with each First Nation are summarized in Table 5.1-2, listed in alphabetical order.

TABLE 5.1-2 PROJECT FIRST NATION GOVERNANCE ACTIVITIES AND AGREEMENTS

First Nation	Governance and Agreements
Binche Whut'en	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing communication with Chief and Council, keyoh holders and families, and staff. • Active collaboration with Binche Keyoh Society supported by an MoA (2022) and Traditional Knowledge agreements. • Baseline studies and other activities through Shas-Ti, a Binche Whut'en and Yekooche limited partnership, involving Binche Whut'enne (members). • Participant in the Project Leadership and Technical Tables. • Community Office in Fort St James where members can engage with the Project team.
Lake Babine Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing communication with Chief and Council and staff. • Participant in the Project Leadership and Technical Tables. • Community Office in Fort St James where members can engage with the Project team.
Nadleh Whut'en	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing communication with Chief and Council and staff. • Participant in the Project Leadership and Technical Tables. • Participation in the Annual General Assembly (2025). • Community Office in Fort St James where members can engage with the Project team.
Nak'azdli Whut'en	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing communication with Chief and Council and staff. • Participant in the Project Leadership and Technical Tables. • Community Office in Fort St James where members can engage with the Project team.
Takla Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing communication with Chief and Council and staff. • Signed Exploration and Project Engagement agreement including Traditional Knowledge (2025). • Collaboration with designated staff. • Participant in the Project Leadership and Technical Tables. • Community Office in Fort St James where members can engage with the Project team.
Tl'azt'en Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing communication with Chief and Council and staff. • Participation in dedicated meetings with Tl'azt'en members and keyoh holders. • Community Office in Fort St James where members can engage with the Project team. • Participation in the Annual General Assembly (2025) and meetings with community in coordination with Chief and Council. • FPX seeking avenues for collaboration in field work and Project assessments. • Standing invitation to participate in the Project Leadership and Technical Tables.
Stellat'en First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing communication with Chief and Council and staff. • Participant in the Project Leadership and Technical Tables. • Community Office in Fort St James where members can engage with the Project team.
Yekooche First Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing communication with Chief and Council and staff. • Active collaboration including through an MoU (2024) regarding Project development and Traditional Knowledge agreements. • Baseline studies and other activities through Shas-Ti, a Binche Whut'en and Yekooche joint venture, involving Yekooche members. • Collaboration with designated staff. • Participant in the Project Leadership and Technical Tables. • Community Office in Fort St James where members can engage with the Project team.

5.3 INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

FPX recognizes that Indigenous Knowledge is a holistic framework that encompasses insights into the biophysical environment, social and cultural norms, economic factors, health, and First Nations governance. While there is no single definition of Indigenous Knowledge, it is often categorized into several areas:

1. Environmental knowledge, including observations and predictions about ecological and social phenomena.
2. Historical knowledge of land use and management relevant to Indigenous rights and interests.
3. Culturally significant value statements rooted in spirituality and tradition.
4. Foundational worldviews that inform the other areas.

Throughout the Project's design and implementation, FPX will work with local First Nations to understand and apply Indigenous Knowledge, along with Western scientific knowledge, to build a comprehensive understanding of potential Project impacts. Early identification of Indigenous Knowledge supports collaborative decision-making, and therefore will be proactively sought before, during and in response to relevant scientific investigations.

The EAO's Guide to Indigenous Knowledge in Environmental Assessments¹⁰ emphasizes the importance of Indigenous Knowledge in EAs, aligning with objectives like reconciliation and the recognition of Indigenous governance. The Project's approach to Indigenous Knowledge based on the six guiding principles for the use of Indigenous Knowledge in EAs, namely: respect, relationship-based approaches, iterative application, context acknowledgment, transparency, and permission of use.

FPX is committed to upholding the rights of the First Nations in works with, including their right to maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as set out in Article 31 of the UNDRIP¹¹. FPX also respects that some information shared by First Nations is sensitive in nature and must be treated in an appropriate manner, as indicated by each respective nation. Therefore, when provided in confidence, Indigenous Knowledge will be protected from unauthorized disclosure and inappropriate use. Indigenous Knowledge shared with FPX will be used in accordance with the laws, customs and protocols indicated by each respective First Nation. Similarly, any information collected about First Nation communities or territories will be shared first with the respective First Nation to validate the information, and to determine its level of confidentiality.

¹⁰ EAO. 2022. Guide to Indigenous Knowledge in Environmental Assessments. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/environmental-assessments/guidance-documents/indigenous-nation-guidance/guide_to_indigenous_knowledge_in_environmental_assessments.pdf (accessed July 2024).

¹¹ UN 2007. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf

5.3.1 INCORPORATING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE INTO INITIAL PROJECT DESIGN

The approach to integrating Indigenous Knowledge during early Project design has emphasized collaboration with First Nations and companies associated to these communities. This strategy has fostered meaningful relationships and respects local cultural values.

Key initiatives have included:

- **Community Engagement**—Various community-based activities through a community liaison have facilitated communication with Elders and community members, helping to incorporate traditional knowledge into baseline studies, such as identifying local plants and areas of cultural importance.
- **Field Crew Collaboration**—First Nation technicians have accompanied field crews, providing valuable insights based on their local knowledge and experiences. This collaboration has not only enhanced the fieldwork, but also encourages community members to pursue careers in environmental sciences.
- **Information Sharing**—New studies and Project plans are shared with First Nations to build mutual understanding and to solicit feedback that will inform decision-making and enhance the Project's impact on community well-being.
- **Cultural Awareness Training**—Site-specific training by a Dakelh Elder for field crews to foster understanding and respect of Dakelh cultures and traditions, and create awareness of historic and current issues facing Dakelh communities resulting from colonization.
- **Traditional Knowledge Studies**—FPX is pursuing the development of environmental, cultural and social studies conducted by First Nations in order to build a better understanding of the Indigenous Knowledge that exists around various Project components.
- **Cultural Activities**—Participation by FPX staff in various cultural events in First Nation communities and the incorporation of traditional practices into the Project, such as land blessing ceremonies prior to commencement of work, allows FPX to better understand, appreciate and respect the values of participating First Nations.
- **Language Incorporation**—The Dakelh place names are integrated into studies and reports, honouring cultural significance and enhancing local relevance.

This holistic and inclusive approach effectively integrates Indigenous Knowledge into early Project planning, which supports Project advancement in a manner that is respectful of and aligned with the values of the communities involved.

6. FIRST NATION ENGAGEMENT

In keeping with the objective of building collaborative relationships with First Nations, FPX has proactively engaged with local First Nations, working towards progressive relationships of trust that will inform the Project design and development. These efforts have included the First Nation Leadership and Technical Tables, bilateral meetings, community forums, and participation in cultural events. As the Project has become more defined, a concerted effort has been made to seek cooperative spaces between FPX and First Nations communities. At a high level, these efforts are summarized in Table 6-1.

This section highlights engagement to date with the Binche Whut'en, Lake Babine Nation, Nadleh Whut'en, Nak'azdli Whut'en, Stellat'en First Nation, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation. Consistent with BC EAO Early Engagement Guidance, these nations have been identified for engagement because the components of the Project overlap with their territories including as identified through the provincial Consultative Areas Database. It outlines FPX's engagement to date with each nation, issues and interests raised, as well as a planned engagement approach that is reflective of engagement to date. As engagement continues during the early engagement phase, approaches and activities will be tailored to the needs of each nation and the requirements of the regulatory process, including collaborative work on the development of the DPD.

6.1 FIRST NATION LEADERSHIP AND TECHNICAL TABLES

First Nation Leadership Table

FPX jointly established the Project First Nation Leadership Table with Binche Whut'en, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation in July 2024. A year later the Leadership Table was expanded to include all potentially affected First Nations, including Lake Babine Nation, Nak'azdli Whut'en, Nadleh Whut'en and Stellat'en First Nation. Tl'azt'en Nation Chief and Council have declined to participate in meetings held in 2025, appointing observers. However, participation will continue to be optional and FPX has continued to extend invitations to participate as the intent of the table is to provide an avenue for dialogue and information sharing for matters of collective interest.

The purpose of this Table is to provide a solutions-focused venue to discuss the advancement of the Project, to collaborate on key topics of interest or concern, and provide information to support each First Nation's decision-making processes. A key objective of the Table is to design a transparent process in which the First Nations can collaborate to determine their preferred approach to be involved in the Project's development, which includes exploring partnership opportunities.

FPX understands that First Nation participants at this Table represent different perspectives in their communities as they may at times present views as community leaders, clan members, organizations representatives, Elders, or other groups, providing diverse perspectives on the Project, the relationship between FPX and First Nations, interactions with their communities, concerns about Project development, and opportunities to be explored. Participants also bring a forward-looking view to the potential Project impacts and opportunities that face future generations.

The Leadership Table has been convened eight times, the last in October 2025, with regular meetings planned approximately every two to three months moving forward.

TABLE 6-1 SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT WITH FIRST NATIONS

Period	Activity	First Nation Participants	Description
2008 to 2021	Early consultations	Binche Whut'en ^a TI'azt'en Nation	FPX (formerly First Point Minerals Corp) met with TI'azt'en Nation representatives to initiate consultations during the earliest stages of mineral exploration, which included mapping and selective sampling.
May 2012	Exploration MoU	Binche Whut'en ^a TI'azt'en Nation	FPX signed an MoU with TI'azt'en Nation and four Keyoh families whose territories are within the proposed claim boundaries of the Project. The MoU identifies and defines common principles and values, to conduct mineral exploration programs accordingly.
2021 to 2022	Initial community outreach and knowledge sharing	Binche Whut'en ^a TI'azt'en Nation	Knowledge sharing with Elders, including tours of the proposed Project area; cultural awareness training by the First Nation for non-Indigenous employees and contractors; blessing ceremonies; and the inspection of reclamation sites from exploration drilling.
June 2022	Memorandum of Agreement (MoA)	Binche Whut'en	FPX signed an MoA with the Binche Keyoh Bu Society for Project development with respect to cultural and environmental interests, ongoing community consultation and engagement activities, and socio-economic benefits for the Binche community.
2022 to 2023	Environmental and cultural baseline studies	Binche Whut'en	Initiation of cultural and environmental baseline studies and early environmental stewardship, led by Shas-Ti Environmental LP and with participation by Binche Whut'enne (members).
2023 to 2024	Community outreach and knowledge sharing	Binche Whut'en TI'azt'en Nation Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	FPX meetings with Chief and Council, nation staff, presentations about the Project in communities, site tours, and sharing of values and priorities to shape collaborative decision-making processes.
2023 to 2024	Environmental and cultural baseline studies	Binche Whut'en Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	Expansion of cultural and environmental baseline studies and early environmental stewardship led by First Nation businesses and with participation by First Nation community members.
July 2023	Termination of MoU	TI'azt'en Nation	TI'azt'en Nation terminates the 2012 Exploration MoU.

Period	Activity	First Nation Participants	Description
16 May 2023 5 July 2023 4 October 2023 26 September 2024	3x Mine Closure Visioning workshops (2023) 1x Economic Development workshop (2024)	Binche Bu Keyoh Society Takla Nation (Economic Development only) Tl'azt'en Nation Yekooche First Nation	Community workshops hosted by FPX to share First Nation environmental, cultural and economic values and perspectives related to the Project.
2024 to present	Ongoing Bilateral meetings	Binche Whut'en Lake Babine Nation Nadleh Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Stelat'en First Nation Takla Nation Tl'azt'en Nation Yekooche First Nation	Continued engagement with Binche Whut'en and Binche Bu Keyoh Society, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation, and introductory meetings and engagement with Lake Babine Nation, Nadleh Whut'en, Nak'azdli Whut'en, and Stelat'en First Nation. FPX held meetings with each nation's leadership, as well as follow-up meetings with technical staff regarding early Project design options, sharing results of the early baseline studies, conceptual stewardship plans, and listening to each nation's interests and concerns. Discussions included preferred engagement mechanisms, participation in collaborative meetings and formalized agreements.
July 2024	MoU	Yekooche First Nation	FPX signed an MoU establishing a framework for communication, capacity and further participation in the Project.
16 July 2024 18 October 2024 5 December 2024	First Nation Leadership Table	Binche Whut'en Takla Nation Tl'azt'en Nation ^b Yekooche First Nation	FPX jointly established the Leadership Table to enable meetings of leaders from First Nations to discuss their preferred approach to collaborative engagement regarding the Project.
August 2024 to present	Public open houses in Fort St. James, Vanderhoof, and Fraser Lake	Binche Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Takla Nation Tl'azt'en Nation	Public open houses held in local communities every two to three months to provide information about early Project planning and to gather feedback, attended by members of some First Nations.
November 2024 to present	Community presentations	Binche Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Stelat'en First Nation Tl'azt'en Nation Yekooche First Nation	Presentations to First Nation community members or information booths at community events to provide updates about the Project and EA process, and to hear members' concerns and interests.

Period	Activity	First Nation Participants	Description
11 March 2025 14 May 2025 10 June 2025	First Nation Leadership Table	Binche Whut'en Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	FPX sponsors meetings of leaders from three First Nations to discuss collaborative engagement opportunities regarding the Project. Tl'azt'en Nation declined to participate in the meetings.
27-28 May 2025	First Nation Technical Table	Binche Whut'en Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	Initial Technical Table to introduce participants and discuss technical aspects of the Project including mine design alternatives.
30 July 2025	First Nation Leadership Table	Binche Whut'en Lake Babine Nation Nadleh Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Stellat'en First Nation Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	Leadership Table expanded to include invitations to representatives of eight First Nations, to discuss collaborative engagement opportunities regarding the Project, including linear infrastructure components.
10-11 September 2025	First Nation Technical Table	Binche Whut'en Lake Babine Nation Nadleh Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Stellat'en First Nation Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	Technical Table to review and discuss options for the offsite linear infrastructure of the Project.
September to October 2025	Bilateral meetings & Information Sharing	Binche Whut'en Lake Babine Nation Nadleh Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Stellat'en First Nation Takla Nation Tl'azt'en Nation Yekooche First Nation	FPX met with First Nations to provide Project updates and to share draft versions of the Initial Project Description and Engagement Plan for First Nation review and input.

Period	Activity	First Nation Participants	Description
1 October 2025	First Nation Leadership Table	Binche Whut'en Lake Babine Nation Nak'azdli Whut'en Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	Meeting of Leadership Table with participation by the EAO and IAAC. FPX provided a summary of the IPD and EP and next steps in the Project assessment process.
28 October 2025	First Nation Technical Table	Binche Whut'en Lake Babine Nation Nak'azdli Whut'en Takla Nation Yekooche First Nation	Technical Table to explore First Nation-led and collaborative assessment approaches to the Project's linear features.
November to December 2025	Bilateral meetings & Information Sharing	Binche Whut'en Nadleh Whut'en Nak'azdli Whut'en Stellat'en First Nation Tl'azt'en Nation Yekooche First Nation	FPX had ongoing correspondence and meetings with First Nations to provide Project updates, discuss preferred approaches to the Project assessment and ongoing collaboration.

Notes:

^a In 2019, Binche Whut'en separated from Tl'azt'en Nation and was officially constituted by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) as a separate band.

^b Tl'azt'en Nation participated as an observer in the December meeting.

First Nation Technical Tables

The Leadership Table recognized the importance of evaluating the Project together to avoid minimizing potential environmental impacts, and support each First Nation in making informed decisions regarding the Project. The Leadership Table identified a need to convene a Technical Table to facilitate discussions of a technical nature such as design, siting, scope of studies, and other specific technical topics.

There have been three Technical Table workshops in 2025. The first was held May 27-28 to review mine design alternatives, including the tailings facility options, the second workshop was held September 10-11 to discuss offsite linear infrastructure, and a third Table took place October 28 to discuss potential nation-led and collaborative assessments for the Transmission Line and access route. The nature and ongoing focus of the Technical Table discussions will be determined by the Leadership Table.

The remainder of this section summarizes the results of direct engagements to date with each First Nation, listed alphabetically.

6.2 BINCHE WHUT'EN

The Binche Whut'enne, meaning "the people of Binche Whut'en," are part of the Dakelh (Carrier) people. Binche Whut'en has 10 reserves within their territory. In 2019, Binche Whut'en separated from Tl'azt'en Nation and was officially constituted by CIRNAC as a separate band.¹²

Binche Whut'en Consultative Boundary has two distinct areas, of which the southern area spans 1,256,050 ha, encompassing Stuart Lake and the Southerland River Protected Area to the south and extending north past Tchentlo Lake and Nation Lake. The proposed Project Area and most of the linear infrastructure are within this area.

Binche Whut'en has a total registered membership of 239 in July 2025.¹³ The main on-reserve community, Binche 2, has a population of 118¹⁴ and is located northwest of Fort St. James on the north shore of Stuart Lake, at the mouth of Pinchi Creek. The nearest service centres are Fort St. James (30 min by road), Vanderhoof (1 hour), and Prince George (2.5 hours). A complete list of Binche Whut'en reserves can be found in Appendix B.

Binche Whut'enne uphold their right to self-determination and govern themselves according to Dakelh ways, respectful of clan traditions, Dakelh values, cultural teachings, family, and community knowledge. Traditional laws, bylaws, and codes protect their people, lands, and

¹² Binche Whut'en. 2024. Homepage. <https://binche.ca/> (accessed April 2024).

¹³ CIRNAC (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada). 2025a. INAC Community Profile: Binche Whut'en. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=730&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

¹⁴ Statistics Canada. 2021. Census Profile, 2021 Census. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=Binche%202&DGUIDlist=2021A00055951805&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0> (accessed September 2024).

animals. Governance is transparent and performance-based, guided by principles of fairness, honesty, equity, and sustainability.¹⁵

The Binche Whut’enne recognize and honour long-standing cultural systems that include Keyoh Holders as the hereditary heads and stewards of Keyoh, which are ancestral family territories under Dakelh law. The Binche Keyoh Bu Society, established under the BC *Societies Act*, is responsible for matters related to the Nation’s territory, excluding reserve lands.

Binche Whut’en operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band and holds elections every three years. The last election was held in April 2023. Since the de-amalgamation from the Tl’azt’en Nation in 2019, Binche Whut’en has organized both a band and an administrative society within the community of Binche. Binche Whut’en is recognized by the Province of BC and Government of Canada based on the elected chief and council model. The Binche band office is responsible for the administration of matters on reserve land, whereas the Binche Keyoh Bu Society administers matters off-reserve (including resource development activities such as exploration and mining within Binche Whut’en territory) representing the hereditary system of the family keyoh. The Society is led by a President and several Directors and is supported by a Band Council Resolution to represent Binche Whut’enne (members and keyoh families). Key Binche Whut’en First Nation contacts are provided in Table 6.2-1.

TABLE 6.2-1 BINCHE WHUT’EN FIRST NATION CONTACTS

Name	Title
Jarrod Tom	Chief, Binche Whut’en
Dwayne Martin	Director, Natural Resource Manager, Binche Keyoh Bu Society
Joshua Hallman	Councillor, Binche Whut’en; President, Binche Keyoh Bu Society; Keyoh Holder for the Duncan/Hallman Keyoh
Dave Birdi	CEO, Binche Whut’en and Binche Keyoh Bu Society
Verne Tom	FPX Natural Resource Liaison

6.2.1 RELEVANT AGREEMENTS

On March 12, 2019, CIRNAC constituted Binche Whut’en as a newly recognized First Nation, officially separating them from Tl’azt’en Nation. Binche Keyoh Bu Society, on behalf of the Binche Whut’enne, holds the following agreement with the Province of BC:¹⁶

- *Forest & Range Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (2022, 2024)*: outlines a consultation process for potential adverse impacts of proposed forest and range resource development activities within Binche Whut’en Consultative Boundary and revenue sharing contribution to support the capacity of the Binche Keyoh Bu Society.

¹⁵ CIRNAC (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada). 2024a. INAC Community Profile: Binche Whut’en. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=730&lang=eng (accessed April 2024).

¹⁶ Ibid.

At this time, FPX has a Project Development Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the Binche Keyoh Bu Society, which was signed in the first quarter (Q1) of 2022.

6.2.2 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

FPX has developed a cooperative and evolving relationship with the Binche Whut’enne through their traditional governance entity, the Binche Keyoh Bu Society. This relationship was formalized with the signing of a MoA on June 20, 2022, which established protocols for ongoing collaboration in exploration and development activities. The engagement began with a tour for Society members in August 2021, followed by several meetings to discuss field season results and negotiate the MoA. The formal signing ceremony in June 2022 marked a milestone for engagement with the Society on exploration and development activities.

Subsequent engagement activities included a tour for local Elders in September 2022 to share knowledge and discuss the project. Meetings continued into 2023 and 2024, focusing on field and engineering study programs, groundwater program, and cultural awareness training for non-Indigenous field crews. FPX was invited to present Project information at the Binche community centre in December 2024. In 2025, Binche Keyoh Bu Society has actively participated in the First Nation Leadership and Technical Tables and there have been several bilateral meetings with Keyoh representatives about baseline studies, conceptual stewardship plans, and Project planning. The relationship has been characterized by regular meetings, capacity funding, and opportunities for business and employment, reflecting a commitment to mutual respect and collaboration. The IPD and EP were shared with Binche Keyoh Bu Society in October 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC.

6.2.3 ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Engagement with Binche Keyoh Bu Society and Binche Whut’enne continues to inform the design of the project. To date, this process has helped identify specific issues and interests that have either influenced the project design or are guiding the development of appropriate approaches. Table 6.2-2 summarizes the topics raised through engagement so far. This preliminary list is not exhaustive, as the early engagement period and the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) process are expected to offer further opportunities for constructive dialogue.

TABLE 6.2-2 SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY BINCHE WHUT’ENNE

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Agreements	Need for a formal agreement about exploration and development activities	FPX signed an MoA with the Binche Keyoh Bu Society, formalizing protocols for cooperation around Project activities. This agreement is foundational to further collaboration between FPX and the Society.
Business, Employment, Procurement and Economic Opportunities	Business opportunities and employment for member businesses and individuals	FPX discusses employment and business opportunities for field programs. FPX has developed and is following a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy, and is working to coordinate interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships. FPX will continue to engage Binche Keyoh Bu Society affiliated businesses for field program contracting opportunities.

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
		<p>FPX is working to increase First Nation participation in employment and contracting and is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project, pending further engagement, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualifications requirements for major job types onsite; • Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy; • Discussing potential economic opportunities for local businesses, and working to coordinate interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Supporting community bursaries for First Nation members; • Identifying appropriate methods to communicate Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities; and • Developing appropriate monitoring metrics.
Cultural Awareness	The importance of the Project to be aware and respectful of First Nation culture	FPX has supported cultural awareness training from a Binche Elder for non-Indigenous members of the FPX board, FPX staff, and field contractors covering topics such as historical trauma, substance abuse, and the rights of Indigenous peoples to protect culture and land, and will continue to seek opportunities to collaborate with First Nations, including Binche Whut’enne, to reinforce cultural values and perspectives in the Project.
Fish and Fish Habitat, including Water Quality	Protection of aquatic habitat, especially the importance of preserving ecosystems that sustain fish species	FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies including fish and fish habitat, hydrology and water quality to inform Project design and assessment including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses. FPX’s approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies (e.g., sharing baseline work plan). FPX is also developing early plans for fisheries stewardship to support First Nations led fisheries management. Early engagement has informed the initial project description for the protection of fish and fish habitat (e.g., siting of major project facilities to avoid habitat used by salmon and reducing the need to cross Sidney Creek).
Indigenous Knowledge	Importance of incorporating Indigenous Knowledge into the Project	The incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge is a core objective of the collaborative approach that FPX has taken with respect to development of the environmental baseline workplan and execution of studies. FPX has held workshops and provided tours of the Project area to Binche Whut’enne Elders, allowing the Elders to learn about the Project and share their knowledge. Binche Whut’enne have participated as field representatives for environmental baseline programs through the partnership with Shas-Ti. FPX will continue to evaluate additional methods to incorporate Indigenous Knowledge into programs and Project design.

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Whitebark Pine	Closure objectives should focus on re-establishing colonies of Whitebark Pine within the Project footprint or off-site	FPX has developed with Shas-Ti a conceptual Whitebark Pine Stewardship Plan for the Project for collaborative review, refinement and implementation by First Nations. This plan was informed by baseline collected with multiple First Nations in 2024. Further, FPX has developed an exploration phase Whitebark Pine Management Plan (Shas-Ti 2025) and revised based on input from First Nations including Binche Bu Keyoh Society. This plan was implemented with First Nation monitors in 2025.
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	Protection and enhancement of wildlife, especially caribou as a culturally significant species	<p>FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies including for wildlife and wildlife habitat inform Project design and assessment including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses. FPX’s approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies (e.g., sharing baseline work plan). This has been applied to exploration activities in the development and implementation of environmental management plans.</p> <p>FPX is also developing plans for caribou stewardship to support First Nations-led stewardship. Plan implementation commenced in 2025 with the evaluation of terrestrial lichen restoration.</p> <p>Early engagement has informed the initial project description by clustering planned facilities in close proximity to the fixed project components (e.g., nickel deposit).</p>

6.2.4 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT PHASE

Table 6.2-3 summarizes the planned engagement during early engagement and readiness phases.

TABLE 6.2-3 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH BINCHE WHUT’EN

Type of Engagement	Timing/Frequency
Leadership Table–Binche Keyoh Bu Society	Monthly / Quarterly as determined by Leadership Table Membership
Bilateral Meetings with Chief and Council, Binche Keyoh Bu Society and staff, and Keyoh representatives	As required & Ongoing
Technical Table	As determined by the Leadership Table
Review and development of draft Project documents, e.g., IPD, EP, and DPD	4Q2025 onwards
Provision of Project updates and notifications and community events and meetings	Ongoing and as determined with Chief and Council and Binche Keyoh Bu Society

6.3 LAKE BABINE NATION

Lake Babine Nation is part of the Dakelh (Carrier) people. It is the third largest First Nation in BC, by membership. Lake Babine Nation has a total territory of 1,378,039 ha, extending northwards from Burns Lake to Babine River Corridor Provincial Park. Lake Babine Nation’s territory partially overlaps with the Project Area, as well as with a portion of the proposed linear infrastructure.

Lake Babine Nation has a total registered membership of 2,570 as of July 2025.¹⁷ It has 24 reserves with official designations under CIRNAC but has 27 with Indian Registry numbers (two have become provincial parks and one currently has a Reserve designation underway). The main on-reserve community, Woyenne 27, has a population of 548¹⁸ and is adjacent to the village of Burns Lake.¹⁹ The nearest service centre is Houston (1 hour by road), and the nearest city is Prince George (2.5 hours). A list of Lake Babine Nation reserves can be found in Appendix B.

Lake Babine Nation upholds core values that include respect, honesty, tradition, and health and wellness, and acknowledge the important roles of leaders, members, staff, and Elders in improving their communities. Speaking the Nad’uten language and practising their culture are vital aspects of their identity.²⁰

Prior to 1957, Lake Babine Nation was two separate Bands, the Old Fort Band and the Fort Babine Band, both situated on Babine Lake. The then-Department of Indian Affairs amalgamated the two Bands to form what is now known as the Lake Babine Nation in 1957.

Lake Babine Nation operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band and holds elections every three years. The last election was held in June 2024.²¹ Lake Babine Nation traditionally utilized a Bah’lats governing structure with Hereditary Chiefs and four clans (Bear, Caribou, Beaver, and Frog). Key Lake Babine Nation contacts are provided in Table 6.3-1.

TABLE 6.3-1 LAKE BABINE NATION CONTACTS

Name	Title
Wilfred Adam	Chief, Lake Babine Nation
Bessie West (Wit’at)	Deputy Chief, Lake Babine Nation
Petra West-Bayes	Executive Assistant to the Chief
Melvin Joseph	Councillor, Lake Babine Nation
Fabian Michell	Councillor, Lake Babine Nation
Jason Charlie	Councillor, Lake Babine Nation
Marilyn Joseph	Interim CEO, Lake Babine Nation
Georgina West	Land Referral Officer, Lake Babine Nation

¹⁷ CIRNAC. 2025b. INAC Community Profile: Lake Babine Nation. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=607&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

¹⁸ Statistics Canada. 2023. Census Profile, 2021 Census. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=Woyenne%2027&DGUIDlist=2021A00055951827&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0> (accessed September 2024).

¹⁹ CIRNAC. 2025b. INAC Community Profile: Lake Babine Nation. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=607&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Lake Babine Nation. 2024. Homepage. <https://www.lakebabine.com/> (accessed August 2025).

6.3.1 RELEVANT AGREEMENTS

As of June 2024, Lake Babine Nation is in Stage 4, Agreement-in-Principle negotiations, of the BC Treaty Commission's negotiation process. The Nation holds the following agreements with the Province of BC:²²

- *Foundation Agreement—Amending Agreement #2 (2023)*: outlines provincial funding commitments to Lake Babine Nation for negotiation and implementation support, economic development, forestry activities, and program enhancements.
- *Land Transfer Agreement (2023)*: outlines a land transfer in fee simple to Lake Babine Nation to provide economic opportunities and protect cultural or environmental values.
- *Incremental Treaty Agreement, Amending Agreement (2018)*: outlines amendments of certain provisions in relation to land transfers.
- *Environmental Assessment Collaboration Agreement (2021)*: sets out processes and decision-making for Environmental Assessments with Lake Babine Nation.
- *Interim Forestry Agreement (2024)*: sets out a relationship and outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities.
- *Foundation Pathway Agreement (2017)*: confirms interim commitments and measures to build momentum and demonstrate mutual good faith in advancing reconciliation.
- *Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding to Guide Rights Implementation and Reconciliation Negotiations (2018)*: sets out government-to-government relationships and confirms the principles, topics, engagement structures and funding commitments to guide tripartite work between Lake Babine Nation, the Province of BC, and Government of Canada.
- *25-year Foundation Agreement Letter of Understanding (2016)*: sets out government-to-government relationship for socioeconomic opportunities and management of land and resource use.
- *Reconciliation Framework Agreement (2016)*: provides a framework for a new relationship that includes government-to-government structures, land protection and stewardship measures, land opportunities, a comprehensive forestry relationship, and community development initiatives.

Lake Babine Nation is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the following natural resource development project or operation:²³

- Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project.

At this time, FPX does not have Project-specific agreements with Lake Babine Nation.

6.3.2 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

FPX met with Lake Babine First Nation Chief, Council and technical staff on several occasions in 2025 introducing the Project and discussing the nation's interests and concerns. Bilateral meetings

²² Government of British Columbia. 2024. Lake Babine Nation. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/lake-babine-nation> (accessed August 2025).

²³ Ibid.

focussed on potential environmental and cultural impacts of the Project, as well as ongoing collaboration preferences of the nation. Lake Babine Nation has also been a regular collaborator in the Leadership and Technical Tables since July 2025 to discuss the Project’s linear infrastructure development and assessment. The IPD and EP were shared in with Lake Babine Nation in October 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC.

6.3.3 ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Engagement with Lake Babine Nation continues to inform the design of the project. To date, this process has helped identify specific issues and interests that have either influenced the project design or are guiding the development of appropriate approaches. Table 6.3-2 summarizes the topics raised through engagement so far. This preliminary list is not exhaustive, as the early engagement period and the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) process are expected to offer further opportunities for constructive dialogue.

TABLE 6.3-2 SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY LAKE BABINE NATION

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Business, Employment, Procurement and Economic Opportunities	Interest in employment opportunities for community members	<p>FPX is working to increase First Nation participation in employment and contracting and is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project, pending further engagement, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualifications requirements for major job types onsite; • Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy, and discussing potential economic opportunities for local businesses; • Working to coordinate interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Supporting community bursaries for First Nation members; • Identifying appropriate methods to communicate Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities; and • Developing appropriate monitoring metrics.
Fish and Fish Habitat, including Water Quality	Lake Babine Sockeye is an important fishery for the nation, which is in decline and affected by increasing stream temperatures. Land clearing for the Transmission Line and road could further impact fish and fish habitat from loss of riparian cover and changes in runoff.	<p>While the drainage from the Project site doesn’t flow towards Lake Babine, FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies including fish and fish habitat, hydrology and water quality to inform Project design and assessment including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses.</p> <p>FPX’s approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies, e.g., sharing baseline work plan. FPX is also developing early plans for fisheries stewardship to support First Nations led fisheries management.</p>

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
		Early engagement has informed the initial project description for the protection of fish and fish habitat, e.g., siting of major project facilities to avoid habitat used by salmon and reducing the need to cross Sidney Creek.
Land Access	Increased access to the nation’s territory via the enhancement of the road infrastructure to the mine site and the construction of the Transmission Line is a concern	FPX is working to advance a collaborative design process with First Nations including through the ongoing Leadership Table and Technical Tables. Further review of linear development in the selection, design, study and analysis is anticipated commencing in the fall of 2025. The IPD reflects early engagement outcomes related to linear project components, such as reducing new disturbances for the access roads and Transmission Line by utilizing existing linear features (e.g., roads).
Vegetation & Wetlands	The use of herbicides along the Transmission Line corridor on medicinal plants and the potential runoff effects on wetlands and watersheds. This includes changes in run off patterns from a reduction in forest cover due to land clearing as well as increased sedimentation along the transmission line and road corridor.	FPX is collaboratively evaluating Transmission Line and access routes and conducting baseline to determine which approaches minimize environmental impacts. FPX has no intention applying herbicides on facilities associated to the Project.
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	Moose is a primary food source for the community and must be studied throughout all stages of the Project	Based on early engagement, FPX has prioritized early stewardship activities and baseline work including moose and wildlife habitats. This includes the development of a draft baseline work plan for review and implementation with First Nations.

6.3.4 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT PHASE

Table 6.3-3 summarizes the planned engagement during early engagement and readiness phases.

TABLE 6.3-3 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH LAKE BABINE NATION

Type of Engagement	Timing/Frequency
Leadership Table	Monthly / Quarterly as determined by Leadership Table Membership
Bilateral Meetings with Chief and Council, and staff	As required & Ongoing
Technical Table	As determined by the Leadership Table
Review and development of draft Project documents, e.g., IPD, EP, and DPD	4Q2025 onwards
Provision of Project updates and notifications and community events and meetings	Ongoing and as determined with Chief and Council

6.4 NADLEH WHUT’EN

Nadleh Whut’enne, meaning “people who live where the salmon return,” are part of the Yinka Dene (Carrier) peoples.²⁴ Nadleh Whut’en territory encompasses a total area of 523,011 ha and includes three reserves located between Fraser Lake and the Nechako River, along the banks of the Nadleh River, and another reserve on the south shore of Fraser Lake. The territory does not overlap with the Project Area but does overlap with the proposed linear infrastructure. The main on-reserve community of Nadleh Whut’en is Nautley (Fort Fraser 1), which has a population of 227²⁵ and is located near the southern shore of Fraser Lake.²⁶ The nearest service centre is Vanderhoof (30 minutes by road), and the nearest city is Prince George (1.5 hours by road). Nadleh Whut’en has a total registered membership of 629 as of July 2025.²⁷ A list of Nadleh Whut’en reserves can be found in Appendix B.

Nadleh Whut’enne are organized into five clans: Lhtseh’yoo (Frog), Duntem’yoo (Bear), Luksilyoo (Caribou), Lhtsumus’yoo (Owl, Grouse), and Tsayoo (Beaver). They continue to practice the Bah’lats (potlatch) system of traditional governance, which plays a crucial role in their cultural and social structure.²⁸

Nadleh Whut’en operates under the *Indian Act*, RSC 1985, c.I-5, electoral system as a Section 11 Band and holds elections every four years. The last election was held in April 2024²⁹. The governance structure includes one elected Chief and four elected Councillors. Key Nadleh Whut’en contacts are provided in Table 6.4-1.

TABLE 6.4-1 NADLEH WHUT’EN KEY CONTACTS

Name	Title
Beverly Ketlo	Chief, Nadleh Whut’en
Rose DaSilva	Executive Assistant
Jaime Sanchez	Advisor

6.4.1 RELEVANT AGREEMENTS

The Province of BC and seven Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN), including Nadleh Whut’en, signed the Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement in 2025, which supports CSFN’s goals of self-determination,

²⁴ The Yinka Dene and the Dakelh are recognized as distinct linguistic and cultural groups. However, both are encompassed under the term “Carrier” due to their close relation, with the Yinka Dene occasionally regarded as a subgroup and their language a dialect of Dakelh.

²⁵ Statistics Canada. 2023. Census Profile, 2021 Census. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=Nautley%20%5BFort%20Fraser%5D%201&DGUIDlist=2021A00055951802&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0> (accessed August 2025).

²⁶ Nadleh Whut’en First Nation. 2024. Homepage. <https://www.nadleh.com/> (accessed April 2024).

²⁷ CIRNAC. 2024c. INAC Community Profile: Nadleh Whuten. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=612&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Nadleh Whut’en First Nation. 2024. Homepage. <https://www.nadleh.com/> (accessed April 2024).

self-governance and practise of culture, traditions and customs³⁰. The agreement reflects a mutual intention to develop a clear plan for regional economic development, aligning CSFN's community priorities with broader regional opportunities to support a more inclusive and resilient economy. It also outlines how all parties will collaborate on land and resource management within CSFN's Territories, including provisions related to forestry (ibid.).

Nadleh Whut'en holds the following agreements with the Province of BC:³¹

- *Environmental Stewardship Initiative CSFN Omineca Demonstration Project Renewal Agreement* (2018): sets out a relationship and process for collaborative land and resource planning between the Province of BC, CSTC, and CSFNs.
- *Interim Forestry Revenue Sharing Agreement* (2021): outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities.
- *Environmental and Socio-Cultural Initiatives Agreement* (2015): outlines the process for economic opportunities as well as environmental and cultural stewardship during development activities for CSFN's claim areas.
- *Collaboration Agreement* (2015): creates a new government-to-government relationship for management of land and natural resource development, socioeconomic opportunities, and measures that protect cultural, burial and sacred sites for CSFN's claim areas.

Nadleh Whut'en is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the following natural resource development projects or operations:³²

- Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project; and
- Pacific Trails Pipeline Project.

At this time, FPX does not have Project-specific agreements with Nadleh Whut'en.

6.4.2 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

FPX initiated engagement with the Nadleh Whut'enne early in 2024 through introductory meetings to Chief and Council and discussions aimed at fostering collaboration. Nadleh Whut'en leaders communicated their ongoing collaboration with Stellat'en First Nation regarding discussions on Transmission Line development. Subsequently, in 2025 FPX met in-person with the Chiefs of Nadleh Whut'en and Stellat'en Nation to discuss the importance of working together and advance collaborative agreements for future engagement and assessments. Nadleh Whut'en also participated in the Leadership Table in July 2025 and Technical Tables in September 2025. The IPD and EP were shared with Nadleh Whut'en in October 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC. In November 2025, FPX attended the Nadleh Whut'en Annual General Assembly, hosting a booth and providing Project information.

³⁰ Government of British Columbia. 2025. Carrier Sekani Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement. March 31. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/agreements/carrier_sekani_pathway_forward_30_agreement.pdf

³¹ Ibid.

³² Ibid.

6.4.3 ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Engagement with Nadleh Whut'en continues to inform the design of the project. To date, this process has helped identify specific issues and interests that have either influenced the project design or are guiding the development of appropriate approaches. Table 6.4-2 summarizes the topics raised through engagement so far. This preliminary list is not exhaustive, as the early engagement period and the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) process are expected to offer further opportunities for constructive dialogue.

TABLE 6.4-2 SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY NADLEH WHUT'EN

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Business, Employment, Procurement and Economic Opportunities	Concerns based on past experiences with major projects, that the Project will not provide long-term careers for members and most opportunities for First Nations will be entry level positions	<p>FPX is working to increase First Nation participation in employment and contracting and is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project, pending further engagement, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualifications requirements for major job types onsite; • Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy, and discussing potential economic opportunities for local businesses; • Working to coordinate interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Supporting community bursaries for First Nation members; • Identifying appropriate methods to communicate Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities; and • Developing appropriate monitoring metrics.
Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing	Collaboration with Stellat'en First Nation on Transmission Line development	<p>FPX is working to advance a collaborative design process with First Nations including through the ongoing Leadership Table and Technical Tables. Further review of linear development in the selection, design, study and analysis is anticipated commencing in the fall of 2025. The IPD reflects early engagement outcomes related to linear project components (e.g., access road and Transmission Line) seeking to reduce new disturbance and utilize existing linear features (e.g., roads).</p>
Fish and Fish Habitat, including Water Quality	Protection of aquatic habitat, especially the importance of preserving ecosystems that sustain fish species in Middle River	<p>FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies including fish and fish habitat, hydrology and water quality to inform Project design and assessment including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses. FPX's approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies (e.g., sharing baseline work plan). FPX is also developing early plans for fisheries stewardship to support First Nations led fisheries management. Early engagement has informed the initial project description for the protection of fish and fish habitat.</p>

6.4.4 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT PHASE

Table 6.4-3 summarizes the planned engagement during early engagement and readiness phases.

TABLE 6.4-3 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH NADLEH WHUT’EN

Type of Engagement	Timing/Frequency
Leadership Table	Monthly / Quarterly as determined by Leadership Table Membership
Bilateral Meetings with Chief and Council, and staff	As required & Ongoing
Technical Table	As determined by the Leadership Table
Review and development of draft Project documents, e.g., IPD, EP, and DPD	4Q2025 onwards
Provision of Project updates and notifications and community events and meetings	Ongoing and as determined with Chief and Council

6.5 NAK’AZDLI WHUT’EN

Nak’azdli, meaning “People from where the Stuart River begins to flow,” are part of the Dakelh (Carrier) people. Nak’azdli Whut’en territory encompasses 2,582,832 ha, extending northwards from Prince George past Omineca Provincial Park. The territory does not overlap with the Project Area but does overlap with proposed linear infrastructure. Nak’azdli Whut’en has a total registered membership of 2,111 as of July 2025.³³ The Nak’azdli Whut’en main on-reserve community, Nak’azdli, has a population of 528³⁴ and is located next to Fort St. James.³⁵ Several families also live on IR #1 A up the North Road at Four-Mile and William’s Prairie Meadow. The nearest service centre is Fort St. James and the nearest city is Prince George (2 hours by road). A list of Nak’azdli Whut’en reserves can be found in Appendix B.

Nak’azdli Whut’en has four clans: Lhts’umusyoo (Beaver), Lusilyoo (Frog), Kwun Ba Whuten (Caribou), and Lohjabou (Bear). The Nation is deeply connected to the land, with families having ties to their hunting and fishing territories passed down through generations. Nak’azdli community embraces these traditions, ensuring that their cultural practices and heritage are preserved and passed on to future generations.³⁶

Nak’azdli Whut’en operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band and holds elections every four years. The last election was held in August 2024. The governance structure includes one elected chief and eight elected councillors. Nak’azdli Whut’en society is based on

³³ CIRNAC. 2025d. INAC Community Profile: Nak'azdli Whut'en. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=614&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

³⁴ Statistics Canada. 2023. Census Profile, 2021 Census. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=Nak%27azdli&DGUIDlist=2021A00055951803&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0> (accessed September 2024).

³⁵ CIRNAC. 2025d. INAC Community Profile: Nak'azdli Whut'en. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=614&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

³⁶ Ibid.

the Clan System, with four clans: Lhts’umusyoo (Beaver), Lusilyoo (Frog), Kwun Ba Whuten (Caribou), and Lohjabou (Bear). Key Nak’azdli Whut’en contacts are provided in Table 6.5-1.

TABLE 6.5-1 NAK’AZDLI WHUT’EN NATION CONTACTS

Name	Title
Colleen Erickson	Chief, Nak’azdli Whut’en
Chris Prince	Executive Assistant to the Chief
Leonard Thomas	Councillor, Nak’azdli Whut’en
Grady Goodwin	Manager, Nak’azdli Development Corp.
Rosemarie Sam	Natural Resource Manager
Seraphine Munroe	Director of Lands and Stewardship
Omineca Jack	Lead Referral Clerk

6.5.1 RELEVANT AGREEMENTS

The Province of BC and seven Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN), including Nak’azdli Whut’en, signed the Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement³⁷ in 2025, which supports CSFN’s goals of self-determination, self-governance and practise of culture, traditions and customs. The agreement reflects a mutual intention to develop a clear plan for regional economic development, aligning CSFN’s community priorities with broader regional opportunities to support a more inclusive and resilient economy. It also outlines how all parties will collaborate on land and resource management within CSFN’s Territories, including provisions related to forestry (ibid.).

Nak’azdli Whut’en is in Stage 4, Agreement-in-Principle, of the BC Treaty Commission’s negotiation process as of May 2024.³⁸

Nak’azdli Whut’en holds the following agreements with the Province of BC:³⁹

- *Economic and Community Development Agreement (2012, 2015)*: sets out a relationship for socioeconomic opportunities when undertaking development activities within Nak’azdli Whut’en claim areas.
- *Environmental Stewardship Initiative CSFN Omineca Demonstration Project Renewal Agreement (2018)*: sets out a relationship and process for collaborative land and resource planning between the Province of BC, CSTC, and CSFNs.

³⁷ Government of British Columbia. 2025. Carrier Sekani Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement. March 31. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/agreements/carrier_sekani_pathway_forward_30_agreement.pdf

³⁸ Government of British Columbia. 2024. Nak’azdli Band. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/nak-azdli-band> (accessed September 2024).

³⁹ Ibid.

- *Forest & Range Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (2024)*: sets out a process to consult on potential adverse impacts of proposed forest and range resource development activities and outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities.
- *Interim Forestry Revenue Sharing Agreement (2021)*: outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities.
- *Environmental and Socio-Cultural Initiatives Agreement (2015)*: outlines the process for economic opportunities as well as environmental and cultural stewardship during development activities for CSFN's claim areas.
- *Collaboration Agreement (2015)*: creates a new government-to-government relationship for management of land and natural resource development, socioeconomic opportunities, and measures that protect cultural, burial and sacred sites for CSFN's claim areas.

Nak'azdli Whut'en is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the following natural resource development projects or operations:⁴⁰

- Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project; and
- Pacific Trails Pipeline Project.

At this time, FPX does not have Project-specific agreements with Nak'azdli Whut'en.

6.5.2 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

FPX has engaged with Nak'azdli Whut'en through a series of meetings in 2024 and 2025 with the Chief and Council, as well as the Natural Resources Manager. These meetings were opportunities to introduce the Project and listen to community concerns. FPX also met with Nak'azdli Whut'en representatives to discuss environmental protection measures, particularly related to traffic and safety near their community. Nak'azdli Whut'en also suggested the need for construction monitors and shared their Stewardship Plans. In September 2025, FPX was invited to present Project information at a at the Nak'azdli Whut'en Annual General Assembly to provide community members with information about the Project and to listen to their interests and concerns, with concerns raised about a possible Fort St James road bypass, fish hatcheries, communication protocols, healing centers, and job fairs. Nak'azdli Whut'en has also been an active participant in the Leadership and Technical Tables since July 2025. FPX has participated in Nak'azdli community events, including Truth and Reconciliation Day activities in September 2025. The IPD and EP were shared with Nak'azdli Whut'en in October 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC.

6.5.3 ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Engagement with Nak'azdli Whut'en continues to inform the design of the project. To date, this process has helped identify specific issues and interests that have either influenced the project design or are guiding the development of appropriate approaches. Table 6.5-2 summarizes the topics raised through engagement so far. This preliminary list is not exhaustive, as the early engagement period and the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) process are expected to offer further opportunities for constructive dialogue.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

TABLE 6.5-2 SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY NAK’AZDLI WHUT’EN

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Business, Employment, Procurement and Economic Opportunities	Job fairs and mentorship programs should be planned to provide Project opportunities to Nak’azdli Whut’enne	<p>FPX is working to increase First Nation participation in employment and contracting and is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project, pending further engagement, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualifications requirements for major job types onsite; • Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy, and discussing potential economic opportunities for local businesses; • Working to coordinate interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Supporting community bursaries for First Nation members; • Identifying appropriate methods to communicate Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities; and • Developing appropriate monitoring metrics.
Community Well-being	There is a need for support of a healing center in the community	FPX expressed willingness to support community-based initiatives aimed at recovery, healing, education and other social initiatives prioritized by the Nak’azdli Whut’en, and will continue to engage to define how the Project can best support these initiatives.
Fish and Fish Habitat, including Water Quality	Impacts to salmon and downstream fisheries	FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies including fish and fish habitat, hydrology and water quality to inform Project design and assessment including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses. FPX’s approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies, e.g., sharing baseline work plan. FPX is also developing early plans for fisheries stewardship to support First Nations led fisheries management. Early engagement has informed the initial project description for the protection of fish and fish habitat, e.g., siting of major project facilities to avoid habitat used by salmon and reducing crossings of Sidney Creek.
Traffic	Concern about a potential new bridge for a bypass through Fort St. James and about increased traffic near their community	FPX is working to advance a collaborative design process with First Nations including including through the ongoing Leadership Table and Technical Tables. Further review of linear development in the selection, design, study and analysis is anticipated commencing in the fall of 2025. The IPD reflects early engagement outcomes related to linear project components, such as access road and Transmission Line seeking to reduce new disturbance and utilize existing linear features (e.g., roads).

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
		Part of the assessment will be an evaluation of safety for communities and development of appropriate risk mitigation strategies in collaboration with First Nations.
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	Impacts on terrestrial habitat and caribou	<p>FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies including for wildlife and wildlife habitat inform Project design and assessment including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses. FPX’s approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies (e.g., sharing baseline work plan). This has been applied to exploration activities in the development and implementation of environmental management plans.</p> <p>FPX is also developing plans for caribou stewardship to support First Nations-led stewardship. Plan implementation commenced in 2025 with the evaluation of terrestrial lichen restoration.</p> <p>Early engagement has informed the initial project description by clustering planned facilities in close proximity to the fixed project components (e.g., nickel deposit).</p>
Inclusion of Traditional Knowledge	How Traditional Knowledge will be incorporated into baseline studies, monitoring and establishing protocols to respect the confidentiality of TK	The incorporation of Traditional Knowledge is a core objective of the collaborative approach that FPX has taken with respect to development of the environmental baseline workplan and execution of studies. FPX will continue to evaluate additional methods to incorporate Indigenous Knowledge into programs and Project design.

6.5.4 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT PHASE

Table 6.5-3 summarizes the planned engagement during early engagement and readiness phases.

TABLE 6.5-3 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH NAK’AZDLI WHUT’EN

Type of Engagement	Timing/Frequency
Leadership Table	Monthly / Quarterly as determined by Leadership Table Membership
Bilateral Meetings with Chief and Council, and staff	As required & Ongoing
Technical Table	As determined by the Leadership Table
Review and development of draft Project documents, e.g., IPD, EP, and DPD	4Q2025 onwards
Provision of Project updates and notifications and community events and meetings	Ongoing and as determined with Chief and Council

6.6 STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION

Stellat'en, meaning "people of Stella," are part of the Dakelh (Carrier) people. Stellat'en First Nation territory has a total area of 694,176 ha, encompassing part of Sutherland River Protected Area to the north, and extending west from Fort Fraser to the western end of Francois Lake. This territory does not overlap with the Project Area but does overlap with the proposed linear infrastructure. Stellat'en First Nation has a total registered membership of 641 in July 2025.⁴¹ The main on-reserve community, Stellaquo (Stella 1), also known as Stellako, has a population of 189⁴² and is located on the west banks of Nadleh Bun (Fraser Lake).⁴³ The nearest service centre is Vanderhoof (45 minutes by road) and nearest city is Prince George (2 hours). A list of Stellat'en First Nation reserves can be found in Appendix B.

Stellat'en society is organized into four matrilineal clans: Bear, Beaver, Frog, and Caribou. They continue to practice the Bah'lats (potlatch) system of traditional governance, which plays a significant role in their social and cultural life. They honour their ancestors by maintaining traditional practices and sharing their stories, ensuring that their heritage is passed down to future generations.⁴⁴

Stellat'en First Nation operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band and holds elections every two years. The last election was held in July 2025. The governance structure includes a Chief and four Councillors. The Chief and Council are responsible for making decisions on behalf of the community. Key Stellat'en First Nation contacts are provided in Table 6.6-1.

TABLE 6.6-1 STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION CONTACTS

Name	Title
Robert Michell	Chief, Stellat'en First Nation
David Luggi	Advisor

6.6.1 RELEVANT AGREEMENTS

The Province of BC and seven Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN), including Stellat'en First Nation, signed the Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement⁴⁵ in 2025, which supports CSFN's goals of self-determination, self-governance and practise of culture, traditions and customs. The agreement

⁴¹ CIRNAC. 2025e. INAC Community Profile: Stellat'en First Nation. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=613&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

⁴² Statistics Canada. 2023. Census Profile, 2021 Census. [https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/Page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=stellako&DGUIDlist=2021A00055951807&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1,4&HEADERlist=0https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=5951807&Geo2=PR&Code2=59&SearchText=Stellaquo \[Stella\] 1&SearchType=Begins&SearchPR=01&B1=All&GeoLevel=PR&GeoCode=5951807&TABID=1&type=0](https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/Page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=stellako&DGUIDlist=2021A00055951807&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1,4&HEADERlist=0https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=5951807&Geo2=PR&Code2=59&SearchText=Stellaquo [Stella] 1&SearchType=Begins&SearchPR=01&B1=All&GeoLevel=PR&GeoCode=5951807&TABID=1&type=0) (accessed August 2025).

⁴³ CIRNAC. 2025e. INAC Community Profile: Stellat'en First Nation. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=613&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Government of British Columbia. 2025. Carrier Sekani Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement. March 31. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/agreements/carrier_sekani_pathway_forward_30_agreement.pdf

reflects a mutual intention to develop a clear plan for regional economic development, aligning CSFN's community priorities with broader regional opportunities to support a more inclusive and resilient economy. It also outlines how all parties will collaborate on land and resource management within CSFN's Territories, including provisions related to forestry (ibid.). Stelat'en First Nation holds the following agreements with the Province of BC:⁴⁶

- *Environmental Stewardship Initiative CSFN Omineca Demonstration Project Renewal Agreement* (2018): sets out a relationship and process for collaborative land and resource planning between the Province of BC, CSTC, and CSFNs.
- *Interim Forestry Revenue Sharing Agreement* (2021): outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities.
- *Mountain Pine Beetle Agreement* (2010): provides an economic opportunity for Stelat'en First Nation to apply for a nonreplaceable forest licence to assist mountain pine beetle management in the Prince George Timber Supply Area.
- *Environmental and Socio-Cultural Initiatives Agreement* (2015): outlines the process for economic opportunities as well as environmental and cultural stewardship during development activities for CSFN's claim areas.
- *Collaboration Agreement* (2015): creates a new government-to-government relationship for management of land and natural resource development, socioeconomic opportunities, and measures that protect cultural, burial and sacred sites for CSFN's claim areas.

Stelat'en First Nation is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the following natural resource development projects or operations:⁴⁷

- Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project; and
- Pacific Trails Pipeline Project.

FPX does not have Project-specific agreements with Stelat'en First Nation.

6.6.2 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

Starting in 2024, FPX engaged with Stelat'en First Nation through various online and in-person meetings to understand community concerns and interests with respect to the proposed south access road and Transmission Line that overlaps their territory. FPX participated in community events and engaged with the Stelat'en First Nation to discuss community development priorities. In 2025, FPX met on various occasions with the Chiefs of both Stelat'en First Nation and Nadleh Whut'en, to work towards an agreement for collaboration in the assessment of the project, given their close geographic proximity and successful collaborations on multiple projects in the past. Stelat'en First Nation also participated in the Leadership Table in July and Technical Table in September 2025. The IPD and EP were shared with Stelat'en in October 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

6.6.3 ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Engagement with Stellat’en First Nation continues to inform the design of the project. To date, this process has helped identify specific issues and interests that have either influenced the project design or are guiding the development of appropriate approaches. Table 6.6-2 summarizes the topics raised through engagement so far. This preliminary list is not exhaustive, as the early engagement period and the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) process are expected to offer further opportunities for constructive dialogue.

TABLE 6.6-2 SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY STELLAT’EN FIRST NATION

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing	Collaboration with Nadleh Whut’en on Transmission Line development	Acknowledged and discussed the importance of this collaboration in ongoing engagement. FPX is working to advance a collaborative design process with First Nations including through the ongoing Leadership Table and Technical Tables. Further review of linear development in the selection, design, study and analysis is anticipated commencing in the fall of 2025. The IPD reflects early engagement outcomes related to linear project components (e.g., access road and Transmission Line) seeking to reduce new disturbance and utilize existing linear features (e.g., roads).
Environmental Assessment Process	Development of an assessment process that reflects First Nations interests such as those applied to Projects within Stellat’en Territory	FPX’s approach to date and going forward will be to advance and evaluate the Project in collaboration with First Nations.

6.6.4 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT PHASE

Table 6.6-3 summarizes the planned engagement during early engagement and readiness phases.

TABLE 6.6-3 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH STELLAT’EN FIRST NATION

Type of Engagement	Timing/Frequency
Leadership Table	Monthly / Quarterly as determined by Leadership Table Membership
Bilateral Meetings with Chief and Council, and staff	As required & Ongoing
Technical Table	As determined by the Leadership Table
Review and development of draft Project documents, e.g., IPD, EP and DPD	4Q2025 onwards
Provision of Project updates and notifications and community events and meetings	Ongoing and as determined with Chief and Council

6.7 TAKLA NATION

The following description was provided by the Takla Nation:

Takla Nation's ancestry is traced to Sekani, Ned'u'tin, Dakehl, and Gitksan peoples. The modern Takla Nation is comprised of two formerly separate bands – the Fort Connolly Band, and the North Takla/Tacla Band. The Fort Connolly Band was comprised of primarily Sekani people who occupied the region spanning from Bear Lake (Sustut) to the Rocky Mountain trench, known to themselves as Sustut'enne (Brown 2002; Dewhirst 1995) and to others as the Sasuchan (Jeness 1937:11). The Fort Connolly Band were considered Sekani by the Department of Indian Affairs (DIA). The North Takla Band was comprised of Sekani, Ned'u'tin, and Dakehl people who occupied the region spanning from Takla Lake region to the Wolverine Range, and was described as Carrier by the DIA (Canada Census 1921). The Fort Connolly and North Takla bands amalgamated in 1959. The primary Takla Nation community is at Takla Landing, but many members live in more isolated settlements at Bukley House, Bear Lake, Germansen Landing, and other communities such as Prince George or Fort St. James.

At the time of the first European exploration of region in the early 19th century, fur traders encountered Sekani people who are ancestral to Takla Nation both to the south of and the north of the Project Area (Harmon 1820:195-196, 215-216; H.B.C.A. 1826, Fort St. James Post, September 23, October 24). Sekani people, ancestral to many members of Takla Nation are known to have harvested resources in the region as part of their highly mobile way of life. Current Takla members hold a trapline overlapping with the northern extremity of the Project Area.

Takla Nation territory has a total area of 4,895,588 ha, extending northwards from Inzana Lake up to Tatlatui Provincial Park, and fully overlaps with the Project Area. Takla Nation has 17 designated reserves and a registered membership of 961 as of July 2025.⁴⁸ Takla Nation's main on-reserve community, North Talka Lake 7, has a population of 214⁴⁹ and is located on the eastern shore of Takla Lake, 2.5 hours by road from Fort St. James.⁵⁰ A list of Takla Nation reserves can be found in Appendix B.

Takla Nation operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band, electing one chief and four councillors (including a deputy chief), which serve on council for four-year terms. Chief and Council members participate in various committees to address specific areas such as Audit and Finance, Health, Capital Projects, and Resource Development. The most recent by-election took place in September 2023⁵¹. Key Takla Nation contacts are provided in Table 6.7-1.

⁴⁸ CIRNAC. 2025f. INAC Community Profile: Takla Nation. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=608&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

⁴⁹ Statistics Canada. 2023. Census Profile, 2021 Census. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=North%20Tacla%20Lake%207&DGUIDlist=2021A0006590296&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0> (accessed September 2024).

⁵⁰ CIRNAC. 2025f. INAC Community Profile: Takla Nation. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=608&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

⁵¹ Takla Nation. 2024. Takla Nation Website. <https://www.taklafn.ca/> (accessed September 2024).

TABLE 6.7-1 TAKLA NATION CONTACTS

Name	Title
John Allen French	Chief, Takla Nation
Wilma Abraham	Deputy Chief, Takla Nation
Terry Kuzma	Senior Negotiator
Sylvia Jack	Councillor, Takla Nation
Evan MacKinnon	Director, Lands and Stewardship

6.7.1 RELEVANT AGREEMENTS

The Province of BC and seven Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN), including Takla Nation, signed the Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement⁵² in 2025, which supports CSFN’s goals of self-determination, self-governance and practise of culture, traditions and customs. The agreement reflects a mutual intention to develop a clear plan for regional economic development, aligning CSFN’s community priorities with broader regional opportunities to support a more inclusive and resilient economy. It also outlines how all parties will collaborate on land and resource management within CSFN’s Territories, including provisions related to forestry (ibid.). .⁵³

Since the 1970s the Takla Nation has been involved in an ongoing settlement with Canada relative to its lands and reserves, as such these areas may change over time.

As of December 2023, Takla Nation is in Stage 4, Agreement-in-Principle, of the BC Treaty Commission’s negotiation process.⁵⁴ In addition, Takla Nation holds the following agreements with the Province of BC:⁵⁵

- *Environmental Stewardship Initiative CSFN Omineca Demonstration Project Renewal Agreement* (2018): sets out a relationship and process for collaborative land and resource planning between the Province of BC, CSTC, and CSFNs.
- *Interim Forestry Revenue Sharing Agreement* (2021): outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities.
- *Environmental and Socio-Cultural Initiatives Agreement* (2015): outlines the process for economic opportunities as well as environmental and cultural stewardship during development activities for CSFN’s claim areas.

⁵² Government of British Columbia. 2025. Carrier Sekani Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement. March 31. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/agreements/carrier_sekani_pathway_forward_30_agreement.pdf

⁵³ Carrier Sekani First Nations. 2025. Our Story. <https://www.csfns.ca/about/our-story/> (accessed August 2025).

⁵⁴ Government of British Columbia. 2023. Takla Nation. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/takla-lake-first-nation> (accessed August 2025).

⁵⁵ Ibid.

- *Collaboration Agreement (2015)*: creates a new government-to-government relationship for management of land and natural resource development, socioeconomic opportunities, and measures that protect cultural, burial and sacred sites for CSFN's claim areas.
- *Tse Key Nay—BC Protocol Agreement for Reclamation, Remediation and Monitoring of Mine Sites (2008)*: describes government-to-government relationship for management of reclamation, remediation and monitoring activities within territories including that of Takla Nation.

Takla Nation is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the following natural resource development projects or operations:⁵⁶

- Kemess Mine; and
- Prince Rupert Gas Transmission.

At this time, FPX has an Exploration Agreement with Takla signed in 2025.

6.7.2 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

FPX has engaged with Takla Nation through various meetings and events to foster collaboration and share information about the Project. In early 2023, FPX met with Takla Nation in Prince George to review the proposed 2023 field program and discuss the results of the mine closure workshops. In 2024, FPX presented to the Chief and Lands Department of Takla Nation, followed by an introductory presentation to the community at Takla Landing, with an aerial tour to provide context on the Project's location.

FPX and Takla Nation have continued to meet in a spirit of collaboration to discuss technical elements of the Project and the environmental stewardship initiatives. In 2025, Takla Nation provided valuable feedback on the draft Whitebark Pine Management Plan, as well as fish stewardship, caribou stewardship initiatives.

Takla Nation has participated in the First Nation Leadership Table since July 2024 as well as Technical Table workshops since May 2025. The IPD and EP were shared with Takla in October 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC.

6.7.3 ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Engagement with Takla Nation continues to inform the design of the project. To date, this process has helped identify specific issues and interests that have either influenced the project design or are guiding the development of appropriate approaches. Table 6.7-2 summarizes the topics raised through engagement so far. This preliminary list is not exhaustive, as the early engagement period and the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) process are expected to offer further opportunities for constructive dialogue.

⁵⁶ Ibid.

TABLE 6.7-2 SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY TAKLA NATION

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing	Involvement in the collaborative design process for Project development has not included priority issues and interests for the nation	Takla Nation representatives have participated in collaborative mine design processes and FPX will continue to engage with the nation through established and future agreements and opportunities for bilateral or multilateral collaboration on mine design, priority areas of potential impact, or decision-making processes.
	Wildlife baseline technical methods need to be appropriate and aligned with Takla’s stewardship priorities	FPX continues to share baseline Work Plans and subsequent results with First Nations in order to align methodologies and find areas for synergistic data collection and collaboration.
Environmental Assessment Process	Concerns about government fast-tracking of environmental assessments and the limitations of conventional consultation processes to meet the needs of First Nations	FPX’s approach to date and going forward will be to advance and evaluate the Project in collaboration with First Nations.
Fish and Fish Habitat, including Water Quality	Erosion and sediment control and other risks to critical spawning habitats for early Stuart sockeye salmon, and potential mitigation and offset measures	<p>FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies including fish and fish habitat, hydrology and water quality to inform Project design and assessment including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses. FPX’s approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies, e.g., sharing baseline work plan. FPX is also developing early plans for fisheries stewardship to support First Nations led fisheries management. Early engagement has informed the initial project description for the protection of fish and fish habitat, e.g., siting of major project facilities to avoid habitat used by salmon and reducing the need to cross Sidney Creek.</p> <p>During exploration FPX implemented environmental management plans addressing erosion and sediment control.</p>
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	Effects of linear infrastructure development on wildlife (and fisheries) including cumulative effects	FPX is working to advance a collaborative design process with First Nations including through the ongoing Leadership Table and Technical Tables. Further review of linear development in the selection, design, study of environmental impacts, and analysis is anticipated commencing in the fall of 2025. The IPD reflects early engagement outcomes related to linear project components, e.g., access road and Transmission Line design that seeks to reduce new disturbance and utilize existing linear features, e.g., roads.
	Impacts to critical habitat for Takla caribou herd from disturbances caused by the Project Area as well as linear infrastructure and ancillary facilities	Building on conservation measures during exploration, FPX has developed for collaborative refinement and implementation a conceptual Caribou Mitigation and Monitoring Plan quantifying potential effects and identifying potential mitigations, offsets and monitoring. Plan implementation commenced in 2025 with evaluating terrestrial lichen restoration.

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
		FPX’s approach will include continued collaboration with First Nations including Takla Nation technical staff and subject matter experts, on the Takla herd to refine the plan and support First Nation-led stewardship measures.
Water and Water Quality	Water quality as a related and reciprocal life system, especially for human consumption and understanding and assessment of Metal Leaching and Acid Rock Drainage	FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies including hydrology and water quality to inform Project design and assessment including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses. FPX’s approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies (e.g., sharing baseline work plan).

6.7.4 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT PHASE

Table 6.7-3 summarizes the planned engagement during early engagement and readiness phases.

TABLE 6.7-3 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH TAKLA NATION

Type of Engagement	Timing/Frequency
Leadership Table	Monthly / Quarterly as determined by Leadership Table Membership
Bilateral Meetings with Chief and Council, and staff, e.g., Lands Director	As required & Ongoing
Technical Table	As determined by the Leadership Table
Review and development of draft Project documents, e.g., IPD, EP, and DPD	4Q2025 onwards
Provision of Project updates and notifications and community events and meetings	Ongoing and as determined with Chief and Council

6.8 TL’AZT’EN NATION

TI’azt’enne, meaning “people at the end of the lake,” are part of the Dakelh (Carrier) people. TI’azt’en Nation communities are in closest proximity to the Project, with three reserves located within 15 km of the Project Area: Dzitline Lee 9 (Middle River); Dzin TI’at 46; and Noo Kat 42. TI’azt’en Nation territory covers 700,875 ha, fully encompassing the Project area and most of the proposed linear infrastructure of the Project. This territory extends north to Takla Lake and south to include most of Stuart Lake. TI’azt’en Nation has a total registered membership of 1,558 as of July 2025.⁵⁷ The Nation’s main on-reserve community, Tache 1, has a population of 400⁵⁸ and is

⁵⁷ CIRNAC. 2025g. INAC Community Profile: TI’azt’en Nation. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=617&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

⁵⁸ Statistics Canada. 2023. Census Profile, 2021 Census. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=Tache%201&DGUIDlist=2021A00055951810&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0> (accessed August 2025).

located 65 km north of Fort St. James at the mouth of the Tachie River on Stuart Lake. Tache is also where the nation’s main administrative offices are located. The nearest service centre is Fort St. James (45 minutes by road) and the nearest city is Prince George (2.5 hours). Other communities include Dzitl’ainli, which is located on Leo Creek Road alongside Trembleur Lake, and K’uzche, which is located on the Tachie River.⁵⁹ A list of all Tl’azt’en Nation reserves can be found in Appendix B.

Tl’azt’enne celebrate and practice long-standing traditions of harvesting foods and medicine, as caretakers of the land. They recognize and honour cultural systems that include Elders, Keyoh Holders, and a hereditary system of governance based on a matrilineal clan system, where children inherit their clan membership from their mothers. Community members actively engage in traditional activities such as hunting, fishing, and gathering.⁶⁰

Tl’azt’en Nation operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band, conducting elections every three years. The most recent election took place in August 2024. The Keyoh (land, territory, trapline) is managed by family units and the family head governs hunting, fishing, and gathering activities in their family’s Keyoh. Community decisions and Tl’azt’en Nation agreements are made collectively, led by the Chief and Council. Key Tl’azt’en Nation contacts are provided in Table 6.8-1.

TABLE 6.8-1 TL’AZT’EN NATION CONTACTS

Name	Title
Edward John	Grand Chief, Tl’azt’en Nation
Mina Holmes	Councillor
Jermaine Joseph	Deputy Chief and Councillor
Scott Emmons	Manager, Natural Resources
John Leidl	General Manager, Tanizul Timber Ltd. (subsidiary)

6.8.1 RELEVANT AGREEMENTS

As of January 2024, Tl’azt’en Nation is in Stage 4, Agreement-in-Principle, of the BC Treaty Commission’s negotiation process.⁶¹

The Province of BC and seven Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN), including Tl’azt’en Nation, signed the Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement⁶² in 2025, which supports CSFN’s goals of self-

⁵⁹ CIRNAC. 2025g. INAC Community Profile: Tl’azt’en Nation https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=617&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

⁶⁰ Tl’azt’en Nation. 2024. Homepage. <https://tlaztennation.ca/> (accessed April 2024).

⁶¹ Government of British Columbia. 2024. Tl’azt’en Nation. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/tl-azt-en-nation> (accessed August 2025).

⁶² Government of British Columbia. 2025. Carrier Sekani Pathway Forward 3.0 Agreement. March 31. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/agreements/carrier_sekani_pathway_forward_30_agreement.pdf

determination, self-governance and practise of culture, traditions and customs. The agreement reflects a mutual intention to develop a clear plan for regional economic development, aligning CSFN's community priorities with broader regional opportunities to support a more inclusive and resilient economy. It also outlines how all parties will collaborate on land and resource management within CSFN's Territories, including provisions related to forestry (ibid.). In addition, Tl'azt'en Nation holds the following agreements with the Province of BC⁶³:

- *Environmental Stewardship Initiative Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN) Omineca Demonstration Project Renewal Agreement (2018)*: sets out a relationship and process for collaborative land and resource planning between the Province of BC, CSTC, and CSFNs.
- *Interim Forestry Revenue Sharing Agreement (2021)*: outlines revenue sharing for forest and range activities.
- *Environmental and Socio-Cultural Initiatives Agreement (2015)*: outlines the process for economic opportunities as well as environmental and cultural stewardship during development activities for CSFN's claim areas.
- *Collaboration Agreement (2015)*: creates a new government-to-government relationship for management of land and natural resource development, socioeconomic opportunities, and measures that protect cultural, burial and sacred sites for CSFN's claim areas.

Tl'azt'en Nation is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the following natural resource development project or operation:⁶⁴

- Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project.

At this time, FPX does not have Project-specific agreements with Tl'azt'en Nation.

6.8.2 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

FPX has engaged with Tl'azt'en Nation since 2008, beginning with initial consultations during the early stages of mineral exploration. This proactive approach led to the development of a MoU in 2012, which outlined common principles and values for conducting exploration activities. Over the years, FPX has maintained regular communication and collaboration with the Tl'azt'en Nation through community engagement, meetings, emails, and tours. On March 12, 2019, the Canadian federal government constituted Binche Whut'en as a new First Nation, formalizing a de-amalgamation from Tl'azt'en Nation. Following the de-amalgamation and at Tl'azt'en Nation's request, FPX commenced discussions with Tl'azt'en Nation regarding a renewal of the MoU.

Key engagement activities in 2021 included discussions on environmental impacts, archaeological studies, and employment and business opportunities, as well as reclamation inspections of individual drill sites. In 2022, FPX continued to work with the Tl'azt'en Nation, focusing on cultural awareness training for non-Indigenous employees, field program planning, and updating the MoU. FPX also provided tours of the Project site for Elders, to allow them to learn about the Project and to share their knowledge with the Project team.

⁶³ Ibid.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

In 2023 FPX received notice from Tl'azt'en Nation that the 2012 MoU had been terminated by the nation. FPX has continued to communicate with Tl'azt'en Chief and Council to seek opportunities for engagement, which in 2024 centered on providing information to Tl'azt'en Nation about the Project design and baseline studies, fostering avenues for collaboration in the EA process, and supporting nation-to-nation discussions with federal and provincial governments. In 2025, FPX shared Project information at open community meetings in both Prince George and Dzitl'ainli (Middle River), with approximately 50 participants, as well as at the nation's Annual General Assembly. In July of 2025 Grand Chief Edward John sent a letter to FPX advising that Tl'azt'en Nation has not provided free, prior and informed consent for the company's activities in its territories. FPX acknowledged the letter and reiterated its desire for a strengthened relationship with the Nation, including the potential for development of a Communications Protocol and Data Sharing agreement as a framework for constructive engagement on matters related to the Project.

In October of 2025, FPX was invited by Tl'azt'en to present Project information at the Tl'azt'en Keyoh Holders meeting to listen to their concerns and answer questions from members. A discussion was held regarding an EA agreement and support to Tl'azt'en the forthcoming EA process. The IPD and EP were shared with Tl'azt'en in October 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC. In December 2025 Grand Chief Edward John sent a letter to FPX advising that the Project Area is in core Tl'azt'en territory and requesting FPX engage exclusively with Tl'azt'en, noting issues with the IPD requiring more comprehensive review, requesting a delay to the IPD filing to support EA preparedness and highlighting a lack of procedural clarity, financial resources and capacity to support the necessary reviews. FPX acknowledged the letter and reaffirmed commitment to upholding the principles of UNDRIP, the required engagement with potentially affected First Nations, clarifying the purpose of the IPD e.g., identifying First Nations that will be participating in the EA, and reiterating a desire to enter into an EA Agreement with the Nation to support the capacity and to further information sharing and collaboration.

6.8.3 ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Engagement with Tl'azt'en Nation continues to inform the design of the project. To date, this process has helped identify specific issues and interests that have either influenced the project design or are guiding the development of appropriate approaches. Table 6.8-2 summarizes the topics raised through engagement so far. This preliminary list is not exhaustive, as the early engagement period and the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) process are expected to offer further opportunities for constructive collaboration.

6.8.4 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT PHASE

Table 6.8-3 summarizes the planned engagement during early engagement and readiness phases.

TABLE 6.8-2 SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY TL'AZT'EN NATION

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
<p>Business, Employment, Procurement and Economic Opportunities</p>	<p>Employment opportunities related to the Project, including opportunities for Tl'azt'en owned businesses</p>	<p>FPX continues to engage First Nations including Tl'azt'en Nation and Tl'azt'enne members or affiliated businesses on Project development opportunities. FPX is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project, pending further engagement, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualifications requirements for major job types onsite; • Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy, and discussing potential economic opportunities for local businesses; • Working to coordinate interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Supporting community bursaries for First Nation members; • Identifying appropriate methods to communicate Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities; and • Developing appropriate monitoring metrics.
<p>Community Well-being</p>	<p>Concerns pertaining to the potential for social challenges associated with mining projects including addressing social infrastructure gaps and impacts from industrial camps including the addiction crisis and community safety</p>	<p>FPX is seeking to collaboratively design and develop the Project with First Nations, including Tl'azt'en. This included co-developed approaches to addressing potential social impacts (e.g., data collection and assessment) and supporting community-led strategies for closing social infrastructure gaps.</p>
<p>Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing</p>	<p>Need for clear and consistent communication throughout the Project planning, to ensure all community members, regardless of access level, can stay informed and involved</p>	<p>FPX has participated in community meetings, including as at the request of Chief and Council, providing Project related information to Keyoh Holders and members establishing a model for future engagement. FPX is seeking to support First Nations, including Tl'azt'en, in providing project information and tailoring communication to support access to information (e.g., an increase in online Project information), including sharing technical reports and studies.</p>
<p>Environmental Assessment Process</p>	<p>Need for First Nation self-determined processes and assessments that respect traditional governance systems to evaluate the project consistent with UNDRIP and FPIC. Need for time and capacity to adequately review and prepare materials.</p>	<p>FPX will continue to seek to engage First Nations, including with Tl'azt'en Nation Chief and Council, to evaluate opportunities for nation-led processes for evaluation of the Project and support First Nations capacity for EA processes.</p>

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Fish and Fish Habitat, including Water Quality	The state of salmon habitat in Tl'azt'en territory and the environmental sensitivity of the Project area for salmon, white sturgeon and steelhead spawning including Sidney Creek and Trembleur Lake	FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies including fish and fish habitat, hydrology and water quality to inform Project design and assessment including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses. FPX's approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies (e.g., sharing baseline workplan). FPX is also developing early plans for fisheries stewardship to support First Nations led fisheries management. Early engagement has informed the initial project description for the protection of fish and fish habitat, e.g., siting of major project facilities to avoid habitat used by salmon and reducing the need to cross Sidney Creek.
Indigenous Knowledge	Importance of incorporating traditional knowledge into the project.	The incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge is a core objective of the collaborative approach that FPX has taken with respect to development of the environmental baseline workplan and execution of studies. FPX will continue to pursue methods to engage with Tl'azt'en Nation on the review of programs and potential for the development and incorporation of Tl'azt'en Nation Indigenous Knowledge into programs and Project design.
Reclamation and Land Use	Concerns about reclamation standards and land use during and after the Project	FPX conducted reclamation inspection of exploration drill sites with Tl'azt'en Nation representatives, and will continue engagement around land use and reclamation and restoration to incorporate needs into the Project plan.
Whitebark Pine	Concerns about the impact of Project activities on Whitebark Pine	FPX has developed a conceptual Whitebark Pine Stewardship Plan for the Project for collaborative review, refinement and implementation by First Nations, including Tl'azt'en Nation. This plan was informed by baseline collected with multiple First Nations in 2024. Further, FPX has developed an exploration phase Whitebark Pine Management Plan (Shas-Ti 2025) and revised based on input from First Nations including Tl'azt'en Nation. This plan was implemented with First Nation monitors in 2025.
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	The effects and cumulative effects on wildlife population and on habitat during all phases of the Project, especially as it relates to food security, including moose and caribou and their habitats	Exploration activities have been informed by Tl'azt'en Nation's review of work plans including the development of environmental management plans, e.g., exploration phase caribou management plan and reclamation planning. Based on early engagement with Tl'azt'en Nation, FPX has prioritized early stewardship activities and baseline work including caribou and wildlife. Activities to date include the development of a draft baseline work plan and conceptual caribou stewardship plan for development and implementation with First Nations including Tl'azt'en Nation.

TABLE 6.8-3 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH TL'AZT'EN NATION

Type of Engagement	Timing/Frequency
Leadership Table	Monthly / Quarterly as determined by Leadership Table Membership
Bilateral Meetings with Chief and Council and staff	As required & Ongoing
Technical Table	As determined by the Leadership Table
Review and development of draft Project documents, e.g., IPD, EP, and DPD	4Q2025 onwards
Provision of Project updates and notifications and community events and meetings	Ongoing and as determined with Tl'azt'en Nation Chief and Council

6.9 YEKOOCHE FIRST NATION

The Yekoochet'en, meaning "people of Yekooche" (also known as the Portage Band), are part of the Dakelh (Carrier) people. Yekooche First Nation territory has a total area of 811,689 ha, and encompasses the Skeena and Fraser watersheds, including Stuart, Trembleur, Babine and Cunningham lakes. The Project Area is adjacent to this territory, and a large portion of the proposed linear infrastructure overlaps with the territory. The registered membership of Yekooche First Nation is 223 as of July 2025.⁶⁵ The Nation's main on-reserve community, Yekooche 3, has a population of 90⁶⁶ and is located on the south shore of Stuart Lake, approximately 1.5 hours west of Fort St. James (by road) and 3 hours from Prince George.⁶⁷ The nearest service centre is Fort St. James and nearest city is Prince George. A list of Yekooche First Nation reserves can be found in Appendix B.

Yekoochet'en value the wisdom and teachings of Elders, who play a crucial role in preserving their language, traditions, and cultural practices. The potlatch system is an important cultural practice for clan membership and social events.⁶⁸

Yekooche First Nation operates under a custom electoral system as a Section 11 Band, with Chief and Council serving 4-year terms. Leaders are chosen through a combination of traditional and custom electoral methods. Every member of the Yekooche community has one vote to elect their chief, who serves as their representative to uphold and protect Yekooche traditions, culture, and lands. The current Chief, Mitchell Joseph, was appointed in December 2021. Key Yekooche First Nation contacts are provided in Table 6.9-1.

⁶⁵ CIRNAC. 2025h. INAC Community Profile: Yekooche First Nation. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=728&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

⁶⁶ Statistics Canada. 2023. Census Profile, 2021 Census. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=Ye%20Koo%20Che%203&DGUIDlist=2021A00055951801&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1,4&HEADERlist=0> (accessed August 2025).

⁶⁷ CIRNAC. 2025h. INAC Community Profile: Yekooche First Nation. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=728&lang=eng (accessed August 2025).

⁶⁸ Ibid.

TABLE 6.9-1 YEKOOCHE FIRST NATION CONTACTS

Name	Title
Partner Schielke	Chief, Yekooche First Nation
Austin Joseph	Councillor, Yekooche First Nation
Mathew Joseph	Councillor, Yekooche First Nation
Miranda Joseph	Councillor, Yekooche First Nation
Steve Nycholat	CEO, KIU Yekooche Economic Development Corporation
Dean Cherkas	Strategic Advisor, Lands and Resources

6.9.1 RELEVANT AGREEMENTS

As September 2024, Yekooche First Nation is in Stage 5, Negotiation to Finalize a Treaty, of the BC Treaty Commission’s negotiation process. Yekooche First Nation holds the following agreements with the Province of BC:⁶⁹

- *Agreement-in-Principle (2005)*: provides the basis for a Final Agreement with groundwork for implementation of a treaty. Proposed Treaty lands encompass an area of 5,960 hectares (14,727.47 acres) of Provincial Crown land and 379.8 hectares (938.51 acres) of existing Indian Reserves within the core area of the Yekooche Statement of Intent area. The land package joins three of the reserves into one contiguous parcel. The fourth reserve, on Babine Lake, is surrounded by private land and Sutherland River Provincial Park.⁷⁰
- *Forest & Range Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (2021)*: outlines a process for potential adverse impacts of proposed forest and range resource development activities within Yekooche First Nation territory and revenue sharing contribution to support the capacity of Yekooche First Nation.
- *Road Maintenance Equipment and Training Grant Funding Agreement (2024)*: provides the basis for funding the acquisition of road maintenance equipment and delivery of related training, aimed at enhancing local road infrastructure and skills capacity for Yekooche First Nation.

Yekooche First Nation is a signatory of revenue sharing, benefits, or land agreements with BC for the following natural resource development projects or operations:⁷¹

- Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project; and
- Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project.

At this time, FPX has a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Yekooche First Nation, signed July 2024.

⁶⁹ Government of British Columbia. 2024. Yekooche First Nation. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/yekooche-first-nation> (accessed August 2025).

⁷⁰ Government of British Columbia. 2005. Yekooche First Nation Agreement-in-Principle. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/agreements/aip_yekooche.pdf (accessed August 2025).

⁷¹ Ibid.

6.9.2 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

FPX has actively engaged with Yekooche First Nation through a series of meetings and events aimed at fostering collaboration and sharing information about the Project. In 2023, FPX attended the Annual General Assembly in community, providing a presentation on FPX and the planned field activities for the 2023 field program. This activity was followed by the participation of Yekooche First Nation representatives in the three 2023 mine closure workshops held in Fort St. James.

Through 2024 and into 2025, Yekooche First Nation participated in meetings to discuss synergies and concerns associated with the Project, including the Economic Development Meeting held in Prince George in September 2024 and an open house in November 2024. In 2025, FPX was invited to participate again in the Yekooche First Nation Annual General Assembly to provide updates to members on Project design and the EA process, and listen to their concerns. FPX has also shared baseline assessment plans and conceptual stewardship plans with the nation for their input. Yekooche First Nation has also been an active participant in the First Nation Leadership Tables and Technical Tables since July 2024. The IPD and EP were shared with Yekooche in October 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC.

6.9.3 ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Engagement with Yekooche First Nation continues to inform the design of the project. To date, this process has helped identify specific issues and interests that have either influenced the project design or are guiding the development of appropriate approaches. Table 6.9-2 summarizes the topics raised through engagement so far. This preliminary list is not exhaustive, as the early engagement period and the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) process are expected to offer further opportunities for constructive dialogue.

TABLE 6.9-2 SUMMARY OF ISSUES OR INTERESTS RAISED BY YEKOOCHE FIRST NATION

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Business, Employment, Procurement and Economic Opportunities	Training programs are needed to ensure community members have the skillset to capitalize on job opportunities during each phase of the Project	<p>FPX is working to increase First Nation participation in employment and contracting and is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project, pending further engagement, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualifications requirements for major job types onsite; • Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy; • Discussing potential economic opportunities for local businesses, and working to coordinate interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Supporting community bursaries for First Nation members;

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	FPX Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying appropriate methods to communicate Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities; and Developing appropriate monitoring metrics.
Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing	Involvement in the collaborative design process and baseline studies and mitigation for Project development including in communication with Leadership and the community at large	Yekooche First Nation representatives have participated in collaborative mine design processes to date and FPX will continue to engage with the nation through future agreements and opportunities for bilateral or multilateral collaboration.
Community Well-Being	New access roads and Transmission Lines could improve housing availability, community infrastructure, e.g., waste management services, community access including in emergencies, and services for the community, especially given that power reliability and availability is an issue affecting Ye Koo Che community development	As part of a collaborative design approach with First Nations, FPX is engaged with First Nations, including Yekooche First Nation, to study how the potential access road and new Transmission Line could benefit their communities. A technical table was held in September 2025 on the road and Transmission Line design, alignment and requirements as part of that collaborative approach informing further collaborative assessment.
Fish and Fish Habitat, including Water Quality	Protection of aquatic habitat, especially the importance of preserving ecosystems that sustain fish species	FPX is conducting environmental baseline studies including fish and fish habitat, hydrology and water quality to inform Project design and assessment including baseline work led by First Nations affiliated businesses. FPX's approach has included engagement with First Nations on development and review of the baseline workplans, communication of findings and the synergistic design of baseline studies (e.g., sharing baseline work plan). FPX is also developing early plans for fisheries stewardship to support First Nations led fisheries management. Early engagement has informed the initial project description for the protection of fish and fish habitat (e.g., siting of major project facilities to avoid habitat used by salmon and reducing the need to cross Sidney Creek).
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	The Takla caribou herd, has deep cultural and ecological significance to Yekooche, which depends on caribou and lichen ecosystems for cultural continuity and knowledge transfer. Caribou could be impacts by habitat fragmentation and by noise/light	<p>Building on conservation measures during exploration, FPX has developed for collaborative refinement and implementation a conceptual Caribou Mitigation and Monitoring Plan quantifying potential effects and identifying potential mitigations, offsets and monitoring. Plan implementation commenced in 2025 with evaluating terrestrial lichen restoration.</p> <p>FPX's approach will include continued collaboration with First Nations including Yekooche technical staff and subject matter experts, on the Takla herd to refine the plan and support First Nation-led stewardship measures.</p>

6.9.4 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT PHASE

Table 6.9-3 summarizes the planned engagement during early engagement and readiness phases.

TABLE 6.9-3 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH YEKOOCHE FIRST NATION

Type of Engagement	Timing/Frequency
Leadership Table	Monthly / Quarterly as determined by Leadership Table Membership
Bilateral Meetings with Chief and Council, and staff, e.g., Fisheries Manager	As required & Ongoing
Technical Table	As determined by the Leadership Table
Review and development of draft Project documents, e.g., IPD, EP, and DPD	4Q2025 onwards
Provision of Project updates and notifications and community events and meetings	Ongoing and as determined with Yekooche Chief and Council

7. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

7.1 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

7.1.1 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

The Project has created several avenues for engagement with the public, including online and in-person resources. Most notably, in June of 2024 the company opened their Community Office in Fort St. James and that year hosted three open houses (Table 7.1-1). Between January and November 2025, FPX hosted four more open houses in Fort St. James, as well as two in Vanderhoof, two in Fraser Lake, and one in Burns Lake, with approximately 380 participants in total. The open houses are designed to inform attendees about the Project and provide updates on planning and assessments. These events also provide an important forum for discussing potential effects, allowing members of the public to express their interests and concerns. FPX seeks to strengthen its relationship with community members, enhance open communication, and build awareness of Project related opportunities, such as environmental stewardship, procurement and employment opportunities.

Feedback on the Project is collected through discussions, during question and answers periods, and through surveys. The surveys are voluntary and have been designed to collate information about people's interest for the Project, their concerns, and their preferred mode of communication. A total of 81 surveys have been completed in 2025, with results summated below:

- 60% of respondents were men, 75% were over the age of 45, 14% under the age of 25, and 27% identified as Indigenous;
- 84% of respondents supported the development of the Project based on the information they have to date, with only 1% moderately opposed (15% of respondents were neutral);
- The principal concerns listed on the surveys were the community effects, such as social impacts, housing, and infrastructure (59% of respondents), followed by economic development and employment (41%) and business and procurement (33%), and air quality and fugitive dust (33%);
- Many survey respondents also listed environmental issues as top priorities, including climate change (21% of respondents), water stewardship (17%) and fish and fish habitat (15%); and
- Preferred communication about Project developments were varied, with open houses and social media (Facebook) being the most common preferences, at 48% and 40% respectively, followed by email and newsletters (35%).

7.1.2 GENERAL PUBLIC ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Engagement with the public continues to inform the design of the project. To date, this process has helped identify specific issues and interests that have either influenced the project design or are guiding the development of appropriate approaches. Table 7.1-2 summarizes the topics raised through public engagement so far. This preliminary list is not exhaustive, as the early engagement period and the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) process are expected to offer further opportunities for constructive dialogue.

TABLE 7.1-1 GENERAL PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES UNDERTAKEN BY FPX

Date	Location	Attendees	Details
12-13 August 2024	Kwah Hall, Fort St. James	94 community members	First open house held in Fort St. James, informing community about the current stage of the project, with the majority of attendees from Fort St. James, but also Vanderhoof, Trembleur Lake and Prince George, as well as First Nation participants from Nak’azdli Whut’en and Takla Nation.
16 October 2024	FPX Community Office, Fort St. James	31 community members	Second open house held in Fort St. James, with most attendees from Fort St. James, as well as Vanderhoof, Trembleur Lake and Prince George, with members of Binche Whut’en, Nak’azdli Whut’en, and Tl’azt’en Nation.
11 December 2024	Community Office, Fort St. James	21 community members	Third open house held in Fort St. James attended by residents of Fort St. James and members of Nak’azdli Whut’en.
26 February 2025	FPX Community Office, Fort St. James	50 community members	Fourth open house held in Fort St. James attended by residents of Fort St. James and members of Nak’azdli Whut’en and Tl’azt’en Nation.
26 March 2025	Vanderhoof Community Event Centre	13 community members	First open house held in Vanderhoof attended by local residents.
13 May 2025	FPX Community Office, Fort St. James	24 community members	Fifth open house held in Fort St. James attended by residents of Fort St. James and Vanderhoof as well as members of Nadleh Whut’en, Takla Nation, and Tl’azt’en Nation,.
15 May 2025	Fraser Lake Professional Building	35 community members	First open house held in Fraser Lake attended by residents of Fraser Lake as well as members of Stellat’en First Nation.
16 July 2025	FPX Community Office, Fort St. James	12 community members	Sixth open house held in Fort St. James attended by local residents.
21 October 2025	Fraser Lake Professional Building	25 community members	Second open house held in Fraser Lake attended by residents of Fraser Lake as well as members of Stellat’en First Nation.
22 October 2025	Fort St. James Community Centre	32 community members	Seventh open house held in Fort St. James attended by local residents as well as Binche Whut’en, Nadleh Whut’en, Nak’azdli Whut’en, Takla Nation, and Tl’azt’en Nation.
23 October 2025	Vanderhoof Community Events Centre	21 community members	Second open house held in Vanderhoof attended by local residents.
25 October 2025	Burns Lake Multiplex	21 community members	First open house held in Burns Lake attended by local residents.

TABLE 7.1-2 PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE ISSUES AND INTERESTS RAISED

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Accidents and risk mitigation	Prevention and mitigation of risks associated to accidents that could damage the environment	FPX will identify and assess potential risks associated with accidents and malfunctions which may have adverse environmental effects, and where identified include measures to reduce risk in the design, operation and closure of the Project. The assessment will be made publicly available through the EA process.
Air Quality and Fugitive Dust	Dust from operations and traffic could affect the environment and community health	FPX is undertaking environmental baseline studies to collect information to inform Project design and assessment and where required develop mitigation, including potential effects on air quality and dust. FPX will continue to provide updates on baseline study findings.
Business, Employment, Procurement and Economic Opportunities	Local businesses and community organizations seeking opportunities to provide support and collaborate leading to lasting benefits for communities provide support and collaborate	<p>FPX is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project, pending further engagement, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualifications requirements for major job types onsite; • Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy; • Discussing potential economic opportunities for local businesses and working to coordinate interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Identifying appropriate methods to communicate Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities; and • Developing appropriate monitoring metrics.
Community Well-being	Social programs to support opioid crisis and possibility of transient employees and influence of money coming to the community	Work with community leadership, to develop approaches to engage community members during Project planning to develop community well-being mitigation and monitoring (e.g., identification and implementation of financial planning sessions).
Environmental Impacts	Environmental impacts including water stewardship (quality and quantity) and wildlife (including caribou)	<p>FPX is undertaking baseline studies to collect information to inform Project design and assessment and where required develop mitigation. To date this has prioritized early action based on community feedback as part of exploration and environmental stewardship measures (e.g., habitat restoration and reclamation trials).</p> <p>FPX will continue to provide updates on baseline study findings and stewardship plans and the results of assessments as they become available.</p>

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Indigenous Knowledge	The importance of respecting and including First Nations throughout the Project lifecycle	Continue engagement and collaborative mine design processes through the development of agreements with all First Nations potentially affected by the Project, supporting ongoing recognition and respect for Indigenous rights throughout the Project implementation.
Land Access	The impact of the Project on access to private properties or recreation areas	The mine site does not overlap private property and has been designed to support continued access along existing or realigned forest service roads. The proposed access road and Transmission Line options seek to align with existing disturbance and linear corridors. FPX will seek to work with land tenure holders and land users to maintain access and will continue to communicate Project updates.
Traffic	Changes in traffic patterns	FPX has identified multiple potential access routes to the Project for further collaborative decision with First Nations and communities as reflected in the Initial Project Description. A traffic study is planned as part of further engineering study, and the results will be shared during public consultation.

7.2 TENURE HOLDERS

Table 7.2-1 summarizes the tenure holders that are potentially affected by the Project, including the proposed linear infrastructure with a 400 m buffer area (200 m on each side). As tenure holders may be potentially affected by the Project, FPX will notify them of any plans and seek collaborative engagement on the Project design and development. The names of tenure holders are withheld for confidentiality.

TABLE 7.2-1 POTENTIALLY AFFECTED TENURE HOLDERS

Tenure Purpose	Project Area	Transmission Line Option 1 ¹	Transmission Line Option 2	Southern Access Route ³	Northern Access Route ²
Agriculture	-	-	-	1 (7407854)	-
Commercial	-	-	-	1 (0284414)	1 (0260271)
Environment, Conservation, Recreation	-	1 (0203897)	-	1 (7408627)	5 tenures
First Nations	-	2 (both 7408298)	2 (both 7408298)	2 (both 7408298)	-
Forestry	4 active tenures	19 active tenures	17 active tenures	15 active tenures	27 active tenures
Guide Outfitter	2 (710010, 710023)	8 guiding certificates	7 guiding certificates	7 guiding certificates	4 guiding certificates

Tenure Purpose	Project Area	Transmission Line Option 1 ¹	Transmission Line Option 2	Southern Access Route ³	Northern Access Route ²
Industrial	-	-	-	-	3 (7408705, 7408706, 7409728)
Institutional	-	-	1 (0067244)	-	-
Miscellaneous Land Use	-	-	-	-	1 (7409997)
Quarrying	-	-	1 (7410188)	5 tenures	2 (0244198, 0303401)
Residential	-	-	-	3 (7405076, 7405841, 0292048)	1 (7408652)
Transportation	-	-	-	-	2 (7405715, 0227453)
Trapline	2 (TR 726 T005, TR 726 T006)	16 traplines	14 traplines	13 traplines	13 traplines
Utility	2 (6408710, 9708459)	11 tenures	14 tenures	5 tenures	9 tenures
Wind Power		1 (7410361)	1 (7410361)	-	-

Notes:

All linear infrastructure routes include a 400 m buffer.

¹ Transmission Line options, described in in Section 4.1.7, follow distinct but similar routes intersecting many of the same tenures.

² The northern access road route follows an existing road network of paved road and gravel FSRs to the Project Area, described in detail in Section 4.1.6.

³ The southern access road route is a combination of existing gravel FSRs as well as some new road segments, as described in Section 4.1.6, and is aligned with a portion of the Transmission Line route options.

7.2.1 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

In October 2025 FPX sent letters to guide outfitters in the vicinity of the Project Area and Transmission Line to introduce the Project and provide detailed information about the location relative to their tenures. FPX seeks to engage directly with these tenure holders and all potentially affected tenure holders along the Transmission Line and access routes during the early design phase. FPX has also provided information through community open houses and in response to information requests from some guide outfitters.

7.2.2 TENURE HOLDERS’ ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Engagement with the tenure holders has helped to inform the design of the project. Table 7.2-2 summarizes the topics raised through engagement so far. As the Project design becomes more defined, there will be more opportunities during the early engagement period and the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) process which will offer further opportunities for constructive dialogue with tenure holders.

TABLE 7.2-2 PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE INTERESTS AND CONCERNS RAISED

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Guide Outfitting/ Hunting/Fishing/ Trapping	Potential impacts of land use and Transmission Line proximity affecting hunting experience and specific hunting seasons	FPX is continuing to engage on the selection of the preferred Transmission Line alignment and options are included with the Initial Project Description. Pending selection of an alignment for further study information will be collected to support analysis and where required mitigation.

7.3 PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS

FPX has identified private property owners with properties located along the shore of Trembleur Lake (Table 7.3-1), who are the closest non-Indigenous community to the Project Area (approximately 4 km). There may be other property owners along the proposed linear infrastructure (roads and Transmission Line) who may also be affected, including near Fort St. James and along Highway 16, where the Transmission Line connects to Glenannan Station. FPX will be engaging with these private property owners through community meetings, and directly as engineering and environmental studies are undertaken. The names of owners are withheld for confidentiality.

TABLE 7.3-1 PRIVATE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT TRANQUILITY BAY ON TREMBLEUR LAKE

Parcel Number	Legal Description
006-472-150	LOT 4 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
006-472-184	LOT 5 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
007-360-339	LOT 15 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-918-167	LOT 13 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-918-248	LOT 14 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-979-701	LOT 12 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-981-497	LOT 1 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-981-535	LOT 2 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-981-578	LOT 6 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-981-624	LOT 10 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-981-659	LOT 11 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-981-675	LOT 19 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-981-713	LOT 23 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-981-764	LOT 24 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-981-802	LOT 25 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-981-861	LOT 26 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427

Parcel Number	Legal Description
009-989-064	LOT 3 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-989-099	LOT 7 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-989-111	LOT 8 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-989-145	LOT 9 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-989-188	LOT 16 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-989-200	LOT 17 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-989-242	LOT 18 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-989-251	LOT 20 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-989-285	LOT 21 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427
009-989-307	LOT 22 DISTRICT LOT 3645 RANGE 5 COAST DISTRICT PLAN 6427

7.3.1 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

A list of specific engagements already completed with private property owners are included in Table 7.3-2.

TABLE 7.3-2 ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES TO DATE WITH PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS

Date	Activity	Attendees	Details
23 July 2024	Meeting	Several private property owners near Trembleur Lake	FPX hosted an in-person meeting with private property owners to discuss the Project.
23 July 2024	Meeting	Private Property Owner	FPX met with a private property owner near Trembleur Lake to share Project-related information regarding the Project location. The private property owner shared information regarding concerns about the recreational experience impacts to property owners.
12 August 2024	Open House	Several private property owners near Trembleur Lake	FPX met with several Trembleur Lake property owners during the Open House and responded to questions regarding potential impacts on water, noise, dust, tailings facility options, and measures to be taken for environmental protection.
12 October 2024	Letter	N/A	FPX received a letter from two property owners on Trembleur Lake outlining concerns with regard to environmental, social and financial impacts as well as recommendations.
30 April 2025	Meeting	Several private property owners near Trembleur Lake	FPX met with representatives of Trembleur Lake private property owners to discuss developing a communication schedule and for FPX to provide baseline data when available regarding potential wildlife, water stewardship, noise, and light effects.

Date	Activity	Attendees	Details
22 October 2025	Meeting	Several private property owners near Trembleur Lake	FPX met with several Trembleur Lake private property owners to provide a Project update and listen to their concerns and interests.
30 October 2025	Letter	Trembleur Lake private property owners	FPX sent letters to Trembleur Lake property owners to introduce the company and the Project in seeking input to the Project

7.3.2 PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS’ ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Engagement with the private property owners continues to inform the design of the project. To date, this process has helped identify specific issues and interests that have either influenced the project design or are guiding the development of appropriate approaches. Table 7.3-3 summarizes the topics raised through engagement so far. This preliminary list is not exhaustive, as the early engagement period and the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) process are expected to offer further opportunities for constructive dialogue.

TABLE 7.3-3 SUMMARY OF ISSUES AND INTERESTS RAISED BY PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Atmosphere	Noise and dust affecting the enjoyment of nature, human and wildlife health	Atmospheric impact studies are part of the baseline studies, which will inform the assessment and development of the Project, and will be communicated with private property owners.
Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing	Need for transparent information sharing about water quality data and permitting progress	Communication schedule has been established with Trembleur Lake private property owners, with next meeting scheduled for 4Q2025.
Land Access	Possible interest in having improved access and secure parking for property owners	FPX will continue to engage throughout the planning phase with individuals who own private properties near the Project area to determine how to respond to their interests and concerns.
Social Impacts	Change in demographics of the area from mine works and potential displacement, and potential impacts to property values	FPX will continue to engage with individuals who own private properties near the Project Area determine how to incorporate their interests and concerns into Project planning.
Fish and Fish Habitat, including Water Quality	The importance of protecting water in streams and rivers, including water quality and availability and aquatic life	FPX is continuing the Project’s hydrogeology, water quality, hydrology and fisheries baseline programs, informed by issues and interests raised. A plan will be developed to protect, mitigate and monitor water quality. FPX will continue to provide Project updates including baseline results and assessments as they become available.
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	General concern about the protection of wildlife including moose, elk, deer, grizzly bears, black bears and eagles, as well as caribou	FPX is continuing the Project’s vegetation and wildlife baseline program informed by issues and interests raised. A plan will be developed to protect, mitigate and monitor vegetation and wildlife. FPX will continue to provide Project updates including baseline results and assessments as they become available.

7.4 OTHER PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS

Other public stakeholders that FPX has recently engaged with are included in the list below and detailed in Table 7.4-1. This is not an exhaustive list and does not include other public interest groups that may be engaged in the future:

- Business, labour, and trade organizations;
- Environmental, community, and non-governmental organizations; and
- Academic institutions.

TABLE 7.4-1 LIST OF PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER GROUPS IDENTIFIED FOR ENGAGEMENT

Organization	Representative(s)	Rationale for Engagement	Engagement Status
Business, Labour, and Trade Organizations			
Fort St. James Chamber of Commerce	Jonathan Ouellette, President	Employment and contracting opportunities for local businesses, and training opportunities.	Engaged
Prince George Chamber of Commerce	Neil Godbout	Employment and contracting opportunities for local businesses, and training opportunities.	Identified
Vanderhoof Chamber of Commerce	Shelley Funk, President	Employment and contracting opportunities for local businesses, and training opportunities.	Engaged
Fraser Lake Chamber of Commerce	Rob King, President	Employment and contracting opportunities for local businesses, and training opportunities.	Identified
Environmental, Community, and Non-Governmental Organizations			
Nechako Environment and Water Stewardship Society (NEWSS)	Wayne Salewski, Director	Interest in Project impacts on water flows in the Nechako and impacts on fisheries.	Engaged
Academic Institutions			
College of New Caledonia	Mark Karjaluoto, Executive Director	Training opportunities for local employment generated by the Project.	Engaged
University of Northern BC	Ronald Camp, Dean, Faculty of Business and Economics	Training opportunities for local employment generated by the Project.	Engaged

7.4.1 OTHER PUBLIC INTERESTS AND ISSUES

Engagement with public and stakeholder groups continues to inform the design of the project. To date, this process has helped identify specific issues and interests that have either influenced the project design or are guiding the development of appropriate approaches and baseline studies. Table 7.4-2 summarizes the topics raised through engagement so far. This preliminary list is not

exhaustive, as the early engagement period and the ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA) process are expected to offer further opportunities for constructive dialogue.

TABLE 7.4-2 PUBLIC INTERESTS AND ISSUES

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Business, Employment, Procurement and Economic Opportunities	Local companies and service providers, have an interest in working on the Project, which will provide local jobs, but may require specific training that can be provided through local academic institutions	<p>FPX is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project, pending further discussion with community groups and academic institutions, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualification requirements for major job types onsite; • Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy; • Discussing potential economic opportunities with local businesses, and is working to coordinate the interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Identifying appropriate methods to communicate Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities; and • Developing appropriate monitoring metrics.
Community Well-being	Youth development is a focus of local service organizations, but programs would benefit from support from private corporations	FPX is looking to support community-based initiatives aimed at recovery, healing, education and other social initiatives prioritized by First Nations, and will continue to engage to define how best to support these initiatives.
Fish and Fish Habitat Including Water Quality	Interest in Project impacts on water flows in the Nechako Watershed and impacts on fisheries	FPX is continuing the Project’s hydrology, climate, hydrogeology and fisheries baseline program informed by these interests. A plan will be developed to protect, mitigate and monitor fish and fish habitat, e.g., stream flow. FPX will continue to provide Project updates including baseline results and assessments as they become available.

7.5 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC

Table 7.5-1 summarizes the planned engagement during early engagement and readiness phases.

TABLE 7.5-1 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC

Type of Engagement	Timing	Objectives
Open Houses	Quarterly	A local forum for accessible engagement with the community, to share information about the project, answer questions and identify interests and concerns that can be incorporated into Project planning.
Virtual Open House	2026 and ongoing	Provide accessible on-line information on the Project, EA process and developments. Information sharing that is accessible from anywhere, at any time, allows visitors review information, interact with content and pose questions and comments at their convenience. Allows FPX to gather valued input and feedback from the public.
Website updates	As required	An accessible source of reliable information about the project development, project information, newsletters, timeline and engagement opportunities.
Community Newsletter	Biannual or quarterly as required	Community newsletter published in print and on Company website providing updates on the Project.
Council/community meetings that are broadcast to the public	As required	Facilitate public access to detailed Project discussions and decision-making processes to ensure transparency and community involvement.
Direct notices and communications	Q1 2026 and ongoing as required	Communication with potentially impacted property owners and tenure holders to share information regarding the Project

8. ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENTS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

8.1 GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

The following section provides a summary of FPX engagement with governments and agencies to date. The objective for engagement with governments and government agencies is to develop and sustain constructive working relationships, with a focus on advancing the Project efficiently and effectively through applicable regulatory processes. This is not an exhaustive list, and other governments and agencies may be added, as FPX’s engagement strategy continues to evolve.

8.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

The Project Area is located within the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (population 37,737)⁷². The closest municipality is the District of Fort St. James (population 1,386)⁷³ located about 160 km driving distance away. The Project Area, Transmission Line options, and access route roads are within the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako’s (RDBN) Fort St. James Electoral Areas C and D. This areas is covered by the Fort St. James Official Community Plan⁷⁴.

Table 8.2-1 summarizes the local and regional governments that will be engaged with for the Project.

TABLE 8.2-1 LIST OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS IDENTIFIED FOR ENGAGEMENT

Government Agency	Representative(s)	Rationale for Engagement	Status
Municipal Government			
District of Fort St. James	Martin Elphee, Mayor	The closest town to the project, along the transportation corridor, opportunities for Project to contribute to economic development, diversification and training and employment opportunities, as well as investment in infrastructure and services.	Engaged
Village of Fraser Lake	Sarrah Storey, Mayor Ethan Fredeen, CAO	In relatively close proximity to the project, and start of the Transmission Line opportunities for Project to contribute to economic development, diversification and training and employment opportunities.	Engaged
District of Vanderhoof	Kevin Moutray, Mayor	Along the transportation corridor, potential opportunities for Project to contribute to economic development, diversification and training and employment opportunities.	Engaged

⁷² Statistics Canada. 2023a. (table). Census Profile. 2021 Census of Population. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2021001. Ottawa. Released November 15, 2023. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed September 2024).

⁷³ Ibid.

⁷⁴ Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN). 2024. Fort St. James Rural Official Community Plan. https://www.rdbn.bc.ca/application/files/4617/3326/0722/Area_C_OCP_Sch_A.pdf

Government Agency	Representative(s)	Rationale for Engagement	Status
Municipal Government (cont'd)			
Village of Burns Lake	Henry Wiebe, Mayor	In relatively close proximity to the project, opportunities for Project to contribute to economic development, diversification and training and employment opportunities.	Engaged
City of Prince George	Simon Yu, Mayor City Council	Largest city in proximity to the Project and along the transportation corridor, shipping via rail to port, use of airport, possible use of other services, existing and potential suppliers/ employees.	Engaged
Regional Government Agencies and Organizations			
Regional District of Bulkley - Nechako	Mark Parker, Director Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning Curtis Helgesen, CAO Judy Greenway, Director	Impacts and benefits of the Project on regional economic income and diversification, potential effects on infrastructure and services, including waste management, and emergency response planning.	Engaged

8.2.1 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

Table 8.2-2 summarizes the previous engagement with local and regional governments.

TABLE 8.2-2 SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS

Date	Government Represented	Details
8 May 2024	Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN)	Project overview meeting: FPX provided an overview of the Project and proposed timelines affirming their plan to have IPD submitted for BC and Federal EA in 2025.
8 May 2024	District of Vanderhoof	Project overview meeting: FPX provided an overview of the Project and proposed timelines affirming plan to have IPD submitted for BC and Federal EA in 2025 and offered meeting and time to review and discuss. Noted Project is at the Prefeasibility Study stage.
22 May 2024	District of Fort St. James	Introductory meeting: FPX met with the Economic Development Manager of the District of Fort St. James to introduce the Project. Focus for the District is transitioning jobs from forestry to mining. The district discussed having three points of contact for the community to express concerns: FPX local office, District Office, Nak'azdli office. District mentioned FPX could engage with the Mt Milligan Sustainability Committee for feedback/discussion.
11 June 2024	District of Fort St. James	FPX provide a project overview and highlighted the Project from a sustainability perspective and on a collaborative design process.
23 September 2024	District of Fort St. James	Economic development meeting: FPX met with the District of Fort St. James to discuss the District's Economic Development Strategy. The district discussed its plan to increase their community members' quality of life through accessibility and transit and increased housing.

Date	Government Represented	Details
24 October 2024	District of Vanderhoof	DoVH communicated to FPX the importance of education transition for forestry works into mining sector. Training and education requirements and the importance of a Community Benefits Agreement that would guarantee employment for local Vanderhoof residents.
28 January 2025	District of Fort St. James	FPX appeared before Mayor and Council to present the latest update to the Project planning. FPX discussed the economic impacts, status of the Transmission Line and road access selection process and timeline of the projects development and plan to enter the EA by the fourth quarter of 2025. District of Fort St. James had questions about limited housing to support influx of employees during operation, road route selection and potential impacts from traffic.
12 March 2025	Regional District of Bulkey-Nechako (RDBN)	FPX met with RDBN to discuss Project updates and proposed timeline for the EA process. FPX acknowledged RDBN's interest in the Project's waste management (e.g., solid and liquid waste including volume, handling, and location of waste off-site). RDBN also expressed the need to develop an emergency response plan and potentially a local housing support plan for local communities when the Project is in Construction and Operations phases.
15 May 2025	Village of Fraser Lake	Village of Fraser Lake attended the FPX Open House held in Fraser Lake to provide introductions and to receive general information around the Project. Key topics raised by the Village of Fraser Lake included employment and housing and requested future opportunities to learn more.
18 August 2025	District of Vanderhoof	FPX met with the District of Vanderhoof to provide Project updates. The discussion included setting a regular cadance for meetings with staff and with Mayor and Council in order to share project information and community priorities (e.g., employment, local business procurement, and housing needs).
19 August 2025	District of Fort St. James	FPX met with the District of Fort St. James to provide Project updates and set a regular meeting cadence with Mayor and council. FPX expressed their goal to work with the municipalities and share information on community priorities such as employment, local business procurement and assessing housing needs.
21 August 2025	Village of Fraser Lake	FPX met with The Village of Fraser Lake to discuss Project updates and housing, business and procurement, employment and potential transportation options for local employees.
14 September 2025	District of Vanderhoof	FPX met with the District of Vanderhoof to discuss the Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund (CMIF) implementation and Environmental Assessment process, including exploring a community liaison/advisory committee structure, for Fraser Lake, Vanderhoof and Fort St. James tri-city meetings, and community benefits focused on local jobs.
21 October 2025	Regional District of Bulkey-Nechako (RDBN)	FPX met with the RDBN to share Project updates and develop a mechanism for collaboration on the Transmission Line and access road through the Critical Mineral Infrastructure Fund including feedback on the alignments, community engagement, and the Environmental Assessment process. Discussions focused on road and transmission alignments, with RDBN suggesting use of existing disturbances and recommending fibre-line inclusion to support community connectivity. RDBN emphasized integrated waste management and emergency planning. Broader topics included housing, procurement, connectivity, and service impacts.

Date	Government Represented	Details
21 October 2025	Village of Fraser Lake	FPX met with the Village of Fraser Lake to share Project updates, and to develop a mechanism for collaboration on the Transmission Line and access road through the Critical Mineral Infrastructure Fund, the Environmental Assessment process, and strengthened engagement. Topics discussed included infrastructure funding, housing, workforce transition, and long-term community benefits, as well as ongoing collaboration through a Community Liaison Committee.
24 October 2025	District of Vanderhoof	FPX met with the District of Vanderhoof to provide Project updates, develop a mechanism for collaboration on the Transmission Line and access road alignments through the Critical Mineral infrastructure Fund collaboration. The discussion covered FPX's sustainability initiatives, low-carbon mining approach, 2025 field program, and restoration work, including lichen and Whitebark Pine programs. Key topics included transportation logistics, local employment, and potential coordination through a Community Liaison Committee.
24 October 2025	District of Fort St. James	FPX met with the District of Fort St. James to provide Project updates, develop a mechanism for collaboration on the Transmission Line and access road through the Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund collaboration including feedback on the alignments, and discuss community priorities. Topics included workforce and housing capacity, and the transition of forestry workers into mining. FPX outlined the 2025 field program, road and Transmission Line options, and environmental baseline studies, with the District emphasizing coordination on road upgrades, traffic management, and protection of sensitive areas, and potential coordination through a Community Liaison Committee.
31 October 2025	Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN)	FPX sent a follow-up email to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako to provide updates on the Project, the anticipated Environmental Assessment process, and the implementation of the Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund, while also seeking input from the RDBN on Transmission Line and access route options.
26 November 2025	Village of Fraser Lake	FPX met with the Mayor and Council to provide a Project update. Council raised several topics, including the potential for use of the Trout Forest Service Road as an alternate route, opportunities for the Village to support future housing development in collaboration with FPX, and the importance of creating local employment and training pathways for youth.
27 November 2025	City of Prince George	FPX met with the City of Prince George staff to provide an overview of the Project and schedule a presentation to Council and staff in early in 2026.
8 December 2025	District of Vanderhoof	FPX presented a Project update to the District of Vanderhoof who emphasised the importance of supporting local community members to access Project employment opportunities.

8.2.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Engagement with local governments continues to inform the design of the project. To date, this process has helped identify specific issues and interests that have either influenced the project design or are guiding the development of appropriate approaches. Table 8.2-3 summarizes the topics raised through engagement so far. This preliminary list is not exhaustive, as the early

engagement period and the Environmental Assessment (EA) process are expected to offer further opportunities for constructive dialogue.

TABLE 8.2-3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ISSUES AND INTERESTS

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Business, Employment, Procurement and Economic Opportunities	Local employment opportunities, and training requirements to support a transition from forestry to mining	<p>FPX is committed to working with local communities to develop policies and approaches to optimize local employment and contracting, including through the EA process and in all phases of the Project, pending further discussion with local governments, this is anticipated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a local community office to provide point of contact for community members; • Providing early information identifying qualification requirements for major job types onsite; • Implementing a Supplier Diversity and Local Procurement Policy; • Discussing potential economic opportunities with local businesses, and is working to coordinate the interests of local First Nations to promote partnerships; • Identifying appropriate methods to communicate Project timeline and opportunities for employment and procurement opportunities including in exploration, construction and operations; and • During the EA process developing appropriate monitoring metrics to evaluate effectiveness of local procurement and employment programs.
Community Well-being	The need to improve municipal infrastructure (e.g., water lines, buildings and road infrastructure and housing)	The Project is in the design phase, with opportunities to co-develop approaches to study and mitigate potential effects with local governments. This includes a collaborative design process for linear infrastructure (roads and Transmission Line) with local governments.
Fish and Fish Habitat, including Water Quality	Consideration in planning for changes in precipitation patterns and availability of drinking water, fisheries resources and agriculture, as a result of climate change	FPX is continuing the Project’s hydrology, climate, and water baseline programs and will communicate results with local governments. Climate change risks to the Project will be evaluated and measures incorporated into design, operations and monitoring (e.g., climate resiliency planning). It’s anticipated the plan will be developed with local First Nations and governments, and results communicated.
Safety	Need for an emergency response plan to understand the role and impact on local resources	The Project will develop a mine emergency response plan (MERP) consistent with the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code and other applicable requirements, which will include potentially affected communities and First Nations in the identification of potential hazards, emergency communications and responses. This may provide an opportunity for mutual aid agreements (e.g., during 2025 exploration activities FPX shared the exploration phase MERP with the RDBN in coordinating response to wildfires and offered to support wildfire response).

Topic	Issues or Interests Raised	Comments or Approach to Addressing Issue/Interest
Traffic	Potential for changes in traffic volumes and need to consider safety along defined routes	FPX has identified a number of potential access road options utilizing existing provincial and resource roads. A collaborative review process in the selection and study of these access routes is anticipated, including further engagement with local governments.
Waste Management	Changes to solid and liquid waste management demands within the RDBN require planning on the volumes and types of waste to be managed	The Project will develop a waste management plan including measures for the reduction and diversion of waste, by waste stream. It is understood that RDBN operates a number of waste management facilities and has established bylaws regarding industrial waste entering those facilities. As the Project continues to be designed it is anticipated further discussion will be held with RDBN on planning for waste management and the development of waste management plans that align with regional waste management strategies and environmental standards.
Cumulative Effects	Development of transmission lines on the rural environment proximal to the Glenannan substation (North Coast Transmission Line and several proposed wind power projects)	The Project preference to connect to Glenannan is based on direction from BC Hydro. FPX is identifying Transmission Line options that minimize disturbances by following existing rights of way and roads. A collaborative review process in the selection and assessment of these Transmission Line options is anticipated, including further engagement with local governments.

8.2.3 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Table 8.2-4 summarizes the planned engagement during early engagement and readiness phases.

TABLE 8.2-4 PLANNED EARLY ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Activity	Proposed Timing or Frequency
Provide project notifications and updates quarterly (or as required) updates regional and local governments. This may include meetings (in person and virtual), community open houses and direct communication.	Quarterly or as required
Track and respond to local government comments on the IPD and DPD.	As required
Maintain record of communications and engagement activities with local governments.	Ongoing

8.3 PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

The Project is located within the boundaries of the Fort St James Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP)⁷⁵, while the Transmission Line also overlaps with the Fort St James LRMP, as well the Lakes District LRMP and Vanderhoof LRMP. The Fort St. James LRMP, approved in March 1999, is a consensus-based plan that provides policy direction for resource management and values.

⁷⁵ Government of BC. 1999. Fort St. James Land and Resource Management Plan. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/natural-resource-use/land-water-use/crown-land/land-use-plans-and-objectives/omineca-region/fortstjames-lrmp/fortstjames_lrmp_plan.pdf

The Project is located in the “Resource Development” zone, which is defined as lands with existing or future potential for intensive resource development, where resource development such as mineral extraction and timber harvesting are emphasized to minimize its impacts on other resources through strategies, and are in full compliance with existing regulations, where access is relatively unrestricted.⁷⁶

Numerous federal and provincial government agencies will participate in the EA process, including reviewing the EAC/EIS Application, or be regulatory agencies or permittees of the Project. Table 8.3-1 provides a list of the agencies that will be engaged with for the Project.

TABLE 8.3-1 FEDERAL, PROVINCIAL, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES INVOLVED

Federal Government Agencies	Provincial Government Agencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) • Department of Women and Gender Equality (WAGE) • Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) • Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) • Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) • Health Canada (HC) • Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) • Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) • Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) • Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) • Transport Canada (TC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) • Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals (MCM) • Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions (MECS), various divisions including the Climate Action Secretariat • Ministry of Environment and Parks (ENV) • Ministry of Forests (MoF) • Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) • Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth • Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MoTT) • Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship (WLRS) • Northern Health (NH)

8.3.1 ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

Table 8.3-2 summarizes the previous engagement with Provincial and Federal Governments.

TABLE 8.3-2 SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT WITH PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS

Date	Government Representative	Details
12 April 2024	Environmental Assessment Office	FPX met with the EAO to introduce the Company and the Project.
18 April 2024	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	FPX met with IAAC to introduce the Company and the Project.

⁷⁶ MoF (Ministry of Forests). 1999. Fort St. James Land & Resource Management Plan. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/crown-land-water/land-use-planning/regions/omineca/fort-st-james-lrmp> (accessed September 2024).

Date	Government Representative	Details
9 May 2024	Ministry of Forests	FPX met with MoF to provide Company and Project introductions and outline next steps in the Project design. Parties agreed to maintain regular cadence to meetings (e.g., monthly/quarterly) given MoF role in both exploration permitting and the EA process.
6 June 2024	Ministry of Water, Land, and Resources Stewardship	FPX met with WLRS to provide an introduction to the Company and the Project, provide information on the status of FPX baseline studies and engagement with WLRS and MoF.
3 July 2024	Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship	FPX held a follow-up meeting with WLRS regarding stewardship initiatives.
8 July 2024	Ministry of Forests	FPX held a meeting with the MoF to discuss road, traffic requirements and understand forestry use and planning for resource roads. FPX and the MoF discussed Transmission Line alignment, feedback from First Nations in consideration of Transmission Line and access road alignment development.
14 August 2024	Ministry of Forests	FPX provided a Project update.
28 August 2024	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	FPX provided DFO Ecosystems with a Project status update, and informed DFO of baseline data being collected to support regulatory process. DFO noted that Tuzist'ol T'ah is comprised of Binche Whut'en, Nak'azdli Whut'en, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation, and that DFO and the Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance are focused on recovery of upper Fraser Salmon. DFO is planning a workshop in Prince George BC in the first quarter of 2025.
5 September 2024	Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship	Meeting held with WLRS to collaboratively advance stewardship and to understand the related activities being undertaken by the government.
19 November 2024	Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development, and Innovation	FPX had an introductory meeting with the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation (now Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth) Regional Manager of Bulkley Nechako/North Central to provide initial Project information and update on current Project status.
25 November 2024	Environmental Assessment Office, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals	FPX provided an overview of the Project, the Project benefits and desire to collaborate with First Nations on the design of the project and assessment process.
13 December 2024	BC Government Executive Branch, Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals	FPX introduced the Project and the approach to engagement with First Nations, including the Leadership Table, and highlighted the importance for direct provincial engagement with First Nations.
18 December 2024	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	FPX met with IAAC to provide a Project summary and update.

Date	Government Representative	Details
14 January 2025	Ministry of Transportation and Transit	FPX Nickel met with MOTT to introduce the Company and the Project and MOTT confirmed they will review and comment on EA documents, as traffic and road safety is within their mandate. FPX provided an overview of the Project and the anticipated traffic volumes based on the Prefeasibility Study and ongoing collaborative evaluation of potential access routes. MOTT presented work to date and planned work, axle restrictions of Tachie road, and offered to provide more information on junction analysis and design basis.
20 March 2025	Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals, Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship	FPX met with MCM and WLRS to review a conceptual caribou stewardship plan. WLRS noted the work underway with First nations on Takla Herd management and completion of a population count.
26 March 2025	Ministry of Forests	FPX met with MoF to provide a Project update. Discussion around 2025/26 permitting, sources of forestry information for economic modelling to identify IPD needs, and receive updates on MoF road upgrades.
2 April 2025	Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation	FPX and MIRR met for an introductory meeting. FPX provided a presentation introducing the Project.
8 April 2025	Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals; Ministry of Environment and Parks; Environmental Assessment Office	FPX met with MCM, ENV, and the EAO to introduce the Project and discuss IPD information needs.
11 April 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	FPX met with the EAO and the IAAC to discuss EA process readiness.
23 April 2025	Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals	A meeting was held with representatives from Binche Whut'en, Takla Nation, Yekooche First Nation, and the MCM. The discussion focused on collaboration, with each representative expressing working respectfully together to study the project while developing a preferred project description and associated business opportunities together.
25 April 2025	Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals	FPX met with MCM and TI'azt'en Nation to discuss the need to establish a government-to-government framework for the Project and provide Project-related updates to TI'azt'en Nation members.
20 May 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada; Critical Minerals Office; and the Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals	FPX presented a Project update and approach to meeting IPD requirements. Discussion was held regarding baseline work plans, early stewardship initiatives, and outcomes from engagement.

Date	Government Representative	Details
22 May 2025	Ministry of Environment and Parks	FPX met with ENV with a co-developed agenda to introduce the Project and information needs for the IPD. FPX presented a summary of climate, hydrology, surface water quality, sediment and aquatics. ENV highlighted the importance of baseline programs (e.g., air quality, water quality and hydrology) in determining readiness for the EA process.
9 June 2025	Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship; Ministry of Forests	FPX met with WLRS and MoF to provide an update on the Project and to review baseline data to support the development of IPD and baseline work plan. It was noted that new disturbance should be minimized and where possible to follow existing roads/linear corridors.
10 June 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	The EAO and IAAC presented to the Leadership Table to introduce the EA process and discussed the role of the EAO in the regulatory process, and the role of IAAC regarding assessing the potential impacts of the Project on the exercise of rights to Indigenous Peoples of Canada.
16 June 2025	Fisheries and Ocean Canada; Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship	FPX met with DFO and WLRS to introduce the Project. The baseline work to date and information needs for IPD were reviewed along with FPX initiatives in developing early First Nation-led stewardship plans. It was noted the Project should consider in early design the inclusion of freshwater storage onsite to mitigate potential instream flow effects to fish and fish habitat, linear corridors design to avoid instream works where possible, and established guidance for roads and transmission lines.
16 June 2025	Environment and Climate Change Canada; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	FPX presented to ECCC and the IAAC to introduce the Company and the Project. The meeting was to identify any initial feedback on information needs from baseline studies and the IPD.
23 June 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada; Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals	FPX held a meeting with the EAO, MCM and IAAC. A Project update was provided and review of revised guidance for the Initial Project Description and IAAC Tailored Impact Assessment Guidelines as well as updates from engagement and how the IPD would be developed to meet those requirements.
19 August 2025	Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	ECCC reviewed FPX’s baseline reports, copying the Impact IAAC. ECCC provided comments for FPX’s consideration on water quality baseline programs.
22 August 2025	Ministry of Environment and Parks (ENV)	ENV reviewed FPX’s baseline reports and provided comments on hydrology and water quality for FPX’s consideration as baseline programs continue.
1 October 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	IAAC and the EAO were invited to present at the First Nation Leadership Table to provide an overview of their respective assessment processes, funding opportunities, Indigenous participation options and lessons learned from prior EAs.

Date	Government Representative	Details
2 October 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada; Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals	FPX provided a site tour for representatives of the regulatory agencies to travel on potential access routes and see the Baptiste Project site
22 October 2025	Ministry of Forests	FPX met with Ministry of Forests to provide an update on the Project, the EA process, and collaborative approach to defining road/Transmission Line alignment. Discussion included 2026 permitting requirements, Whitebark Pine stewardship.
28 October 2025	Environmental Assessment Office; Impact Assessment Agency of Canada	IAAC and EAO presented at the First Nation Technical Table providing environmental assessment alternatives with respect to evaluating the linear features (Transmission Line and access roads) associated with Project.
13 November 2025	Ministry of Forests	FPX met with Ministry of Forests to discuss transmission line routing in relation to the Top and Peta Lake Recreation Sites. MOF indicated that the 350 m setback is likely sufficient to mitigate visual impacts, particularly if routing follows existing roads or disturbed areas. MOF did highlight potential noise impacts of the transmission line to Top, Peta, and Stern Lakes, especially during winter ice-fishing periods.
27 November 2025	Ministry of Mines and Critical Minerals	FPX met with the Major Mines Office, following meeting in April 2025 to review the IPD, identify where requested information was presented and discuss subsequent steps in the EA process.
1 December 2025	Ministry of Forests and Ministry of Water Land and Resource Stewardship	FPX met with MOF and WLRS to seek early input into transmission line and road options to inform the identified of a preferred alignment for baseline studies and to identify information needs for regulatory processes. Issues and mitigations discussed included avoiding Forest Recreation Sites, vehicle-wildlife interactions, access management and consideration for overlapping land use in developing mitigations.
8 December 2025	Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth	FPX met with the Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth to discuss the need for training opportunities for community members, in order to support job readiness for communities in Northern British Columbia.

8.3.2 PLANNED ENGAGEMENT WITH PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Table 8.3-3 summarizes the planned engagement during early engagement and readiness phases.

TABLE 8.3-3 PLANNED ENGAGEMENT WITH PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS

Activity	Proposed Timing or Frequency
Management of EA Process; BC EAO, IAAC and MCM.	Weekly/Monthly
Pre-technical working group meetings with key Provincial and Federal government agencies.	As required
Schedule individual meetings with government agencies as needed to discuss technical and process matters, e.g., baseline programs, address comments, review of materials.	As required
Track and respond to comments on Early Engagement Phase deliverables.	As required
Review 2025 field program results and future baseline programs.	1H 2026
Organize a (virtual or in-person) site tour.	2H 2026
Maintain record of communications and engagement activities with government agencies.	Ongoing

9. DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING

FPX documents engagement activities (e.g., emails, phone records, participation in open houses, and community events) and identifies any interests and issues raised. This EP includes information about engagement activities up to submission of the IPD. An updated record of engagement will be presented as part of subsequent deliverables prepared during each stage of the Project, such as in the DPD and the EAC Application. Engagement reports will be provided pursuant to any requirements in the EAO's Process Order.

10. REFERENCES

Legislation and Regulations

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act. SBC 2019, c 44.

Environmental Assessment Act. SBC 2018, c 51.

Impact Assessment Act. SC 2019, c 28, s 1.

Indian Act, RSC 1985, c I-5.

Other Sources

Binche Whut'en. 2024. *Homepage*. <https://binche.ca/> (accessed April 2024).

CIRNAC (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada). 2024a. *INAC Community Profile: Binche Whut'en*. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=730&lang=eng (accessed April 2024).

CIRNAC. 2024b. *INAC Community Profile: Lake Babine Nation*. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=607&lang=eng (accessed April 2024).

CIRNAC. 2024d. *INAC Community Profile: Nadleh Whuten*. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=612&lang=eng (accessed April 2024).

CIRNAC. 2024e. *INAC Community Profile: Nak'azdli Whut'en*. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=614&lang=eng (accessed April 2024).

CIRNAC. 2024f. *INAC Community Profile: Stelat'en First Nation*. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=613&lang=eng (accessed April 2024).

CIRNAC. 2024g. *INAC Community Profile: Takla Nation*. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=608&lang=eng (accessed September 2024).

CIRNAC. 2024h. *INAC Community Profile: Tl'azt'en Nation*. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=617&lang=eng (accessed April 2024).

CIRNAC. 2024i. *INAC Community Profile: Yekooche First Nation*. https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=728&lang=eng (accessed April 2024).

EAO. 2019. *Guidance Documents Related to Environmental Assessments*. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/environmental-assessments/environmental-assessment-process/guidance-materials> (accessed July 2024).

EAO. 2022. *Guide to Indigenous Knowledge in Environmental Assessments*. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/environmental-assessments/guidance-documents/indigenous-nation-guidance/guide_to_indigenous_knowledge_in_environmental_assessments.pdf (accessed July 2024).

- EAO. 2024. *Early Engagement Policy*. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/environmental-assessments/guidance-documents/2018-act/early_engagement_policy_version_1.pdf.
- Government of BC. 1999. *Fort St. James Land and Resource Management Plan*. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/natural-resource-use/land-water-use/crown-land/land-use-plans-and-objectives/omineca-region/fortstjames-lrmp/fortstjames_lrmp_plan.pdf.
- Government of BC. 2024. *Binche Whut'en First Nation*. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/binche-first-nations> (accessed September 2024).
- Government of BC. 2024. *Lake Babine Nation*. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/lake-babine-nation> (accessed September 2024).
- Government of BC. 2024. *Nadleh Whut'en First Nation*. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/nadleh-whut-en-first-nation-fraser-lake> (accessed September 2024).
- Government of BC. 2024. *Nak'azdli Band*. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/nak-azdli-band> (accessed September 2024).
- Government of BC. 2024. *Stellat'en First Nation*. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/stellat-en-first-nation> (accessed September 2024).
- Government of BC. 2024. *Takla Lake First Nation*. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/takla-lake-first-nation> (accessed September 2024).
- Government of British Columbia. 2024. *Tl'azt'en Nation*. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/tl-azt-en-nation> (accessed September 2024).
- Government of BC. 2024. *Yekooche First Nation*. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations-negotiations/first-nations-a-z-listing/yekooche-first-nation> (accessed September 2024).

- Government of BC. 2025. *Yekooche First Nation Agreement-in-Principle*. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/agreements/fact_sheet_aip_yekooche_information.pdf (accessed September 2024).
- Lake Babine Nation. 2024. *Homepage*. <https://www.lakebabine.com/> (accessed April 2024).
- Ministry of Forests (MoF). 1999. *Fort St. James Land & Resource Management Plan*. Accessed August 2025. Retrieved from: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/crown-land-water/land-use-planning/regions/omineca/fort-st-james-lrmp> (accessed September 2024).
- Nadleh Whut'en First Nation. 2024. *Homepage*. <https://www.nadleh.com/> (accessed April 2024).
- Statistics Canada. 2021. *Census Profile, 2021 Census*. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=Binche%202&DGUIDlist=2021A00055951805&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0> (accessed September 2024).
- Statistics Canada. 2016. *Census Profile, 2016 Census*. https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/abpopprof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=AB&Code1=2016C1005665&Data=Count&SearchText=Yekooche&SearchType=Begins&B1=All&GeoLevel=PR&GeoCode=2016C1005665&SEX_ID=1&AGE_ID=1&RESGEO_ID=1 (accessed September 2024).
- Statistics Canada. 2016. *Census Profile, 2016 Census*. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/prof/details/Page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=5951810&Geo2=PR&Code2=59&SearchText=sun&SearchType=Contains&SearchPR=01&B1=All&type=0> (accessed September 2024).
- Statistics Canada. 2021. *Census Profile, 2021 Census*. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=North%20Tacla%20Lake%207&DGUIDlist=2021A0006590296&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&HEADERlist=0> (accessed September 2024).
- Statistics Canada. 2023a. (table). *Census Profile. 2021 Census of Population*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2021001. Ottawa. Released November 15, 2023. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed September 2024).
- Tl'azt'en Nation. 2024. *Homepage*. <https://tlaztennation.ca/> (accessed April 2024).
- United Nations (General Assembly). 2007. *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.
- Yekooche First Nation. 2024. *Homepage*. <https://yekooche.com/> (accessed April 2024).

APPENDIX A **CONCORDANCE WITH
BC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
OFFICE ENGAGEMENT PLAN GUIDELINES**

APPENDIX A: CONCORDANCE WITH BC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICE ENGAGEMENT PLAN GUIDELINES

Topic	Requirements	Section
General Information and Contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project name; • Project location within the Province; • Project industrial sector and type (e.g., open pit metal mine); and • Proponent name, mailing address, phone numbers, email address and website URL. Include the name and contact information of the primary representative for the EA. 	Section 1 – Introduction Section 2 – Project Overview
Project Overview	A brief description of the proposed Project (the Engagement Plan may refer to the IPD for a more detailed overview of the proposed Project);	Section 2 – Project Overview
	The proximity of the proposed Project to local communities, neighbourhoods and/or areas used by or of value to Indigenous nations and the public; and	Section 2.2 – Project Location
Engagement Methods	An outline of engagement that occurred in the development of the Engagement Plan and how any feedback received was considered and addressed.	Sections 6.2 through 6.9 (First Nations Engagement) Section 7.1.1 – Engagement to Date Section 7.2.1 – Engagement to Date Section 7.3.1 – Engagement to Date Section 8.2.1 – Engagement to Date Section 8.3.1 – Engagement to Date
	A list of who the proponent proposes to engage with during Early Engagement, including key contact names for appropriate Indigenous nations, members of the public, local governments, provincial and federal government agencies, and stakeholders, and a rationale for those selected (where appropriate, personal information may be excluded as confidential – the Engagement Plan will be a public document);	Sections 6.2 through 6.9 (First Nations Engagement) Section 7.1 – Members of the Public Section 7.2 – Tenure Holders Section 7.3 – Private Property Owners Section 8.2 – Local Governments Section 8.3 – Provincial and Federal Government Agencies

Topic	Requirements	Section
Engagement Methods (<i>cont'd</i>)	An outline of when and how each party will be engaged with during Early Engagement, including but not limited to, the type and frequency of engagement and any constraints to the engagement;	Sections 6.2 through 6.9 (First Nations Engagement) Section 7.5 – Planned Early Engagement with the Public Section 8.2.3 – Planned Early Engagement with Local Government Agencies Section 8.3.2 – Planned Engagement with Provincial and Federal Government
	An identification of any potentially impacted populations that may be under-represented by the proposed engagement methods and how this will be mitigated or otherwise addressed. Refer to the Human and Community Well-being Guidelines and Public Engagement Policy for more information;	Section 3 – Engagement Principles Section 4 – Engagement Approach Section 5 – Engagement Approach with First Nations
	A description of different types of engagement tailored to the Project and the area to ensure opportunities for all potentially impacted people (consider language and cultural preferences, minority groups, marginalized populations);	Section 4 – Engagement Approach Section 5 – Engagement Approach with First Nations
	An outline of how information will be communicated in a timely and consistent manner;	Section 4 – Engagement Approach
	A description of how input and feedback will be gathered and how it will be considered, including how it will be used in Project design and what deliverables will be produced to respond to the feedback received such as the use of tracking tables and other documentation methods;	Section 4.2.1 – Feedback and Grievance Mechanism
	An outline of the process for periodic updating of the Engagement Plan, including when and how the document may be updated and the process for communicating any updates made.	Section 9 – Documentation and Reporting
Indigenous Nation Engagement	A list of all Indigenous nations whose territory overlaps with the Project area or overlaps with potential direct or indirect effects of the Project;	Section 6 – First Nations Engagement
	For each Indigenous nation identified, an overview of engagement activities that have been carried out, a description or tracking table of issues that have been raised with respect to the proposed Project, and an explanation of how those issues have been or will be addressed by the proponent, providing a clear rationale for not addressing any issues raised;	Sections 6.2 through 6.9 (First Nations Engagement)

Topic	Requirements	Section
Indigenous Nation Engagement <i>(cont'd)</i>	A list of any relevant agreements (including agreements between Indigenous nations), memorandums of understanding, assessment protocols, Treaty or other publicly available information of potentially affected Indigenous nations and how requirements of those documents informed the Engagement Plan;	Sections 6.2 through 6.9 (First Nations Engagement)
	A description of how Indigenous nations and Indigenous Knowledge holders will be engaged to ensure Indigenous Knowledge is applied appropriately and in alignment with the laws and customs of the Indigenous nation. Refer to the Indigenous Knowledge Guide for more information;	Section 5.3 – Indigenous Knowledge
	An outline of how participating Indigenous nations will be engaged during the development of the DPD.	Sections 6.2 through 6.9 (First Nations Engagement)
Public and Stakeholder Engagement	To ensure that engagement is focused and relevant, a list of the groups, populations, or individuals that the proponent will engage with as part of public engagement;	Section 7.2 – Tenure Holders Section 7.3 – Private Property Owners Section 7.4 – Other Public Organizations
	To help focus engagement, a list of the public’s interests in the proposed Project, such as concerns, potential benefits, Project design improvements, and how the public wish to be engaged in Early Engagement and the EA;	Section 7.1.2 – General Public Issues and Interests Section 7.2.2 – Tenure Holder’s Issues and Interests Section 7.3.2 – Private Property Owners’ Issues and Interests
	A description of any engagement already completed with landowners, land rights holders, other commercial, industrial, agricultural, and recreational land users, as well as the public, including key interests or issues identified and how these interests/issues were considered in Project design;	Section 7.1.1 – Engagement to Date Section 7.2.1 – Engagement to Date Section 7.3.1 – Engagement to Date
	A table identifying the issues that have been raised by those parties with respect to the proposed Project, and an explanation of how those issues have been or will be addressed by the proponent; and	Section 7.1.2 – General Public Issues and Interests Section 7.2.2 – Tenure Holder’s Issues and Interests Section 7.3.2 – Private Property Owners’ Issues and Interests
	A description of how local information and knowledge will be collected and considered in Project planning and in the preparation of the DPD.	Section 5.2 – Indigenous Knowledge

Topic	Requirements	Section
Engagement with Local Governments and Government Agencies	A list of all appropriate local governments, and provincial and federal government agencies to be engaged with and relevant representatives from each agency;	Section 8.2 – Local Governments Section 8.3 – Provincial and Federal Government Agencies
	A description of any previous engagement with local governments, and provincial and federal government agencies prior to submission of the Engagement Plan, including how the Engagement Plan reflects these engagement discussions; and	Section 8.2.1 – Engagement to Date Section 8.3.1 – Engagement to Date
	A list of any municipal or local government plans relevant to the EA.	IPD Section 8.3 – Land Use Plans, Land Use Designations, and Tenures

APPENDIX B FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES

APPENDIX B: FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES

First Nation	Distance Between Reserve and Project Component (km)				
Reserve Name	Distance from Project Area (km)	Transmission Line		North Access Route Road	South Access Route Road
		Option 1	Option 2		
Binche Whut'en					
Bihl 'K' A 18	12	19	20	0.96	19
Binche 10	71	36	30	5	18
Binche 12	60	28	21	3	21
*Binche 2	56	20	13	0	13
Binche Bun 7	60	29	22	4	22
Chundoo Lh'tan La 45	55	20	13	0.3	13
Chuz Ghun 8	61	33	27	9	24
Lhoh Cho 29	67	51	45	26	39
O K'ay Wha Cho 26	6	17	17	2	17
Tes Gha La 7A	62	31	24	6	21
Lake Babine Nation					
Alphonse Tommy 7	90	92	92	77	91
Augier Lake 22	43	17	17	47	18
Babine 16	91	92	92	77	91
Babine 25	43	38	38	48	36
Babine 26	43	43	43	41	42
Babine 6	89	90	90	75	90
Babine Lake 20	67	67	67	61	66
Babine Lake 21B	38	15	14	43	15
Babine Lake 21	99	100	100	84	100
Babine River 21A	98	100	100	83	99
Casdeded 8	88	89	89	75	89
Chanoodandidalch 14	66	67	67	60	65
Chapel Park 28	69	40	43	74	44
Clotalairquot 4	93	94	94	78	94
Michell Pierre 12	60	60	60	54	59
Nedoats 11	58	58	58	51	58
Nedoats 13	60	60	60	53	60

First Nation	Distance Between Reserve and Project Component (km)				
Reserve Name	Distance from Project Area (km)	Transmission Line		North Access Route Road	South Access Route Road
		Option 1	Option 2		
Lake Babine Nation (cont'd)					
Ne-Tsaw-Greece 10	69	69	69	62	68
No-Cut 5	92	94	94	78	93
Pinkut Lake 23	47	22	22	52	23
Tadinlay 15	70	70	70	63	69
Tahlo Lake 24	85	86	86	69	86
Tsak 9	78	78	78	69	78
*Woyenne 27	67	39	41	72	42
Nadleh Whut'en					
Canyon Lake 7	84	6	9	44	23
Fondeur 9	96	21	23	39	24
Fraser Lake 2	94	16	17	50	31
*Nautley 1	95	18	19	49	31
Ormonde Creek 8	83	6	8	44	23
Seaspunkut 4	93	13	12	58	37
Yensischuck 3	98	20	22	50	32
Nak'azdli Whut'en					
Beaver Islands 8	65	15	9	11	8
Carrier Lake 15	96	53	50	20	27
Great Bear Lake 16	110	63	61	31	37
Inzana Lake 12	37	52	50	11	50
Mission Lands Indian Reserve No. 17	79	28	25	5	3
*Nak'azdli	80	27	24	5	0.72
Nehounlee Lake 13	88	38	36	6	12
Six Mile Meadow 6	86	24	21	15	7
Sowchea 3	74	18	16	13	2
Sowchea 3A	74	18	15	13	3
Stuart Lake 10	59	15	9	6	8
Stuart Lake 9	61	15	9	8	8
Tatsadah Lake 14	107	48	46	25	26

First Nation	Distance Between Reserve and Project Component (km)				
Reserve Name	Distance from Project Area (km)	Transmission Line		North Access Route Road	South Access Route Road
		Option 1	Option 2		
Nak'azdli Whut'en (cont'd)					
Tatselawas 2	93	30	28	19	13
Uzta 4	84	35	32	2	9
Uzta 7A	86	36	34	4	10
Williams Prairie Meadow 1A	81	32	30	0.09	7
Stellat'en First Nation					
Binta Lake 2	107	37	37	98	77
*Stellaquo 1	89	5	4	60	41
Takla Nation					
Bear Lake 1A	145	148	148	124	148
Bear Lake 1B	162	165	165	141	165
Bear Lake 4	172	175	175	152	175
Bear River 3	184	187	187	163	187
Cheztainya Lake 11	91	94	94	70	94
Driftwood River 1	136	139	139	115	139
Klewaduska 6	177	180	180	156	180
Kotsine 2	124	127	127	103	126
North Tacla Lake 10	106	109	109	85	109
North Tacla Lake 11A	106	109	109	85	109
North Tacla Lake 12	108	119	119	97	119
*North Tacla Lake 7	75	79	79	54	78
North Tacla Lake 7A	77	80	80	56	80
North Tacla Lake 8	75	78	78	54	78
Tacla Lake 9	62	64	64	43	64
Tsaytut Island 1C	162	164	164	141	164
Tsupmeet 5	171	174	174	150	174
Tl'azt'en Nation					
Bihl 'K' A Chah 20	36	9	3	22	6
Bihl 'K' A 6	40	9	4	16	6
Camsell Lake 30	47	2	2	18	0.31

First Nation	Distance Between Reserve and Project Component (km)				
Reserve Name	Distance from Project Area (km)	Transmission Line		North Access Route Road	South Access Route Road
		Option 1	Option 2		
TI'azt'en Nation (cont'd)					
Carsoosat 17	30	20	14	18	17
Chuz Teeslee 41	42	34	29	2	29
Dlah Koh 31	20	33	33	8	33
Dzin TI'at 46	6	5	5	9	6
Dzitline Lee 9	6	20	20	3	20
Ihch'az Uz Ta Tsoh 44	30	8	4	29	4
Jus K'ay TI'oh 32	29	16	11	23	13
K'ay Noo 47	32	19	15	16	16
Keom Cho 38	40	13	8	10	9
Kuz Che 5	25	31	27	10	28
La Tse Cho Diz I 33	30	16	10	22	13
Metso A Choot 23	33	39	39	14	39
Nak'a Lat 39	16	19	16	17	15
Natazutlooh 25	11	21	21	1	21
Noo Kat 42	10	21	21	9	21
North Road 19	82	32	29	0.86	6
Shas Dzuhl Koh 35	44	1	5	26	3
Sisul TI'o K'ut 14	45	20	15	0	15
Sisul TI'o K'ut 21	45	22	17	0.19	17
Skooby Island 48	29	6	2	30	2
Ta Duhl' 36	24	3	3	27	2
*Tache 1	38	18	13	2	14
Tanizul 43	23	28	22	18	24
Teeslee 15	20	32	30	11	32
Teh Noo'n Che 49	24	28	28	3	28
TI'o Ba 22	37	35	31	0.53	31
Tsay Cho 4	23	35	30	10	31
Tsaz Chech 27	22	36	36	6	36
Tsaz Chech 28	21	35	35	4	35
Tsaz Cheh Koh 24	14	29	29	1	29

First Nation	Distance Between Reserve and Project Component (km)				
Reserve Name	Distance from Project Area (km)	Transmission Line		North Access Route Road	South Access Route Road
		Option 1	Option 2		
TI'azt'en Nation (cont'd)					
Tse Bay Ha Tine A 34	37	3	2	30	0.49
Tsun Tine Ah 37	39	28	23	4	23
Wha T'a Noo 40	44	33	28	2	28
Yekooche First Nation					
Nan TI' at 13	37	2	5	36	4
Ucausley 16	30	5	2	30	1
*Ye Koo Che 3	30	9	5	25	6
Ye Koos Lee 11	28	6	2	29	2

Notes:

km = kilometre(s)

"*" represents main reserve.

First Nations and their reserves listed alphabetically.

Distance is measured in a straight line from closest point of the Project Area perimeter to the Reserve perimeter, and from nearest point on linear infrastructure to Reserve perimeter. Distances are rounded to the nearest kilometre for distance greater than 1 kilometre, and to the second decimal place for distance less than 1 kilometre.

APPENDIX B CONCORDANCE TABLES

TABLE B-1 FEDERAL CONCORDANCE (*IMPACT ASSESSMENT ACT*)

TABLE B-2 PROVINCIAL CONCORDANCE (*ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT*)

TABLE B-1 FEDERAL CONCORDANCE (*IMPACT ASSESSMENT ACT*)

Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
General Information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project's name, type or sector and proposed location. 	1.0 Introduction 3.2 Project Location
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proponent's name and contact information and the name and contact information of their primary representative for the purpose of the description of the project. 	2.0 Proponent Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A summary of any engagement undertaken with any jurisdiction or other party, including a summary of the key issues raised and the results of the engagement, and a brief description of any plan for future engagement. 	10.0 Summary of Engagement 5.2 Other Provincial and Federal Permits, Licences, and Approvals Required for the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of the Indigenous groups that may be affected by the carrying out of the project, a summary of any engagement undertaken with the Indigenous peoples of Canada, including a summary of key issues raised and the results of the engagement, and a brief description of any plan for future engagement. 	6.0 First Nations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any study or plan, relevant to the project, that is being or has been conducted in respect of the region where the project is to be carried out, including a regional assessment that is being or has been carried out under section 92 or 93 of the Act or by any jurisdiction, including by or on behalf of an Indigenous governing body, if the study or plan is available to the public. 	8.3 Land Use Plans, Land Use Designations and Tenures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any strategic assessment, relevant to the project, that is being or has been carried out under section 95 of the Act. 	4.5.1 Greenhouse Gas Emissions 5.3 Federal Matters
Project Information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A statement of the purpose of and need for the project, including any potential benefits. 	3.1 Project Need, Purpose, and Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provisions in the schedule to the Physical Activities Regulations describing the project, in whole or in part. 	5.1 Environmental Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of all activities, infrastructure, permanent or temporary structures and physical works to be included in and associated with the Construction, Operation and Decommissioning of the project. 	3.3.3 Status and Existing Infrastructure 4 Project Description
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An estimate of the maximum production capacity of the project and a description of the production processes to be used. 	1.0 Introduction 4.0 Project Description
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The anticipated schedule for the project's Construction, Operation, Decommissioning and Abandonment, including any expansions of the project. 	4.3 Project Phases and Activities 5.3 Proposed Regulatory Schedule and Project Milestones
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential alternative means of carrying out the project that the proponent is considering and that are technically and economically feasible, including through the use of best available technologies; and Potential alternatives to the project that the proponent is considering and that are technically and economically feasible and directly related to the project. 	4.6 Alternatives to the Project 4.7 Alternative Means of Carrying out the Project

Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Location Information	
Description of the project's proposed location, including:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Its proposed geographic coordinates, including, for linear development projects, the proposed locations of major ancillary facilities that are integral to the project and a description of the spatial boundaries of the proposed study corridor; 	3.2 Project Location
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site maps produced at an appropriate scale in order to determine the project's proposed general location and the spatial relationship of the project components; 	All Mapping
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The legal description of land to be used for the project, including, if the land has already been acquired, the title, deed or document and any authorization relating to a water lot; 	3.2 Project Location 5.2 Other Provincial and Federal Permits, Licences, and Approvals Required for the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project's proximity to any permanent, seasonal or temporary residences and to the nearest affected communities; 	8.0 Existing Human Environment 8.1 Local Communities 8.2 Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes 8.3 Land Use Plans, Land Use Designations and Tenures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project's proximity to land used for traditional purposes by Indigenous peoples of Canada, land in a reserve as defined in subsection 2(1) of the <i>Indian Act</i>, First Nation land as defined in subsection 2(1) of the <i>First Nations Land Management Act</i>, land that is subject to a comprehensive land claim agreement or a self-government agreement and any other land set aside for the use and benefit of Indigenous peoples of Canada; 	6.0 First Nations 8.2 Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project's proximity to any federal lands; 	3.2 Project Location
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A brief description of the physical and biological environment of the project's location, based on information that is available to the public; and 	7.0 Existing Biophysical Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A brief description of the health, social and economic context in the region where the project is located, based on information that is available to the public or derived from any engagement undertaken. 	8.0 Existing Human Environment
Federal, Provincial, Territorial, Indigenous, and Municipal Involvement	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of any financial support that federal authorities are, or may be, providing to the project. 	3.3.2 Project History
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of any federal lands that may be used for the purpose of carrying out the project. 	3.2 Project Location
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of any jurisdictions that have powers, duties or functions in relation to an assessment of the project's environmental effects. 	5.1 Environmental Assessment

Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Potential Effects of the Project	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of any changes that, as a result of the carrying out of the project, may be caused to the following components of the environment that are within the legislative authority of Parliament: 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Fish and fish habitat, as defined in subsection 2(1) of the <i>Fisheries Act</i>; 	11.0 Potential Effects of the Project (Table 11-2)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Aquatic species, as defined in subsection 2(1) of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i>; and 	11.0 Potential Effects of the Project (Table 11-2)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Migratory birds, as defined in subsection 2(1) of the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994</i>. 	11.0 Potential Effects of the Project (Table 11-2)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of any changes to the environment that, as a result of the carrying out of the project, may occur on federal lands, in a province other than the province in which the project is proposed to be carried out or outside Canada. 	11.2 Potential Changes to the Environment Outside of British Columbia and Canada
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With respect to the Indigenous peoples of Canada, a brief description of the impact—that, as a result of the carrying out of the project, may occur in Canada and result from any change to the environment—on physical and cultural heritage, the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes and any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, palaeontological or architectural significance, based on information that is available to the public or derived from any engagement undertaken with Indigenous peoples of Canada. 	11.0 Potential Effects on the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A brief description of any change that, as a result of the carrying out of the project, may occur in Canada to the health, social or economic conditions of Indigenous peoples of Canada, based on information that is available to the public or derived from any engagement undertaken with Indigenous peoples of Canada. 	11.0 Potential Effects on the Project (Table 11-2)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An estimate of any greenhouse gas emissions associated with the project. 	4.5.1 Greenhouse Gas Emissions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of the types of waste and emissions that are likely to be generated—in the air, in or on water and in or on land—during any phase of the project. 	4.5 Emissions, Discharges, and Other Waste
Summary	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A plain language summary of the information that is required under items 1 to 24 in English and in French. 	Separate cover

TABLE B-2 PROVINCIAL CONCORDANCE (*ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT*)

Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Executive Summary	
A plain language summary of the IPD that is clear and concise.	Separate cover
General Information and Contacts	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project name; 	1.0 Introduction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project location; 	1.0 Introduction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project industrial sector and type (e.g., open pit metal mine); 	1.0 Introduction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proponent name, mailing address, phone numbers, email address and website URL; and 	2.0 Proponent Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include the name and contact information of the primary representative for the EA. 	2.0 Proponent Information
Purpose and Rationale	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A general rationale for why the project has been proposed; and 	3.1 Project Need, Purpose, and Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential project benefits. 	3.1 Project Need, Purpose, and Benefits
Legislative and Regulatory Context	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The type and size of the project, with specific reference to EA Regulatory Triggers [e.g., the EAO Reviewable Project Regulations and <i>Impact Assessment Act</i> (Canada) thresholds]; 	5.1 Environmental Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of anticipated authorizations and permits; 	5.2 Other Provincial and Federal Permits, Licences, and Approvals Required for the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the requirements of any applicable agreements between the Province and Indigenous nations, including treaties; 	6.0 First Nations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the requirements of any applicable international agreements between the Province and state or federal governments; 	5.0 Regulatory and Policy Framework
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of relevant government policies that the project may not be compatible with; and 	5.2 Other Provincial and Federal Permits, Licences, and Approvals Required for the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed timing for conducting the provincial EA and federal EA, if applicable. 	5.3 Proposed Regulatory Schedule and Project Milestones

Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Project Status and History	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project history, including past ownership; 	3.3.2 Project History
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State if it is a new project or a modification to an existing project; 	1.0 Introduction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of any existing permits or tenure in place; 	3.4 Existing Permits and Approvals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of any previous proposal(s) for the project or a similar proposal and the outcomes and history of the proposal(s), if applicable; and 	N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the project was previously declined or terminated, a description of how this proposal differs and how the issues for which the previous proposal was declined or terminated have been addressed. 	N/A
Project Timing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of proposed project phases (e.g., Construction, Operation, Decommissioning, and Reclamation) and the anticipated timing and duration of each phase; and 	4.3 Project Phases and Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include any known seasonal timing constraints. 	4.3 Project Phases and Activities
Project Location, Activities, and Components	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of the proposed project's location in a local and regional context, including proximity to communities or locations of interest to the public, government, or Indigenous nations, and key designated or protected areas such as parks or Wildlife Habitat Areas; 	3.2 Project Location
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed project activities and components; 	4.0 Project Description
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed on and offsite facilities and equipment; 	4.0 Project Description
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A brief description of proposed activities related to processing, transportation and/or shipping of materials to/from the site; 	4.1.2 Processing and Ancillary Facilities 4.1.6 Roads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of any other project(s) that are needed for the proposed project to proceed and be feasible (e.g., a pipeline would be needed for an oil and gas facility to proceed); 	N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of the work that has been conducted to arrive at the proposed project as described in the IPD; 	3.0 Project Geology, History, Status and Existing Infrastructure 4.0 Project Description 7.0 Existing Biophysical Environment 8.0 Existing Human Environment 10.0 Summary of Engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of design or siting constraints that are flexible and those that are not flexible; 	4.2 Project Design or Siting Constraints
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of other design or siting options that may be considered; and 	7.5 Alternative Means of Carrying Out the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated daily and annual maximum production or operational capacity of the project (if applicable). 	1.0 Introduction

Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Maps and Shapefiles	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local and regional scale maps of the project showing its location and known offsite components; 	All
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map(s) and shapefile(s) showing the expected area of direct and indirect effects of the project; Shapefiles of the proposed project footprint and the footprint of known offsite components. Provide shapefiles demonstrating the overlap of known project components with any identified communities or locations of interest to the public. This may include information regarding specific sites of importance to a First Nation or their territory if this information is not confidential in nature and a First Nation has agreed to allow the information to be shared; and 	11.0 Potential Effects of the Project; Separate cover
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the Spatial Data Submission Standards Guidelines to ensure mapping data is submitted according to the EAO requirements. 	N/A
First Nations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of the proximity of the proposed project to First Nations' territory, communities, locations of interest, reserve lands, Treaty lands, etc.; 	3.2 Project Location
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of potential project interactions with any Section 35 rights or other interests identified by the First Nation; 	6.0 First Nations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of alignment of the IPD with Indigenous nation laws, customs and policies; and 	6.0 First Nations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of any issues, concerns, or questions raised by Indigenous nations during engagement on the draft IPD or other information shared in relation to the proposed project. 	6.0 First Nations
Biophysical Environment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of the natural setting characteristics, including coastal, foreshore, riparian, mountainous, watersheds, and agricultural land; 	7.0 Existing Biophysical Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of disturbed area characteristics, including: brown field and any history of development; 	3.0 Project Geology, History, Status and Existing Infrastructure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of sensitive or vulnerable species, ecosystems, and/or habitats in the project area; 	7.0 Existing Biophysical Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results of a search of the Contaminated Site Registry to identify existing registered contaminated sites that overlap with the project area; If this search identifies a Contaminated Site Registry Schedule 2 Activity in the project area, a description of the proposed activities in that area including soil removal or disturbance; and 	3.0 Project Geology, History, Status and Existing Infrastructure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of existing data, including monitoring reports, previous EAs, regional studies, and/or other sources of information that support the understanding of the existing biophysical environment. 	7.0 Existing Biophysical Environment

Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Human and Community Well-Being	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of the proposed project's proximity to local communities, including seasonal or temporary residences; 	3.2 Project Location
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of the local governments within which the proposed project is located or where effects may occur; 	10.3 Summary of Engagement with Government Agencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of the proposed project's proximity to important or sensitive community and natural places such as: municipal boundaries, parks, schools, hospitals, housing, water supplies, roads, railways, and protected and recreational areas; 	8.0 Existing Human Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of existing data, including monitoring reports, previous EAs, regional studies, and/or other sources of information that support the understanding of the existing human environment conditions; 	7.0 Existing Biophysical Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated local employment and training opportunities; 	4.4 Project Workforce
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential social and economic contributions and benefits to local communities; 	4.4 Project Workforce
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipated business opportunities for local suppliers, including any applicable eligibility requirements for suppliers; 	4.4 Project Workforce
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of any sensitive or vulnerable economic, social, heritage, or health values that may be affected by the project; and 	11.0 Potential Effects of the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A preliminary understanding of the anticipated size of the workforce for each project phase, where the workforce will be drawn from, and where the workforce will be housed. Refer to the Human and Community Well-being Guidelines for further information. 	4.4 Project Workforce
Emissions, Discharges, and Waste	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A high-level outline of anticipated direct project waste and emissions to land, air, and water, including estimated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This information would include direct emissions that are expected to be above provincial or national standards and emissions that have the potential to interact with Indigenous interests, the biophysical environment, and/or the human environment; and 	4.5 Emissions, Wastes, and Discharges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of proposed mitigation measures and/or project design changes to address emissions, including GHGs. 	4.5 Emissions, Wastes, and Discharges
Public and Environmental Safety	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of potential malfunctions or accidents associated with the industry or specific to the proposed project and how they will be managed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include any proposed outreach to help Indigenous nations, governments and the public better understand the risks and mitigations; and Include any issues raised about public and environmental safety during engagement with Indigenous nations, the public, provincial and federal government agencies, and stakeholders and how issues were considered in developing any mitigation measures or design changes. 	9.0 Public and Environmental Safety
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include any proposed outreach to help Indigenous nations, governments and the public better understand the risks and mitigations; and 	9.0 Public and Environmental Safety
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include any issues raised about public and environmental safety during engagement with Indigenous nations, the public, provincial and federal government agencies, and stakeholders and how issues were considered in developing any mitigation measures or design changes. 	9.0 Public and Environmental Safety

Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Alternative Means of Carrying Out the Project	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A high-level description of the alternative options for the proposed project, including a rationale for the preferred option that demonstrates how positive and negative effects and/or issues raised during engagement have been considered; 	4.7 Alternative Means of Carrying Out the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The alternative means of undertaking the proposed project may include information related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of best available technologies; The technical and economic feasibility; The potential effects, risks and uncertainties of those alternatives; The preferred option and a rationale for this preference; and The different options for the project location, project routing, technologies, mitigation, or design. 	4.7 Alternative Means of Carrying Out the Project
Effects of the Environment on the Project	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An overview of potential effects of natural hazards or processes and climate change on the proposed project. 	11.1 Effects of the Environment of the Project
Land and Water Use	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An outline of the anticipated project footprint and proposed area of disturbance; 	4.0 Project Description
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of the land required for the proposed project, including whether the project is located on private lands, provincial or federal Crown lands, or Indian Reserve lands; 	3.2 Project Location
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include the applicable zoning, Agriculture Land Reserve designation, land and resource management plans, and other land use designations (e.g., parks and protected areas) and the legal land descriptions and/or tenure numbers of those lands, if known; 	3.2 Project Location 8.0 Existing Human Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of past uses of the land required for the proposed project, including whether the site has been previously developed; and 	3.3 Project Geology, History, Status, and Existing Infrastructure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of water requirements for the proposed project, if applicable, and the proposed source of water. 	4.1.5 Water Management Facilities and Stewardship
Land Use Plans	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of all relevant land use plans, including provincial land use plans, Indigenous land use plans, and relevant municipal plans; and 	8.3 Land Use Plans, Land Use Designations, and Tenures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An identification of any rezoning or changes in land designations that would be required for the proposed project. 	8.3 Land Use Plans, Land Use Designations, and Tenures

Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Project Interactions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A description of potential interactions between the proposed project and the biophysical and human environments, including Indigenous interests. It may be helpful to present this information in a table format, refer to the Effects Assessment Policy for examples of interaction tables; 	11.0 Potential Effects of the Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A summary of any biophysical feasibility studies undertaken that may be pertinent to understanding potential interactions, if applicable; 	7.0 Existing Biophysical Environment 8.0 Existing Human Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of any activities proposed to be undertaken during the Early Engagement period to inform the development of the DPD or the Application, should the project proceed to an EA; and 	7.0 Existing Biophysical Environment 8.0 Existing Human Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An identification of existing cumulative effects in the region that the project may interact with. Refer to the Effects Assessment Policy for more information. 	11.3 Potential Cumulative Effects

Notes:

DPD = Detailed Project Description; EA = environmental assessment; EAO = Environmental Assessment Office (British Columbia); GHG = greenhouse gas; IPD = Initial Project Description; N/A = not applicable

APPENDIX C MIGRATORY BIRDS POTENTIALLY IN THE PROJECT AREA

TABLE C-1 **MIGRATORY BIRDS POTENTIALLY IN THE PROJECT AREA AS DEFINED BY THE
MIGRATORY BIRD CONVENTIONS ACT, 1994**

Family	Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	iNaturalist^a	BC Breeding Bird Atlas^b
Anatidae	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	Trumpeter Swan	<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	Blue-winged Teal	<i>Spatula discors</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	Cinnamon Teal	<i>Spatula cyanoptera</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	American Wigeon	<i>Mareca americana</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	N	Y
Anatidae	Green-winged Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	N	Y
Anatidae	Canvasback	<i>Aythya valisineria</i>	N	Y
Anatidae	Ring-necked Duck	<i>Aythya collaris</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	N	Y
Anatidae	Harlequin Duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	Surf Scoter	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	White-winged Scoter	<i>Melanitta deglandi</i>	N	Y
Anatidae	Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	N	Y
Anatidae	Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	Barrow's Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala islandica</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	Hooded Merganser	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	Y	Y
Anatidae	Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	Y	Y
Columbidae	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Y	Y
Caprimulgidae	Common Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	Y	Y
Apodidae	Black Swift	<i>Cypseloides niger</i>	N	Y
Trochilidae	Calliope Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus calliope</i>	N	Y
Trochilidae	Rufous Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus rufus</i>	Y	Y
Rallidae	Sora	<i>Porzana carolina</i>	Y	Y
Rallidae	American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	N	Y
Gruidae	Sandhill Crane	<i>Antigone canadensis</i>	Y	Y
Charadriidae	Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	Y	Y
Scolopacidae	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Y	N
Scolopacidae	Wilson's Snipe	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>	Y	Y

Family	Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	iNaturalist ^a	BC Breeding Bird Atlas ^b
Scolopacidae	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	Y	Y
Scolopacidae	Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	Y	Y
Scolopacidae	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	Y	N
Scolopacidae	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	Y	Y
Scolopacidae	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	Y	N
Scolopacidae	Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>	Y	N
Laridae	Bonaparte's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus philadelphia</i>	Y	Y
Laridae	Short-billed Gull	<i>Larus brachyrhynchus</i>	Y	N
Laridae	Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	Y	Y
Laridae	Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Y	Y
Podicipedidae	Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	Y	Y
Podicipedidae	Horned Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	N	Y
Podicipedidae	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	Y	Y
Gaviidae	Common Loon	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Y	Y
Ardeidae	American Bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	N	Y
Picidae	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	N	Y
Picidae	Red-breasted Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus ruber</i>	Y	Y
Picidae	American Three-toed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides dorsalis</i>	Y	Y
Picidae	Black-backed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides arcticus</i>	Y	Y
Picidae	Downy Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates pubescens</i>	Y	Y
Picidae	Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates villosus</i>	Y	Y
Picidae	Pileated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	Y	Y
Picidae	Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	Y	Y
Tyrannidae	Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Y	Y
Tyrannidae	Western Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>	Y	Y
Tyrannidae	Alder Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax alnorum</i>	Y	Y
Tyrannidae	Willow Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	N	Y
Tyrannidae	Least Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>	N	Y
Tyrannidae	Hammond's Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax hammondii</i>	Y	Y
Tyrannidae	Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax oberholseri</i>	N	Y
Tyrannidae	Eastern Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	Y	N
Vireonidae	Cassin's Vireo	<i>Vireo cassinii</i>	N	Y

Family	Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	iNaturalist ^a	BC Breeding Bird Atlas ^b
Vireonidae	Warbling Vireo	<i>Vireo gilvus</i>	Y	Y
Vireonidae	Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	N	Y
Laniidae	Northern Shrike	<i>Lanius borealis</i>	Y	N
Paridae	Black-capped Chickadee	<i>Poecile atricapillus</i>	Y	Y
Paridae	Mountain Chickadee	<i>Poecile gambeli</i>	N	Y
Paridae	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	<i>Poecile rufescens</i>	N	Y
Paridae	Boreal Chickadee	<i>Poecile hudsonicus</i>	Y	Y
Hirundinidae	Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	N	Y
Hirundinidae	Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	Y	Y
Hirundinidae	Violet-green Swallow	<i>Tachycineta thalassina</i>	Y	Y
Hirundinidae	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>	Y	Y
Hirundinidae	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Y	Y
Hirundinidae	Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	Y	Y
Regulidae	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Corthylio calendula</i>	Y	Y
Regulidae	Golden-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>	Y	Y
Sittidae	White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	N	Y
Sittidae	Red-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>	Y	Y
Certhiidae	Brown Creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>	N	Y
Troglodytidae	Pacific Wren	<i>Troglodytes pacificus</i>	Y	Y
Troglodytidae	Marsh Wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>	N	Y
Cinclidae	American Dipper	<i>Cinclus mexicanus</i>	Y	Y
Turdidae	Mountain Bluebird	<i>Sialia currucoides</i>	Y	Y
Turdidae	Townsend's Solitaire	<i>Myadestes townsendi</i>	Y	Y
Turdidae	Varied Thrush	<i>Ixoreus naevius</i>	Y	Y
Turdidae	Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	N	Y
Turdidae	Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	N	Y
Turdidae	American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	Y	Y
Bombycillidae	Bohemian Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>	Y	Y
Bombycillidae	Cedar Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>	Y	Y
Motacillidae	American Pipit	<i>Anthus rubescens</i>	Y	Y
Fringillidae	Evening Grosbeak	<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>	Y	Y
Fringillidae	Pine Grosbeak	<i>Pinicola enucleator</i>	Y	Y

Family	Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	iNaturalist ^a	BC Breeding Bird Atlas ^b
Fringillidae	Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	<i>Leucosticte tephrocotis</i>	N	Y
Fringillidae	House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	N	Y
Fringillidae	Purple Finch	<i>Haemorhous purpureus</i>	Y	Y
Fringillidae	Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	Y	Y
Fringillidae	White-winged Crossbill	<i>Loxia leucoptera</i>	Y	Y
Fringillidae	Pine Siskin	<i>Spinus pinus</i>	Y	Y
Calcariidae	Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Y	N
Passerellidae	Chipping Sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>	Y	Y
Passerellidae	Clay-colored Sparrow	<i>Spizella pallida</i>	N	Y
Passerellidae	Fox Sparrow	<i>Passerella iliaca</i>	N	Y
Passerellidae	Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Y	Y
Passerellidae	White-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	Y	Y
Passerellidae	Golden-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia atricapilla</i>	Y	Y
Passerellidae	White-throated Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	Y	Y
Passerellidae	Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>	Y	Y
Passerellidae	Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	Y	Y
Passerellidae	Lincoln's Sparrow	<i>Melospiza lincolnii</i>	Y	Y
Parulidae	Northern Waterthrush	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>	Y	Y
Parulidae	Tennessee Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis peregrina</i>	Y	Y
Parulidae	Orange-crowned Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis celata</i>	Y	Y
Parulidae	MacGillivray's Warbler	<i>Geothlypis tolmiei</i>	N	Y
Parulidae	Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	Y	Y
Parulidae	American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	Y	Y
Parulidae	Magnolia Warbler	<i>Setophaga magnolia</i>	Y	Y
Parulidae	Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia</i>	N	Y
Parulidae	Blackpoll Warbler	<i>Setophaga striata</i>	N	Y
Parulidae	Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Setophaga coronata</i>	Y	Y
Parulidae	Townsend's Warbler	<i>Setophaga townsendi</i>	N	Y
Parulidae	Wilson's Warbler	<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>	N	Y
Cardinalidae	Western Tanager	<i>Piranga ludoviciana</i>	Y	Y

Notes:

^a Migratory bird species identified by iNaturalist (<https://www.inaturalist.org/>) with previous occurrences within 50 km of the Project are marked with a Y.

^b Migratory bird species identified by the BC Breeding Bird Atlas (<https://www.birdatlas.bc.ca/>) with occurrences within the Burns Lake atlas region are marked with a Y.