Taseko Yellowhead

Yellowhead Copper Project

Initial Project Description

June 23, 2025

Version: 2

Revision Record

Revision	Date	Description
0	June 11, 2025	Issued for Review
1	June 23, 2025	Issued for submission
2	June 23, 2025	Re-issued for submission

Yellowhead Copper Project

SUBMITTED TO:

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Executive Summary

This document is the Initial Project Description (IPD) for the British Columbia (BC)-based Yellowhead Copper Project, a Critical Minerals project that will produce a copper concentrate with payable amounts of gold and silver (the Project). Taseko Mines Limited (Taseko) is the Proponent for the Project. Taseko is a publicly traded, North American focused mining company headquartered in Vancouver, BC. The management team is comprised of experienced mining professionals with a proven track record of success in developing and operating open pit mines in BC. Taseko and its subsidiaries are committed to responsible resource development, and to developing and sustaining meaningful working relationships with Indigenous groups and the communities in which we operate.

The Project is a proposed open pit copper mine that has been designed with a production capacity of 90,000 tonnes per day (tpd) of ore over a 25-year mine life. Ore will be mined from the open pit and hauled by truck to a primary crusher located near the ultimate pit rim. Crushed ore will then be transported by overland conveyor to the plant site. At the plant site, processing of the crushed ore within the concentrator will be done using standard grinding and flotation circuits to produce a copper concentrate, with payable amounts of gold and silver. Final concentrate will be trucked offsite to a rail load-out facility located near Vavenby, BC, and transported via rail to the Port of Vancouver or to other North American markets. From the Port of Vancouver, the copper concentrate will be shipped to overseas markets. Power will be supplied to the Project site by an approximately 110-kilometre (km) long, 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that follows an approximate west to east orientation to interconnect the existing BC Hydro substation at 100 Mile House, BC to a new substation at the Project site.

The Project is situated in the unceded territory of the Secwépemc Nation, (Secwepemcúl̓ecw), and primarily within the territory of Simpcw First Nation (Simpcwúl̓ecw). The Secwépemc Nation (Secwépemc) are sometimes known or referred to as the Shuswap Nation. Taseko is focused on working collaboratively with Simpcw and has agreed to participate in the Simpcw Assessment Process (Simpcw Process), an Indigenous-led assessment process. Taseko will take the lead from Simpcw on how the Simpcw Process will align with provincial and federal assessment processes. Through the Simpcw Process, Simpcw will make a Project consent-based decision independent of the provincial and federal assessment process.

This IPD has been prepared with input from Simpcw to meet requirements under the Simpcw Process, and for submission to the BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) and Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) to initiate the early engagement and planning phases of their processes under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act* (SBC 2018, c 51) and the federal *Impact Assessment Act* (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1). Additionally, Taseko intends to submit a request the BC Minister of Environment and Parks (ENV) to seek agreement from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) for a substituted process under the *Impact Assessment Cooperation Agreement between Canada and British Columbia* (Government of Canada and BC Government 2020). Substitution would support a more streamlined process while retaining independent decision-making by the provincial and federal governments with respect to the Project. A comprehensive regulatory approvals process will be undertaken to enable construction, operation, and eventual closure of the Project. Permitting decisions could only be made following positive decisions under the Simpcw Process as well as the provincial and federal assessment processes.

In preparing the IPD and Engagement Plan (EP), the documents were shared with Simpcw for collaborative review and feedback. Simpcw has reviewed the documents and identified comments as it relates to the relationship between Simpcw and Taseko and the application of the Simpcw Process. Simpcw and Taseko collaborated on Simpcw's comments and incorporated changes to the satisfaction of both parties.

As such, Simpcw has accepted this document as an appropriate initial project description to proceed with the Simpcw Process. Sections of the IPD and EP related to Adams Lake Indian Band (ALIB), the Neskonlith Indian Band, and the Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw (SteS) (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band) were also shared prior to formal submission to the EAO, and the IAAC. Simpcw have provided Taseko with their support to submit the final IPD and EP to the EAO and IAAC. Submission of the IPD and EP start the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal assessment processes, respectively.

Taseko's principal contact for the purposes of the Environmental Assessment is:

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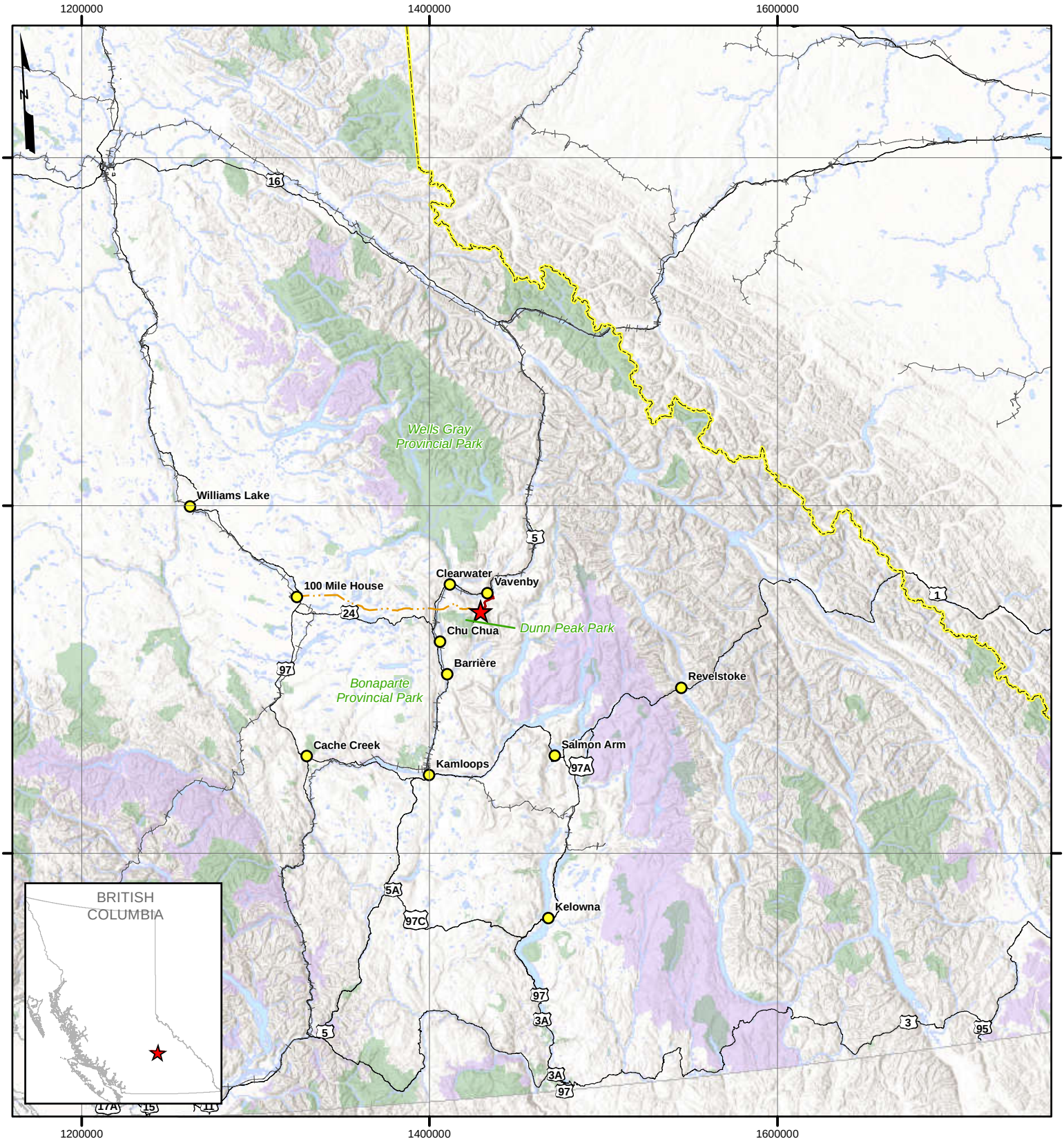
Project Overview

Copper is a Critical Mineral that is both an essential metal for everyday life and increasingly important for the global transition to a low carbon future. The production, transmission, and distribution of renewable, low-carbon energy requires the responsible production of copper. Currently, there is no viable alternative to copper in many electrification applications. The Project will provide a responsible, and ethically produced source of copper to the global market to support the rapid electrification of modern economies globally, and will also contribute to:

- Advancing provincial and federal economies in Canada through the development of Critical Minerals, as emphasized in Canada's and BC's Critical Minerals strategies.
- Boosting local economies in BC, which have been depressed by job losses in the forestry sector and completion of pipeline construction activities in the Project region, through provision of local jobs and business expenditures.
- Supporting provision of social and community services, and other societal benefits to local, First Nation and Indigenous communities in BC and Canada, through payment of royalties and taxes.
- Generating value and return on investment to Taseko shareholders.

The Project is located in the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) in south-central BC, about 150 km northeast of Kamloops, BC, along Highway 5, near the community of Vavenby, BC (Figure ES-1). From Vavenby, the primary access route to the Project is about 20 km along existing Forest Service Roads (FSR) from Vavenby. Secondary access for oversized and heavy loads will be from Highway 5 at Birch Island Lost Creek Road (BILCR) until it connects with the primary access route. The rail load-out facility, at the former Weyerhaeuser site now owned by Taseko, is located near Vavenby. The transmission line will follow an approximate west to east orientation to interconnect the existing BC Hydro substation at 100 Mile House to a new substation at the Project site. The western portion of the transmission line is situated within the Cariboo Regional District (CRD) and the eastern portion within the TNRD. The nearest communities to the Project site are Vavenby and Birch Island, BC. Chu Chua is the closest Simpcw community to the Project site.



Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- Communities
- Waterbodies
- Parks & Protected Areas
- Protected Wildlife Habitat
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- BC-Alberta Boundary
- Railway
- Highways/Roads

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

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0 37.5 75 150 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Project Location

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure ES-1

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\IPD\IPD Figure ES-1 Project Location.mxd

Dunn Peak Park is a protected area located about 2 km to the west of the Project site at its closest point. Wells Gray Provincial Park is located north of Clearwater and distant from the Project site. Mapped mountain caribou habitat and old growth management areas (OGMA) occur in proximity to the Project site. The preliminary transmission line alternatives were scoped to minimize impacts to wildlife habitat (including critical habitat for badger and woodland caribou), vegetation (including critical habitat for Mexican mosquito fern and whitebark pine), wetlands, floodplains, provincial parks, recreational areas, conservation lands, and population areas at Horse Lake and Deka Lake. Much of the transmission line is on undisturbed land; however, existing disturbance occurs in some locations (e.g., forestry cut blocks). The transmission line will need to cross the North Thompson River. The transmission line is located greater than 5 km north of Eakin Creek Canyon Provincial Park.

Copper mineralization was discovered in the deposit area in the mid-1960s. The initial discovery was followed by extensive prospecting, line cutting, road building, surface geochemical sampling, geological mapping, geophysics, trenching and exploratory drilling programs. Claim staking in the Project area occurred in 1965 by Noranda Exploration Company (Noranda) and Quebec Cartier Mining Company, a subsidiary of US Steel (QCM), in 1966. In the early 1970s, the companies formed a joint venture partnership to explore the combined properties until 1974. Further exploration occurred in 1986 and 1996. In 2005, Yellowhead Mining Inc. (YMI) formed as a private BC company that acquired subsurface rights to the Project site through a combination of claim staking, purchase, and option agreements. YMI advanced exploration at the Project site from 2006 to 2013. This was followed by a feasibility study in 2014 based on a previous development plan for a project with a production capacity of 70,000 tpd, which was called the Harper Creek Project.

In 2015, the Harper Creek Project Environmental Assessment (EA) Application was accepted for review by the EAO and Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA). Following the Mount Polley TSF Breach (BC MEM 2015), the application review timeline was suspended in mid-2015 to allow additional time to address additional requirements relating to tailings alternatives and management to the satisfaction of the EAO, and to further engage with Indigenous groups. After an initial three-year review timeline extension, the provincial EA process was terminated in 2018 by the EAO due to inactivity on the file. In February 2019, Taseko acquired 100% interest in YMI and, over the course of that year, withdrew the federal EA application and completed an updated Technical Report on the Project (Taseko 2020). The concerns raised in the 2015 Harper Creek Project Environmental Assessment (Harper Creek Project EA) process have informed improvements in the tailings and water management approaches and design for the Project.

The Project, including the Project site, primary and secondary access routes, and rail load-out facility, is within the TNRD and the South-Central Mining Region. The Project site is located on provincial Crown Land, with mineral tenure comprised of one mining lease, which is valid until at least June 2050, and 94 mineral claims covering a total of approximately 42,350 hectares (ha). Existing mineral claims are in good standing. There is one range tenure (RAN07735) and two trapline tenures (TR0337T001, TR0341T003) that overlap the Project site. Some areas of the Project site have been previously logged with some existing gravel roads. Water use for the Project is primarily associated with activities at the Project site, with minor offsite water use associated with access road and rail load-out facility activities (e.g., dust control). At the Project site, contact water will be pumped to the process water pond to support site operations. Potable water will be sourced from wells around the plant site then treated, stored, and pumped to distribution points around the plant site.

The western portion of the transmission line is situated with the CRD and the eastern portion within the TNRD. Some portions of the transmission line cross through Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). Both the TNRD and CRD are within the ALR Interior Panel Region. The transmission line may intersect with parcels of private land, recreational user areas, guide outfitting areas, trapline tenures, forest harvest tenures, range tenures, utility rights-of-way, OGMA, and mapped areas for species at risk (e.g., badger, woodland caribou).

The extent to which the transmission line will intersect with these areas will be further evaluated as the Project advances.

Taseko has an active Multi-Year Area Based (MYAB) Notice of Work Permit (No. 1620527-2022-01) under *Mines Act* permit MX-4-429 for geotechnical and hydrogeological site investigation work. The MYAB permit is currently valid until May 23, 2028. Road Use Permits (RUP) issued by the BC Ministry of Forests (FOR) are currently in place for sections of Vavenby Mountain, Avery-Jones, Barriere Mountain, and Saskum West FSRs.

The Project is located within structurally complex, low-grade metamorphic rocks of the Eagle Bay assemblage, part of the Kootenay Terrane on the western margin of the Omineca Belt in south-central BC. The Eagle Bay Assemblage incorporates Lower Cambrian to Mississippian sedimentary and volcanic rocks subject to deformation and metamorphism. The Eagle Bay Assemblage divides into four northeast-dipping thrust sheets that collectively contain a succession of Lower Cambrian rocks overlain by a succession of Devonian-Mississippian rocks. The northeast trending Harper Creek Fault separates the deposit into a west and east domain. In the west domain, chalcopyrite mineralization is primarily in three copper bearing horizons. In the east domain, mineralization characterized by high angle, discontinuous, tension fractures of pyrrhotite, chalcopyrite ± bornite is frequently associated with quartz carbonate gangue. This style is common within, but not limited to, the meta sedimentary rocks and areas of increased pervasive silicification. Mineralization is not selective to individual units and frequently transgress lithological contacts through the area. The deposit type is remobilized polymetallic volcanogenic massive sulphide deposit, comprising lenses of disseminated, fracture-filling and banded iron and copper sulphides with accessory magnetite. Mineralization is generally conformable with the host rock stratigraphy, as is consistent with the volcanogenic model.

Project Description

The basis of the Project design described in this IPD is informed by:

- Approximately 100,000 metres (m) of exploration, geotechnical, and condemnation drilling;
- Results from batch, lock cycle, and pilot scale metallurgical test work;
- Pre-Feasibility level engineering, as summarized in Taseko (2020);
- Feedback received through the Simpcw-Taseko working group which was formed in 2022 to consider on Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) alternatives; and
- Information and feedback reviewed from the Harper Creek Project EA Application (HCMC 2015).

The project design is expected to be refined as required through additional technical studies, baseline studies, and assessment work, along with engagement with Indigenous groups, government agencies, and the public. Where there are refinements to the project design, these will be presented in materials developed for the Simpcw Process, and the provincial and federal assessment processes.

Open pit mining is the industry standard method for extracting mineral reserves from near surface deposits, in particular for higher tonnage, lower grade copper mines in BC, such as the Project. The Project will use open pit mining techniques, and will involve a combination of drilling, blasting, loading, and hauling of materials. Mine operations will supply the copper concentrator with a production capacity of 90,000 tpd of ore at an average head grade of 0.28% copper and a strip ratio of 1.4:1 over 25 years. Ore will be hauled to the primary crusher for processing. Overburden and waste rock will be hauled to storage areas near the open pit, within the TSF or used as construction material. The equipment used will be typical of modern open pit mining operations, including electric rotary drills, electric rope shovels, ultra-class haul trucks, and other mining support equipment. The open pit will be mined in five phases.

Processing of the ore will involve a sulphide concentrator designed to process 90,000 tpd of ore and produce a marketable copper concentrate containing payable amounts of gold and silver. The concentrator will use three stages of particle size reduction and three stages of flotation, followed by concentrate dewatering using a thickener followed by filtration prior to being conveyed to the concentrate shed. The rougher and first cleaner flotation tailings will be transported separately to the TSF. Process water from the TSF will be reclaimed and recycled back to the process plant for reuse. The TSF will be located in the valley to the south and downstream of the concentrator at the plant site. The TSF will permanently and securely store approximately 710 million tonnes (Mt) of tailings and 470 Mt potentially acid generating (PAG) waste rock, requiring a total storage volume of approximately 780 million cubic metres (m^3).

Overburden, waste rock, and tailings produced from mining and mineral processing would be stored onsite. Non-acid generating (NAG) waste rock will be hauled to one of the Waste Rock Storage Areas (WRSA) near the open pit for surface storage or use in construction. Tailings will be transported via pipeline and stored within the TSF, along with PAG waste rock to maintain geochemical stability.

A bulk explosives facility will be located near the southern end of the TSF. Onsite explosives magazines will be located on the north side of the open pit to store explosives accessories. Final site locations will apply appropriate buffer zones to provide protection and safety of onsite infrastructure and personnel. It is anticipated that the explosives facility will be operated by an explosives supplier.

Site infrastructure is planned to separate contact and non-contact water throughout the life of the mine. Precipitation that falls as contact water will be diverted to the water collection ponds where water would be pumped to the process water pond. Excess water pumped to the process water pond will flow through a spillway and diversion channel to the TSF for storage. The contact water will be used for ore processing. Non-contact water will be discharged to the receiving environment through ditching and piping. A dewatering system will be in place to manage surface water runoff and groundwater ingress from the open pit.

A standalone water treatment plant (WTP), fed by the process water pond, is planned to be used to treat excess contact water at the Project site during operations. Initial construction of the WTP is anticipated to start in year 2, followed by commissioning and operations thereafter. To enable scalability over the life of mine, the WTP will be modular in design. Treated water will be discharged by pipeline to Harper Creek. The selected water treatment technology will meet the appropriate Technology Readiness Level under the Technology Readiness Assessment Interim Technical Guidance (EMLI 2022).

Power is planned to be supplied to the Project site via an approximately 110-km long, 230 kV powerline from the existing BC Hydro substation near 100 Mile House, following an approximate west to east orientation, to a new substation at the Project site. The preferred alternative for the Transmission Line route has been identified and is shared for the purposes of engagement and feedback in the IPD.

The primary access route to the Project site will be from Highway 5, near the community of Vavenby, BC, and continue along existing FSRs to the gatehouse. For personnel, operational, and public safety, access to the Project site will be restricted. A secondary access route for oversized and heavy loads will be from Highway 5 near Birch Island, crossing the North Thompson River at the Lost Creek Road bridge, and continuing along the road route until connecting with the primary access route to the Project site.

Final concentrate produced at the Project site will be trucked offsite to a rail load-out facility located near Vavenby. The concentrate will then be transferred to rail car at the rail load-out facility and transported by rail to the Port of Vancouver or to other North America markets. From the Port of Vancouver, the copper concentrate will be shipped to overseas markets.

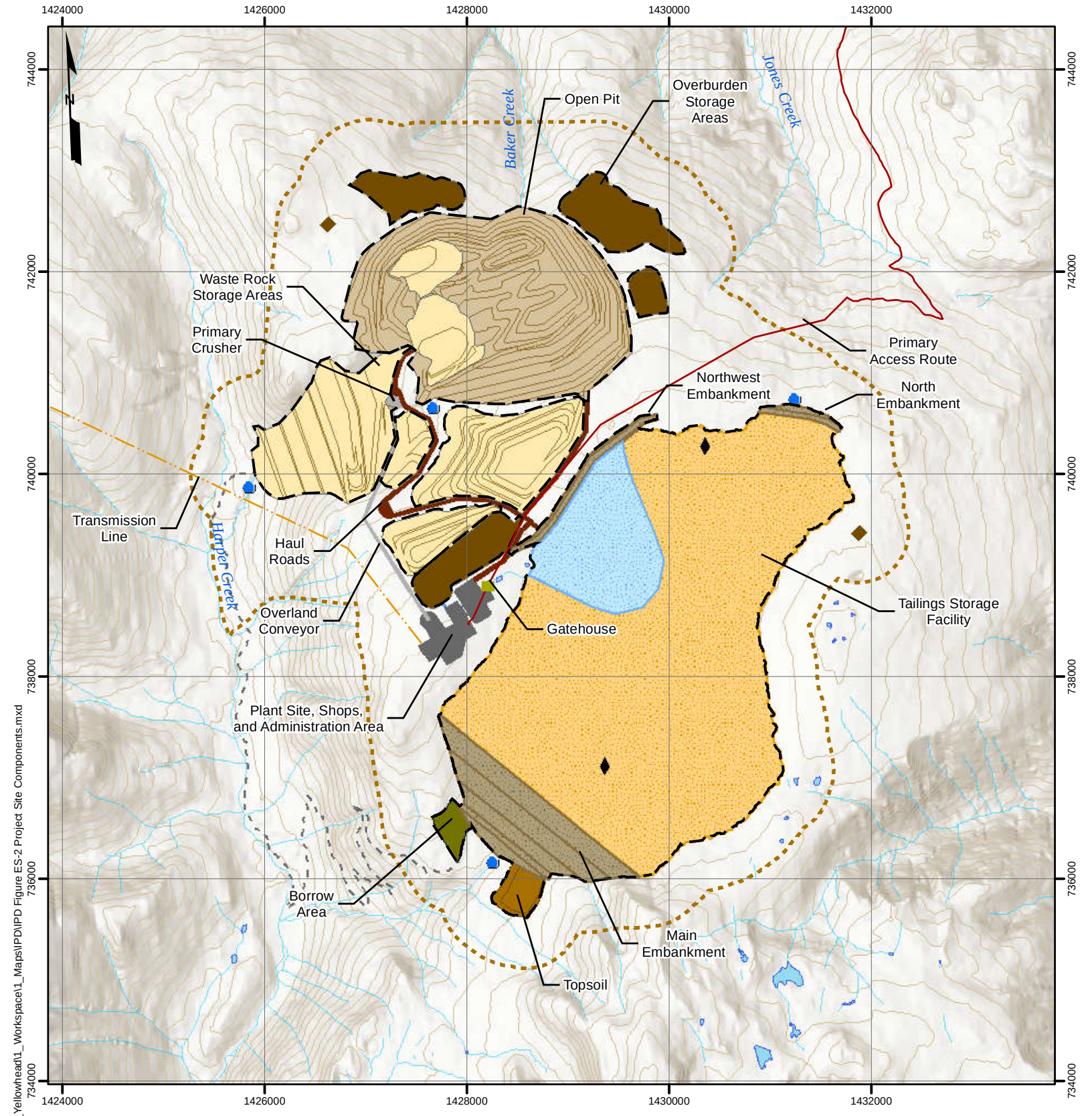
Project site and offsite Project components are shown on Figure ES-2 and Figure ES-3, respectively. A summary of Project components is shown in Table ES-1.

Table ES-1: Summary of Project Components

Project Components	New	Existing
Project Site Components		
• Open pit	X	
• Haul roads (for heavy and light mobile equipment and vehicles)	X	
• Overburden, waste rock, and ore storage areas	X	
• Primary crusher and overland conveyor (from crusher to coarse ore stockpile at the plant site)	X	
• Diesel fuelling station (at crusher site)	X	
• Plant Site	X	
○ Concentrator, and associated infrastructure:	X	
• Coarse ore stockpile	X	
• Grinding, flotation, dewatering circuits	X	
• Concentrate dewatering and storage	X	
• Reagent facility (storage and distribution)	X	
• Assay and metallurgical laboratory	X	
• Concentrator offices	X	
• Fixed Plant maintenance building	X	
○ Gatehouse (access control, first aid and parking)	X	
• Emergency response building and parking	X	
• Truck weigh-scale station	X	
○ Administration building	X	
○ Mine dry, with offices	X	
○ Mobile equipment maintenance shop, with offices	X	
○ Warehouse and cold storage laydown area	X	
○ Secondary diesel and gasoline fuelling station	X	
○ Process water pond (spillway and diversion)	X	
○ Water treatment plant and discharge pipelines	X	
○ Potable water wells and treatment plant	X	
○ Fire suppression pump stations	X	
○ Sewage treatment plant	X	
○ Substation and electrical distribution	X	
○ Construction camp	X	
• Tailings storage facility (tailings discharge pipelines, reclaim barge / pipelines, pumping system)	X	
• Borrow area/quarry	X	

Project Components	New	Existing
• Explosives facility	X	
• Site water management (e.g., collection ponds, pump back systems, pipes and ditching)	X	
• Construction camp (near plant site)	X	
• Primary access route extension (2.5 km new road extension from end of Vavenby Mountain and Avery Jones FSR)	X	
Offsite Components		
• Primary access route from Highway 5 at Vavenby to the Project site		X, modifications required
• Secondary access route from Highway 5 at Birch Island Lost Creek Bridge		X, modifications required
• Transmission line (110 km from 100 Mile House Substation to Project site)	X	
• Rail load-out Facility (employee parking and bus pick up at this location		X, modifications required

The Project site footprint is estimated to be approximately 4,000 ha and includes Project site components plus a buffer to accommodate project component adjustments. Most disturbance at the Project site will be new disturbance. For offsite components, the primary and secondary access routes utilize existing roads, and upgrades are expected to occur primarily within the existing road disturbance footprints. The rail load-out facility is existing disturbance within which project-related activities are expected to occur.
The approximate 110 km transmission line is estimated to have a disturbance area of approximately 440 ha, assuming a 40 m right-of-way. There is a small portion of the transmission line that overlaps with the Project site footprint. These disturbance estimates may be updated as the project design is refined for the Detailed Project Description (DPD) and/or the Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application (Application).



Legend

- Simpcw Culturally Significant Site
- Gatehouse
- Explosives Storage Areas
- Water Management Ponds
- Project Footprint
- Extent of Project Components
- Open Pit
- Overburden Storage Areas
- Waste Rock Storage Areas
- Beach
- Embankment
- Supernatant Pond
- Borrow Area
- Topsoil
- Overland Conveyor
- Road
- Plant Site, Shops, and Administration Area
- Waterbodies
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Existing Forest Service Road

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

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Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

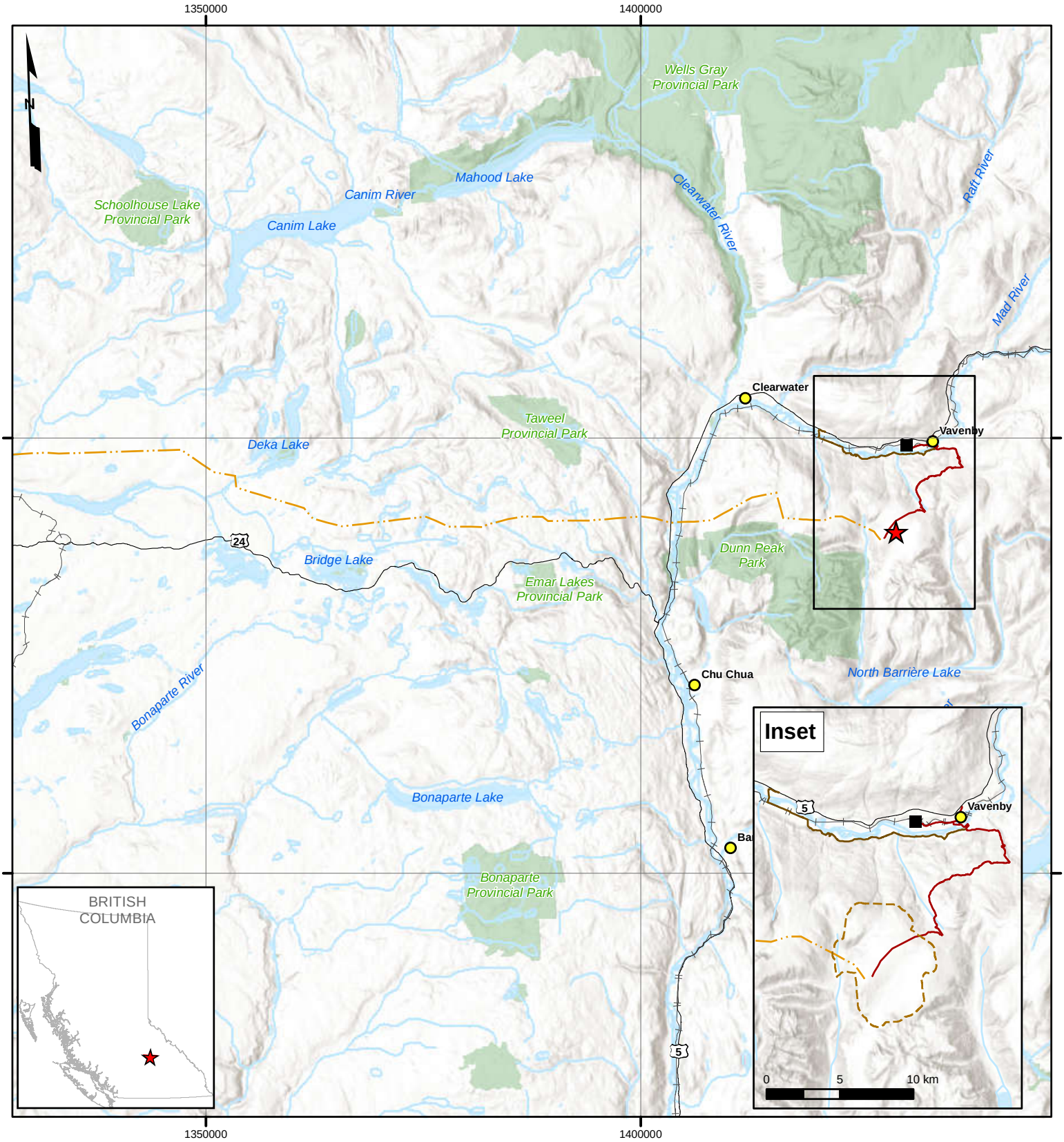
Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Project Layout, Project Site Components

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure ES-2

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\IPD\IPD Figure ES-2 Project Site Components.mxd



Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- Rail Load-Out
- Communities
- Project Footprint
- Parks & Protected Areas
- Waterbodies
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Secondary Access Route
- BC-Alberta Boundary
- Railway
- Highways/Roads

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Taseko Yellowhead

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Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Project Site, Offsite Components

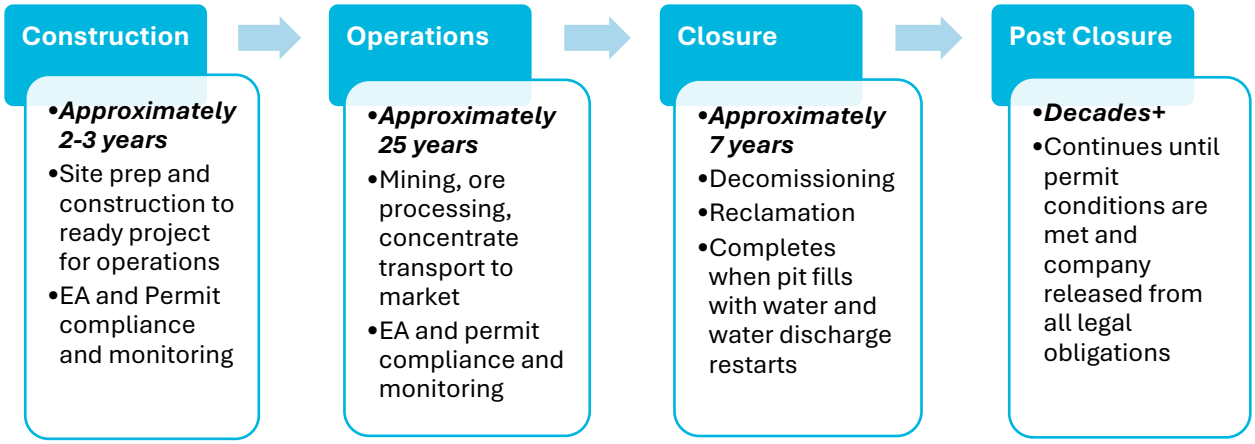
Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure ES-3

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\IPD\IPD Figure ES-3 Offsite Components.mxd

The primary mine development phases for the Project are summarized in Figure ES-4, along with planned durations. Commencement of primary Project development activities would occur following issuance of required Simpcw process decisions, and EA and permitting decisions by the provincial and federal authorities.

Figure ES-4: Summary of Mine Development Phases and Durations



The workforce estimates for the Project by phase are summarized in Table ES-2. It is expected that the region supports a skilled and experienced workforce, with transferable skills from other industries, to support project construction and operations for a range of skilled trades and technical disciplines. Therefore, personnel hired during the construction and operations phases are anticipated to be primarily from local and regional communities, with a small proportion from outside the region in BC.

Table ES-2: Estimated Project Workforce by Phase

Project Phase	Duration (years)	Workforce Estimate (jobs)	
		Direct	Indirect and Induced
Construction	Approximately 2-3	2,180	1,120
Operations	Approximately 25	590	1,120
Closure	Approximately 7	30	-
Post-Closure	Decades+	1 full-time; 4 part-time	-
Source: BCStats (2020)			

A full-service camp to house the construction workforce is planned to be located near the plant site. The camp will house a peak workforce of approximately 540 personnel that will be expected to be onsite during construction. It will be a single-story prefabricated modular building with services such as dormitories, washrooms, kitchen, and dining facilities. The camp design is planned to be self contained with any domestic wastes being transported offsite for disposal The camp will be decommissioned and removed from site once the construction phase is complete or no longer required for the Project.

Air and dust emissions have the potential to be generated during construction and operations. Fugitive dust and particulate matter (PM) (e.g., fine particulate matter with mass median diameter less than 2.5 micrometres in diameter [$PM_{2.5}$] or fine particulate matter with mass median diameter less than 10 micrometres in diameter [PM_{10}])are expected to be generated through activities at the Project site such as

blasting, materials handling, operation of vehicle and equipment, and transport of concentrate. A combination of engineering controls, implementation of best availability technologies, and standard operating procedures will be used to minimize the potential for air emissions.

Projects such as the Project that have the potential to contribute to more than 10,000 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO_2e) emissions per year are required to develop a plan to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 as part of the Application. After Taseko acquired the Project, several features were incorporated into the project design to limit the greenhouse gas (GHG) emission footprint of the Project where possible. This included:

- Proposing electrified stationary and semi-mobile equipment wherever practical, including electric rotary drills, electric rope shovels and electric pumps for site water management.
- Locating the primary crusher adjacent to the open pit and conveying crushed ore using electric-powered overland conveyors. The alternative would involve hauling ore from the open pit rim to the concentrator using diesel-powered haul trucks.
- Maintaining overburden and WRSAs near the open pit to minimize haul distances with diesel-powered haul trucks.
- Proposing construction of the TSF main embankment using cycloned tailings sand; a material that can be placed hydraulically using gravity flow pipelines from the concentrator location. The alternative would involve hauling large quantities of rock fill from the open pit using diesel-powered haul trucks.

Evaluation of other emission reduction technologies will be explored as the Project advances.

Estimates of direct (Scope 1) GHG emissions (diesel and gas consumption) and acquired energy (Scope 2; electric power) for the current Project design have been developed to support calculations of net GHG emissions from the Project for construction and operations, as described in the Strategic Assessment of Climate Change (ECCC 2020). Direct emissions include estimated diesel sources from the Project site, and offsite transportation of concentrate to the rail load-out facility. Operations phase emissions include mine operations, concentrator/site services, tailings / water management, and offsite concentrate transport to the rail load-out facility. Carbon dioxide (CO_2) captured and stored, avoided domestic GHG emissions, offset credit data, and additional GHG reduction measures are not available at this time. Based on available data for the IPD, current estimates for net GHG emissions during construction range annually from 245 to 300 kilo-tonne carbon dioxide equivalent ($ktCO_2e$). While during operations, the annual net GHG emissions range between 69 to 120 $ktCO_2e$, with ramp up in initial years and ramp down in later years of mining. Annual emissions intensity during operations ranges from 0.71 to 1.53 tCO_2e per tonnes copper equivalent (tCu_{Eq}). Updated emissions estimates, including for those data not currently available will be refined as information becomes available for the DPD, and the GHG and Climate Change Assessment for the Application. Emissions factors used to calculate the emissions estimates will be updated as appropriate.

There is the potential for other waste streams to be generated during the construction and operations phases of the Project. Hazardous, non-hazardous, and domestic wastes will be collected and segregated onsite for offsite disposal at appropriately licensed facilities. Recyclable wastes, such as batteries, will be collected for offsite disposal at a licensed facility. Domestic grey and black water will be collected for treatment onsite. A Construction Management Plan and Waste Management Plan for operations will be developed for the Project. A management plan will be developed to address waste management (e.g., biosolids or brine disposal) for the WTP, should it be required.

There is the potential for noise and vibration emissions to originate from construction and operations activities. Offsite construction activities that may contribute to these types of emissions and affect nearby residences, wildlife, and other receptors could include transportation and operation of equipment at the rail load-out facility, along the access roads, and construction of the transmission line. Light emissions will be associated primarily with dusk, dawn, and nighttime activities in the construction and operations phases.

Accidents and malfunctions could occur during the defined phases of the Project. The design, construction, and operations of the Project incorporates safety of personnel, public and the environment as a core principle. Engineering controls, mitigation measures, and/or appropriate management or emergency response plans will be put in place to minimize the likelihood and consequence of a potential event appropriate to the level of risk relative to a project phase, component, or activity. Processes and procedures to guide safe and responsible construction and production at the Project, including transport of materials to/from site, will be guided by industry standards. Communication protocols will be in place that will support Indigenous groups, local governments and the public in understanding the risks and associated mitigations should an event occur.

An Emergency Response Plan (ERP) will be developed to outline the procedures and preventive measures for potential accidents and malfunctions. The ERP will be designed to address potential incidents that could occur for each major mine infrastructure component and activity, such as the open pit, processing facilities, TSF, WRSA, water treatment facilities, water management pond, camp and operational activities, access and public roads, and the transmission line.

Alternatives to the Project

Ore bodies have a fixed location which requires a proponent to mine the ore body at its location. This influences the choice of mining method and type of supporting infrastructure required. The economics of a lower-grade ore deposit like the Project are highly sensitive to mining method, mineral reserve size, cut-off grade and concentrator throughput rate. The basic elements of design for environmental protection and personnel and community health and safety do not change substantially with changes to these factors. Therefore, the only alternatives to the Project are:

- **Alternative 1:** Proceed with the Project.
- **Alternative 2:** Abandon the Project and invest in a project in another location or jurisdiction.

Prefeasibility level studies undertaken for the Project determined that it is economically viable. Proceeding with the Project is the preferred alternative due to the anticipated societal benefits of responsible copper production, job creation, and the payment of local, provincial, and Canada-wide expenditures, taxes, and royalties. The Project is anticipated to have a positive socioeconomic impact locally and provincially.

Abandoning the Project to invest in another location or jurisdiction would mean abandoning a deposit that has been shown to be economically viable after many years and millions of dollars of investment in exploration, and technical studies. Abandoning the Project to invest elsewhere would result in a similar set of potential impacts in a different jurisdiction and environmental setting and would transfer the anticipated socioeconomic benefits to another location, province, or country.

Alternative Means of Carrying Out the Project

The alternative means of carrying out the Project are the different technically and economically feasible ways that the Project and its activities could be carried out, along with the environmental and socioeconomic acceptability of those alternatives. Alternatives that were not considered to be technically or economically feasible were not carried forward for further evaluation of environmental and socioeconomic acceptability.

Performance rankings of Preferred, Acceptable, Challenging, or Unacceptable were applied to each alternative. Definitions of each ranking are based on the short-to-medium term effects of each alternative through the construction and operations phases, and the long-term effects through the closure and post-closure phases. An alternative was rejected if it attained an Unacceptable rating for any single performance objective.

Alternative means assessment was carried out for:

- Mining method
- Tailings storage facility
- Waste rock storage areas
- Project site access
- Power supply and transmission line routing
- Employee accommodations.

Information related to the alternative means assessment is provided in Section 4.9 of the IPD.
The information provided in Section 4.9 of the IPD reflects the preferred option that has been carried forward for each Project component that was carried forward into Project design and planning.

Regulatory and Policy Framework

The Project is a Critical Minerals project and compatible with relevant provincial government policies.

The Project is not located on or in proximity to federal lands, nor are federal lands being used for the purposes of the Project. The Project is not expected to result in changes to the environment on federal lands, or in a province other than BC, or outside of Canada. No federal financial support is expected to be required for the Project. To Taseko's knowledge, no relevant federal strategic or regional assessments are being carried out in proximity or within the Project area.

The proposed Project is subject to environmental and impact assessment under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act* (SBC 2018, c 51) and the federal *Impact Assessment Act* (S.C. 2019, c. 28, s.1). The Project will also be undergoing an Indigenous-led assessment under the Simpcw Process, led by Simpcw.

British Columbia *Environmental Assessment Act*

The Project meets criteria for an EA of a proposed metal mine project under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act*, Reviewable Projects Regulation (BC Government 2019). Under the Reviewable Projects Regulation, Section 4(1), the project is prescribed as reviewable if the following criteria are met:

- Section 10(1)(a), Table 6, for a new mineral mining project: '(1) a new mine facility that during operations will have a production capacity of ≥ 75,000 tonnes per year of mineral ore'; and,

- Section 4(c), a new project that is prescribed as reviewable and includes the clearance of '*60 km or more of land this is to be developed for a transmission line [...], if the land is not alongside and contiguous to an area of land previously developed for one of those purposes'*; or

  '*600 ha or more of land, unless the clearance has been authorized by the minister, or delegate, under the Resort Timber Administration Act.*'

The Project will have a production capacity of 90,000 tonnes (t) of ore per day, or 32,850,000 t of ore per year. The footprint of the Project site footprint is estimated to be approximately 4,000 ha of disturbance. The transmission line, which will be required for the Project, is estimated to be approximately 110 km in length, or approximately 440 ha of disturbance associated with an assumed 40 m right-of-way. There is a small portion of the transmission line that overlaps with the Project site footprint.

Federal *Impact Assessment Act*

The Project also meets the thresholds for an Impact Assessment (IA) under the federal *Impact Assessment Act*, Physical Activities Regulations (Government of Canada 2019), for Mines and Metal Mills:

- Section 18. *The construction, operation, decommissioning and abandonment of the following:*

  (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 tonnes per day or more

  (d) a new metal mill, other than a uranium mill, with an ore input capacity of 5 000 t/day or more

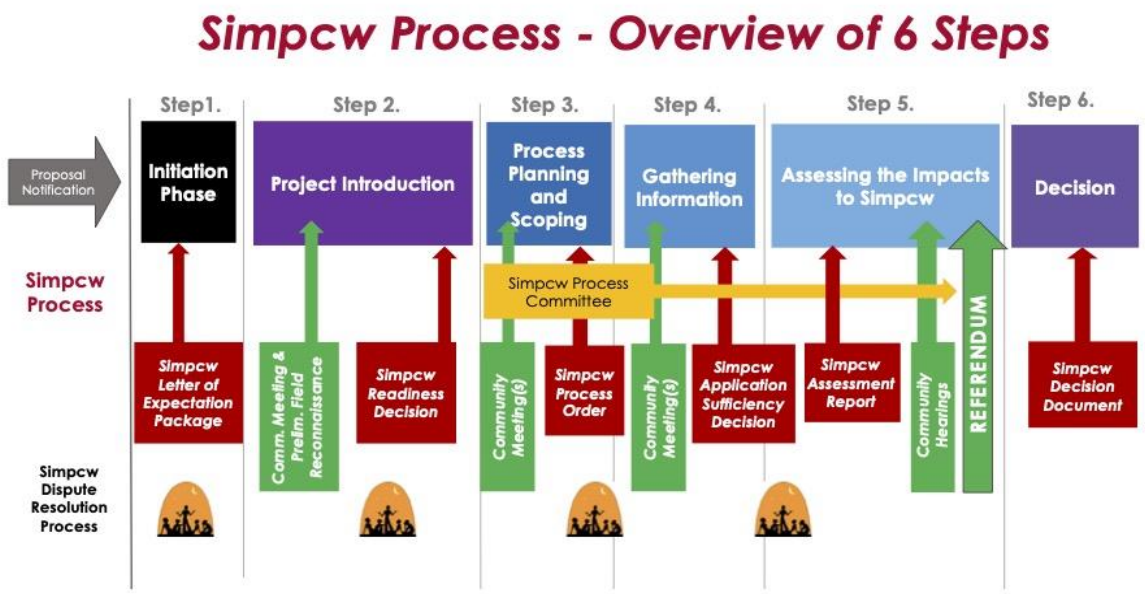
Although a new transmission line and rail load-out facility will be required for the Project, neither meet thresholds under the *Impact Assessment Act* Physical Activities Regulations. The transmission line will be a regional transmission line located solely within BC. The rail load-out facility location is an existing facility that will be refurbished, with no plans for expansion.

Taseko intends to request that the BC Government seek agreement from the federal Minister of ECCC for a substituted process under the *Impact Assessment Cooperation Agreement between Canada and British Columbia* (Government of Canada 2020). While it is expected that the EAO and IAAC will coordinate the initial phases of their respective processes, substitution would support a more streamlined process while retaining independent decision-making by provincial and federal governments with respect to the Project.

Simpcw Assessment Process

The Simpcw Process is a *"six-step review process that establishes protocols for relationship[s], expectations for information collection and sharing, and a structure for decision-making specific to Simpcw" (Simpcw First Nation 2024)*.

Figure ES-5: Simpcw Assessment Process, Overview of 6 Steps



The *Simpcw Assessment Process Policy* (2023) describes the Simpcw Process as:

> *"... a consent-based process Simpcw will use to make a decision regarding a Proposed Activity and ensures that project assessments appropriately consider and respect Simpcw Rights, Interests, laws, values, priorities and culture. These Simpcw Rights, values and laws have been passed down from Tqaltkúkwpi7 (Creator) and Simpcw ancestors and continue to be maintained by Símpcwemc." (Simpcw First Nation 2023).*

Taseko is currently in Step 2 of the Simpcw Process. Simpcw provided Taseko with a *Letter of Expectations* package in May 2024, which provided notification that the Project would be reviewable under the Simpcw Process and subject to the *Simpcw Assessment Process Policy* (2023). Shortly thereafter, Taseko confirmed its intent to participate in the Simpcw Process, led by Simpcw by signing the *Letter of Expectations*.

Under the *Letter of Expectations*, which governs Step 1 to 3, Taseko has agreed to the required engagement guidelines and expectations assigned under the Simpcw Process. Taseko will continue to collaboratively work and engage with Simpcw community and leadership throughout the Simpcw Process, and provincial and federal EA processes.

A comprehensive regulatory approvals process will be undertaken following the assessment process to enable construction, operation, and eventual closure of the Project. Permitting decisions could only be made following positive decisions under the Simpcw Process, and provincial and federal assessment processes. Provincial and federal permits and approvals will be required to construct, operate, and eventually close the Project.

First Nations Interests and Engagement

A distinctions-based approach, which is the preferred approach of the BC Government, is proposed to guide the engagement approach for the Project. As defined by the EAO (2023):

> *"A distinctions-based approach (…) means that the scope of rights enjoyed by an Indigenous People is contextual and that the Province's relations and dealings with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit will be conducted in a manner that is appropriate for the specific context, recognizing and respecting the distinct and different rights, laws, legal systems, and systems of governance of each".*

This will be further informed by the potential for impacts to, and on, the interests of Indigenous groups.

To develop the list of Indigenous groups that have the potential to be affected by the Project, including the transmission line, the BC Consultative Areas Database (CAD), federal Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System (ATRIS) and engagement record from the 2015 Harper Creek Project EA were reviewed. This resulted in:

- The Project is situated primarily within the territory of Simpcw. Simpcw has the highest potential to be affected by the Project site and transmission line. Chu Chua is the closest First Nation community to the Project site (approximately 27 km in distance).
- Three First Nations were identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project site and transmission line. This included Neskonlith Indian Band, SteS (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band), and the ALIB.
- Tsq̓éscenˀ First Nation (formerly Canim Lake Band) (Tsq̓éscenˀ) has been identified as having the highest potential to be affected by the transmission line. The Canim Lake community is the closest First Nation community to the transmission line.
- Two additional First Nations have been identified for notification on the Project and may require further engagement: Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band (Pellt'iq't) and Stswēceḿc Xgāt'tem First Nation (formerly Canoe-Dog Creek Indian Band).

The transmission line provided in this IPD is for the purposes of engagement and allows for feedback received during the early engagement / planning phase to inform the final location for assessment. Indigenous groups with the potential to be affected by the transmission line will be engaged. Additional key design elements for the Project are associated with TSF design, tailings and water management, and water treatment, and were informed by feedback on the Harper Creek Project EA. The information provided in this section is informed by that work.

Additional information related to identification, interests, and engagement with Indigenous groups is provided in Section 6 of the IPD and in the EP.

Simpcw First Nation

Taseko and Simpcw established a Relationship Framework Agreement in April 2020, which provided a framework for the parties to work together to build mutual understanding, trust and respect, and to prepare for the future advancement of the Project. The Relationship Framework Agreement also provided capacity funding for Simpcw to engage with Taseko in the pre-EA phase.

In 2022, Taseko and Simpcw initiated a joint Working Group for the purpose of identifying and considering alternative locations and configuration of the Project's TSF. Because the current location of the TSF is expected to impact two culturally significant sites, Simpcw required an understanding of the alternatives

before agreeing to accept the Project into the Simpcw Process for review. The Working Group Terms of Reference included the provision of capacity funding to participate in engagement undertaken over the course of the Working Group process.

Taseko agreed to submit the Project for review under the Simpcw Process in May 2024 by signing a Letter of Expectations and provided an initial capacity funding payment for Simpcw's administration of the initial stages of the Simpcw Process. Further capacity funding requirements to facilitate subsequent steps in the Simpcw Process are under discussion.

These agreements have informed and supported engagement activities between Simpcw and Taseko through the early engagement steps, and into the initial steps of the Simpcw Process. Until formal agreements (described below) under the Simpcw Process are negotiated and finalized, these agreements will continue to guide activities between Simpcw and Taseko.

Under the Simpcw Process, there are three primary agreements to be negotiated – the Simpcw Process Funding Agreement, Relationship Negotiation Agreement, and Relationship Agreement. The Simpcw Process Funding Agreement and Relationship Negotiation Agreement will be negotiated and finalized during the appropriate steps as defined within the Simpcw Process. The Relationship Agreement will only be finalized subject to a positive Simpcw Decision on the Project. Taseko will work to advance the development of these agreements with Simpcw in good faith and in a timely manner.

Engagement will continue to be undertaken in a manner that is respectful and transparent, and informed by the preferences, values, and interests shared by Simpcw through regular and ongoing engagement. Taseko notified Simpcw in 2018 of its intention to acquire the Project. Since then, engagement with Simpcw has been ongoing at the leadership and staff-levels, and with community members.

An early version of the project description was shared with Simpcw for review and feedback in 2019. At that time it was anticipated that an updated version of the early project description would be available for review in 2020. As engagement progressed with Simpcw, it was recognized that more engagement was needed before the project description could be updated.

Since that time, a collaborative approach has been fostered with Simpcw. Taseko will continue to work with Simpcw to ensure their contributions and knowledge are appropriately represented and integrated into materials and information developed for the Project. Information shared by Simpcw in this pre-early engagement phase has informed the development of the current versions of the IPD and EP.

A joint Simpcw-Taseko Yellowhead Project Design Working Group (Working Group) was formed in 2022 to consider TSF alternatives. As part of the Working Group process, Taseko prepared conceptual level designs for eight TSF alternatives, which were then presented to the Working Group with supporting information about each one. A limited-scope analysis was undertaken, and a priority weighting system was used to evaluate each of the TSF alternatives, with consideration of Simpcw cultural heritage sites and values, potential environmental and social effects, and technical and economic feasibility. Two TSF alternatives were identified by the Working Group as "worthy of additional investigation via the BC and Simpcw Assessment processes (Option 1- T-Creek TSF and Option 2 – North Avoidance TSF). Additional information is provided in Section 4.9.2.

A Project site tour with Simpcw Chief and Council was held in August 2024. Broader engagement with Simpcw community members under the Simpcw Process also occurred in 2024, including the Community Site Tour and Community Open House identified under Step 2 of the Simpcw Process.

On October 3, 2024, Taseko participated in a community dinner in Chu Chua and provided an overview of the Project, followed by a question-and-answer session. This was followed by two days of community tours of the Project site with Simpcw community members on October 4 and 5, 2024.

On November 27, 2024, a Simpcw community open house was held in Chu Chua, comprised of booths with a series of poster boards providing an overview of the project, mining and processing methods, environmental approach, employment opportunities, and a map area for open discussion. Each booth at the open house had an interactive element aimed to meaningfully engage Simpcw youth, Elders, and adult members. A multi-disciplinary team of Taseko representatives was on hand to engage with community members in a one-on-one format. The schedule was organized to allow for youth and Elders to engage independent of the full community session, depending on their preferences. A community dinner was also hosted ahead of the full community open house in the evening.

Through these engagements, Simpcw has shared its initial priorities, interests, and concerns related to the Project design, potential effects, project benefits, and the assessment process. Taseko has provided responses where possible to inform the engagement approach and the assessment process for the Project. Taseko will work with Simpcw to respond to key interests through the Simpcw Process, including through the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal assessment processes. Taseko will continue to work with Simpcw on issues and concerns raised through defined phases of the Project, along with collaboratively developing measures to meaningfully address those concerns.

Key interests and concerns were raised through initial engagements, along with a desktop review to identify preliminary concerns and interests looking to Simpcw's internal interests, management priorities, directives, and existing internal data. This list includes but is not limited to:

- Simpcw's obligation to protect and steward Simpcwúl̓ecw and its resources, and Simpcw's right to make decisions about land uses within their territory.
- Taseko's approach to considering youth, adult, and Elder perspectives on the Project.
- Interest in project reclamation plans and opportunities, including being involved in fish habitat restoration; there are capabilities within the Simpcw community for nurseries.
- Employment, education, and contracting opportunities, and economic benefits and opportunities for current and future Simpcw generations.
- Project design, specifically for the TSF, including response and remediation in the event of a TSF failure.
- Potential project impacts to water courses, water quality, fish and fish habitat, including in the North Thompson River and Adams Lake watershed.
- Potential project impacts to and protection of cultural heritage sites, values, and land use.
- Potential project impacts to cultural foods.
- Potential project impacts to and access for cultural land uses such as hunting, fishing, and gathering, including historical traplines.
- Potential project impacts to vegetation, including historic and current berry gathering sites and loss of medicinal plants within and around the Project area.
- Potential project impacts to human health (e.g., air quality, water, etc.)
- Potential project impacts to ungulates (i.e., elk, caribou), and other wildlife.
- Potential downstream and cumulative impacts.

Simpcw and Taseko collaborated on the drafting of the IPD and EP on the sections specifically relevant to the Simpcw Process. The final IPD and EP were then submitted to EAO and IAAC to start the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal assessment processes.

Taseko will continue to work with Simpcw and proceed through the Simpcw Process and where necessary collaborate with Simpcw through the provincial and federal EA processes.

Neskonlith Indian Band

Taseko first communicated with the Neskonlith Indian Band in February 2019, following Taseko acquiring sole interest in YMI, to share an early draft of the Project IPD for review and comment. This was followed by communications in September 2020 of Taseko's intent to share an updated draft of the IPD and to understand how the Neskonlith Indian Band would like to be engaged. Communications in 2020 were periodic and related to engagement on the Project and notification on a Notice of Work application. In April 2022, the Neskonlith Indian Band contacted Taseko to provide a Consultation Application form, which was required prior to activities being undertaken in their territory.

Reinitiation of contact with the Neskonlith Indian Band was in December 2024, following an introduction from Simpcw's Chief (Kúkwpi7). Taseko then requested a meeting to discuss engagement on the Project, with a follow-up in January 2025. Discussion involved an introduction to the Project, engagement with the Neskonlith Indian Band, and potential presentation to Chief and Council. Taseko provided information on the Project location, as requested in the initial meeting. Sections of the IPD related to Neskonlith Indian Band were shared in April 2025 prior to its submission to EAO and IAAC.

No Project-related agreements are in place with the Neskonlith Indian Band prior to initiation of the early engagement phase of the EA process.

Key interests and concerns raised through initial engagements include, but are not limited to:

- Capacity funding for participation in the EA process;
- Concerns raised around the potential environmental effects of the Project;
- Employment opportunities and training programs to build community capacity;
- Business opportunities related to the Project;
- TSF; and
- Interest in understanding what happens to the transmission line after closure.

Taseko proposes to continue to engage with the Neskonlith Indian Band to develop a shared understanding of how they would like to be engaged on the Project, with an initial focus on participation in the early engagement and planning phases, interests and concerns, and capacity funding to support their participation in the process.

Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw

Taseko first communicated with the SteS in February 2019, following Taseko acquiring sole interest in YMI, to share an early draft of the Project IPD for review and comment. This was followed by communications in September 2020 of Taseko's intent to share an updated draft of the IPD and to understand how the SteS would like to be engaged. Communications in 2020 were periodic and related to engagement on the Project and notification on a Notice of Work application. In April 2021, the SteS contacted Taseko requesting a project update; Taseko indicated that progress remained the same to updates provided in 2020.

Reinitiation of engagement with the Stes occurred in January 2025, following an introduction from Simpcw's Kúkwpi7. Taseko then requested a meeting to discuss engagement on the Project. An initial meeting was held in February 2025. Sections of the IPD related to SteS were shared in April 2025 prior to its submission to the EAO and IAAC.

No project-related agreements are in place with the SteS prior to initiation of the early engagement phase of the EA process.

Key interests and concerns raised through initial engagements include, but are not limited to:

- Capacity funding for participation in the EA process;
- Requested information on baseline studies;
- Business opportunities related to the Project;
- TSF; and
- Alternative energy source options.

Taseko proposes to continue to engage with the SteS to develop a shared understanding of how they would like to be engaged on the Project, with an initial focus on participation in the early engagement and planning phases, interests and concerns, and capacity funding to support their participation in the process.

Adams Lake Indian Band

Taseko first communicated with ALIB in February 2019, following Taseko acquiring sole interest in YMI, to share an early draft of the Project IPD for review and comment. This was followed by communications in September 2020 of Taseko's intent to share an updated draft of the IPD and to understand how ALIB would like to be engaged. Communications from 2020 to 2021 were periodic, and related to engagement on the Project, notification on a Notice of Work application, and ALIB expectations for engagement and process for participation in the Project assessment.

Reinitiation of contact with ALIB occurred in December 2024, following an introduction from Simpcw's Kúkwpi7. Taseko then requested a meeting to discuss engagement on the Project. An initial meeting was held in January 2025 to provide an overview of the Project, and to understand ALIB concerns and how they would like to be engaged. ALIB advised that they would like to be fully engaged on the Project. Sections of the IPD related to ALIB were shared prior to its submission to EAO and IAAC in April 2025.

No project-related agreements are in place with ALIB prior to initiation of the early engagement phase of the EA process.

Key interests and concerns raised through initial engagements include; but are not limited to:

- Capacity funding for participation in the EA process;
- Potential for downstream impacts on Douglas Reserve waterbodies;
- Frequency of engagement with Taseko;
- Potential environmental effects and scope of environmental studies; and
- The cumulative effects assessment methodology and approach.

Taseko proposes to continue to engage with the ALIB to develop a shared understanding of how they would like to be engaged on the Project, with an initial focus on participation in the early engagement and planning phases, interests and concerns, and capacity funding to support their participation in the process.

Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation

The Tsq̓éscen̓ has been identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project. Canim Lake is the closest First Nation community to the transmission line, and has the highest potential to be affected by the transmission line.

Tsq̓éscen̓ is part of the Lakes Division bands of the Secwépemc Nation (Secwépemc). The main village and administration buildings are situated in the South Cariboo, approximately 30 km east of 100 Mile House. Tsq̓éscen̓ joined three other northern Secwépemc nations to form the Northern Secwépemc to Qelmucw (NStQ).

Following an introduction from Simpcw's Kúkwpi7, initial engagement with the Tsq̓éscen̓ is planned for June 2025. Information on Tsq̓éscen̓ interests and concerns will be shared in future submissions, including the DPD and the Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application (Application).

No project-related agreements are in place with the Tsq̓éscen̓ prior to initiation of the early engagement phase of the EA process.

Taseko proposes to continue to engage with Tsq̓éscen̓ to develop a shared understanding of how they would like to be engaged on the Project, with an initial focus on participation in the early engagement and planning phases, interests and concerns, and capacity funding to support their participation in the process.

Additional Indigenous Groups to be Notified on the Project

Two additional Indigenous groups have been identified for notification on the Project and may require further engagement. The Indigenous groups in this category were previously engaged on the Harper Creek Project EA. Indigenous groups that may be potentially affected by the transmission line, but are located distant from this Project component: Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band (Pellt'iq't) and Stswēceḿc Xgāt'tem First Nation (formerly Canoe-Dog Creek Indian Band).

There is the potential for other Indigenous groups to self-identify as being potentially affected by the Project. This will be explored further during early engagement and planning phases with Indigenous groups and through discussion with the provincial and federal governments.

Government and Public Engagement

Summary of Engagement with Government

Prior to and since acquiring sole interest in YMI, letters were sent and engagement events were held with local, provincial, and federal government representatives advising of the change in ownership of YMI, and the intention to advance the Project into the EA process. The scope of engagement has varied across levels of government, initially appropriate to the stage of the Project from late-2018 through to present.

Taseko has engaged with a subset of BC government regulatory agencies. This has previously included the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI), and more recently the BC Ministry of Mining and Critical Mineral (MCM), on aspects such as mineral tenure, field-based site investigations under Taseko's approved MYAB Notice of Work permit, engagement requirements, and Project progress, along with BC FOR on RUP approvals, and road user and maintenance responsibilities under those permits.

Taseko additionally has regular communications with the EAO and the IAAC representatives anticipated to be involved in the EA process. Meetings prior to the IPD submission involved discussion on Project progress, engagement scoping and progress, coordination of pre-early engagement activities, and preparation to enter in provincial and federal assessment processes. Currently, Taseko meets with the EAO and IAAC monthly, or more frequently as needed. This engagement is ongoing.

Taseko has also undertaken engagement with the TNRD, District of Barriere, and District of Clearwater from 2021 to present. Discussions involved updates on the Project, power supply, road use, and introductions to local Yellowhead personnel. In 2024, Taseko additionally established a Project office in Barriere.

A summary of engagement with local, regional, provincial, and federal governments identified for engagement is provided in Section 7 of the IPD and in the EP.

Summary of Engagement with the Public

Public and stakeholders potentially affected by the Project include community organizations, community institutions, local business associations, recreational users, tenure holders, neighbouring property owners, and residents of nearby communities and the broader North Thompson region. The list of public and stakeholders to be engaged on the Project will be reviewed and updated routinely. The engagement approach will be tailored based on preferences shared by the public and project stakeholders.

The Project site, along with the existing primary and secondary access routes, rail load-out facility, and some of the eastern portion of the transmission line are in the TNRD. Members of the public and stakeholders that have the potential to be affected by the Project are in District A (District of Clearwater, community of Vavenby), District O (District of Barriere), and District J (District of Kamloops). The western portion of the transmission line and the BC Hydro substation is located within the CRD and the district of 100 Mile House.

Taseko initiated public and stakeholder engagement in late-2018 through notifications to participants in the Harper Creek Project EA process of the change in Project ownership and confirmation of their contact details and preferred method of engagement. Since then, engagement has occurred with some local industry and private landowners in neighbouring communities to discuss project updates, relevant permits, access protocols, and contact information for site investigation and baseline data collection starting in late-2018 and continuing through to present. Engagements in 2023 and 2024 focused on those with the District Chambers of Commerce in Barriere, Clearwater, and Kamloops.

A summary of engagement with public is provided in Section 6 of the IPD, and in the EP.

Biophysical Environment

The Project site is situated primarily in the Englemann Spruce-Subalpine Fir (ESSF) Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification (BEC) zone, and specifically within the North Monashee wet cold (ESSFwc2) and wet cold woodland (ESSFwcw) subzones. A small area within the western portion of the footprint is situated in the wet cool variant of Interior Cedar-Hemlock (ICHwk) BEC zone. The transmission line crosses five BEC zones including ICH, Interior Douglas-fir (IDF), ESSF, Montane Spruce (MS) and Sub-Boreal spruce (SBS). Recent review of BC Conservation Data Centre (CDC), Conservation on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) and the federal *Species at Risk Act* listed species and ecosystems was undertaken for the Northern Shuswap Highland Ecosection for ESSF wc2, ESSFwcw and ICHwk1 BEC subzones for the Project site. Seven BC blue-listed ecosystems and one red-listed ecosystem have the potential to occur in the Project site area, along with six BC blue-listed vascular species, of which Mexican mosquito fern and whitebark pine are Schedule 1 *Species at Risk Act* species; nine BC red and blue-listed lichens and macrofungi, including smoker's lung, which is a Schedule 1 *Species at Risk Act* species; and Haller's apple

moss and margined streamside moss, both of which are BC red-listed bryophytes and *Species at Risk Act* Schedule 1 species.

Review for the North Thompson Upland, Cariboo Plateau, and Cariboo Basin eco-sections was undertaken for ESSF (wc2m dc3, dcw, wcw), ICH (wk1, mk2), IDFmw2, MSdm3, SBS (mm, mc1, dw1, dw2, mc1) BEC subzones. Thirty-one BC red and blue-listed ecological communities have the potential to occur in proximity to the transmission line, with an additional 20 BC red and blue-listed vascular plant species, of which Mexican mosquito fern and whitebark pine are *Species at Risk Act* Schedule 1 species; nine BC red and blue-listed lichen and macrofungi species, of which crumpled tarpaper and smoker's lung are *Species at Risk Act* Schedule 1 species and one is of special concern (cryptic paw); and two BC red-listed and *Species at Risk Act* Schedule 1 species (Haller's apple moss, margined streamside moss), and one BC blue-listed and *Species at Risk Act* species of special concern (Columbian carpet moss).

Mapped critical habitat for Mexican mosquito fern is located about 1.5 km south of the transmission line (Data BC 2024) on the north side of the North Thompson River crossing. Mapped critical habitat for whitebark pine (*Species at Risk Act* Endangered on Schedule 1, BC blue-listed) is found approximately 12 km east of the Project site and approximately 5 km south of the transmission line at its closest point (Data BC 2024).

The Project site partially overlaps with four OGMA. The transmission line also crosses OGMAs (Data BC 2024). The extent to which the transmission line has the potential to interact with OGMAs will be determined as part of the evaluation of the final routing once selected.

Baseline studies for wildlife and wildlife habitat conducted between 2008 and 2011 for the Harper Creek Project EA Application indicated that they are in proximity to the Project site and the local study area (LSA), and have the potential to support habitat for Western Toad (*Anaxyrus boreas*), Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*), Little Brown Myotis (*Myotis lucifugus*), Northern Myotis (*Myotis septentrionals*), Fisher (*Pekania pennanti*), Wolverine (*Gulo gulo luscus*), Moose (*Alces alces*), Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos horribilis*), and Mule Deer *(Odocoileus hemionus*). Lower elevation areas within the North Thompson River Valley provide habitat for several species including Bald Eagle (*Heliaeetus leucocephalus*), Common Nighthawk (*Cordeiles minor*), Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis atricapillus*), and Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*).

The Project site is situated within mapped critical habitat for the Southern Mountain Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*), which is listed as Endangered by COSEWIC, Threatened on Schedule 1 of *Species at Risk Act* and red-listed in BC (Data BC 2024). Specifically, the Project site is at the southern extent of the Wells-Gray Thompson local population unit (LPU) and northern extent o the Revelstoke Shuswap LPU of the Southern Mountain Caribou population (ERM 2015; Data BC 2024; BC CDC 2024).
Baseline information provided as part of the Harper Creek Project EA Application indicates that use by caribou within the Project site area is infrequent, likely due to habitat fragmentation (ERM 2015). The Project is not located within mapped high or low elevation range. Western and eastern portions of the transmission line cross through mapped critical habitat for American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), which is listed as Endangered by COSEWIC, on Schedule 1 of *Species at Risk Act* and red-listed in BC. The eastern portion of the transmission line crosses critical caribou habitat, as it connects to the Project site.

The Project site is located on the watershed divide between Harper Creek and the Barriere River to the west and south, and the North Thompson River to the north. The Project site is located primarily between two tributaries of Harper Creek, which flow south into the Barriere River, and in the headwaters of three tributaries that flow north into the North Thompson River (KP 2021). Six main watercourses may be affected by the Project site (Table ES-3).

Table ES-3: Watercourses Within and Adjacent to the Project Site

Drainage	Project Site Drainages	Adjacent Watercourses
Northern Drainages (flow north into the North Thompson River)	• Jones Creek • Baker Creek • Avery Creek	• Foghorn Creek • Lute Creek • Chuck Creek
Southern Drainages (flow south into the Barriere River)	• Harper Creek (entire watershed) • T-Creek (tributary to Harper Creek) • P-Creek (tributary to Harper Creek)	• Barriere River • Saskum Lake • North Barriere Lake

Baseline studies of fish and aquatic resources within watercourses that have the potential to be affected by the Project site were conducted between 2011 and 2014 as part of the Harper Creek Project EA Application, with additional studies by Taseko in 2020-2021. The fish community is comprised of Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), Coho Salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Rainbow Trout (*O. mykiss*), Mountain Whitefish (*Prosopium williamsoni*), Torrent Sculpin (*Cottus rhotheus*), and Longnose Dace (*Rhinichthys cataractae*). Fish distribution within the Project site is limited by the presence of natural barriers that prevent fish from occupying upstream reaches of the creeks, including those within the Project site area.

The transmission line crosses a number of watercourses and wetlands between 100 Mile House and the Project site. Known fish-bearing watercourses that may be crossed include:

- **Bridge Creek:** Rainbow Trout, Burbot (*Lota lota)*;
- **Deka Creek:** Rainbow Trout;
- **Judson Creek:** Rainbow Trout;
- **Lemieux Creek:** Coho Salmon, Chinook Salmon (*O. t tshawytscha*), Sockeye Salmon (*O. nerka*);
- **North Thompson River:** Pink Salmon (*O. gorbuscha*), Sockeye Salmon, Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, Bull Trout, Rainbow Trout, whitefish; and
- **Harper Creek:** Bull Trout.

Bull Trout (Pacific population) are blue-listed in BC and are listed as Special Concern by COSEWIC, but are not listed on Schedule 1 of *Species at Risk Act* The Interior Fraser population of Coho Salmon are not provincially or federally listed but are considered threatened by COSEWIC (BC CDC 2024). There are several records of Mountain Sucker (*Catostomus platyrhynchus*) in the lower North Thompson River near Heffley Creek (BC CDC 2024; KP 2021). The Mountain Sucker is blue-listed in BC and listed as a species of Special Concern by COSEWIC and under *Species at Risk Act*.

Human Environment and Community Wellbeing

The Project has the potential to influence the social and economic characteristics of local and regional communities, including neighbouring First Nation communities. The TNRD has 10 Regional District Electoral Areas (RDEA). Two RDEAs overlap with the Project site including Thompson-Nicola A (Wells Gray County) and Thompson-Nicola U (Lower North Thompson). Kamloops is the largest and closest urban centre to the Project site, with several smaller towns and unincorporated communities throughout the region, with communities in proximity to the Project. There are land holders with farms and residences on the south bank of the North Thompson River, located about 7 km north of the Project site, and along the transmission line

route. Dunn Peak Park is a protected area located in proximity to the Project site. Wells Gray Provincial Park is located north of Clearwater and distant from the Project site.

Originating at 100 Mile House, the transmission line may intersect with parcels of private land, recreational user areas, guide outfitting areas, trapline tenures, forest harvest tenures, range tenures, utility rights of way, and population areas at Horse Lake and Deka Lake. Routing minimizes impacts to these areas where possible. The extent to which the transmission line routing intersects with these areas will be further evaluated once final routing is selected. The transmission line is located greater than 5 km north of Eakin Creek Canyon Provincial Park.

Simpcw has five First Nation Reserves. The main community, Chu Chua, is about 45 km north of Kamloops, and located at North Thompson Reserve #1, on the east side of the North Thompson River and Highway 5. The area in proximity to the Project includes cultural heritage sites, spiritual sites, and hunting, fishing, gathering, and harvesting areas of ongoing use by Simpcw. Simpcw is governed by an elected Council, comprised of a Chief (Kúkwpi7) and six Councillors (TḰwenem7i'ple7). The Simpcw Council serve a three year term and is elected by Simpcw membership through the Simpcw TḰwem7iple7tn Custom Election Code. The Chief and Council oversees social, educational, and economic development, as well as governing the administration of Simpcw.

The Project is located in the Thompson-Okanagan Economic Region of BC. Mining is an important part of the TNRD economy. The TNRD has two active metal mines: Highland Valley Copper and New Afton Mine. With operating mines in the area, TNRD is a regional mining hub and home to many suppliers, consultants, and contractors that service the mining industry. Kamloops is expected to be the main supply centre for Project equipment, supplies and services. The local communities of Vavenby, Clearwater, Barriere, and Chu Chua will also provide sources of employment, business, and contracting services. During construction, most of the workforce will be housed at a construction camp located at the Project site. During operations, it is expected that the workforce will be housed within the local communities.

Archaeological studies were undertaken for the Harper Creek Project EA Application. These studies identified two recorded cultural sites of significance to Simpcw within the LSA. The Harper Creek Project proponent shared the results of those studies with Simpcw. Taseko has engaged with Simpcw on two cultural sites of significance to Simpcw in proximity to the TSF and has had discussion on the potential for these sites to be affected by the Project. Further dialogue and engagement with Simpcw leadership, Elders, and community members will be required. Impacts to cultural sites will be assessment in a culturally appropriate manner through the Simpcw Assessment Process. As required, direction will be taken from Simpcw regarding appropriate mitigation measures for these sites that could be carried forward for further assessment.

The transmission line for the Project has been updated from that proposed for the Harper Creek Project. Accordingly, it is anticipated that archaeology studies under the *Heritage Conservation Act* will be required as part of the baseline studies for the Project transmission line. Whether updated studies will be required for other Project components, such as the Project site, access roads, and rail load-out facility, will be determined through engagement with Simpcw, the EAO, and the IAAC.

A paleontological study in the regional study area for the Harper Creek Project EA Application was undertaken in 2014. ERM (2014) reported that the potential for paleontological sites is low. The existing data will be reviewed in the context of the current configuration of the Project site, primary and secondary access routes, rail load-out facility and the new transmission line interconnection and routing to determine if an update to the 2014 study will be required. This will also be discussed with Simpcw as part of the Simpcw Process.

Project Interactions and Potential Effects

Environmental assessment in BC and Canada requires the evaluation of potential effects for a proposed project to be evaluated for five pillars, including environmental, economic, social, heritage, and health factors (EAO 2013). For the purposes of the IPD, an initial scoping of potential project interactions with physical, biological, and human environment Valued Components (VCs) was completed. These included an initial identification of project components and activities that had the potential to result in a cause-effect pathway for VCs such as air quality and climate change, surface / ground water quality and flows, fish and fish habitat, vegetation species and ecosystems, wildlife and wildlife habitat, including species or ecosystems at risk, along with other VCs. Identification and selection of VC's that are most important are usually identified in collaboration with Indigenous groups, government, public, scientists and other technical experts. It is understood that the lists of project components and activities, along with VCs to undergo assessment, will be updated following feedback in early engagement and subsequent stages of the assessment process.

Preliminary identification of potential effects associated with the Project are summarized in Table ES-4. The potential project effects will be identified and assessed through the Simpcw Process in accordance with the valued components as determined by Simpcw, and provincial and federal assessment processes. The valued components that are anticipated to be assessed will be identified through collaboration with Indigenous groups, government agencies and the public, along with mitigation measures that factor avoidance and minimization as appropriate. Should the potential for residual and cumulative effects be identified, further evaluation of mitigation measures, including offsetting should it be required, will be undertaken as part of the effects assessment.

Table ES-4: Potential Project Effects

Preliminary Biophysical and Human Environment Valued Component[1]	Potential Effect
Air Quality	• Changes in ambient concentrations of combustion and fugitive gases • Changes in ambient concentrations of particulate matter
Visual Quality, Light, and Noise	• Changes to light contributions • Changes to visual quality (local communities, Dunn Peak Park) • Changes to sound levels
Water Quality and Quantity	• Changes to surface water quality or quantity • Changes to groundwater quality or quantity
Fish and Fish Habitat, including Aquatic species at risk	• Changes to instream and riparian habitats • Changes in water flows and quality • Changes to fish health
Wildlife, including Culturally Valued, Species at Risk (SAR) and Migratory birds	• Loss or alteration of wildlife habitat (direct loss and indirect loss resulting from sensory disturbance) • Changes to wildlife health • Mortality risk • Changes to seasonal habitat use, including use by migratory birds
Vegetation, Including Species and Ecosystems At Risk	• Loss or alteration of wetland ecosystems • Changes to wetland function • Changes in abundance of plant species of interest (rare plants, culturally important species, invasive plant species) • Loss or alteration of plant communities of interest • Loss or alteration of ecosystems
Terrain and Soils	• Changes to soil quality • Changes to soil quantity • Changes to terrain stability
Social and Economic	• Changes to community wellbeing and social determinants of health Changes in the quality and quantity of resources • Changes to access to the land • Changes to local employment and contracting opportunities • Changes to local housing and accommodation availability Changes to demand on local supporting infrastructure and community services • Changes to labour income • Changes to regional economy • Changes to sites of historical or archaeological importance

Preliminary Biophysical and Human Environment Valued Component[1]	Potential Effect
Indigenous Groups Culture, Rights and Interests	• Changes to individual availability to take part in cultural practices • Changes in the quality and quantity of resources including but not limited wildlife, vegetation or ecosystems of cultural value • Changes to access to the land for cultural uses • Changes to connection with land, culture, and community • Changes to culturally important sites • Changes to local employment and contracting opportunities • Changes to peaceful enjoyment of the land
Notes: 1. Climate change will be considered within the context of the valued components and will be further clarified in the Application Information Requirements. An assessment of greenhouse gas emissions (effects of the project on climate change), and effects of the environment on the project will be included in the Application.	

The potential for cumulative effects will be determined as part of the assessment for the Project. For the purposes of the IPD and early engagement, the cumulative effects spatial boundary is proposed to be the Kamloops Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) boundary, which is a similar extent to the Harper Creek Project EA Application, while the spatial boundary for the transmission line is proposed to also include the 100 Mile House Sustainable Resource Management Plan (SRMP) boundary. The cumulative effects assessment will factor past, present, and reasonably foreseeable development (RFD) projects within the region. The spatial boundary and the RFD projects that will inform the cumulative effects assessment will be identified through engagement efforts and confirmed in Process Planning.

Effects of the Environment on the Project

Potential effects of the environment on the Project could include short-term impacts to site access, infrastructure and operations, and personnel health and safety. These effects on the Project could result from events including the following:

- Extreme precipitation events (e.g., flooding risk);
- Extreme drought events (e.g., water availability, power supply risk);
- Extreme temperature events (e.g., forest fires risk); and
- Natural hazards such as seismic events (e.g., geotechnical risk).

Mitigative design measures have been integrated into the site water management system to reduce potential effects of extreme precipitation and drought events, should they occur. Site water management has been designed to direct contact water to locations onsite for use, storage, or treatment, while non-contact water will be discharged into the receiving environment through ditching and piping. Fire suppression supplies and equipment will be available onsite, and mine rescue personnel trained in fire fighting techniques.
The selection of appropriate design earthquake events for pit slopes, WRSAs, and TSF embankments will be based upon criteria provided by regulations and guidelines including the Canadian Dam Safety Association's *Dam Safety Guidelines,* Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in BC and Guidelines for Mine Waste Dump and Stockpile Design (Hawley and Cunning 2017).

Other structures and buildings will be designed and constructed in conformance with applicable building codes, guidelines, and standards according to the site conditions which factor natural hazards and climatic conditions such as seismicity, snow load, and wind. Additionally, appropriate management plans, including an emergency response plan, will be developed, and implemented to appropriately manage incidents should they occur.

Closing

The Project is a BC-based Critical Minerals project that will produce a copper concentrate with payable amounts of gold and silver. Copper is a Critical Mineral that is an essential metal for everyday life and increasingly important for the global transition to a low carbon future. The production, transmission, and distribution of renewable, low-carbon energy requires the responsible production of copper. The Project will provide a responsible, sustainable, and ethically produced source of copper to the global market to support the rapid electrification of modern economies globally. Further, the Project will also contribute to:

- Advancing provincial and federal economies in Canada, as emphasized in BC and Canada's Critical Mineral strategies.
- Boost local economies in BC that have been depressed by job losses in the forestry sector and completion of pipeline construction activities.
- Support broader societal benefits such as schools and health care through payment of royalties and taxes.
- Generate value and return on investment for Taseko shareholders.

Information shared by Simpcw in the pre-early engagement phase has informed the development of the current versions of the IPD and EP. The IPD and EP were also shared prior to formal submission with Simpcw, EAO, and IAAC. Selected sections of the IPD and IPD relating to Neskonlith Indian Band, SteS, and ALIB were shared in April 2025. The final IPD and EP were then submitted to EAO and IAAC to start the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal EA processes.

With the acceptance of the IPD and the information contained herein by the EAO and IAAC, it will initiate the early engagement phase and the planning phase of their respective processes. During the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal assessment processes, there will be opportunity for engagement and for Indigenous groups, government, regulators and the public to provide feedback on the IPD within the first 90 days. The feedback will be summarized in a Summary of Engagement that will inform future engagement efforts with potentially affected groups and form the basis for update of the IPD to the DPD.

Additionally, the IPD will meet requirements under the Simpcw Process that will enable Taseko and Simpcw to continue with their collaborative efforts and engagement on the Project. Taseko's engagement with Simpcw will be conducted in a manner that is respectful and transparent, and informed by the preferences, values, and interests shared by Simpcw through regular and ongoing engagement.

Next steps for the Project will involve advancing engagement with potentially affected Indigenous groups, stakeholders, government, and the public. It will also involve progressing work to prepare the DPD in consideration of feedback provided during the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal assessment processes, and collaborative work through the Simpcw Process.

Please provide feedback on the IPD to EAO, IAAC, or directly to Taseko. Contact information for Taseko is provided above and in Section 2 of the IPD.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronym	Definition
2SLGBTQIA+	Members of the Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, Intersex, Asexual or Ally, and other sexual orientations and gender identities not specifically covered by these categories
AIA	Archaeological Impact Assessment
ALC	Agricultural Land Commission
ALIB	Adams Lake Indian Band
ALR	Agricultural Land Reserve
AOA	Archaeological Overview Assessment
Application	Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application
ATRIS	Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System
BAP	Best Achievable Practice
BAT	Best Achievable Technology
BC	British Columbia
BEC	Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification
BILCR	Birch Island Lost Creek Road
CAD	British Columbia Consultative Areas Database
CDC	Conservation Data Centre
CEAA	Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
CH_4	methane
CO_2	carbon dioxide
CO_2e	carbon dioxide equivalent
COSEWIC	Conservation on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
CRD	Cariboo Regional District
CuEq	copper equivalent
DFO	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
DPD	Detailed Project Description
EA	Environmental Assessment
EAC	Environmental Assessment Certificate
EAO	Environmental Assessment Office
EBA	Eagle Bay assemblage
ECCC	Environment and Climate Change Canada
EMLI	British Columbia Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation
ENV	British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Parks

Acronym	Definition
EP	Engagement Plan
ESSF	Englemann Spruce-Subalpine Fir
ESSFwc2	North Monashee wet cold zone
ESSFwcw	North Monashee wet cold woodland subzones
FOR	British Columbia Ministry of Forests
FSR	Forest Service Road
GHG	greenhouse gas
HADD	harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction (of fish habitat)
Harper Creek Project EA	Harper Creek Project Environmental Assessment
HSRC	Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia
IA	Impact Assessment
IAAC	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
ICH	interior cedar-hemlock
ICHwk	Interior Cedar-Hemlock wet cool
IDF	Interior Douglas-fir
IHA	Interior Health Authority
IPD	Initial Project Description
IR	Indian reserve
ISED	Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
Kúkpi7	Chief
Kúkwpi7	Simpcw First Nation Chief
LHA	Local Health Authority
LNG	liquefied natural gas
LPU	local population unit
LRMP	Land and Resource Management Plan
LSA	Local Study Area
MCM	British Columbia Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals
MDMER	Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulation (under the *Fisheries Act*)
MEM	Ministry of Energy and Mines (former British Columbia Ministry)
ML/ARD	metal leaching and acid rock drainage
MMPO	Major Projects Management Office
MS	Montane Spruce
MYAB	multi-year area-based (permit)
N/A	not applicable

Acronym	Definition
N/A	not applicable (generally used in tables/figures only)
N_2O	nitrous oxide
NAG	non-acid generating
NGO	non-government organization
Noranda	Noranda Exploration Company
NSTC	Northern Shuswap Tribal Council
NStQ	Secwépemc te Qelmucw
OGMA	Old Growth Management Areas
OLTC	Occupant License to Cut
PAG	potentially acid generating
Pellt'iq't	Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band
PM	particulate matter
PM_{10}	fine particulate matter with mass median diameter less than 10 micrometres in diameter
$PM_{2.5}$	fine particulate matter with mass median diameter less than 2.5 micrometres in diameter
QCM	Quebec Cartier Mining Company, a Subsidiary of US Steel
RDEA	Regional district electoral area
RFD	reasonably foreseeable development
ROW	Right-of-Way
RUP	Road Use Permit
SAG	semi-autogenous grinding
SAR	Species at Risk
SBS	Sub-Boreal Spruce
Secwépemc	Secwépemc Nation, sometimes known as Shuswap Nation
Secwepemcúl̓ecw	the unceded territory of the Secwépemc Nation, sometimes known as Shuswap Nation
Sexqeltqin	Sahhaltkum Reserve #4
Simpcw	Simpcw First Nation
Simpcw Process	Simpcw Assessment Process
Símpcwemc	Simpcw People
Simpcwúl̓ecw	the territory of Simpcw First Nation
Skeetchestn	Skeetchestn Indian Band
SNTC	Shuswap Nation Tribal Council
SRMP	Sustainable Resource Management Plan

Acronym	Definition
SteS	Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw
SUP	Special Use Permit
Taseko	Taseko Mines Limited
the Project	Yellowhead Copper Project, a Critical Minerals project that will produce a copper concentrate with payable amounts of gold and silver.
TNRD	Thompson-Nicola Regional District
TranBC	British Columbia Ministry of Transportation and Transit
TSF	Tailings Storage Facility
Tsq̓éscen̓	Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation (formerly Canim Lake Indian Band)
TḰwenem7i'ple7	Councillors
USA	United States of America
UWR	Ungulate Winter Range
VC	Valued Component
WLRS	British Columbia Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship
Working Group	Yellowhead Project Design Working Group
WRSA	Waste Rock Storage Area
WRSF	Wate Rock Storage Facility
WTP	water treatment plant
YMI	Yellowhead Mining Inc.

Units

Unit	Definition
°	degrees
‘	minutes
‘’	seconds
/	per, divide
%	percent
GWh	Gigawatt hours
ha	hectare
kg	kilogram
km	kilometre
km^2	square kilometre
kt	kilo-tonne (equivalent to 1,000 metric tonnes)

Unit	Definition
kV	kilovolt
L	litre
m	metre
m^3	cubic metre
Mt	million tonnes
MVA	mega-volt amperes
t	tonne
tpd	tonnes per day
$ktCO_2e$	kilo-tonne carbon dioxide equivalent
tCO_2e	tonne carbon dioxide equivalent
tCU_{eq}	tonne per copper equivalent

Defined Terms

Term	Definition
Application	The material prepared to meet the information requirements of the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, and Simpcw impact assessment processes to apply for First Nation and regulatory approvals.
Critical Mineral(s)	Mineral(s) that are essential to modern-day technologies, including renewable electricity, batteries, electronics, and electric vehicles.
sulphide concentrator	Refers to typical process flowsheet for copper sulphide ores widely used in the industry (as opposed to novel flowsheet or other ore types). Includes using three stages of particle size reduction using a crusher, followed by semi-autogenous and ball mill grinding circuits, followed by three stages of flotation to produce a copper sulphide concentrate, which is dewatered using filters.
First Nation(s)	People whose ancestors are indigenous to the North American continent, particularly Canada, and who are defined as “Indians” under the Indian Act. Does not typically include Inuit or Métis people.
full service camp	Includes all of the required facilities such as dormitories, washrooms, kitchen, and dining facilities to enable workers to remain onsite for the duration of their work rotations.
Indigenous groups	First Nations, Indigenous governments and organizations.
Phreatic surface	the interface within the tailings where the voids between particles are fully filled with water below and only partially filled above.
Project Phases and Activities	**Commencement of primary Project development activities would occur following issuance of regulatory and First Nation approvals.**

Term	Definition
	Construction: 2–3 years in duration, and will include site preparation and construction to ready the Project for operations. Involves Environmental Assessment, Permit, and compliance monitoring. **Operations:** 25 years in duration, and will include mining, ore processing, and concentrate transport to market. Involves Environmental Assessment, Permit, and compliance monitoring. **Closure:** 37 years in duration, and will include decommissioning and reclamation. Considered complete when the open pit fills with water and water discharge restarts. **Post-Closure:** Decades+ in duration; will continue until permit conditions are met and the company is released from all legal obligations.
Tailings supernatant	the water that sits on top or on the surface of the tailings, often reused in processing or treated before release.

1. Introduction

This document is the Initial Project Description (IPD) for the Yellowhead Copper Project, a Critical Minerals project that will produce a copper concentrate with payable amounts of gold and silver (the Project). Taseko Mines Limited (Taseko) is the Proponent for the Project. This IPD has been prepared for submission to Simpcw First Nation (Simpcw) to meet requirements under the Simpcw Assessment Process (Simpcw Process), and to the BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) and Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) to initiate the early engagement and planning phases of the BC *Environmental Assessment Act* (SBC 2018, c 51) and the federal *Impact Assessment Act* (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1), respectively. Additionally, Taseko intends to request the British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Parks (ENV) to seek agreement from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) to a substituted process under the *Impact Assessment Cooperation Agreement between Canada and British Columbia* (Government of Canada and BC Government 2020). Substitution would support a more streamlined process while retaining independent decision-making by the provincial and federal governments with respect to the Project.

The Project is in the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) in south-central British Columbia (BC), about 150 kilometres (km) northeast of Kamloops, BC, along Highway 5, near the community of Vavenby, BC. From Vavenby, the Project is accessed using approximately 20 km of existing Forest Service Roads (FSR). The Project is situated in the unceded territory of the Secwépemc Nation (Secwepemcúl̓ecw), and primarily within the territory of Simpcw First Nation (Simpcwúl̓ecw). The Secwépemc Nation (Secwépemc) are sometimes known or referred to as the Shuswap Nation. Chu Chua is the closest Simpcw First Nation (Simpcw) community to the project site. Since notifying Simpcw of its intent to acquire the Project in late-2018, Taseko has been actively engaging with Simpcw leadership, staff, and community members on the Project.

The Project is an open pit copper mine that has been designed with a production capacity of 90,000 tonnes per day (tpd) of ore over a 25-year mine life. Ore will be mined from the open pit and hauled by truck to a primary crusher located near the ultimate pit rim. Crushed ore will then be transported by overland conveyor to the plant site. At the plant site, processing of the crushed ore within the concentrator will be done using standard grinding and flotation circuits to produce a copper concentrate, with payable amounts of gold and silver. Final concentrate will be trucked offsite to a rail load-out facility located near Vavenby, BC, and transported via rail to the Port of Vancouver or to other North American markets. From the Port of Vancouver, the copper concentrate will be shipped to overseas markets. Power will be supplied to the Project site by an approximately 110-km long, 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that follows an approximate west to east orientation to interconnect the existing BC Hydro substation at 100 Mile House to a new substation at the Project site.

The IPD represents prefeasibility level design for the Project based on Taseko (2020). Simpcw and Taseko collaborated on the drafting of the IPD and Engagement Plan (EP). Sections of the IPD and EP related to Adams Lake Indian Band (ALIB), the Neskonlith Indian Band, and Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw (SteS; formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band) were shared prior to formal submission to the EAO, and the IAAC. The final IPD and EP were then submitted to the EAO and IAAC to start the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal assessment processes. Appendix A and Appendix B provide tables of concordance for the IPD with EAO and IAAC guidelines, respectively.

2. Proponent Information

Taseko is the Proponent for the Project, a proposed open pit copper mine that will produce payable amounts of gold and silver. Taseko, through its wholly owned subsidiary Yellowhead Mining Inc. (YMI), is planning to finance, construct, and operate the Project. Taseko acquired the Project in 2019.

Incorporated in 1966, Taseko is a North American focused mining company headquartered in Vancouver, BC. Taseko is publicly traded on the Toronto, New York, and London Stock Exchanges under the symbols TKO, TGB, and TKO, respectively. The management team is comprised of experienced mining professionals with a proven track record of success in developing and operating open pit mines in BC.

Taseko's wholly owned and operated Gibraltar Mine is located 65 km north of Williams Lake, BC, and currently has about 700 employees. Taseko has other projects at different stages of development, including Florence Copper in Arizona, United States of America (USA), and Aley and New Prosperity in BC, Canada. Florence is expected to complete construction and commence operations in late 2025.

Taseko and its subsidiaries are committed to responsible resource development, and to developing and sustaining meaningful working relationships with Indigenous groups and the communities in which we operate.

2.1 Contact Information

The corporate contact information is as follows:

Taseko Mines Limited
1040 West Georgia Street, 12th Floor
Vancouver, BC V6E 4H1
Tel: 778.373.4533
Fax: 778.373.4534
www.tasekomines.com

The principal contact for the purposes of the Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application (Application):

Natasha Essar
Manager, Environment and Permitting
Taseko Mines Limited
1040 West Georgia Street, 12th Floor
Vancouver, BC V6E 4H1
Tel: 778.373.4557
Email: Nessar@tasekomines.com

3. Project Overview

3.1 Project Purpose and Need

Copper is a Critical Mineral that is both an essential metal for everyday life and increasingly important for the global transition to a low carbon future. The production, transmission and distribution of renewable, low-carbon energy requires the responsible production of copper. Currently, there is no viable alternative to copper in many electrification applications.

The Project will provide a responsible, and ethically produced source of copper to the global market to support the rapid electrification of modern economies globally. The Project will also contribute to:

- Advancing provincial and federal economies in Canada through the development of Critical Minerals, as emphasized in Canada's and BC's Critical Minerals strategies;
- Boosting local economies in BC, which have been depressed by job losses in the forestry sector and completion of pipeline construction activities in the Project region, through provision of local jobs and business expenditures;
- Supporting provision of social and community services, and other societal benefits to local and First Nation communities in BC and Canada, through payment of royalties and taxes; and
- Generating value and return on investment to Taseko shareholders.

3.2 Project Location

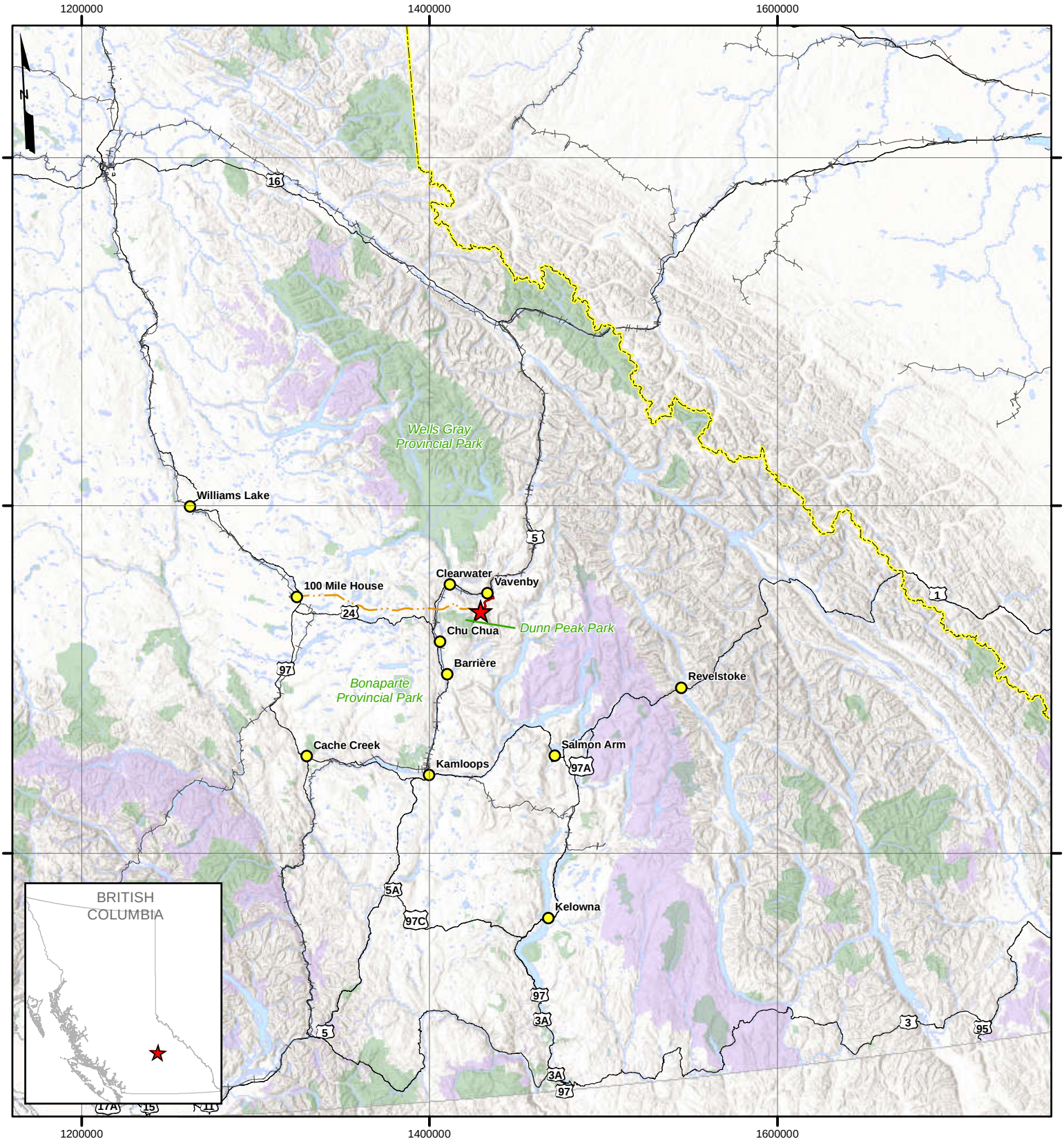
3.2.1 Project Site, Access, and Rail Load-out Facility

The Project is situated on a greenfield site with some with existing roads, trails, and other industry disturbance. The Project is in the TNRD in south-central BC. The TNRD comprises an area of about 44,000 square kilometres (km^2), with a population of more than 143,000 (TNRD 2023). Kamloops is the largest community in the region and a regional mining hub. The Project is situated in Secwepemcúlecw, and primarily within Simpcwúlecw (Figure 3-2). Chu Chua is the closest Simpcw community to the project site at approximately 27 km.

The Project is located approximately 150 km northeast of Kamloops, BC, along Highway 5, near the community of Vavenby, BC. From Vavenby, the Project is accessed along about 20 km of existing forest service roads (Figure 3-1). The center point coordinates of the Project site are approximately 51° 30' 00"N latitude, 119° 48' 00"W longitude. Secondary access for oversized and heavy loads will be from Highway 5 at Birch Island Lost Creek Road (BILCR) until it connects with the main access road. Coordinates for the rail load-out facility near Vavenby are approximately 51°35'6N latitude, 119°46'14"W longitude.

The nearest communities to the Project site are Vavenby and Birch Island, BC. Vavenby is an unincorporated community located on the north bank of the North Thompson River, approximately 20 km by road from the Project site, with a population of about 240 (Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Population). Birch Island is a smaller community located on the south bank of the North Thomspon River, approximately 10 km directly northwest of the Project site and 20 km west of Vavenby by road. There are private land holders with farms and residences on the south bank of the North Thompson River between Birch Island and Vavenby.

The Project is approximately 170 km to the BC-Alberta provincial border, and approximately 278 km from the United States border at their closest distances.



Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- Communities
- Waterbodies
- Parks & Protected Areas
- Protected Wildlife Habitat
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- BC-Alberta Boundary
- Railway
- Highways/Roads

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:3,000,000

0 37.5 75 150 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

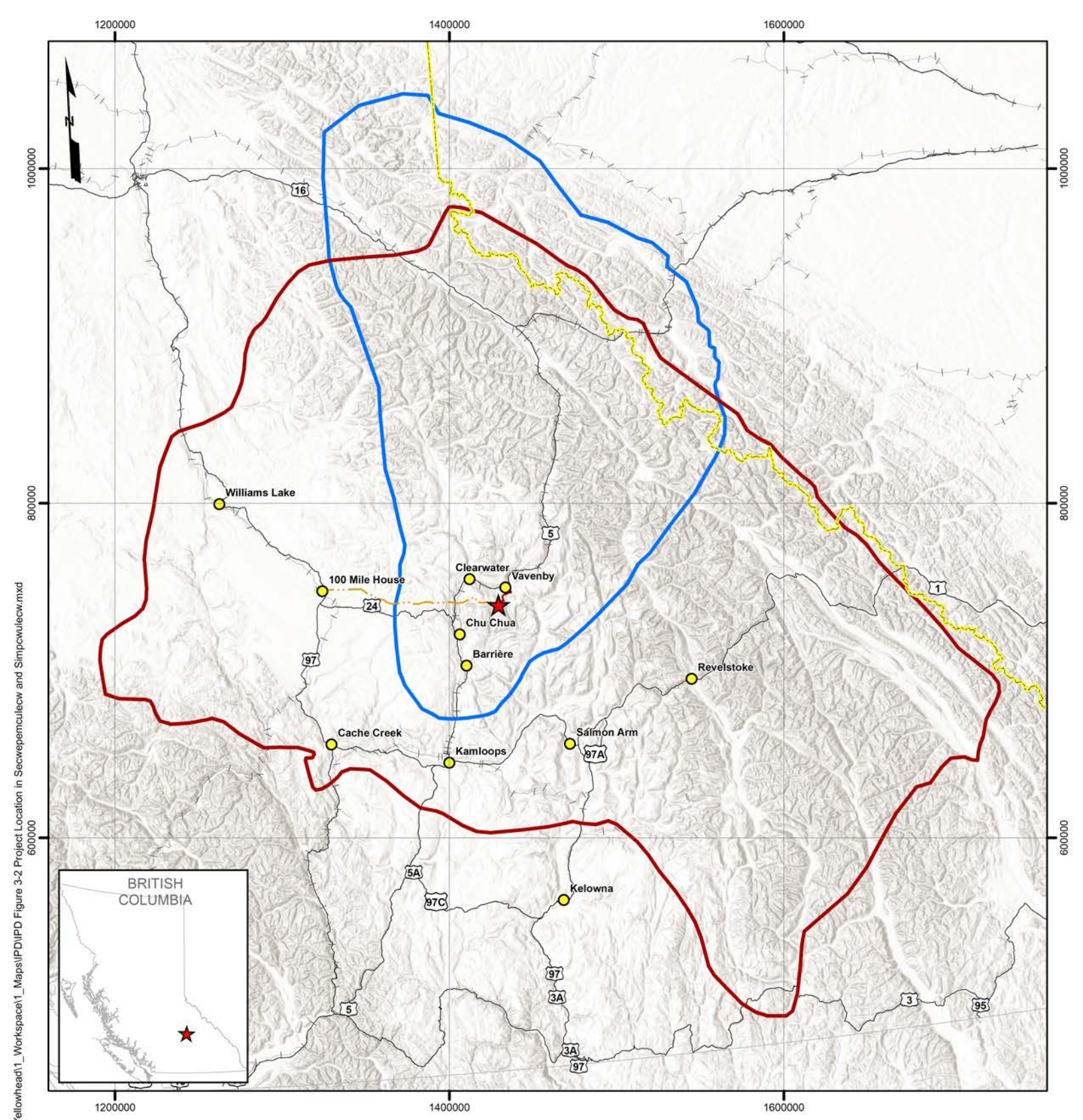
Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Project Location

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 3-1

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\IPD\IPD Figure 3-1 Project Location.mxd



Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- Communities
- Secwepemcúlecw (Secwépemc Territory)
- Simpcwúlecw (Simpcw Territory)
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- BC-Alberta Boundary
- Railway
- Highways/Roads

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

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0 37.5 75 150 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Project Location in Secwepemcúlecw and Simpcwúlecw

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 3-2

Document Path: G:_Projects\2011201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\IPD\IPD Figure 3-2 Project Location in Secwepemculecw and Simpcwulecw.mxd

There are other communities along the Highway 5 corridor between Kamloops and Vavenby. Clearwater is located about 27 km west of Vavenby and is the largest nearby community, with a population of about 2,300 (Statistics Canada 2024). Little Fort is located about 30 km south of Clearwater at the junction of Highway 24 and Highway 25. Blackpool and Barriere are located about 15 km and 30 km south of Little Fort, respectively. Avola is located 45 km and Blue River is 85 km north of Vavenby along Highway 5.

Under the *Environment and Land Use Act*, certain areas can become Protected Areas to help preserve and maintain the natural environment. This also means certain activities such as industrial roads, pipelines, and transmission lines are not allowed in these areas (BC Parks n.d.). Dunn Peak Park is located about 2 km to the west of the Project site at its closest point (Figure 3-3). Additionally, Wells Gray Provincial Park is located north of Clearwater and distant from the Project site. Mapped mountain caribou habitat and Old Growth Management Areas (OGMA) occur in proximity to the Project site.

3.2.2 Transmission Line

Power will be supplied to the Project site by an approximately 110-km long, 230 kV transmission line that follows an approximate west to east orientation to interconnect the existing BC Hydro substation at 100 Mile House (51° 39' 26"N latitude, 121° 17' 1"W longitude) to a new substation at the Project site (51° 29' 24"N latitude, 119° 49' 38"W longitude) (Figure 3-1). The western portion of the transmission line is situated within the Cariboo Regional District (CRD) and the eastern portion within the TNRD.

The current design of the transmission line was scoped to minimize impacts to wildlife habitat (including critical habitat for badger and woodland caribou), vegetation (including critical habitat for Mexican mosquito fern and whitebark pine), wetlands, floodplains, provincial parks, recreational areas, conservation lands, and population areas at Horse Lake and Deka Lake. Much of the transmission line is on undisturbed land but existing disturbance (e.g., forestry cut blocks) does occur along the transmission line.

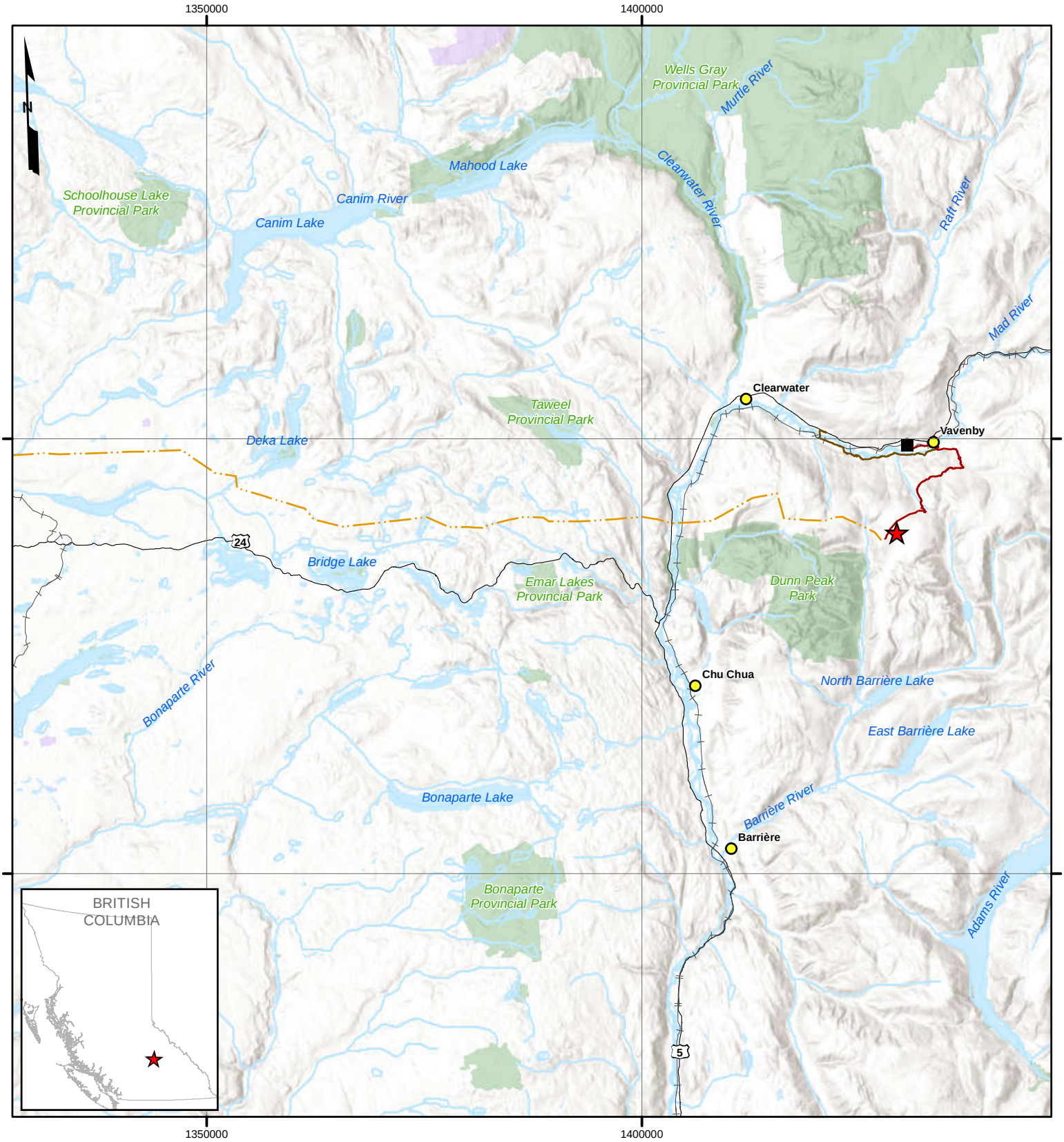
The transmission line will need to cross the North Thompson River. Crossing locations have been identified where the river is a single channel such that the transmission line could span the river without requiring instream structures. It will also cross the following existing features: highway, pipeline, transmission line, and railway.

3.3 Project History and Status

Copper mineralization was discovered in the deposit area in the mid-1960s. The initial discovery was followed by extensive prospecting, line cutting, road building, surface geochemical sampling, geological mapping, geophysics, trenching, and exploratory drilling programs.

Claim staking in the project area occurred in 1965 by Noranda Exploration Company (Noranda) and Quebec Cartier Mining Company, a subsidiary of US Steel (QCM), in 1966. Noranda and QCM advanced work independently on their properties from 1966 to 1970. In the early 1970s, the companies formed a joint venture partnership to explore the combined properties until 1974. Further exploration occurred in 1986 and 1996.

In 2005, YMI formed as a private BC company that acquired subsurface rights to the Project through a combination of claim staking, purchase, and option agreements. YMI advanced exploration at the Project from 2006 to 2013. This was followed by a feasibility study in 2014 based on a previous development plan for a project with a production capacity of 70,000 tpd, which was called the Harper Creek Project.



Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\IPD\IPD Figure 3-3 Parks and Protected Areas.mxd

Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- Rail Load-Out
- Communities
- Parks & Protected Areas
- Protected Wildlife Habitat
- Waterbodies
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Secondary Access Route
- BC-Alberta Boundary
- Railway
- Highways/Roads

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:600,000

0 5 10 20 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Parks and Protected Areas

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 3-3

In 2015, the Harper Creek Project Environmental Assessment (Harper Creek Project EA) Application was accepted for review by the EAO and the previous Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA), now the IAAC. Following the Independent Expert Panel Report on the Mount Polley Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Breach (BC MEM 2015), the EAO requested additional information primarily regarding tailings alternatives and management. The application review timeline for the Harper Creek Project EA was suspended in mid-2015 to allow additional time to address these information requirements to the satisfaction of the EAO, and to further engage with Indigenous groups. After an initial three-year extension, the provincial EA process was terminated in 2018 by the EAO due to inactivity on the Harper Creek Project EA file. YMI, as the proponent for the Harper Creek Project EA was invited to submit a new application at a later time that addressed the full scope of the application requirements.

In February 2019, Taseko acquired 100% interest in YMI and, over the course of that year, withdrew the federal EA application and completed a Technical Report on the Project (Taseko 2020). The concerns raised in the 2015 Harper Creek Project EA process have informed improvements in the tailings and water management approaches and design for the Project. The Technical Report forms the basis of the Project described in this IPD.

3.4 Existing Permits and Approvals

Taseko has an active Multi-Year Area Based (MYAB) Notice of Work Permit (No. 1620527-2022-01) under *Mines Act* permit MX-4-429 for geotechnical and hydrogeological investigation work. The MYAB is currently valid until May 23, 2028.

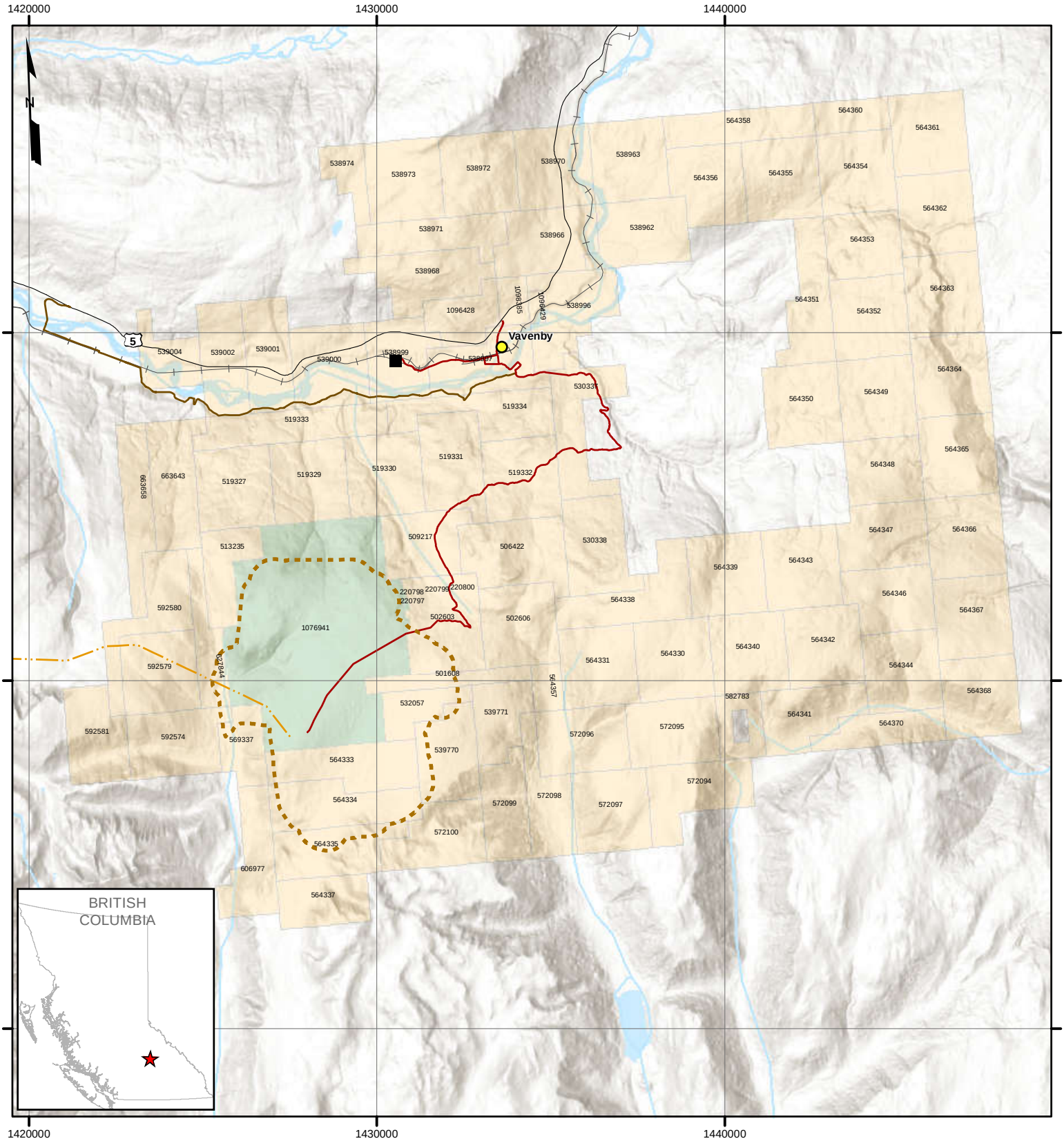
Road Use Permits (RUP) issued by the BC Ministry of Forests (FOR) are currently in place for sections of Vavenby Mountain, Avery-Jones, Barriere Mountain, and Saskum West FSR. The use and maintenance of the FSRs are shared with other RUP holders actively using these roads for other resource activities. Typically, the user with the highest level of use is designated as the Primary User, with primary accountability for road use and maintenance.

3.5 Land and Water Use

The Project site is located on provincial Crown Land, with mineral tenure comprised one mining lease which is valid until at least June 2050, and 94 mineral claims covering a total of approximately 42,350 hectares (ha) (Figure 3-4). Existing mineral claims are in good standing. There is one range tenure (RAN07735) and two trapline tenures (TR0337T001, TR0341T003) that overlap the Project site. Some areas of the Project site have been previously logged with some existing gravel roads.

From Vavenby, primary access to the Project is about 20 km along the Vavenby Mountain and Avery Jones FSRs, which are managed by the BC FOR. Secondary access for oversized and heavy loads will be from Highway 5 and along BILCR (municipal road) until it connects with the primary access route. The rail load-out facility is located at the former Weyerhauser site, which is comprised of three parcels of fee simple land that are now owned by Taseko.

The western portion of the transmission line is situated with the CRD and the eastern portion is within the TNRD. Some portions of the transmission line route cross through Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). Both the TNRD and CRD are within the ALR Interior Panel Region. The transmission line may intersect with parcels of private land, recreational user areas, guide outfitting areas, trapline tenures, forest harvest tenures, range tenures, utility rights-of-way, OGMA, and mapped areas for species at risk (e.g., badger, woodland caribou). Engagement on routing will be ongoing through the early engagement and planning phases and to the extent practical and feasible the route will be designed to minimize potential effects.



Legend

- Rail Load-Out
- Communities
- Project Footprint
- Mineral Claim
- Mining Lease
- Waterbodies
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Secondary Access Route
- Railway
- Highways/Roads

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:150,000

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 5 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Mineral Tenures

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 3-4

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\IPD\IPD Figure 3-4 Mineral Tenure.mxd

Water use for the Project is primarily associated with activities at the Project site, with minor offsite water use associated with access road and rail load-out facility activities (e.g., dust control). At the Project site, contact water will be pumped to the process water pond to support site operations. Potable water will be sourced from wells around the plant site then treated, stored, and pumped to distribution points around the plant site. More information on water use and management for the Project is provided in Section 4.2.1.2, Section 4.2.1.6, and Section 4.2.1.7.

3.6 Land Use Plans

A preliminary list of land use, community, or stewardship plans that may be relevant to the Project are provided in Table 3-1. This list will be updated in future as identified through engagement and/or amended or new land use plans become available.

Table 3-1: Preliminary List of Relevant Land Use, Community, and Stewardship Plans

Land Use, Community and Stewardship Plans	Purpose of Plan	Relevance
Kamloops Land and Resource Management Plan (BC Government 1995)	Directs the management of all Crown land for ten years, as part of the BC Land Use Strategy. Provides management objectives for environmental components e.g. water management, grasslands management, wildlife, cultural and heritage sites and trails etc.	The Project should consider the management objectives and strategies for each valued component in the context of Project planning and operations.
North Thompson Official Community Plan (TNRD 2020)	Outlines policies and guidelines for land use planning and provides a set of objectives for managing existing land use. The plan informs decisions on potential new land uses, and also defines Development Permit Areas for environmental protection e.g. Riparian and Watercourse Protection Development Permit Area.	The Project should consider the future land use strategy and specific requirements in the Development Permit Areas in Project planning and operations.
Thompson-Nicola Regional District Strategic Plan 2023-2026 (TNRD 2023)	Establish a common understanding of regional key interests and a strategic approach to set priorities in addressing identified challenges. The plan guides decision-making.	The Project should consider long-term land use planning and community challenges in Project planning and operations.
Cariboo-Chilcotin Land Use Plan (BC Government 1994)	Aims to establish a long-term balance between environmental protection and economic development. Key purpose is to ensure sustainable use of natural resources while considering ecological values, provide access to timber, offer certainty for mining, ranching and tourism, promote stability and well-being.	The Project should consider planned strategies and plans focused on biodiversity conservation, and climate change through Project planning and operations.

Land Use, Community and Stewardship Plans	Purpose of Plan	Relevance
100 Mile House Sustainable Resource Management Plan (SRMP) (CRD 2005)	SRMP is part of the Cariboo-Chilcotin Land Use Plan and sets strategies and targets at a sub-regional scale for the management of natural resources and environmental values. The SRMPs provided a foundation for the order made under the Land Use Objectives Regulation of the Land Act for the Cariboo Region in 2010. The 100 Mile SRMP is non-legal guidance.	The Project should consider the recommendations and objectives specified in Project planning and operations. The plan indicates that mineral exploration and development are appropriate land uses excluding parks and protected areas.
Simpcw Interim Stewardship Plan (Simpcw First Nation 2023, Amendment 1 May 2024)	This plan is part of the framework of agreements between Simpcw and the provincial government. The purpose of the plan is to guide land and resource stewardship within Simpcw's traditional territory while advancing reconciliation and Indigenous rights. The plan establishes Environmental Resource Management Zones (ERMZs) which have land use restrictions.	Ongoing engagement with Simpcw through the planning process should include discussions on ERMZs and other sensitive areas to better incorporate Simpcw stewardship principles into project design Detailed environmental and cultural assessments and plan for reclamation and long-term monitoring are likely to be required for the Project as work advances.
Adams Lake Indian Band Land Use Plan	Provides a community-driven framework for managing and protecting ALIB's reserve lands and traditional territory in a way that reflects the values, priorities, and vision of the Adams Lake people.	Cultural, spiritual and ecological areas of significance should be respected. Potential impacts should be avoided or mitigated in the identified areas of significance. The Project is expected to demonstrate how it align with ALIB's values, vision, and land use priorities. Cultural heritage assessment and ongoing community engagement is anticipated.

The BC Government has been advancing modernization of land use planning with Indigenous groups since 2018, with a focus on four strategic planning areas: collaborative stewardship, forest landscape planning, water planning and strategies, and cumulative effects framework (BC Government 2024a). The modernized land use planning processes are in different stages of development across the province. BC's Land and Water Planning Partnership Projects website (BC Government 2024b) was reviewed in January 2025, and currently there are no modernized land use planning active projects in the region where the Project is located.

Taseko is not aware of rezoning or changes in land designations that would be required to construct and operate the Project.

3.7 Geology and Mineralization

The Project is located within structurally complex, low-grade metamorphic rocks of the Eagle Bay Assemblage (EBA), part of the Kootenay Terrane on the western margin of the Omineca Belt in south-central BC.

The Eagle Bay Assemblage incorporates Lower Cambrian to Mississippian sedimentary and volcanic rocks subject to deformation and metamorphism. The Eagle Bay Assemblage divides into four northeast-dipping thrust sheets that collectively contain a succession of Lower Cambrian rocks overlain by a succession of Devonian-Mississippian rocks. The lower Cambrian rocks include quartzites, grits, and quartz mica schists (Units EBH and EBQ), mafic metavolcanic rocks and limestone (Unit EBG), and overlying schistose sandstones and grits (Unit EBS) with minor calcareous and mafic volcanic units. These older units are overlain by Devonian-Mississippian succession of mafic to intermedia metavolcanic rocks (Units ENA and EBF) intercalated with and overlain with dark grey phyllite, sandstone and grit (Unit EBP). Unit EBA of the Devonian-Mississippian succession hosts the deposit.

The northeast trending Harper Creek Fault separates the deposit into a west and east domain. In the west domain, chalcopyrite mineralization is primarily in three copper bearing horizons. The upper horizon ranges from 60 metres (m) to 170 m in width and is continuous along an east-west strike from some 1,300 m, dipping approximately 30° north. The middle horizon is not as well developed and is often fragmented. It primarily exists within a graphitic and variably silicified package of rocks that range from 30 m to 40 m in width at the western extent, increasing up to 90 m locally eastward, gradually appearing to blend into the upper horizon. The lowest or third horizon has less definition, mainly due to a lack of drilled intersections. Commonly hosted within mafic to intermediate volcaniclastics and fragmental rocks, it can range from 30 m to 90 m in width although typical intersections are of the 30 m range. These horizons generally contain foliation-parallel wisps and bands as the dominant style of sulphide mineralization.

In the east domain, mineralization characterized by high angle, discontinuous, tension fractures of pyrrhotite, chalcopyrite ± bornite is frequently associated with quartz carbonate gangue. This style is common within, but not limited to, the meta sedimentary rocks and areas of increased pervasive silicification. Mineralization is not selective to individual units and frequently transgress lithological contacts through the area. At the near surface areas in the south and down-dip to the north, widths of mineralization typically range from 120 m to 160 m. In the central area of the east domain where thrust/ reverse fault stacking has been interpreted, mineralization thickness typically ranges from 220 m to 260 m with local intersections of up to 290 m.

The deposit type is remobilized polymetallic volcanogenic massive sulphide deposit, comprising lenses of disseminated, fracture-filling and banded iron and copper sulphides with accessory magnetite. Mineralization is generally conformable with the host rock stratigraphy as is consistent with the volcanogenic model. Observed sulphide lenses measure many tens of metres in thickness with km-scale strike and dip extents.

4. Project Description

This section provides a summary of the scope of the Project, including project components, phases and activities, project design and siting constraints, and other information relevant to understanding the scope of the project.

The basis of the Project design described in this IPD is informed by:

- Approximately 100,000 m of exploration, geotechnical and condemnation drilling;
- Results from batch, lock cycle, and pilot scale metallurgical test work;
- Pre-Feasibility level engineering, as summarized in Taseko (2020);
- Feedback received through Simpcw-Taseko the Yellowhead Project Design Working Group (Working Group) on TSF alternatives; and
- Information and feedback reviewed from the Harper Creek Project EA Application (HCMC 2015).

The project design is expected to be refined as required through additional technical studies, baseline studies and assessment work, along with comprehensive engagement with Indigenous groups, government agencies, and the public. Where there are refinements to the project design, these will be presented in materials developed for the Simpcw Process, and the provincial and federal assessment processes.

4.1 Summary

The Project is a proposed open pit copper mine, designed with a production capacity of 90,000 tpd of ore over a 25-year mine life. Ore will be mined from the open pit and hauled by truck to a primary crusher located near the ultimate pit rim. Crushed ore will then be transported by overland conveyor to a coarse ore stockpile at the plant site. Processing of the crushed ore within the concentrator will be done using standard grinding and flotation processes to produce a copper concentrate, with payable amounts of gold and silver.

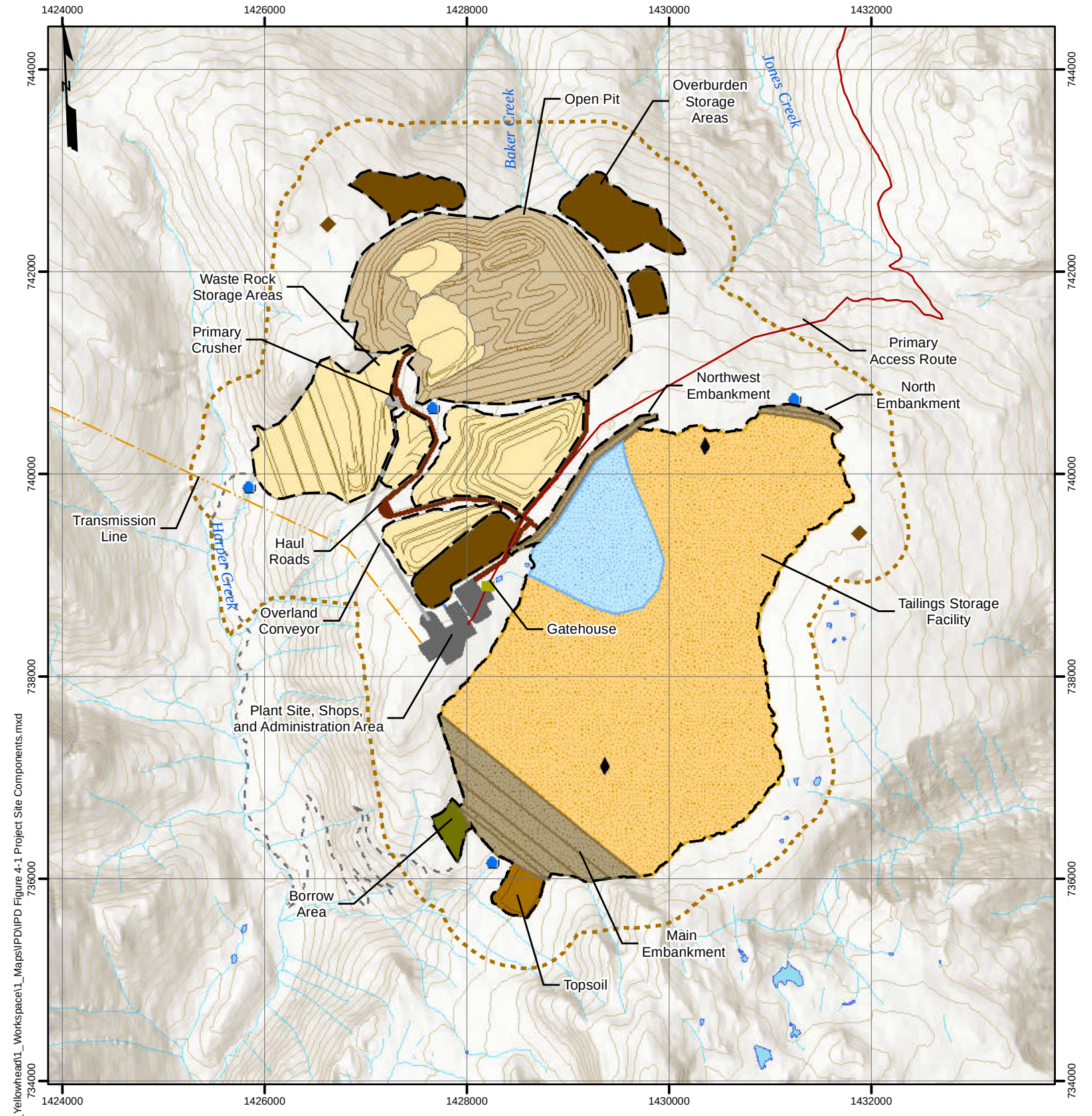
Overburden, waste rock and tailings produced from mining and mineral processing will be stored onsite. Non-acid generating (NAG) waste rock will be hauled to one of the Waste Rock Storage Areas (WRSA) near the open pit for surface storage. Tailings will be transported via pipeline and stored within the TSF, along with potentially acid generating (PAG) waste rock to maintain geochemical stability.

Power will be supplied to the Project site by an approximately 110-kilometre (km) long, 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that follows an approximate west to east orientation to interconnect the existing BC Hydro substation at 100 Mile House, BC to a new substation at the Project site. Though part of the Project, the transmission line is being presented as a distinct Project component for the purposes of engagement and feedback in the IPD as the transmission line extends beyond the Project footprint.

The primary access route to the Project site will be from Highway 5, near the community of Vavenby, BC, and continue along existing FSRs to the gatehouse. For personnel, operational, and public safety, access to the Project site will be restricted. It is anticipated that the Project will have a buffer around the Project site where the discharge of firearms may be restricted for safety reasons. A secondary access route for oversized and heavy loads will be from Highway 5 near Birch Island, crossing the North Thompson River at the Lost Creek Road bridge, and continuing along the road route until connecting with the primary access route to the Project site.

Final concentrate produced at the Project site will be trucked offsite to a rail load-out facility located near Vavenby. and transported via rail to the Port of Vancouver or to other North American markets. From the Port of Vancouver, the copper concentrate will be shipped to overseas markets.

The Project site and offsite project components are shown on Figure 4-1 and Figure 4-2. Further discussion on Project components is provided in Section 4.2, and Project phases and activities in Section 4.3.



Legend

- Simpcw Culturally Significant Site
- Gatehouse
- Explosives Storage Areas
- Water Management Ponds
- Project Footprint
- Extent of Project Components
- Open Pit
- Overburden Storage Areas
- Waste Rock Storage Areas
- Beach
- Embankment
- Supernatant Pond
- Borrow Area
- Topsoil
- Overland Conveyor
- Road
- Plant Site, Shops, and Administration Area
- Waterbodies
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Existing Forest Service Road

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

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Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

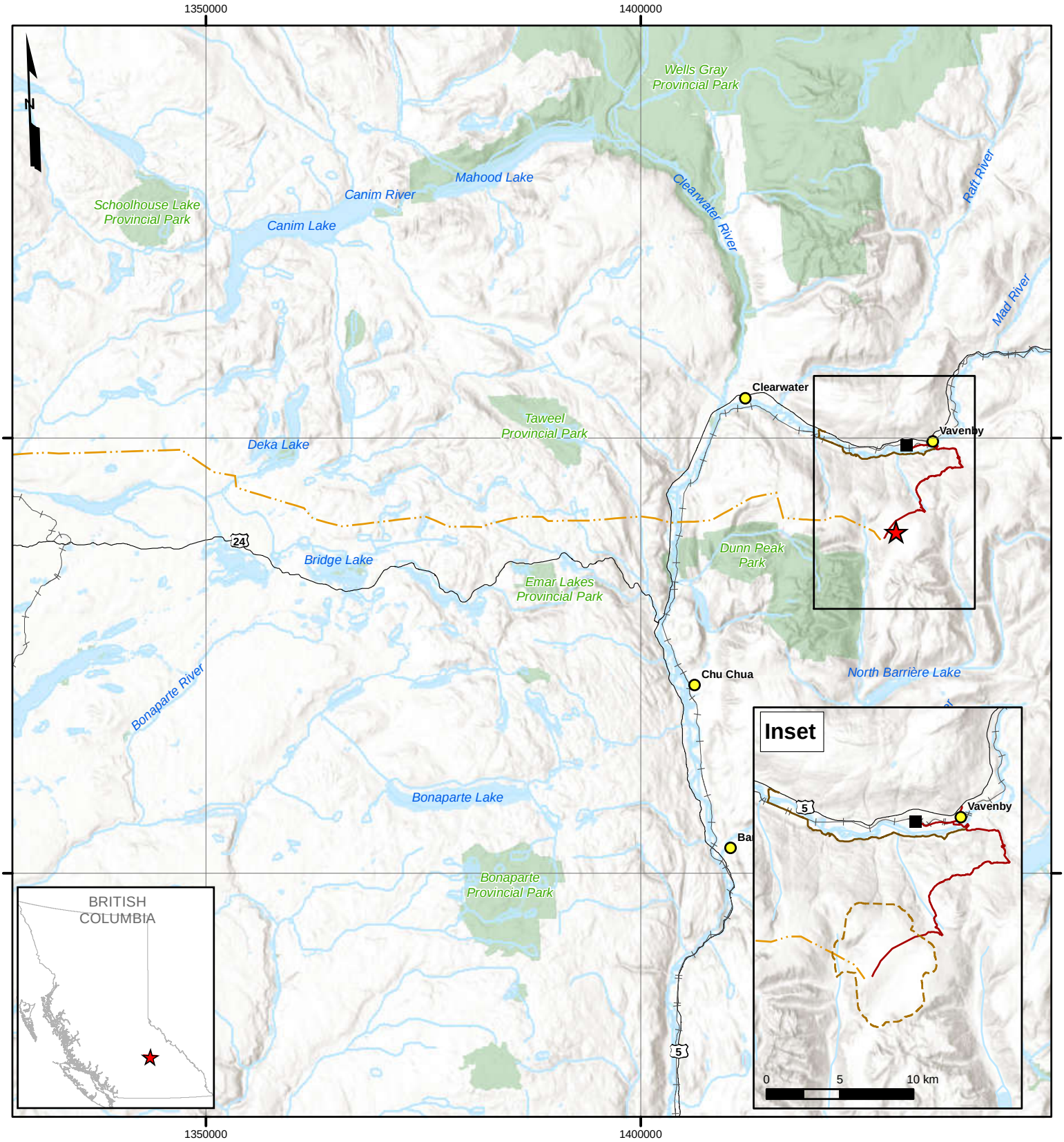
Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Project Layout, Project Site Components

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 4-1

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\IPD\IPD Figure 4-1 Project Site Components.mxd



Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- Rail Load-Out
- Communities
- Project Footprint
- Parks & Protected Areas
- Waterbodies
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Secondary Access Route
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Taseko Yellowhead

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0 5 10 20 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Project Site, Offsite Components

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 4-2

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\IPD\IPD Figure 4-2 Offsite Components.mxd

4.2 Project Components and Activities

A summary of the Project components for the Project are identified in Table 4-1. Descriptions of the Project site and offsite project components are described in the sections that follow.

Table 4-1: Summary of Project Components

Project Components	New	Existing
Project Site Components		
• Open pit	X	
• Haul roads (for heavy and light mobile equipment and vehicles)	X	
• Overburden, waste rock and ore storage areas	X	
• Primary crusher and overland conveyor (from crusher to coarse ore stockpile at the plant site)	X	
• Diesel fuelling station (at crusher site)	X	
• Plant Site	X	
○ Concentrator, and associated infrastructure:	X	
• Coarse ore stockpile	X	
• Grinding, flotation, dewatering circuits	X	
• Concentrate dewatering and storage	X	
• Reagent facility (storage and distribution)	X	
• Assay and metallurgical laboratory	X	
• Concentrator offices	X	
• Fixed Plant maintenance building	X	
○ Gatehouse (first aid and parking)	X	
• Emergency response building and parking	X	
• Truck weigh-scale station	X	
○ Administration building	X	
○ Mine dry, with offices	X	
○ Mobile equipment maintenance shop, with offices	X	
○ Warehouse and cold storage laydown area	X	
○ Secondary diesel and gasoline fuelling station	X	
○ Process water pond (spillway and diversion)	X	
○ Water treatment plant and discharge pipelines	X	
○ Potable water wells and treatment plant	X	
○ Fire suppression pump stations	X	
○ Sewage treatment plant	X	
○ Substation and electrical distribution	X	

Project Components	New	Existing
○ Construction camp	X	
• Tailings storage facility (tailings discharge pipelines, reclaim barge / pipelines, pumping system)	X	
• Borrow area / quarry	X	
• Explosives facility	X	
• Site water management (e.g., collection ponds, pump back systems, pipes and ditching)	X	
• Construction camp (near plant site)	X	
• Primary access route extension (2.5 km new road extension from end of Vavenby Mountain and Avery Jones FSR)	X	
Offsite Components		
• Primary access route from Highway 5 at Vavenby to the Project site		X, modifications required
• Secondary access route from Highway 5 at Birch Island Lost Creek Bridge		X, modifications required
• Transmission line (110 km from 100 Mile House Substation to Project site)	X	
• Rail load-out facility (employee parking and bus pick up at this location)		X, modifications required

The Project site has been designed to reduce the project footprint and use existing components such as access roads to minimize new disturbance requirements to the extent possible. The project footprint is estimated to be approximately 4,000 ha and includes Project site components (as described in Section 4.2) as well as supporting infrastructure such as access roads and water collection systems, plus a buffer to accommodate Project component and design adjustments. Most disturbance at the Project site will be new disturbance. It is anticipated that the Project will have a buffer around the mine site where the discharge of firearms may be restricted for safety reasons.

For offsite components, the primary and secondary access routes utilize existing roads, and upgrades are expected to occur primarily within the existing road disturbance footprints. The rail load-out facility is existing disturbance within which project-related activities are expected to occur. The 110 km transmission line is estimated to have a disturbance area of approximately 440 ha, assuming a 40 m right-of-way.
These disturbance estimates may be updated as the project design is refined for the Detailed Project Description (DPD) and/or Application.

Materials transported to the Project site via access roads will include fuel (diesel and gasoline, liquid), process reagents such as flotation collectors (e.g., xanthates, solid), frothers (e.g., MIBC, liquid), and lime (solid, dry bulk). Explosives accessories, bulk products and/or precursors, including ammonium nitrate (solid) and fuel oil (liquid), will also be delivered. Certain water treatment reagents, such as sodium hydrosulfide (liquid) and sulfuric acid (liquid), will be transported in smaller quantities.

4.2.1 Project Site Components

4.2.1.1 Open Pit

Open pit mining is the industry standard method for extracting mineral reserves from near surface deposits, in particular for higher tonnage, lower grade copper mines in BC, such as the Project. Taseko's Gibraltar Mine is an open-pit copper mine located in Williams Lake, BC, with similar deposit characteristics to the Project, which has operated for over two decades since restarting in 2004 under Taseko's ownership.

The Yellowhead deposit will be mined using open pit mining methods that will involve a combination of drilling, blasting, loading, and hauling of materials. Mine operations will supply a concentrator with 90,000 tpd of ore at an average head grade of 0.28% copper and a strip ratio of 1.4:1 over 25 years. Ore will be hauled to the primary crusher for processing. Overburden and waste rock will be hauled to storage areas near the open pit, within the TSF, or used as construction material. The equipment used will be typical of modern open pit mining operations, including electric rotary drills, electric rope shovels, ultra-class haul trucks, and other mining support equipment.

The open pit is proposed to be mined in five phases. Pre-development (construction phase) mining will focus on Phases 1 and 2, establishment of an ore stockpile to support mine operations, construction of main onsite haul roads, construction of the TSF starter dam for the main embankment, and filling of the primary crusher pad. Stockpiling of mined ore will initially be within the open pit footprint during the construction phase.

Concentrator feed by phase is summarized in Figure 4-3 and project site development period plots for Years 1, 5, 15, and 25 are shown in Table 4-2 and on Figure 4-4 to Figure 4-7.

Figure 4-3: Concentrator Feed by Phase

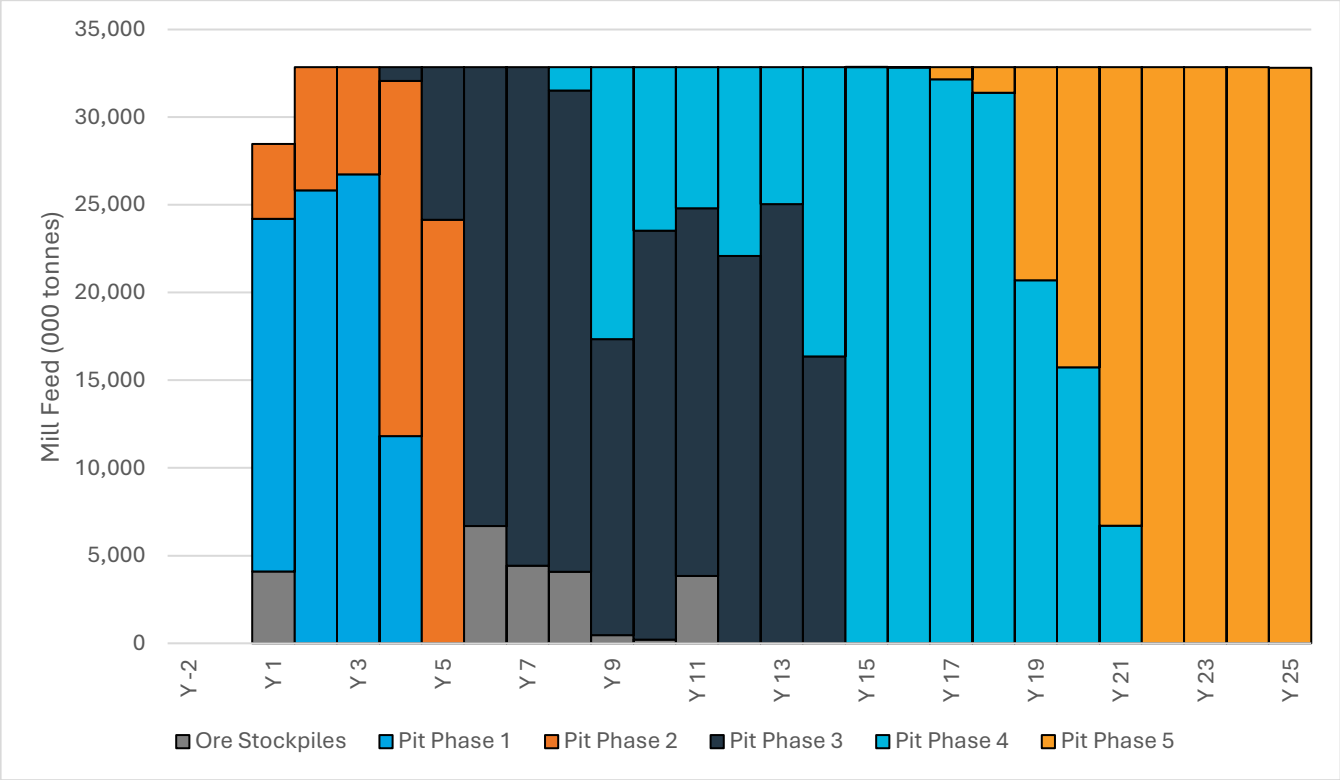
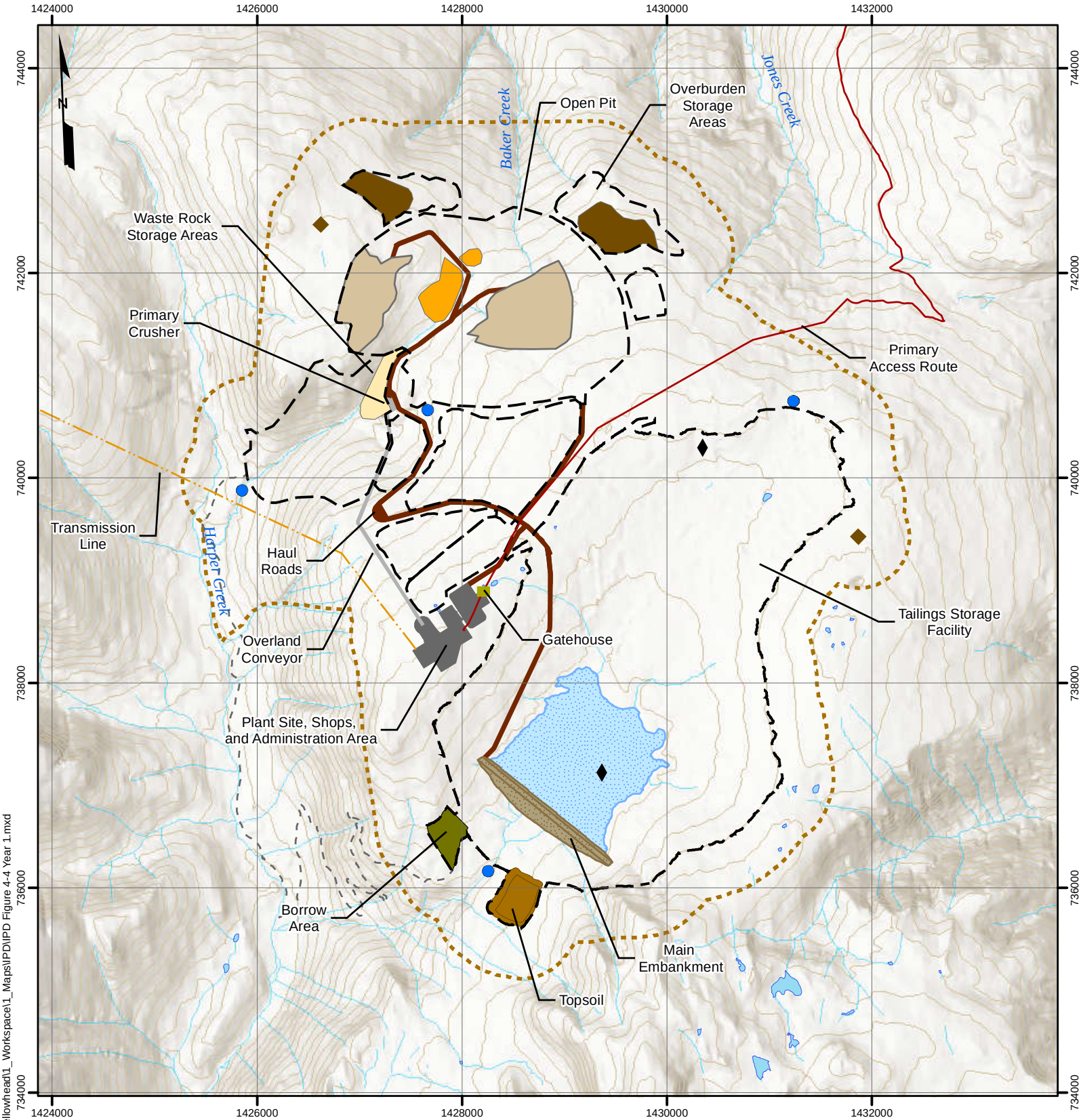


Table 4-2: Approximate Physical Footprints (ha) of Project Components by Development Year

Project Components	Approximate Physical Footprints of Project Components (ha)			
	Year 1	Year 5	Year 15	Year 25
Open Pit	98	244	392	357
Ore Stockepile Areas	18	20	N/A	N/A
Overburden Storage Areas	42	96	143	143
Waste Rock Storage Areas	10	69	320	391
Topsoil	20	20	17	17
TSF Embankments[1]	26	40	113	140
TSF Beach	N/A	251	618	935
TSF Supernatant Pond	150	187	180	131
Plant Site, Shops and Administrative Area	30	30	30	30
Overland Conveyor	9	9	9	9
Haul Roads	45	39	27	25
Borrow Area	13	13	12	12
Total Extent of Project Components (Sum)	**459**	**1,018**	**1,863**	**2,192**
Approximate Full Extent of Project Components (ha)				**3,985**

Notes:
[1] TSF Embankments include the main embankment, north embankment, and the northwest embankment.



Legend

- Simpcw Culturally Significant Site
- Gatehouse
- Explosives Storage Areas
- Water Management Ponds
- Project Footprint
- Extent of Project Components
- Open Pit
- Ore Stockpile Areas
- Overburden Storage Areas
- Waste Rock Storage Areas
- Embankment
- Supernatant Pond
- Borrow Area
- Topsoil
- Overland Conveyor
- Road
- Plant Site, Shops, and Administration Area
- Waterbodies
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Existing Forest Service Road

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:50,000

0 0.5 1 2 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Project Site Development, Year 1

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 4-4

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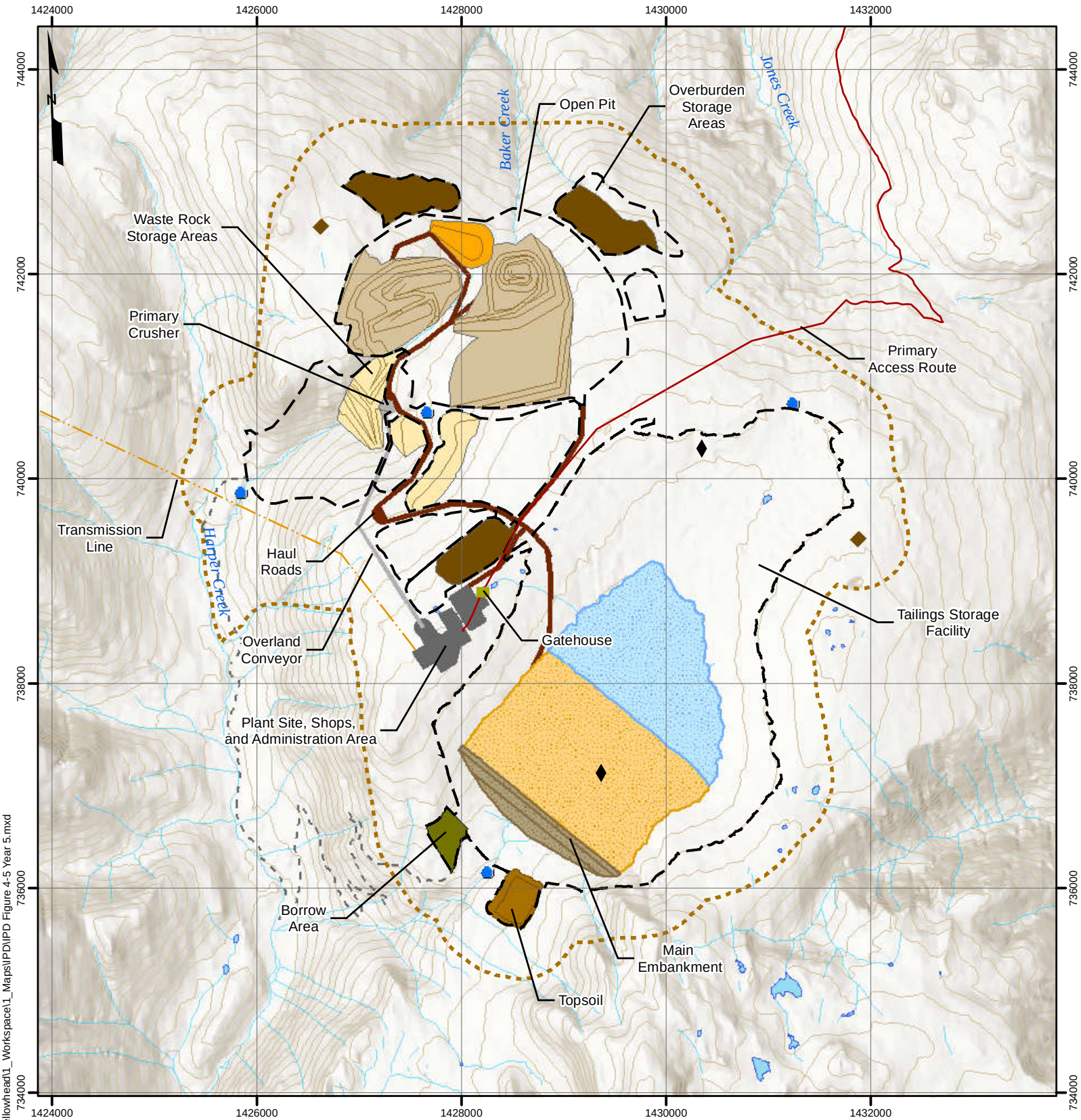

Legend

- Simpcw Culturally Significant Site
- Gatehouse
- Explosives Storage Areas
- Water Management Ponds
- Project Footprint
- Extent of Project Components
- Open Pit
- Overburden Storage Areas
- Ore Stockpile Area
- Waste Rock Storage Areas
- Beach
- Embankment
- Supernatant Pond
- Borrow Area
- Topsoil
- Overland Conveyor
- Road
- Plant Site, Shops, and Administration Area
- Waterbodies
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Existing Forest Service Road

Notes

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4. Base topographic layer from Esri
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6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:50,000

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Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Project Site Development, Year 5

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 4-5

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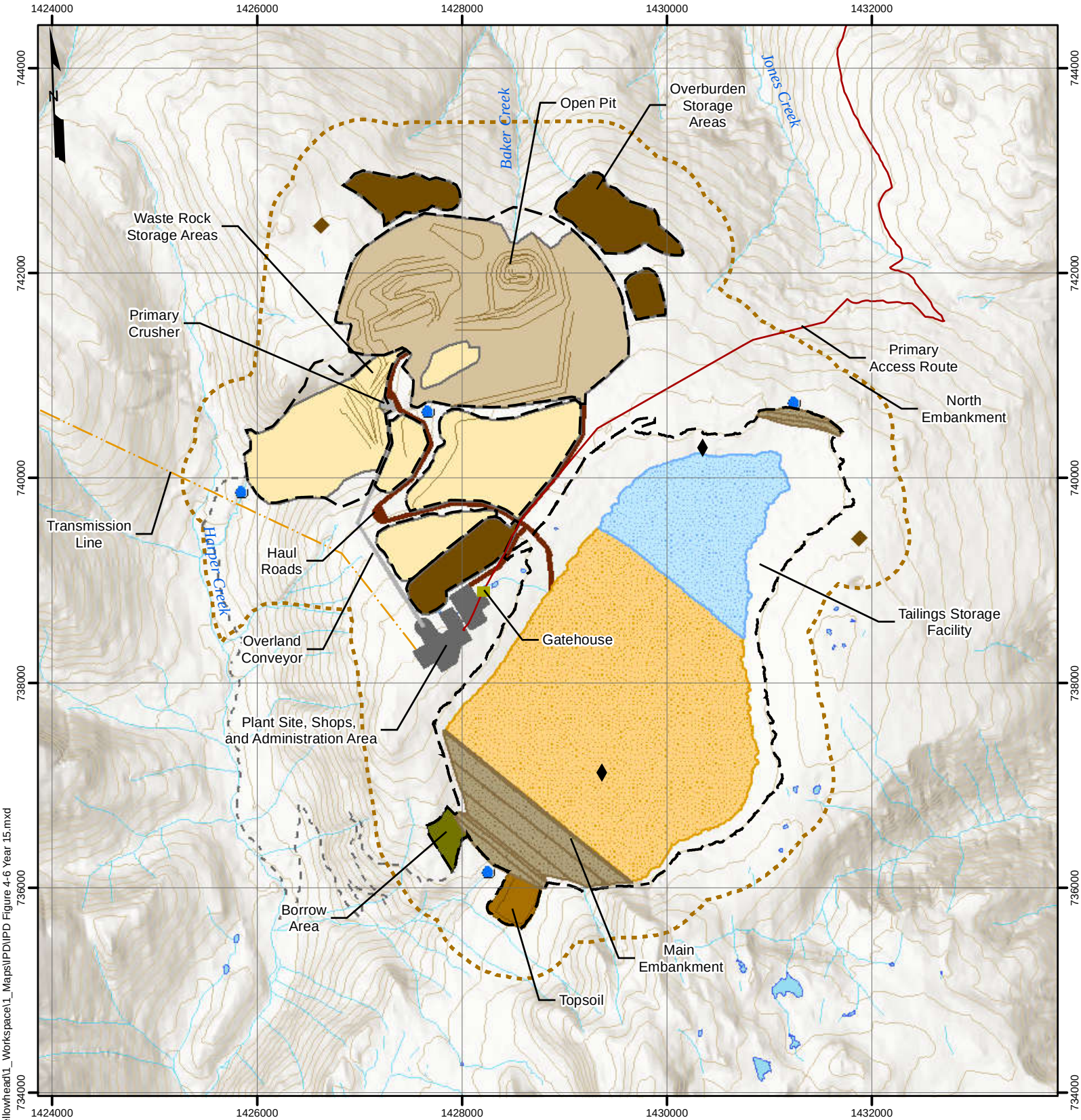

Legend

- Simpcw Culturally Significant Site
- Gatehouse
- Explosives Storage Areas
- Water Management Ponds
- Project Footprint
- Extent of Project Components
- Open Pit
- Overburden Storage Areas
- Waste Rock Storage Areas
- Beach
- Embankment
- Supernatant Pond
- Borrow Area
- Topsoil
- Overland Conveyor
- Road
- Plant Site, Shops, and Administration Area
- Waterbodies
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Existing Forest Service Road

Notes

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2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:50,000

0 0.5 1 2 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Project Site Development, Year 15

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 4-6

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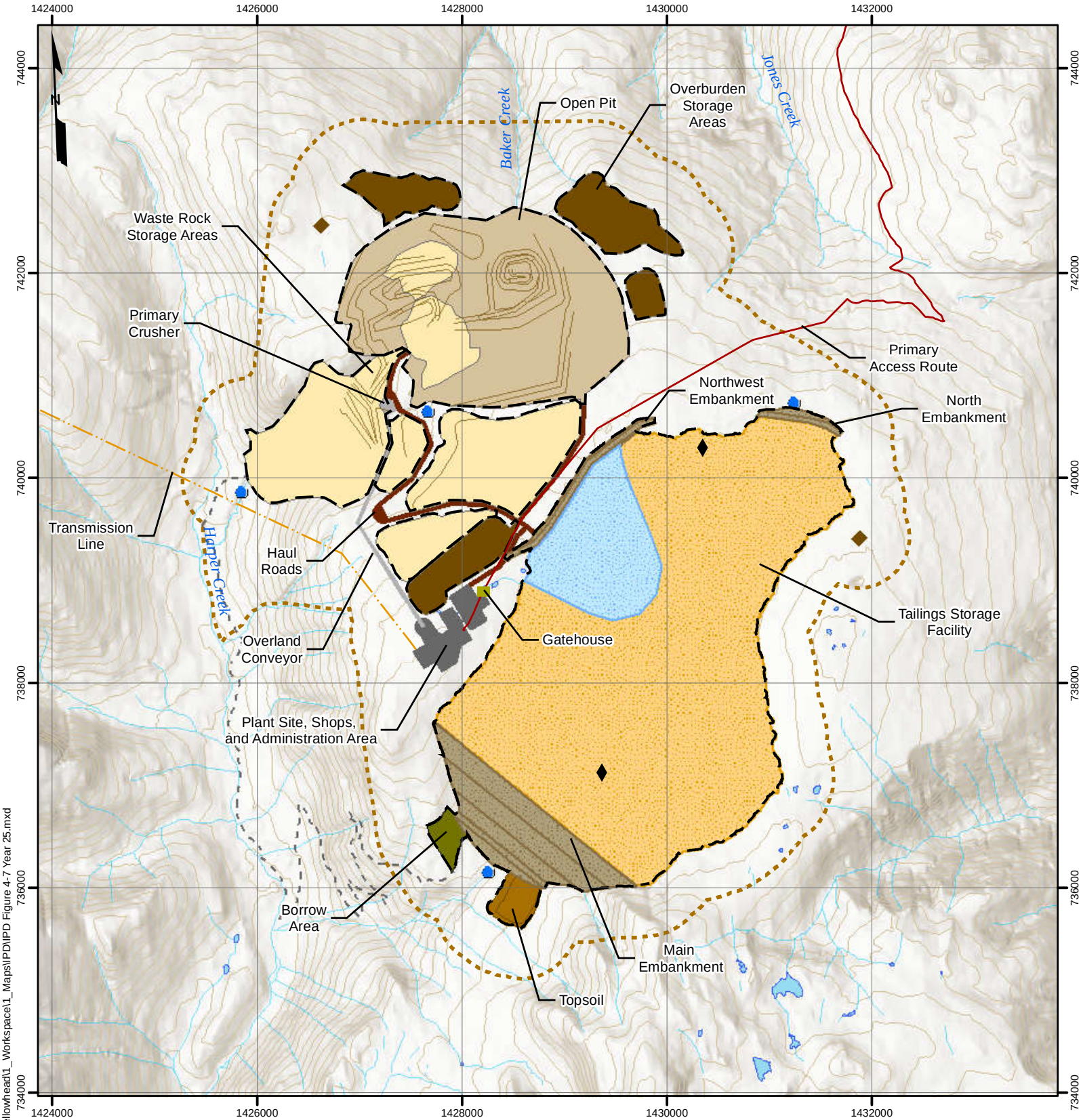

Legend

- Simpcw Culturally Significant Site
- Gatehouse
- Explosives Storage Areas
- Water Management Ponds
- Project Footprint
- Extent of Project Components
- Open Pit
- Overburden Storage Areas
- Waste Rock Storage Areas
- Beach
- Embankment
- Supernatant Pond
- Borrow Area
- Topsoil
- Overland Conveyor
- Road
- Plant Site, Shops, and Administration Area
- Waterbodies
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Existing Forest Service Road

Notes

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3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:50,000

0 0.5 1 2 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Project Site Development, Year 25

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 4-7

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\IPD\IPD Figure 4-7 Year 25.mxd

4.2.1.2 Ore Processing

Processing of the ore will involve a sulphide concentrator designed to process 90,000 tpd of ore and produce a marketable copper concentrate containing payable amounts of gold and silver. The concentrator will use three stages of particle size reduction and three stages of flotation, followed by concentrate dewatering as described below.

Mined ore will be hauled to the primary (gyratory) crusher located at the southwest edge of the approximate year-25 open pit rim. The crusher will be serviced by a fixed hydraulic crane and rock breaker. The crusher will be equipped with dust suppression/collection system to manage fugitive dust generated during crushing, material loading and related operations. Crushed ore will be transported by overland conveyor to a coarse ore stockpile located at the plant site.

Ore from the stockpile will be reclaimed and fed to two parallel grinding circuits each consisting of a semi-autogenous grinding (SAG) mill and-ball mill, which produce feed for a single rougher flotation bank. The rougher flotation concentrate will be reground with two parallel vertical stirred mills prior to being reprocessed in a two-stage cleaner flotation circuit that will include both tank and column flotation cells. Sulphide minerals will be collected with a xanthate collector and pyrite rejected using lime. The final concentrate will be dewatered by thickening followed by filtration prior to being conveyed to the concentrate shed. The rougher and first cleaner flotation tailings will be transported separately to the TSF. Process water from the TSF will be reclaimed and recycled back to the process plant for reuse.

Figure 4-8 provides the simplified process flow diagram for the processing of ore mined at the Project.

4.2.1.2.1 Other Components Associated with the Concentrator

The concentrator will have associated infrastructure including a reagent facility; assay and metallurgical laboratory; process water pond with barge and water pumping system; and fixed plant maintenance shop.

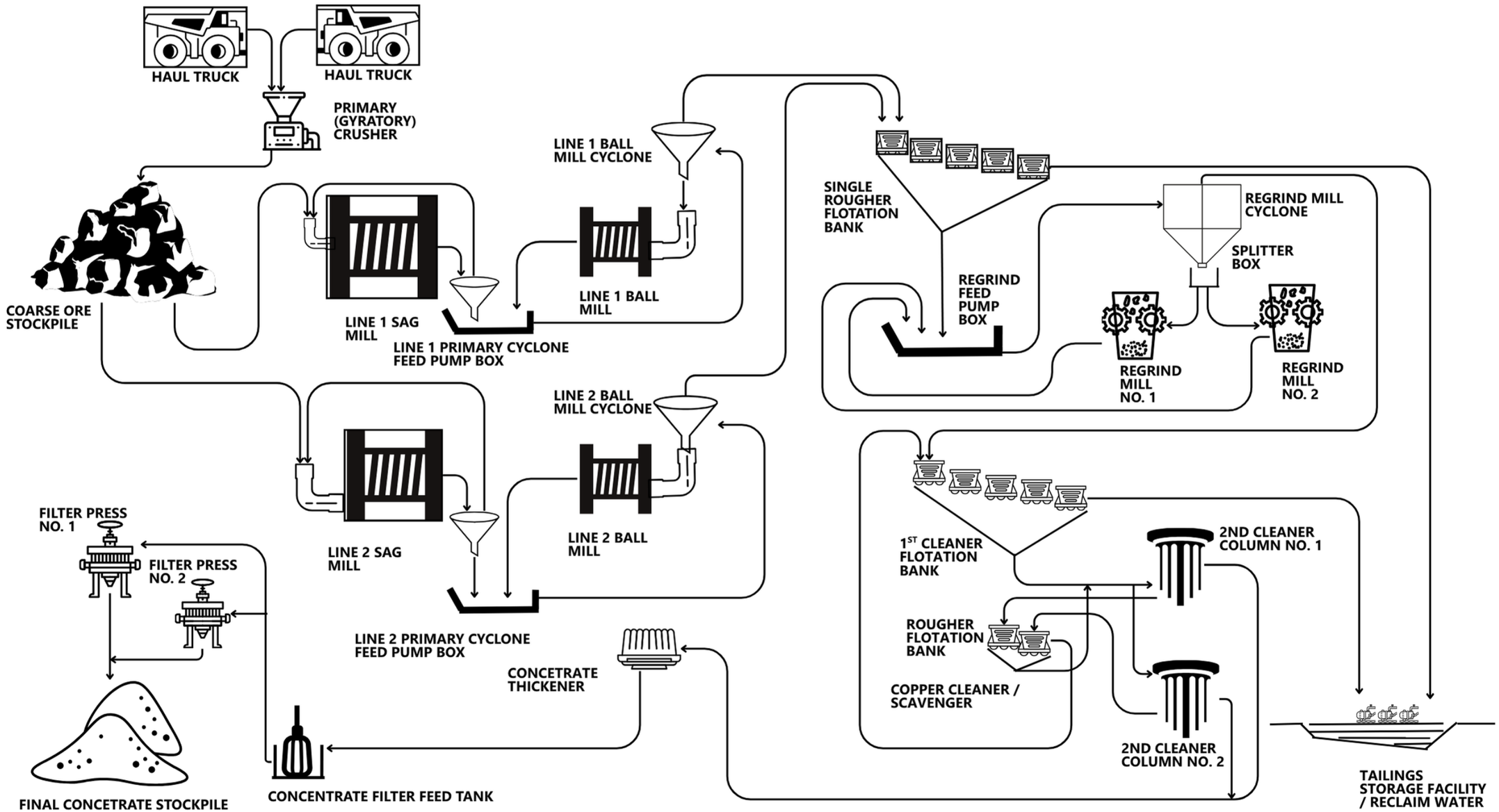
The reagent facility will be located near the main concentrator and designed to include systems for mixing, storing and distributing reagents within the flotation process. Each reagent will have its own bulk handling, mixing, storage, and distribution systems. The reagent facility will have appropriate ventilation, eye-wash stations, safety showers, fire and safety protection equipment.

The assay and metallurgical laboratory will be equipped with analytical instruments to provide routine assays for the mine, processing, and environmental departments. The metallurgical laboratory will be equipped to undertake routine test work to monitor and improve plant performance.

Process water will be distributed to the plant site from a process water pond. Most of the process water will be supplied from water reclaimed from the TSF via a reclaim barge and water pumping system. Some supplementary water from pit dewatering and site collection pond will be pumped to the process water pond. Separate fire water, and process water pumping systems have been designed to draw from the pond as required.

The fixed plant maintenance shop is designed as a pre-engineered structure located on the east side of the concentrator. The maintenance shop will service the concentrator, thickener, and water treatment plant (WTP) buildings.

Figure 4-8: Simplified Process Flow Diagram



4.2.1.3 Overburden and Waste Rock Storage

Storage of overburden, waste rock, and ore materials will be required onsite throughout the life of operations. Storage will be constructed to capture and collect contact water through ditching and drainage into ponds, where water will be pumped to the process water pond for use in processing or overflow to the TSF through spillways and ditches.

Overburden of sufficient quality for use in reclamation will be separated from NAG waste rock and stored near the open pit. Suitable NAG waste rock will be used to construct the initial main embankment of the TSF and used for construction of the TSF north and northwest embankments later in the mine life. NAG waste rock not used for embankment construction will be stored at one of four areas located near the open pit. PAG waste rock will be placed within the TSF.

Once the final pit walls are exposed later in the mine life, PAG and NAG waste rock will also be stored in-pit. Over the life of the project, the mining process will produce approximately 50 Million tonnes (Mt) of overburden waste, 560 Mt of NAG waste rock, and 500 Mt of PAG waste rock.

4.2.1.4 Tailings Storage Facility

The TSF is proposed to be in the valley to the south and downstream of the concentrator at the plant site. The TSF will permanently and securely store approximately 710 Mt of tailings and 470 Mt PAG waste rock, requiring a total storage volume of approximately 780 million cubic metres (m^3).

Tailings produced at the concentrator will be gravity fed to the TSF through a series of pipelines in two streams, a PAG cleaner tailings stream and NAG rougher tailings stream. The NAG rougher tailings will comprise about 95% of the total tailings stream, with the remainder being PAG cleaner tailings. Process water will be reclaimed from the TSF and recycled back to a process water pond at the plant site for reuse. The NAG rougher tailings will be cycloned to produce a coarse underflow material for use in building the TSF main embankment and a finer overflow to create a tailings beach.

The main embankment will initially be constructed as a water retaining starter embankment, using a downstream construction method starting in year -2. The starter embankment will be comprised of a low permeability core zone, filter zone, and a rock filled shell. The starter embankment will capture the water volumes required to startup the concentrator. After year 5, cyclone sand will be used to construct centreline raises on top of the starter embankment to its final height.

Two additional embankments will be constructed in years 12 to 16 to provide additional storage capacity for operations by year 18. The north embankment will be designed as a water retaining downstream constructed embankment that will support tailings deposition along its upstream face. The northwest embankment will be designed as a water retaining centreline constructed embankment armoured with a rockfill upstream face to prevent erosion.

Tailings deposition will involve developing large beaches to keep supernatant water away from the main and north embankments. NAG rougher tailings will be used to build the tailings beach upstream of the main embankment, with development completed by year 5. The pond will be pushed towards the north end of the TSF until year 16, after which NAG rougher tailings will be deposited concurrently at the main and north embankments. The beach upstream of the north embankment will push the pond to the northwest for storage of PAG waste rock. The PAG waste rock and cleaner tailings will be deposited to ensure geochemical stability over time. PAG waste rock deposition will cease after year 20 and be fully covered by end of mine life.

Seepage to groundwater below the TSF will be controlled primarily by the glacial till liner within the TSF. Seepage through and under the main embankment will be minimized with a low permeability core in the starter embankment along with large beaches to keep the supernatant (water that sits on top or on the surface of the tailings, often reused in processing or treated before release) pond far from the main embankment and lower the phreatic surface, which is the interface within the tailings where the voids between particles are fully filled with water below and only partially filled above, in proximity to the embankment. Seepage from the main embankment or abutments will be directed to the seepage pond at the toe of the main embankment. Water reporting to the seepage pond downstream of the main embankment will be pumped back to the TSF through the main embankment seepage pump back system.

North embankment seepage losses will be minimal because of a low permeability core and establishment of a large beach. Seepage losses from the north embankment will be directed to and collected in the seepage pond at the toe of the north embankment and pumped back to the TSF through a pump back system. Seepage losses from the northwest embankment will be minimized by a low permeability core, then directed to and collected in the site water management system and pumped to the process water pond.

4.2.1.5 Explosives Facility

A bulk explosives facility will be located near the southern end of the TSF. Onsite explosives magazines will be located on the north side of the open pit to store explosives accessories. Final site locations will apply appropriate buffer zones to provide protection and safety of onsite infrastructure and personnel.
It is anticipated that the explosives facility will be operated by an explosives supplier.

4.2.1.6 Site Water Management

Site infrastructure is planned to separate contact and non-contact water throughout the life of the mine. Precipitation that falls as contact water will be diverted to the water collection ponds where water will be pumped to the process water pond. The collection ponds will manage sediment through Project construction and operations. Excess water pumped to the process water pond will flow through a spillway and diversion channel to the TSF for storage. The contact water will be used for ore processing. Non-contact water will be discharged to the receiving environment through ditching and piping.

A dewatering system will be in place to manage surface water runoff and groundwater ingress from the open pit. The system will initially remove water from the starter pits and then be expanded as the pit depth increases. Water will be pumped to the process water pond and to the TSF through the concentrator.
At closure, the tailings supernatant pond water will be drained to the open pit through a spillway.
Mine contact water will also be directed to the open pit. Contact water will be treated prior to discharge to the receiving environment

4.2.1.7 Water Treatment in Operations

A standalone WTP, fed by the process water pond, is planned to be used to treat contact water at the Project site during operations. Initial construction of the WTP is proposed to start in year 2, followed by commissioning and operations thereafter. Water quality modeling and assessment, along with future technical studies, will inform the requirements for water quality treatment and design, with considerations for the protect aquatic life. To enable scalability over the life of mine, the WTP is expected to be modular in design. Treated water will be discharged by pipeline to Harper Creek. The selected water treatment technology will meet the appropriate Technology Readiness Level under the Technology Readiness Assessment Interim Technical Guidance (EMLI 2022).

Should the water quality assessment for the Project indicate that treatment will be required beyond end of mine operations, water treatment technologies will be evaluated for the closure and post-closure phases of the Project.

4.2.1.8 Power Supply and Electrical Distribution

Two, 2-megavolt-amperes (MVA) diesel generators will be the primary source of power at the Project site during the construction phase. It is planned that the two generators will remain on standby, located near the substation, to provide emergency power supply during operations.

During operations, power will be supplied to the Project site by a transmission line that interconnects the existing BC Hydro substation at 100 Mile House to a new substation at the Project site. An electrical distribution system from the on-site substation will be put in place to provide power to Project site components, buildings, and equipment. Commissioning of the transmission line is planned to be completed by the start of the operations phase.

4.2.1.9 Other Project Site Components

The gatehouse will be located at the entrance to the plant site and will provide access control of personnel and vehicles, and will house first aid services. A parking lot will be located outside of the gatehouse for suppliers, visitors, and approved Project site personnel. Most Project site personnel will be bused to the site from an employee parking lot located at the rail load-out facility site near Vavenby.

The administration building will be located at the plant site and designed as a 2-storey prefabricated modular building sized to support engineering, environment, operations and administrative personnel. The building will initially serve as the construction team office and be repurposed for operations after construction concludes.

The mine dry building will host two separate changing areas and offices for Project site personnel. The mine dry will be sized to accommodate site mining and milling operations workforce.

The mobile equipment maintenance shop will be a pre-engineered building that includes a haul truck wash bay, four haul truck service bays, eight medium-duty bays, four light duty bays, a light duty wash bay and an adjacent welding tent for truck box repair and rebuilds. The building will also include maintenance shop offices.

The warehouse building is planned to be located to the west of the mobile equipment maintenance shop with associated cold storage laydown area immediately adjacent. The warehouse and cold storage area will be used for the storage of parts and materials for the mining and processing operations.

A diesel fuelling station for mining and support equipment will be located adjacent to the primary crusher platform. A secondary fuelling station for diesel and gasoline will be located by the mobile equipment maintenance shop for ancillary mobile units and fuelling of trucks after maintenance work.

Potable water will be sourced from wells at the plant site and pumped to the potable WTP. The water pumped from the wells will be treated and stored in the potable WTP's storage tank and pumped to distribution points around the plant site.

Water for fire suppression will be sourced from the process water pond. A prefabricated pump station, including electrical pumps and diesel backup pumps, will deliver water to the plant site area buildings in the event of fire emergencies. Dry agent fire suppression will be available in motor control centres and electrical rooms to maintain integrity of electrical infrastructure, should a fire event occur.

Plant site sewage will report to an onsite membrane style biological treatment plant. The sewage plant building will comprise of a series of connected modular shipping container units at a treatment capacity suitable for personnel onsite. Treated water from the sewage digester will be discharged to the TSF, and solid wastes will be transported offsite by a contractor.

4.2.1.10 Construction Camp

A full-service camp to house the construction workforce is planned to be located near the plant site. The camp will house a peak workforce of 540 personnel that will be expected to be onsite during this phase. It will be a single-story prefabricated modular building with services such as dormitories, washrooms, kitchen and dining facilities. The camp design is planned to be self contained with any domestic wastes being transported offsite for disposal The camp will be decommissioned and removed from site once the construction phase is complete or no longer required for the Project.

4.2.2 Offsite Components

4.2.2.1 Primary Access Route and Secondary Access Route

The planned primary access route will be from Highway 5 at the town of Vavenby and then continue for about 20 km along the existing Vavenby Mountain FSR and Avery Jones FSR. The FSRs may require some upgrades to support construction and operations traffic. Upgrade activities may include road widening, alignment improvements and surface reparation. A new 2.5 km road extension from the end of the existing FSRs will be required to reach the main Project site area.

Oversized and heavy loads will use an existing secondary access route during construction and operations. The secondary access route crosses the North Thompson River at the Birch Island Lost Creek Bridge, which has been designed for heavier loads. This route follows the BILCR until it intersects with the FSRs along the primary access route to the Project site. It is anticipated that the secondary access route may require upgrades.

4.2.2.2 Transmission Line Route

Power will be supplied to the Project site by an approximately 110 km long, 230 kV transmission line that is oriented about west to east to interconnect the existing BC Hydro substation at 100 Mile House to a new substation at the Project. It is estimated that the transmission line will have a maximum 40 m right-of-way that could be reduced in areas where the transmission line could parallel existing linear features and/or disturbance areas.

The current routing shown on Figure 4-2 is preliminary and will be refined in consideration of feedback from engagement, field data collection and validation, along with technical studies and related information that will inform the final route selection and design. Generally, the principles followed in defining the route involved selection of the shortest route, parallel to existing linear features or disturbance where possible, while minimizing impacts through environmentally sensitive areas, avoiding terrain constraints (e.g., steep valley slopes, wetlands, waterbodies), and maximizing distances from residences and / or populated areas. Further information on alternatives considered for the routing are provided in Section 4.9.5.2.

4.2.2.3 Rail Load-out Facility and Concentrate Transport

Taseko also owns an 80-ha decommissioned sawmill property at the former Weyerhaeuser site, located 2.5 km west of Vavenby and about 25 km by road from the Project site. The property includes a rail siding, buildings, offices and statutory rights of way associated with past sawmill operations. Development activities at the property will include construction of the rail load-out facility at the rail siding, which would be contained within a building with associated truck ramps and equipment access doors.

The rail load-out facility will include a truck dump area, concentrate storage area and rail car loading area with a railcar scale and crane for handling railcar lids. The extent to which the existing infrastructure will be refurbished, replaced or demolished will be confirmed during subsequent engineering phases. This area will also include a parking area for daily bus pickup of Project site personnel.

Concentrate produced at the mine will be loaded into 40 tonne B-trains using a front-end loader operating within the confines of the concentrate shed at the plant site. Concentrate truck loads will be covered except during loading and unloading.

An average of 24 round trips of concentrate will be made between the Project site and the rail load-out facility per day using the primary access route. The rail load-out facility and transport of concentrate are expected to operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Trailers will tip concentrate into a loading area inside the concentrate shed at the rail load-out facility, after which a front-end loader will load the concentrate into about nine covered rail cars per day. Concentrate will then be transported by rail to the Port of Vancouver or to other North American markets. From the Port of Vancouver, copper concentrate will be shipped to overseas markets.

4.3 Project Phases and Activities

The primary mine development phases are summarized in Figure 4-9, along with planned durations. Key activities associated with each phase are summarized in Table 4-3. Commencement of primary Project development activities would occur following issuance of required Simpcw Process decisions, and EA and permitting decisions by BC and Canada. In development of the detailed schedule, the construction phase will factor migratory bird, fish seasonal timing windows, and sensitive periods for wildlife, should it be required.

Figure 4-9: Summary of Mine Development Phases and Durations

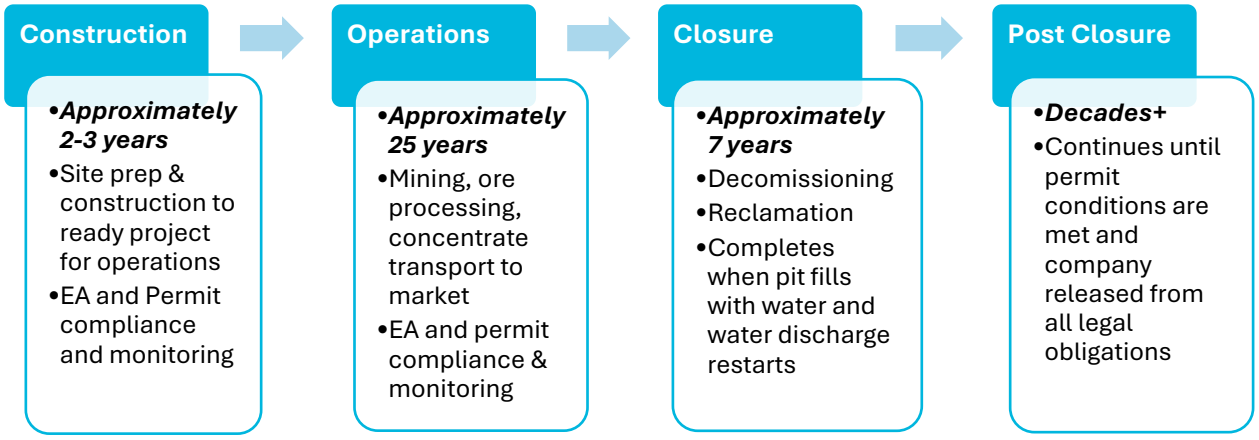


Table 4-3: Primary Project Components and Activities by Mine Development Phase

Project Phase Components and Activities
Construction
• Upgrades to and use of primary access route and secondary access route. • Construction of new road extension to access Project site. • Site clearing and grubbing. • General earthworks, site grading and levelling. • Transport of equipment, supplies, and personnel. • Establishment of haul roads and storage areas. • Excavation and stockpiling of overburden materials. • Initial open pit development, drilling, blasting, loading, and hauling of materials. • Initial TSF starter dam construction, including initial water capture to commission the concentrator. • Construction of foundations, buildings, and supporting infrastructure for Project site components. • Commissioning of major site components including crusher, conveyors, concentrator, and supporting infrastructure. • Operation of diesel generators for power supply until electrical supply available at the Project site. • Transmission line clearing, access development and installation. • Installation and commissioning of substation and electrical distribution system at the Project site. • Drilling and installation of potable water wells. • Construction and commissioning of potable water treatment plant (WTP). • Construction and commissioning of sewage treatment plant. • Installation and operation of the construction camp to house the workforce. • Refurbishment of sawmill property for use as rail load-out facility, personnel parking / bus pickup, and other uses to support the project. • Environmental monitoring and reporting.
Operations
• Transport of equipment, materials and personnel to/from/around the Project site via access and/or haul roads. • Mining of open pit, including drilling, blasting, loading, and hauling of ore, and overburden and waste rock materials to designated areas. • Crushing of ore at the primary crusher and transport by overland conveyor to a coarse ore stockpile at the Plant site. • Construction and use of TSF (see Section 4.2.1.4). • Construction, commissioning, and operation of WTP. • Processing of crushed ore at the concentrator using grinding, flotation, and dewatering circuits, and storage of concentrate for transport. • Operation of site water management system, including the recycle and reuse of contact water during mining and processing. • Construction and operation of the WTP for use during operations phase. • Evaluation of alternative treatment options for closure and post-closure phases should it be required. • PAG cleaner and NAG rougher tailings transported by pipeline to the TSF. • PAG waste rock hauled to TSF for storage.

Project Phase Components and Activities
• Diesel generators on standby to provide emergency power supply, and operate as needed over life of mine. • Decommission and remove the construction workforce camp. • Operate electrical distribution system to supply power to Project site. • Maintenance activities for mine infrastructure and equipment. • Haulage of final concentrate to rail load-out facility. • Operation of the rail load-out facility, loading of concentrate to rail car. • Transport concentrate by rail to Port of Vancouver and/or other North American markets. • Progressive reclamation where feasible over life of mine. • Environmental monitoring, compliance and reporting.
Closure
• Cessation of mineral processing and tailings deposition. • Decommissioning and removal of processing and mine support facilities. • Deactivation of select Project site roads and other supporting infrastructure no longer required for closure and post-closure activities. • Stabilization and revegetation of TSF embankments and beaches. • Recontouring and revegetation overburden and waste rock storage areas, select roads, Project site buildings, and supporting infrastructure sites. • Redirect TSF supernatant pond flow through spillways to open pit. • Direct site-wide contact water to open pit. • Water treatment to be discontinued while open pit filling with water. • Maintenance of WTP and water management structures. • Environmental monitoring, compliance, and reporting.
Post-Closure
• Once open pit has filled with water, if required, restart water treatment until no longer required for discharge to the environment. • Continue TSF supernatant pond flow through the spillway to open pit until TSF water quality allows for direct discharge to the environment. • Continue contact water flow through open pit until water quality allows direct discharge to the environment. • Conduct maintenance and repairs on facilities, infrastructure, and equipment remaining onsite as required. • Decommissioning, recontouring, and revegetation of transmission line and supporting roads once water treatment is no longer required or alternate power source is provided. • Other activities that are required to release compliance and legal obligations related to final closure of the site. • Environmental monitoring and reporting for water quality, reclamation success, and other requirements as defined under permits.

4.4 Workforce

The workforce estimates for the Project by phase are summarized in Table 4-5. It is expected that the region supports a skilled and experienced workforce, with transferable skills from other industries, to support project construction and operations for a range of skilled trades and technical disciplines.

Therefore, personnel hired during the construction and operations phases will be primarily from local and regional communities, with a small proportion from outside the region in BC.

Table 4-4: Estimated Project Workforce by Phase

Project Phase	Duration (years)	Workforce Estimate (jobs)	
		Direct	Indirect and induced
Construction	Approximately 2-3	2,180	1,120
Operations	Approximately 25	590	1,120
Closure	Approximately 7	30	-
Post-Closure	Decades+	1 full-time; 4 part-time	-
Source: BCStats (2020)			

A full-service camp will be established at the Project site to house construction phase personnel. It is expected that operations personnel will live and integrate with local communities.

4.5 Emissions, Discharges and Wastes

4.5.1 Air and Dust Emissions

Air and dust emissions have the potential to be generated during construction and operations. Fugitive dust and particulate matter (PM) (e.g., fine particulate matter with mass median diameter less than 2.5 micrometres in diameter [$PM_{2.5}$] or fine particulate matter with mass median diameter less than 10 micrometres in diameter [PM_{10}]) are expected to be generated through activities at the Project site such as blasting, materials handling, operation of vehicles and equipment, and transport of concentrate.

Particulate air emissions generated from stationary and mobile diesel-powered equipment and gas-powered vehicles will be minimized through a combination of engineering controls, implementation of Best Available Technologies (BAT), and standard operating procedures. Road maintenance and dust suppression will be implemented to minimize fugitive dust at the Project site and during transportation activities to reduce potential for dust generation and impacts on personnel, environment and the local community. Air emissions from combustion sources, in particular PM emissions, are expected to be further reduced over the life of the project through greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction measures and use of electrical power at the Project site.

4.5.2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Canada's Emission Reduction Plan and BC's Clean BC Initiative and *Climate Change Accountability Act* aim to reduce GHG emissions that contribute to climate change. Mining projects such as the Project that have the potential to contribute to more than 10,000 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO_2e) emissions per year are required to develop a plan to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 as part of the Application.

After Taseko acquired the Project, several features were incorporated into the project design to limit the GHG emissions footprint of the Project where possible. These included:

- Proposing electrified stationary and semi-mobile equipment wherever practical including electric rope shovels, electric production drills, and electric pumps for site water management.

- Locating the primary crusher adjacent to the open pit and conveying crushed ore using electric-powered overland conveyors. The alternative would involve hauling ore from the open pit rim to the concentrator using diesel-powered haul trucks.
- Maintaining overburden and WRSAs near the open pit to minimize haul distances with diesel-powered haul trucks.
- Proposing construction of the TSF main embankment using cycloned tailings sand, a material that can be placed hydraulically using gravity flow pipelines from the proposed concentrator location. The alternative would involve hauling large quantities of rock fill from the open pit using diesel-powered haul trucks.

Evaluation of other emission reduction technologies will be explored as the Project advances. An example would be when making final purchase decisions, selecting a haul truck model that is compatible with renewable fuel alternatives and could be retrofitted to future battery electric configurations. Taseko is actively engaging with equipment manufacturers to understand timing for commercialization and availability of alternative technologies to inform future evaluations and decisions related to decarbonization technologies for the mining industry.

Estimates of direct (Scope 1) GHG emissions (diesel and gas consumption) and acquired energy (Scope 2; electric power) for the current Project design have been calculated for construction and operations and include the following emission factors:

- **Direct Emissions:** Diesel, Construction
- **Direct Emissions:** Diesel, Operations
- **Acquired Energy:** Electric Power

Net GHG emissions are anticipated to be highest during construction Year -1 (approximately 300 ktCO_2e). Emissions Intensity is anticipated to be highest in operations Year 1 (1.54 tCO_2e / tonnes per copper equivalent [tCu_{Eq}])

While the tables have been presented in a format that would support calculation of net GHG emissions (Equation 1) for construction and operations, and Emissions Intensity (Equation 2) for operations, as described in the Strategic Assessment of Climate Change (ECCC 2020), direct emissions and acquired energy emissions are the only data available for the IPD. Carbon dioxide (CO_2) captured and stored, avoided domestic GHG emissions, offset credit data, and additional GHG reduction measures are not available at this time. Emission factors used for Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG calculations are provided in Table 4-7.

Equation 1: Net GHG Emissions

Net GHG Emissions =		*Direct GHG emissions*
	+	*Acquired Energy emissions*
	-	*CO_2 captured and stored*
	-	*Avoided domestic GHG emissions*
	-	*Offset Credits (if verifiable)*

Equation 2: Emissions Intensity

$$\textit{Emissions Intensity} = \frac{\textit{Net GHG Emissions}}{\textit{Units Produced}}$$

Table 4-5: Net Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Year -2 to 11 (ktCO2e)* (kilo-tonne carbon dioxide equivalent [ktCO2e])

Phase	Construction		Operations (Year 1 to 11)										
Year	-2	-1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Units	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**
Direct Emissions: Diesel, Construction	218	235	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Direct Emissions: Diesel, Operations	27	65	99	105	97	96	101	97	93	93	93	95	94
Acquired Energy: Electric Power	0	0	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
CO_2 Captured and Stored	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avoided Domestic GHG Emissions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offset credits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net GHG Emissions, by Year	245	300	107	113	105	104	109	105	101	101	101	103	102
Emissions Intensity (tCO_2e / tonnes per copper equivalent [tCu_{Eq}])	-	-	1.54	1.16	0.93	0.88	1.07	1.47	1.41	1.40	1.34	1.34	1.31

Notes:

*$ktCO_2e$ = kilo-tonne carbon dioxide equivalent

CO_2 = carbon dioxide

GHG = Greenhouse gas

tCO_2e = tonne carbon dioxide equivalent

tCu_{Eq} = tonnes per copper equivalent

Emissions estimates have been rounded and reflect information available at the time of Initial Project Description (IPD) submission. Direct emissions include all estimated diesel and gasoline sources from the Project site, and offsite transportation of concentrate to the rail load-out facility. Operations phase emissions include mine operations, concentrator / site services, tailings / water management, and offsite concentrate transportation. Direct, acquired, and associated inputs to calculate net GHG emissions would be refined for the Detailed Project Description (DPD) and Climate Change Assessment for the Application as more information becomes available

Table 4-6: Net GHG Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Year 12 to 25 (ktCO2e)*

Phase	Operations (Year 12 to 25)													
Year	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Units	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**	**$ktCO_2e$**
Direct Emissions: Diesel, Construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Direct Emissions: Diesel, Operations	93	103	109	111	112	110	110	110	110	88	66	61	62	66
Acquired Energy: Electric Power	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
CO_2 Captured and Stored	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Avoided Domestic GHG Emissions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offset credits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net GHG Emissions, by Year	101	111	117	119	120	118	118	118	118	96	74	69	70	74
Emissions Intensity (tCO_2e / tCu_{Eq})	1.28	1.34	1.40	1.43	1.39	1.37	1.41	1.53	1.47	1.12	0.79	0.71	0.75	0.78

Notes:

$ktCO_2e$ = kilo-tonne carbon dioxide equivalent

CO_2 = carbon dioxide

GHG = Greenhouse gas

tCO_2e = tonne carbon dioxide equivalent

tCu_{Eq} = tonnes per copper equivalent

*ktCO2e

Emissions estimates have been rounded and reflect information available at the time of Initial Project Description (IPD) submission. Direct emissions include all estimated diesel sources from the Project site, and offsite transportation of concentrate to the rail load-out facility. Operations phase emissions include mine operations, concentrator / site services, tailings / water management, and offsite concentrate transportation. Direct, acquired, and associated inputs to calculate net GHG emissions would be refined for the Detailed Project Description (DPD) and Climate Change Assessment for the Application as more information becomes available.

Table 4-7: Emissions Factors for Net Greenhouse Gas Calculations

Emission Factor Input	Emission Factor	Units	Source
Diesel, carbon dioxide (CO_2) emission factor	2.663	kilograms per litre (kg/L)	Table 20-2 (Western Climate Initiative 2011)
Diesel, methane (CH_4) emission factor	0.000133	Kg/L	Table 20-2 (Western Climate Initiative 2011)
Diesel, nitrous oxide (N_2O) emission factor	0.0004	Kg/L	Table 20-2 (Western Climate Initiative 2011)
Gasoline, CO_2 emission factor	2.289	Kg/L	Table 20-2 (Western Climate Initiative 2011)
Gasoline, CH_4 emission factor	0.0027	Kg/L	Table 20-2 (Western Climate Initiative 2011)
Gasoline, N_2O emission factor	0.00005	tonne carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO_2e/ gigawatt hours (GWh)	Table 20-2 (Western Climate Initiative 2011)
BC Hydro – Electricity GHG Emission Factor	10.67	-	Table 4 (BC ECCS 2017)
CH_4, Global Warming Potential Factor	25	-	Table 18 (BC ECCS 2017)
N_2O, Global Warming Potential Factor	298	-	Table 18 (BC ECCS 2017)
Notes: Emission factors used to calculate GHG emissions will be updated as required for the DPD and Climate Change Assessment for the Application as more information becomes available.			

Direct emissions include contributions from stationary and mobile diesel and gas-powered sources at the Project site and for offsite transportation of concentrate, including truck transport and rail load-out facility operations. Construction assumes that diesel and gasoline will be the primary source of energy until the transmission line is constructed and commissioned, and electricity to power the site is available. Operations phase emissions include sources from all mine operations, mill and site services, tailings and water management, and offsite transportation of concentrate to the rail load-out facility. Updated emissions estimates, including for those data not currently available will be refined as information becomes available for the DPD, and the GHG and Climate Change Assessment for the Application. Emissions factors used to calculate the emissions estimates will be updated as appropriate.

The total net GHG emissions over the 28-year construction and operations period are estimated at approximately 3,119 kilo-tonnes CO_2 equivalent (kt CO_2e), comprising approximately 545 kt CO_2e during the construction phase and approximately 2,574 kt CO_2e over the 25-year operations phase.

4.5.3 Mine Wastes and Discharges

Mining of ore, overburden and waste, and other activities at the Project site have the potential to cause changes to the flow and quality of surface and groundwater at the Project site. To minimize the potential for impacts from mine contact water discharge to receiving environment waters, contact and non-contact water will be separated according to the site water management plan. Non-contact water will be diverted to the receiving environment for direct discharge.

Contact water will be directed through site water management infrastructure to the process pond for use as process water and/or directed to a WTP for discharge. A single point of discharge following treatment is proposed for the Project. A water management plan will be developed for the Project and detail site water management and water treatment for the Project. Any discharges related to the Project will meet end-of-pipe regulatory requirements and approved water quality discharge limits as defined in relevant permits.

Additional information on site water management and water treatment are provided in Section 4.2.1.6 and Section 4.2.1.1.

4.5.4 Hazardous and Non-Hazardous Wastes

There is the potential for other waste streams to be generated during the construction and operations phases of the Projects. These may include:

- Mining waste materials (e.g., overburden, waste rock) – Sections 4.2.1.3 and 4.2.1.4;
- Material and product wastes generated from construction (e.g., wood, steel, plastics, and other materials generated through site construction);
- Domestic garbage and waste products (e.g., food waste and garbage) from camp operations, administration and plant site buildings, and other activities;
- Domestic grey and black water (e.g., construction camp, administration and plant site buildings);
- Hazardous wastes (e.g., oils, lubricants, fuels, paints, reagents, chemicals, contaminated filters or spill pads, and batteries) used in servicing of fixed plant, mobile equipment and vehicles, operation of the concentrator, and undertaking of other activities at the Project site;
- Contaminated soils due to spills of fuels or other hazardous materials to ground (during construction and operations, or historically at existing rail load-out facility location);
- Waste byproducts generated as part of water treatment (e.g., biosolids or brine; to be confirmed based on future water treatment technology selection); and
- Abandoned buildings, infrastructure and materials left onsite at the existing rail load-out facility location that are unsuitable for reuse or refurbishment to support the Project.

Hazardous, non-hazardous and domestic wastes will be collected and segregated onsite for offsite disposal at appropriately licensed facilities. Recyclable wastes, such as batteries, will be collected for offsite disposal at a licensed facility. Domestic grey and black water will be collected for treatment onsite. A Construction Management Plan and Waste Management Plan for operations will be developed for the Project.
A management plan will be developed to address waste management (e.g., biosolids or brine disposal) for the WTP should it be required.

4.5.5 Noise, Vibration and Light Emissions

There is the potential for noise and vibration emissions to originate from construction and operations activities. Offsite construction activities that may contribute to these types of emissions and affect nearby residences, wildlife and other receptors could include transportation and operation of equipment at the rail load-out facility, along the access roads, and construction of the transmission line. Noise and vibration sources at the Project site during construction and operations may include activities such as drilling and blasting, operation of onsite fixed plant and mobile equipment (e.g., diesel generators, heavy equipment, haul trucks, processing operations, etc.), and vehicle use.

Engineering controls and technologies, along with standard operating procedures, and other mitigations should they be required to minimize effects associated with noise and vibration will be identified in the Application.

Light emissions will be associated primarily with dusk, dawn and nighttime activities in the construction and operations phases. Sources will be primarily from stationary and mobile equipment, lighting installed in key operational areas for personnel health and safety, and vehicle and heavy equipment traffic. Examples of mitigations to minimize or control lighting impacts could involve lighting design and installation, including consideration of direction, height and intensity of lighting depending on the activity and location.

4.6 Public and Environmental Safety

Accidents and malfunctions could occur during the defined phases of the Project. The design, construction, and operation of the Project incorporates safety of personnel, public, and the environment as a core principle. Engineering controls, mitigation measures, and/or appropriate management or emergency response plans will be put in place to minimize the likelihood and consequence of a potential event appropriate to the level of risk relative to a project phase, component or activity.

Examples of types of accidents and malfunctions that could occur include:

- Spills to land or water from reagents, fuels, oils, or waste used and stored onsite;
- Erosion events causing sediment discharges to water or land;
- Contact water seeping from collection ponds, ore stockpiles, or WRSA;
- Contact water or tailings pipeline leakages to water or land;
- Geotechnical failures (TSF Embankments, open pit, WRSA, or overburden stockpiles);
- Intermittent or prolonged power failure causing equipment or systems failures, leaks, spills and / or accidents;
- Project related vehicle accidents at Project site and/or on access road;
- Vehicle – wildlife accidents at Project site and/or on access roads; and
- Unplanned fire or explosion events, for example, electrical fires or brush fires during construction or operations.

Processes and procedures to guide safe and responsible construction and production at the Project, including transport of materials to/from site, will be guided by industry best practices and standards. Communication protocols will be in place that will support Indigenous groups, local governments, and the public in understanding the risks and associated mitigations should an event occur.

It is anticipated that dialogue and engagement with Indigenous groups, local governments, and the public will occur on this topic through early engagement, and continue as part of the Simpcw assessment, EA and subsequent permitting processes.

4.7 Project Design and Siting Constraints/Options

Table 4-8 provides an overview of project design and siting flexibility. Aspects of the project that may be fixed or inflexible have been characterized as constraints. While those that may be flexible, possible options that could be considered are identified.

Table 4-8: Summary of Project Design and Siting Flexibility

Design or Siting Component and Activities	Fixed or Flexible	Other Options for Consideration
Project Site Components and Activities		
Open Pit (deposit) location	Fixed	• Location of deposit is fixed.
Mining method, open pit	Fixed	• Mining method fixed, based on responsible, economic operations for high tonnage, lower grade deposits. • Alternative means information provided in Section 4.9.2.1 and Section 4.9.2.
Concentrator location	Fixed	• Situated in a central site relative to the open pit and TSF within the mine footprint.
Ore processing method	Fixed	• Standard processing method supported by rigorous metallurgical test work.
Tailings storage facility (TSF) location	Fixed	• Alternative means information provided in Section 4.9.2 and Section 4.9.2.
TSF configuration	Flexible	• Alternative means information provided in Section 4.9.2 and Section 4.9.2.
Tailings, and PAG and NAG waste rock management	Flexible	• Alternative means information provided in Section 4.9.2 and Section 4.9.3.
Transport of ore from primary crusher to concentrator	Flexible	• Preferred – overland conveyor. • Alternative options -cdiesel haul truck. • Emerging technologies could be evaluated if other options available.
Waste rock and overburden storage areas	Flexible	• Preferred – close proximity to open pit rim for operational efficiency. • Alternative options – shifting to other locations at the Project site.
Water treatment plant (WTP)	Flexible	• Proposed – WTP, treated water discharge to Harper Creek Alternative options – technology options would be evaluated to select the appropriate technology for the constituents of concern.
Explosives facility	Flexible	• Final location and configuration will confirm safety factors and minimum distances from key project components.
Construction camp	Flexible	• Preferred – located at Project site • Alternative option - rail load-out facility location near Vavenby.
Haul roads	Flexible	• Locations may be modified to minimize haul distances, optimize mining operations.
Primary access route, 2.5 kilometre (km) extension	Fixed	• Location tie-in with existing access road to Project site infrastructure is fixed. Approach into Project site based on location of project components.

Design or Siting Component and Activities	Fixed or Flexible	Other Options for Consideration
Power supply, Project site	Flexible	• Preferred – electrical supply via transmission line, existing power grid. • Alternative options – diesel generators or gas turbine generator(s) (using liquified natural gas).
Transmission line, substation location at Project site	Flexible	• Approach of transmission line into Project site, and substation location under evaluation; there may be some constraints based on other Project site components (e.g., WRSA, plant site water management infrastructure, conveyors, etc.).
Offsite Components		
Primary access route, location	Fixed	• Location fixed as it is an existing road. • Modifications to upgrade road for mine activities still flexible.
Heavy haul road, location	Fixed	• Location fixed as it is an existing road. • Modifications to upgrade road for mine activities still flexible.
Rail load-out facility, location	Fixed	• Location fixed as rail load-out facility location is existing.
Rail load-out facility, components and configuration	Flexible	• Other supporting offsite infrastructure (e.g., parking, bus loop, etc.). • Removal or refurbishment of existing structures.
Transmission line, point of origin	Fixed	• Interconnection of the transmission line with the 100 Mile House substation is fixed based on direction from BC Hydro.
Transmission line, routing	Flexible	• Options to avoid major constraints (e.g., large water bodies, populated areas, steep terrain). • Options to avoid or minimize impacts to sensitive ecosystems, habitats or species. • Approach into Project site and location of substation at Project site.
Note: The information in this table represents our understanding of the Project at submission of the IPD. This could be refined through engagement with Indigenous groups, government and the public.		

4.8 Alternatives to the Project

Ore bodies have a fixed location which requires a proponent to mine the ore body at its location. This influences the choice of mining method and type of supporting infrastructure required. The economics of mining a lower-grade ore deposit like the Project are highly sensitive to mining method, mineral reserve size, cut-off grade and concentrator throughput rate. The basic elements of design for environmental protection and personnel and community health and safety do not change substantially with changes to these factors. Therefore, the only alternatives to the Project are:

- **Alternative 1:** Proceed with the Project.
- **Alternative 2:** Abandon the Project and invest in a Project in another location or jurisdiction.

The performance objective of technical feasibility does not apply to the evaluation of alternatives to the Project because the expected technical performance of all alternatives are equal. The Project will only be built if it is technically feasible to do so.

Prefeasibility level studies undertaken for the Project determined that it is economically viable. Proceeding with the Project is the preferred alternative due to the societal benefits of responsible copper production, job creation, and the payment of local, provincial and Canada-wide expenditures, taxes and royalties. The Project will have a positive socioeconomic impact locally and provincially. The Project will create 2,180 direct and 1,120 indirect and induced jobs over a two-year construction period, and when fully operational will support an estimated 590 direct and 1,120 indirect and induced jobs annually over a 25-year period, along with capital and operating expenditures, ongoing employment revenues and tax payments.

Abandoning the Project to invest in another location or jurisdiction would mean abandoning an ore body that has been shown to be economically viable after many years and millions of dollars of investment in exploration, technical and engineering studies. Abandoning the Project to invest elsewhere would result in a similar set of potential impacts in a different jurisdiction and environmental setting and would transfer all socioeconomic benefits noted above to another location, province or country.

4.9 Alternative Means of Carrying Out the Project

The alternative means of carrying out the project are the different technically and economically feasible ways that the project and its activities could be carried out, along with the environmental and socioeconomic acceptability of those alternatives. Alternatives that were not considered to be technically or economically feasible were not carried forward for further evaluation of environmental and socioeconomic acceptability.

Performance rankings of Preferred, Acceptable, Challenging or Unacceptable were applied to each alternative (Table 4-9). Definitions of each ranking is based on the short-to-medium term effects of each alternative through Construction and Operations phases, and the long-term effects through closure and post-closure phases. An alternative was rejected if it attained an Unacceptable rating for any single performance objective.

Table 4-9: Alternatives Means Assessment Performance Objectives and Ratings

Aspect	Description
Technical Feasibility	
Criteria	• Appropriateness of an alternative from an engineering or operational perspective incorporating aspects of known performance, reliability, safety and operational ease over the life of the Project.
Considerations	• Ability to meet Project design criteria as well as industry and/or regulatory standards and best practices (e.g., proven technology, used elsewhere or new). • Technical feasibility and risks (e.g., constructability, operability, maintainability). • Flexibility with regard to operational and environmental uncertainties. • Potential for increased capacity (e.g., ability to accommodate potential future expansion). • Post-closure risks and uncertainties (e.g., requirements for perpetual treatment or maintenance).

Aspect	Description
Performance	• **Preferred:** Alternative is the most likely to be effective to implement, with the lowest risk, and contingencies (mitigation) in place to address risks. • **Acceptable:** Alternative is likely to be effective to implement, with contingencies to address risks. • **Challenging:** Alternative's effectiveness faces significant barriers to implement, or to reduce risk to acceptable levels, even with contingencies. • **Unacceptable:** Alternative's effectiveness faces unacceptable risk, even with contingencies, or is unfeasible to implement.
Economic Viability	
Criteria	• Project financing • Project economics • Project timelines
Considerations	• Impacts to timing and amount of project capital, operating, closure and post-closure costs or project revenues. • Impacts to Project Net Present Value and Internal Rate of Return. • Impacts to regulatory review and construction timeline related costs (direct and indirect).
Performance	• **Preferred:** Alternative has the lowest cost or facilitates the best project economics. • **Acceptable:** Alternative has reasonable costs or facilitates acceptable project economics. • **Challenging:** Alternative has high costs or may not facilitate acceptable project economics. • **Unacceptable:** Alternative is not economically viable.
Environmental Acceptability	
Criteria	• Overall environmental effects of the Project • Ability to avoid and/or mitigate effects • Amenability to reclamation
Considerations	• Overall affected land footprint size of (e.g., embankments), and access road. • Impacts related to water quality, atmosphere, hydrology, hydrogeology, and storage capacity. • Considerations related to climate change adaptation (e.g., changes in water management or stability of foundations in permafrost). • Effects to potential valued components (e.g., fish and fish habitat, aquatic/terrestrial plants and wildlife and wildlife habitat, species at risk and associated habitats). • Amenability to reclamation (e.g., probability of achieving long-term reclamation goals).
Performance	• **Preferred:** Minimizes adverse effects on the environment without mitigation. • **Acceptable:** Minimizes adverse effects on the environment with mitigation. • **Challenging:** May cause substantial or irreversible adverse effects on the environment that may be difficult to reasonably mitigate. • **Unacceptable:** Likely to cause substantial or irreversible adverse effects on the environment that cannot reasonably be mitigated.

Aspect	Description
Socioeconomic Acceptability	
Criteria	• Positive or negative changes to socio-economic factors.
Considerations	• Overall perceived benefits, consequences, or relative preferences from community members, Indigenous groups, local governments (e.g., contracting opportunities, building community capacity). • Preservation of cultural sites. • Potential effects on Indigenous groups rights and interests. • Maintenance of cultural lifestyle or spiritual well-being. • Aesthetics. • Uses such as recreation, tourism, industrial. • Safety considerations.
Performance	• **Preferred:** Minimizes negative effects on the socio-economic environment without mitigation and provides positive benefits. • **Acceptable:** Minimizes negative effects on the socio-economic environment with mitigation. • **Challenging:** May cause substantial negative effects on the socio-economic environment that may be difficult to reasonably mitigate. • **Unacceptable:** Likely to cause substantial negative socio-economic effects that cannot reasonably be mitigated.

The relative importance of individual performance objectives was also considered. The alternative that received the greatest number of preferred ratings was not necessarily the best or most preferred alternative. One or two performance objectives could be more important and outweigh all other objectives, as long as the minimum rating of Acceptable was attained for the less important performance objective.

This section provides a summary of the alternative means for mining method, TSF, WRSAs, power supply and transmission line routing, Project site access, and employee accommodations.

4.9.1 Mining Method

The two primary methods for recovering ore from hard rock mines are open pit and underground mining. Both methods utilize drilling, blasting and heavy equipment in order to mine ore for subsequent processing, but have different technical and economic considerations.

Open pit mining is the industry standard method for extracting mineral reserves from near surface deposits, in particular for higher tonnage, lower grade copper mines in BC, such as the proposed Project. The ability to utilize underground mining is constrained by technical and economic considerations driven primarily by the physical properties of the deposit.

4.9.1.1 Alternatives

Three mining method alternatives were considered for the Project:

- **Alternative 1:** Open pit mining only
- **Alternative 2:** Underground mining only
- **Alternative 3:** Combination of open pit and underground mining

Open pit mining involves progressively excavating a series of horizontal benches and includes the mining of overburden and waste rock to access the ore below. While less selective, this method leverages economies of scale to achieve higher production rates and lower unit costs than underground mining. Open pit mining is ideal for extraction of higher tonnage, lower-grade deposits that extend from surface.

In comparison, underground mining is generally more selective, resulting in a smaller surface footprint. However, underground mining is typically associated with lower production rates and higher unit costs associated with increased equipment, workforce, ventilation and ground support requirements. Underground mining is ideal for extraction of lower tonnage, higher-grade deposits at depth.

A combination of open pit and underground mining was also considered. However, the deposit is not amenable to underground mining and this combined method would further increase equipment, infrastructure and personnel requirements to sustain operations and increase operational complexity.

4.9.1.2 Evaluation and Preferred Alternative

A summary evaluation of each of the alternatives is provided in Table 4-10.

Table 4-10: Evaluation of Mining Method Alternatives

Mining Method Alternatives	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
	Open Pit	Underground	Open Pit and Underground
Technical feasibility	Higher tonnage, lower grade deposit with a favourable strip ratio and space for waste rock storage.	Ore body is not amenable to underground mining.	Ore body is not amenable to underground mining even in combination with open-pit mining.
	Preferred	**Unacceptable**	**Unacceptable**
Economic Viability	Economies of scale achievable with open pit mining make the Project economically feasible.		
	Preferred	**N/A (not applicable)**	**N/A**

Alternative 1 Open Pit Mining is the only alternative that is technically and economically feasible for the Project. With the higher tonnage lower grade nature of the deposit, only a higher productivity and lower costs alternative would be viable for the Project. Further, Taseko has successfully and economically operated the Gibraltar Mine for decades which has similar deposit characteristics to the Project.

4.9.2 Tailings Storage Facility

A TSF is the proposed tailings management option to securely and safely store tailings and PAG waste rock originating from the Project. In 2015, after the Harper Creek Project EA was put on hold to undertake additional work on tailings alternatives and management, Harper Creek Mining Company conducted a TSF alternatives assessment using multiple accounts analysis (MAA) for the Harper Creek Project EA, with early analyses presented to regulators in 2017 (HCMC 2017). A summary of the Harper Creek Project EA TSF analysis is provided Section 4.9.2.1

Following Taseko's acquisition of the Project, and initial relationship building with Simpcw, the joint Working Group undertook an evaluation of eight TSF alternatives. This work involved identification of potential TSF alternatives, preparation of conceptual level design including drawings, qualitative and quantitative information on each alternative, and development and evaluation of each alternative against a co-developed priority weighting system. The work done by the Working Group was independent and informed by its own process, priorities, and evaluation process for the Project, as summarized in Section 4.9.2.2.

4.9.2.1 Candidate Sites: Harper Creek Project EA

In 2015, after the EAO accepted the Harper Creek Project EA for review, additional information was requested for tailings alternatives and management. The Harper Creek Project EA Application review was put on hold in 2015, while Harper Creek Mining Company conducted a TSF alternatives assessment using a MAA for the Harper Creek Project EA. Early analyses were presented to regulators in 2017 (HCMC 2017) and summarized below.

The TSF alternatives assessment by Harper Creek Mining Company involved an evaluation of the BAT, combined with Best Available Practice (BAP) for each candidate site. BAT are the site-specific combination of technologies and techniques that most effectively reduce the physical, geochemical, ecological, and social risks associated with tailings storage during all stages of operation and closure (EMLI 2024). BAP includes the review of corporate level commitments, and operations focused management and monitoring, to arrive at the preferred candidate sites. The BAT study completed for the Harper Creek Project EA proceeded as follows:

1. BAT candidate sites were identified;
2. Conducted a critical flaw analysis of the candidate sites;
3. Conducted a high-level risk assessment of the sites;
4. Candidate sites were characterized; and
5. Conducted an alternatives assessment of the candidate sites to arrive at the BAT alternative.

The TSF alternatives analysis conducted for the Harper Creek Project EA in 2017 (HCMC 2017) identified eleven candidate sites, with seven sites advanced to high level risk assessment and four sites removed from consideration based on a critical flaw assessment. The critical flaws assessment eliminated TSF alternatives that deposited tailings into the Adams Lake watershed, fish bearing lakes, or into the North Thompson River. Options advanced to high level risk assessment and those that were removed from further consideration are summarized below. The candidate sites considered in the 2017 Harper Creek Mining Company analysis are shown on Figure 4-10.

Candidate sites that advanced to high level risk assessment include:

- T-Creek
- Harper Creek
- Barrier River
- Jones Creek
- Baker Creek
- Upper Reaches of Russel Creek
- Raft River

Candidate sites that were removed from consideration based on critical flaw assessment include:

- North Thompson River
- North Barrier Lake
- Adams Lake
- Fennel Creek

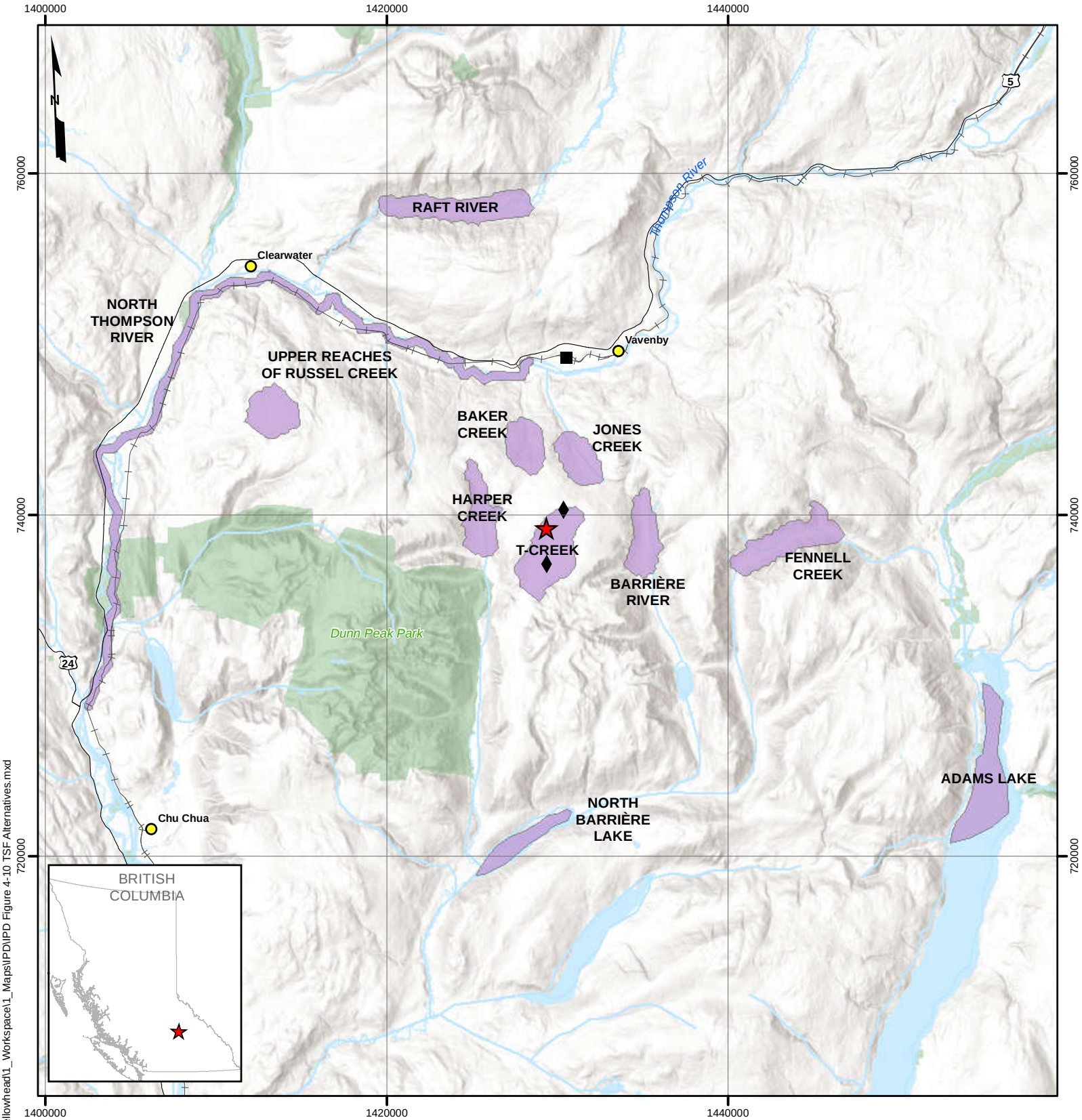
The high-level risk assessment undertaken for the Harper Creek Project EA applied numerical rankings of likelihood and consequence to hazards identified for three factors (safety, watershed, terrain) to evaluate the risk posed by each alternative. The candidate sites on Harper Creek and T-Creek presented consistently lower scores for all three risk criteria and were carried forward by Harper Creek Mining Company on this basis. Several configurations of tailings disposal technology were developed to characterize candidate sites on Harper Creek and T-Creek as described in Figure 4-10.

A definition and scoring scale were developed for each indicator based on physical stability, technical viability, environmental acceptability, socioeconomic acceptability, and project economics in order to conduct the TSF alternatives assessment.

The alternatives assessment undertaken for the Harper Creek Project EA identified Candidate 1 (T-Creek) as the preferred alignment alternative as it is located outside of fish habitat, is in the same catchment as the open pit, has less operational risk compared to tailings filtration, and encapsulates the PAG waste rock ensuring its long-term geochemical stability consistent with EMLI guidelines.

Table 4-11: Summary of Harper Creek Project Environmental Assessment Preferred Tailings Storage Facility Candidate Sites and Configurations

Candidate Sites	Configuration Description
Candidate Site 1: T-Creek	
Candidate Site 1A	Slurry tailings storage on T-Creek with potentially acid generating (PAG) waste rock submerged in the tailings
Candidate Site 1B	Filtered tailings stack on T-Creek with PAG waste rock submerged in a water impoundment below tailings stack
Candidate Site 1C	Filtered tailings stack on T-Creek with PAG waste rock co-disposed within the tailings stack
Candidate Site 2: Harper Creek	
Candidate Site 2A	Slurry tailings storage on Harper Creek with PAG waste rock submerged in the tailings
Candidate Site 2B	Slurry tailings storage on Harper Creek with PAG waste rock stored in an upland dump adjacent to P-Creek
Source: HCMC 2017	



Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- Rail Load-Out
- Simpcw Culturally Significant Site
- Communities
- Alternative Tailing Storage Sites
- Parks & Protected Areas
- Waterbodies
- BC-Alberta Boundary
- Railway
- Highways/Roads

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:300,000

0 3.75 7.5 15 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Harper Creek Project Environmental Assessment - Tailing Storage Facility Alternative Candidate Sites

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 4-10

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\IPD\IPD Figure 4-10 TSF Alternatives.mxd

4.9.2.2 Alternatives: Simpcw-Taseko Project Design Working Group

In 2018, upon announcing an agreement to acquire the Project, Taseko initiated engagement and relationship-building with Simpcw. Through this engagement Taseko learned that the location of the TSF for the Harper Creek Project EA impacted two culturally significant sites of Simpcw. Before agreeing to accept the Project for review, Simpcw required more information to understand what the alternative locations for the TSF were under consideration. This led to the development of the joint Simpcw-Taseko Working Group in early 2022. The purpose of the Working Group, as established through a formal Terms of Reference, included: 'focused engagement around the Project's design with a view to determining whether the Parties can agree to the location of the TSF' for the purpose of submitting the Project to the applicable regulatory processes.

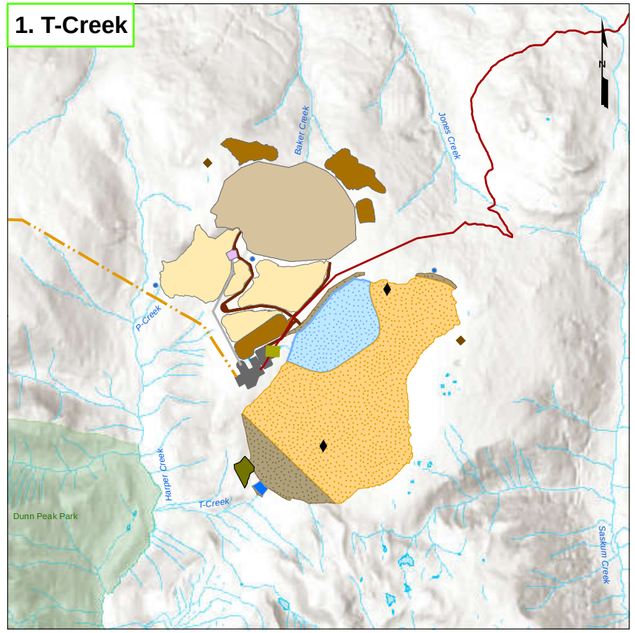
As part of the Working Group process with Simpcw, Taseko prepared conceptual level designs for eight TSF alternatives, which were then presented to the Working Group with supporting details about each one, including drawings and qualitative and quantitative information.

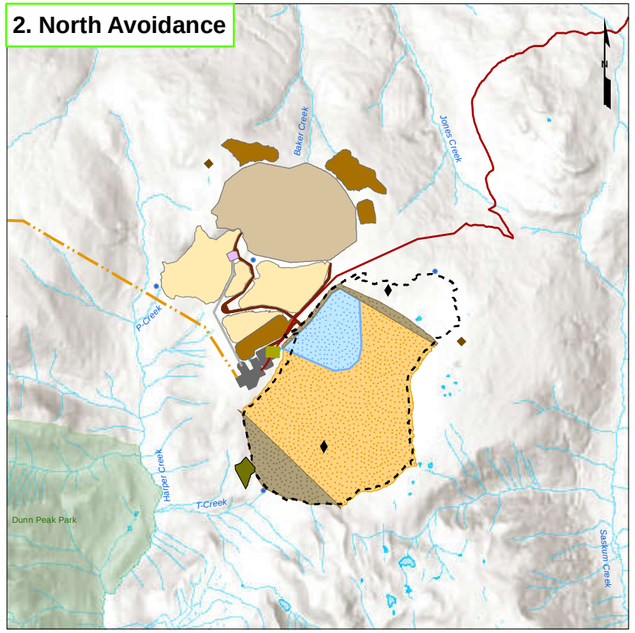
Eight TSF alternatives for the Project were identified and evaluated over the course of the Working Group process (Figure 4-11).

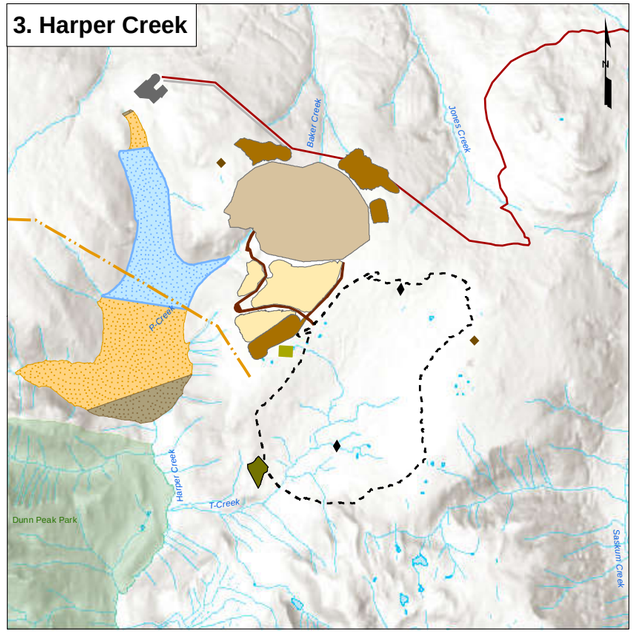
- **Alternative 1:** T-Creek
- **Alternative 2:** T-Creek North Avoidance
- **Alternative 3:** Harper Creek
- **Alternative 4:** T-Creek and Harper Creek Split by Mine Life
- **Alternative 5:** T-Creek and Harper Creek Split by Material
- **Alternative 6:** T-Creek East Expansion
- **Alternative 7:** Saskum Creek
- **Alternative 8:** Saskum Creek and T-Creek Split by Material Type

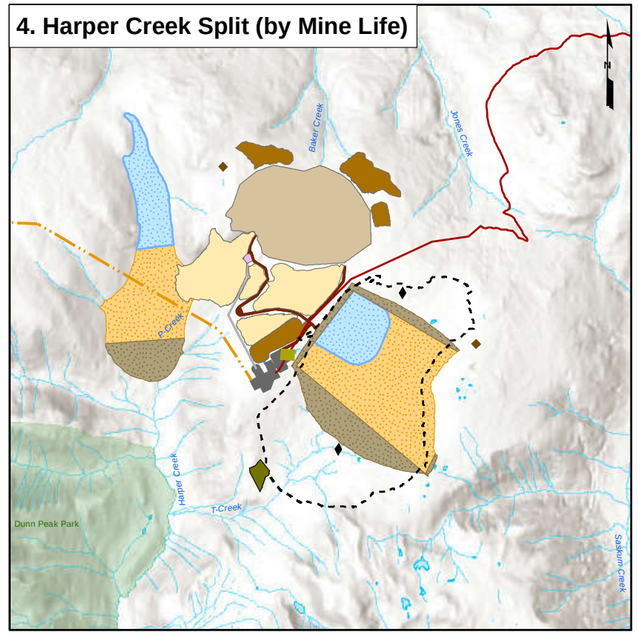
A priority weighting system was developed jointly by Simpcw and Taseko.

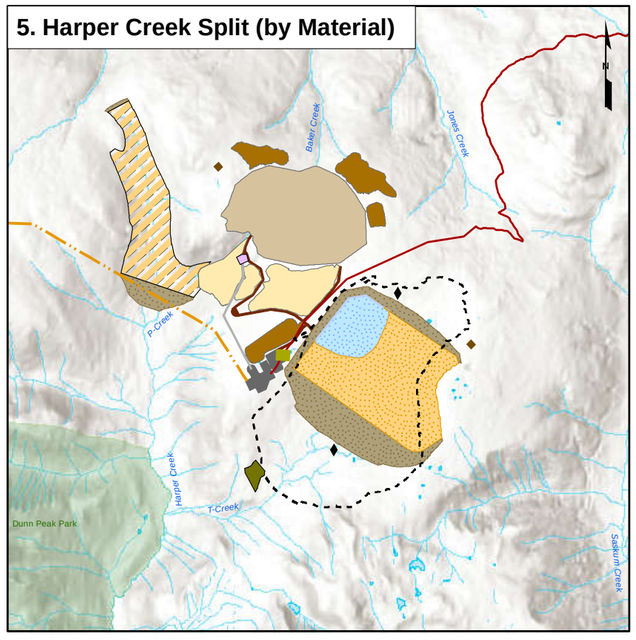
Criteria developed by Simpcw were based on the 'Six Environmental Directives of the Simpcw', which include – Séwllkwe (water), Melámen (medicine) Plants and Fauna, Ckwnémten (Cultural Uses), Wildlife (Tmesmescén, Spyu7), archaeological sites, and Simpcwemc (People of Simpcw). Additionally, criteria that had the potential to impact the viability of the project were developed by Taseko and scored independently from the Simpcw criteria. Over the course of more than a year, workshops were conducted among Working Group members from Simpcw and Taseko.

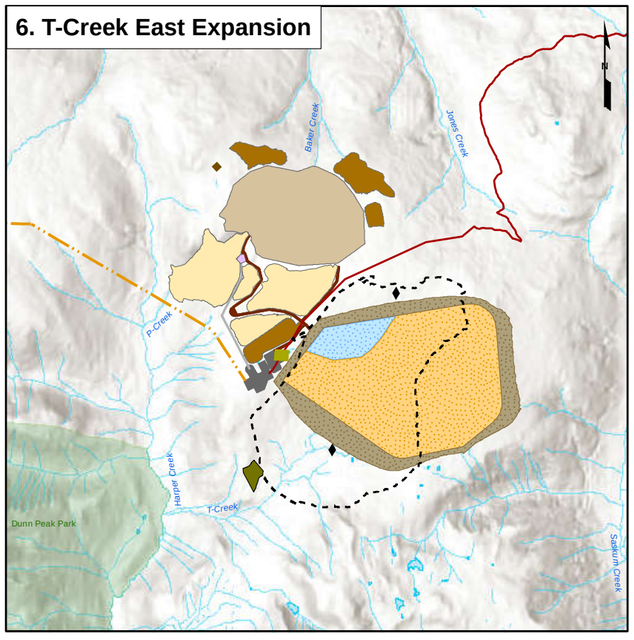


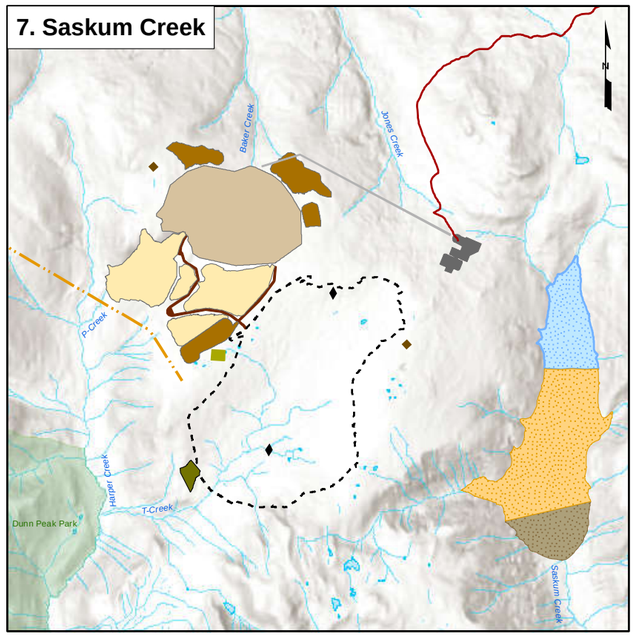


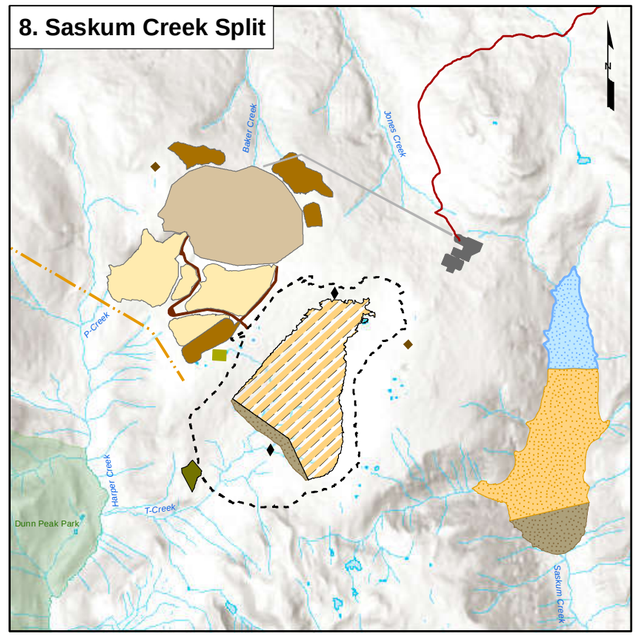












Legend

- Simpcw Culturally Significant Site
- Gatehouse
- Explosives Storage Areas
- TSF Alternative
- Overland Conveyor
- Primary Crusher
- Open Pit
- Overburden Storage Areas
- Embankments
- PAG Waste Rock Storage Areas
- Supernatant Pond
- Beach
- Borrow Area
- Waste Rock Storage Areas
- Plant Site, Shops, and Administration Area
- Haul Roads
- Dunn Peak Park
- Preferred Alternative
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Waterbodies

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

1:110,000
0 1.25 2.5 5 km
Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Taseko Yellowhead

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Tailing Storage Facility Alternatives for the Project as Identified by the Simpcw-Taseko Working Group

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 4-11

Scores from Simpcw highlighted Alternatives 1, 2, and 6 as the lowest ranking (i.e., least impact, least risk). However, Alternative 6 was determined to be not economically viable, by Taseko, due to the high capital cost of the excavation required and the associated construction of the perimeter embankment. This resulted in Alternatives 1 (T-Creek TSF) and 2 (North Avoidance TSF) being the remaining viable alternatives.

In concluding the Working Group process, a joint letter signed by Simpcw and Taseko Working Group representatives presented the following recommendations to their respective leadership on the potential TSF alternatives:

> *"In summary, after applying all criteria, the Working Group identified two potential TSF alternatives that have among the lowest (most favourable) rankings and meet Taseko's project viability criteria. They are, in priority order:*
>
> - ***Alternative 2:*** *North Avoidance TSF*
> - ***Alternative 1:*** *T-Creek TSF"*

For clarity, the Working Group's identification of these TSF alternatives is not intended to connote overall acceptance of the Project by any party. Rather, it signifies only that the TSF locations identified represent the best alternatives from the Working Group's perspective and are "worthy of additional investigation via the BC and Simpcw EA processes."

4.9.2.3 Evaluation and Preferred Alternative

Both TSF alternative strategies identified by the Working Group as "worthy of additional investigation via the BC and Simpcw EA processes" (i.e. Alternative 1: T-Creek TSF and Alternative 2: North Avoidance TSF) would impact two Simpcw culturally significant sites. Both alternatives were technically and economically viable. Alternative 1 was incrementally better in terms of economics, embankment height, water management, and future storage capacity.

Following completion of the Working Group process, Taseko selected Alternative 1: T-Creek as its preferred TSF alternative.

Taseko has had discussions with Simpcw, advising of its selection of Alternative 1: T-Creek as its preferred alternative. Taseko and Simpcw leadership, as well as some community members, toured these sites in August and October 2024.

4.9.3 Waste Rock Storage Areas

Determining the location and method of waste rock storage is a key decision for open pit metal mines. Waste rock has metal concentrations below the cut-off grade and cannot be processed economically.

Waste rock from the open pit will consist of both PAG and NAG waste rock. It is estimated that 1.1 billion t of total waste rock, including approximately 560 Mt of NAG waste rock, approximately 500 Mt of PAG waste rock, and approximately 50 Mt of overburden waste will be removed from the open pit over the life of the Project.

4.9.3.1 Alternative Strategies

In developing the preferred waste rock management strategy for PAG and NAG waste rock, as described above, Taseko reviewed the following four alternative waste rock management strategies:

- **Alternative 1:** Dry storage of PAG and NAG in surface waste rock storage facilities adjacent to the open pit;
- **Alternative 2:** Backfilling of waste rock into the open pit;
- **Alternative 3:** Storage of PAG and NAG waste rock within the TSF;
- **Alternative 4:** Storage of PAG within the TSF and dry storage of NAG waste rock in surface waste rock storage facilities adjacent to the open pit.

4.9.3.2 Evaluation and Preferred Alternative

A summary of the assessment of alternative waste rock management strategies is shown in Table 4-12.

Table 4-12: Waste Rock Management Alternatives Analysis

	Waste Rock Management Alternative Strategies			
	Alternative 1	**Alternative 2**	**Alternative 3**	**Alternative 4**
	Storage of Potentially Acid Generating (PAG) and Non-Acid Generating (NAG) Waste Rock in a Surface Waste Rock Storage Facility (WRSF)	**Backfilling of Waste Rock in Open Pit**	**Storage of PAG and NAG Waste Rock in the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF)**	**Storage of PAG in the TSF and NAG Waste Rock in a Surface WRSF**
Technical feasibility	Not feasible to leave PAG waste rock exposed to air and water since it would over time generate metal leaching and acid rock drainage (ML/ARD). Not considered further.	Not possible to store life-of-mine waste rock in open pit due to active mining.	Would require the development of a larger impoundment volume with higher embankment for co-storage of both PAG and NAG waste rock. This option would require additional material haulage, resulting in higher greenhouse (GHG) emissions.	Operational segregation of PAG and NAG waste rock can be achieved with suitable waste management planning and materials handling procedures. Would require a smaller TSF than Alternative 3. Storage near the open pit reduces truck haul associated GHG emissions.
	Unacceptable	**Unacceptable**	**Acceptable**	**Preferred**

	Waste Rock Management Alternative Strategies			
	Alternative 1	**Alternative 2**	**Alternative 3**	**Alternative 4**
	Storage of Potentially Acid Generating (PAG) and Non-Acid Generating (NAG) Waste Rock in a Surface Waste Rock Storage Facility (WRSF)	**Backfilling of Waste Rock in Open Pit**	**Storage of PAG and NAG Waste Rock in the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF)**	**Storage of PAG in the TSF and NAG Waste Rock in a Surface WRSF**
Economic Viability	This option minimizes the hauling and dam construction costs associated storing waste rock within the TSF. However long-term water treatment would add significant capital and operational costs to the Project. Not considered further.	Economics of storing life-of-mine waste rock in pit were not examined due to technical impracticality.	This option has increased costs associated with hauling NAG waste rock to the TSF and constructing a higher dam for the TSF and cannot be financially supported by the Project.	Operational segregation of PAG and NAG waste rock can be achieved with suitable waste management planning and materials handling procedures. This option minimizes infrastructure costs and can be financially supported by the Project.
	Unacceptable	**N/A**	**Unacceptable**	**Preferred**

The selected waste rock management alternative strategy is storage of PAG waste rock in the TSF and NAG waste rock in upland surface waste rock stockpiles near the open pit. Taseko will implement operational measures to manage the proper segregation and storage of PAG waste rock.

4.9.4 Project Site Access Route

Various routes are available for construction and operational access to the Project. Upgrades to existing FSRs will be required for access to the project site and two route alternatives for operational access were identified and assessed.

An updated traffic impact assessment was used to support the alternatives assessment of the access routes for the Project (McElhanney 2020). The traffic impact assessment had the following objectives:

- To identify potential impacts due to traffic generated by the operation of the Project on the local highway network and local roads in Vavenby;
- To quantify anticipated delays to traffic that could result from the development of the Project;
- To identify opportunities to minimize potential adverse effects, especially in areas that are determined to be possible “bottlenecks” in terms of capacity or risk;
- To perform a haul-route assessment on the road infrastructure from the mine to the rail load-out facility; and

- To identify improvements that could be made to the existing road network to improve performance and safety.

4.9.4.1 Alternative Scenarios

Two routes were assessed as alternatives for operational access to the Project from the rail load-out facility at Vavenby:

- **Alternative 1:** West then south. KP Road, Birch Island Bridge, Birch Island Lost Creek Road, Jones Creek FSR;
- **Alternative 2:** East then south. McCorvie Road, Vavenby Bridge Road, Vavenby Bridge, BILCR, Vavenby Mountain FSR, Saskum Plateau FSR, Vavenby-Saskum FSR, and 2.5 km of new road.

Transport of oversized and heavy loads to site, primarily during the construction phase will access the project site over the Birch Island Bridge and via the BILCR due to load constraints on the Vavenby Bridge. From the BILCR these loads could travel to site via either of the two alternatives described above.

The Project will make use of existing FSRs, paved roads, and bridges in either access route alternative. Starting from the rail load-out facility, there are three segments to the route in order to access the Project site, as listed and described in Table 4-13.

Table 4-13: Project Site Access Route Alternatives and Segment Descriptions

	Access Route Alternatives	
	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
	West then South from the Rail Load-out Facility (Access to West Side of Harper Creek Project)	East then South from the Rail Load-out Facility (Access to East Side of Harper Creek Project)
Leaving the rail load-out facility	From the rail load out facility and heading west: KP Road	From the rail load out facility and heading east: McCorvie Road to Vavenby Bridge Road
Crossing the North Thompson River	Birch Island Bridge	Vavenby Bridge
Immediate access to the Project Site	Immediate access to the project site from BILCR to Jones Creek Forest Service Road (FSR)	Immediate access to the project site from Vavenby Mountain FSR to Saskum Plateau FSR and Vavenby-Saskum FSR

4.9.4.2 Evaluation and Preferred Alternative

A summary of the alternatives assessment for the project site access route alternatives and segments is shown in Table 4-14.

Table 4-14: Project Site Access Route Alternatives Analysis

	Access Route Alternatives	
	Alternative 1	**Alternative 2**
	West then South from the Rail Load-out Facility (Access to West Side of Harper Creek Project)	**East then South from the Rail Load-out Facility (Access to East Side of Harper Creek Project)**
Technical feasibility	While technically feasible for the passage of most traffic, this route would require upgrades. It has on average, a steeper grade with switchbacks making it less desirable as a primary access route to site.	This route is technically feasible. It has on average, a flatter, gentler, grade than the Jones Creek FSR and no switchbacks, but may still require some upgrades.
	Acceptable	**Acceptable**
Economic Viability	• Longest distance (approximately 50 kilometre [km]) to transport copper concentrate from the Project Site to the rail load-out facility, and bussing personnel. • Additional upgrades to Jones Creek/BILCR intersection required. • Higher upgrade, road maintenance and transportation cost makes this alternative unacceptable.	• Shortest distance (approximately 25 km) to transport copper concentrate from the Project Site to the rail load-out facility, and for bussing personnel. • Lower upgrade, road maintenance and transportation cost.
	Unacceptable	**Preferred**

During operations, Alternative 2 is the preferred access route for the Project from Vavenby due to its lower life-of-mine cost. Transport of heavy and oversized loads, primarily during construction will access the Project site via the Birch Island Bridge from Highway 5 and then travel up the remainder of Alternative 2 via Vavenby Mountain FSR to Saskum Plateau FSR and Vavenby-Saskum FSR due to its flatter grades and absence of switchbacks.

4.9.5 Power Supply and Transmission Line Route

The Project will require a reliable source of power (electricity) during its 25-year mine life. Power supply is currently being scoped and designed to support the current load requirements of the base case for the Project as described in this IPD. To supply the Project with a reliable source of electricity, an alternative means analysis was completed for three power supply scenarios.

4.9.5.1 Power Supply

4.9.5.1.1 Alternative Scenarios

Taseko examined a range of power supply alternatives to identify the preferred alternative for the Project. Three alternatives were reviewed as potential power supply options for the Project:

- **Alternative 1:** Long-term use of diesel generators at the Project Site.
- **Alternative 2:** Liquefied natural gas (LNG) trucked to the Project Site as fuel for a gas turbine generator.

- **Alternative 3:** An overhead 230 kV transmission line would interconnect the existing BC Hydro substation to a new substation at the Project site.

4.9.5.1.2 Evaluation and Preferred Alternative

A summary of the alternative power supply assessment for the Project is shown in Table 4-15.

Table 4-15: Project Power Supply Alternative Scenario Analysis

	Project Power Supply Alternative Scenarios		
	Alternative 1	**Alternative 2**	**Alternative 3**
	Long-term Use of Diesel Generators	**LNG Turbine Generator**	**Transmission Line**
Technical feasibility	The power requirements of the Project could be met by diesel generators. However, the volume of diesel fuel to be transported and stored onsite, would result in substantial increases in traffic movement, storage and handling infrastructure and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. This would be unacceptable when lower carbon power sources exist. Road haulage of diesel to site would further contribute to GHG emissions. Not considered further.	There is currently no pipeline supply within 100 kilometres (km) of the site, and an assured supply of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to meet the Project's needs over the life-of-mine is uncertain. While LNG produces one third of the GHG emissions of diesel it would still represent a large quantity given the power requirements of the Project. Road haulage of LNG to site would further contribute to GHG emissions. Not consider further.	An overhead high-voltage electrical transmission line as the primary source of power supply to the Project site is the preferred approach as it is well-established, safe and reliable. This renewable source of clean electricity would enable selection and operation of electric-powered equipment and could support future GHG reduction initiatives.
	Unacceptable	**Unacceptable**	**Acceptable**
Economic Viability	The operating cost to use generators as the primary power source for the Project is unacceptably high. Not considered further.	Sourcing LNG and the costs related to maintaining cryogenic conditions during its storage and handling would be high. Not considered further.	The capital and operating cost associated with interconnection to the BC Hydro grid can be supported financially by the Project. This is the only power alternative to meet both technical and economic criteria and is the selected alternative for the Project.
	Unacceptable	**Unacceptable**	**Acceptable**

- **Alternative 3:** Transmission Line is the only power supply alternative to meet both technical and economic criteria and is the selected alternative for the Project. As the preferred scenario, various transmission line route alternatives were identified and evaluated as described below.

4.9.5.2 Transmission Line Route

A new 230 kV transmission line will be required to support the Project during operations. BC Hydro has identified the 100 Mile House, BC substation as the only viable point of interconnection for the Project. The approximate distance between the 100 Mile House substation and the Project site is about 110 km along an approximately west to east orientation. Alternatives have been scoped for the purposes of identifying a base case routing option and to seek feedback as part of the IPD engagement process prior to selection of the final routing. Discussion on alternatives for the transmission line routing based on the information available at the time the IPD was finalized is provided in the section that follows.

4.9.5.2.1 Alternative Scenarios

Two transmission line route alternatives from 100 Mile House, BC to the Project site were assessed (Figure 4-12). Both alternatives were selected to reduce the overall impact, to the extent practicable, in consideration of the following factors (Valard 2024):

- Shortest route to minimize disturbance.
- Parallels existing linear disturbances.
- Avoids or minimizes length through sensitive environmental features, such critical habitat for species at risk, ALR, OGMAs, and provincial parks.
- Avoids or minimizes terrain constraints, such as steep slopes, wetlands, and waterbodies.
- Maximize the distances between the transmission line and populated areas/residences.

While the two transmission line alternatives are not drastically different in terms of geography (i.e., they generally follow a similar path from west to east), they provide different options for managing potential environmental and socio-economic constraints. Both potential transmission line scenarios involve an overhead crossing of the North Thompson River; the crossing locations were selected based on the ability to span the entirety of the river channel without instream structures:

- **Alternative 1:** (Green Route option): moves west to east; southern crossing of North Thompson River.
- **Alternative 2:** (Purple Route option): moves west to east; northern crossing of North Thomspon River.

In addition to the above transmission line alternatives for crossing the North Thompson River, a Blue Route option (Alternative 2a) was identified as part of the southern crossing of the North Thompson River, which would avoid a deep valley as it travels east to the Project site. A Red Route option (Alternative 2b) was assessed as a potential option that would avoid the deep valley, but would cross more caribou habitat and wetlands, and so it was dropped from further consideration.

4.9.5.2.2 Evaluation and Preferred Alternative

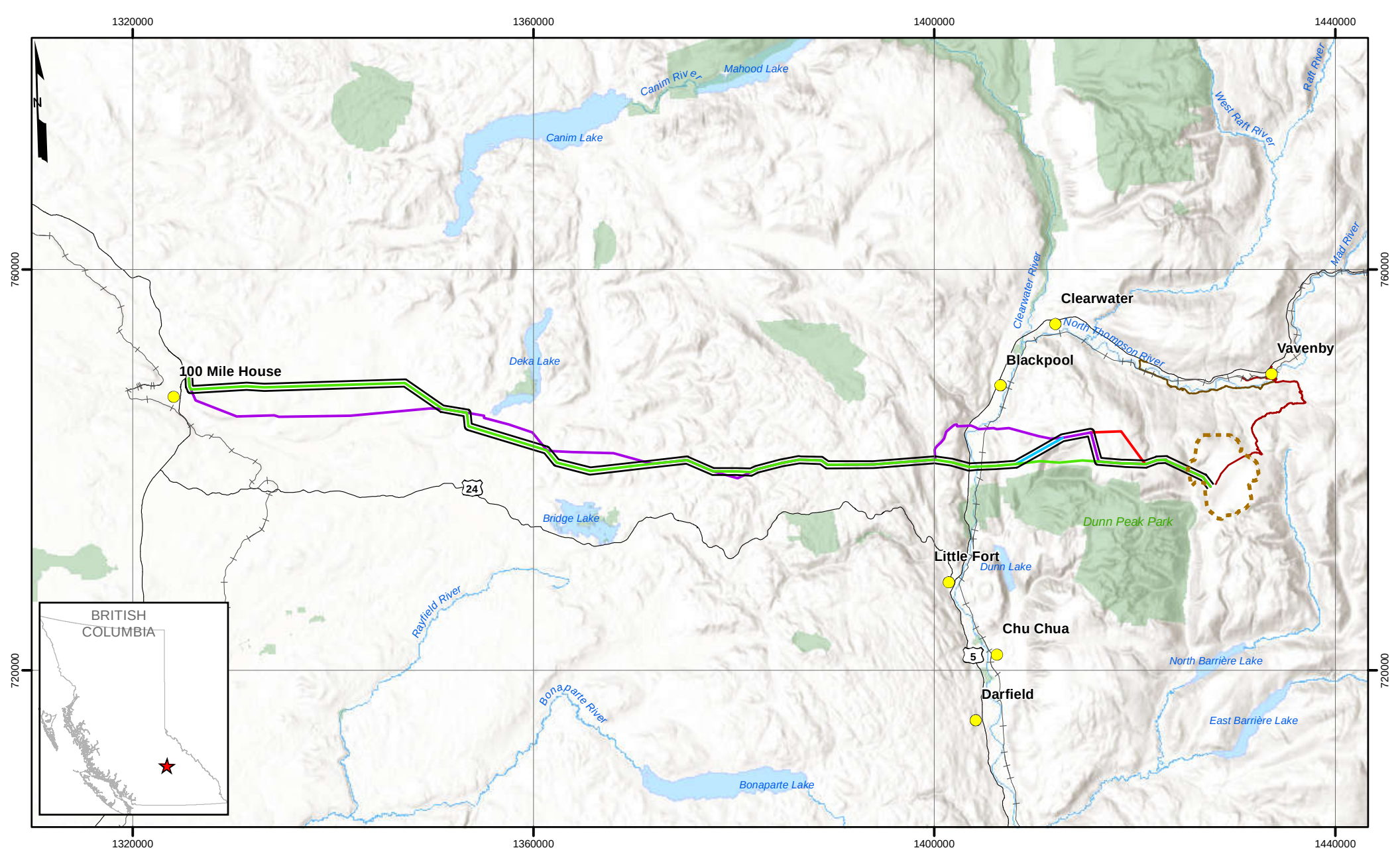
A summary of the assessment for the transmission line route alternatives is shown in Table 4-16.

Table 4-16: Transmission Line Route Alternatives Analysis

	Transmission Line Route Alternatives			
	Alternative 1	**Alternative 2**	**Alternative 2a**	**Alternative 2b**
	Green Route	**Purple Route**	**Blue Route**	**Red Route**
Technical feasibility	Travels west to east from 100 Mile House, BC to the Project site, minimizing disturbance to Old Growth Management Areas (OGMA) and Ungulate Winter Ranges (UWR), and crossing the North Thompson River via the southern option. However, there is a deep valley that would require crossing on the east side of the North Thompson River. Based on engineering constraints, crossing this valley is technically not feasible. Hence, the Green Route is considered partially acceptable up to the east side of the North Thompson River where it meets the deep valley. The remainder of the Green Route was dropped from further analysis.	Travels west to east from 100 Mile House, BC to the Project site, crossing the North Thompson River via the northern option. West of the North Thompson River, this route crosses more OGMAs and UWRs than the Green Route. On the east side of the North Thompson River, this crossing avoids the deep valley associated with the Green Route.	A short section connecting the Green and Purple routes on the east side of the North Thompson River, that would avoid the deep valley associated with the Green Route and southern crossing of the North Thompson River.	Avoids deep valley associated with the southern North Thompson River crossing, but would impact more caribou habitat and cross more identified wetlands. Not considered further.
	Partially Acceptable	**Partially Acceptable**	**Acceptable**	**Unacceptable**
Economic Viability	Crossing the deep valley on the east side of the North Thompson River is not technically viable; the remainder of the Green Route was not considered further. Economically, the west portion of route up to and including the crossing of the North Thompson River is similar to the Purple Route option.	Avoids the deep valley on the east side of the North Thompson River. Economically, the remainder of the route is similar to the Purple Route option.	This option avoids the economic and technical constraints associated with the deep valley on the eastern portion of the Green Route option.	Due to the higher impacts to caribou habitat and wetlands, this option was considered not acceptable and did not proceed through analysis of economic viability.
	Partially Acceptable	**Acceptable**	**Acceptable**	**Unacceptable**

The preferred transmission line route for crossing the North Thompson River is the Green Route from 100 Mile House, BC and across the North Thompson River using the southern crossing. However, crossing the deep valley on the east side of the river is not technically feasible, and as such, the remainder of the Green route was dropped from further consideration.

The preferred transmission line route instead follows the Blue Route alternative in a northeast direction, joining the eastern portion of the Purple Route to the Project site (Valard 2024).



Legend

- Project Footprint
- Communities
- Preferred Option
- Alternative 1 (Green Route Option)
- Alternative 2 (Purple Route Option)
- Alternative 2a (Blue Route Option)
- Alternative 2b (Red Route Option)
- BC Hydro Existing Transmission Line
- Railway
- Primary Access Route
- Secondary Access Route
- Highways/Roads
- Parks & Protected Areas
- Waterbodies

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

1:500,000

0 5 10 20 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Taseko Yellowhead

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Transmission Line Route Alternatives

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 4-12

4.9.6 Employee Accommodations

Project construction will create 2,180 direct and 1,120 indirect and induced jobs over a two-year period, and when fully operational support about 590 direct and 1,120 indirect and induced jobs annually, over a 25-year period. During the construction phase, personnel will be housed in a temporary camp onsite, while operations phase personnel will reside privately within daily commuting distance from the Project. It is understood that the construction of new housing stock is underway in the region and that the Project could be a motivating factor for such development.

4.9.6.1 Alternative Scenarios

To support the approach proposed by Taseko, an evaluation of the onsite and offsite employee accommodation alternatives during both the construction and operations phases of the Project was undertaken.

4.9.6.2 Evaluation and Preferred Alternative

A summary of the assessment of alternative employee accommodation alternatives is shown in Table 4-17.

Table 4-17: Employee Accommodation Alternatives Analysis

	Employee Accommodation Alternatives	
	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
	On-Site	Off-Site
Technical feasibility: Construction Phase	Commercially available construction camp units.	Transportation and logistical constraints could affect efficiencies.
	Preferred	**Acceptable**
Socio-economic Viability: Construction Phase	Acceptable Project cost. Sited away from local communities.	Social impacts arising from siting close to Vavenby.
	Acceptable	**Unacceptable**
Technical feasibility: Operations Phase	Requires development of new housing stock and infrastructure.	Utilized existing housing stock and infrastructure.
	Acceptable	**Preferred**
Socio-economic Viability: Operations Phase	Very high cost for new housing stock No benefits in terms of social integration with local communities.	Minimal project cost and benefits local economy and communities through social integration.
	Unacceptable	**Preferred**

The assessment of employee accommodation alternatives indicates that the onsite temporary construction phase camp is preferable to locating such a camp offsite, for reasons of socio-economic impact. For the operations phase, the offsite alternative of employees maintaining private accommodation within surrounding communities is the preference, for reasons of optimized resource use and efficiency, as well as economic benefits for the community and the Project.

5. Regulatory and Policy Framework

The Project as proposed will have a production capacity of 90,000 t of ore per day, or 32,850,000 t of ore per year. The footprint of the Project is estimated to be approximately 4,000 ha of disturbance. The transmission line, which will be required for the Project, is estimated to be 110 km in length, or approximately 440 ha of disturbance associated with a 40 m right-of-way. There is a small portion of the transmission line that overlaps with the Project site footprint.

The transmission line will be a regional transmission line located solely within BC. The rail load-out facility location is an existing facility that will be refurbished, with no plans for expansion.

5.1 British Columbia *Environmental Assessment Act*

The Project meets criteria for an EA of a proposed metal mine project under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act*, Reviewable Projects Regulation (BC Government 2019). Under the Reviewable Projects Regulation, section 4(1), the project is prescribed as reviewable if the following criteria are met:

- Section 10(1)(a), Table 6, for a new mineral mining project: '(1) a new mine facility that during operations will have a production capacity of ≥ 75,000 tonnes per year of mineral ore', and,
- Section 4(c), a new project that is prescribed as reviewable and includes the clearance of '60 km or more of land this is to be developed for a transmission line [...], if the land is not alongside and contiguous to an area of land previously developed for one of those purposes', or '600 ha or more of land, unless the clearance has been authorized by the minister, or delegate, under the Resort Timber Administration Act.'

There is no trigger under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act* Reviewable Projects Regulation for refurbishment of an existing rail load-out facility or upgrades to the primary and secondary access routes.

5.2 Federal *Impact Assessment Act*

The Project meets thresholds for an Impact Assessment (IA) under the federal *Impact Assessment Act* (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1), Physical Activities Regulations (Government of Canada 2019), for Mines and Metal Mills:

> *"Section 18. The construction, operation, decommissioning and abandonment of the following:*
>
> *(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 tonnes per day or more*
>
> *(d) a new metal mill, other than a uranium mill, with an ore input capacity of 5 000 t/day or more"*

The thresholds for a new metal mine under the *Impact Assessment Act (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1)* Physical Activities Regulations would be met at a production capacity of 90,000 t of ore per day. Although a new transmission line and rail load-out facility will be required for the project, neither meet thresholds under the *Impact Assessment Act (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1)* Physical Activities Regulations.

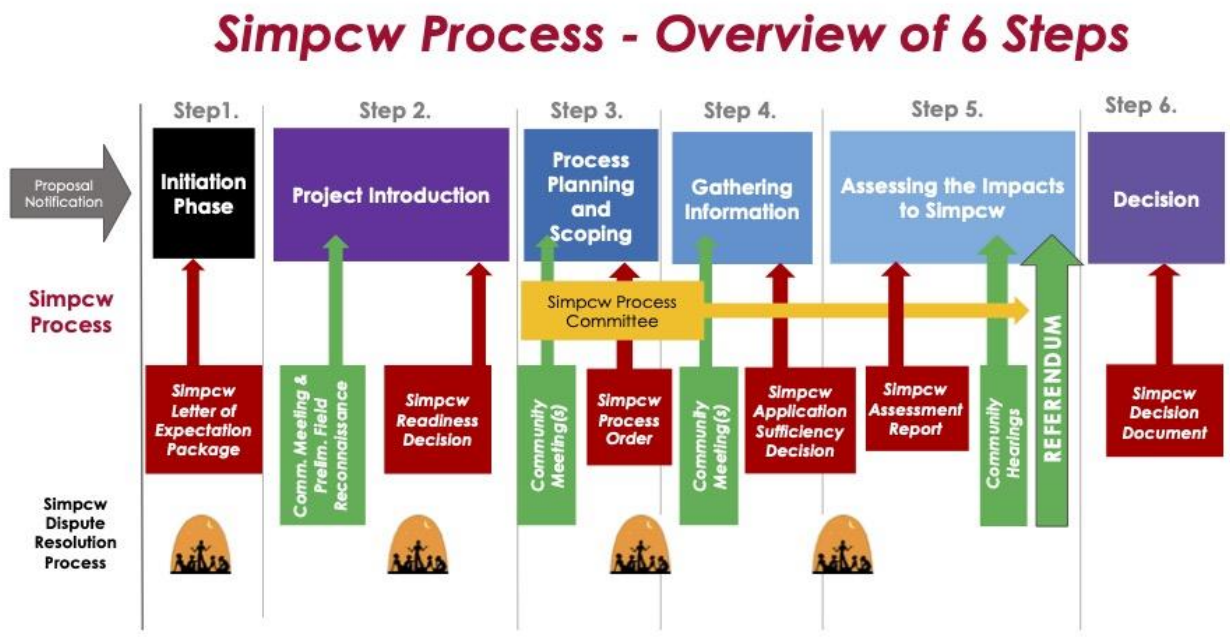
5.3 Substituted Process

Taseko intends to request the BC Government seek agreement from the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canda (ECCC) to a substituted process under the *Impact Assessment Cooperation Agreement between Canada and British Columbia* (Government of Canada 2020). While it is expected that the EAO and IAAC will coordinate the initial phases of their respective processes, substitution would support a more streamlined process while retaining independent decision-making by provincial and federal governments with respect to the Project.

5.4 Simpcw Assessment Process

The Project site and transmission line are primarily situated within Simpcwúlecw. Taseko has been engaging with Simpcw since it announced an agreement to acquire the Project in late 2018. Following the termination of the Harper Creek Project EA, Simpcw concluded that any future proposal to develop the Project would undergo the Simpcw Process. The Simpcw Process is a "six-step review process that establishes protocols for relationship[s], expectations for information collection and sharing, and a structure for decision-making specific to Simpcw" (Figure 5-1; Simpcw 2024).

Figure 5-1: Simpcw Assessment Process, Overview of 6 Steps



The *Simpcw Assessment Process Policy* (Simpcw 2023) describes the Simpcw Process as:

> *"… a consent-based process Simpcw will use to make a decision regarding a Proposed Activity and ensures that project assessments appropriately consider and respect Simpcw Rights, Interests, laws, values, priorities and culture. These Simpcw Rights, values and laws have been passed down from Tqaltkúkwpi7 (Creator) and Simpcw ancestors and continue to be maintained by Símpcwemc." (Simpcw 2023).*

Taseko is currently in Step 2 of the Simpcw Process. Simpcw provided Taseko with a *Letter of Expectations* package in May 2024, which provided notification that the Project would be reviewable under the Simpcw Process and subject to the *Simpcw Assessment Process Policy* (Simpcw 2023). Shortly thereafter, Taseko confirmed its intent to participate in the Simpcw Process led by Simpcw by signing the *Letter of Expectations*.

Under the *Letter of Expectations*, which governs Step 1 to 3, Taseko has agreed to the required engagement guidelines and expectations assigned under the Simpcw Process. Taseko will continue to collaboratively work and engage with Simpcw community and leadership throughout the Simpcw Process, and provincial and federal EA processes.

Collaboration will be conducted at in a manner that is respectful and transparent, and informed by the preferences, values and interests shared by Simpcw through regular and ongoing engagement. Since entering the Simpcw Process, Taseko has completed Step 1 Project Initiation, and has made progress under Step 2 Project Introduction. These steps represent early steps in a multi-year process that will complete in Step 6 with a decision by Simpcw on the Project.

Notwithstanding Simpcw's intent to exercise its decision-making authority within the Simpcw Process, it is possible that Simpcw may also choose to participate in the BC-Canada EA process, and initiate Section 19(4) Indigenous-Led Assessment under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act*. Taseko will take the lead from Simpcw on how they wish to advance the Simpcw Process in parallel with the assessment being undertaken by BC and Canada.

5.5 Permits, Licenses, and Approvals

A comprehensive regulatory approvals process will be undertaken following the assessment process for the Project to enable construction, operation, and eventual closure of the Project. Permitting decisions could only be made following positive decisions under the Simpcw Process and provincial and federal assessment processes.

Table 5-1 and Table 5-2 provide preliminary lists of authorizations that may be required from provincial and federal agencies to allow for the Project to proceed. These may be modified based on further evaluation of the Project scope against regulatory requirements and discussion with government agencies to clarify the permitting requirements for the Project.

The Project is a Critical Mineral project and compatible with relevant provincial government policies.

Table 5-1: Preliminary List of Provincial Authorizations

Legislation	Responsible Authority	Authorization	Purpose
Environmental Assessment Act (2018)	• Minister of Environment and Parks • Administered by Environmental Assessment Office (EAO)	Environmental Assessment Certificate (EAC)	• Review of major projects to assess potential impacts and ensure environmental, economic, and social sustainability goals are met. • EAC must be issued before other permitting and approval decisions can be made.
Mineral Tenure Act (1996)	British Columbia (BC) Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals (MCM)	Mineral Claims	• Mineral tenure required for exploration and resource development. • 94 mineral claims are currently held by Taseko in good standing.
		Mining Lease	• Production tenure required for mining. • Mining lease 1076941 is valid to at least June 2050.
Mines Act (1996)	MCM	Notice of Work	• New or amendment, single or multi-year, to allow for exploration, site investigations and/or development.
		Mines Act Permit	• Major approval to authorize the mine plan, work systems, including construction, operation, and closure activities. • Mines Act Permit also required for construction, operation, and closure of an industrial camp. • Requires compliance with the Health, Safety, Reclamation Code (HSRC) for Mines in BC.
Environmental Management Act (2003)	Ministry of Environment and Parks (ENV)	Waste Discharge Permits (effluent, waste, and air)	• Approve the discharge of effluent, waste management / disposal, and air emissions discharges.
		Registration of hazardous wastes	• Registration may be required under Hazardous Waste Regulations.
		Registration of sewage treatment plant	• Registration may be required under Municipal Wastewater Regulations.
		Registration of fuel storage areas	• Registration may be required under Petroleum Storage and Distribution Facilities Storm Water Regulation.
		Special Waste Generator Permit	• Permit may be required under the Municipal Wastewater Regulation.
Heritage Conservation Act (1996)	Ministry of Forests (FOR)	Section 12 Alteration Permit	• Permit may be required to allow for land-altering activities within an archaeological site to ensure its care.
		Section 14 Inspection Permit	• Permit may be required to determine if there is an archaeological site and to assess how development would impact it.
		Section 14 Investigative Permit	• Permit may be required to allow for more significant excavations to learn about an archaeological site and inform mitigation of impacts.
Forest and Range Practices Act (2002)	FOR	Occupant License to Cut (OLTC)	• Permit would be required to clear 50 cubic metres (m^3) or more of timber for mineral exploration or mining activities on mineral title areas • OLTC would also be required for timber removal associated with upgrades to access roads and transmission line construction
		Road Use Permit (RUP)	• RUP may be required to use and maintain sections of FSRs required for the Project. This may be superseded by a Special Use Permit in Operations.
		Special Use Permit (SUP)	• For upgrade, maintenance and use of Forest Service Road (FSR) used for Project site access and concentrate transport to rail load-out facility location. • Assumes that SUP will supersede RRUP for use of FSR.
Land Act (1996)	FOR	Investigative Use Permit	• Permit may be required to complete site investigation activities on Crown Land for the transmission line.
		License of Occupation	• License of Occupation may be required for construction and operation of the transmission line on Crown Land. • May also be required for construction camp and staging area.
		Statutory Right of Way	• This approval may be required for construction and operation of the transmission line on Crown Land.

Legislation	Responsible Authority	Authorization	Purpose
Water Sustainability Act (2014)	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS)	Water License	• License would be required to divert, use, or store surface water or groundwater for industrial purposes under Section 10.
			• License would be required for watercourse crossings under Section 39.
			• License would be required to make changes in and about a stream under Section 11.
		Registration of groundwater wells	• Groundwater well registration may be required under the Groundwater Protection Regulation.
Drinking Water Protection Act (2001)	ENV	Waterworks Construction Permit	• Permit would be required to construct potable water supply system
		Waterworks System Operations Permit	• Permit would be required to operate potable water supply system
Public Health Act (2008)	Ministry of Health (Regional Health Authority)	Filing of Certification Letter	• Filing required for industrial camps greater than 100 persons under the Sewerage Systems Regulation.
		Onsite Sewage Certification / Permit	• Permit required for a sewage treatment plant under the BC Public Health Act and Environmental Management Act Municipal Wastewater Regulation (see above).
		Food Premises Permit	• Approval to construct and operate a food premises (i.e., onsite catering facilities at the construction camp).
Agricultural Land Commission Act (2002)	Agricultural Land Commission (ALC)	Decision Letter	• Decision letter would be required to remove land from the ALR for construction and operation of the transmission line.
Transportation Act (1985)	Ministry of Transportation and Transit (TranBC)	Works on Right-of-Way Permit	• Permit would be required to authorize primary and secondary access route improvements.
		Access Permit	• Permit may be required to use the secondary access for industrial purposes originating at Highway 5 and Birch Island Lost Creek Road. • This permit may also be required for primary access from Highway 5 at Vavenby along the Forest Service Roads.
		Utility Permit	• Permit may be required to commission and operate the transmission line and supporting infrastructure
Railway Safety Act (2004)	TranBC	Permit	• Permit required to authorize the rail load-out operation
Wildlife Act (1996)	ENV	Wildlife Act Permit	• Permit required to authorize surveys of wildlife and wildlife habitat, wildlife, and fish salvages, including bird nest removal or relocation should it be required and destruction of a beaver or muskrat den or dam should it be required.

Table 5-2: Preliminary List of Federal Authorizations

Legislation	Responsible Authority	Authorization or Approval	Purpose
Impact Assessment Act (2019)	• Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) or cabinet • Administered by Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)	Decision Statement	• To determine if the Project is in the public interest and should receive federal approval; positive decision required before other federal approvals can be issued. This decision will consider the climate change-related information requirements throughout the federal impact assessment process as described in the federal Strategic Environmental Assessment of Climate Change (ECCC 2020).
Fisheries Act (2019) Section 34, 35, and/or 36.	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Authorization	• An authorization under Section 34 may be required if works proposed to be carried out may cause death to fish. • An authorization under Section 35 may be required if works proposed to be carried out may cause harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction to fish habitat (HADD). • An authorization under Section 36 may be required if works proposed to be carried out require deposition of a deleterious substance of any type in water frequented by fish.
Metal and Diamond Mining Effluents Regulation (MDMER) (SOR/2002-222)	ECCC	Mine Effluent Discharge Authorization	• An authorization under Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulation (under the Fisheries Act) (MDMER) may be required if there is a discharge of effluent or mine waste to water frequented by fish in accordance with Schedule 2 of MDMER. • Authorization would set effluent discharge limits, requirements for testing, monitoring, and reporting, in accordance with Schedule 4 of the MDMER.
Migratory Birds Convention Act	ECCC	Authorization	• Required for vegetation clearing or deposit of substance harmful to migratory birds during the nest season (Zone A2: early-April to mid-August; Zone A3: mid-April to mid-August (ECCC 2024).
Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999	ECCC	Response requirements under Section 95(1)	• In the case of an unintended release of toxic substances
Species At Risk Act (SC 2002)	ECCC, DFO, and/or Parks Canada	Permit and/or agreement under Section 73	• A permit or agreement under Section 73 may be required to allow an activity that may affect a wildlife species at risk, part of its critical habitat or a residence of its individuals.
Explosives Act (RSC 1985)	Natural Resources Canada	Explosives Magazine License	• Required for storage, manufacture, transport, and use of explosives at Project site.
Aeronautics Act (RSC 1985) Canadian Aviation Regulation (SOR/96-433)	Transport Canada	Letter of Review	• Transmission line (tower) crossing of the North Thompson River may require authorization under the Aeronautics Act.
Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act (1992)	Transport Canada	Permit	• A permit may be required for the transport, handling, and storage of dangerous goods by road or rail
Radiocommunications Act (RSC 1985)	Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED)	Radio License	• Required to approve radiocommunications system for the Project.
	Major Projects Management Office (MPMO)	Pre-Application project description for review.	• Government of Canada organization to provide overarching project management and accountability for major resource projects in the federal regulatory review process. Applies to projects over $50 Million Capital Cost.

5.6 Federal Matters

The Project is not located on or in proximity to federal lands, nor are federal lands being used for the purposes of the Project. The Project is not expected to result in changes to the environment on federal lands, or in a province other than BC, or outside of Canada. The Project is not expected to result in changes to interprovincial or international waters. No federal financial support is expected to be required for the Project. Under section 95 of the *Impact Assessment Act*, the Project will undergo a Strategic Assessment of Climate Change (ECCC 2021). To Taseko's knowledge, no other strategic assessment or regional assessment are being carried out in proximity or within the Project area.

Federal permits, licenses and/or approvals may be required for the Project. Based on the current understanding of the Project and federal legislation, the preliminary list of federal authorizations is provided in Table 5-2.

5.7 First Nation and Provincial Government Agreements

A Secwépemc Government to Government Letter of Commitment (Qwelminte) on Reconciliation was signed between Simpcw, ALIB, Neskonlith Indian Band, Bonaparte First Nation (Bonaparte), Shuswap Band (Kenpesq't), Skeetchestn Indian Band (Skeetchestn), Splatsin First Nation, and Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc and the BC Government in 2019 to explore processes and mechanisms for consensus-based decision-making and revenue sharing.

Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements are in place between the BC Government and Simpcw, ALIB, Neskonlith Indian Band, Bonaparte, Shuswap Band, Skeetchestn, Splatsin, and Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc. These agreements provide a process for consultation on forest and range resource development operational decisions and revenue sharing.

Shuswap Nation Tribal Council (SNTC) First Nations, comprised of Simpcw, ALIB, SteS (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band), Shuswap Band, Splatsin, Skeetchestn, and Tk'emlups te Secwepemc, are currently engaged with the BC Government in discussions related to land and resource use outside of the BC Treaty Process.

The 2008 Comprehensive Fisheries Agreement, signed by the federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), enables SNTC members to fish for food, social, and ceremonial purposes. The 2008 Comprehensive Fisheries Agreement establishes joint agreement of annual fishing plans and issuance of communal fishing license for SNTC members. It also confirms DFO's prioritization of First Nation fisheries.

Northern Shuswap Tribal Council (NSTC) is comprised of four northern Secwépemc te Qelmucw (NStQ) communities. These include Tsq̓éscen̓ (Canim Lake), Stswēceḿc Xgāt'tem First Nation (Canoe-Dog Creek), Xatśūll Cmetem' (Soda Creek), and T'ēxelc (Williams Lake). NStQ entered the BC treaty process in 1993 and signed a framework agreement in 1997. The treaty process is currently in Stage 5, which seeks to resolve technical and legal issues, followed by treaty signing and formal ratification.

5.8 Regulatory Timelines and Project Milestones

The proposed regulatory timelines and Project milestone schedule is provided in Table 5-3. This is based on the best available information at the time the IPD was submitted to the EAO and IAAC. It also assumes that a substituted process will be agreed to by the ECCC Minister. Taseko will continue to work with Simpcw to fully understand how the provincial and federal assessment processes will align with Simpcw Process. It is expected that the proposed regulatory timelines and project milestone schedule will be updated at appropriate stages in the regulatory process. Further, the permitting strategy for the Project will be defined based on future discussion with the EAO, IAAC and Simpcw.

Table 5-3: Proposed Regulatory Timelines and Project Milestones

Regulatory / Project Activity / Milestones	Proposed Schedule (approximate)
Regulatory Activity/Milestones	
• Pre-Early Engagement	2024/2025
• Early Engagement and Planning	2025
• Readiness Decision / Impact Assessment Decision	2026
• Process Planning (assumes substitution from this point forward)	2026
• Application Development and Review	2026/2027
• EAO-IAAC Review (180-day legislated timeline)	2027
• Revised Application Development	2027/2028
• Effects Assessment and Recommendation (150-day legislated timeline)	2028
• Final Ministers Decisions	2028
• Permitting Decisions	2028
Project Activity/Milestones	
• Site Investigations, Baseline Studies, Technical Studies	Ongoing
• Construction, including site clearing and preparation	Approximately 2–3 years (following issuance of relevant permits and approvals)
• Operations	Approximately 25 years
• Closure	Approximately 7 years
• Post-Closure	Decades +

6. Indigenous Engagement

This section provides a summary of Indigenous groups identified for engagement, engagement and interests identified through early engagement on the Project. The summary provided in this IPD is supplemental to the EP, provided under separate cover. The engagement record for the Project will be updated at relevant stages of the assessment process, including the DPD and the Application.

A distinctions-based approach, which is the preferred approach of the BC Government, is proposed to guide the engagement approach for the Project. As defined by EAO (2023):

> *"A distinctions-based approach (…) means that the scope of rights enjoyed by an Indigenous People is contextual and that the Province's relations and dealings with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit will be conducted in a manner that is appropriate for the specific context, recognizing and respecting the distinct and different rights, laws, legal systems, and systems of governance of each".*

This will be further informed by the potential for impacts to, and on the interests of, Indigenous groups.

To develop the list of Indigenous groups that have the potential to be affected by the Project, including the proposed transmission line, the BC Consultative Areas Database (CAD), federal Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System (ATRIS) and engagement record from the Harper Creek Project EA Application were reviewed. This resulted in:

- The Project is situated primarily within the territory of Simpcw. Simpcw has the highest potential to be affected by the Project site and transmission line. Chu Chua is the closest First Nation community to the Project site.
- Three First Nations were identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project site and transmission line. This included Neskonlith Indian Band, SteS (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band), and ALIB.
- Tsq̓éscen̓ has been identified as having the highest potential to be affected by the transmission line. Canim Lake community is the closest First Nation community to the transmission line.
- Two additional Indigenous groups have been identified for notification on the Project and may require further engagement: Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band (Pellt'iq't) and Stswēceḿc Xgāt'tem First Nation (formerly Canoe-Dog Creek Indian Band).

The transmission line provided in this IPD is for the purposes of engagement and allows for feedback received during early engagement and planning phases to inform the final route selection for assessment. Indigenous groups with the potential to be affected by the transmission line will be confirmed once the final route is selected. Additional key design changes for the Project are associated with TSF design, tailings and water management, and water treatment, that were informed by feedback on the Harper Creek Project EA. The information provided in this section is informed by that work.

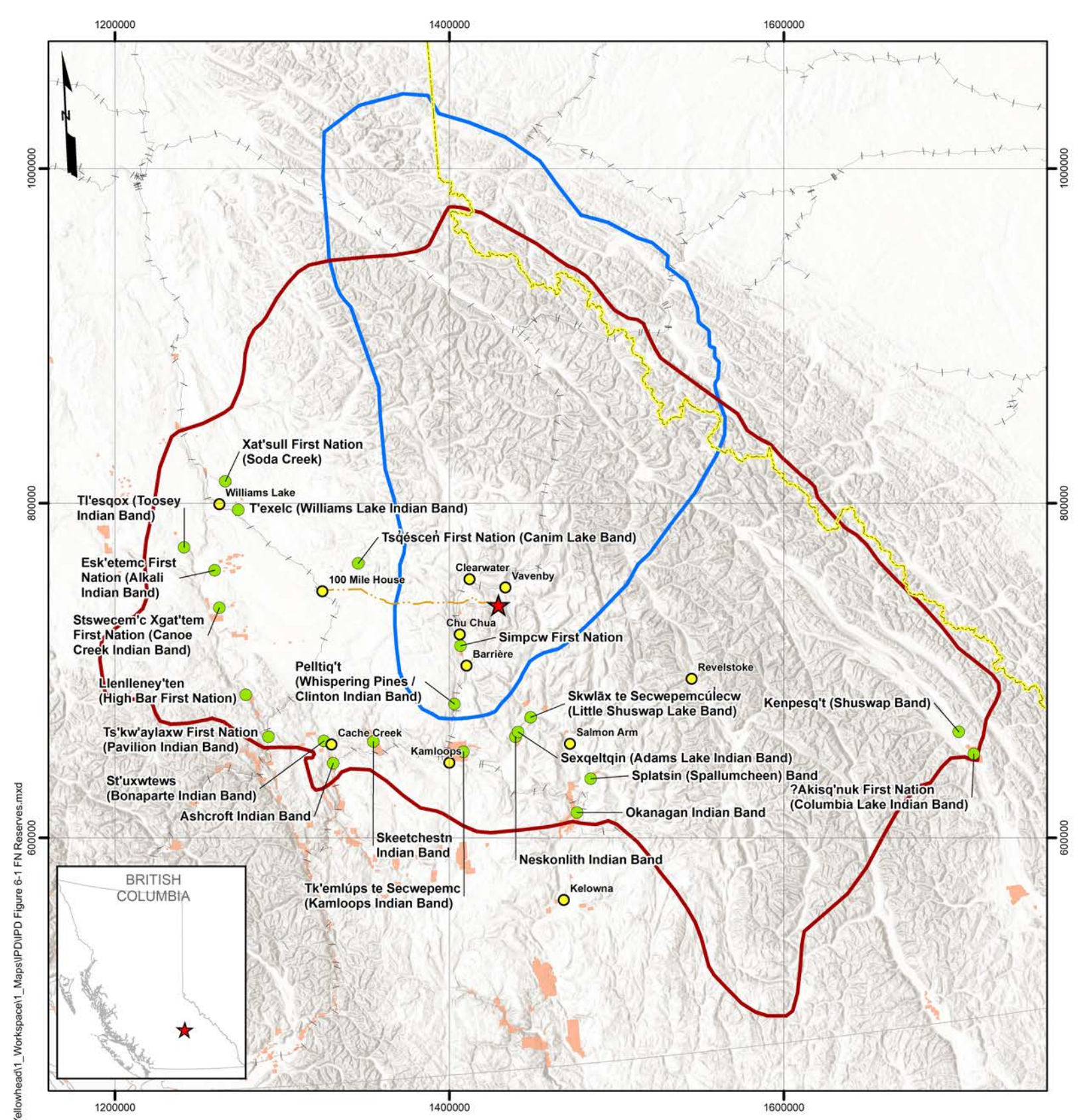
6.1 Identified Indigenous Groups

The Project is located in Secwepemcúlecw (Figure 3-2). The Secwépemc is comprised of 17 campfire areas, with approximately 17,000 members. Secwepemcúlecw stretches from the Columbia River valley along the Rocky Mountains, west to the Fraser River, and south to the Arrow Lakes (Tk̓emlúps te Secwépemc n.d.). The territory encompasses approximately 145,000 km^2 of the central interior of BC. Within Secwepemcúlecw, the Project is located primarily within Simpcwúlecw (Figure 3-2). Locations of First Nation communities and Reserves in proximity to the Project are shown on Figure 6-1.

The Secwépemc campfires are organized into two tribal councils, the SNTC in the south and the NSTC in the north, with some being unaffiliated. Indigenous groups to be engaged on the Project identified as being potentially affected by the Project site and/or transmission line are identified in Table 6-1, along with their tribal council affiliation.

Table 6-2 includes additional First Nations to be notified on the project. These groups were previously involved in the Harper Creek Project EA and are unlikely to be potentially impacted by the Project. Taseko nonetheless intends to notify these groups of its intention to submit the IPD and initiate entry into the provincial and federal EA processes.

There is the potential for the groups in Table 6-2 and additional Indigenous groups to be identified or self-identify as being potentially affected by the Project. This will be explored further through the early engagement phase with Indigenous groups and through discussion with provincial and federal governments. Additional information is provided in the EP, which is a supporting document to this IPD (Appendix C).



Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- First Nation Community
- Communities
- First Nation Reserve
- Secwepemcúlecw (Secwépemc Territory)
- Simpcwúlecw (Simpcw Territory)
- Transmission Line
- BC-Alberta Boundary
- Railway

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:3,000,000

0 37.5 75 150 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

First Nation Communities and Reserves

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 6-1

Document Path: G:_Projects\2011\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\IPD\IPD Figure 6-1 FN Reserves.mxd

Table 6-1: First Nations Potentially Affected by the Project and/or Transmission Line

First Nation	Location	Potentially Affected by the Project	Potentially Affected by the Transmission Line	Tribal Council Affiliation	Rationale for Inclusion
Simpcw First Nation	• Project is located primarily within Simpcwúl̓ecw, the territory of Simpcw (Simpcw). • Chu Chua, the main Simpcw community, is the closest First Nation community to the Project site.	X	X	Shuswap Nation Tribal Council (SNTC)	• Simpcw has the highest potential to be affected by the Project site and the transmission line. • Project is undergoing the Simpcw Process. • Previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project Environmental Assessment Application for a similar project in the same location, as accepted for review by the Environmental Assessment Office and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency in 2015, and as terminated by the Environmental Assessment Office in 2018 due to inactivity on the file (Harper Creek Project EA).
Neskonlith Indian Band	• Neskonlith has three Indian Reserve (IR) lands on the west and south side of the Thompson River and the western boundary of the Salmon Arm, BC.	X	X	SNTC	• Previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA Application.

First Nation	Location	Potentially Affected by the Project	Potentially Affected by the Transmission Line	Tribal Council Affiliation	Rationale for Inclusion
Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw (SteS) (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band)	• SteS traditional territory is in the central interior region of BC, with its main reserve in Chase, BC.	X	X	Unaffiliated	• Previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA Application.
Adams Lake Indian Band (ALIB)	• ALIB has seven reserves, with the main office is located on the Sahhaltkum (Sexqeltquin) IR#4, located on the west side of Little Shuswap Lake, across from the village of Chase, BC.	X		SNTC	• Previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA Application.
Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation (formerly Canim Lake Band)	• Canim Lake community is located northeast of 100 Mile House, BC. • Canim Lake is the closest First Nation community to the transmission Line.		X	NSTC	• Tsq̓éscen has the highest potential to be affected by the transmission line component of the Project.

Table 6-2: Additional Indigenous Groups to be Notified on the Project

First Nation	Location	Rationale for Notification
• Whispering Pines / Clinton Indian Band (Pelltiq’t)	• Campfires located within Secwépemc territory (Secwepemcúl̓ecw). • Communities located distant from the transmission line.	• The transmission line is a key design change from the Harper Creek Project. However, these First Nations are located distant from the transmission line and unlikely to be affected. • Previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA.
• Stswēcemc̓ Xgāt’tem First Nation (formerly Canoe-Dog Creek Indian Band)		

6.2 Simpcw First Nation

The Project is primarily situated in Simpcwúl̓ecw, the territory, campfire, and stewardship area of Simpcw. Simpcw is identified as a key participant for Project.

Simpcwúl̓ecw (Figure 6-2) is described on Simpcw website[1] as:

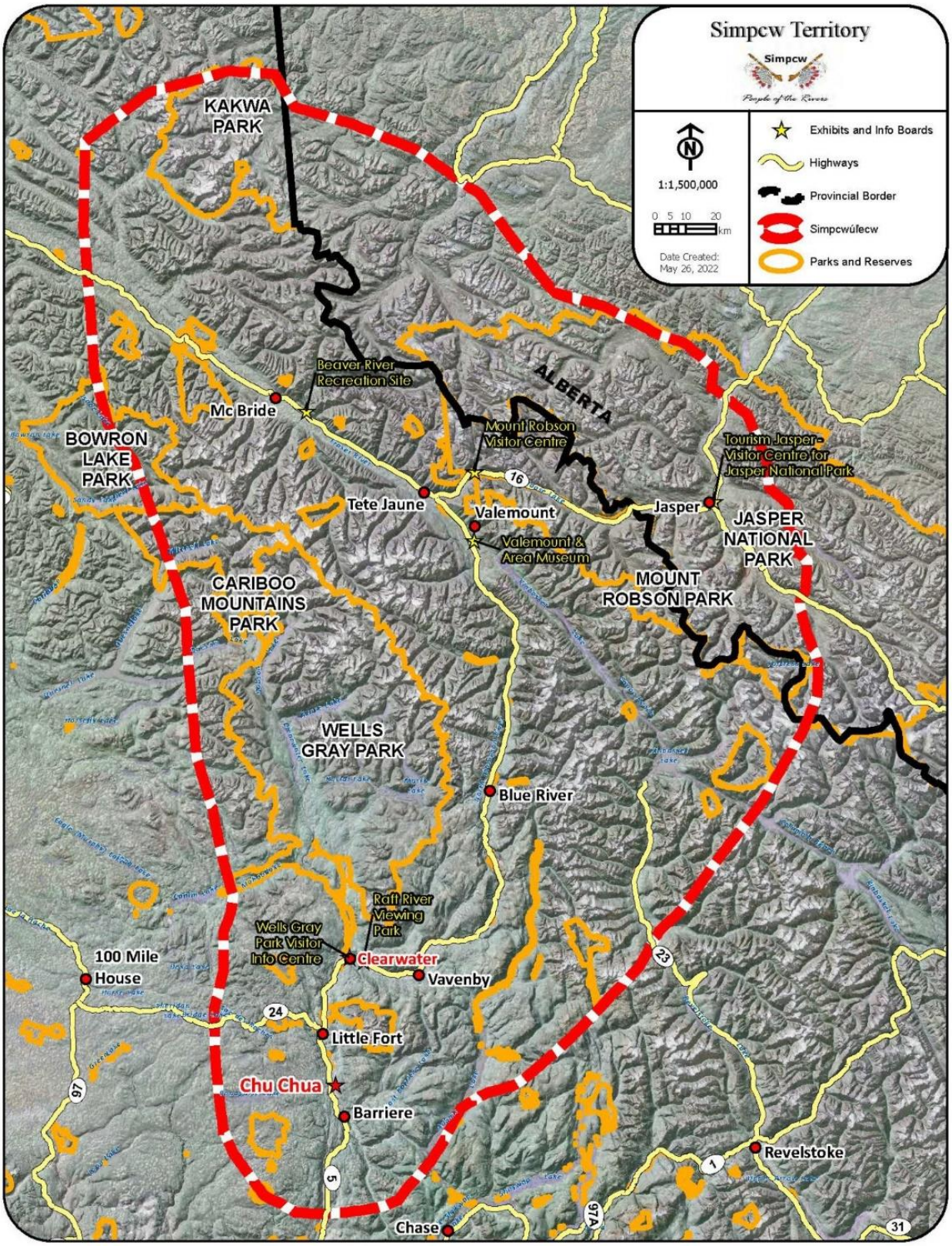
> *"Simpcwúl̓ecw (Simpcw Territory) covers 5,000,000 hectares and extends from south of Mclure, north to Kakwa Park, west of Goat River, and east of Jasper, including the whole of the North Thompson Valley." (Simpcw First Nation n.d.)*

Simpcw is one of the 17 campfires that comprise the Secwe̓pemc Nation. Símpcwemc (Simpcw people) take pride in their guardianship of the territory, honouring both traditions and responsibilities to the land, wildlife, and people that make their home in Simpcwúl̓ecw, and for generations to come. Simpcw has 895 members, with 200 members on reserve and 695 members off reserve. A majority of the in-community members live in the main village of Simpcw, Chu Chua (Simpcw First Nation n.d.). Simpcw is a member of the SNTC.

Taseko has been engaging with Simpcw since 2018. Simpcw confirmed that the Project will undergo the Simpcw Process in May 2024, after which Taseko confirmed its intent to participate. More information on the Simpcw Process is provided in Section 5.3.

[1] Simpcw First Nation website: https://simpcw.com/about-us/

Figure 6-2: Simpcw Territory Map



6.2.1 Agreements

Taseko and Simpcw established a Relationship Framework Agreement in April 2020, to provide a framework for the parties to work together to build mutual understanding, trust, and respect, and to prepare for the future advancement of the Project. The Relationship Framework Agreement also provided capacity funding for Simpcw to engage with Taseko in the pre-EA phase.

In 2022, Taseko and Simpcw initiated the joint Working Group for the purpose of identifying and considering alternative locations and configuration of the Project's proposed TSF. Because the current location of the TSF is anticipated to impact two culturally significant sites, Simpcw required an understanding of the alternatives before agreeing to accept the Project into the Simpcw Process for review. The Working Group Terms of Reference included the provision of capacity funding to participate in engagement undertaken over the course of the Working Group process.

Taseko agreed to submit the Project for review under the Simpcw Process in May 2024 by signing a Letter of Expectations and provided an initial capacity funding payment for Simpcw's administration of the initial stages of the Simpcw Process. Further capacity funding requirements to facilitate subsequent steps in the Simpcw Process are under discussion.

These agreements have informed and supported engagement activities between Simpcw and Taseko through the early engagement steps, and into the initial steps of the Simpcw Process. Until formal agreements (described below) under the Simpcw Process are negotiated and finalized, these agreements will continue to guide activities between Simpcw and Taseko.

Under the Simpcw Process, there are three primary agreements to be negotiated – the Simpcw Process Funding Agreement, a Relationship Negotiation Agreement, and a Relationship Agreement. In May 2025, Taseko and Simpcw signed the Relationship Negotiation Agreement. The Simpcw Process Funding Agreement and Relationship Negotiation Agreement will be negotiated and finalized during the appropriate steps as defined within the Simpcw Process. The Relationship Agreement will only be finalized subject to a positive Simpcw Decision on the Project. Taseko will work to advance the development of these agreements with Simpcw in good faith and in a timely manner.

6.2.2 Summary of Early Engagement

Engagement has been occurring and will continue to be undertaken in a manner that is respectful and transparent, and informed by the preferences, values and interests shared by Simpcw through regular and ongoing engagement. In 2018 Taseko notified Simpcw of its intention to acquire the Project. Since then, engagement with Simpcw has been ongoing at the leadership and staff-levels, and with community members.

An early version of the project description was shared with Simpcw for review and feedback in 2019. At that time it was anticipated that an updated version of the early project description would be available for review in 2020. As engagement progressed with Simpcw, it was recognized that more engagement was needed before the project description could be updated.

Since that time, a collaborative approach has been fostered with Simpcw. Taseko will continue to work with Simpcw to incorporate their contributions and knowledge appropriately into materials and information developed for the Project. Information shared by Simpcw in this pre-early engagement phase has informed the development of the current versions of the IPD and EP.

The joint Simpcw-Taseko Working Group was formed in 2022 to consider TSF alternatives. As part of the Working Group process, Taseko prepared conceptual level designs for eight TSF options, which were then presented to the Working Group with supporting information about each one. A priority weighting system was used to evaluate each of the TSF alternatives, with consideration of Simpcw cultural heritage sites and values, potential environmental and social effects, and technical and economic feasibility. Two TSF options were identified by the Working Group as "worthy of additional investigation via the provincial assessment process and Simpcw Process (Option 1- T-Creek TSF and Option 2 – North Avoidance TSF). Additional information is provided in Section 4.9.2.

A Project site tour with Simpcw Chief and Council was held in August 2024. Broader engagement with Simpcw community members under the Simpcw Process also occurred in 2024, including the Community Site Tour and Community Open House identified under Step 2 of the Simpcw Process.

On October 3, 2024, Taseko participated in a community dinner in Chu Chua and provided an overview of the Project, followed by a question-and-answer session. This was followed by two days of Community Site Tours of the project site with Simpcw community members on October 4 and 5, 2024.

On November 27, 2024, a Simpcw Community Open House was held in Chu Chua, comprised of a of series of poster boards providing an overview of the project, mining and processing methods, environmental approach, employment opportunities, and a map area for open discussion. Each booth had an interactive element aimed to meaningfully engage Simpcw youth, Elders, and adult members. A multi-disciplinary team of Taseko representatives was on hand to engage with community members in a one-on-one format. The schedule was organized to allow for youth and Elders to engage independent of the full community session, depending on their preferences. A community dinner was also hosted ahead of the full community open house in the evening.

Simpcw has reviewed the documents and identified comments as it related to the relationship between Simpcw and Taseko and the application of the Simpcw Assessment Process (Simpcw Process). Simpcw and Taseko collaborated on Simpcw's comments and incorporated changes to the satisfaction of both parties. As such, Simpcw has accepted this document as an appropriate project description to proceed with the SAP and supports this IPD being submitted to BC. The final IPD and EP were then submitted to EAO and IAAC to start the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal assessment processes.

A summary of engagements with Simpcw based on Taseko's engagement record are provided in the EP.

6.2.3 Summary of Interests

Through these engagements, Simpcw has shared its priorities, interests, and concerns related to the Project design, potential effects, project benefits, and the assessment processes, to the extent such information is available/known at this time. Taseko has provided responses where possible to inform the engagement approach and the assessment process for the Project. Taseko will work with Simpcw to respond to key interests, including initially through the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal assessment processes. Taseko will continue to work with Simpcw on issues and concerns raised through defined phases of the Project, along with collaboratively developing measures to meaningfully address those concerns.

Key interests and concerns raised through initial engagements to date include:

- Simpcw's obligation to protect and steward Simpcwúl̓ecw and its resources, and Simpcw's right to make decisions about land uses within their territory.
- Taseko's approach to considering youth, adult, and Elder perspectives on the Project.

- Interest in project reclamation plans and opportunities including being involved in fish habitat restoration; there are capabilities in Simpcw community for nurseries.
- Employment, education, and contracting opportunities, and economic benefits and opportunities for current and future Simpcw generations.
- Project design, specifically for the TSF, including response and remediation in the event of a TSF failure.
- Potential project impacts to water courses, water quality, fish and fish habitat, including in the North Thompson River and Adams Lake watershed.
- Potential project impacts to and protection of cultural heritage sites, values, and land use.
- Potential project impacts to cultural foods.
- Potential project impacts to and access for cultural land uses such as hunting, fishing, and gathering, including historical traplines.
- Potential project impacts to vegetation including historic and current berry gathering sites and loss of medicinal plants within and around the Project area.
- Potential project impacts to human health (e.g., air quality, water, etc.).
- Potential project impacts to ungulates (i.e., elk, caribou), and other wildlife.
- Potential downstream and cumulative impacts.

Taseko will continue to work with Simpcw and proceed through the Simpcw Process to address concerns identified, and where necessary, collaborate with Simpcw through the provincial and federal EA processes.

6.3 Neskonlith Indian Band

The Neskonlith Indian Band has been identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project and the transmission line route. The Neskonlith Indian Band was previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA.

The Neskonlith Indian Band is a member of the Lakes Division bands of the Secwépemc and a member of the SNTC. The Neskonlith Indian Band has three reserve lands on the west and south side of the Thompson River and the western boundary of Salmon Arm, BC.

6.3.1 Summary of Engagement

Engagement with the Neskonlith Indian Band on the Project commenced in February 2019, following Taseko acquiring sole interest in YMI, to share sections of an early draft of sections of the IPD for review and comment. This was followed by communications in September 2020 of Taseko's intent to share an updated draft of the IPD and to understand how the Neskonlith Indian Band would like to be engaged. Communications in 2020 were periodic and related to engagement on the Project and notification on a Notice of Work application. In April 2022, the Neskonlith Indian Band contacted Taseko to provide a Consultation Application form, which was required prior to activities being undertaken in their territory.

Reinitiation of contact with the Neskonlith Indian Band took place in December 2024, following an introduction from Simpcw's Kúkwpi7 (Simpcw First Nation Chief). Taseko then requested a meeting to discuss engagement on the Project, with a follow-up in January 2025. Preliminary discussion involved an introduction to the Project, engagement with the Neskonlith Indian Band, and potential presentation to

Chief and Council. The Neskonlith Indian Band provided an initial list of interests and potential concerns related to the Project in January 2025. Taseko provided information on Project location, as requested in the initial meeting. An in-person presentation of Project updates was held in April 2025. Sections of the IPD and EP relating to Neskonlith Indian Band were shared in April 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC.

A summary of engagements with Neskonlith based on Taseko's engagement record are provided in the EP.

6.3.2 Agreements

No project-related agreements are in place with the Neskonlith Indian Band prior to initiation of the early engagement phase of the EA process.

6.3.3 Summary of Interests

Engagement with the Neskonlith Indian Band in 2025 is in progress. Information on Neskonlith's interests and concerns will be shared in future submissions of the DPD and Application.

Taseko proposes to continue to engage with Neskonlith to develop a shared understanding of how they would like to be engaged on the Project, with an initial focus on participation in the early engagement phase, interests and concerns, and capacity funding to support their participation in the process.

6.4 Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw

SteS (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band) has been identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project and the transmission line. SteS was previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA.

SteS is a member of the Lakes Division bands of the Secwépemc. SteS is unaffiliated with the tribal councils in Secwépemc territory. SteS traditional territory is in the central interior region of BC, with its main reserve in Chase, BC (BC Assembly of First Nations 2025).

6.4.1 Summary of Engagement

Engagement with the SteS regarding the Project commenced in February 2019, following Taseko acquiring sole interest in YMI, to share an early draft of the IPD for review and comment. This was followed by communications in September 2020 of Taseko's intent to share an updated draft of the IPD and to understand how the SteS would like to be engaged. Communications in 2020 were periodic and related to engagement on the Project and notification on a Notice of Work application. In April 2021, the SteS contacted Taseko requesting a Project update; Taseko indicated that progress remained the same to updates provided in 2020.

SteS provided an initial list of interests and potential concerns related to the Project in March 2025. A meeting to reintroduce the Project was held in April 2025. Sections of the IPD and EP relating to SteS were shared in April 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC.

A summary of engagements with SteS based on Taseko's engagement record are provided in the EP.

6.4.2 Agreements

No project-related agreements are in place with SteS prior to initiation of the early engagement phase of the EA process.

6.4.3 Summary of Interests

Engagement with SteS in 2025 is in progress. Information on SteS's interests and concerns will be shared in future submissions, including the DPD and Application.

Taseko proposes to continue to engage with SteS to develop a shared understanding of how they would like to be engaged on the Project, with an initial focus on participation in the early engagement phase, interests and concerns, and capacity funding to support their participation in the process.

6.5 Adams Lake Indian Band

The ALIB has been identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project. ALIB may also be potentially affected by the transmission line. This would be confirmed through engagement with ALIB on finalization of the transmission line alignment. ALIB was previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA.

ALIB is a member of the Lakes Division bands of the Secwépemc and a member of the SNTC. The traditional territory of ALIB includes seven reserves located on the south and west side of Adams Lake, and within the Municipality and City of Salmon Arm. The main office is located on Sahhaltkum (Sexqeltqin) Reserve #4, located on the western side of Little Shuswap Lake, across from the Village of Chase, BC (ALIB n.d.).

6.5.1 Summary of Engagement

Engagement with the ALIB regarding the Project commenced in February 2019, following Taseko acquiring sole interest in YMI, to share sections of an early draft of the IPD for review and comment. This was followed by communications in September 2020 of Taseko's intent to share an updated draft of the IPD and to understand how the ALIB would like to be engaged. Communications from 2020 to 2021 were periodic, and related to engagement on the Project, notification on a Notice of Work application, and ALIB expectations for engagement and process for participation in the EA process.

Reinitiation of contact with ALIB occurred in December 2024, following an introduction from Simpcw's Kúkwpi7. Taseko then requested a meeting to discuss engagement on the Project. An initial meeting was held in January 2025 to provide an overview of the Project, and to understand ALIB preliminary concerns and how they would like to be engaged. ALIB advised that they would like to be fully engaged on the Project.

The ALIB provided an initial list of interests and potential concerns in January 2025 and a meeting was held to reintroduce the Project in April 2025. Sections of the IPD and EP related to ALIB were shared in April 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC.

A summary of engagements with ALIB based on Taseko's engagement record are provided in the EP.

6.5.2 Agreements

No project-related agreements are in place with ALIB prior to initiation of the early engagement phase of the EA process.

6.5.3 Summary of Interests

Interests and concerns raised during the initial conversation in 2025 included:

- Tailings storage facility
- Potential for downstream impacts on Douglas Reserve waterbodies

- Capacity funding for participation in the EA process
- Low engagement activity with Taseko to date

Taseko plans to engage with ALIB to develop a shared understanding of how they would like to be engaged on the Project, with an initial focus on participation in the early engagement phase, interests and concerns, and capacity funding to support their participation in the process.

6.6 Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation (Formerly Canim Lake Band)

The Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation (formerly Canim Lake Band) has been identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project. Canim Lake is the closest First Nation community to the transmission line, and has the highest potential to be affected by the transmission line.

The Tsq̓éscen̓ is part of the Lakes Division bands of the Secwépemc. The main village and administration buildings are situated in the South Cariboo, approximately 30 km east of 100 Mile House. The Tsq̓éscen̓ joined three other northern Secwépemc nations to form the NStQ.

6.6.1 Summary of Engagement

Engagement with the Tsq̓éscen̓ is planned to commence in June 2025 with a meeting to introduce Taseko and the Project. The meeting is being facilitated through an introduction from Simpcw's Kúkwpi7. As engagement has not commenced, no issues nor feedback have been provided by the Tsq̓éscen̓ at the time of writing.

6.6.2 Agreements

No project-related agreements are in place with the Tsq̓éscen̓ prior to initiation of the early engagement phase of the EA process.

6.6.3 Summary of Interests

As engagement has not commenced, no issues nor feedback have been provided by the Tsq̓éscen̓ at the time of writing.

6.7 Additional Indigenous Groups to be Notified on the Project

Two additional Indigenous groups have been identified for notification on the Project and may require further engagement. The Indigenous groups in this category were previously engaged on the former Harper Creek Project EA. Indigenous groups that may be potentially affected by the transmission line, but are located distant from this Project component: Whispering Pines / Clinton Indian Band (Pelltiq't) and Stswēceḿc Xgāt'tem First Nation (formerly Canoe-Dog Creek Indian Band).

There is the potential for other Indigenous groups to self-identify as being potentially affected by the Project. This will be explored further during early engagement with Indigenous groups and through discussion with the provincial and federal governments. A description of future engagement plans with the Indigenous groups that have not yet been engaged or that are in early stages of engagement is available in the EP (Appendix C).

7. Government and the Public Engagement

This section provides a summary of engagement to-date with government and the public on the Project. The summary of engagement provided in this IPD is supplemental to the EP, provided under separate cover. The engagement record for the Project will be updated at relevant stages of the assessment process, including the DPD and the Application.

7.1 Government Engagement

7.1.1 Regional and Local Government

A list of local, provincial and federal government agencies that may have an interest in the Project are provided in Table 7-1. This list may be updated through engagement with government agencies during the early engagement phase of the assessment process.

Table 7-1: Regional and Local Government Agencies

Government	Contact
District of Barriere	Mayor, Rob Kerslake
District of Clearwater	Mayor, Merlin Blackwell
Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD)	External Relations and Advocacy Advisor, Corbin Kelly
TNRD Area A	Director, Usoff Tsao
TNRD Area B	Director, Lee Onslow
TNRD Area O	Director, Jill Hayward
City of Kamloops	Chief Administrative Officer, Byron McCorkell
Cariboo Regional District (CRD)	To be determined
District of 100 Mile House	Mayor Maureen Pinkney

7.1.2 Provincial Government

A list of provincial government departments and regulatory agencies that may have an interest in the Project is provided in Table 7-2. This list may be updated through engagement with government agencies during the early engagement phase of the assessment process.

Table 7-2: Provincial Government Agencies

Provincial Government Agency	Rationale
BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO)	• Lead provincial agency for administration of the *Environmental Assessment Act* process.
BC Ministry of Mines and Critical Minerals (MCM)	• BC regulator involved in EA process and major mines permitting. • Minster co-decision maker for provincial EA decision for the Project. • Responsible for permitting decisions under the *Mines Act* and *Mineral Tenure Act*.

Provincial Government Agency	Rationale
BC Ministry of Environment and Parks (ENV)	• BC regulator involved in EA process and major mines permitting. • Minister co-decision maker for provincial EA decision for the Project. • Responsible for permitting decisions under the *Environmental Management Act and Drinking Water Protection Act*.
BC Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR)	• Potential participatory BC government agency in the EA and permitting process. • Responsible for First Nations engagement, economic opportunities, and/or participation.
BC Ministry of Forests (FOR)	• Potential participatory BC government agency in the EA and permitting process. • Responsible for permitting decisions under the *Forest and Range Practices Act, Heritage Conservation Act,* and *Land Act*.
BC Ministry of Water, Lands and Resource Stewardship (WLRS)	• Potential participatory BC government agency in the EA and permitting process. • Responsible for permitting decisions under the BC *Water Sustainability Act*.
BC Ministry of Health (Interior Health)	• Potential participatory BC government agency in the EA and permitting process. • Responsible for permitting decisions under the *Public Health Act* should they be required.
BC First Nations Health Authority	• Potential participatory BC government agency in the EA and permitting process.
BC Ministry of Transit and Transportation (TranBC)	• Potential participatory BC government agency in the EA and permitting process.
Agricultural Land Commission (ALC)	• Regulates land use decisions within the Agricultural Land Reserve. • ALC approvals likely required for construction and operation of the transmission line (to be determine following selection of the final transmission line route).
BC Hydro	• Responsible for decisions related to interconnection of the transmission line to the provincial power grid. • Undertakes relevant studies required to enable interconnection to the provincial power grid.

7.1.3 Federal Government

A list of Government of Canada departments and regulatory agencies that may have an interest in the Project is provided in Table 7-3. This list may be updated through engagement with government agencies during the early engagement phase of the assessment process.

Table 7-3: Federal Government Agencies

Federal Government Agency or Representative	Rationale
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)	• IAAC administers the federal *Impact Assessment Act*, and leads federal government participation in the impact assessment process
Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process • Minister is responsible for decision under the federal *Impact Assessment Act* • Responsible for permitting / approval decisions under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* or *Species at Risk Act* should they be required
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process • Responsible for permitting / approval decisions under the Canada *Fisheries Act*, including under the Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations, should it be required
Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process • Responsible for permitting / approval decisions under the federal *Explosives Act*
Transport Canada	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process • Responsible for permitting / approval decisions under the federal *Aeronautics Act* and *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act*
Health Canada	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process
Parks Canada	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process • Responsible for permitting / approval decisions under the *Species at Risk Act* should they be required
Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED)	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process • Responsible for permitting / approvals decisions under the federal *Radio Communications Act*

7.1.4 Summary of Engagement with Governments

Prior to and since acquiring sole interest in YMI, letters and engagement was held with local, provincial, and federal government representatives advising of the change in ownership of YMI, and the intention to advance the Project into the EA process. The scope of engagement has varied across levels of government, appropriate to the stage of the Project from late-2018 through to present.

Taseko has engaged with a subset of BC Government regulatory agencies. This has previously included the BC EMLI, and more recently the BC MCM, on aspects such as mineral title and tenure, field-based site investigations under Taseko's approved MYAB NOW permit, engagement requirements, and Project progress, along with BC FOR on RUP approvals, and road user and maintenance responsibilities under those permits.

Taseko additionally has regular communications with the EAO and the IAAC representatives anticipated to be involved in the EA process. Meetings prior to the IPD submission involved discussion on Project progress, engagement scoping and progress, coordination of pre-early engagement activities, and preparation to enter in provincial and federal assessment processes. Currently Taseko meets with the EAO and IAAC monthly, or more frequently as needed. This engagement is ongoing.

Taseko has also undertaken engagement with the TNRD, District of Barriere, and District of Clearwater from 2023 to present. Discussions involved updates on the Project, power supply, road use, and introductions to local Yellowhead personnel. In 2024, Taseko additionally established a Project office in Barriere.

A summary of engagements with local, regional, provincial and federal governments based on Taseko's engagement record are provided in the EP, Section 7.2. The EP provides a summary of proposed engagement activities with governments.

7.2 Public Engagement

Public and stakeholders potentially affected by the Project include community organizations, community institutions, local business associations, recreational users, tenure holders, neighbouring property owners, and residents of nearby communities and the broader North Thompson region (Table 7-4). The list of public and stakeholders proposed to be engaged on the Project will be reviewed and updated routinely. Engagement approach will be tailored based on preferences shared by the public and project stakeholders.

Table 7-4: List of Public and Stakeholders Identified for Engagement

Public or Stakeholder Group	Public or Stakeholder Identified for Engagement
Communities and Associations	• Barriere and Area Chamber of Commerce • Clearwater and District Chamber of Commerce • Community at Birch Island Bridge • Community at Vavenby Bridge • Community of Barriere • Community of Clearwater • Community of Little Fort • Community of Vavenby • Kamloops and District Chamber of Commerce • Thompson-Okanagan Tourism Association • Community Futures British Columbia
Local Business and Industry	• Businesses in nearby communities, such as: • Vavenby • Clearwater • Barriere • Kamloops • 100 Mile House • Industry • BC Hydro • CN Rail • Interfor

Public or Stakeholder Group	Public or Stakeholder Identified for Engagement
Parks and Protected Areas	• Dunn Peak Park (recreational users, employees). • Park areas in proximity to the transmission line. • Recreational Park users along transmission line.
Non-Government Organizations (NGO)	• Environmental NGO in surrounding communities. • Social NGOs in surrounding communities.
Range and Tenure Holders	• Range and tenure holders in proximity to the Project site, access road and rail load-out facility . • Range and tenure holders along transmission line. • Guide Outfitting tenures – project site and transmission line. • Trapping tenure holders – project site and transmission line.
Educational institutions	• Thompson Rivers University • Clearwater Secondary School
Private Landowners	• Private landowners in proximity to Project site, access roads, rail load-out facility (possibly overlap with range and tenure holders). • Private landowners along the transmission line. • Recreational properties along transmission line.

Taseko initiated public and stakeholder engagement in late-2018 through notifications to participants in the Harper Creek Project EA process of the change in Project ownership and confirmation of their contact details and preferred method of engagement. Since then, engagement has occurred with some local industry and private landowners in neighbouring communities to discuss project updates, relevant permits, access protocols and contact information for site investigation and baseline data collection starting in late-2018 and continuing through to present. Engagements in 2023 and 2024 focused on those with District Chambers of Commerce in Barriere, Clearwater and Kamloops.

A summary of engagements public and stakeholders based on Taseko's engagement record are provided in the EP, Section 6. The EP provides a summary of proposed engagement activities with public and stakeholder of the Project.

8. Existing Environment

This section provides an overview of the biophysical and human environment in proximity to the Project. The information provided is based on the studies that were undertaken for the Harper Creek Project EA (e.g., terrestrial ecosystem mapping, habitat suitability modeling, and field surveys) to inform a baseline understanding of the Project site. Supplemental studies and baseline updates have been completed for the Project since 2019, and publicly available information such as provincial and federal databases for ecosystems, vegetation and wildlife species at risk (e.g., COSEWIC, *Species at Risk Act* Schedule 1, BC CDC) have additionally been referenced.

Baseline field studies have not yet been undertaken or compiled for the transmission line, though desktop findings are included below. A summary listing of selected baseline studies, technical studies and modeling carried out for the Harper Creek Project EA is provided in Appendix D, and a listing of additional studies carried out by Taseko after it acquired the Project is provided in Appendix E.

8.1 Biophysical Environment

The Project site is situated primarily in the Englemann Spruce-Subalpine Fir BEC zone, and specifically within the North Monashee wet cold (ESSFwc2) and wet cold woodland (ESSFwcw) subzones. A small area within the western portion of the footprint is situated in the wet cool variant of Interior Cedar-Hemlock (ICHwk) BEC zone. The ESSF BEC zone primarily occurs in mountainous terrain, with Englemann Spruce (*Picea englemannii*) and subalpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa)* as the dominant climax tree species in wetter areas. while Lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta)* is more abundant in drier and recently disturbed areas (Meidinger and Pojar 1991). The Interior Cedar Hemlock (ICH) zone occurs at lower elevations than the ESSF zone and is generally dominated by western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*), western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*) and hybrid spruce (*Picea englemannii x glauca*), while Dougals-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and lodgepole pine occur on drier sites (Meidinger and Pojar 1991). Areas near the North Thompson River, including the rail load-out facility are with the Interior Douglas Fir Zone (IDF). Portions of the Project site have been previously logged.

The transmission line crosses five BEC zones including ICH, IDF, ESSF, Montane Spruce (MS) and Sub-Boreal spruce (SBS). As the transmission line route is defined, baseline desktop and field studies will be undertaken to further characterize the biophysical environment for the Project.

8.1.1 Ecosystems and Vegetation

Baseline vegetation and ecosystem studies were completed for the Harper Creek Project EA (Keystone 2014). Within the Harper Creek Project EA local study area (LSA) 40 species of provincially red and blue listed plant species were identified, along with three ecological communities at risk, and eight wetland site series (fens and swamps). Within the Project site area, eight wetlands and old growth forests were identified. A follow-up study by Ecora (2020) identified about 1,500 ha of wetlands within the area associated with the Harper Creek Project EA regional study area (RSA), with most ecosystems dominated by tufted clubrush (*Trichophorum cespitosum*) and narrow-leaved cotton grass ((*Eriophorum angustifolium*), with minor cover of various sedge species. Most wetlands identified were classified as blue-listed in BC. A table of the ecosystems and vegetation at risk with the potential to occur in the Project area is provided in Appendix F. Recent review of BC CDC, COSEWIC and *Species at Risk Act* listed species and ecosystems was undertaken for the Northern Shuswap Highland Ecosection for ESSF wc2, ESSFwcw and ICHwk1 BEC subzones for the Project site (Appendix E). Seven BC blue-listed ecosystems (mountain alder-red osier dogwood-lady fern; slender sedge-common hook moss; narrow-leaved cotton grass-shore sedge; buckbean-slender sedge; lodgepole pine-dwarf blueberry-peat moss; hard stemmed bullrush-deep marsh; and blue-tufted club rush-golden

star-moss) and one red-listed ecosystem (three-way sedge) have the potential to occur in the Project site area. Along with six BC blue-listed vascular species, of which Mexican mosquito fern and whitebark pine are Schedule 1 *Species at Risk Act* species; nine BC red and blue-listed lichens and macrofungi, including smoker's lung which is a Schedule 1 *Species at Risk Act* species; and Haller's apple moss and margined streamside moss, both of which are BC red-listed bryophytes and *Species at Risk Act* Schedule 1 species.

Review for the North Thompson Upland, Cariboo Plateau, and Cariboo Basin eco-sections was undertaken for ESSF (wc2m dc3, dcw, wcw), ICH (wk1, mk2), IDFmw2, MSdm3, SBS (mm, mc1, dw1, dw2, mc1) BEC subzones (Appendix E). Thirty-one BC red and blue-listed ecological communities have the potential to occur in proximity to the transmission line. Additional to 20 BC red and blue-listed vascular plant species, of which Mexican mosquito fern, whitebark pine are *Species at Risk Act* schedule 1 species; nine BC red and blue-listed lichen and macrofungi species, of which crumpled tarpaper and smoker's lung are *Species at Risk Act* Schedule 1 species and one is of special concern (cryptic paw); and two BC red-listed and *Species at Risk Act* Schedule 1 species (Haller's apple moss, margined streamside moss), and one BC blue-listed and *Species at Risk Act* species of special concern (Columbian carpet moss).

Mapped critical habitat for Mexican mosquito fern is located about 1.5 km south of the transmission line (Data BC 2024) on the north side of the North Thompson River crossing. Mapped critical habitat for whitebark pine (*Species at Risk Act* Endangered on Schedule 1, BC blue-listed) is found approximately 12 km east of the Project site and approximately 5 km south of the transmission line at its closest point (Data BC 2024).

The Project site partially overlaps with four OGMAs. The transmission line also crosses OGMAs (Data BC 2024).

8.1.2 Terrestrial Wildlife

Baseline studies for wildlife and wildlife habitat were conducted between 2008 and 2011 for the Harper Creek Project EA. The baseline studies were comprised of field surveys, including ungulate winter track surveys, bird / nest surveys, and bat surveys, along with habitat suitability mapping based on terrestrial ecosystem mapping (Keystone 2015). The studies indicated that the Project site area and the Harper Creek Project EA LSA have the potential to support habitat for Western Toad (*Anaxyrus boreas*), Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*), Little Brown Myotis (*Myotis lucifugus*), Northern Myotis (*Myotis septentrionals*), Fisher (*Pekania pennanti*), Wolverine (*Gulo gulo luscus*), Moose (*Alces alces*), Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos horribilis*), and Mule Deer *(Odocoileus hemionus*). Lower elevation areas within the North Thompson River Valley provide habitat for several species including Bald Eagle (*Heliaeetus leucocephalus*), Common Nighthawk (*Cordeiles minor*), Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis atricapillus*), and Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*).

The Project site is situated within mapped critical habitat for the Southern Mountain Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus* pop.1), which is listed as Endangered by COSEWIC, Threatened on Schedule 1 of *Species at Risk Act* and red-listed in BC (Data BC 2024). Specifically, the Project site is at the southern extent of the Wells-Gray Thompson local population unit (LPU) and northern extent of the Revelstoke Shuswap LPU of the Southern Mountain Caribou population (ERM 2015; Data BC 2024; BC CDC 2024). Baseline information submitted as part of the Harper Creek Project EA indicates that use by caribou within the Project site area is infrequent, likely due to habitat fragmentation (ERM 2015). The Project is not located within mapped high or low elevation range.

Western and eastern portions of the transmission line cross through mapped critical habitat for American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), which is listed as Endangered by COSEWIC, on Schedule 1 of *Species at Risk Act* and red-listed in BC. The eastern portion of the transmission line crosses critical caribou habitat, as it connects to the Project site.

Appendix G provides an overview of the species and their provincial and federal conservation status. There are 181 wildlife species at risk, including 83 invertebrate species, that may occur in the Project area (Project site and transmission line) (BC CDC 2024).

8.1.3 Aquatic Species and Ecosystems

The Project site is located on the watershed divide between Harper Creek (Watershed Code: 129-190100-51200) and the Barriere River (Watershed Code: 129-190100) to the west and south, and the North Thompson River (Watershed Code: 129) to the north. The Project site is located primarily between two tributaries of Harper Creek, which flow south into the Barriere River, and in the headwaters of three tributaries that flow north into the North Thompson River (KP 2021). Six main watercourses may be affected by the Project site as summarized in Table 8-1 (KP 2021). None of the potentially affected watercourses cross interprovincial or international boundaries.

Results from a Fish Inventory Data Query (FIDQ) indicate that many fish species have been observed in the North Thompson and Barriere Rivers (Table 8-2) this includes four pacific salmon species (Coho, Chinook, Pink, and Sockeye). The Project area including the North Thompson and Adams Lake watershed are part of larger Thompson and Fraser River systems, these are located entirely within British Columbia and discharge into the Pacific Ocean which is part of internationally significant salmon migration routes.

Table 8-1: Watercourses Within and Adjacent to the Project Site

Drainage	Project Site Drainages	Adjacent Watercourses
• Northern Drainages • (flow north into the North Thompson River)	• Jones Creek • Baker Creek • Avery Creek	• Foghorn Creek • Lute Creek • Chuck Creek
• Southern Drainages • (flow south into the Barriere River)	• Harper Creek (entire watershed) • T-Creek (tributary to Harper Creek) • P-Creek (tributary to Harper Creek)	• Barriere River • Saskum Lake • North Barriere Lake
Source: KP 2021		

Table 8-2: Fish Observations in North and South Drainages of Project Site

Common Name	Scientific Name	Provincial Status (BC)	Federal Status
Bull Trout	Salvelinus confluentus	Blue-listed (Special Concern)	Special Concern (Pacific, South Coast BC populations)
Burbot	Lota lota	Yellow-listed	Not at Risk
Chinook Salmon	Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	Varies by population	Endangered/Threatened (e.g., Fraser River populations)
Coho Salmon	Oncorhynchus kisutch	Varies by population	Endangered/Threatened (e.g. Interior Fraser populations)
Cordilleran Sucker	Catostomus bondi	Blue -listed	Endangered/Threatened (Pacific populations)
Cutthroat Trout	Oncorhynchus clarkii	Varies by subspecies	Some populations assessed (e.g., Westslope)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Provincial Status (BC)	Federal Status
Dolly Varden	Salvelinus malma	Yellow-listed	Not at Risk
Longnose Dace	Rhinichthys cataractae	Yellow-listed	Not Assessed
Mountain Whitefish	Prosopium williamsoni	Yellow-listed	Not Assessed
Pink Salmon	Oncorhynchus gorbuscha	Yellow-listed	Not at Risk
Prickly Sculpin	Cottus asper	Yellow-listed	Not Assessed
Rainbow Trout	Oncorhynchus mykiss	Yellow-listed	Not Assessed
Redside Shiner	Richardsonius balteatus	Yellow-listed	Not Assessed
Sockeye Salmon	Oncorhynchus nerka	Varies by population	Endangered/Threatened (e.g., Sakinaw Lake)
Steelhead	Oncorhynchus mykiss	Blue-listed (some populations)	Endangered/Threatened (e.g., Thompson, Chilcotin)
Torrent Sculpin	Cottus rhotheus	Yellow-listed	

Harper Creek and Saskum Creek are designated as fisheries sensitive watersheds (KP 2021).

Baseline assessment of fish and aquatic resources within watercourses that have the potential to be affected by the Project site were conducted between 2011 and 2014 as part of the Harper Creek Project EA, with additional studies in 2020-2021. The fish community is comprised of Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), Coho Salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Rainbow Trout (*O. mykiss*), Mountain Whitefish (*Prosopium williamsoni*), Torrent Sculpin (*Cottus rhotheus*), and Longnose Dace (*Rhinichthys cataractae*). Fish distribution within the Project site is limited by the presence of natural barriers that prevent fish from occupying upstream reaches of the creeks, including those within the Project site area.

The transmission line crosses a number of watercourses and wetlands between 100 Mile House and the Project site. Known fish-bearing watercourses that may be crossed by the transmission line are identified in Table 8-3.

Table 8-3: Fish Bearing Watercourses Crossed by Transmission Line

Waterbody	Common Name	Scientific Name
Bridge Creek, Deka Creek, Judson Creek	Rainbow Trout	*Oncorhynchus mykiss*
Bridge Creek	Burbot	*Lota lota*
Lemieux Creek	Coho Salmon	*Oncorhynchus kisutch*
	Chinook Salmon	*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*
	Sockeye Salmon	*Oncorhynchus nerka*
Harper Creek	Bull Trout	*Salvelinus confluentus*

8.1.3.1 Fish Species at Risk

Bull Trout (Pacific population) are blue-listed in BC and are listed as Special Concern by COSEWIC, but are not listed on Schedule 1 of *Species at Risk Act*. The Interior Fraser population of Coho Salmon are not provincially or federally listed but are considered threatened by COSEWIC (BC CDC 2024). The Thompson River Steelhead population was assessed as Endangered status by COSEWIC and are under emergency listing under the federal *Species at Risk Act* due to declining populations and imminent risk of extinction (COSEWIC 2018). There are several records of Mountain Sucker (*Catostomus platyrhynchus*) in the lower North Thompson River near Heffley Creek (BC CDC 2024; KP 2021). The Mountain Sucker is blue-listed in BC and listed as a species of Special Concern by COSEWIC and under *Species at Risk Act*.

While no observations of the species have been reported for the Project site, there are documented observations throughout the North Thompson drainage (COSEWIC 2022). They are known to occupy streams of various sizes during their juvenile stages.

8.2 Human Environment and Community Wellbeing

The Project has the potential to influence the social and economic characteristics of local and regional communities, including neighbouring First Nation communities. Potential indicators and current understanding of existing social and economic conditions is discussed in this section and informed by existing baseline information (Hemmera 2020), Statistics Canada Census of Population data, publicly available monitoring data, and past projects in proximity to the Project.

Potentially affected Indigenous groups may have preferred sources of Indigenous knowledge and data to describe existing conditions and the potential for effects to their social, economic, and cultural conditions, and Indigenous Interests. Taseko intends to work collaboratively with Indigenous groups to understand their preferences and protocols for reviewing shared information sources and Indigenous Knowledge that will inform the Application.

8.2.1 Social Environment

Provided is a brief description of local communities that occur in proximity to the Project. Taseko will seek to understand the existing condition and potential effects of the Project on local and regional populations, health services, community wellbeing, housing, transportation, economy and infrastructure and services of the TNRD for the Application.

8.2.1.1 Regional Communities

The TNRD has 10 Regional District Electoral Areas (RDEA). Two RDEAs overlap with the Project site including Thompson-Nicola A (Wells Gray County) and Thompson-Nicola U (Lower North Thompson). The TNRD provides its communities with services such as emergency response, water works, fire protection, recreational facilities, and parks.

In 2021, the TNRD had a population of 143,680, which represented just under 3% of BC's total population. Between 2016 and 2021, the population of the TNRD increased by just over 8%. The population was comprised of 71,330 males (49.6%) and 72,335 females (50.4%).

Kamloops is the largest and closest urban centre to the Project site, with a population of 97,902 in 2021. Kamloops hosts a regional airport that has daily service to/from Vancouver, Victoria, and Calgary. It is about a two-hour drive from Kamloops to the Project site. There are several smaller towns and unincorporated communities throughout the region, with communities in proximity to the Project provided in Table 8-4.

Table 8-4: Communities in Proximity the Project Site

Community	Population	Distance from Project	Other Location Details
Vavenby	237	3 km NW	Closest unincorporated community to the Project site
Clearwater	2,388	25 km NW	Largest community in the North Thompson Valley
Chu Chua	200	27 km SE	The closest Simpcw community to the project site
Birch Island	250	14 km NW	Located off Highway 5
Little Fort	50	38 km SW	Located southwest of the junction of Highway 24 and Highway 5
Barriere	1,765	50 km SW	South of Little Fort
Avola	160	36 km NE	North of Vavenby on Highway 5
Blue River	160	67 km NE	North of Vavenby on Highway 5
Sources: Statistics Canada 2021; Simpcw 2025.			

The transmission line will follow an approximate west to east orientation to interconnect the existing BC Hydro substation at 100 Mile House, BC to a new substation at the Project site. 100 Mile House and about half of the transmission line is within the CRD. In 2021, the CRD had a population of 62,931 and 100 Mile House had a population of 1,928.

The transmission line may intersect with parcels of private land, recreational user areas, guide outfitting areas, trapline tenures, forest harvest tenures, range tenures, utility rights of way, and population areas at Horse Lake and Deka Lake. Transmission line routing minimizes impacts to these areas where technically and economically possible. The extent to which the transmission line routing intersects with these areas will be further evaluated once final routing is selected.

The primary access route to the Project will be via Highway 5 at Vavenby and about 20 km along existing FSRs. The secondary access route will be accessed from Highway 5 near the community of Birch Island. The proposed rail load-out facility near Vavenby will be at the existing Weyerhaeuser site, which is now owned by Taseko. There are land holders with farms and residences on the south bank of the North Thompson River, located about 7 km north of the Project site, and along the proposed transmission line route.

Dunn Peak Park is a protected area located in proximity to the Project site. Wells Gray Provincial Park is located north of Clearwater and distant from the Project site. The transmission line is located greater than 5 km north of Eakin Creek Canyon Provincial Park. These areas are shown on Figure 3-3. A summary of these areas is provided in Table 8-5.

Table 8-5: Parks and Protected Areas

Park or Protected Area	Distance from the Project	Description	Accessibility
Dunn Peak Park	2 km W	Protected Area that offers backcountry recreation such as hiking, fishing, viewing, wildlife, climbing, and winter activities	Ferry/Road
Wells Gray Provincial Park	100 km N	Offers recreational opportunities including hiking, camping, boating, horseback riding, and lake tours	Road
Eakin Creek Canyon Provincial Park	Greater than 5 km south of the transmission line	Offers hiking, fishing, winter activities, and hunting	Road

The Interior Health Authority (IHA) is responsible for administering health care services in the TNRD, which includes the North Thompson and Kamloops Local Health Authority (LHA), and the Thompson Cariboo Shuswap Health Service Authority. The two main hospitals in these LHA are the Dr. Helmcken Memorial Hospital in Clearwater and the Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops. The Dr. Helmcken Memorial Hospital is the closest to the Project site. Most health care and social services and facilities are located in Kamloops.

8.2.1.2 First Nation Communities

The Project is situated primarily within Simpcwúl̓ecw (Figure 3-2). Simpcw has five First Nation Reserves. The main community Chu Chua is about 45 km north of Kamloops, and located at North Thompson Reserve #1, on the east side of the North Thompson River and Highway 5 (Figure 6-1).

Simpcwúl̓ecw (Figure 6-2) is described by Simpcw[2] as:

> *"Simpcwúl̓ecw (Simpcw Territory) covers 5,000,000 hectares and extends from south of Mclure, north to Kakwa Park, west of Goat River, and east of Jasper, including the whole of the North Thompson Valley."* (Simpcw First Nation n.d.)

Simpcw is one of the 17 campfires that comprise the Secwe̓pemc Nation. Símpcwemc (Simpcw people) take pride in their guardianship of the territory, honouring both traditions and responsibilities to the land, wildlife, and people that make their home in Simpcwúl̓ecw, and for generations to come. Simpcw has 895 members, with 200 members on reserve and 695 members off reserve. A majority of the in-community members live in the main village of Simpcw, Chu Chua (Simpcw First Nation n.d.).

Simpcw is governed by a Ku̓kwpi7 (Chief) and Council, elected for a 4-year term. The current Chief is Ku̓kwpi7 George Lampreau, who was elected in April 2024. Council has six councillors that serve Simpcw membership alongside the Ku̓kwpi7. Simpcw are a culturally proud community valuing holistic, health lifestyles based on respect, responsibility and continuous participation in growth and education. Key areas of Simpcw's governance include administration, education, health, language and culture, natural resources, social development and economic development.

[2] Simpcw First Nation website: https://simpcw.com/about-us/

Several First Nation communities are located within the boundaries of RDEA P (Rivers and Peaks; Figure 6-1), including Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc (Kamloops 1), Neskonlith (Neskonlith 1), Adams Lake (Sahhaltkum 4), Whispering Pines/Clinton (Whispering Pines 4), and Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw (Quaaout 1).

8.2.2 Regional Economic Environment

The Project is located in the Thompson-Okanagan Economic Region of BC. Mining is an important part of the TNRD economy. The TNRD has two active metal mines: Highland Valley Copper and New Afton Mine. With operating mines in the area, TNRD is a regional mining hub and home to many suppliers, consultants, and contractors that service the mining industry. Logging and silviculture activities are or have been present in most communities in the region. The economy of Clearwater has historically been centred on the forest industry, as has the community of Barriere, along with tourism and agriculture.

It is expected that the region supports a skilled and experienced workforce, with transferable skills from other industries, to support project construction and operations for a range of skilled trades and technical disciplines.

According to Statistics Canada (2021), the TNRD has a total population of 143,680 and a labour force of 71,385. Of those, 65,635 are employed and 5,750 are unemployed. The unemployment rate in the TNRD is 8.1%, which is just below the BC average of 8.2%; the unemployment rate among males is 8.3% and 7.8% among females. The TNRD total employment rate is 55.5%, which is lower than the BC average of 57.9%. The median income is $40,800, which was the same median income reported across BC.

As a regional mining hub, Kamloops is expected to be the main supply centre for Project equipment, supplies and services. The local communities of Vavenby, Clearwater, Barriere and Chu Chua will also provide sources of employment, business and contracting services. During construction, most of the workforce will be housed at a construction camp located at the Project site. During operations, it is expected that the workforce will be housed within the local communities.

8.2.3 Cultural Heritage and Archaeology

8.2.3.1 Archaeology

Archaeological studies were undertaken for the Harper Creek Project EA including an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for the Project site (TerraArchaeology 2012). This was followed by Archaeological Overview Assessment (AOA) for the transmission lines and access road (TerraArchaeology 2014). The transmission lines assessed under the AOA were for the original Harper Creek Project EA configuration between Vavenby and the Project site. These studies identified two recorded cultural sites of significance to Simpcw within the local study area. The Harper Creek Project EA proponent shared the results of those studies with Simpcw.

Taseko has engaged with Simpcw on two cultural sites of significance to Simpcw in proximity to the proposed TSF and has had discussion on the potential for these sites to be affected by the Project. Impacts to the culturally significant sites will be assessed in a culturally appropriate manner through the Simpcw Process. A discussion of Taseko's engagement with Simpcw related to the TSF alternatives in proximity to the archaeology sites, is provided in Section 4.9.2.

The proposed transmission line for the Project has been updated from that proposed for the Harper Creek Project EA. The transmission line will follow an approximate west to east orientation to interconnect the existing BC Hydro substation at 100 Mile House, BC to a new substation at the Project site. It is anticipated that archaeology studies under the *Heritage Conservation Act* (BC Government 1996) will be required as part of the baseline studies for the Project transmission line.

Updated studies may be required for other Project components, such as the Project site, access routes, and rail load-out facility, will be determined through engagement with Simpcw, the EAO, and IAAC.

8.2.3.2 Paleontology

A paleontological study in the regional study area for the Harper Creek Project EA was undertaken in 2014. ERM (2014) reported that the potential for paleontological sites is low.

The existing data will be reviewed in the context of the current configuration of the Project site, primary and secondary access routes, rail load-out facility and the new transmission line interconnection and routing to determine if an update to the 2014 study will be required. This will also be discussed with Simpcw as part of the Simpcw Process.

9. Potential Project Effects

9.1 Project Interactions and Effects

Environmental assessment in BC and Canada requires the evaluation of potential effects for a proposed project to be evaluated for five pillars, including environmental, economic, social, heritage, and health factors. The assessment of potential effects usually relies on the use of selected Valued Components (VC) as the foundation for the assessment. A first step in this process is to identify the potential for Project components and/or activities to interact or have a potential cause-effect pathway on a VC. Identification and selection of VCs that are most important are usually determined in collaboration with Indigenous groups, government, public, scientists, and other technical specialists involved in the Project assessment (EAO 2013).

For the purposes of the IPD, an initial scoping of potential direct project interactions with physical, biological, and human environment VCs is provided in Table 9-1. Direct effects are defined as effects that are directly linked to the potential outcome of the interaction between the Project component and/or activities and the VCs.

The list of Project components and activities along with the identified VCs is preliminary, reflecting common Project elements and VCs that are evaluated for similar types of projects. The potential project interaction matrix will be updated following feedback in early engagement and engagement in subsequent stages of the assessment process, including the Simpcw Process. This work will inform the requirements for the assessment and application that are defined in Process Planning.

The following notes apply to Table 9-1:

- C = Construction
- O = Operations
- CL/PC = Closure and Post Closure
- X = Direct effects

Table 9-1: Potential Project Interactions

Project Component and/or Activity	Air Quality and Climate Change			Visual Quality, Light, and Noise			Surface /Ground Water Quality and Quantity			Fish and Fish Habitat, Including Aquatic Species at Risk (SAR)			Wildlife , Including Culturally Valued and Terrestrial SAR			Vegetation, Including SAR and Ecosystems at Risk			Terrain and Soils			Indigenous Group Culture, Rights, and Interests			Land and Resource Use			Human Health			Social and Economic		
	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC
Onsite Clearing and Preparation (including earthworks and site leveling)	X			X			X									X			X						X								
Vehicle transportation of personnel to and from offsite (highways) to the mine site	X	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	X																X	X	x
Vehicle transportation of equipment, materials, and other goods to and from offsite (highways) to the mine site (including concentrate transport)	X	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	X																X	X	X
Explosives Storage and Use	X	X		X	X		X	X								X	X		X	X					X	X							
Onsite road infrastructure and laydown areas (including mobile vehicle and equipment use)	X	X		X	X		X	X						X		X	X		X	X					X	X							
Water management related infrastructure: diversion ditches, collection channels (contact water) and open bottom crossings (including potable water treatment plant, sewage treatment facility, site wide water treatment, and non-contact water management))				X	X	X	X	X	X	X									X					X								
Onsite buildings (including administrative offices, construction camp, gatehouse and other buildings not used for mining processes)				X	X																			X								
Mine processing infrastructure and buildings (including conveyors, processing plant and incinerator)	X	X		X	X																			X								
Transmission Line (including clearing as required)	X			X	X		X						X			X			X			X			X	X					X		
Construction Camp Use																						X									X		
Mining, Open Pit		X			X			X												X			X										
Ore Crushing and Processing		X			X																												
Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) and Tailings Management					X			X						X						X			X			X							
Waste Rock Storage Area (WRSA) and Waste Rock Management		X			X			X												X			X			X							
Rail Load-Out Facility Use		X			X																												
Dismantle and removal of infrastructure			X			X															X			X			X						
Reclamation and Closure			X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X						

Project Component and/or Activity	Air Quality and Climate Change			Visual Quality, Light, and Noise			Surface /Ground Water Quality and Quantity			Fish and Fish Habitat, Including Aquatic Species at Risk (SAR)			Wildlife , Including Culturally Valued and Terrestrial SAR			Vegetation, Including SAR and Ecosystems at Risk			Terrain and Soils			Indigenous Group Culture, Rights, and Interests			Land and Resource Use			Human Health			Social and Economic		
	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC	C	O	CL/ PC
Reclamation (Progressive during operations)		X			X			X			X			X			X			X												
Procurement of employment and labour, services, goods, and use of infrastructure in the region																						X	X	X							X	X	X

Notes:

C = Construction

O = Operations

CL/PC = Closure and Post Closure

X = Direct effects

Preliminary identification of potential effects associated with the Project are summarized in Table 9-2. The potential project effects will be identified and assessed through the Simpcw Process in accordance with the valued components as identified by Simpcw, and provincial and federal assessment processes. The VCs that will be assessed will be identified through collaboration with First Nations, government agencies, and the public, along with mitigation measures that factor avoidance and minimization as appropriate. Should the potential for residual and cumulative effects be identified, further evaluation of mitigation measures, including offsetting should it be required, will be undertaken as part of the effects assessment.

Table 9-2: Potential Project Effects

Preliminary Biophysical and Human Environment Valued Component[1]	Potential Effect
Air Quality	• Changes in ambient concentrations of combustion and fugitive gases • Changes in ambient concentrations of particulate matter
Visual Quality, Light, and Noise	• Changes to light contributions • Changes to visual quality (local communities, Dunn Peak Park) • Changes to sound levels
Water Quality and Quantity	• Changes to surface water quality or quantity • Changes to groundwater quality or quantity
Fish and Fish Habitat, including Aquatic species at risk	• Changes to instream and riparian habitats • Changes in water flows and quality • Changes to fish health
Wildlife, including Culturally Valued, Species at Risk (SAR) and Migratory birds	• Loss or alteration of wildlife habitat (direct loss and indirect loss resulting from sensory disturbance) • Changes to wildlife health • Mortality risk • Changes to seasonal habitat use, including use by migratory birds
Vegetation, Including Species and Ecosystems At Risk	• Loss or alteration of wetland ecosystems • Changes to wetland function • Changes in abundance of plant species of interest (rare plants, culturally important species, invasive plant species) • Loss or alteration of plant communities of interest • Loss or alteration of ecosystems
Terrain and Soils	• Changes to soil quality • Changes to soil quantity • Changes to terrain stability

Preliminary Biophysical and Human Environment Valued Component[1]	Potential Effect
Social and Economic	• Changes to community wellbeing and social determinants of health Changes in the quality and quantity of resources • Changes to access to the land • Changes to local employment and contracting opportunities • Changes to local housing and accommodation availability Changes to demand on local supporting infrastructure and community services • Changes to labour income • Changes to regional economy • Changes to sites of historical or archaeological importance
Indigenous Groups Culture, Rights and Interests	• Changes to individual availability to take part in cultural practices • Changes in the quality and quantity of resources including but not limited wildlife, vegetation or ecosystems of cultural value • Changes to access to the land for cultural uses • Changes to connection with land, culture, and community • Changes to culturally important sites • Changes to local employment and contracting opportunities • Changes to peaceful enjoyment of the land
Notes: 1. Climate change will be considered within the context of the valued components and will be further clarified in the Application Information Requirements. An assessment of greenhouse gas emissions (effects of the project on climate change), and effects of the environment on the project will be included in the Application.	

9.2 Cumulative Effects

The potential for cumulative effects will be determined through the assessment process for the Project. As outlined in the EAO Effects Assessment Policy (2020), a cumulative effects assessment is conducted for VCs where residual adverse effects are anticipated. Cumulative effects arise from the combined impacts of past, present, and potential future human activities. Where identified potential adverse residual effects on a VC identified in the Application, they will be carried forward, along with the identification of projects or activities that may contribute to these cumulative effects.

For the purposes of the IPD and early engagement, the cumulative effects spatial boundary is proposed to be the Kamloops Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) boundary, which is a similar extent to the Harper Creek Project EA. While the spatial boundary for the transmission line is proposed to also include the 100 Mile House Sustainable Resource Management Plan (SRMP) boundary. The cumulative effects assessment will factor past, present, and reasonably foreseeable development (RFD) projects within the region. A summary of initial review for RFD projects is provided in Table 9-3. The spatial boundary and the RFD projects that will inform the cumulative effects assessment will be identified through engagement efforts and confirmed in Process Planning.

Table 9-3: Past, Present and Reasonably Foreseeable Projects

Project Name	Proponent	Project Status	Project Type	Project Sub Type	Region	Management Plan	Distance from Proposed Project
Forestry	Various	Other – in Progress	Forestry	Timber Extraction	Thompson-Nicola and Okanagan	Kamloops and Okanagan LMRP	0 km
Chasm Solar and Energy Storage	Chasm BC Solar Project Limited Partnership	Permitting	Energy-Electricity	Power Plants	Thompson-Nicola	100 Mile House Sustainable Resource Management Plan (SRMP)	54 kilometres (km)
Ruddock Creek Mine	Ruddock Creek Mining Corporation	Pre-Permitting	Mine	Mineral Mines	Kootenay	Kamloops Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP)	71 km
North Thompson Emergency Water Intake	City of Kamloops	Certificate Not Required	Water Management	Water Diversion	Okanagan	Kamloops LRMP	90 km
Tranquille on the Lake	Ignition Tranquille Developments Ltd.	Other - In Progress	Tourist Destination Resorts	Resort Development	Thompson-Nicola	Kamloops LRMP	90 km
Kamloops Airport Expansion	City of Kamloops	Construction	Transportation	Airports	Thompson-Nicola	Kamloops LRMP	93 km
Kamloops Groundwater	City of Kamloops	Care and Maintenance	Water Management	Groundwater Extraction	Thompson-Nicola	Kamloops LRMP	94 km
Cache Creek Landfill Extension	Belkorp Environmental Services Incorporated and the Village of Cache Creek	Construction	Waste Disposal	Local Government Solid Water Management Facilities	Thompson-Nicola	Kamloops LRMP	94 km

Project Name	Proponent	Project Status	Project Type	Project Sub Type	Region	Management Plan	Distance from Proposed Project
Timicw Good Earth Recycling Landfill	Bonaparte First Nation and 357999 BC LTD	Project Designation	Waste Disposal	Solid Waste Management	Thompson-Nicola	Kamloops LRMP	95 km
Trans Mountain Expansion	Trans Mountain Pipeline ULC	Operations	Energy – Petroleum and Natural Gas	Transmission Pipelines	Lower Mainland	Kamloops LRMP	98 km
Highland Solar and Energy Storage	Highland BC Solar Project Limited Partnership	Early Engagement	Energy-Electricity	Power Plants	Thompson-Nicola	Kamloops LRMP	113 km
Highland Valley Copper (HVC) Bethlehem Extension	Teck Resources Limited	Post Decision - Complete	Mines	Mineral Mines	Thompson-Nicola	Kamloops LMRP	118 km
HVC Basal Aquifer Dewatering	Teck Highland Valley Copper Partnership	Certificate Issued	Water Management	Groundwater Extraction	Thompson-Nicola	Kamloops LMRP	121 km
HVC Mine Life Extension	Teck Highland Valley Copper Partnership	Effects Assessment – In Progress	Mines	Mineral Mines	Thompson-Nicola	Kamloops LMRP	122 km

10. Effects of the Environment on the Project

Potential effects of the environment on the Project include the influences of seismic events (earthquakes) and climate change hazards. These potential effects could include short-term impacts to site access, infrastructure and operations, and personnel health and safety.

These effects of the environment on the Project could result from events including the following:

- Extreme precipitation events (e.g., flooding risk);
- Extreme drought events (e.g., water availability, power supply risk);
- Extreme temperature events (e.g., forest fires risk); and
- Natural hazards such as seismic events (e.g., earthquakes).

Mitigative design measures have been integrated into the site water management system to reduce potential effects of extreme precipitation and drought events, should they occur. Site water management has been designed to direct contact water to locations onsite for use, storage, or treatment, while non-contact water will be discharged into the receiving environment through ditching and piping. The water management system will accommodate and manage variability including peak flows during freshet.

Forest fires are common in BC and frequency of occurrence and scale of effects are variable. Potential effects of forest fires on the Project could include loss of site access, loss of mining infrastructure, potential disruption to operations, and potential for impacts to personnel safety. Fire suppression supplies and equipment will be available onsite, and mine rescue personnel trained in firefighting techniques.

Natural hazards such as a seismic event could potentially impact site infrastructure, geotechnical stability, and personnel safety. The selection of appropriate design earthquake events for pit slopes, WRSAs and TSF embankments will be based upon criteria provided by regulations and guidelines including the Canadian Dam Safety Association's *Dam Safety Guidelines,* Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in BC and Guidelines for Mine Waste Dump and Stockpile Design (Hawley and Cunning 2017). A seismic hazard assessment was conducted for the Project indicating that the Project is at low risk of a damaging seismic event.

Other structures and buildings will be designed and constructed in conformance with applicable building codes, guidelines, and standards according to the site conditions which factor natural hazards and climatic conditions such as seismicity, snow load and wind.

Additionally, appropriate management plans, including an emergency response plan, will be developed, and implemented to appropriately manage incidents should they occur. The requirements will be scoped as part of the process planning phase should the Project proceed to an assessment.

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Appendix A. Concordance with EAO IPD Guidelines

Yellowhead Copper Project

Initial Project Description

June 23, 2025

Taseko Yellowhead

Table A-1: Concordance with EAO IPD Guidelines

EAO Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Executive Summary	
• A plain language summary of the IPD that is clear and concise.	Executive Summary (ES)
General Information and Contacts	
• Project name;	1
• Project location;	1, 3.2
• Project industrial sector and type (e.g., open pit metal mine);	1, 4.1
• Proponent name, mailing address, phone numbers, email and website URL; and	2
• Include name and contact information for the primary representative for the EA.	2
Purpose and Rationale	
• A general rationale for why the project has been proposed; and	3.1
• Potential project benefits.	3.1, 4.4
Legislative and Regulatory Context	
• The type and size of the project, with specific reference to EA regulatory triggers;	5.1, 5.2
• A list of anticipated authorizations and permits;	5.5
• Consider the requirements of any applicable agreements between the Province and Indigenous Nations, including treaties;	5.7
• Consider the requirements of any applicable international agreements between the Province, and state or federal governments;	5.3, 5.6
• A description of relevant government policies that the project may not be compatible with; and	5.5
• Proposed timing for conducting the provincial EA and federal EA, if applicable.	5.8
Project Status and History	
• Project history, including past ownership;	3.3
• State if it is a new project or a modification to an existing project;	4.1, 4.2
• A list of existing permits or tenure in place;	3.4, 3.5

EAO Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
• A description of any previous proposals for the project or a similar proposal and the outcomes and history of the proposals, if applicable; and	3.3
• 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.	3.3, 4.1, 4.5.2, 4.9.2, 4.9.5
Project Timing	
• 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
• Include any known seasonal timing constraints.	4.3, Table 5-3
Project Location, Activities and Components	
• 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, 8.2.1
• Proposed project activities and components;	4.2, 4.3
• Proposed on and offsite facilities and equipment;	4.1, 4.2
• A brief description of proposed activities related to processing, transportation and / or shipping of materials to / from site;	4.2
• A description of any other projects 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);	4.1, 4.2.2.2
• A description of the work that has been conducted to arrive at the proposed project as described in the IPD;	3.3, 4
• A list of design or siting constraints that are flexible and those that are not flexible;	4.7
• A list of other design or siting options that may be considered; and	4.7, 4.9
• Anticipated daily and annual maximum production or operational capacity of the project, if applicable.	4.1, 5.1, 5.2
Maps and Shapefiles	
• Local and regional scale maps of the project showing its location and known offsite components;	To be provided with final submission
• Shapefiles of the proposed footprint and the footprint of known offsite components:	
○ Shapefiles must in ESRI format and include four file types: .shp, .shx, .dbf, and .prj;	
○ Provide .KMZ files;	

EAO Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
○ Shapefiles must be in BC Albers (NAD83) projection;	
○ Shapefile polygons and their corresponding polygons on all maps must be identical in shape, size, and location;	
○ Spatial features (.shp and .shx) must be represented as polygons, not as point or line features;	
○ Shapefiles must be named in a way that clearly describes the contents;	
○ To avoid having ArcGIS general random errors, follow these best practices: avoid starting names by number, add an underscore instead of a space or dash, and do not include a symbol outside of the underscore; and	
○ 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 an indigenous nation or their territory; if this information is not confidential in nature and an indigenous nation has agreed to allow the information to be shared.	
• Maps must be presented in the required standard format with legible grids and suitable scaling (typically 1:100,000 to 1: 150,000 scale for centralized projects such as a mine, and up to 1:1,500,000 or 1:1,250,000 scale for linear projects such as a pipeline or transmission line); and	Standard applied to figures in multiple section
• Maps must also include a NTS Map number, latitude and longitude references, titles, north arrow, and relevant legends.	Standard applied to figures in multiple sections
Indigenous Nations Interests	
• A description of the proximity of the proposed project to Indigenous nations' territory, communities, locations of interest, *Indian Act* reserve lands, lands subject to a Treaty, or other relevant agreements;	3.2, 6
• A description of potential project interactions with any identified Indigenous interests;	6, 9.1
• A description of alignment of the IPD with indigenous nations laws, customs and policies; and	6.2
• 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[3].	6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7

[3] EAO expects that this information to be shared with and agreed upon by the indigenous nation prior to submission to the EAO. Information that is confidential to an indigenous nation should not be shared in the IPD.

EAO Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Biophysical Environment	
• A description of the natural setting characteristics, including coastal, foreshore, riparian, mountainous, watersheds and agricultural land;	8.1, 3.5, 4.9.5.2
• A description of disturbed area characteristics, including brown field, contaminated sites, and any history of development;	3.2.2, 4.2, Table 4-6, 4.1, 4.9.4. 4.9.5, 5.1, 5.2
• Identification of sensitive or vulnerable species, ecosystems, and / or habitats in the project area; and	8.1.1, 8.1.2, 8.1.3, Appendix F and Appendix G
• 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 conditions.	8 (rely on former Harper Creek Project EA studies, and references in section), Appendix D and Appendix E
Human and Community Wellbeing	
• A description of the proposed project's proximity to local communities, including seasonal and temporary residences;	3.2.1, 3.2.2, 8.2.1.1
• Identification of the municipalities within which the proposed project is located or where effects may occur;	8.2.1.1
• 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 supply, roads, railways, and protected and recreational areas;	3.2, 8.2.1.1
• A list of existing data, including monitoring reports, previous EA's, regional studies, and / or other sources of information that support the understanding of the existing human environment conditions;	3.6, 8.2
• Identification of any sensitive or vulnerable economic, social, heritage or health values that may be affected by the project; and	8.2.1, 8.2.3
• 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 Wellbeing Guidelines* for further information.	4.4, 4.2.1.10, 8.2.2

EAO Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Emissions, Discharges and Wastes	
• A high level outline of anticipated direct project waste and emissions to land, air and water, including estimated GHG emissions.	4.5 (4.5.1 to 4.5.5)
○ 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.	
• A description of proposed mitigation measures and or project design changes to address emissions, including GHGs.	4.5 (4.5.1 to 4.5.5)
Public and Environmental Safety	
• A description of potential malfunctions or accidents associated with the industry or specific to the proposed project and how they will be managed.	4.6
○ Include any proposed outreach to help indigenous nations, governments and the public to 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.	
Alternative Means of Carrying out the Project	
• 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;	4.9 (4.9.1 to 4.9.6)
• The alternative means of undertaking the proposed project may include:	Refer to above sections
○ The use of Best Available Technologies;	
○ The technical and economic feasibility;	
○ The potential effects, risks and uncertainties of those alternatives;	
○ The preferred option and rationale for this preference; and	
○ The different options for the project location, project routing, technologies, mitigation or design.	

EAO Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Effects of the Environment on the Project	
• An overview of potential effects of natural hazards or processes and climate change on the proposed project.	10
Land and Water Use	
• An outline of the anticipated project footprint and proposed area of disturbance;	4.2, Figure 4-1 and 4-2
• 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;	3.5
• Include the applicable zoning, Agricultural 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 number of those lands, if known;	3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.5, 3.6
• A description of past uses of the land required for the proposed project, including whether the site has been previously developed; and	3.5
• A description of water requirements for the proposed project, if applicable, and the proposed source of water.	3.5, 4.2.1.2, 4.2.1.6, 4.2.1.7, 4.2.1.9
Land Use Plans	
• A list of all relevant land use plans, including provincial land use plans, indigenous land use plans, and relevant municipal plans; and	3.6
• An identification of any rezoning or changes to land designations that would be required for the proposed project.	3.6
Project Interactions	
• 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.	9.1
• A summary of biophysical feasibility studies undertaken that may be pertinent to understanding potential interactions, if applicable;	Not applicable
• 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	6, 7, refer to Engagement Plan
• An identification of existing cumulative effects in the region that the project may interact with. Refer to the *Effects Assessment Policy* for more information.	9.2

Appendix B. Concordance with Impact Assessment Act (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1) Guidelines for Contents of an Initial Project Description

Yellowhead Copper Project

Initial Project Description

June 23, 2025

Taseko Yellowhead

Table B-1: Concordance with *Impact Assessment Act* (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1) Guidelines for Contents of an Initial Project Description

Impact Assessment Act (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1) Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Contents of an Initial Project Description For the purposes of subsection 10(1) of the Act, an Initial Project Description must contain the information set out in schedule 1 of the *Information and Management of Time Limits Regulation* (detailed below), and: • Must be representative of the project as proposed at the time the information is provided; and • Must include the information related to any option (alternatives) that the proponent is considering in respect of any item in the description of the project. Section 6 of the *Information and Management of Time Limits Regulations* also specifies that any information that is required to be submitted by a proponent under the Act must: • Be in machine readable format; and • Include a plain language summary of the information in English and French.	Information presented in the IPD is representative of Taseko's current understanding of the Project
Part A: General Information	
1. The project's name, type or sector and proposed location. When naming the project, proponents are encouraged to include a unique identifier, the main resources or sector that is the focus of the project, and the type of project.	1, 4
2. 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
3. A summary of any engagement undertaken with any jurisdiction or other party, including a summary of the key issues raised and the results of engagement and brief description of any plan for future engagement. This should include any engagement with public or other participants.	6, 7
4. A list of indigenous groups that may be affected by the carrying out of the project, a summary of engagement undertaken with indigenous peoples of Canada, including a summary of key issues raised and the results of engagement, and a brief description of any plan for future engagement.	6
5. Any study or plan relevant to the project that is being or has been conducted of the regional where the project is to be carried out, including any regional assessment carried out under the Impact Assessment Act, or by any jurisdiction including by or on behalf of an Indigenous governing body, where the study or plan is available to the public.	3.6, 5.6

Impact Assessment Act (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1) Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Proponents are advised to contact the Agency during the preparation of an Initial Project Description for information regarding any regional studies that may be relevant.	
6. Any strategic assessment, relevant to the project, that is being or has been carried out under section 95 of the Act. ○ Proponents are advised to contact the Agency during the preparation of an Initial Project Description for information regarding strategic assessment that may be relevant.	4.5.2, 5.6
Part B: Project Information	
7. A statement of purpose of and need for the project, including any potential benefits.	3.1, 4.4
• The purpose of the project is the opportunity that the project is intended to solve or satisfy. That is the "need for" establishes the fundamental justification or rationale for the project.	
• The "purpose" and "need for" the project should be established from the perspective of the project proponent and provide the context for the consideration of alternatives to and alternative means (below).	
8. The provisions in the schedule to the *Physical Activities Regulations* describing the project, in whole or in part.	
• Proponents must detail how the project meets the description, threshold (e.g., provide length of new right-of Way [ROW]) and the criteria in any of the other provisions.	5.1, 5.2, 5.3
• Indicate whether the designated project is a component of a larger project that is not listed on the Project List.	Not applicable
9. A list of all activities, infrastructure, permanent and temporary structures and physical works to be included in and associated with the construction, operation and decommissioning of the project.	
• Include existing structures or related activities that will form part of or are required to accommodate or support the designated project. • For example, activities during planning, engineering, site preparation or construction might include but are not limited to, land clearing, excavating, grading, dewatering, directional drilling, dredging, disposal of dredged sediments, infilling and installing structures.	4.1, 4.2, 4.3
• This list should make a clear distinction between any ongoing activities or existing physical works (e.g., those associated with ongoing advanced exploration) and those that form part of the designated project).	4.1, 4.2, 4.3
• This is to include the physical activities that are incidental to the designated project. In determining such activities, the following criteria shall be taken into account: ○ Nature of the proposed activities and whether they are subordinate or complementary to the designated project; ○ Whether the activity is within the care and control of the proponent;	See above sections

Impact Assessment Act (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1) Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
○ If the activity is to be undertaken by a third party, the nature of the relationship between the proponent and the third party and whether the proponent has the ability to "direct or influence" the carrying out of the activity; ○ Whether the activity is solely for the benefit of the proponent or is available to other proponents as well; and	
○ The federal and or provincial regulatory requirements for the activity.	5.5
• Should an impact assessment be required for the designated project, the Agency will take these criteria into consideration in determining the activities that are incidental to the designated project.	Not applicable
• Should the proposed project include transportation activities, information must be provided on where transportation will join established transportation corridors (e.g., site access road connects to municipal road).	4.2.2.1, 4.2.2.3, Figure 4-2
10. An estimate of maximum production capacity of the project and a description of the production process to be used. ○ Capacity refers to the maximum capacity based on the project's design and operating conditions, not the planned capacity of the project. ○ This information may not be relevant to all project types, and the proponent should simply indicate where this is the case. The proponent may instead provide other relevant metrics.	4, 4.2.1
11. The anticipated schedule for the project's construction, operation, decommissioning, and abandonment, including any expansion of the project. ○ This information should include the schedule for key activities in each of those phases. ○ The schedule should also take into account the anticipated time required to conduct the impact assessment, should one be required.	4.3, 5.8
12. A list of potential:	
○ Alternative means that the proponent is considering that are technically and economically feasible, including through the use of Best Available Technologies.	4.9 (4.9.1 to 4.9.6)
○ Alternatives to the project that the project is considering and that are technically and economically feasible, and directly related to the project. ○ Alternatives to the project are functionally different ways to meet the need for the project and achieve its purpose that are technically and economically feasible.	4.8

Impact Assessment Act (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1) Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
Part C: Location Information and Context	
13. Provide a description of the designated project's proposed location including:	
○ 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; ○ Coordinates should be provided in a form suitable for use in GIS (e.g., longitude / latitude) using international standard representation. ○ Coordinates should be appropriate for the project type. E.g., centre of the facility for the boundaries of a mine site, or the beginning and end points of a linear project. ○ For linear projects, under the Canadian Energy Regulator Act, proponents should also provide the extent of the consultation corridor, if it is different for the proposed study corridor. ○ Indicate if you will be using an existing ROW that has been used for a different type of linear project.	3.2, 4.2
○ Site maps produced an appropriate scale, in order to determine the project's proposed general location and the spatial relationship of the project components.	Figure 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 4-1, 4-2
○ The legal description of the 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 water lot. The level of detail should be appropriate for the project type.	1.1.3.2, 3.5, 4.1, 4.2, 8.2.1.2 3.5, 4.1, 4.2, 8.2.1.2
○ The project's proximity to any permanent, seasonal or temporary residences and proximity to the nearest affected communities.	3.2, 8.2.1.2
○ The project's proximity to: • Land used for traditional purposes by Indigenous peoples of Canada; • Land in reserves as defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Indian Act*; • First Nation Land as defined in subsection 2(1) of the *First Nations Land Management Act;* • Land that is subject to a comprehensive land claim agreement or self-government agreement; and • Any other land set aside for the use and benefit of Indigenous peoples of Canada.	3.2, 5.7, 6
○ The project's proximity to any federal lands.	5.6
14. A brief description of the physical and biological environment of the project's location, based on information that is available to the public.	8.1

Impact Assessment Act (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1) Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
15. 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 and or derived from any engagement undertaken.	8.2
Part D: Federal, Provincial, Territorial, Indigenous and Municipal Involvement and Effects	
16. A description of any financial support that the federal authorities are, or may be providing to the project.	5.6
17. A list of any federal land that may be used for the purposes of the project.	5.6
18. A list of any jurisdictions that have powers, duties or functions in relation to an assessment of the project's environmental effects.	5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4
○ This may include permits, licenses, or other authorizations that may be required by federal authorities or other jurisdictions.	5.5
○ A list of any changes to the environment or to the health, social or economic conditions that may occur in Canada that are directly linked or necessarily incidental to the involvement of a federal authority that would permit or enable the project to be carried out in whole or in part.	9, Table 5-2
Part E: Potential Effects of the Project	
19. 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:	
○ Fish and fish habitat as defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Fisheries Act*;	9, Table 9-1 and 9-2
○ Aquatic species as defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Species at Risk Act* (marine plants);	9, Table 9-1 and 9-2
○ Migratory birds, as defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, 1994.	9, Table 9-1 and 9-2
20. A list of any changes to the environment that, as a result of carrying out the project, may occur:	
○ On federal lands;	5.6
○ In a province other than the province in which the project is proposed to be carried out; or	5.6
○ Outside of Canada.	5.6
21. A list of any non-negligible adverse changes to interprovincial waters or to boundary waters or international waters, as those terms are defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Canada Water Act*, — that are caused by pollution — that may be caused by the carrying out of the project.	5.6

Impact Assessment Act (S.C. 2019, C.28, S.1) Initial Project Description Guidelines	Section
22. With respect to Indigenous peoples of Canada, a brief description of any impact – that, as a result of carrying out of the project, may occur in Canada and result from any change to the environment – on:	
○ Physical and cultural heritage;	6, 4.9.2, 8.2.3
○ The current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes; and	6, 9
○ Any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance.	4.9.2, 8.2.3, 9
23. A brief description of any changes 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 undertake with Indigenous peoples of Canada.	9 (to be informed by Simpcw review of draft IPD)
24. An estimate of any GHG emissions associated with the project. ○ This should be calculated as the net GHG emissions associated with the project and estimated based on the information available to proponents at this stage. For guidance see the draft Strategic Assessment of Climate Change developed by ECCC.	4.5.2
25. A list of 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, 4.6
Part F: Summary	
26. A plain language summary of the information in parts A to E is required in English and French. ○ For guidance on how to write a PLS, see the style guide available online.	Plain language summary, developed under separate cover (to be completed for final submission

Appendix C. Engagement Plan

Yellowhead Copper Project

Initial Project Description

June 23, 2025

Taseko Yellowhead

Taseko Yellowhead

Yellowhead Copper Project

Engagement Plan

June 23, 2025

Version: 2

Revision Record

Revision	Date	Description
0	June 6, 2025	Submission Draft for Review
1	June 23, 2025	Issued for submission
2	June 23, 2025	Re-issued for submission

Yellowhead Copper Project

SUBMITTED TO:

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PO Box 9426 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
1800-1138 Melville Street
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SUBMITTED BY:

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200 - 887 Great Northern Way,
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Executive Summary

This document is the Engagement Plan (EP) for the British Columbia (BC)-based Yellowhead Copper Project, a Critical Minerals project that will produce a copper concentrate with payable amounts of gold and silver (the Yellowhead Project or the Project). Taseko Mines Limited (Taseko) is the Proponent for the Project. Taseko is a publicly traded, North American focused mining company headquartered in Vancouver, BC. The management team is comprised of experienced mining professionals with a proven track record of success in developing and operating open pit mines in BC. Taseko and its subsidiaries are committed to responsible resource development, and to developing and sustaining meaningful working relationships with Indigenous groups and the communities in which we operate.

The EP has been prepared with input from Simpcw First Nation (Simpcw) to meet requirements under the Simpcw Assessment Process (Simpcw Process), and for submission to the BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) and Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC). The EP is an appendix to the Initial Project Description (IPD). Submission of the IPD, with the EP will initiate the early engagement phase under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act* (BC Government 2018) and the planning phase under the federal *Impact Assessment Act* (Government of Canada 2019). Taseko intends to submit a request the BC Minister of Environment and Parks to seek agreement from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada for a substituted process under the Impact Assessment Cooperation Agreement between Canada and British Columbia (Government of Canada and BC Government 2020). Substitution would support a more streamlined process while retaining independent decision-making by the provincial and federal governments with respect to the Project. A comprehensive permitting process would be undertaken following the assessment process to enable construction, operation, and eventual closure of the Project. Permitting decisions could only be made following positive decisions under the Simpcw Process as well as the provincial and federal assessment processes.

Sections of the IPD and EP related to the Neskonlith Indian Band, Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band) (SteS), and Adams Lake Indian Band (ALIB) were shared prior to formal submission to the EAO, and the IAAC. Simpcw has provided Taseko with their support to submit the IPD and EP to the EAO and IAAC. This supports Taseko' s goal of commencing the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal assessment processes, respectively.

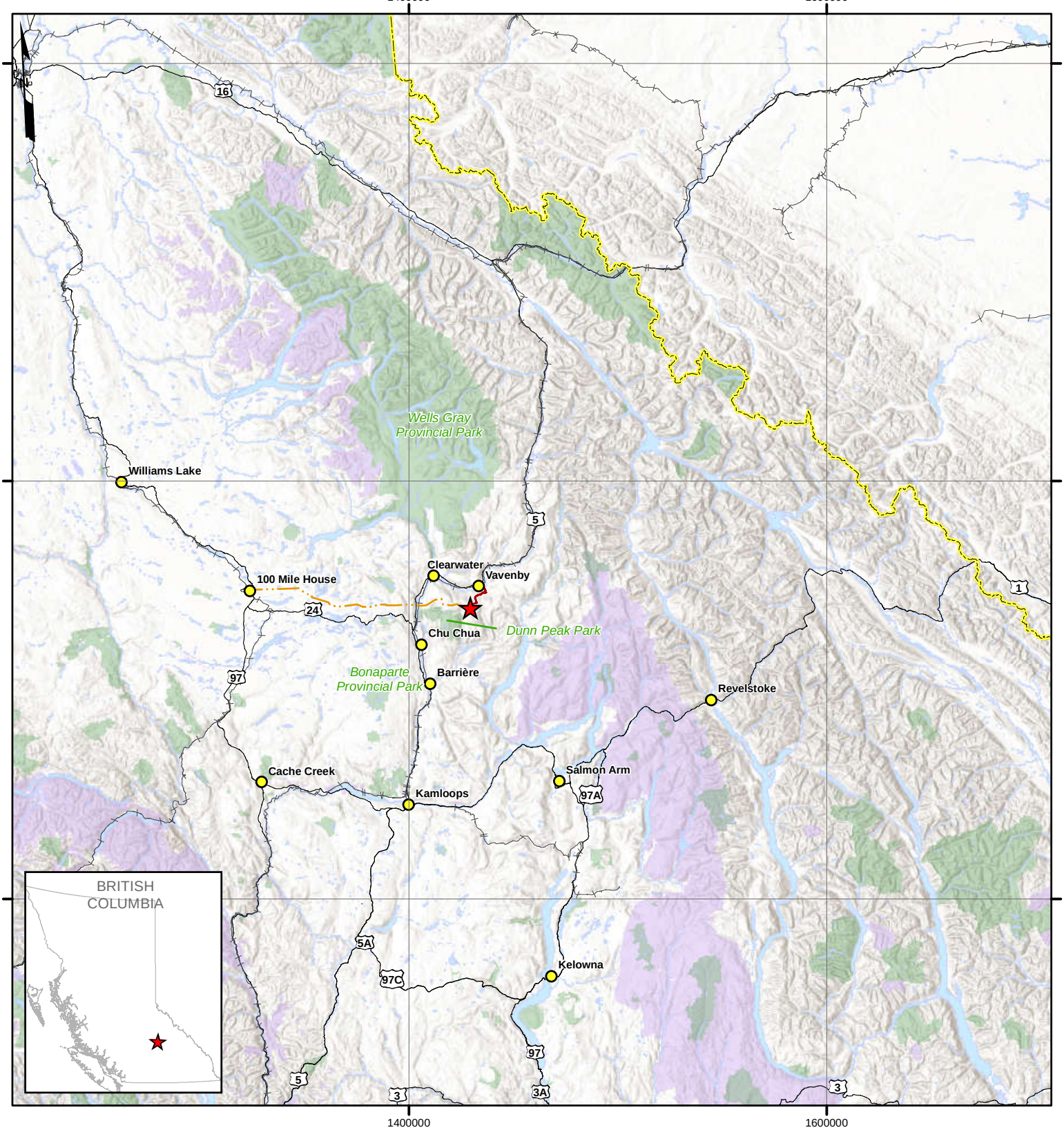
Taseko's Principal Contact for the purposes of the Environmental Assessment (EA) is:

Natasha Essar
Manager, Environment and Permitting
Taseko Mines Limited
1040 West Georgia Street, 12th Floor
Vancouver, BC V6E 4H1
Tel: 778-373-4557
Email: Nessar@tasekomines.com

Project Overview

The Project will be an open pit copper mine that has been designed with a production capacity of 90,000 tonnes per day (tpd) of ore over a 25-year operational mine life. Ore will be mined from the open pit and hauled by truck to a primary crusher located near the ultimate pit rim. Crushed ore will then be transported by overland conveyor to the plant site. At the plant site, processing of the crushed ore within the concentrator will be done using standard grinding and flotation circuits to produce a copper concentrate, with payable amounts of gold and silver. The copper concentrate is proposed to be trucked to a rail load-out facility near Vavenby, BC, and transported via rail to the Port of Vancouver or to other North American markets. From the Port of Vancouver, the copper concentrate will be shipped to overseas markets. Power will be supplied to the Project site by an approximately 110-kilometre (km) long, 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that follows an approximate west to east orientation to interconnect an existing BC Hydro substation at 100 Mile house to a new substation at the Project site (Figure ES 1).

The Project is situated in the unceded territory of the Secwépemc, (Secwepemcúl̓ecw), and primarily within the territory of Simpcw First Nation (Simpcwúl̓ecw). The Secwépemc are sometimes known or referred to as the Shuswap Nation. Taseko is focused on working collaboratively with Simpcw and has agreed to participate in the Simpcw Process, an Indigenous-led assessment process. Taseko will take the lead from Simpcw on how the Simpcw Process will align with provincial and federal EA processes. Through the Simpcw Process, Simpcw will make a Project consent decision independent of the provincial and federal EA process.



Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- Communities
- Waterbodies
- Parks & Protected Areas
- Protected Wildlife Habitat
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- BC-Alberta Boundary
- Railway
- Highways/Roads

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:2,500,000

0 30 60 120 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Engagement Plan

Project Location

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure ES-1

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\EP\EP Figure ES-1 Project Location.mxd

Engagement Approach and Methods

Taseko is committed to building meaningful and mutually beneficial relationships that are based on trust, respect, and open communication. Taseko's approach to engagement seeks to understand and capture the diverse interests and needs of groups potentially affected by the Project. Taseko seeks to respectfully document contributions received through engagement activities into relevant Project documents with accuracy, and to provide meaningful responses. The development of this EP has been guided by the outcomes of engagement to date, the EAO's *Early Engagement Policy* (EAO 2024), and the IAAC's *Guidance: Public Participation in Impact Assessment* (IAAC 2024a).

Taseko will provide Project updates and information in a timely manner, as appropriate to the phase of the EA process and the Project. This will include providing relevant materials in advance of engagements to allow adequate time for parties to review the materials. The frequency of engagement may be based on Project milestones in the provincial or federal EA processes, or at a preferred frequency established through engagement with potentially affected groups.

A Gender Based Analysis+ (GBA+) approach to engagement will be applied, as outlined in the EAO's *Human and Community Well-Being Guidelines for Assessing Social, Economic, Cultural and Health Effects in Environmental Assessments in B.C.* (EAO 2020a). Community members that may be disproportionately impacted by the Project or may be under-represented will be identified. This can include, but is not limited to, women, girls, Elders, and members of the Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, Intersex, Asexual or Ally, and other sexual orientations and gender identities not specifically covered by these categories (i.e., 2SLGBTQIA+) community, those with health challenges (e.g., limited mobility, immune comprised, depression, social anxiety), and those who may not be native English speakers.

Taseko will use engagement techniques, such as cultural and trauma informed practices, use of plain language, and coordinating engagement activities, such as meetings or workshops, around community events, days of significance, leadership elections, harvesting and cultural practices, or as guided by the Indigenous group or community. Methods to support inclusive engagement will be developed with community groups and may include demographic-specific focus groups and other tools.

Indigenous Knowledge Integration and Co-Authorship

Taseko recognizes that Indigenous groups have unique knowledge related to the land. In collaboration with Indigenous groups potentially affected by the Project, Taseko will apply Indigenous Knowledge where relevant and appropriate to inform the EA and to support improved understanding of the potential effects of the Project on Indigenous groups rights, values, and interests. Taseko's approach for applying Indigenous Knowledge will be informed by the governance, laws, protocols, and preferences of potentially affected Indigenous groups, IAAC's *Guidance: Indigenous Knowledge under the Impact Assessment Act* (IAAC 2024b), and the EAO's *Guide to Indigenous Knowledge in Environmental Assessment* (EAO 2020b).

Taseko will engage with Participating Indigenous groups potentially affected by the Project to document their preferences regarding the development of collaborative authorship plans, which would define the roles, responsibilities, and expectations for the collaborative drafting of the assessment of effects to Indigenous interests.

Taseko will apply confidentiality to knowledge shared for the purpose of the Project as per Section 119 of the *Impact Assessment Act* and Section 75 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and in accordance with IAAC's *Guidance: Protecting Confidential Indigenous Knowledge under the Impact Assessment Act* (IAAC 2024c) and EAO's *Guide to Indigenous Knowledge in Environmental Assessments* (EAO 2020b).

Taseko understands and respects the importance of adhering to data confidentiality requirements established by Indigenous groups.

Simpcw Assessment Process

Taseko is currently in Step 2 of the Simpcw Process. Simpcw provided Taseko with a *Letter of Expectations* package in May 2024, which provided notification that the Project would be reviewable under the Simpcw Process and subject to the *Simpcw Assessment Process Policy* (Simpcw 2023). Shortly thereafter, Taseko confirmed its intent to participate in the Simpcw Process, led by Simpcw, by signing the *Letter of Expectations*.

Under the *Letter of Expectations*, which governs Step 1 to 3, Taseko has agreed to the required engagement guidelines and expectations assigned under the Simpcw Process. Taseko will continue to collaboratively work and engage with Simpcw community and leadership throughout the Simpcw Process, and provincial and federal EA processes.

Indigenous Engagement

A distinctions-based approach, which is the preferred approach of the BC Government, is proposed to guide the engagement approach for the Project. As defined by the EAO (BC Government 2023a):

> *"A distinctions-based approach (...) means that the scope of rights enjoyed by an Indigenous People is contextual and that the Province's relations and dealings with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit will be conducted in a manner that is appropriate for the specific context, recognizing and respecting the distinct and different rights, laws, legal systems, and systems of governance of each."*

This will be further informed by the potential for impacts to, and on, the interests of Indigenous groups.

To develop the list of Indigenous groups that have the potential to be affected by the Project, including the transmission line, the BC Consultative Areas Database (CAD), the federal Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System (ATRIS), and the engagement record from the Harper Creek Project EA were reviewed. Engagement with Simpcw leadership also informed the preliminary list of Indigenous groups that have the potential to be affected by the Project. This resulted in the following outcomes:

- The Project is situated primarily within the territory of Simpcw. Simpcw has the highest potential to be affected by the Project site and transmission line. Chu Chua is the closest First Nation community to the Project site (approximately 27 km in distance).
- Three First Nations were identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project site and transmission line. This included the Neskonlith Indian Band, SteS, and the ALIB.
- Tsq̓éscenˀ has been identified as having the highest potential to be affected by the transmission line. The Canim Lake community is the closest First Nation community to the transmission line.
- Two additional Indigenous groups have been identified for notification on the Project and may require further engagement: Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band (Pellt'iq't) and Stswēceḿc Xgāt'tem First Nation (formerly Canoe-Dog Creek Indian Band).

Summary of Engagement

Engagement for the Project commenced in late 2018 and has been informed by the prior engagement carried out for the Harper Creek Project. The sections below provide a summary of engagement and key interests and concerns raised to date.

Simpcw First Nation

Taseko and Simpcw established a Relationship Framework Agreement in April 2020, which provided a framework for the parties to work together to build mutual understanding, trust and respect, and to prepare for the future advancement of the Project. The Relationship Framework Agreement also provided capacity funding for Simpcw to engage with Taseko in the pre-EA phase.

Several agreements have informed and supported engagement activities between Simpcw and Taseko through the early engagement phases, and into the initial steps of the Simpcw Process. Until formal agreements (described below) under the Simpcw Process are negotiated and finalized, these agreements will continue to guide activities between Simpcw and Taseko.

Under the Simpcw Process, there are three primary agreements to be negotiated – the Simpcw Process Funding Agreement, the Relationship Negotiation Agreement, and the Relationship Agreement. In May 2025, Taseko and Simpcw signed the Relationship Negotiation Agreement. The Simpcw Process Funding Agreement will be negotiated and finalized during the appropriate steps as defined within the Simpcw Process. The Relationship Agreement will only be finalized subject to a positive Simpcw Decision on the Project. Taseko will work to advance the development of these agreements with Simpcw in good faith and in a timely manner.

Engagement will continue to be undertaken in a manner that is respectful and transparent, and informed by the preferences, values, and interests shared by Simpcw through regular and ongoing engagement. Taseko notified Simpcw in 2018 of its intention to acquire the Project. Since then, engagement with Simpcw has been ongoing at the leadership and staff-levels, and with community members.

A joint Simpcw-Taseko Yellowhead Project Design Working Group (Working Group) was formed in 2022 to consider Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) alternatives. As part of the Working Group process, Taseko prepared conceptual level designs for eight TSF options, which were then presented to the Working Group with supporting information about each one. A priority weighting system was undertaken to evaluate each of the TSF alternatives, with consideration of Simpcw cultural heritage sites and values, potential environmental and social effects, and technical and economic feasibility. Two TSF options were identified by the Working Group as “worthy of additional investigation via the BC and Simpcw assessment processes” (Option 1- T-Creek TSF and Option 2 – North Avoidance TSF).

A Project site tour with the Simpcw Chief and Council was held in August 2024. Broader engagement with Simpcw community members under the Simpcw Process also occurred in 2024, including the Community Site Tour and Community Open House identified under Step 2 of the Simpcw Process.

On October 3, 2024, Taseko participated in a community dinner in Chu Chua and provided an overview of the Project, followed by a question-and-answer session. This was followed by two days of Community Site Tours of the Project site with Simpcw community members on October 4 and 5, 2024.

On November 27, 2024, a Simpcw Community Open House was held in Chu Chua, comprised of a of series of poster boards providing an overview of the project, mining and processing methods, environmental approach, employment opportunities, and a map area for open discussion. Each booth had an interactive element aimed to meaningfully engage Simpcw youth, Elders, and adult members. A multi-disciplinary team of Taseko representatives was on hand to engage with community members in a one-on-one format.

The schedule was organized to allow for youth and Elders to engage independent of the full community session, depending on their preferences. A community dinner was also hosted ahead of the full community open house in the evening.

Through these engagements, Simpcw has shared its priorities, interests, and concerns related to the Project design, potential effects, project benefits, and the EA process. Taseko has provided responses where possible to inform the engagement approach and the EA process for the Project. Taseko will work with Simpcw to respond to key issues through the Simpcw Process and through the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal EA processes. Taseko will continue to work with Simpcw on interests and concerns raised through all phases of the Project, along with collaboratively developing measures to meaningfully address those concerns.

A list of key interests and concerns raised thus far through initial engagements, along with a desktop review to identify preliminary concerns and interests looking to its internal interests, management priorities, directives, and existing internal data, was compiled. This list includes but is not limited to:

- Simpcw's obligation to protect and steward Simpcwúl̓ecw and its resources, and Simpcw's right to make decisions about land uses within their territory.
- Taseko's approach to considering youth, adult, and Elder perspectives on the Project.
- Interest in project reclamation plans and opportunities, including being involved in fish habitat restoration; there are capabilities within Simpcw community for nurseries.
- Employment, education, and contracting opportunities, and economic benefits and opportunities for current and future Simpcw generations.
- Project design, specifically for the TSF, including response and remediation in the event of a TSF failure.
- Potential project impacts to water courses, water quality, fish and fish habitat, including in the North Thompson River and Adams Lake watershed.
- Potential project impacts to and protection of cultural heritage sites, values, and traditional land use.
- Potential project impacts to traditional foods.
- Potential project impacts to and access for traditional land uses such as hunting, fishing, and gathering, including historical traplines.
- Potential project impacts to vegetation, including historic and current berry gathering sites and loss of medicinal plants within and around the Project area.
- Potential project impacts to human health (e.g., air quality, water, etc.).
- Potential project impacts to ungulates (i.e., elk, caribou), and other wildlife.
- Potential downstream and cumulative impacts.

Taseko will continue to work with Simpcw and proceed through the Simpcw Process and where necessary, collaborate with Simpcw through the provincial and federal EA processes.

Neskonlith Indian Band

Taseko first communicated with the Neskonlith Indian Band in February 2019, following Taseko acquiring sole interest in Yellowhead Mining Inc. (YMI), to share an early draft of the Project IPD for review and comment. This was followed by communications in September 2020 of Taseko's intent to share an updated draft of the IPD and to understand how the Neskonlith Indian Band would like to be engaged. Communications in 2020 were periodic and related to engagement on the Project and notification on a Notice of Work application. In April 2022, the Neskonlith Indian Band contacted Taseko to provide a Consultation Application form, which was required prior to activities being undertaken in their territory.

Reinitiation of contact with the Neskonlith Indian Band was in December 2024, following an introduction from Simpcw Chief (Kúkwpi7). Taseko then requested a meeting to discuss engagement on the Project, with a follow-up in January 2025. Discussion involved an introduction to the Project, engagement with the Neskonlith Indian Band, and potential presentation to Chief and Council. Taseko provided information on the Project location, as requested in the initial meeting. Sections of the IPD related to Neskonlith Indian Band were shared in April 2025 prior to its submission to EAO and IAAC.

No Project-related agreements are in place with the Neskonlith Indian Band at the time of writing.

Key interests and concerns raised through initial engagements include, but are not limited to:

- Capacity funding for participation in the EA process;
- Concerns raised around the potential environmental effects of the Project;
- Employment opportunities and training programs to build community capacity;
- Business opportunities related to the Project;
- TSF; and
- Interest in understanding what happens to the transmission line after closure.

Taseko proposes to continue to engage with the Neskonlith Indian Band to develop a shared understanding of how they would like to be engaged on the Project, with an initial focus on participation in the early engagement and planning phases, interests and concerns, and capacity funding to support their participation in the process.

Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw

Taseko first communicated with the SteS in February 2019, following Taseko acquiring sole interest in YMI, to share an early draft of the Project IPD for review and comment. This was followed by communication in September 2020 of Taseko's intent to share an updated draft of the IPD and to understand how the SteS would like to be engaged. Communications in 2020 were periodic and related to engagement on the Project and notification on a Notice of Work application. In April 2021, the SteS contacted Taseko requesting a project update; Taseko indicated that progress remained the same to updates provided in 2020.

Reinitiation of engagement with the SteS occurred in January 2025, following an introduction from Simpcw's Kúkwpi7. Taseko then requested a meeting to discuss engagement on the Project. An initial meeting was scheduled for February 2025. Sections of the IPD related to SteS were shared in April 2025 prior to its submission to the EAO and IAAC.

No Project-related agreements are in place with the SteS at the time of writing.

Key interests and concerns raised through initial engagements include, but are not limited to:

- Capacity funding for participation in the EA process;
- Requested information on baseline studies;
- Business opportunities related to the Project;
- TSF; and
- Alternative energy source options.

Taseko proposes to continue to engage with the SteS to develop a shared understanding of how they would like to be engaged on the Project, with an initial focus on participation in the early engagement and planning phases, interests and concerns, and capacity funding to support their participation in the process.

Adams Lake Indian Band

Taseko first communicated with ALIB in February 2019, following Taseko acquiring sole interest in YMI, to share an early draft of the Project IPD for review and comment. This was followed by communications in September 2020 of Taseko's intent to share an updated draft of the IPD and to understand how ALIB would like to be engaged. Communications from 2020 to 2021 were periodic, and related to engagement on the Project, notification on a Notice of Work application, and ALIB expectations for engagement and the process for participation in the EA process.

Reinitiation of contact with the ALIB occurred in December 2024, following an introduction from Simpcw's Kúkwpi7. Taseko then requested a meeting to discuss engagement on the Project. An initial meeting was held in January 2025 to provide an overview of the Project, and to understand ALIB concerns and how they would like to be engaged. ALIB advised that they would like to be fully engaged on the Project. Sections of the IPD related to ALIB were shared prior to its submission to EAO and IAAC in April 2025.

No Project-related agreements are in place with the ALIB at the time of writing.

Key interests and concerns raised through initial engagements include; but are not limited to:

- Capacity funding for participation in the EA process;
- Potential for downstream impacts on Douglas Reserve waterbodies;
- Frequency of engagement with Taseko;
- Potential environmental effects and scope of environmental studies; and
- The cumulative effects assessment methodology and approach.

Taseko proposes to continue to engage with the ALIB to develop a shared understanding of how they would like to be engaged on the Project, with an initial focus on participation in the early engagement and planning phases, interests and concerns, and capacity funding to support their participation in the process.

Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation

The Tsq̓éscen̓ has been identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project. Canim Lake is the closest Tsq̓éscen̓ community to the transmission line and has the highest potential to be affected by the transmission line.

Tsq̓éscen̓ is part of the Lakes Division bands of the Secwépemc (Shuswap Nation) (Secwépemc). The main village and administration buildings are situated in the South Cariboo, approximately 30 km east of 100 Mile House. Tsq̓éscen̓ joined three other northern Secwépemc nations to form the Northern Secwépemc to Qelmucw (NStQ).

Following an introduction from Simpcw's Kúkwpi7, initial engagement with the Tsq̓éscen̓ is planned for June 2025. Information on Tsq̓éscen̓ interests and concerns will be shared in future submissions, including the Detailed Project Description (DPD) and the Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application (Application).

No Project-related agreements are in place with the Tsq̓éscen̓ at the time of writing.

Taseko proposes to continue to engage with Tsq̓éscen̓ to develop a shared understanding of how they would like to be engaged on the Project, with an initial focus on participation in the early engagement and planning phases, interests and concerns, and capacity funding to support their participation in the process.

Additional Indigenous Groups to be Notified on the Project

Two additional Indigenous groups have been identified for notification on the Project and may require further engagement. The Indigenous groups in this category were previously engaged on the Harper Creek EA Project. Indigenous groups that may be potentially affected by the transmission line but are located distant from this Project component: Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band (Pellt'iq't); and Stswēcemc̓ Xgāt'tem First Nation (formerly Canoe-Dog Creek Indian Band).

There is the potential for these groups and other Indigenous groups to be identified or self-identify as being potentially affected by the Project. This will be explored further during early engagement and planning phases with Indigenous groups and through discussion with the provincial and federal governments.

Government and Public Engagement

Summary of Engagement with Government

Prior to and since acquiring sole interest in YMI, Taseko sent letters and held engagement events with local, provincial, and federal government representatives advising of the change in ownership of YMI, and the intention to advance the Project into the EA process. The scope of engagement has varied across levels of government, initially appropriate to the stage of the Project from late-2018 through to present.

Taseko has engaged with a subset of BC government regulatory agencies. This has previously included the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, and more recently the BC Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals, on aspects such as mineral tenure, field-based site investigations under Taseko's approved multi-year area-based Notice of Work permit, engagement requirements, and Project progress, along with BC Ministry of Forests on Road Use Permit approvals, and road user and maintenance responsibilities under those permits.

Taseko additionally has regular communications with the EAO and the IAAC representatives anticipated to be involved in the EA process. Meetings prior to the IPD submission involved discussion on Project progress, engagement scoping and progress, coordination of pre-early engagement phase activities, and preparation to enter in provincial and federal EA processes. Currently, Taseko meets with the EAO and IAAC monthly, or more frequently as needed. This engagement is ongoing.

Taseko has also undertaken engagement with the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD), District of Barriere, and District of Clearwater from 2021 to present. Discussions involved updates on the Project, power supply, road use, and introductions to local Yellowhead personnel. In 2024, Taseko additionally established a Project office in Barriere.

Key interests and concerns raised by local and regional government through initial engagements includes but is not limited to:

- Potential impact of the Project workforce on housing in the region;
- Potential impacts on local power supply;
- Potential impacts on local and regional infrastructure including transportation, employment, internet etc.; and
- Potential impacts after Project closure.

Summary of Engagement with the Public

Public and stakeholders potentially affected by the Project include community organizations, community institutions, local business associations, recreational users, tenure holders, neighbouring property owners, and residents of nearby communities and the broader North Thompson region. The list of public and stakeholders to be engaged on the Project will be reviewed and updated routinely. The engagement approach will be tailored based on preferences shared by the public and project stakeholders.

The Project site, along with the existing primary and secondary access routes, rail load-out facility, and some of the eastern portions of the transmission line are in the TNRD. Members of the public and stakeholders that have the potential to be affected by the Project are in District A (District of Clearwater, community of Vavenby), District O (District of Barriere), and District J (District of Kamloops). The western portion of the transmission line and the BC Hydro substation is located within the Cariboo Regional District and the district of 100 Mile House.

Taseko initiated public and stakeholder engagement in late-2018 through notifications to participants in the Harper Creek Project EA process of the change in Project ownership and confirmation of their contact details and preferred method of engagement. Since then, engagement has occurred with some local industry and private landowners in neighbouring communities to discuss project updates, relevant permits, access protocols, and contact information for site investigation and baseline data collection starting in late-2018 and continuing through to present. Engagements in 2023 and 2024 focused on those with the District Chambers of Commerce in Barriere, Clearwater, and Kamloops.

Key interests and concerns raised by the public through initial engagements includes but is not limited to:

- Commercial vehicle speeds and increased highway traffic;
- Project workforce impacting the local housing market;
- Interest in employment and business opportunities;
- Concerns regarding the transmission line going through Vavenby and impacts on local power supply;
- Concerns raised regarding uranium;
- Concerns regarding the financial implications of closure; and
- Concerns regarding water quality in the Clearwater and Thompson Rivers and process water use.

Closing

The Project is a BC-based Critical Minerals project that would produce a copper concentrate with payable amounts of gold and silver. Copper is a Critical Mineral that is an essential metal for everyday life and increasingly important for the global transition to a low carbon future. The production, transmission, and distribution of renewable, low-carbon energy requires the responsible production of copper. The Project would provide a responsible, sustainable, and ethically produced source of copper to the global market to support the rapid electrification of modern economies globally. Further, the Project would also contribute to:

- Advancing provincial and federal economies in Canada, as emphasized in BC and Canada's Critical Mineral strategies;
- Boosting local economies in BC that have been depressed by job losses in the forestry sector and completion of pipeline construction activities;
- Supporting broader societal benefits such as schools and health care through payment of royalties and taxes; and
- Generating value and return on investment for Taseko shareholders.

Information shared by Simpcw in the pre-early engagement phase has informed the development of the current versions of the IPD and EP. The IPD and EP were also shared prior to formal submission with Simpcw, EAO, and IAAC. Selected sections of the IPD and IPD relating to Neskonlith Indian Band, SteS, and ALIB were shared in April 2025. The final IPD and EP were then submitted to EAO and IAAC to start the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal EA processes.

The EP has been prepared with input from Simpcw to meet requirements under the Simpcw process and for submission to the EAO and IAAC. The EP will be submitted with the IPD, submission will initiate the early engagement phase of the EAO process and the planning phase of the IAAC process. During the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal EA processes, there will be opportunity for engagement and for Indigenous groups, government, regulators and the public to provide feedback on the EP within the first 90 days. The feedback will be summarized in a Summary of Engagement that will inform future engagement efforts with potentially affected groups.

Taseko's engagement with Simpcw will be conducted in a manner that is respectful and transparent, and informed by the preferences, values, and interests shared by Simpcw through regular and ongoing engagement.

Next steps for the Project will involve advancing engagement with potentially affected Indigenous groups, stakeholders, government, and the public. It will also involve progressing work to prepare the DPD in consideration of feedback provided during the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal EA processes, and collaborative work through the Simpcw Process.

Please provide feedback on the EP to EAO, IAAC, or directly to Taseko. Contact information for Taseko is provided above and in Section 3 of the EP.

Table of Contents

List of Figures

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronym	Definition
2SLGBTQIA+	Members of the Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, Intersex, Asexual or Ally, and other sexual orientations and gender identities not specifically covered by these categories
ALC	Agricultural Land Commission
ALIB	Adams Lake Indian Band
Application	Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application
ATRIS	Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System
BC	British Columbia
CAD	British Columbia Consultative Areas Database
CRD	Cariboo Regional District
DFO	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
DPD	Detailed Project Description
EA	Environmental Assessment
EAO	Environmental Assessment Office
ECCC	Environment and Climate Change Canada
EMLI	British Columbia Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation
ENV	British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Parks
EP	Engagement Plan
FOR	British Columbia Ministry of Forests
FSR	Forest Service Road
GBA+	Gender-Based Analysis Plus
Harper Creek Project EA	Harper Creek Project Environmental Assessment
IAAC	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
IPD	Initial Project Description
IR	Indian Reserve
Kúkwpi7	Simpcw First Nation Chief
Kúkpi7	Chief
MCM	British Columbia Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals
MP	Member of Parliament
MYAB	multi-year area-based
NSTC	Northern Shuswap Tribal Council
NStQ	Secwépemc te Qelmucw

Acronym	Definition
Pellt'iq't	Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band
ROW	Right-of-Way
Secwépemc	Secwépemc (Shuswap Nation)
Secwepemcúl̓ecw	the unceded territory of the Secwépemc (Shuswap Nation)
Sexqeltqin	Sahhaltkum Reserve #4
Simpcw	Simpcw First Nation
Simpcw Process	Simpcw Assessment Process
Símpcwemc	Simpcw People
Simpcwúl̓ecw	the territory of Simpcw First Nation
SNTC	Shuswap Nation Tribal Council
SteS	Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band)
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
Taseko	Taseko Mines Limited
the Project	Yellowhead Copper Project (or the Yellowhead Project) is a Critical Minerals project that would produce a copper concentrate with payable amounts of gold and silver.
TNRD	Thompson-Nicola Regional District
TSF	Tailings Storage Facility
Tsq̓éscen̓	Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation (formerly Canim Lake Indian Band)
TḰwenem7i'ple7	Councillors
Working Group	Yellowhead Project Design Working Group
YMI	Yellowhead Mining Inc.

Units

Unit	Definition
/	per *or* divide
%	percent
km	kilometre
km^2	square kilometre
t	tonne
tpd	tonnes per day

Defined Terms

Term	Definition
Application	The material prepared to meet the information requirements of the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, and Simpcw impact assessment processes to apply for First Nation and regulatory approvals.
Critical Mineral(s)	Mineral(s) that are essential to modern-day technologies, including renewable electricity, batteries, electronics, and electric vehicles.
conventional sulphide concentrator	Refers to typical process flowsheet for copper sulphide ores widely used in the industry (as opposed to novel flowsheet or other ore types). Includes using three stages of particle size reduction using a crusher, followed by semi-autogenous and ball mill grinding circuits, followed by three stages of flotation to produce a copper sulphide concentrate, which is dewatered using filters.
Cultural site	Any site that has been identified as having cultural value or importance from past, historic, or present use.
First Nation(s)	People whose ancestors are indigenous to the North American continent, particularly Canada, and who are defined as “Indians” under the Indian Act. Does not typically include Inuit or Métis people.
full service camp	Includes all of the required facilities such as dormitories, washrooms, kitchen, and dining facilities to enable workers to remain onsite for the duration of their work rotations.
Indigenous groups	First Nations, Indigenous governments and organizations
Project Phases and Activities	Commencement of primary Project development activities would occur **following issuance of regulatory and First Nation approvals.** **Construction:** 2–3 years in duration and would include site preparation and construction to ready the Project for operations. Involves Environmental Assessment, Permit, and compliance monitoring. **Operations:** 25 years in duration, and would include mining, ore processing, and concentrate transport to market. Involves Environmental Assessment, Permit, and compliance monitoring. **Closure:** 7 years in duration and would include decommissioning and reclamation. Considered complete when the open pit fills with water and water discharge restarts. **Post-Closure:** Decades+ in duration; would continue until permit conditions are met and the company is released from all legal obligations.

1. Introduction

This Engagement Plan (EP) has been prepared by Taseko Mines Limited (Taseko) for the Yellowhead Copper Project, a Critical Minerals project that would produce a copper concentrate with payable amounts of gold and silver (the Yellowhead Project or the Project). Taseko is a publicly traded, North American focused mining company headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia (BC). The management team is comprised of experienced mining professionals with a proven track record of success in developing and operating open pit mines in BC. Taseko and its subsidiaries are committed to responsible resource development, and to developing and sustaining meaningful working relationships with Indigenous groups and the communities in which we operate.

The Project will be an open pit copper mine that has been designed with a production capacity of 90,000 tonnes per day of ore over a 25-year operational mine life. The Project is situated in the unceded territory of the Secwépemc (Shuswap Nation) (Secwepemcúl̓ecw), and primarily within the territory of Simpcw First Nation (Simpcwúl̓ecw). Taseko is focused on working collaboratively with Simpcw First Nation (Simpcw) and has agreed to participate in the Simpcw Assessment Process (Simpcw Process), an Indigenous-led assessment process.

The Simpcw Process is a "six-step review process that establishes protocols for relationship(s), expectations for information collection and sharing, and a structure for decision-making specific to Simpcw" (Simpcw 2023). The Simpcw Process will lead the assessment of the Project; Taseko is currently in Step 2. The Project will additionally be subject to assessment under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act* (BC Government 2018) and the Canada *Impact Assessment Act* (Government of Canada 2019).

Taseko intends to submit a request the BC Minister of Environment and Parks (ENV) to seek agreement from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) for a substituted process under the *Impact Assessment Cooperation Agreement between Canada and British Columbia* (Government of Canada and BC Government 2020). Substitution would support a more streamlined process while retaining independent decision-making by the provincial and federal governments with respect to the Project. A comprehensive regulatory approvals process would be undertaken following the assessment process to enable construction, operation, and eventual closure of the Project. Permitting decisions could only be made following positive decisions under the Simpcw Process as well as the provincial and federal EA processes.

This iteration of the EP has been developed to support the Simpcw Process requirements. Additionally, it focuses on the early engagement phase of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and the planning phase of the *Impact Assessment Act*. The EP is a complementary document to the Initial Project Description (IPD) and is included as an Appendix to the IPD.

2. Project Overview

2.1 Project Purpose and Need

Copper is a Critical Mineral that is both an essential metal for everyday life and increasingly important for the global transition to a low carbon future. The production, transmission, and distribution of renewable, low-carbon energy requires the responsible production of copper. Currently there is no viable alternative to copper in many electrification applications.

The Project will provide a responsible, and ethically produced source of copper to the global market to support the rapid electrification of modern economies globally. The Project will also contribute to:

- Advancing provincial and federal economies in Canada through the development of Critical Minerals, as emphasized in Canada's and BC's Critical Minerals strategies.
- Boosting local economies in BC, which have been depressed by job losses in the forestry sector and completion of pipeline construction activities in the Project region, through provision of local jobs and business expenditures.
- Supporting provision of social and community services, and other societal benefits to local and First Nation communities in BC and Canada, through payment of royalties and taxes.
- Generating value and return on investment to Taseko shareholders.

2.2 Project Description Summary

The Project will be an open pit copper mine that has been designed with a production capacity of 90,000 tonnes per day of ore over a 25-year operational mine life. Ore will be mined from the open pit and hauled by truck to a primary crusher located near the ultimate pit rim. Crushed ore will then be transported by overland conveyor to a coarse ore stockpile at the plant site. Processing of the crushed ore within the concentrator will be done using standard grinding and flotation processes to produce a copper concentrate, with payable amounts of gold and silver.

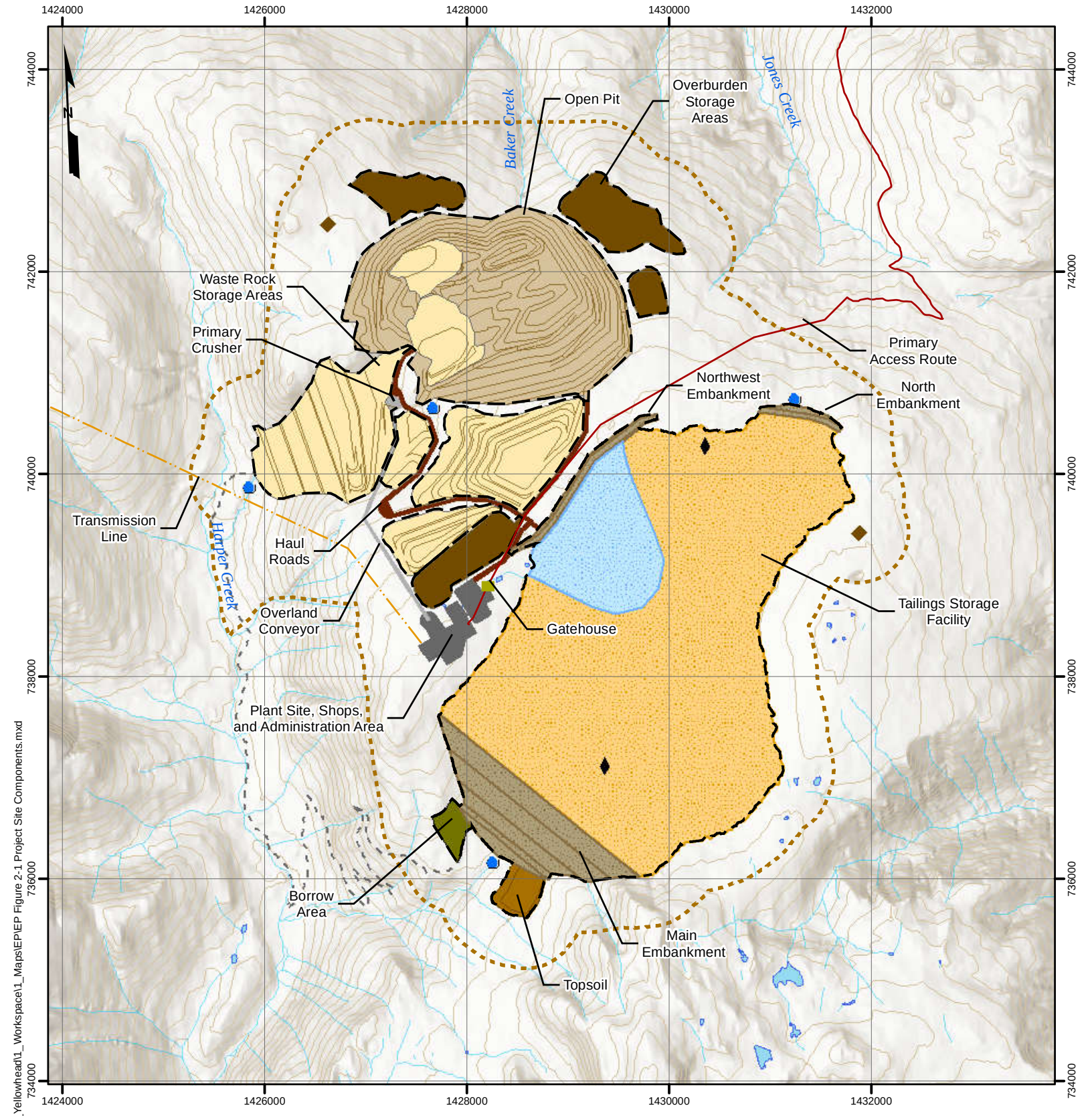
Overburden, waste rock, and tailings produced from mining and mineral processing will be stored onsite. Non-acid generating waste rock will be hauled to one of the waste rock storage areas near the open pit for surface storage. Tailings will be transported via pipeline and stored within the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF), along with potentially acid generating waste rock to maintain geochemical stability.

Power will be supplied to the Project site via an approximately 110-kilometre (km) long, 230 kilovolt powerline that follows an approximate west to east orientation to interconnect the existing BC Hydro substation at 100 Mile House to a new substation at the Project site. Conceptual routing options have been identified and are shared in the context of a transmission line for engagement and feedback in the IPD.

The primary access route to the Project site will be from Highway 5, near the community of Vavenby, BC, and continue along existing Forest Service Roads (FSR) to the gate house. For personnel, operational, and public safety, access to the Project site will be restricted. It is anticipated that the Project will have a buffer around the Project site where the discharge of firearms may be restricted for safety reasons. A secondary access route for oversized and heavy loads will be from Highway 5 near Birch Island, crossing the North Thompson River at the Lost Creek Road bridge, and continuing along the road route until connecting with the primary access route to the Project site.

Final concentrate produced at the Project site will be trucked offsite to a rail load-out facility located near Vavenby. The concentrate will then be transferred to rail car at the rail load-out facility and transported by rail to the Port of Vancouver and/or direct railed to other North American markets. From the Port of Vancouver, the copper concentrate will be shipped to overseas markets.

The Project site and offsite project components are shown on Figure 2-1 and Figure 2-2. Further discussion on Project components is provided the IPD.



Legend

- Simpcw Culturally Significant Site
- Gatehouse
- Explosives Storage Areas
- Water Management Ponds
- Project Footprint
- Extent of Project Components
- Open Pit
- Overburden Storage Areas
- Waste Rock Storage Areas
- Beach
- Embankment
- Supernatant Pond
- Borrow Area
- Topsoil
- Overland Conveyor
- Road
- Plant Site, Shops, and Administration Area
- Waterbodies
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Existing Forest Service Road

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:50,000

0 0.5 1 2 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

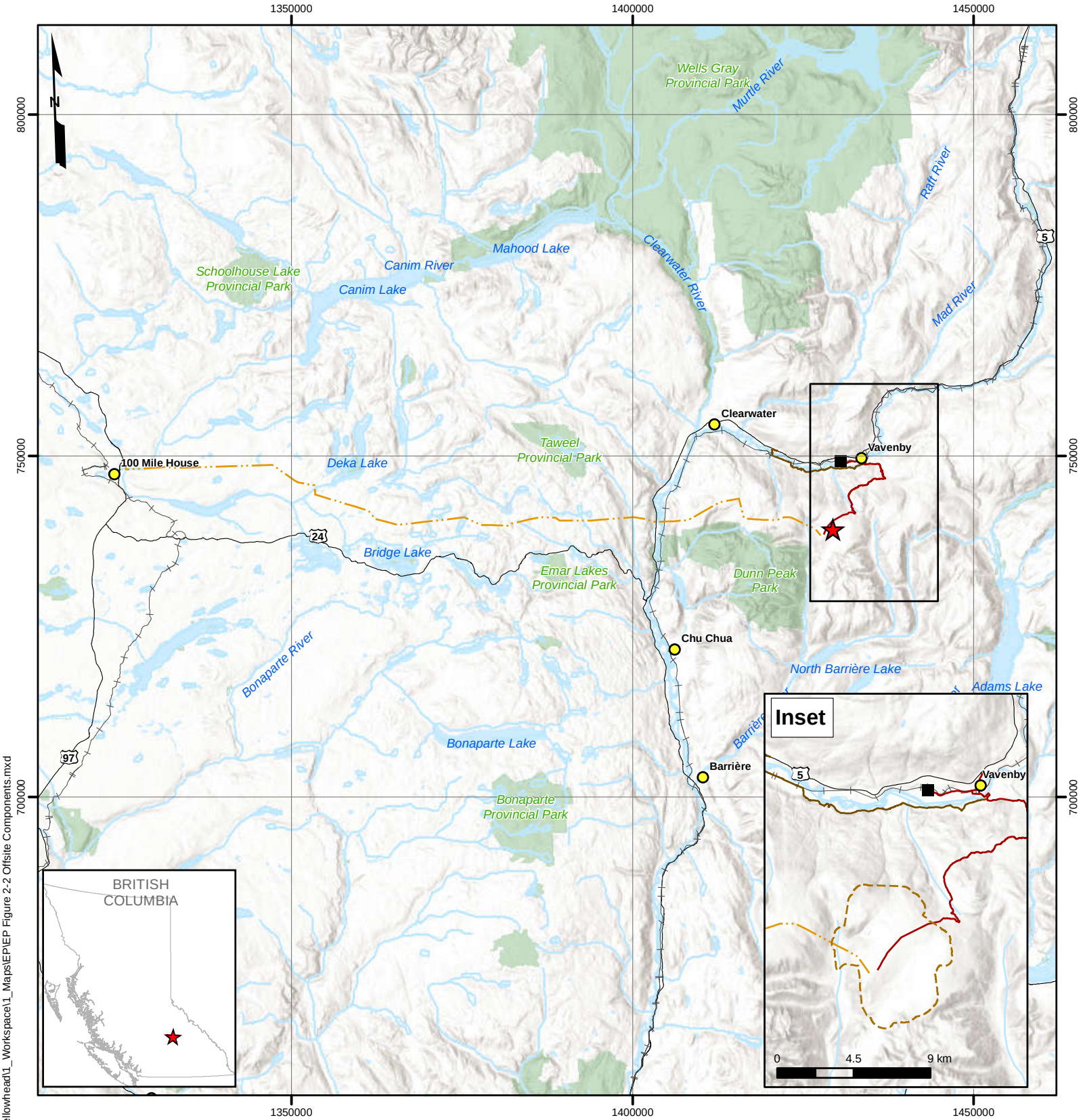
Yellowhead Copper Project
Engagement Plan

Project Layout, Project Site Components

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 2-1

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\EP\EP Figure 2-1 Project Site Components.mxd



Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- Rail Load-Out
- Communities
- Project Footprint
- Parks & Protected Areas
- Waterbodies
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- Secondary Access Route
- BC-Alberta Boundary
- Railway
- Highways/Roads

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:750,000

0 5 10 20 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Engagement Plan

Project Site, Offsite Components

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 2-2

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\EP\EP Figure 2-2 Offsite Components.mxd

2.3 Project Location

The Project is in the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) in south-central BC. The TNRD is about 44,000 square kilometres (km^2) and has a population of more than 143,000 people (TNRD 2023). Kamloops is the largest community in the area and is a regional mining hub. The Project is also in Secwepemcúl̓ecw and primarily within the territory of Simpcw First Nation (Simpcwúl̓ecw) (Figure 2-3 and Figure 2-4). Chu Chua is the closest Simpcw community to the Project site.

The Project is about 150 km northeast of Kamloops, BC along Highway 5, near the community of Vavenby, BC. The center point of the Project site is approximately 51° 30’ 00”N latitude, 119° 48’ 00”W longitude. From Vavenby, the Project is accessed by about 20 kms of existing FSRs (Figure 2-3). When needed, oversized and heavy truck loads will use as a secondary access route. The secondary access route will be along Highway 5 at Birch Island Lost Creek Road until it connects with the primary access route.

The concentrate will be shipped from the mine site by rail. The rail load-out facility will be located at the existing Weyerhaeuser site located near the community of Vavenby. Coordinates for the rail load-out facility are approximately 51°35’6N latitude, 119°46’14”W longitude.

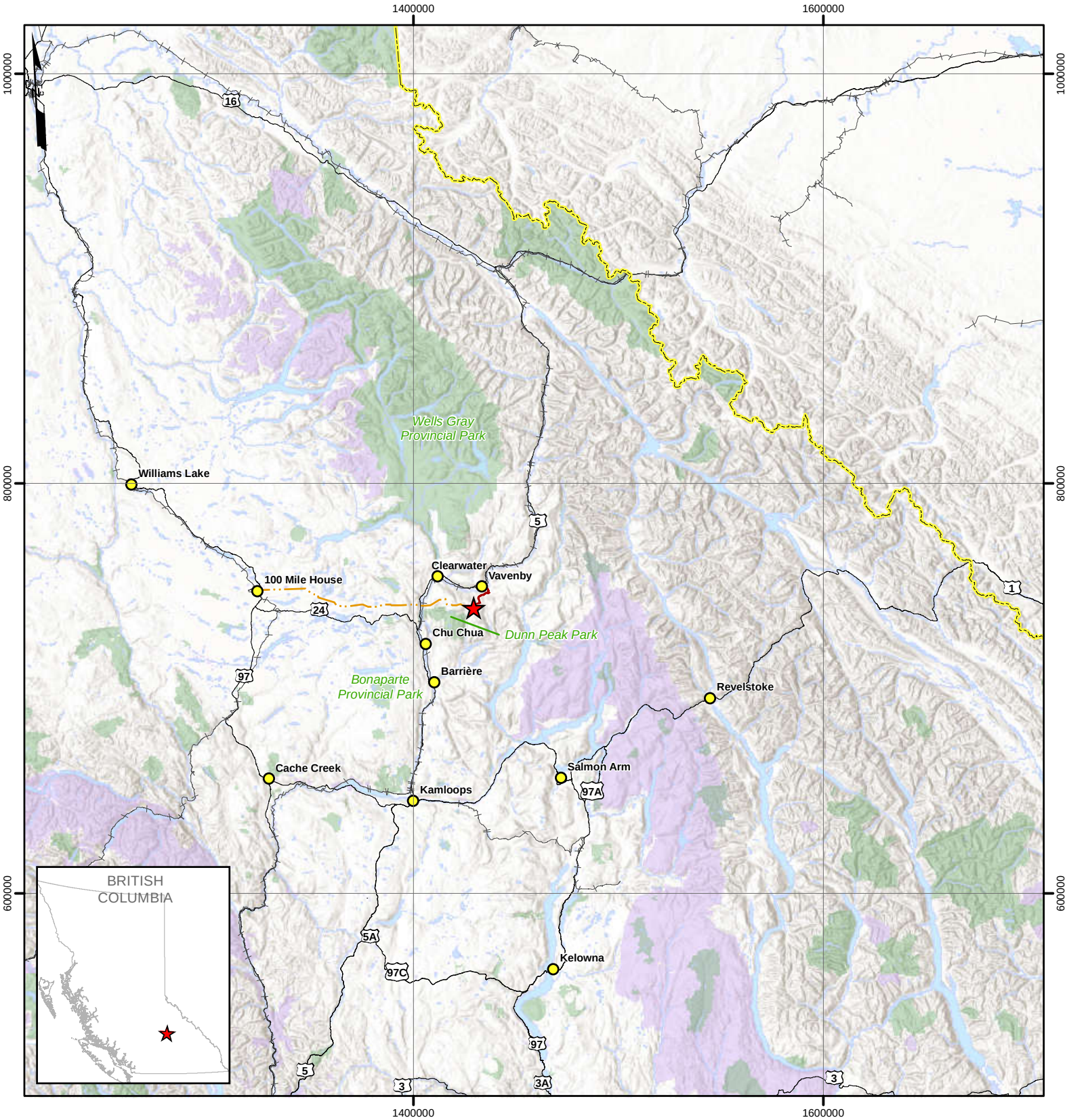
The two closest communities to the Project are Vavenby and Birch Island, BC. Vavenby is an unincorporated community located on the north bank of the North Thompson River, approximately 20 km by road from the Project site. Vavenby has a population of about 240 (Statistics Canada 2024). Birch Island is a smaller community located on the south bank of the North Thomspon River, about 10 km directly northwest of the Project site and 20 km west of Vavenby by road. There are private land holders with farms and houses on the south bank of the North Thompson River between Birch Island and Vavenby.

Other communities along the Highway 5 corridor between Kamloops and Vavenby:

- Clearwater, which is located about 27 km west of Vavenby;
- Little Fort, which is located about 30 km south of Clearwater;
- Blackpool, which is located about 15 km south of Little Fort;
- Barriere, which is located about 30 km south of Little Fort;
- Avola, which is located 45 km north of Vavenby; and
- Blue River, which is 85 km north of Vavenby.

There is a protected area near the Project. Under the *Environment and Land Use Act*, certain areas can become protected areas to help preserve and maintain the natural environment. This also means certain activities such as industrial roads, pipelines, and transmission lines are not allowed in the area (BC Parks n.d.). Dunn Peak Park is a protected area is located about 2 km to the west of the Project site. As well, Wells Gray Provincial Park is located north of Clearwater and is about 100 km north from the Project site.

Mountain caribou habitat and Old Growth Management Areas are close to the Project site.



Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- Communities
- Waterbodies
- Parks & Protected Areas
- Protected Wildlife Habitat
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- BC-Alberta Boundary
- Railway
- Highways/Roads

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

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0 30 60 120 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

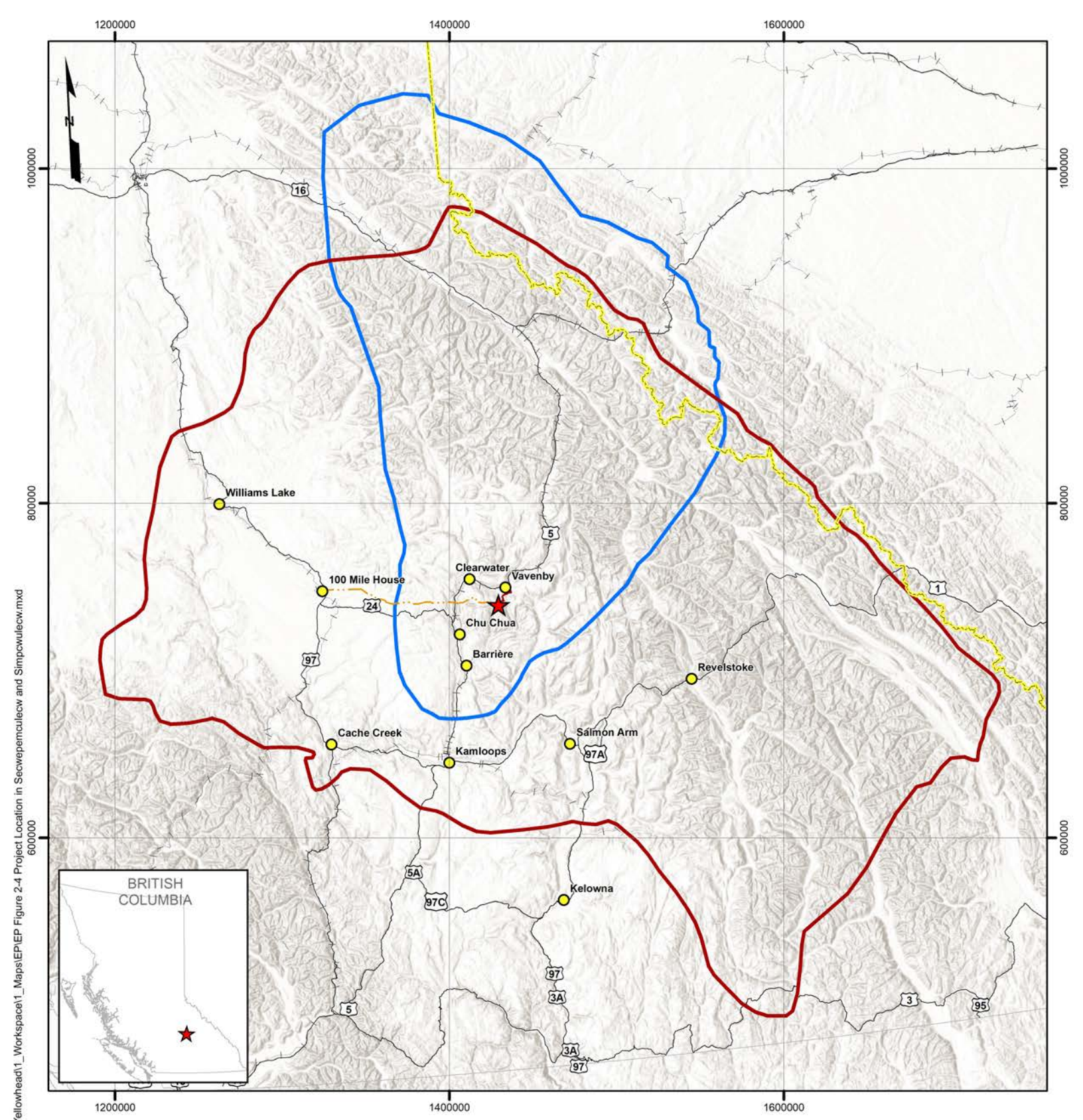
Yellowhead Copper Project
Initial Project Description

Project Location

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 2-3

Document Path: G:_Projects\201\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\EP\EP Figure 2-3 Project Location.mxd



Document Path: G:_Projects\2011201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\EP\EP Figure 2-4 Project Location in Secwepemculecw and Simpcwulecw.mxd

Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- Communities
- Secwepemcúlecw (Secwépemc Territory)
- Simpcwúlecw (Simpcw Territory)
- Transmission Line
- Primary Access Route
- BC-Alberta Boundary
- Railway
- Highways/Roads

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:3,000,000

0 37.5 75 150 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Engagement Plan

Project Location in Secwepemcúlecw and Simpcwúlecw

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 2-4

3. Proponent Information

3.1 Company Overview

Taseko is the Proponent for the Project, a proposed open pit copper mine that would produce payable amounts of gold and silver. Taseko, through its wholly owned subsidiary Yellowhead Mining Inc. (YMI), is planning to finance, construct, and operate the Project. Taseko acquired the Project in 2019.

Incorporated in 1966, Taseko is a North American focused mining company headquartered in Vancouver, BC. Taseko is publicly traded on the Toronto, New York, and London Stock exchanges under the symbols TKO, TGB, and TKO, respectively. The management team is comprised of experienced mining professionals with a proven track record of success in developing and operating open pit mines in BC.

Taseko's wholly owned and operated Gibraltar Mine is located 65 km north of Williams Lake, BC, and currently has about 700 employees. Taseko has other projects at different stages of development, including Florence Copper in Arizona, USA, and Aley and New Prosperity in BC, Canada. Florence is expected to complete construction and commence operations in late 2025.

Taseko and its subsidiaries are committed to responsible resource development, and to developing and sustaining meaningful working relationships with First Nations and the communities in which we operate.

3.2 Indigenous Peoples Policy

Taseko's *Indigenous Peoples Policy* guides the engagement approach for the Project (Taseko 2020a).

Taseko is committed to developing mutually beneficial relationships with Indigenous peoples and with local communities that are affected by, or that affect, its endeavours. To fulfill this commitment, the following principles will guide decisions and the conduct of Taseko employees:

- Respect Indigenous and Treaty rights and seek to understand local perspectives on those rights.
- Acknowledge and respect the social, economic, environmental, and cultural interests of Indigenous Peoples.
- Engage with Indigenous Peoples to develop open and effective relationships throughout the mining lifecycle.
- Undertake early, timely, and culturally appropriate engagement with Indigenous peoples, including within the Environmental Assessment (EA) process, to ensure their interests in a project and its potential impacts are understood.
- Consider traditional knowledge to minimize or mitigate potential adverse environmental and social impacts and enhance positive benefits of mining and related activities.
- Develop agreements for participation, where appropriate, either directly with local Indigenous communities or in conjunction with governments.
- Work with governments and communities to support and encourage community development programs, which may include education, training, employment and business development, or other community needs and priorities.

- Support and encourage Indigenous involvement in environmental monitoring, closure planning and reclamation, and other environmental activities that may be of interest to them.
- Develop and implement company policies and systems that support these commitments and encourage suppliers of goods and services to the industry to do the same.

3.3 Contact Information

The corporate contact information is as follows:

Taseko Mines Limited
1040 West Georgia Street, 12th Floor
Vancouver, BC V6E 4H1
Tel: 778-373-4533
Fax: 778-373-4534
www.tasekomines.com

The Principal Contact for the purposes of the Environmental Assessment Application:

Natasha Essar
Manager, Environment and Permitting
Taseko Mines Limited
1040 West Georgia Street, 12th Floor
Vancouver, BC V6E 4H1
Tel: 778-373-4557
Email: Nessar@tasekomines.com

4. Engagement Approach

4.1 Engagement Principles

Taseko is committed to building meaningful and mutually beneficial relationships that are based on trust, respect, and open communication. Taseko's approach to engagement seeks to understand and capture the diverse interests and needs of groups potentially affected by the Project. The development of this EP has been guided by the outcomes of engagement to date, the Environmental Assessment Office's (EAO) *Early Engagement Policy* (EAO 2024), and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada's (IAAC) *Guidance: Public Participation in Impact Assessment* (IAAC 2024a).

High-level principles that will be applied to engagement with groups potentially affected by the Project are as follows:

- **Relevance** – Project information relevant and appropriate to the stage of the Project will be shared with potentially affected groups and used to seek feedback to inform the EA process, including consideration of Indigenous and local knowledge related to the Project area.
- **Transparency** –Project information and/or documentation will be shared as available and appropriate for the stage of the Project, and where required for review and comment, with provisions to safeguard confidential and Indigenous Knowledge. How engagement has been used to inform the Project, the EA processes, and subsequent engagement activities will be incorporated into communications.
- **Timeliness** – Timely and accurate information about the Project and opportunities to participate in engagement activities will be identified over the course of the Project. Timelines for review and feedback of information and materials related to assessment activities will be communicated at the earliest opportunity and updated in the event of any changes.
- **Inclusivity** –A broad engagement approach will be used for the Project that seeks to capture the diverse interests and needs of potentially affected groups. Engagement will be informed by preferences shared with Taseko and undertaken in a manner that is aligned with the principles of Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) (IAAC 2021).
- **Flexibility** –Understanding the unique and diverse needs of potentially affected groups, Taseko will aim to be flexible in the engagement approach for the Project and seek to be responsive to changing capacities of potentially affected groups.

4.2 Engagement Contributions

Taseko seeks to respectfully document contributions received through engagement activities into relevant Project documents with accuracy, and to provide meaningful responses. Engagement efforts will facilitate three key aspects of incorporating feedback from potentially impacted parties into Project documents:

- **Gathering contributions:** Through in-person and virtual leadership and technical meetings, in-person and virtual community meetings, site visits, open houses, public comment periods, and providing materials prior to meetings for review and comment.
- **Applying contributions:** Through Project-related information request periods, early and iterative reviews of Project documents, engagement summaries and meeting minutes, and verification processes defined according to Indigenous groups preferences and protocols.

- **Responding to contributions:** Taseko will track feedback (see Section 5.2) and respond to contributions from Indigenous groups through letter responses, or during meetings, as appropriate. Public, stakeholder, and government agency contributions will be responded to through open house question and answer sessions and public comment and regulated information request periods.

Through engagement, Taseko will develop approaches to understand expectations of potentially affected groups for how their contributions should be applied throughout the EA process. Contributions will inform, where applicable, the Project design, selection of valued components, authorship of existing conditions, effects assessment, mitigation, monitoring, and cumulative effects.

4.3 Indigenous Knowledge Integration

Application of Indigenous Knowledge for the EA will be carried out in line with Section 22 of the *Impact Assessment Act* and Section 2 of the *Environmental Assessment Act*. Taseko recognizes that Indigenous groups have unique knowledge related to the land. In collaboration with Indigenous groups potentially affected by the Project, Taseko will apply Indigenous Knowledge where relevant and appropriate to inform the EA and to support improved understanding of the potential effects of the Project on Indigenous groups rights, values and interests. Taseko's approach for applying Indigenous Knowledge will be informed by the governance, laws, protocols, and preferences of potentially affected Indigenous groups, IAAC's *Guidance: Indigenous Knowledge under the Impact Assessment Act* (IAAC 2024b) and the EAO's *Guide to Indigenous Knowledge in Environmental Assessment* (EAO 2020b).

As part of this work, Taseko will:

- Listen to personal experiences and hear perspectives on previous projects and industry presence in their community and within their territory.
- Seek information on sites of cultural interest not already known to Taseko through baseline data collection. This would include any site that has been identified as having cultural value or importance from past, historic, or present use.
- Seek to develop a shared understanding by asking meaningful questions that facilitate sharing, reflect understanding, and acknowledge the value of the Indigenous Knowledge being shared.
- Approach engagement with an understanding that Indigenous groups have unique cultures and will have their own preferences, priorities, and perspectives.
- Be prepared to adjust the approach to gathering and applying Indigenous knowledge to meet the unique needs and direction of Indigenous groups.

Taseko will engage with Indigenous groups through a collaborative, consensus-seeking process to determine how Indigenous Knowledge may be shared in respect of permissions and confidentiality (see Section 4.1) and applied throughout the Yellowhead Project's Environmental Assessment Application (Application).
The consensus seeking process will employ methods such as meetings, tracking tables, and working groups. The process approach will be specific to each Indigenous group, based on the topics requiring discussion and their preferred application of methods. Taseko will work with Indigenous groups to define, understand, and respect protocols and permissions for the application of their Indigenous Knowledge. This engagement will be conducted using the methods described in Section 5.4.

4.4 Diverse Populations

A GBA+ approach to engagement will be applied as outlined in the EAO's Human and Community Well-Being Guidelines for Assessing Social, Economic, Cultural and Health Effects in Environmental Assessments in BC (EAO 2020a). Community members that may be disproportionately impacted by the Project or may be under-represented will be identified. This can include but is not limited to women, girls, Elders, members of the Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, Intersex, Asexual or Ally, and other sexual orientations and gender identities not specifically covered by these categories (i.e., 2SLGBTQIA+) community, those with health challenges (e.g., limited mobility, immune comprised, depression, social anxiety) and those who may not be native English speakers.

Taseko plans to engage with community groups on potential approaches to support inclusive engagement with women, Elders, harvesters, and youth and further anticipates this to be an ongoing aspect of engagement. Methods will be developed with community groups and may include demographic-specific focus groups, online and printed resources, providing additional technology (e.g., internet boosters, community-specific online portals for safe data collection) to promote meaningful participation and attendance in engagement activities.

Specific approaches related to cultural protocols will be identified through ongoing engagement with First Nations. Through the early engagement and planning phases, engagement with potentially affected Indigenous groups will help ensure Taseko is adhering to relevant data permissions, Indigenous Knowledge confidentiality, and other engagement preferences, as applicable.

5. Engagement Methods

5.1 Engagement Methods

Taseko will provide Project updates and information in a timely manner, as appropriate to the phase of the EA process and the Project. This will include providing relevant materials in advance of engagement to allow adequate time for groups to review the materials. The frequency of engagement may be based on Project milestones in the Simpcw, provincial or federal EA processes, or at a preferred frequency established through engagement with potentially affected groups.

Taseko will use established engagement techniques, such as cultural and trauma informed practices, use of plain language, and coordinating engagement activities, such as meetings or workshops, around community events, days of significance, leadership elections, harvesting and cultural practices, or as guided by the Indigenous group or community. Table 5-1 lists the methods that may be used to advance engagement efforts, seek feedback from potentially affected groups, and inform the development of Project information and/or regulatory submissions. These methods will support the EAO and IAAC in documenting and addressing feedback from potentially affected groups as part of the EA process and supporting the Crown's Duty to Consult (EAO 2020b; IAAC 2025).

Table 5-1: Engagement Methods

Engagement Method	Purpose
Emails	Emails may be used to provide information on the Project, such as invites to participate in engagement activities, or Project notifications and updates with supporting links and/or materials for additional information.
Letters	Letters may be distributed by email or post, depending on preference. Purpose would vary, but could include, notifications, provision of information or updates on the Project, or requests for feedback on preferred engagement methods and frequency of engagement.
Phone Calls	Phone calls may be used to discuss the Project, engagement activities, and any other continuing discussions as necessary. This may be on a one-on-one basis, or with a group, depending on the preferences or guidance provided to Taseko.
Project Website	A Project website is planned to be developed as a communication tool to provide information about the Project, and for the public to provide feedback and access contact information. Subscribing for updates via email will also be available on the website.
Community Newsletters, Handouts, and Social Media	Handouts, Community Newsletters, or social media will be used to provide Project information, promote awareness of upcoming engagement events, opportunities to provide feedback, and other important information about the Project.
Engagement Meetings	Virtual and/or in-person meetings may be used to provide information about the Project, such as a Project introduction, overview of the EA process, opportunities for public comment and input, and exploration of initial interests and concerns related to the Project. Engagement meetings may also be technical in focus to facilitate a shared understanding of a specific issue or topic, along with a means for providing input and feedback. Where appropriate, these engagements would be supported by subject matter experts.

Engagement Method	Purpose
Community Meetings	Virtual or in-person (upon request) community meetings to provide Project updates, and explore interests and concerns related to the Project. Community meetings may also be technical in focus to facilitate a shared understanding of a specific issue or topic, along with a means for providing input and feedback. Where appropriate these engagements would be supported by subject matter experts.
Regulatory Engagement	Virtual or in-person regulatory engagement support to the EAO and the IAAC to provide Project updates, and explore interests and concerns related to the Project, and support on public comment periods, as required. This would also include meetings with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), once established as part of the regulatory process for the Project. TAC membership and oversight in managed by the EAO.
Site Visits	In-person visits to the Project site are expected to be scheduled, as needed, over the course of the Project. Site visits are useful opportunities to discuss the Project, provide visual context, and on-the-land sharing of knowledge.
Community-led Events	Taseko participation in community-led events to participate, support or present Project information can be scheduled upon request and interest.

In response to feedback from potentially affected groups, Taseko may use various engagement approaches to support participation in the EA process and will collaborate with potentially affected groups to understand their level of interest in engagement and preferred engagement methods and frequency. As such, additional methods not listed in Table 5-1 may be applied throughout the early engagement and planning phases.

5.2 Engagement Topics

An overview of key topics identified for engagement across all engaged parties is provided in Table 5-2.

Table 5-2: Engagement Topics

Category	Topic
Project Design	• Project overview. • Project components. • Design changes including options and alternatives. • Project schedule. • Construction and operational planning.
Closure and Long-Term Land Use	• Reclamation planning and methods • Land use planning • Habitat restoration • Reclamation research
Engagement Approach	• Preferred methods and frequency of engagement for various groups and individuals. • Defining engagement protocols. • Capacity concerns or constraints to participation. • Project information requirements.

Category	Topic
Regulatory Processes and Permitting	• Regulatory processes and schedules. • Deliverables associated with regulatory processes (e.g., Initial Project Description, Detailed Project Description, Application Information Requirements, etc.). • Scoping discussion for the Simpcw Process, and the provincial and federal processes and valued component identification.
Indigenous Knowledge	• Indigenous Knowledge sharing, collection, and use. • Traditional use and/or land use studies. • Cultural sites and any mitigation that may be required.
Baseline Studies and Data Collection	• Scope of studies including identification of culturally important species for consideration. • Schedule for data collection. • Participation in fieldwork. • Results and reporting.
Interests and Concerns	• Questions, issues, and concerns regarding the Project unique to each group or individual. • Pathways to resolution of raised interests and concerns. • Mitigation measures. • Opportunities for involvement.
Agreements with First Nations and Indigenous Groups	• Capacity funding and/or collaboration agreements. • Traditional use and/or land use studies. • Collection and use of Indigenous Knowledge. • Data sharing or information sharing agreements. • Other topics as identified by the Indigenous groups for discussion.

5.3 Indigenous Groups Co-Authorship

Taseko will engage with participating Indigenous groups potentially affected by the Project to document their preferences regarding the development of collaborative authorship plans, which would define the roles, responsibilities, and expectations for the collaborative drafting of the assessment of effects to Indigenous interests.

5.4 Confidentiality

Taseko will apply confidentiality to knowledge shared for the purpose of the Project as per Section 119 of the *Impact Assessment Act* and Section 75 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and in accordance with IAAC's Guidance: Protecting Confidential Indigenous Knowledge under the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAAC 2024c) and the EAO's Guide to Indigenous Knowledge in Environmental Assessments (EAO 2020b). Taseko understands and respects the importance of adhering to data confidentiality requirements established by Indigenous groups.

Engagement will focus on understanding preferences around confidentiality and applying specific protocols and processes for knowledge and data confidentiality. In the absence of specific preferences, Taseko will work with potentially affected Indigenous groups to develop a confidentiality process for the Project.

This may include the development of agreements to inform how to apply, document, and present reviewed and approved Indigenous Knowledge and data sources in the Application.

5.5 Record Keeping and Reporting

In accordance with requirements set out in the EAO Early Engagement Policy, a comprehensive engagement tracking system is used that supports the development of an accurate, transparent, and descriptive engagement record to help ensure commitments and issues are addressed or mitigated (EAO 2024).

Summary of the tools that will be used to support the engagement tracking process for the Project include:

- **Engagement Record:** A record that documents communication and engagement events with potentially affected groups, attendees or number of attendees as relevant, including when the communication occurred, which representative sent or received the communication, the type of communication (e.g., letter, email, or phone call), information summarizing the engagement activity including topics discussed and concerns raised, Project documents shared, and the relevant EA phase. Taseko will share group-specific engagement records with Indigenous groups potentially affected by the Project and/or transmission line for review and contribution prior to filing with the EAO and IAAC.
- **Issues and Response Tracking:** A record that documents issues, feedback, and interests raised by potentially affected groups, shared verbally during engagement activities, by written communication, and/or through public engagement activities facilitated by the EA process, along with Taseko's responses and/or required follow-up.
- **Summaries of Engagement:** Summaries of the engagement record will be included in the Detailed Project Description (DPD) and Application/Impact Statement to document key discussion topics and how feedback shared by potentially affected groups inform the Project. Summaries would be developed after in-person events such as site visits and workshops. Meeting minutes or notes would be developed for virtual and hybrid meetings, as appropriate. Summaries may be shared with participants for review as appropriate.

StakeTracker was used up to April 2025 for managing engagement records and reporting for the Project. The comprehensive engagement tracking system was transitioned to NetBenefit in April 2025, which provides improved functionality and management of engagement records and reporting. NetBenefit will be used for the Project going forward.

6. Indigenous Engagement

A distinctions-based approach, which is the preferred approach of the BC Government, is proposed to guide the engagement approach for the Project. As defined by EAO (BC Government 2023a):

> *"A distinctions-based approach (...) means that the scope of rights enjoyed by an Indigenous People is contextual and that the Province's relations and dealings with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit will be conducted in a manner that is appropriate for the specific context, recognizing and respecting the distinct and different rights, laws, legal systems, and systems of governance of each."*

This will be further informed by the potential for impacts to, and on the interests of, Indigenous groups.

To develop the preliminary list of Indigenous groups that have the potential to be affected by the Project, including the proposed transmission line corridor, the BC Consultative Areas Database (CAD), federal Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System (ATRIS), and engagement record from the Harper Creek Project Environmental Assessment (EA) Application for a similar project in the same location, as accepted for review by the Environmental Assessment Office and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency in 2015, and as terminated by the Environmental Assessment Office in 2018 due to inactivity on the file (Harper Creek Project EA) were reviewed. Engagement with Simpcw leadership also informed the preliminary list of Indigenous groups that have the potential to be affected by the Project. This resulted in the following outcomes:

- The Project is situated primarily within the territory of Simpcw. Simpcw has the highest potential to be affected by the Project. Chu Chua is the closest First Nation community to the Project site.
- Three Indigenous groups were identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project. This included Neskonlith Indian Band, Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band) (SteS), and the Adams Lake Indian Band (ALIB).
- Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation (formerly Canim Lake Band) (Tsq̓éscen̓) has been identified as having the highest potential to be affected by the transmission line. Canim Lake community is the closest First Nation community to the transmission line.
- Two additional First Nations have been identified for notification on the Project and may require further engagement: Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band (Pellt'iq't); and Stswēcem̓c Xgāt'tem First Nation (formerly Canoe-Dog Creek Indian Band).

The transmission line provided in the IPD is for the purposes of engagement and allows for feedback received during early engagement and planning phases to inform the final route selection for assessment. Indigenous groups with the potential to be affected by the transmission line will be confirmed once the final route is selected. Additional key design changes for the Project are associated with TSF design, tailings and water management, and water treatment, that were informed by feedback on the former Harper Creek Project. The information provided in this section is informed by that work.

6.1 Engagement Objectives

The engagement approach with Indigenous groups potentially affected by the Project will be responsive and informed by the governance, laws, preferences, and protocols of Indigenous groups as communicated to Taseko. Taseko may additionally be required to fulfil certain procedural aspects of the Crown's duty to consult, and where reasonable and practicable, seek to accommodate concerns of potentially affected Indigenous groups.

The following will inform engagement with Indigenous groups potentially affected by the Project:

- **Collaboration:** Taseko is currently in Step 2 of the Simpcw Process. Simpcw provided Taseko with a *Letter of Expectations* package in May 2024, which provided notification that the Project would be reviewable under the Simpcw Process and subject to the *Simpcw Assessment Process Policy* (Simpcw 2023). Shortly thereafter, Taseko confirmed its intent to participate in the Simpcw Process led by Simpcw by signing the *Letter of* Expectations. The Simpcw Process will guide and inform Simpcw-Taseko's collaboration approach on aspects such as engagement, Indigenous knowledge, and baseline data collection to inform the Application.
- **Reconciliation:** Taseko is committed to advancing the goals of reconciliation with potentially affected First Nations by supporting the implementation of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Government of Canada 2021) and the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (BC Government 2019), recognizing the importance of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent and the inherent right of Indigenous groups to participate in decision-making in matters that would affect their Rights.
- **Indigenous Knowledge:** Aligned with the EAO's *Early Engagement Policy* (EAO 2024), Taseko intends to use the best available science, Indigenous Knowledge, and local knowledge to support the EA process for the Project. Taseko recognizes that Indigenous Knowledge contains observations about the natural world that are distinct and unique from western science, and that the respectful application of Indigenous Knowledge in the assessment of the Project can support rigorous and informed decision making about the Project.

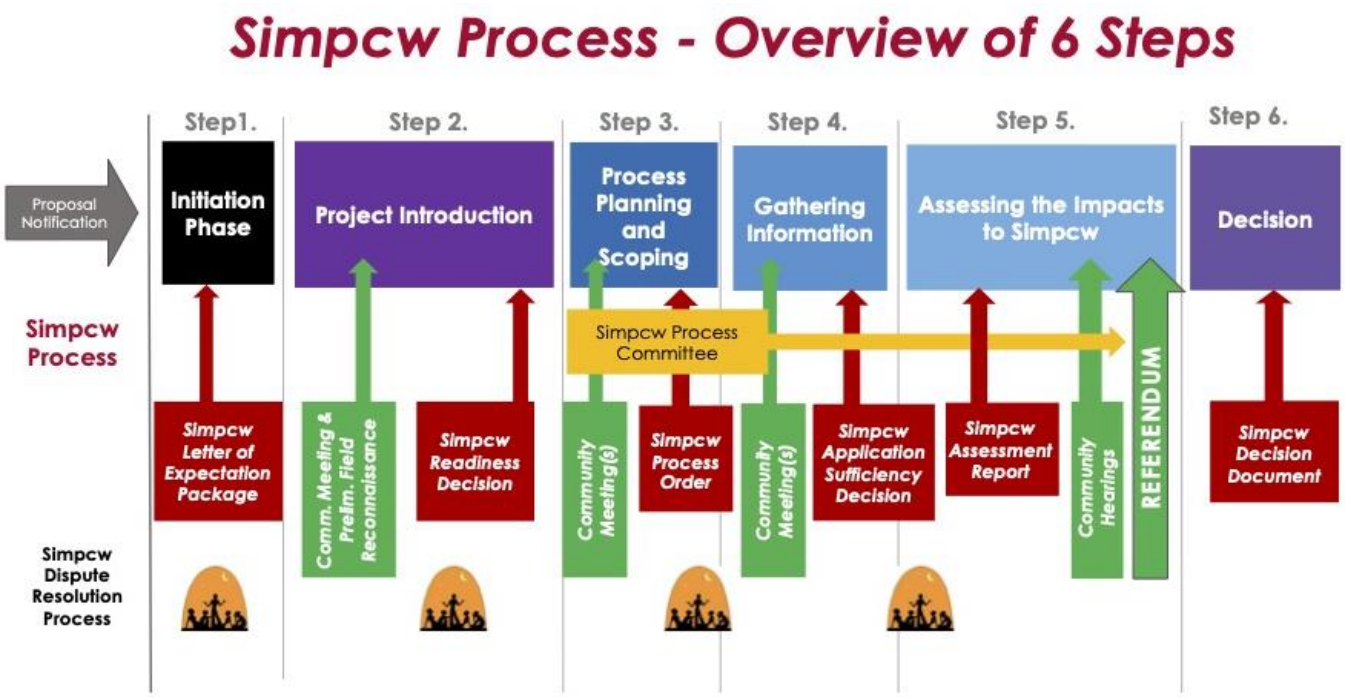
6.2 Simpcw Assessment Process

The Project site and transmission line are primarily situated within Simpcwúl̓ecw. Taseko has been engaging with Simpcw since it announced an agreement to acquire the Project in late 2018.

Following the termination of the Harper Creek Project EA, Simpcw concluded that any future proposal to develop the Project would undergo the Simpcw Process.

The Simpcw Process is a "six-step review process that establishes protocols for relationship[s], expectations for information collection and sharing, and a structure for decision-making specific to Simpcw" (Figure 6-1; Simpcw n.d.).

Figure 6-1: Simpcw Assessment Process, Overview of Six Steps



The *Simpcw Assessment Process Policy* (Simpcw 2023) describes the Simpcw Process as:

> *"… a consent-based process Simpcw will use to make a decision regarding a Proposed Activity and ensures that project assessments appropriately consider and respect Simpcw Rights, Interests, laws, values, priorities and culture. These Simpcw Rights, values and laws have been passed down from Tqaltkúkwpi7 (Creator) and Simpcw ancestors and continue to be maintained by Símpcwemc" (Simpcw 2023).*

Taseko is currently in Step 2 of the Simpcw Process. Simpcw provided Taseko with a *Letter of Expectations* package in May 2024, which provided notification that the Project would be reviewable under the Simpcw Process and subject to the *Simpcw Assessment Process Policy* (Simpcw 2023). Shortly thereafter, Taseko confirmed its intent to participate in the Simpcw Process, led by Simpcw, by signing the *Letter of Expectations*.

Under the *Letter of Expectations*, which governs Step 1 to 3, Taseko has agreed to the required engagement guidelines and expectations assigned under the Simpcw Process. Taseko will continue to collaboratively work and engage with Simpcw community and leadership throughout the Simpcw Process, and provincial and federal EA processes.

Engagement will be conducted at all times in a manner that is respectful and transparent, and informed by the preferences, values and interests shared by Simpcw through regular and ongoing engagement.
Since entering the Simpcw Process, Taseko has completed Step 1 Project Initiation, and has made progress under Step 2 Project Introduction. These steps represent early steps in a multi-year process that would complete in Step 6 with a decision by Simpcw on the Project.

Notwithstanding Simpcw's intent to exercise its decision-making authority within the Simpcw Process, it is possible that Simpcw may also choose to participate in the provincial (BC)-federal (Canada) EA process, and initiate Section 19(4) Indigenous-Led Assessment under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act*. Taseko will take the lead from Simpcw on how they wish to advance the Simpcw Process in parallel with the assessment being undertaken by BC and Canada.

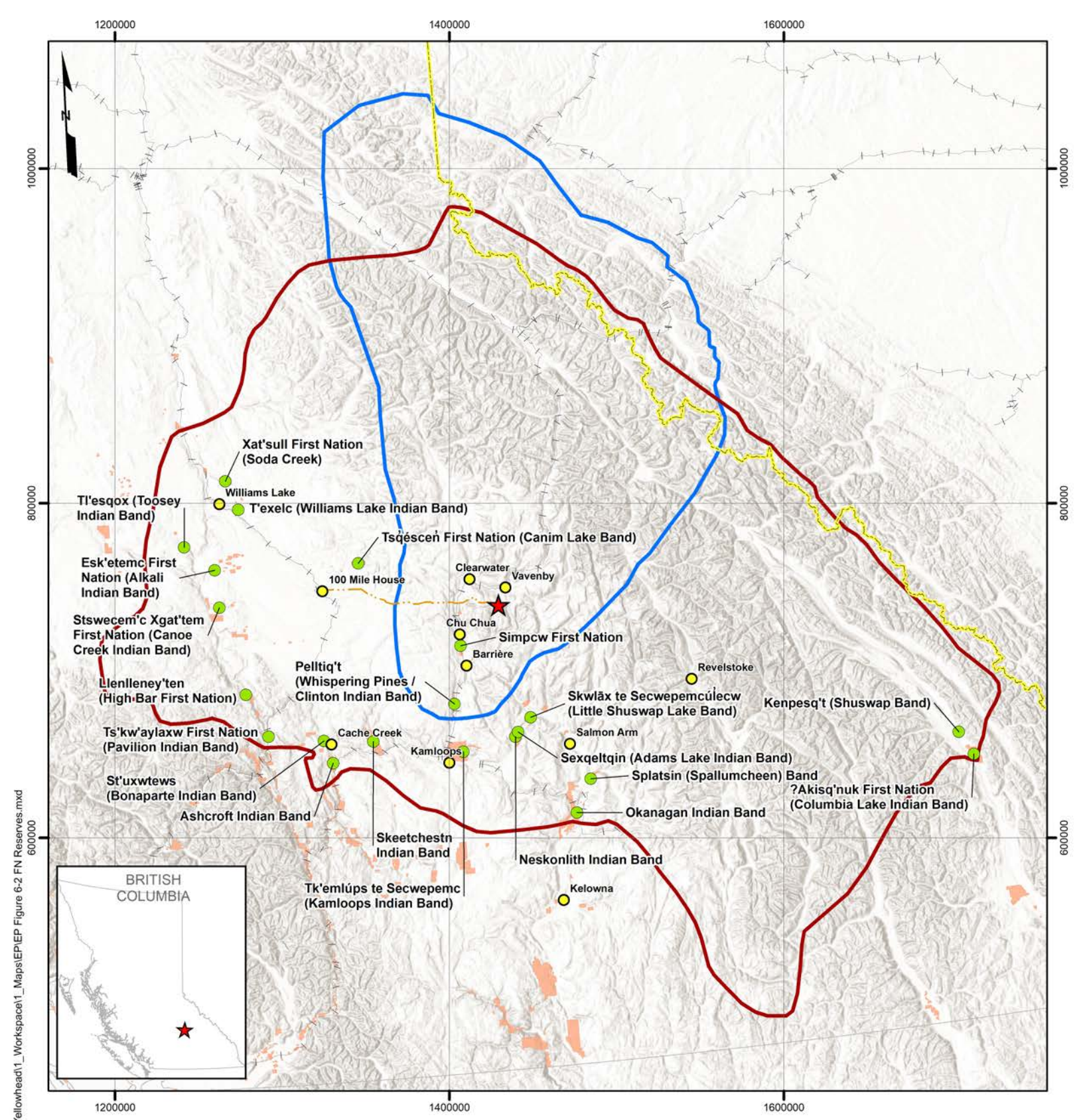
6.3 Identified Indigenous Groups

The Project is located in Secwepemcúl̓ecw (Figure 6-3). The Secwépemc (Shuswap Nation) is comprised of 17 campfire areas, with approximately 17,000 members. Secwepemcúl̓ecw stretches from the Columbia River valley along the Rocky Mountains, west to the Fraser River, and south to the Arrow Lakes (Tk'emlúps te Secwe̓pemc n.d.). The territory encompasses approximately 145,000 km^2 of the central interior of BC. Within Secwepemcúl̓ecw, the Project is located primarily within Simpcwúl̓ecw. The location of Indigenous communities and Reserves in proximity to the Project are shown on Figure 6-2.

The Secwépemc campfires are organized into two tribal councils, the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council (SNTC) in the south and the Northern Shuswap Tribal Council (NSTC) in the north, with some being unaffiliated. Indigenous groups identified as being potentially affected by the Project site and/or transmission line corridor to be engaged on the Project are identified in Table 6-1 along with their tribal council affiliation.

Indigenous groups to be notified on the Project are listed in Table 6-2. These groups were previously involved in the Harper Creek Project EA and are unlikely to be potentially impacted by the Project. Taseko nonetheless intends to notify these groups of its intention to submit the IPD and initiate entry into the provincial and federal EA processes.

There is the potential for the groups in Table 6-2 and additional Indigenous groups to be identified or self-identify as being potentially affected by the Project. This will be further explored through the early engagement and planning phase with Indigenous groups and through discussion with provincial and federal governments.



Legend

- Yellowhead Copper Project
- First Nation Community
- Communities
- First Nation Reserve
- Secwepemcúlecw (Secwépemc Territory)
- Simpcwúlecw (Simpcw Territory)
- Transmission Line
- BC-Alberta Boundary
- Railway

Notes

1. 119.807937W, 51.502588N
2. NTS Map Sheet 082M12
3. Base data from BC Data Catalogue
4. Base topographic layer from Esri
5. Project components and mine data provided by Taseko Mines Limited, 16 May 2025
6. Updates prepared by SLR

Taseko Yellowhead

1:3,000,000

0 37.5 75 150 km

Coordinate System: BC Environmental Albers

Yellowhead Copper Project
Engagement Plan

First Nation Communities and Reserves

Date: 23 June 2025
Rev: 1

Figure 6-2

Document Path: G:_Projects\2011\201_089535_Taseko_Yellowhead\1_Workspace\1_Maps\EP\EP Figure 6-2 FN Reserves.mxd

Table 6-1: First Nations Potentially Affected by the Project and/or Transmission Line

First Nation	Location	Potentially Affected by the Project	Potentially Affected by the Transmission Line	Tribal Council Affiliation	Rationale for Inclusion
Simpcw First Nation (Simpcw)	• Project is located primarily within Simpcwúlecw, the territory of the Simpcw. • Chu Chua, the main Simpcw community, is the closest First Nation community to the Project site.	X	X	Shuswap Nation Tribal Council (SNTC)	• Simpcw has the highest potential to be affected by the Project • Project is undergoing the Simpcw Assessment Process (Simpcw Process). • Previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project Environmental Assessment Application for a similar project in the same location, as accepted for review by the Environmental Assessment Office and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency in 2015, and as terminated by the Environmental Assessment Office in 2018 due to inactivity on the file (Harper Creek Project EA).
Neskonlith Indian Band	• Neskonlith Indian Band has three Indian Reserves (IR) lands on the west and south side of the Thompson River and the western boundary of the Salmon Arm, BC.	X	X	SNTC	• Previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA.
Skwlāx te Secwepemcúlecw (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band) (SteS)	• SteS traditional territory is in the central interior region of BC, with its main reserve in Chase, BC.	X	X	Unaffiliated	• Previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA.
Adams Lake Indian Band (ALIB)	• ALIB has 7 reserves, with the main office is located on the Sahhaltkum (Sexqeltquin) IR#4, located on the west side of Little Shuswap Lake, across from the village of Chase, BC.	X		SNTC	• Previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA.
Tsq̓éscenˀ First Nation (formerly Canim Lake Band) (Tsq̓éscenˀ)	• Canim Lake community is located northeast of 100 Mile House, BC. • Canim Lake is the closest First Nation community to the transmission line.		X	Northern Shuswap Tribal Council (NSTC)	• Tsq̓éscen has the highest potential to be affected by the transmission line component of the Project.

Table 6-2: Additional Indigenous Groups to be Notified on the Project

First Nation	Location	Rationale for Notification
Whispering Pines / Clinton Indian Band (Pellt'iq't)	• Campfires located within Secwépemc (Shuswap Nation) (Secwépemc) territory. • Communities located distant from the transmission line corridor.	• The transmission line is a key design change from the Harper Creek Project. However, these First Nations are located distant from the transmission line and unlikely to be affected. • Previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA.
Stswēceḿc Xgāt'tem First Nation (formerly Canoe-Dog Creek Indian Band)		

6.4 Summary of Engagement

Engagement for the Project commenced in late 2018 and has been informed by the engagement carried out for the Harper Creek Project which is described further in Section 6.4.1 Engagement for the Project has focused on providing information, answering questions, and preparing for the process. Table 6-3 provides an overview of the start of engagement with Indigenous groups that have expressed interest in being engaged throughout the EA process.

Table 6-3: Primary Engagement with Indigenous Group Summary

Indigenous Group	Engagement Start	Further Details in Section
Simpcw First Nation	2018	Section 6.5
Neskonlith Indian Band	2019	Section 6.6
Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw	2019	Section 6.7
Adams Lake Indian Band	2019	Section 6.8
Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation	Planned June 2025	Section 6.9

Engagement to date has focused on introducing the Project and Taseko, discussions around the EA process and the preparation of the IPD. Each of the Indigenous groups listed above have been provided with the opportunity to review the draft IPD and relevant sections of this EP. The comments received have been reviewed and incorporated into the materials where relevant. Information received helped inform the indigenous group sections listed in Table 6-3, including the identification of interests, issues, and concerns for further engagement. Taseko will continue to engage regarding these and future deliverables. If further comments are received, they will be tracked, reviewed, and incorporated into the IPD, EP, or other documents as appropriate.

Identified Indigenous groups will continue to be notified regarding the process throughout the process and will have opportunities throughout the process to engage.

6.4.1 Harper Creek Project Engagement

In 2015, the Harper Creek Project EA was put on hold so additional work on tailings alternatives and management could be completed. After an initial three-year extension, the provincial EA process was terminated in 2018 by the EAO due to inactivity on the Harper Creek Project EA. As the site, access routes, and rail load-out facility are geographically similar, the issues raised through the Harper Creek Project EA process have been considered by Taseko. The concerns raised in the 2015 Harper Creek Project EA process have informed improvements in the tailings and water management approaches and design for the Project. Key concerns raised and the improvements they informed on the Projects provided in Table 6-4.

Table 6-4: Improvements Informed by Concerns Raised on Harper Creek Project

Topic	Issue Raised on Harper Creek Project	Improved Design or Approach of the Project
Tailings Management	Location of the Harper Creek Project Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) would have negatively impacted two culturally important sites*.	Eight TSF options were considered and two options were identified through the joint Simpcw-Taseko Yellowhead Project Design Working Group for further investigation through the Simpcw Process and EA. One of the options was carried forward as Taseko's preferred option and presented in the IPD.
	Concerns regarding geotechnical stability of TSF Embankments.	Additional geotechnical site investigation and improvements to TSF design and construction methodology, including wider tailings beaches and shallower embankment slopes.
Water Management	Concerns regarding amount of stored water and potential for impacts on waterbodies including North Thompson River, and Adams Lake watershed.	Project design reduces the volume of stored water onsite through operational water treatment.
Water Treatment		
Assessment Scope	Adequacy of the assessment of potential effects to Indigenous rights and interests.	The Yellowhead Project's Environmental Assessment Application will meet the assessment requirements of the Simpcw Process and the provincial and federal EA processes.
*The two culturally important sites are shown on Figure 2-1		

6.5 Simpcw First Nation

The Project is primarily situated in Simpcwúl̓ecw, the territory, campfire, and stewardship area of Simpcw. Simpcw is identified as a key participant for Project.

Simpcwúl̓ecw (Figure 6-3) is described on the Simpcw website as:

> *"Simpcwúl̓ecw (Simpcw Territory) covers 5,000,000 hectares and extends from south of Mclure, north to Kakwa Park, west of Goat River, and east of Jasper, including the whole of the North Thompson Valley" (Simpcw n.d.).*

Simpcw is one of the 17 campfires that comprise the Secwe̓pemc. Simpcw people (Símpcwemc) take pride in their guardianship of the territory, honouring both traditions and responsibilities to the land, wildlife, and people that make their home in Simpcwúl̓ecw, and for generations to come. Simpcw has 895 members, with 200 members on reserve and 695 members off reserve. A majority of the in-community members live in the main village of Simpcw, Chu Chua (Simpcw n.d.). Chu Chua is located about 27 km from the Project. Simpcw is a member of the SNTC.

Simpcw is governed by a Ku̓kwpi7 (Chief) and Council, elected for a four-year term. The current Chief is Ku̓kwpi7 George Lampreau, who was elected in April 2024. Council has six Councillors that serve Simpcw membership alongside Ku̓kwpi7. Key contacts for Simpcw are provided in Table 6-6. Simpcw are a culturally proud community valuing holistic, healthy lifestyles based on respect, responsibility, and continuous participation in growth and education.

Key areas of Simpcw's governance include (Simpcw n.d.):

- Administration (finance, housing, lands, membership, and public works);
- Education;
- Health (health and wellness, crisis support, Elders, youth, and other priority areas);
- language and culture;
- Natural resources (protection, conservation, stewardship, fisheries, archives, and territorial stewardship plan);
- Social development (resources to improve Simpcw way of life); and
- Economic development.

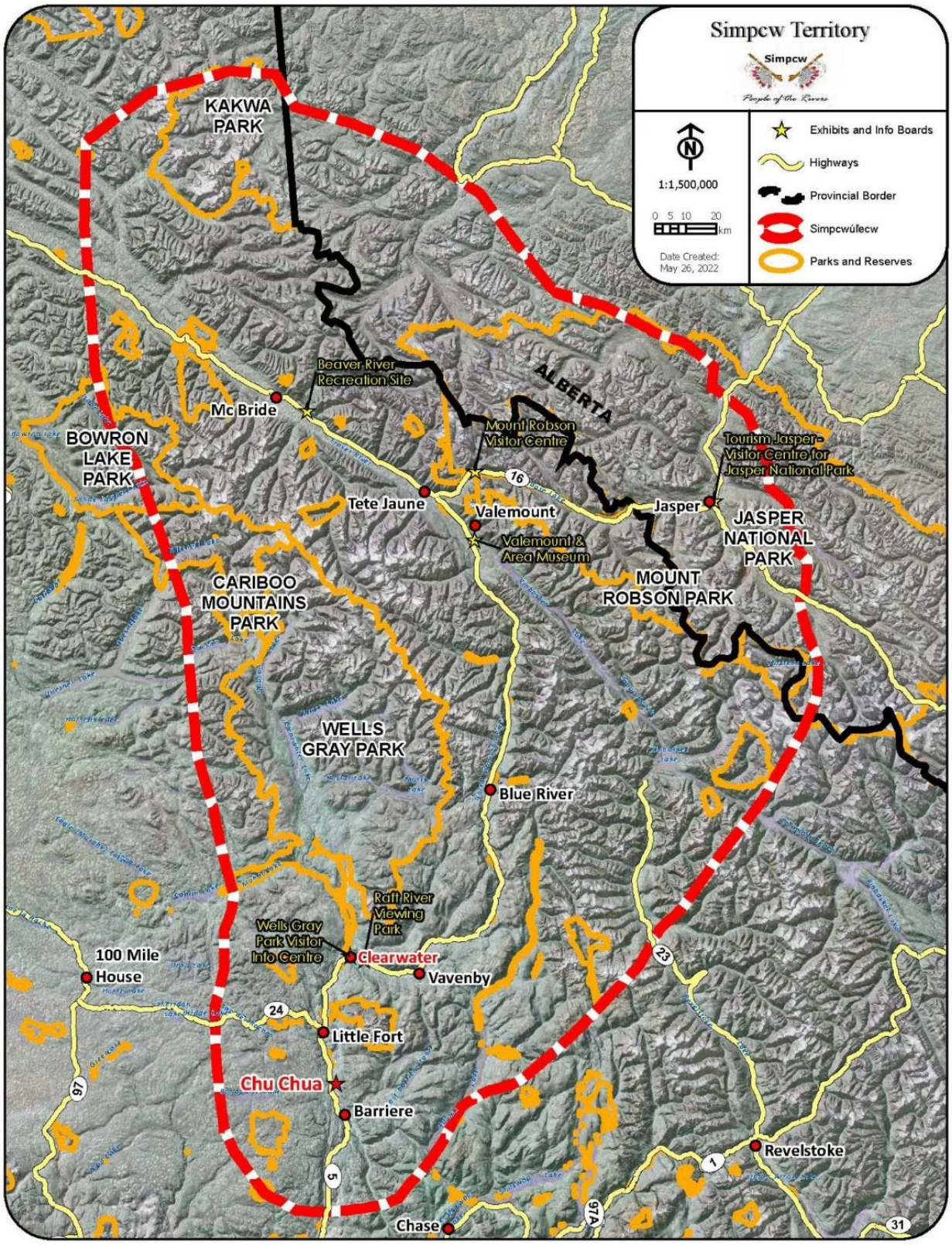
Table 6-5: Simpcw First Nation Reserves and Communities

First Nation	Community or Reserve	Distance from Project (km)	Distance from Transmission Line (km)
Simpcw First Nation	Chu Chua	27	19
	Barriere River No. 3A	37	37
	Boulder Creek No. 5	19	5
	Louis Creek No.4	43	44
	Nekalliston No.2	12	26

Table 6-6: Simpcw First Nation Contacts

Organization	Representative	Position
Simpcw First Nation	George Lampreau	Kuk̓wpi7 (Chief)
	Ronald Lampreau Jr.	Tk̓wenem7i̓ple7 (Councillor)
	Christine Donald	Tk̓wenem7i̓ple7 (Councillor)
	Alison Green	Tk̓wenem7i̓ple7 (Councillor)
	Tracey Eustache	Tk̓wenem7i̓ple7 (Councillor)
	Larry Lampreau	Tk̓wenem7i̓ple7 (Councillor)
	Simone Lampreau	Tk̓wenem7i̓ple7 (Councillor)
	Brandon Lewis	Environmental Assessment Lead

Figure 6-3: Simpcw First Nation Territory



Source: Simpcw 2025

6.5.1 Agreements

Taseko and Simpcw established a Relationship Framework Agreement in April 2020, which provided a framework for the parties to work together to build mutual understanding, trust and respect, and to prepare for the future advancement of the Project. The Relationship Framework Agreement also provided capacity funding for Simpcw to engage with Taseko in the pre-EA phase.

In 2022, Taseko and Simpcw initiated a joint Simpcw-Taseko Yellowhead Project Design Working Group (Working Group) for the purpose of identifying and considering alternative locations and configurations of the Project's proposed TSF. Because the current location of the TSF would impact two culturally significant sites, Simpcw required an understanding of the alternatives before agreeing to accept the Project into the Simpcw Process for review. The Working Group Terms of Reference included the provision of capacity funding to participate in engagement undertaken over the course of the Working Group process.

Taseko agreed to submit the Project for review under the Simpcw Process in May 2024 by signing a Letter of Expectations and provided an initial capacity funding payment for Simpcw's administration of the initial stages of the Simpcw Process. Further capacity funding requirements to facilitate subsequent steps in the Simpcw Process are under discussion.

These agreements have informed and supported engagement activities between Simpcw and Taseko through the early engagement steps, and into the initial steps of the Simpcw Process. Until formal agreements (described below) under the Simpcw Process are negotiated and finalized, these agreements will continue to guide activities between Simpcw and Taseko.

Under the Simpcw Process, there are three primary agreements to be negotiated – the Simpcw Process Funding Agreement, the Relationship Negotiation Agreement, and the Relationship Agreement. In May 2025, Taseko and Simpcw signed the Relationship Negotiation Agreement. The Simpcw Process Funding Agreement will be negotiated and finalized during the appropriate steps as defined within the Simpcw Process. The Relationship Agreement will only be finalized subject to a positive Simpcw Decision on the Project. Taseko will work to advance the development of these agreements with Simpcw in good faith and in a timely manner.

6.5.1.1 Government Agreements

Simpcw regularly engages with the Province on a variety of matters associated with land and resource use within Simpcwúlecw, both independently and with other Secwe̓pemc Nations. Listed agreements include (BC Government 2024a):

- Simpcw Interim Forestry Agreement (2024);
- Simpcw Interim Forestry Agreement (2023;)
- Simpcw Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (FCRSA) Confirmation and Amending Agreement #3 (2021);
- Simpcw FCRSA Confirmation and Amending Agreement #2 (2021);
- Simpcw FCRSA Confirmation and Amending Agreement #1 (2019);
- Secwepemc Government to Government Letter of Commitment (Qwelminte) on Reconciliation (2019);
- Simpcw Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (2018);
- Simpcw Forest Tenure Opportunity Agreement (2011);

- Simpcw Forest Tenure Opportunity Agreement (2010);
- Simpcw Interim Agreement on Forest and Range Opportunities (2007);
- Simpcw Mountain Pine Beetle Agreement (2006); and
- Simpcw Interim Measures Agreement (2004).

6.5.2 Engagement to Date

6.5.2.1 Simpcw First Nation Leadership Engagement

Since acquiring the Project in 2019, Taseko has prioritized the development and maintenance of a respectful and collaborative relationship with Simpcw. Taseko has sought to ground its engagement with Simpcw leadership, Elders and community members in transparency, consistency, and mutual trust.

Engagement has occurred through both formal avenues—such as quarterly leadership meetings, technical discussions, and collaborative planning—and informal connections, including site visits, participation in cultural gatherings, and regular in-person or virtual check-ins. These interactions have fostered a strong foundation for open dialogue and have helped Taseko gain a deeper understanding of the Simpcw Process, their values, interests, and priorities.

The feedback and knowledge shared by Simpcw leadership to date has meaningfully influenced Taseko's approach to the Project, including in relation to initial project design, potential economic partnership structures, and engagement of additional Indigenous groups.

Simpcw has led the initial introduction of the Project and the IPD to leadership from other First Nations, including the ALIB, the Neskonlith Indian Band, the SteS, and the Tsq̓éscenˀ First Nation. In addition, Simpcw and Taseko have worked together to advocate for an efficient, comprehensive and transparent review of the Project through Simpcw, provincial, and federal EA and regulatory processes. Both parties are committed to maintaining and strengthening this relationship through ongoing engagement that honours Simpcw's role as a rights holder and vital partner in the Project.

6.5.2.2 Simpcw First Nation Engagement

Engagement will continue to be undertaken in a manner that is respectful and transparent, and informed by the preferences, values, and interests shared by Simpcw through regular and ongoing engagement. Taseko notified Simpcw of its intention to acquire the Project in 2018. Since then, engagement with Simpcw has been ongoing at the leadership and staff-levels, and with community members.

An early version of the IPD was shared with Simpcw for review and feedback in 2019. At that time, it was anticipated that an updated version of the early IPD would be available for review in 2020. As engagement progressed with Simpcw, it was recognized that more engagement was needed before the IPD could be updated.

Since that time, a collaborative approach has been fostered with Simpcw. Taseko will continue to work with Simpcw to incorporate their contributions and knowledge appropriately represented and integrated into materials and information developed for the Project. Information shared by Simpcw in this pre-early engagement phase has informed the development of the current versions of the IPD and EP.

The Working Group was formed in 2022 to consider TSF alternatives. As part of the Working Group process, Taseko prepared conceptual level designs for eight TSF options, which were then presented to the Working Group with supporting information about each one. A priority weighting system was used to evaluate each of the TSF alternatives, with consideration of Simpcw cultural heritage sites and values, potential environmental and social effects, and technical and economic feasibility. Two TSF options were identified by the Working Group as "worthy of additional investigation via the BC and Simpcw Assessment processes" (Option 1- T-Creek TSF and Option 2 – North Avoidance TSF).

A Project site tour with Simpcw Chief and Council was held in August 2024. Broader engagement with Simpcw community members under the Simpcw Process also occurred in 2024, including the Community Site Tour and Community Open House identified under Step 2 of the Simpcw Process.

On October 3, 2024, Taseko participated in a community dinner in Chu Chua and provided an overview of the Project, followed by a question-and-answer session. This was followed by two days of Community Site Tours of the Project site with Simpcw community members on October 4 and 5, 2024.

On November 27, 2024, a Simpcw Community Open House was held in Chu Chua, comprised of a of series of poster boards providing an overview of the Project, mining and processing methods, environmental approach, employment opportunities, and a map area for open discussion. Each booth had an interactive element aimed to meaningfully engage Simpcw youth, Elders, and adult members. A multi-disciplinary team of Taseko representatives was on hand to engage with community members in a one-on-one format. The schedule was organized to allow for youth and Elders to engage independent of the full community session, depending on their preferences. A community dinner was also hosted ahead of the full community open house in the evening.

Simpcw has reviewed the IPD and this EP documents and identified comments as it relates to the relationship between Simpcw and Taseko, and the application of the Simpcw Process. Simpcw and Taseko collaborated on Simpcw's comments and incorporated changes to the satisfaction of both parties. As such, Simpcw has accepted the IPD document as an appropriate project description to proceed with the Simpcw Process and supports the IPD being submitted to EAO and IAAC.

Through these engagements, Simpcw has shared its initial priorities, interests, and concerns related to the Project design, potential effects, project benefits, and the EA process. Taseko has provided responses where possible to inform the engagement approach and the EA process for the Project. Taseko will work with Simpcw to respond to key issues through the Simpcw Process, including through the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal EA processes. Taseko will continue to work with Simpcw on interests and concerns raised through all phases of the Project, along with collaboratively developing measures to meaningfully address those concerns.

Key interests and concerns raised through engagements to date are summarized in Table 6-7. It is anticipated that engagement on these will occur through the Simpcw Process, and also through focused community engagement as guided by Simpcw.

Table 6-7: Simpcw First Nation Interests, Issues, and Concerns

Topic	Interest, Issue or Concern	Approach to Resolution
Simpcw First Nation (Simpcw) Rights and Interests	Simpcw's obligation to protect and steward the territory of Simpcw First Nation (Simpcwúlecw) and its resources, and Simpcw's right to make decisions about land uses within their territory.	The Project entered the Simpcw Assessment Process (Simpcw Process) in 2024, and presently is in Step 2 of a 6-step process. Taseko Mines Limited (Taseko) is working with Simpcw, the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO), and Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) to determine how the Environmental Assessment (EA) processes fit within the Simpcw Process.
Simpcw Engagement	Taseko's approach to considering youth, adults, and Elders' perspectives in the Project.	Taseko will engage and collaborate with Simpcw through the Simpcw Process Committee, which includes a cross-section of youth, adults and elders. Taseko will engage with Simpcw on this topic through the Simpcw Process.
Cultural Sites, Values and Land Use	Potential project impacts to and protection of cultural significant sites, values and culture land use.	Potential impacts to cultural heritage sites, values and cultural land use will be identified and assessed in a culturally appropriate manner through the Simpcw Process.
Cultural Sites, Values and Land Use	Potential project impacts to cultural foods.	Potential effects will be identified through the scoping for the Yellowhead Project's Environmental Assessment Application (Application) through the Simpcw Process. The Application will include an assessment of the potential effects and mitigations identified.
Cultural Sites, Values and Land Use	Potential project impacts to and access for cultural land uses such as hunting, fishing, and gathering, including impacts to historical traplines.	Potential effects will be identified through the scoping for the Application through the Simpcw Process. The Application will include an assessment of the potential effects and mitigations identified. There may be topics of interest that are assessed through the Simpcw Process outside of the Application.
Cultural Sites, Values and Land Use	Potential project impacts to vegetation including historic and current berry gathering sites and loss of medicinal plants within and around the Project site.	Potential effects will be identified through the scoping for the Application through the Simpcw Process. The Application will include an assessment of the potential effects and mitigations identified.
Cultural Sites / Values	Impacts to culturally significant sites in proximity to the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF).	Culturally significant sites have been identified in proximity to the TSF. These were a consideration during the evaluation of TSF options by the Yellowhead Project Design Working Group. Impacts to culturally significant sites will be assessed in a culturally appropriate manner through the Simpcw Process.

Topic	Interest, Issue or Concern	Approach to Resolution
Employment, Training, and Economic Benefits	Employment, education and contracting opportunities, and economic benefits and opportunities for current and future Simpcw generations.	Taseko will engage with Simpcw through negotiations of the Relationship Agreement, which is initiated in Step 3 of the Simpcw Process and is ongoing throughout Step 4. Taseko recognizes the Simpcw's interests to ensure Simpcw members have meaningful opportunity to participate in the Project.
Safety	Concerns raised around the potential impact to Indigenous community members due to the increase in contractors and employees through construction and operations	Taseko is committed to engage with Simpcw on their concerns on this topic throughout the Simpcw process, permitting and all phases of the Project
Reclamation	Interest in project reclamation plans and opportunities including being involved in fish habitat restoration; there is capabilities with the Simpcw community for nurseries.	Taseko will engage with Simpcw on conceptual reclamation planning and habitat restoration planning for the Application and Simpcw Process. Taseko understands Simpcw's interest in being involved in reclamation, habitat restoration, and Simpcw community capabilities for nurseries to support reclamation activities.
Reclamation and Closure	Reclamation and closure plan, including end land use important for the project.	Discussions regarding closure and reclamation planning to take place through scoping and the development of the Application and advancement of Simpcw Process. Planning will continue and be further refined through permitting and during operations.
Human Health Impacts	Potential project impacts to human health (e.g., air quality, water, etc.).	Potential effects will be identified through the scoping for the Simpcw Process. The Application will include an assessment of the potential effects and mitigations identified. The assessment will be informed by a human health and ecosystem risk analysis.
Valued Components, Project Effects	Identification of valued components and potential project effects.	Identification of valued components and potential project effects to valued components determined by Simpcw as important will be identified and assessed through the Simpcw Process in conjunction with the scoping of the EAO and IAAC information needs.
Baseline Studies	Scoping of additional baseline studies for areas such as wildlife and wildlife habitat, wetlands, plants, including metal uptake or disturbance to cultural plants, including medicinal plants.	Initial scoping of baseline studies has been started by Taseko, and will be a focus for engagement with the SPC in Step 3 of the Simpcw Process. Taseko will engage with Simpcw on this topic through the Simpcw Process.

Topic	Interest, Issue or Concern	Approach to Resolution
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat	Potential project impacts to ungulates (i.e., elk, caribou), and other wildlife.	Potential effects will be identified through the scoping for the Simpcw Process. The Application will include an assessment of the potential effects and mitigations identified.
Water Quality, Fish and Fish Habitat	Potential project impacts to water quality, fish and fish habitat, including groundwater, water courses and waterbodies including, the North Thompson River, North Barriere Lake and Adams Lake watershed.	Water model updates are planned to start in 2025, and will support evaluation of potential effects to water, and fish and fish habitat. The evaluation of potential effects, as well as mitigations, will be part of the Simpcw Process and effects assessment for the Application. Taseko will engage with Simpcw on this topic through the Simpcw Process.
Water Quantity	Influence of the Project on water quantity and potential effects during drought conditions on availability of water for emergency use (e.g., wildfire fighting).	Water model updates are planned to start in 2025 and will support evaluation of potential effects to water balance for various condition scenarios. The evaluation of potential effects, as well as mitigations, will be part of the effects assessment for the Application. There will be engagement on this topic through the Simpcw Process Council and as guided by Simpcw.
Water and Cumulative Effects	Potential downstream and cumulative impacts.	Water model updates are planned to start in 2025, and will support evaluation of potential effects to water, and fish and fish habitat. The evaluation of potential effects, and mitigations, will be part of the effects assessment for the Application. Taseko will engage with Simpcw on this topic through the Simpcw Process. Residual effects will be assessed cumulatively with other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable projects as outlined in the EAO *Effects Assessment Policy* (BC Government 2020c).
Project Design	Influence of the Harper Creek Project EA process on Project design	The IPD contains information regarding the feedback received from the 2015 Harper Creek Project EA process that have informed improvements in the tailings and water management approaches and design for the Project.
Project Design	Consideration of climate change scenarios on project design and engineering.	The Application will include an assessment of the Effects of the Environment on the Project, which will include consideration of climate change and discussion of mitigations to reduce climate change influences on the Project. Taseko will engage with Simpcw on this topic through the Simpcw Process.
Project Design	Simpcw involvement in any other alternatives assessments (e.g., waste rock management).	Taseko is planning to undertake alternatives analyses for various Project components as part of the engineering design process. It is planned that Simpcw would contribute to the alternative analyses process through the Simpcw Process Committee as part of the Simpcw Process.

Topic	Interest, Issue or Concern	Approach to Resolution
TSF	Project design, specifically for the TSF, including response and remediation in the event of a TSF failure.	The Application will also include an assessment of potential accidents and malfunction, including potential for a TSF failure. Taseko will engage with Simpcw on this topic through the Simpcw Process.
Transmission Line Route Selection	Transmission Line route selection and impacts (wildlife and wildlife habitat, including species at risk, and intersection with land ownership and tenure).	The transmission line route has been scoped to seek feedback as part of the IPD engagement process prior to identification of the final routing. Taseko will engage with Simpcw through the Simpcw Process regarding the routing of the transmission line.
Rail Line	Impacts to rail line or traffic near communities.	Use of the rail line will be considered in the Application as a Project activity. Assessment of impacts will be done through the Simpcw Process to identify and assess the potential interactions between the rail line and valued components.
Power Supply	Consistent and reliable Power improvements to Simpcw and other local communities.	The point of interconnection for the transmission line as identified by BC Hydro is the 100 Mile House substation. As such, it is not anticipated that the transmission line would positively or negatively impact the North Thompson transmission line that currently supplies Simpcw and other local communities.

6.5.3 Planned Engagement

There are regular bi-weekly meetings with Simpcw regarding the Simpcw Process through the Simpcw Process Working Group, as well as ad hoc meetings scheduled on an as-needed basis regarding Project milestones, progressing issues resolution, and advancing the Simpcw Process (Table 6-8). Taseko will continue to collaborate with Simpcw, including on any changes to the preferred frequency of engagement regarding any aspect of the Project. As Simpcw have facilitated engagement with other First Nations, their continued participation in meetings with other First Nations will continue, as appropriate.

Table 6-8: Planned Engagement with Simpcw First Nation

Type	Purpose	Proposed Timing
Simpcw – Taseko Process Working Group	Regular meetings regarding the progression of the Simpcw Process for assessing the Project.	Bi-Weekly (actual)
Simpcw Assessment Process Committee	Regular meetings with the Simpcw Process Committee on priority topics identified through the Simpcw Process.	Quarterly
Project Information	Updates on the Project, discussion related to interests and concerns raised by the Simpcw First Nation (Simpcw).	Ongoing
Initial Project Description (IPD)	Draft IPD material provided for review prior to submission to Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) and Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC).	Q1 2025 (complete)
	Presentation and review of the accepted IPD through the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) following submission to the EAO	Q3 2025
Engagement Plan (EP)	Draft content provided for review prior to EAO submission.	Q2 2025 (complete)
	Review of the EP through the TAC following submission to the EAO.	Q3 2025
Simpcw Process – Step 3	Development of a gap assessment and workplan through Step 3 of the Simpcw Process.	Q3 2024- 2026
Detailed Project Description (DPD)	Engagement on the DPD during content development.	Q3/Q4 2025
	Draft content review of specific sections prior to submission to the EAO.	2025/2026
	Review of the DPD through the TAC following submission to the EAO.	2026
Provincial and Federal Process Planning	Inclusion of Simpcw in discussions regarding the scoping of the EAO and IAAC processes and alignment with the Simpcw process during the development of the Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application Information Requirements.	2026

6.6 Neskonlith Indian Band

The Neskonlith Indian Band has been identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project and the transmission line corridor. The Neskonlith Indian Band was previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA.

The Neskonlith Indian Band is a member of the Lakes Division bands of the Secwépemc Nation and a member of the SNTC. The Neskonlith Indian Band has three reserve lands on the west and south side of the Thompson River and the western boundary of Salmon Arm, BC – refer to Table 6-9. The Neskonlith Indian Band website indicates that each Reserve has community facilities critical to the overall socio-economic health and well-being of the community, as well as housing. Facilities include community halls, administrative offices, daycare, Band-operated schools, water treatment facilities, etc. (Neskonlith Indian Band n.d.).

The Neskonlith Indian Band are governed by Chief and Council. The Neskonlith Indian Band use a custom electoral system to select Chief and Council. This type of system can be either under the *Indian Act* election system, the *First Nations Elections Act*, a custom system, or under the provisions of a self-governing agreement. Kúkpi7 Irvin Wai is the current Chief and there are five councillors. Key contacts are provided in Table 6-10.

Neskonlith Indian Band have established the Tmicw Department or Operation, which supports and works collaboratively with Chief and Council to focus on political issues, strategic planning, and governance (Neskonlith Indian Band n.d.).

Support and governance services provided by the Neskonlith Indian Band to its membership are focused in the key areas of:

- Administration (finance and general);
- Education (high school education, adult skill upgrading, cultural workshops and language courses, employability preparation and workshops and training, on-site counselling);
- Community outreach programs (tree planting and pruning, hampers for the Elders, community cleaning, etc.).
- Health and wellness (prenatal nutrition program, Children's Oral Health Initiative, diabetes support, family support, funeral assistance, health nurse, patient travel, addictions counselling);
- Housing (including maintenance); and
- Child day care (Switzmalph Childcare Centre).

The Neskonlith Indian Band has established the Sk'atsin Resources LLP, the economic development arm of the Neskonlith Indian Band. This company operates throughout BC in the natural resource sector in five divisions, namely Forestry, Archaeology, Fisheries, Environmental Services, and Construction Site Services.

Land use decision making will be guided by the Neskonlith Indian Band principles, vision, and the Community Comprehensive Plan. Neskonlith guiding principles and vision include (Neskonlith Indian Band n.d.):

- Preserving culture, language and resources;
- Self-reliant and prosperous community;
- Healthy community;
- Receives the wealth of Neskonlith Territory;

- Caretakers of the land (Yucminte); and
- A self-governing community.

Table 6-9: Neskonlith Indian Band Communities and Reserves

First Nation	Community or Reserve	Distance from Project (kilometres [km])	Distance from Transmission Line (km)
Neskonlith Indian Band	Neskonlith Indian reserve #1	72	75
	Neskonlith Indian reserve #2	76	80
	Neskonlith Indian reserve #3	89	92

Table 6-10: Neskonlith Indian Band Contacts

Organization	Representative
Neskonlith Indian Band	Kúkpi7 (Chief) Irvin Wai
	Councillor Michael (Brad) Arnouse
	Councillor Shirley Anderson
	Councillor Mindy Dick
	Councillor Joan Manuel-Hooper
	Director of Council Operations, Chantal Kawamoto Stott

6.6.1 Agreements

No Project-related agreements are in place with the Neskonlith Indian Band prior to initiation of the engagement planning of the EA process. Taseko will continue to engage with the Neskonlith Indian Band throughout the EA process and anticipated discussions regarding Project-related agreements which may include, but are not necessarily limited to, capacity agreements, collaboration agreements, or traditional knowledge or land use study agreements.

As an SNTC member band, the Neskonlith Indian Band are not involved in the BC treaty process but are engaged with the province in other discussions associated with land and resource use within asserted traditional territories. These agreements include (BC Government 2023b):

- Neskonlith Indian Band FCRSA (2023);
- Neskonlith Indian Band FCRSA (2019);
- Neskonlith Indian Band FCRSA (2012);
- Neskonlith Indian Band Forest Tenure Agreement (2012);
- Neskonlith Indian Band Forest Tenure Opportunity Agreement (2012);
- Neskonlith Indian Band Interim Agreement on Forest and Range Opportunities (2007); and
- Neskonlith Indian Band Mountain Pine Beetle Agreement (2007).

6.6.2 Engagement to Date

Engagement with the Neskonlith Indian Band on the Project commenced in February 2019, following Taseko acquiring sole interest in YMI, to share section of an early draft of sections of the IPD for review and comment. This was followed by communications in September 2020 of Taseko's intent to share an updated draft of the IPD and to understand how the Neskonlith Indian Band would like to be engaged. Communications in 2020 were periodic and related to engagement on the Project and notification on a Notice of Work application. In April 2022, the Neskonlith Indian Band contacted Taseko to provide a Consultation Application form, which was required prior to activities being undertaken in their territory.

Reinitiation of contact with the Neskonlith Indian Band took place in December 2024, following an introduction from Simpcw's Kúkwpi7 (Simpcw First Nation Chief). Taseko then requested a meeting to discuss engagement on the Project, with a follow-up in January 2025. Preliminary discussion involved an introduction to the Project, engagement with the Neskonlith Indian Band, and potential presentation to Chief and Council. The Neskonlith Indian Band provided an initial list of interests and potential concerns related to the Project in January 2025. Taseko provided information on Project location, as requested in the initial meeting. An in-person presentation of Project updates was held in April 2025. Sections of the IPD and EP relating to Neskonlith Indian Band were shared in April 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC.

A summary of engagements with the Neskonlith Indian Band, based on Taseko's engagement record, is provided in Table 6-11 and a summary of interests and concerns raised to date is provided in Table 6-12.

Table 6-11: Summary of Engagement with Neskonlith Indian Band

Date	Type of Engagement	Purpose
07-Feb-2019	Email	Taseko letter to the Neskonlith Indian Band providing the draft Initial Project Description (IPD).
26-Apr-2019	Email	Taseko notification that the IPD was sent to both federal and provincial governments.
25-Sep-2020	Email	Notification that Taseko will share the draft IPD for review and comments, and opening discussion on how the Neskonlith Indian Band wishes to be engaged.
27-Nov-2020	Email	Taseko provided the Neskonlith Indian Band with a letter regarding the submission of a Notice of Work Application related to Project exploration.
11-Apr-2022	Email	Neskonlith Indian Band provided Taseko with a Consultation Application form required before any proposed activities within the Territory.
12-Dec-2024	Email	Project update provided.
13-Jan-2025	Meeting (phone)	Taseko gave a brief overview of the Project to the Neskonlith Indian Band Chief. Discussed setting up an in-person meeting.
16-Jan-2025	Meeting (in person)	Taseko met with Chief to discuss the Project, engagement, and potential presentation to Chief and Council.
25-Mar-2025	Meeting (in person)	Taseko met with Neskonlith to discuss the Project, engagement, and a more detailed project presentation. Neskonlith Indian Band informed Taseko of the Neskonlith Indian Band interests and concerns.

Date	Type of Engagement	Purpose
17-Apr-2025	Email	Request to review sections of IPD and Engagement Plan.
29-Apr-2025	Meeting (in person/virtual)	Taseko provided a presentation on the Project. Neskonlith Indian Band informed Taseko of their preliminary interests and concerns.
30-May-2025	Email	Request for a meeting to continue conversations on capacity funding.

Table 6-12: Neskonlith Indian Band Interests, Issues, and Concerns

Topic	Interest, Issue, or Concern	Approach to Resolution
Capacity	Interested in discussions regarding capacity funding for process participation and revenue sharing.	Taseko will engage with the Neskonlith Indian Band regarding capacity funding for the Environmental Assessment (EA) process.
Environment	Concerns raised around the potential environmental effects of the Project.	Taseko will continue to engage with the Neskonlith Indian Band through Process Planning and scoping of the EA.
Employment and Economy	Employment opportunities and training programs to build community capacity. Business opportunities related to the Project were also raised.	Taseko will engage with the Neskonlith Indian Band regarding employment and economic opportunities as the EA and permitting progress.
Tailings Management	Questions were raised regarding possible Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) failure.	Possible failure of the TSF will be assessed in the Accidents and Malfunctions section of the Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application (Application). Taseko will engage with the Naskonlith Indian Band through process planning on the scope of the EA.
Transmission Line	Interest in understanding what happens to the transmission line after closure.	Taseko will engage the Neskonlith Indian Band regarding closure planning through the Application and into Permitting.

6.6.3 Planned Engagement

Regular meetings are not currently in place with the Neskonlith Indian Band and engagement has been on an as-needed basis based on Project milestones and updates. Taseko will continue to work with the Neskonlith Indian Band to identify the preferred type and frequency of engagement regarding the Project. Regular meetings will be put in place at the discretion and convenience of the Neskonlith Indian Band and ad hoc meetings will be scheduled as needed and requested. Project information will be provided during regularly scheduled or ad hoc meetings or though email notifications during the EA process. Taseko is committed to working closely with the Neskonlith Indian Band to develop an engagement approach that is flexible and adaptive to the Project and needs of the Neskonlith Indian Band.

A summary of key planned engagement milestones is provided in Table 6-13, this plan is provided here for planning purposes and will be adjusted collaboratively with the Neskonlith Indian Band throughout the EA process.

Table 6-13: Planned Engagement with the Neskonlith Indian Band

Type	Purpose	Proposed Timing
Initial Project Description (IPD)	Draft Initial Project Description (IPD) material provided for review prior to submission to the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO).	Q1 2025 (complete)
	Review of the IPD through Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) following submission to the EAO.	Q3 2025
Engagement Plan (EP)	Draft content regarding the Neskonlith Indian Band provided for review prior to EAO submission.	Q2 2025 (complete)
	Review of the EP through the TAC following submission to the EAO.	Q3 2025
Project Information	Updates on the Project and discussions related to interests and concerns raised by the Neskonlith Indian Band.	Ongoing
Detailed Project Description (DPD)	Engagement on the DPD during content development.	Q3/Q4 2025
	Draft content review of specific sections prior to submission to the EAO.	2025/2026
	Review of the DPD through the TAC following submission to the EAO.	2026
Process Planning	Discussions regarding the scope of the EA through the development of the Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application Information Requirements.	2026

6.7 Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw

The SteS has been identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project and the transmission line corridor. The SteS was previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA.

The SteS is a member of the Lakes Division bands of the Secwépemc Nation. SteS is unaffiliated with the tribal councils in Secwépemc territory. SteS traditional territory is in the central interior region of BC, with its main reserve in Chase, BC (British Columbia Assembly of First Nations 2025).

The SteS are governed by Chief and Council and use a custom electoral system to select Chief and Council. Key contacts are provided in Table 6-15. There is one Chief and two councillors according to their website (SteS 2025). James Tomma is the current Chief.

Support and governance services provided by SteS to its membership are focused in the key areas of (SteS 2025):

- Administration (finance, housing);
- Education (support for kindergarten to grade 12 and post-secondary);
- Health and wellness (family support worker, nurse practitioner, family services coordinator, child and youth mental health clinician, traditional healing, psychological and drug and alcohol counselling, community garden and shuttle bus service); and
- Operation and maintenance of village infrastructure.

The SteS has a Territorial Resource Stewardship (TRS) Department, which provides services such as land surveys, wills and estates, transfer of land, leases and land, and resources protection. The TRS Department has an administrative team, cultural heritage and archaeology team, land team, research team and water stewardship team.

SteS has developed the Quaaout Lodge, Talking Rock Golf and Le7ke Spa for economic development and to promote Secwepemc culture. Skwlāx Resource Management is noted to be aligned with the strategic business and social initiatives of SteS and offer services to promote economic growth.

Table 6-14: Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw Communities and Reserves

First Nation	Community or Reserve	Distance from Project (kilometres [km])	Distance from Transmission Line (km)
Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw	Chum Creek 2	69	71
	Meadows Creek 3	74	78
	North Bay 5	82	85
	Quaaout 1	64	67
	Scotch Creek 4	63	66

Table 6-15: Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw Contacts

Organization	Representative
Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw (SteS)	Kúkpi7 (Chief) James Tomma
	Tk̓wemíple7tn (Councillor) Julie John
	Tk̓wemíple7tn (Councillor) Dawn Francois
Primary Contacts	Territorial Resource Stewardship Executive Director/Forestry Manager, Domenic Fiorenza Natural Resources Referrals Officer, Dale B. Tomma

6.7.1 Agreements

No Project-related agreements are in place with the SteS prior to initiation of the early engagement and planning phases of the EA process. Taseko will continue to engage with the SteS throughout the EA process and anticipate discussions regarding project-related agreements, which may include, but are not necessarily limited to, capacity agreements, collaboration agreements, or traditional knowledge or land use study agreements.

According to the BC Government, representatives are working to build relationships with the SteS outside of the BC treaty process. The following agreements are listed (BC Government 2024b):

- Skwlāx Little Shuswap Lake Interim Forestry Agreement (2024);
- Skwlāx Little Shuswap Lake Interim Forestry Agreement (2023);
- Skwelkwek'welt Sun Peaks Collaboration Framework Memorandum of Understanding (2021);
- Little Shuswap Lake Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (2021);

- Little Shuswap Lake FCRSA Amendment #1 (2021);
- Secwepemc Government to Government Letter of Commitment (Qwelminte) on Reconciliation (2019);
- Little Shuswap Lake Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (2017);
- Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band Mountain Pine Beetle Agreement (2007);
- Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band Interim Measures Agreement (2006); and
- Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band Forest and Range Agreement (2004).

6.7.2 Engagement to Date

Engagement with the SteS regarding the Project commenced in February 2019, following Taseko acquiring sole interest in YMI, to share an early draft of the IPD for review and comment. This was followed by communications in September 2020 of Taseko's intent to share an updated draft of the IPD and to understand how the SteS would like to be engaged. Communications in 2020 were periodic and related to engagement on the Project and notification on a Notice of Work application. In April 2021, the SteS contacted Taseko requesting a Project update; Taseko indicated that progress remained the same to updates provided in 2020.

SteS provided an initial list of interests and potential concerns related to the Project in March 2025. A meeting to reintroduce the Project was held in April 2025. Sections of the IPD and EP relating to SteS were shared in April 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC.

A summary of engagements with by SteS based on Taseko's engagement record is provided in Table 6-16 and a summary of interests and concerns raised to date is provided in Table 6-17.

Table 6-16: Summary of Engagement with Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band)

Date	Type of Engagement	Purpose
07-Feb-2019	Email	Taseko Mining Limited (Taseko) letter to Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band) (SteS) providing the draft Initial Project Description (IPD) for review.
26-Apr-2019	Email	Taseko notification that the IPD was sent to both federal and provincial governments.
25-Sep-2020	Email	Informing SteS that Taseko will share the draft IPD for review and comments, and regarding how SteS wishes to be engaged.
27-Nov-2020	Email	Taseko provided SteS a letter regarding the submission of a Notice of Work Application related to the Project.
8-Apr-2021	Email	SteS requested an update on the Project.
14-Apr-2021	Email	Project update provided in response to SteS request.
13-Jan-2025	Meeting (phone call)	Taseko Project Manager introduced themselves.
07-Feb-2025	Email	To plan for upcoming meeting.
20-Mar-2025	Meeting (in person)	Taseko met with SteS to discuss the Project, engagement, and more detailed project presentation.

Date	Type of Engagement	Purpose
03-Apr-2025	Email	Meeting planning.
11-Apr-2025	Meeting (phone call)	Update on Taseko plans to submit sections of the IPD and Engagement Plan (EP) for review.
17-Apr-2025	Email	Request to review sections of the IPD and EP.
23-Apr-2025	Meeting (in person)	Taseko presentation on the Project SteS informed Taseko of SteS preliminary interests and concerns.
30-May-2025	Email	Request for a meeting to continue conversations on capacity funding.

Table 6-17: Skwlāx te Secwepemcúlecw Interests, Issues, and Concerns

Topic	Interest, Issue, or Concern	Approach to Resolution
Employment and Economy	Interested in business opportunities related to the Project.	Taseko will engage with Skwlāx te Secwepemcúlecw (formerly Little Shuswap Lake Band) (SteS) regarding economic opportunities as the Environmental Assessment (EA) and permitting progress.
Capacity	Interested in discussions regarding capacity funding for process participation and revenue sharing.	Taseko will engage with the SteS regarding capacity funding for the EA process.
Environment	Requested information on the baseline studies completed and data sharing.	Taseko will continue to engage with the SteS through process planning and scoping of the EA.
Power	Have alternative energy source options been considered.	The Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application (Application) will include an overview of the alternatives considered while designing the Project. Taseko will engage with the SteS as requested to further discuss completed alternatives analysis.
Tailings storage	Questions were raised regarding possible Tailing Storage Facility (TSF) failure.	Possible failure of the TSF will be assessed in the Accidents and Malfunctions section of the Application. Taseko will engage with SteS through process planning on the scope of the EA.

6.7.3 Planned Engagement

Regular meetings are not currently planned with the SteS and engagement has been on an as-needed basis based on Project milestones and updates. Taseko will continue to work with the SteS to identify the preferred type and frequency of engagement regarding the Project. Regular meetings will be put in place at the discretion and convenience of the SteS and ad hoc meetings will be scheduled as needed and requested. Project information will be provided during regularly scheduled or ad hoc meetings or though email notifications during the EA process. Taseko is committed to working with the SteS to develop an engagement approach that is flexible and adaptive to the Project and needs of the SteS.

A summary of key planned engagement milestones is provided in Table 6-18, this plan is provided here for planning purposes and will be adjusted collaboratively with the SteS throughout the EA process.

Table 6-18: Planned Engagement with Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw

Type	Purpose	Proposed Timing
Initial Project Description (IPD)	Draft IPD material provided for review prior to submission to Environmental Assessment Office (EAO).	Q1 2025 (complete)
	Review of the IPD through the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) following submission to the EAO.	Q3 2025
Engagement Plan (EP)	Draft content regarding SteS provided for review prior to EAO submission.	Q2 2025 (complete)
	Review of the EP through the TAC following submission to the EAO.	Q3 2025
Project Information	Updates on the Project and discussions related to interests and concerns raised by SteS.	Ongoing
Detailed Project Description (DPD)	Engagement on the DPD during content development.	Q3/Q4 2025
	Draft content review of specific sections prior to submission to the EAO.	2025/2026
	Review of the DPD through the TAC following submission to the EAO.	2026
Process Planning	Discussions regarding the scope of the EA through the development of the Application Information Requirements.	2026

6.8 Adams Lake Indian Band

The ALIB has been identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project. The ALIB may also be potentially affected by the transmission line. This would be confirmed through engagement with the ALIB on finalization of the transmission line alignment. The ALIB was previously engaged as part of the Harper Creek Project EA.

The ALIB is a member of the Lakes Division bands of the Secwépemc Nation and a member of the SNTC. The ALIB has a stated vision as caretakers of the land, their people, language as customs, knowledge, culture and title (ALIB n.d.). The traditional territory of the ALIB includes seven reserves located on the south and west side of Adams Lake, and within the Municipality and City of Salmon Arm. The main office is located on Sahhaltkum (Sexqeltqin) Reserve #4 located on the western side of Little Shuswap Lake, across from the Village of Chase, BC (ALIB n.d.) (refer to Table 6-19).

The ALIB is governed by Chief and Council elected through a custom electoral system in accordance with the Adams Lake Secwepemc Election Rules. Lynn Kenoras, Duck Chief, is the current Chief and there are five councillors. Key contacts are provided in Table 6-20. According to the ALIB website, the Chief and Council are seeking a new model of governance that “reflects a more traditional approach; values the needs of the community; honours Secwepemc culture; and recognizes ALIB role as stewards of the land in our traditional territories” (ALIB n.d.).

Support and governance services provided by ALIB to its membership are focused in the key areas of:

- Administration (Finance Department, Information Systems Department, human resources, community strategic planning, administrative support).
- Education (kindergarten to grade 12, post-secondary, training).
- Health and wellness (Sexqeltqin Wellness Centre).
- Lands management, taxation, leasing.

- Child day care (Sahhaltkum Daycare Programs).
- Recreation site maintenance (Adams Lake Recreation and Conference Centre.
- Community safety (community safety officer, fire department, security department, emergency preparedness coordinator, community safety and justice initiatives).

The ALIB has a Titles and Rights Department to achieve the ALIB's Vision. This department provides technical support to the Chief and Council for proposed projects within ALIB traditional territories. The ALIB also has a Natural Resource Department with a stated mission to help ensure the ALIB is developing capacity to engage with government and proponents on land use planning and development projects throughout the territory to ensure sustainability to achieve the ALIB Mission Statement (ALIB n.d.). A Forestry Department is tasked with managing forest resources and tenues, and an Archaeology Department provides support to various companies. The Natural Resource Department implements a permitting system for conducting archeology work within the ALIB Territory. ALIB also supports fisheries activities in conjunction with a Secwepemc Fisheries Commission.

Table 6-19: Adams Lake Indian Band Communities and Reserves

First Nation	Community or Reserve	Distance from Project (kilometres [km])	Distance from Transmission Line (km)
Adams Lake Indian Band	Cstèlen IR #1 (Hustalen)	56	60
	Sq7em IR #2 (Squaam)	42	46
	Tegwups IR #3 (Toops)	58	62
	Sexqeltqin IR #4 (Sahhaltkum)	70	73
	Stequmwhulpa IR #5	69	73
	Sxwetsmèllp IR #6 (Switsemalph)	87	90
	Sxwetsmèllp IR #7 (Switsemalph)	91	94

Table 6-20: Adams Lake Indian Band Contacts

Organization	Representative
Adams Lake Indian Band	Kúkpi7 (Chief) Lynn Kenoras – Duck Chief
	Tk'wemi'ple7 (Councillor) Cliff Arnouse
	Tk'wemi'ple7 (Councillor) Joyce Kenoras
	Tk'wemi'ple7 (Councillor) Cory Sampson
	Tk'wemi'ple7 (Councillor) Diane Jules
	Tk'wemi'ple7 (Councillor) Charles Narcisse
Primary Contact(s)	Dave Nordquist, Senior Stewardship Officer

6.8.1 Agreements

No Project related agreements are in place with the ALIB prior to initiation of the early engagement and planning phases of the EA process. Taseko will continue to engage with the ALIB throughout the EA process and anticipated discussions regarding Project-related agreements, which may include, but are not necessarily limited to, capacity agreements, collaboration agreements, or traditional knowledge or land use study agreements.

As mentioned previously, SNTC member bands are not involved in the BC treaty process but are engaged with the province in other discussions associated with land and resource use within asserted traditional territories. The following agreements are listed (BC Government 2024c):

- Skwelkwek'welt Sun Peaks Collaboration Framework Memorandum of Understanding (2021);
- Adams Lake Interim Forestry Agreement (2021);
- Adams Lake Forest and Range Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (FCRSA) Confirmation and Amending Agreement #3 (2021);
- Adams Lake FCRSA Confirmation & Amending Agreement #2 (2021);
- Adams Lake FCRSA Confirmation & Amending Agreement #1 (2019);
- Secwepemc Government to Government Letter of Commitment (Qwelminte) on Reconciliation (2019);
- Adams Lake Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (2012);
    - Amending Agreement #4 (2017);
    - Amending Agreement #3 (2016);
    - Amending Agreement #2 (2015); and
    - Amending Agreement #1 (2014)
- Adam's Lake Indian Band Mountain Short Term Pine Beetle Agreement (2007);
- Adam's Lake Indian Band Short Term Mountain Pine Beetle Agreement (2006); and
- Adam's Lake Indian Band Interim Agreement on Forest & Range Opportunities (2006).

6.8.2 Engagement to Date

Engagement with the ALIB regarding the Project commenced in February 2019, following Taseko acquiring sole interest in YMI, to share sections of an early draft of the IPD for review and comment. This was followed by communications in September 2020 of Taseko's intent to share an updated draft of the IPD and to understand how the ALIB would like to be engaged. Communications from 2020 to 2021 were periodic, and related to engagement on the Project, notification on a Notice of Work application, and ALIB expectations for engagement and process for participation in the EA process.

Reinitiation of contact with ALIB occurred in December 2024, following an introduction from Simpcw's Kúkwpi7. Taseko then requested a meeting to discuss engagement on the Project. An initial meeting was held in January 2025 to provide an overview of the Project, and to understand ALIB preliminary concerns and how they would like to be engaged. ALIB advised that they would like to be fully engaged on the Project.

The ALIB provided an initial list of interests and potential concerns in January 2025 and a meeting was held to reintroduce the Project in April 2025. Sections of the IPD and EP related to ALIB were shared in April 2025 prior to submission to the EAO and the IAAC.

A summary of engagements with the ALIB, based on Taseko's engagement record, is provided in Table 6-21 and a summary of interests and concerns raised to date is provided in Table 6-22.

Table 6-21: Summary of Engagement with Adams Lake Indian Band

Date	Type of Engagement	Purpose
07-Feb-2019	Email	Taseko provided a draft of the Initial project Description (IPD).
26-Apr-2019	Email	Taseko provided notification that the IPD was sent to both federal and provincial governments.
29-Nov-2019	Letter	Adams Lake Indian Band (ALIB) provided a letter which outlined concerns for further discussion through engagement.
25-Sep-2020	Email	Informing the ALIB that Taseko will share the draft IPD for review and comments, and regarding how ALIB wishes to be engaged.
27-Nov-2020	Email	Taseko provided the ALIB with a letter regarding the submission of a Notice of Work Application related to the Project.
10-Feb-2021	Meeting (phone call)	Taseko discussed engagement expectations with the ALIB.
16-Feb-2021	Email	The ALIB provided information regarding expectations for engagement and process for participation in the Environmental Assessment (EA) process.
11-Dec-2024	Email	Taseko project manager introduced themselves and provided an update on the Project.
13-Jan-2025	Email	Taseko email regarding engagement approach.
27-Jan-2025	Meeting (In-person)	Taseko gave an overview of the Project and discussed concerns and engagement moving forward.
11-Apr- 2025	Meeting (phone call)	Taseko update on plan for IPD and Engagement Plan (EP) content review prior to the Environmental Assessment Office submission.
17-Apr-2025	Email	Request for review sections of IPD and EP.
22-Apr-2025	Meeting (in person/virtual)	Taseko presented a Project update. ALIB informed Taseko of ALIB preliminary interests and concerns.
30-May-2025	Email	Request for meeting to continue conversations on capacity funding.

Table 6-22: Adams Lake Indian Band Interests, Issues, and Concerns

Topic	Interest, Issues or Concern	Approach to Resolution
Water	Potential for downstream impacts on Douglas Reserve waterbodies.	Discussion on water to support the scoping of the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application (Application) and modelling approach.
Capacity funding	Setting up a capacity funding agreement for participation in the EA process.	Taseko will engage with the Adams Lake Indian Band (ALIB) regarding capacity funding for the EA. process.
Engagement	Frequency of engagement with Taseko.	Taseko will work with the ALIB to set up engagement at the preferred frequency and method of engagement.
Cumulative Effects	The cumulative effects assessment methodology and approach.	Taseko will engage with the ALIB regarding their cumulative effects study.
Capacity	Interested in discussions regarding capacity funding for process participation and revenue sharing.	Taseko will engage with the ALIB regarding capacity funding for the EA process.
Environment	Concerns raised around the potential environmental effects of the Project and scopes of environmental studies.	Taseko will continue to engage with the ALIB through process planning and scoping of the EA process.

6.8.3 Planned Engagement

Regular meetings are not currently in place with ALIB and engagement has been on an as-needed basis based on Project milestones and updates. Taseko will continue to work with the ALIB to identify the preferred type and frequency of engagement regarding the Project. Regular meetings will be put in place at the discretion and convenience of the ALIB and ad hoc meetings will be scheduled as needed and requested. Taseko is committed to working with the ALIB to develop an engagement approach that is flexible and adaptive to the Project and needs of the ALIB.

A summary of key planned engagement milestones is provided in Table 6-23, this plan is provided here for planning purposes and will be adjusted collaboratively with the ALIB throughout the EA process.

Table 6-23: Planned Engagement with the Adams Lake Indian Band

Type	Purpose	Proposed Timing
Initial Project Description (IPD)	Draft IPD material provided for review prior to submission to Environmental Assessment Office (EAO).	Q1 2025 (complete)
	Review of the IPD through the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) following submission to the EAO.	Q3 2025
Engagement Plan (EP)	Draft content regarding Adams Lake Indian Band (ALIB) provided for review prior to EAO submission.	Q2 2025 (complete)
	Review of the EP through the TAC following submission to the EAO.	Q3 2025
Project Information	Updates on the Project and discussions related to interests and concerns raised by the ALIB.	Ongoing

Type	Purpose	Proposed Timing
Detailed Project Description (DPD)	Engagement on the DPD during content development.	Q3/Q4 2025
	Draft content review of specific sections prior to submission to the EAO.	2025/2026
	Review of the DPD through the TAC following submission to the EAO.	2026
Process Planning	Discussions regarding the scope of the EA through the development of the Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application Information Requirements.	2026
Cumulative Effects	Discussions regarding the ALIB cumulative effects study that is underway and Taseko's involvement.	2026

6.9 Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation

The Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation (formerly Canim Lake Band) (Tsq̓éscen̓) has been identified as having the potential to be affected by the Project. Canim Lake is the closest community to the transmission line corridor and has the highest potential to be affected by the transmission line.

The Tsq̓éscen̓ is part of the Lakes Division bands of the Secwépemc. The main village and administration buildings are situated in the South Cariboo Region, approximately 30 km east of 100 Mile House.
The Tsq̓éscen̓ joined three other northern Secwépemc nations to form the Northern Secwépemc to Qelmucw (NStQ)

The Tsq̓éscen̓ are governed by Chief and Council elected through a custom electoral system. Helen Henderson is the current Chief and there are six councillors, and an executive assistant. The Tsq̓éscen̓ have their own laws governing the election of band council. Key contacts are provided in Table 6-25.

The Tsq̓éscen̓ note that their traditional territory expands beyond the borders of the "Indian Reserves" as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada, which equates to only 19.5 km^2 of land. The Tsq̓éscen̓ assert that their traditional area spans 21, 260 km^2 in the Cariboo Region, BC, with some overlapping areas with their sister Secwepemc Nations.

Support and governance services provided by the Tsq̓éscen̓ to its membership are focused in the key areas of:

- Administration (Finance Department, Comprehensive Community Plan Contractor);
- Education (Eliza Archie Memorial School and Eliza Archie Early Learning Center offering daycare, after school program, nutrition, etc.); and
- Health and wellness (Whitefeather Family Centre offering physician and nurse services, home support workers, alcohol and drug worker, housekeeping services for Elders).

The Tsq̓éscen̓ has a Natural Resources Department that offers services such as archeology, technical support to treaty negotiations, and management of reserve lands, Woodlot 1578 and FNWL N1I.
The Tsq̓éscen̓ has two companies, namely Kenkeknem Forest Tenures Ltd. and Teniye Logging Ltd., as well as the Spelqweqs Development Limited Partnership, Tsq̓éscen̓ economic development corporation.

Table 6-24: Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation Communities and Reserves

First Nation	Community or Reserve	Distance from Project (km)	Distance from Transmission Line (km)
Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation	Canim Lake Indian Reserve No. 1	84	14

Table 6-25: Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation Contacts

Organization	Representative
Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation (formerly Canim Lake Band)	Kúkpi7 (Chief) Helen Henderson
	Councillor Maryanne Archie
	Councillor Edward Dixon
	Councillor Joseph Archie
	Councillor Lesley Paul
	Councillor Brent Dixon
	Councillor Braeden Emile
	Gabrielle Archie, Executive Assistant to Council

6.9.1 Agreements

No Project related agreements are in place with the Tsq̓éscen̓ prior to initiation of the early engagement and planning phase of the EA process. Taseko will continue to engage with the Tsq̓éscen̓ throughout the EA process and anticipate discussions regarding Project-related agreements, which may include, but are not necessarily limited to, capacity agreements, collaboration agreements, or traditional knowledge or land use study agreements.

The Tsq̓éscen̓ is one of the four communities of the NStQ negotiating together for a treaty settlement with the BC Treaty Commission, through the NSTC. An agreement in principle was signed in July 2018, an Incremental Treaty Agreement was signed in 2016, an Umbrella Agreement was signed in 2022, and negotiations are in the final stage (BC Government 2025). Other agreements in place include (BC Government 2025):

- Canim Lake Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Renewal Agreement (2022);
- NStQ Yecweminul'ecw Land and Resource G2G Amending Agreement (2021);
- Canim Lake Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Amending Agreement (2019);
- Canim Lake Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (2015);
- NStQ Yecweminulecw Government-To Government Agreement (2018);
- Canim Lake First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund Revenue Sharing Agreement (Castle Mountain Hydro) (2014);
- Canim Lake Indian Band Forest Tenure Opportunity "C" Agreement (2012);
- Canim Lake Indian Band Forest Tenure Opportunity Agreement (2011);
- Canim Lake Indian Band Mountain Pine Beetle Agreement (2010);

- Canim Lake Indian Band Mountain Pine Beetle Agreement (2008); and
- Canim Lake Indian Band Interim Agreement on Forest and Range Opportunities (2006); amendment (2008).

6.9.2 Engagement to Date

Engagement with the Tsq̓éscen̓ is anticipated to commence in June 2025 with a meeting to introduce Taseko and the Project. The meeting is being facilitated through an introduction from Simpcw's Kúkwpi7.
As engagement has not commenced, no issues nor feedback have been provided by the Tsq̓éscen̓ at the time of writing.

6.9.3 Planned Engagement

Following the initiation of engagement, Taseko will work with the Tsq̓éscen̓ to identify the preferred type and frequency of engagement regarding the Project. Regular meetings will be put in place at the discretion and convenience of the Tsq̓éscen̓ and ad hoc meetings will be scheduled as needed and requested. Project information will be provided during regularly scheduled or ad hoc meetings or though email notifications during the EA process. Taseko is committed to working closely with the Tsq̓éscen̓ to develop an engagement approach that is flexible and adaptive to the Project and needs of the Tsq̓éscen̓.

A summary of key planned engagement milestones is provided in Table 6-26, this plan is provided here for planning purposes and will be adjusted collaboratively with the Tsq̓éscen̓ throughout the EA process.

Table 6-26: Planned Engagement Milestones with The Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation

Type	Purpose	Proposed Timing
Initial Project Description (IPD)	Review of the IPD through the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) following submission to the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO).	Q3 2025
Engagement Plan (EP)	Draft sections regarding the Tsq̓éscen̓ First Nation (formerly Canim Lake Indian Band) (Tsq̓éscen̓) provided for review.	Q2 2025 (planned)
	Review of the EP through the TAC following submission to the EAO.	Q3 2025
Project Information	Introduction and ongoing updates on the Project.	Ongoing
Detailed Project Description (DPD)	Engagement on the DPD during content development.	Q3/Q4 2025
	Draft content review of specific sections prior to submission to the EAO.	2025/2026
	Review of the DPD through the TAC following submission to the EAO.	2026
Process Planning	Discussions regarding the scope of the EA through the development of the Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment (Application) Information Requirements.	2026

6.10 Additional Indigenous Groups

Two additional Indigenous groups have been identified for notification on the Project and may require further engagement. The Indigenous groups in this category were previously engaged on the former Harper Creek Project EA. Indigenous groups that may be potentially affected by the transmission line but are located distant from this Project component: Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band (Pellt'iq't) and Stswēcemc Xgāt'tem First Nation (formerly Canoe-Dog Creek Indian Band).

Notifications will be sent with Project updates and information on comment periods following submission of materials throughout the EA process. Additional notifications may be sent if there are additional Project updates to be communicated or information is requested.

There is the potential for other Indigenous groups to self-identify as being potentially affected by the Project. This will be further explored during early engagement and planning phases with Indigenous groups and through discussion with the provincial and federal governments.

7. Federal and Provincial Government Engagement

A preliminary list of federal and provincial government agencies that will or may have an interest in the Project is provided in Table 7-1. This list, including contacts, may be updated through engagement with government agencies during the early engagement and planning phases of the EA process.

Table 7-1: Federal and Provincial Government Agencies

Government Agency, Corporation, or Representative	Rationale
Federal	
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)	• IAAC administers the *Impact Assessment Act* and leads federal government participation in the impact assessment process.
Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process. • Minister is responsible for decision under the *Impact Assessment Act*. • Responsible for permitting / approval decisions under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* or *Species at Risk Act* should they be required.
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process. • Responsible for permitting / approval decisions under the Canada *Fisheries Act*, including under the Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations, should it be required.
Natural Resources Canada	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process. • Responsible for permitting / approval decisions under the federal *Explosives Act*.
Transport Canada	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process. • Responsible for permitting / approval decisions under the federal *Aeronautics Act* and *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act*.
Health Canada	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process.
Parks Canada	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process. • Responsible for permitting / approval decisions under the *Species at Risk Act* should they be required.
Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada	• Potential participatory federal government agency in the EA process. • Responsible for permitting / approvals decisions under the federal *Radio Communications Act*.
Provincial	
Environmental Assessment Office (EAO)	• Lead provincial agency for administration of the *Environmental Assessment Act* process.
BC Ministry of Mines and Critical Minerals (MCM)	• BC regulator involved in EA process and major mines permitting. • Minster co-decision maker for provincial EA decision for the Project. • Responsible for permitting decisions under the *Mines Act* and *Mineral Tenure Act*.

Government Agency, Corporation, or Representative	Rationale
BC Ministry of Environment and Parks (ENV)	• BC regulator involved in EA process and major mines permitting. • Minister co-decision maker for provincial EA decision for the Project. • Responsible for permitting decisions under the *Environmental Management Act and Drinking Water Protection Act*.
BC Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation	• Potential participatory BC government agency in the EA and permitting process. • Responsible for First Nations engagement, economic opportunities, and/or participation.
BC Ministry of Forests (FOR)	• Potential participatory BC government agency in the EA and permitting process. • Responsible for permitting decisions under the *Forest and Range Practices Act, Heritage Conservation Act,* and *Land Act*.
BC Ministry of Water, Lands and Resource Stewardship	• Potential participatory BC government agency in the EA and permitting process. • Responsible for permitting decisions under the BC *Water Sustainability Act*.
BC Ministry of Health (Interior Health)	• Potential participatory BC government agency in the EA and permitting process. • Responsible for permitting decisions under the *Public Health Act* should they be required.
BC First Nations Health Authority	• Potential participatory BC government agency in the EA and permitting process.
BC Ministry of Transit and Transportation	• Potential participatory BC government agency in the EA and permitting process.
Agricultural Land Commission (ALC)	• Regulates land use decisions within the Agricultural Land Reserve. • ALC approvals likely required for construction and operation of the transmission line (to be determine following selection of the final transmission line route).
BC Hydro	• Responsible for decisions related to interconnection of the transmission line to the provincial power grid. • Undertakes relevant studies required to enable interconnection to the provincial power grid.

7.1 Engagement Objectives

Taseko's objective for engagement with the provincial and federal government agencies is to develop and sustain constructive working relationships and regulatory processes, with a focus on advancing the EA and permitting process in an efficient and timely manner.

7.2 Engagement to Date

Prior to and since acquiring sole interest in YMI and the Project, Taseko has sent notification letters and held preliminary engagement with government representatives advising of the change in ownership and the intention to advance the Project into the EA process. The scope of engagement has varied across levels of government, initially appropriate to the stage of the Project from late-2018 through to present.

Taseko has engaged with a subset of BC government regulatory agencies. This has previously included the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI), and more recently the MCM, on aspects such as mineral tenure, field-based site investigations under Taseko's approved multi-year area-based (MYAB) Notice of Work permit, engagement requirements, and Project progress. Along with BC Ministry of Forests (FOR) on Road Use Permit approvals, and road user and maintenance responsibilities under those permits, and an Occupant License to Cut.

Taseko additionally has regular communications with the EAO and the IAAC representatives anticipated to be involved in the EA process. Meetings prior to the IPD submission involved discussion on Project progress, Indigenous group engagement scoping and progress, coordination of pre-early engagement activities, alignment of the EA process with the Simpcw Process, and preparation to enter in provincial and federal EA processes. Taseko previously met with the EAO and the IAAC monthly, and starting May 2025, will meet on an ongoing bi-monthly frequency. A summary of engagements with federal and provincial government agencies based on Taseko's engagement record is provided in Table 7-2.

Table 7-2: Summary of Engagement with Federal and Provincial Government Agencies

Date	Type of Engagement	Government	Purpose
4-Dec-2018	Email	Local, Provincial, Federal Governments	Notification of Taseko Mines Limited's (Taseko) acquisition of Yellowhead Minig Inc. (YMI) and the Project.
4-Dec-2018	Email	Environmental Assessment Office (EAO)	Notification of Taseko's acquisition of Yellowhead, request meeting to discuss next steps in the Environmental Assessment (EA) process.
15-Feb-2019	Email	EAO	Meeting to discuss Harper Creek Project EA, approach for the Project and engagement.
26-Mar-2019	Email	MCM[1]	Discussion on process for permitting the Project.
25-Apr-2019	Email	EAO, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)	Submission of the draft Yellowhead Copper Project Description.
23-Apr-2020	Meeting (virtual)	MCM[1], EAO	Meeting about the Project's history and current technical status, engagement, government engagement, opportunities, and next steps.
19-Jun-2024	Email	Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD), Members of Parliament, District of Clearwater	Notification of Taseko's new office space in Barriere and the upcoming Open House on June 21, 2024.

Date	Type of Engagement	Government	Purpose
9-Dec-2024	Meeting (virtual)	EAO	Discussed Simpcw Open House, Engagement Plan (EP), process alignment, and timeline for Initial Project Description (IPD) at monthly call.
21-Jan-2025	Email	MoF[2]	Confirmation of contact information for the Project in advance of the 2025 wildfire season.
27-Jan-2025	Meeting (in person)	EAO	Taseko introduced the Project to senior officials to demonstrate engagement undertaken by Taseko and seek collaboration on EA process and permitting advancement.
6-Feb-2025	Email	EAO, IAAC	Project shapefiles provided.
7-Feb-2025	Email	EAO	Discussed next steps with potential meeting dates to further discuss Simpcw First Nation (Simpcw), process alignment, and engagement.
10-Feb-2025	Meeting (virtual)	EAO, IAAC	Discussed IAAC Acting Manager, the potential two-year expedited process, draft IPD progress, and engagement during monthly call.
11-Feb-2025	Meeting (in person)	EAO, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, MCM, Simpcw	Taseko introduced the Project to senior BC government officials including the Project status and the engagement undertaken between Taseko and Simpcw to prepare the Project to enter the EA process. Discussed provincial collaboration to achieve timely and efficient advancement through the EA and permitting process.
13-Feb-2025	Email	Member of Parliament Office	Email providing a copy of Gibraltar's Economic Impact Summary and Report to MP.
19-Feb-2025	Email	Member of Parliament Office	Email in response to receiving Gibraltar's Economic Impact Summary and Report and asking for a meeting for Taseko to provide an update on the Project.
04-Mar-2025	Meeting (in person)	Member of Parliament Office	Meeting to provide project overview and discuss permitting timeline.
14-Mar-2025	Meeting (virtual)	EAO, IAAC, MCM[1], Ministry of Environment and Parks (ENV)	Taseko gave a technical presentation to introduce the Project.
19-Mar-2025	Email	EAO, IAAC	Taseko submitted the draft IPD for preliminary review.
25-Mar-2025	Meeting (virtual)	EAO, IAAC, Simpcw	Meeting to initiate discussion on proposed First Nations scoping and engagement approach for the Project
01-Apr-2025	Meeting (virtual)	Simpcw, MCM, EAO, ENV	Meeting regarding regulatory efficiency for the Project.
03-Apr-2025	Email	MCM	Email regarding the potential use of a 'Technical Readiness Assessment Tool', and the possibility of applying for a Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund grant.

Date	Type of Engagement	Government	Purpose
07-Apr-2025	Email	IAAC, EAO, Simpcw	Feedback on the draft IPD.
07-Apr-2025	Email	IAAC, EAO	Preliminary comments from IAAC for on the draft IPD.
15-Apr-2025	Meeting (in person)	IAAC, EAO, Simpcw	Taseko hosted an in-person Simpcw Process Alignment Workshop.
01-May-2025	Meeting (virtual)	IAAC, EAO, Simpcw	Follow up meeting on the Simpcw Process Alignment Workshop
06-May-2025	Meeting (virtual)	EAO, IAAC, Simpcw	Meeting regarding Indigenous engagement process and approaches.
[1] Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation at the time of meeting. [2] Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Development at time of meeting.			

7.3 Planned Engagement

Engagement with the EAO and the IAAC will continue on the IPD, EP, process alignment with the Simpcw Process, Indigenous scoping and engagement, and preparation for start of the engagement and planning phases, and coordination during the early engagement and planning phases of the provincial and federal EA processes. The meeting frequency shifted from monthly to bi-monthly in May 2025 for routine discussions on the Project and process and will occur more or less frequently as required through the early engagement and planning phases.

Aspects of this engagement also include involvement, collaboration with all parties, and government-to-government dialogue between Simpcw and the EAO and IAAC. Taseko's planned engagement with government agencies is provided in Table 7-3.

Table 7-3: Planned Engagement with Federal and Provincial Government Agencies

Engagement With	Engagement Method	Proposed Timing
Environmental Assessment Office (EAO), Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)	Routinely meet to discuss Project and regulatory process.	Bi-monthly.
Simpcw First Nation (Simpcw), EAO, and IAAC	Meet on process integration and maintain alignment of BC process with the Simpcw Assessment Process (Process).	Routine basis, frequency to be established with the parties.
Simpcw, EAO and IAAC	Meet and collaborate individually or collectively on preliminary scoping of the Application Information Requirements.	Post-day 90 early engagement to Detailed Project Description (DPD) submission.
MCM and Ministry of Forests (FOR)	Continue engagement on 2025 Site Investigation Program permitting and progress.	Q2 – Q4 2025.
MCM, FOR, ENV	Invite local representatives to attend early engagement Open Houses.	Within first 80 days of early engagement process.

Engagement With	Engagement Method	Proposed Timing
EAO and IAAC	Discussions on substitution to inform timely decision-making on this topic.	At appropriate points in the early engagement and planning phases.
Technical Advisory Committee	Engage with select members on understanding of the Project and interests related to the Project.	As scheduled with TAC members between start of early engagement and planning phases and submission of DPD initially.

8. Regional and Local Government Engagement

Kamloops is the largest and closest urban center to the Project, with several smaller towns and unincorporated communities throughout the region, with communities in proximity to the Project. Taseko has initiated engagement with the regional and local governments listed in Table 8-1.

Table 8-1: Regional and Local Government Agencies

Government	Contact
District of Barriere	Mayor, Rob Kerslake
District of Clearwater	Mayor, Merlin Blackwell
Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD)	External Relations and Advocacy Advisor, Corbin Kelly
TNRD Area A	Director, Usoff Tsao
TNRD Area B	Director, Lee Onslow
TNRD Area O	Director, Jill Hayward
City of Kamloops	Chief Administrative Officer, Byron McCorkell
Cariboo Regional District (CRD)	To be determined
District of 100 Mile House	Mayor Maureen Pinkney

Municipal plans identified that may be applicable include the following, further plans may be identified as the EA process advances. Land use plans that may be applicable are Section 3.6 Land Use Plans in the IPD.

- Barriere Official Community Plan;
- District of Clearwater Official Community Plan;
- North Thompson Official Community Plan; and
- Thompson-Nicola Regional District 2023-2026 Strategic Plan.

8.1 Engagement Objectives and Approach

The Project site, along with the existing primary and secondary access routes, rail load-out facility and some of the eastern portion of the transmission line corridor are in the TNRD. Public and stakeholders that have the potential to be affected by the Project are in District A (District of Clearwater, community of Vavenby), District O (District of Barriere), and District J (District of Kamloops). The western portion of the transmission line corridor and the BC Hydro substation is located within the Cariboo Regional District (CRD) and the district of 100 Mile House

8.2 Engagement to Date

Prior to and since acquiring sole interest in YMI and the Project, Taseko sent letters and held preliminary engagement with government representatives advising of the change in ownership and the intention to advance the Project into the EA process. The scope of engagement has varied across levels of government, initially appropriate to the stage of the Project from late-2018 through to present.

Taseko has undertaken preliminary engagement with the TNRD, District of Barriere, and District of Clearwater starting in 2021. Preliminary discussions involved updates on the Project, power supply, road use, and introductions to local Project personnel. In 2024, Taseko established a Project office in Barriere. A summary of engagement with regional and local governments is provided in Table 8-2 and a summary of interests and concerns raised to date is provided in Table 8-3.

Table 8-2 : Summary of Regional and Local Engagement

Date	Type of Engagement	Government	Purpose
4-Dec-2018	Email	Local Governments	Notification of Taseko Mines Limited's (Taseko) acquisition of Yellowhead Mining Inc. and the Project.
17-Sep-2019	Phone call	Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD)	Two possible culturally important sites in planned tailings site.
26-Sep-2019	Meeting (In-person)	District of Clearwater Mayor and Council	Project introduction and history.
17-Sep-2020	Meeting (virtual)	TNRD Area A Representative	Discussion of Project planning and Project design.
6-Oct-2020	Meeting (In-person)	District of Clearwater	Project updates and timelines.
26-Nov-2020	Meeting (virtual)	TNRD	Project overview, history, and design.
3-Nov-2021	Meeting (In-person)	District of Clearwater	Meeting in Clearwater to introduce the Project, including current status.
3-Nov-2021	Meeting (In-person)	TNRD Area A Director	Meeting in Clearwater to introduce the Project, including current status.
3-Nov-2021	Meeting (In-person)	Barriere Mayor	Meeting in Barriere to introduce the Project, including current status.
3-Nov-2021	Meeting (In-person)	TNRD Chair	Meeting to introduce the Project, including current status.
14-Nov-2021	Meeting (In-person)	District of Clearwater	Meeting to discuss community power gaps and opportunities.
17-Jan-22	Email	District of Barriere	Project update.
29-Aug-2023	Email	TNRD	Introduction of new Taseko project manager.
30-Aug-2023	Email	District of Barriere	Introduction of new Taseko project manager.
30-Aug-2023	Email	District of Clearwater	Introduction of new Taseko project manager.
25-Sept-2023	Meeting (In-person)	District of Barriere	Meeting to discuss Barriere business community and Chamber of Commerce membership.
6-Sep-2023	Meeting (In-person)	TNRD District A Director	Introduction and Project update meeting with newly elected TNRD District A Director to learn more about the community of Clearwater.
2-Nov-2023	Meeting (In-person)	TNRD District A	Meeting with TNRD District A Representative to discuss community power gaps and opportunities.

Date	Type of Engagement	Government	Purpose
17-Nov-2023	Meeting (In-person)	District of Barriere	Meeting to discuss community power gaps and opportunities.
20-Nov-2023	Email	Village of Valemount	Introduction of new Taseko project manager.
4-Dec-2023	Meeting (virtual)	TNRD Area O Director	Meeting to discuss community power gaps and opportunities.
22-Dec-2023	Meeting (virtual)	TNRD Area O TNRD Area B	Introduction and Project update meeting with TNRD Area O representative.
19-Jun-2024	Email	TNRD, Members of Parliament, District of Clearwater	Notification of Taseko's new office space in Barriere and the upcoming Open House on June 21, 2024.
21-Jun-2024	Open House	District of Barriere	Taseko attended Open House event at Barriere Business Centre. Presentation materials were displayed to introduce Taseko and the Project.
10-Dec-2024	Meeting (In-person)	District of Clearwater	Overview of Project status and discussion of future engagements.
10-Dec-2024	Email	TNRD	Taseko provided a Project update.
10-Dec-2024	Meeting (In-person)	TNRD	Overview of Project status.
14-Jan-2025	Meeting (In-person)	Clearwater & District Chamber of Commerce	Taseko attended Chamber Event and gave an overview of the Project.
18-Feb-2025	Meeting (In-person)	District of Clearwater	Presentation on the status of the Project and overview of timelines.
18-Mar-2025	Meeting (In-person)	District of Barriere	Taseko gave an overview of the Project.
04-Apr-2025	Email	TNRD	Correspondence regarding Project timeline and update on the IPD status.
28-Apr-2025	Email	TNRD	Correspondence regarding potential site visit to Gibraltar and community engagement approach.
23-May-2025	Meeting (Virtual)	TNRD	Taseko gave an overview of the project and upcoming open houses.

Table 8-3: Local and Regional Government Interests, Issues, and Concerns

Topic	Interest, Issue, or Concern	Approach to Resolution
Housing	Concerns regarding the impact of the Project workforce on housing in the region.	Housing will be considered in the Environmental Assessment Application (Application). Taseko will continue to engage on this topic.
Power	Communities currently experience inconsistent power supply and therefore are interested in improved power supply that could be more predictable and consistent.	The point of interconnection for the transmission line as identified by BC Hydro is the 100 Mile House substation. It is not anticipated that the transmission line would impact the North Thompson transmission line that currently supplies local communities.
Infrastructure	The impacts of the Project on local and regional infrastructure including transportation, employment, internet, etc.	The potential effects on Infrastructure and Services will be assessed in the Application. Taseko will continue to engage on this topic.
Social Closure	The potential impacts after Project closure	Taseko will engage through the process planning phase to discuss the scope of closure planning in the Application.

8.3 Planned Engagement

Taseko will continue to engage with regional and local governments to provide information and updates on the Project. Regular meetings will be scheduled if requested and ad hoc meetings will continue to be scheduled on an as needed, or requested, basis. Taseko will seek input from regional and local governments on the preferred frequency and methods of engagement. Taseko's planned engagement with regional and local governments is provided in Table 8-4.

Table 8-4: Planned Engagement with Regional and Local Governments

Type	Description	Anticipated Timing
Project Updates and Notifications	Updates and Project information will be provided as needed and the communication methods listed in Table 5-1 may be utilized. Input from early engagement is anticipated to inform frequency and method of communication.	Ongoing
Comments	Track and respond to comments on early engagement and planning phases deliverables.	Q2-Q4 2025
Community Open Houses*	Engagement with local government representatives during community open houses.	Q2 2025
*Upcoming open house dates provided in Table 9-5 in Section 9.5 Planned Engagement.		

9. Public Engagement

Members of the public who are potentially affected by the Project include:

- Tenure holders (e.g., prospectors, trapline holders, range tenure holders, and forestry lots/ tenures);
- Land user (e.g., guide outfitters, hunters, fishers, and recreational users);
- Landowners;
- Community and non-governmental organizations with interests in the area; and
- Self identified members of the public.

9.1 Engagement Objectives and Approach

Taseko's objective for public engagement is to build relationships, provide information on the Project, and provide opportunities for public participation and input into the Project. Other objectives include understanding local knowledge and using it to inform development of mitigation and enhancement measures. Local knowledge will be collected through engagement with community groups and organizations, local and regional government, and regulatory comment periods. The information received will be incorporated, as relevant and appropriate into the DPD and Application.

9.2 Tenure and Land Holders

Taseko has completed a search of the Integrated Land and Resource Registry (i.e., ILRR) to prepare a list of tenure and land holders that may be affected by the Project. A list of these holders is provided in Table 9-1 and includes trappers, guide outfitters, surface lease holders, grazing leases, and other tenure holders. Contact information has been withheld for privacy and confidentiality. Taseko recognizes this list may not be exhaustive and additional range, tenure, and land holders may be identified through the EA process.

Table 9-1: List of Identified Range, Tenure, and Land Holders

Tenure or Permit Number	Tenure or Permit Holder
1527964	Crown provincial land
1205248	
1336001	Local government land
2511016 4625855	
Multiple (29)	Private land
180946	Transportation Crown tenure
Multiple (4)	Trapline
Transmission line	
2530894	Crown agency land
Multiple (4)	Crown provincial land

Tenure or Permit Number	Tenure or Permit Holder
1715645	Local government land
Multiple (13)	Private land
906218	Community facility Crown Tenure licence of occupation
972803	Industrial use Crown Tenure licence of occupation
256380	Trapline cabin Crown tenure
Multiple (9)	Traplines
950757	Snowmobiling Crown tenure
980767	
180480	Grazing Crown tenures
243060	
187055	Gas and oil pipeline Crown tenure ROW
959989	
959966	
988262	Gas and oil pipeline Crown tenure ROW
988263	
195774	Telecommunication Crown tenure ROW
931131	
180081	Electric powerline Crown ROW
184933	
1113715	Mineral claim held by Eagle Plains Resources limited
Multiple (12)	Mineral claims held by New Gold Inc.
Multiple (3)	Mineral claims held by Welcome North Capital Corporation
Multiple (10)	Mineral claims held by private individuals

9.3 Other Public Engagement

Other public includes academic institutions, businesses and business groups, community groups, non-government groups, as well as self-identified members of the public that could be directly or indirectly affected by the Project. The public groups and organizations that Taseko has identified are listed in Table 9-2, although others may be identified as the process advances.

Table 9-2: List of Public Groups and Organizations Identified for Engagement

Public or Stakeholder Group	Public or Stakeholder Identified for Engagement
Communities and Associations	• Barriere and Area Chamber of Commerce • Clearwater and District Chamber of Commerce • Community at Birch Island Bridge • Community at Vavenby Bridge • Community of Barriere • Community of Clearwater • Community of Little Fort • Community of Vavenby • Kamloops and District Chamber of Commerce • Thompson-Okanagan Tourism Association • Community Future British Columbia
Local Business and Industry	Businesses in nearby communities, such as: • Vavenby • Clearwater • Barriere • Kamloops • 100 Mile House Industry: • BC Hydro • CN Rail • Interfor
Parks and Protected Areas	• Dunn Peak Park (recreational users, employees). • Park areas in proximity to the transmission line. • Recreational Park users along transmission line.
Educational institutions	• Thompson Rivers University • Clearwater Secondary School
Non-Government Organizations (NGO)	• Environmental NGO in surrounding communities. • Social NGOs in surrounding communities.

9.4 Public and Stakeholder Engagement to Date

Engagement with the public and stakeholders commenced in December 2018 to provide early information on the Project. A summary of engagement is provided in Table 9-3, specific individuals' names have been withheld for privacy and confidentiality. Interests and concerns raised by the public and stakeholders through engagement are summarized in Table 9-4.

Table 9-3: Summary of Public and Stakeholder Engagement

Date	Type of Engagement	Stakeholder	Purpose
19-Aug-2020	Email, Meeting (phone call)	Private Landowners	Taseko Mines Limited (Taseko) contacted local private landowners whose properties overlap with the Project to discuss field work, data collection, and protocols for site access.
28-Sep-2020	Meeting (phone call)	Local Landowner	Taseko introduction to a local landowner to discuss transmission line routing over their property.
6-Oct-2020	Site tour	Private Landowners	Project site tour for private landowners.
8-Oct-2020	Email	Private Landowner	Discussion regarding water reservoir on private property.
9-Oct-2020	Email	Private Landowner	Provided updated transmission line route.
2-Nov-2021	Meeting (in-person)	Nicola Valley Institute	Project Introduction meeting with Nicola Valley Institute of Technology staff.
3-Nov-2021	Meeting (in-person)	Barriere Chamber of Commerce	Meeting to introduce Taseko and the Project, including current status of Initial Project Description.
14-Nov-2021	Meeting (in-person)	Community Futures British Columbia	Meeting to discuss community power gaps and opportunities.
2-Nov-2023	Meeting (in-person)	Clearwater Chamber of Commerce	Meeting to discuss community power gaps and opportunities.
2-Nov-2023	Meeting (in-person)	Barriere Chamber of Commerce	Meeting to discuss community power gaps and opportunities.
18-Apr-2024	Email	Clearwater Chamber of Commerce	District of Clearwater representative invited Taseko to the Clearwater Chamber of Commerce general membership meeting to discuss the Project.
3-Sept-2024	Meeting (phone call)	Local Landowner	Taseko contacted local landowner to discuss Project development and history of private property that may overlap with the proposed transmission line route.
11-Dec-2024	Meeting (in-person)	Clearwater Chamber of Commerce	Presented an overview of the Project, potential timeline, local employment opportunities, and Simpcw First Nation involvement with the Project.
4-Jun-2025	Open House	Vavenby Community Open House	Vavenby community open house at the Vavenby Community Hall to introduce the Project. Topics of discussion included bridge and road use, public use, uranium, and water quality.

Table 9-4: Public and Stakeholder Interests, Issues, and Concerns

Topic	Interest, Issue, or Concern	Approach to Resolution
Roads	Commercial vehicle speeds and increased highway traffic.	Traffic will be assessed in the Infrastructure and Services assessment for the Yellowhead Copper Project's Environmental Assessment Application (Application).
Housing	Project workforce impacting the local housing market.	Housing will be assessed in the Infrastructure and Services assessment for the Application.
Employment and business opportunities	Interested in employment and business opportunities.	Taseko will provide information regarding employment through engagements, posted on Taseko's website https:// tasekomines.com/careers/ and social media. Join our procurement and business partner list by emailing yellowheadproject@tasekomines.com.
Power	Concerns regarding the transmission line going through Vavenby and impacts on local power supply.	The point of interconnection for the transmission line as identified by BC Hydro is the 100 Mile House substation. It is not anticipated that the transmission line would impact the North Thompson transmission line that currently supplies local communities.
Uranium	Concerns raised regarding uranium.	Based on data collected to date, uranium is not an identified element of concern for the Project and information will be included in the Application.
Closure	Concerns regarding the financial implications of closure	Potential economic effects of the Project, through all phases, will be assessed in the Application.
Water	Concerns regarding water quality in the Clearwater and Thompson Rivers and process water use.	Water quality and quantity will be assessed in the Application.

9.5 Planned Engagement

Taseko plans to engage with the public and stakeholders throughout the EA process. Planned events are summarized in Table 9-5.

Table 9-5: Planned Public and Stakeholder Engagement

Type	Description	Anticipated Timing
Community Open House	Clearwater community Open house to introduce the Project. Location to be determined.	June 24, 2025
Community Open House	Barriere community open house at the Project Office to introduce the Project.	June 25, 2025
Project Updates and Notifications	Updates and Project information will be provided as needed and the following communication methods listed in Table 5-1 may be utilized. Input from early engagement is anticipated to inform frequency and method of communication.	Ongoing

10. Engagement Plan Review

Taseko provided select draft content to Indigenous groups for review prior to submission of this EP to the EAO and the IAAC. Taseko will continue to engage with Indigenous groups, government agencies, and the public regarding the Project, including frequency and methods of engagement. Information and feedback received through engagement activities or document review will be considered for inclusion in future documents as appropriate. That may include the revised EP submitted with the DPD or other EAO deliverables, as appropriate. Additional updates to the EP will be discussed with the EAO and posted to the EAO's electronic Project Information Center (ePIC) website.

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Appendix D. List of Selected Baseline and Technical Studies from the Harper Creek Project EA Application, 2007 - 2015

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Table D-1: List of Selected Baseline and Technical Studies from the Harper Creek EA Application, 2007 - 2015

Appendix Reference	Report	Summary Description
5-B	Terrain and Soils Baseline Report (ERM 2014)	• Describes baseline conditions of terrain and soils for the Application based on field work undertaken in 2008, 2011 and 2012, includes baseline maps and characterizes soils and parent materials
5-C	Terrain Mapping and Geohazards (Polar Geosciences 2014)	• Describes methods and results of mapping of terrain, terrain stability, including soil erosion potential, and geohazards
5-F	Seismicity Assessment (KP 2012)	• Describes the results of the seismicity review and methodology and results of the seismic hazard analysis, including design ground motion parameters
6-A	Metal Leaching and Acid Rock Drainage Characterization (SRK 2015)	• Work characterized in this report informs waste management criteria, and source terms predictions for input into water quality assessments
7-A	2011 Geotechnical Site Investigation Factual Report (KP 2012)	• Describes program including geomechanical and geotechnical drilling, installation of long-term monitoring wells, and installation of piezometers in geotechnical and geomechanical drill holes
7-B	2012 Geotechnical Site Investigation Factual Report (KP 2013)	• Describes program including geotechnical drilling (TMF, rock quarry, overburden, waste rock and stockpile areas), overburden holes (open pit, TMF), long-term monitoring wells, piezometer installs
9-A	Air Quality Baseline Report (ERM 2014)	• Describes the results of the 2011 to 2013 air quality monitoring program. Objective was to collect information on existing ambient conditions.
9-B	Meteorological Baseline Report (ERM 2014)	• Describes data collected from 2007 to 2011, along with long-term values of various meteorological parameters estimated based on available site and regional data.
9-C 9-D 9-E	Conceptual Model Plan (ERM 2014) CALPUFF Model Input Parameters CALPUFF Contour Plots	• Describes the conceptual air quality model plan for a Level 2 Assessment, including predicted concentration of PM and total dust deposition, to determine effects of air emissions on receptors.
10-A	Noise Baseline Report (ERM 2014)	• Describes noise baseline conditions based on data from three monitoring stations in 2012
11-A	Hydrogeology Baseline Report (ERM 2015)	• Describes the baseline conditions of hydrogeology, including characterization of hydraulic conductivity, groundwater levels, and groundwater quality and components influencing the groundwater environment.

Appendix Reference	Report	Summary Description
11-B	Numerical Groundwater Modelling (KP 2014)	• Describes numerical groundwater model, methods and results; results of baseline and predictive numerical groundwater models were used to inform the effects assessment.
12-A	Hydrology Baseline Report (KP 2014)	• Describes the hydrology data collected from 2011 to 2014 and provides estimates of a wide range of flow values for various locations at the Project site.
12-B	Watershed Modelling Report (KP 2014)	• Describes methods and results for baseline watershed model to assess pre-Project surface and groundwater flows in surrounding watersheds and then modified to develop life of mine model for effects assessment.
12-D	Harper Creek Snow Water Equivalent Data (ERM 2014)	• Describes snow course data from 2008 to 2012 onsite, along with long-term regional snow course data.
12-E	Hydrology Synthetic Flow Series – Additional Information (KP 2014)	• Provides clarification of information request related to hydrology and water management
13-A	Surface Water Quality Baseline Report (ERM 2014)	• Describes background surface water quality condition in the Project area based on water quality data collected from 2007 to 2014.
13-B	Surface Water Quality Baseline Data Update (2014)	• Provides table summary of water quality data collected from February to June 2014.
13-C	Surface Water Quality Predictive Model (KP 2014)	• Describes the model, methods and results of the water quality model used for assessment, including inputs from surface and groundwater hydrology data, water quality data, geochemical source terms.
13-E	Water Quality Assessment of Reasonable Upper Case (ERM 2014)	• Describes results of reasonable upper limit case water quality predictions and partially responds to comment related to more realistic upper limit case and availability of results.
14-A	Fish and Aquatic Habitat Baseline (KP 2014)	• Describes the fisheries and aquatic life information collected from 2011 to 2013 field season, with a focus on diversity, relative abundance and distribution of fish species in relation to physical habitat conditions.
14-B	June 2014 Fish and Aquatic Tissue Metal Concentrations (ERM 2014)	• Describes the tissue metals and water and sediment quality baseline data collected in 2014 from sites in the LSA.
14-C	Fish Habitat Baseline Report (ERM 2015)	• Describes methods and results of fish habitat surveys at sites along Harper Creek, between P-Creek and T-Creek, following methods used by KP (2013).
14-D	Instream Flow Assessment (KP 2014)	• Describes the instream flow assessment undertaken to quantify changes in streamflow, physical fish habitat and stream temperature in support of the fish habitat effects assessment.

Appendix Reference	Report	Summary Description
15-A	Terrestrial Wildlife and Vegetation Baseline Report (Keystone Wildlife Research 2014)	• Describes the terrestrial wildlife and vegetation conditions with the Project area, focused on 28 terrestrial wildlife and vegetation VCs, using combination of TEM, habitat suitability mapping, field survey, etc.
15-B	List of Potential Rare Plants Occurring in the Local Study Area	• Listing of potential rare plants with the potential to occur in the Project area
15-C	List of Plants of Importance as Identified by Indigenous groups	• Listing of plants of importances as identified by Indigenous groups (species not linked to a specific First Nation)
17-A	Socio-Economic Context	• Supports section 17.5 of the Application and provides additional context of the socioeconomic characteristics in the LSA and RSA.
18-A	Private Land in the LSA	• Listing of private land within the LSA
19-A	Visual Impact Assessment (KP and Strategic 2012)	• Describes the receptors, methods and results of the visual impact assessment for the HCP.
20-A	Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) (TerraArchaeology 2012)	• Describes the methods and results of the AIA, within the Project area, including identification of archaeology sites of significance to Simpcw First Nation (Simpcw).
20-B	Archaeology Overview Assessment (AOA) Report: Transmission Lines and Mine Access Road (TerraArchaeology 2014)	• Describes methods and results of AOA associated with transmission lines and access road.
20-C	Historical Heritage Report – History of Grazing and Other Land Use by Moillet and Mitchell Families (Bastion Group Heritage Consultants 2014)	• Describes the scope and results of a historical research study focused on archival sources and family history data obtained, in part, through interview with members of the Moillet and Mitchell families of Vavenby, BC.
20-D	A Preliminary Assessment of the Paleontological Potential of the Harper Creek Project Regional Study Area (ERM 2014)	• Describes a preliminary desktop assessment of the potential for fossil resources in the RSA, with the purpose of identifying any fossil resources that may be potentially affected by the Project.
21-A	Country Foods Baseline Report (ERM 2014)	• Characterizes the baseline health risk posed by the consumption of country foods (CF), and integrated results of baseline studies, human receptor characteristics, and regulatory TRVs to assess 5 CF.
22-A	Simpcw First Nation Traditional Land Use and Ecological Knowledge Study (SFN 2012)	• Describes Simpcw Traditional Land Use and Ecological Knowledge in relation the HCP area.

Appendix Reference	Report	Summary Description
23-A	Simpcw First Nation Preliminary Research Report in Support of Simpcw Strength of Claim (SFN 2011)	• Provides a summary of currently available information on Simpcwemc extensive and continuous occupation of the lands, and in particular cultural and spiritual connection to the Project area.
23-B	Socioeconomic Assessment Report – First Nations Overview (McNeil and Associates 2012)	• Overview covers a shared history, language and cultural as well as background on health conditions and education of four First Nations (Simpcw, Adams Lake Indian Band, Neskonlith Indian Band, and Little Shuswap Band)
23-C	Fish, Wildlife and Plan Species Identified by Simpcw First Nation and Adams Lake Band	• Provides listing of fish resources, wildlife resources, and plants harvested by Simpcw and Adams Lake Indian Band
*Note: Harper Creek Project EA Application and full listing of Appendices is available at EAO EPIC: https://projects.eao.gov.bc.ca/p/58851167aaecd9001b81f7a7/project-details		

Appendix E. List of Selected Baseline and Technical Studies for the Project, 2019-Present

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Table E-1: List of Selected Baseline and Technical Studies for the Project, 2019-Present

Discipline	Yellowhead Studies	Summary Description
Water	2021 Surface Water Quality Baseline Report Update (KP 2021)	• Describes baseline collected from HCP between 2007-2014, along with updated sampling in 2020-2021 by Taseko from 22 sites in Barriere and North Thompson rivers; Harper, Baker, Jones, Avery and Chuck creeks; and North Barriere Lake.
Hydrology and Hydrometeorology	Baseline Hydrology Report (KP 2021)	• Describes monitoring data from Harper Creek baseline studies (2011-2013, 2015) and Taseko studies (2020-2021) for 11 sites in the Project area, including Baker Creek (2), Jones Creek (1), Harper Creek (3), P-Creek (2) and T-Creek (3). • Contributing reports to update described in the report – HCP studies in project EA record and updated Taseko reports identified below.
	Hydrology Data Review (KP 2020)	• Contributing report to Baseline Hydrology Report (2021)
	Hydrometeorology Report (KP 2021)	• Contributing report to Baseline Hydrology Report (2021)
Hydrogeology, incl. groundwater quality	Baseline Hydrogeology Report (KP 2021)	• Describes baseline groundwater condition and considers data collected from baseline groundwater, climate and hydrology studies from 2010 to 2014 and 2020 to 2021, and data collected from geotechnical, geomechanical and hydrogeology site investigations in 2011 and 2012.
	Draft 2021 Baseline Numerical Groundwater Model Report (KP 2021)	• Describes the numerical groundwater model, methods and results to characterize baseline groundwater conditions for use in effects assessment.
Geochemistry	Tailings Kinetic Testing and Source Terms, Yellowhead Project (SRK 2023)	• Provides a review of geochemical data and recommendations for use of data for revised tailings source terms for the Yellowhead Project.

Discipline	Yellowhead Studies	Summary Description
Fish, Fish Habitat and Aquatic Resources, including Species at Risk (SAR)	Fish and Aquatic Baseline Report (KP 2021)	• Describes baseline to characterize fish species, presence/absence, spatial distribution, abundance and habitat values, aquatic habitat collected from 2011-2014 and 2020-2021, and fish tissue / aging sampling in 2011, from Harper Creek, T-Creek, P-Creek, North Thompson River, Saskum Lake, North Barriere Lake, Baker Creek, Jones Creek, Avery Creek, Lute Creek and Chuck Creek
	Draft Environmental Flow Needs Screening Assessment (KP 2021)	• Describes EFN assessment completed in 2013 and 2014 to characterize baseline and LOM hydrology and fish habitat condition, along with baseline hydrology and fisheries information, risk management based on BC EFN Policy (2016) and the mine and water management plan to 9 locations in Baker, Jones and Harper creeks.
Soils, Vegetation and Ecosystems, including SAR and Ecological Communities at Risk (ECAR)	Soil and Vegetation Tissue Sampling: Field Technical Report (Ecora 2020)	• Describes baseline data collection methods, analyses and results for soil and vegetation tissue sampling at 31 sites, including soil samples (31), edible plants (30 samples, 5 species), and 31 wildlife forage plants (31 samples, 4 species) across local and regional study area (same as for HCP EA).
	Draft Regional Assessment of Wetlands and Ecological Communities at Risk – Field Technical Report (Ecora 2020)	• Describes regional assessment of wetlands and ECAR with known occurrence or potential to occur in the regional study area, including field survey to improve wetland and ECAR mapping / occurrence.
Wildlife and Habitat, incl. Species at Risk	Mammalian eDNA Survey around the Yellowhead Mine Site (eDNATec 2023)	• Describes the field sampling and environmental geonomics analysis (eDNA) method to characterize terrestrial vertebrate presence and richness in the Project area. Sampling involved collection of 22 water samples from 5 catchments in proximity to the Project site (regional study area). 35 species from 4 vertebrate classes were identified based on available reference sequences. Fish were identified incidentally as part of the analyses.
	Vertebrate eDNA Survey around the Yellowhead Mine Site (eDNATec 2024)	• Describes the field sampling and environmental geonomics analysis (eDNA) method to characterize terrestrial vertebrate presence and richness in the Project area. Sampling involved collection of 92 samples using 3 water collection methods from 5 catchments in proximity to the Project site. 50 species from 7 vertebrate classes were identified based on available reference sequences. Fish were identified incidentally as part of the analyses.
Air Quality	Draft Air Quality Baseline Report (KP 2021)	• Describes the air quality baseline, including data for 14 sites from 2011-2013 (6-7 sites over program) and 2020-2021 (4 existing sites, 5 new sites) located in proximity to Vavenby, Project site, Birch Island and in the LSA.

Discipline	Yellowhead Studies	Summary Description
Noise	Baseline Noise Monitoring Report (BKL Consultants Ltd 2021)	• Describes the noise baseline from 6 sites near Vavenby (3 sites), Birch Island Lost Creek Road (BILCR, 1 site), BILCR near Clearwater (1 site), and Project site (1 site) for summer and fall 2020, including monitoring from 3 sites in September 2012).
Visual Quality	Visual Impact Assessment (Strategic 2021)	• Describes VIA methods and results for 17 viewpoint locations associated with 8 areas of concern (Vavenby, Highway 5, Granite Mountain, Vavenby Lookout Cabin, Trophy Meadows, Harp Mountain, Raft Mountain and Dunn Peak Park,
Social and Economic	Draft Socio-Economic Baseline Report (Hemmera 2020)	• Describes past and present social and economic conditions and context in the area of influence of the Project; summarizes understanding of current community dynamics and trends, including understanding of differentiated characteristics of distinct sub-groups within the potentially affected population; identifies community interests, values and concerns about current and future social and economic environment; and a reference point to inform the assessment.
Non-Traditional Land and Resource Use	Non-Traditional Land and Resource Use Report (Hemmera 2021)	• Describes past and existing land and resource use; identify population sub-groups that might be more vulnerable to land and resource use; identification of community interests, values and concerns about current and future uses
	Yellowhead Project – Economic Impact Assessment (BC Stats 2020)	• Describes results of input-output analysis of the economic impact of the construction and operations of the Project
Traffic Assessment	Draft Yellowhead Project Traffic Impact Assessment (McElhanney 2020)	• Study was initiated to identify potential impacts due to traffic during operations on local roads and highways; quantify anticipated traffic delays; identify opportunities to minimize potential adverse effects; perform haul route assessment; and identify improvements.

Appendix F. Ecosystems and Vegetation at Risk with the Potential to Occur in the Project Area

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Table F-1: Ecosystems and Vegetation at Risk with the Potential to Occur in the Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act* Status	Project Element	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
Vascular Plants						
American sweet-flag	*Acorus americanus*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Mexican mosquito fern	*Azolla mexicana*	Blue	Threatened	Threatened	X	X
cascade rockcress	*Boechera cascadensis*	Blue	—	—		X
linear-leaf moonwort	*Botrychium compestre* var. *lineare*	Blue	—	—	X	X
mountain moonwort	*Botrychium montanum*	Blue	—	—	X	X
peduncled sedge	*Carex pedunculata*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Sprengel's sedge	*Carex sprengelii*	Blue	—	—		X
heart-leaved springbeauty	*Claytonia cordifolia*	Blue	—	—		X
slender hawksbeard	*Crepis atribarba* ssp. *atribarba*	Blue	—	—		X
yellow widelip orchid	*Liparis loeselii*	Blue	—	—		X
hairy water-clover	*Marsilea vestita*	Blue	—	—		X
satinflower	*Olsynium douglasii* var. inflatum	Red	—	—		X
whitebark pine	*Pinus albicaulis*	Blue	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
California Jacob's ladder	*Polemonium californicum*	Red	—	—		X
close-flowered knotweed	*Polygonum polygaloides ssp. confertiflorum*	Blue	—	—		X
brown beak-rush	*Rhynchospora capillacea*	Blue	—	—		X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act* Status	Project Element	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
Rocky Mountain clubrush	*Schoenoplectiella saximontana*	Red	—	—		X
short-flowered evening-primrose	*Taraxia breviflora*	Red	—	—		X
Ochroleucous bladderwort	*Utricularia ochroleuca*	Blue	—	—		X
woolly blue violet	*Viola sororia*	Blue	—	—		X
Lichens and Macrofungi						
abrading ring	*Arctoparmelia subcentrifuga*	Blue	—	—	X	X
blue-footed pixie	*Cladonia cyanipes*	Blue	—	—	X	X
strip-tease pixie	*Cladonia decorticata*	Blue	—	—	X	X
lemon pixie	*Cladonia luteoalba*	Blue	—	—	X	
crumpled tarpaper	*Collema coniophilum*	Red	Threatened	Threatened		X
greater green moon	*Dendriscosticta gelida*	Red	—	—	X	
mountain oakmoss	*Evernia divaricata*	Blue	—	—	X	X
smoker's lung	*Lobaria retigera*	Blue	Threatened	Threatened	X	X
pebbled paw	*Nephroma isidiosum*	Blue	—	—	X	X
cryptic paw	*Nephroma occultum*	Blue	Threatened	Special Concern	X	X
Northwest waterfan	*Peltigera gowardii*	Red	Special Concern	Special Concern		X
Bryophytes						
Haller's apple moss	*Bartramia halleriana*	Blue	Threatened	Threatened	X	X
Columbian carpet moss	*Bryoerythrophyllum columbianum*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern		X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act* Status	Project Element	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
margined streamside moss	*Scouleria marginata*	Red	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
Ecological Communities						
mountain alder / red-osier dogwood / lady fern	*Alnus incana / Cornus sericea / Athyrium filix-femina*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available	X	X
slender sedge / common hook-moss	*Carex lasiocarpa / Drepanocladus aduncus*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available	X	X
awned sedge Fen - Marsh	*Carex atherodes Fen - Marsh*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
shore sedge - buckbean / hook-mosses	*Carex limosa - Menyanthes trifoliata / Drepanocladus spp.*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
three-way sedge	*Dulichium arundinaceum Herbaceous Vegetation*	Red	Not Available	Not Available	X	X
swamp horsetail - beaked sedge	*Equisetum fluviatile - Carex utriculata*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
Narrow-leaved cotton grass – shore sedge	*Eriophorum angustifolium – Carex limosa*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available	X	X
tamarack / low birch / bluejoint reedgrass - sedges / peat-mosses	*Larix laricina / Betula pumila / Calamagrostis canadensis - Carex spp. / Sphagnum spp.*	Red	Not Available	Not Available		X
buckbean – slender sedge	*Menyanthes trifoliata – Carex lasiocarpa*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available	X	X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act* Status	Project Element	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
hybrid white spruce / horsetails / leafy mosses	*Picea engelmannii x glauca / Equisetum spp. / Mnium spp.*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
hybrid white spruce / devil's club / step moss	*Picea engelmannii x glauca / Oplopanax horridus / Hylocomium splendens*	Red	Not Available	Not Available		X
hybrid white spruce / falsebox / knight's plume	*Picea engelmannii x glauca / Paxistima myrsinites / Ptilium crista-castrensis*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
hybrid white spruce / soopolallie - falsebox	*Picea engelmannii x glauca / Shepherdia canadensis - Paxistima myrsinites*	Red	Not Available	Not Available		X
hybrid white spruce / foam lichens	*Picea engelmannii x glauca / Stereocaulon spp.*	Red	Not Available	Not Available		X
hybrid white spruce / black huckleberry - falsebox	*Picea engelmannii x glauca / Vaccinium membranaceum - Paxistima myrsinites*	Blue	Not Available	- Not Available		X
black spruce / buckbean / peat-mosses	*Picea mariana / Menyanthes trifoliata / Sphagnum spp.*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
lodgepole pine / clad lichens - juniper haircap moss	*Pinus contorta / Cladonia spp. - Polytrichum juniperinum*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
lodgepole pine / falsebox / pinegrass	*Pinus contorta / Paxistima myrsinites / Calamagrostis rubescens*	Red	Not Available	Not Available		X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act* Status	Project Element	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
lodgepole pine - black spruce / red-stemmed feathermoss	*Pinus contorta - Picea mariana / Pleurozium schreberi*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
lodgepole pine / dwarf blueberry / peat-mosses	*Pinus contorta / Vaccinium caespitosum / Sphagnum spp.*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available	X	X
black cottonwood - / common snowberry-roses	*Populus trichocarpa / Symphoricarpos albus - Rosa spp.*	Red	Not Available	Not Available		X
bluebunch wheatgrass - junegrass	*Pseudoroegneria spicata - Koeleria macrantha*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
douglas-fir - hybrid white spruce / electrified cat's-tail moss	*Pseudotsuga menziesii - Picea engelmannii x glauca / Hylocomiadelphus triquetrus*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
douglas-fir - hybrid white spruce / thimbleberry	*Pseudotsuga menziesii - Picea engelmannii x glauca / Rubus parviflorus*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
douglas-fir - lodgepole pine / clad lichens	*Pseudotsuga menziesii - Pinus contorta / Cladonia spp.*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
hard-stemmed bullrush Deep Marsh	*Schoenoplectus acutus Deep Marsh*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available	X	X
western redcedar - paper birch / oak fern	*Thuja plicata - Betula papyrifera / Gymnocarpium dryopteris*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act* Status	Project Element	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
western redcedar / oak fern - bunchberry	*Thuja plicata / Gymnocarpium dryopteris - Cornus canadensis*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
western redcedar / falsebox	*Thuja plicata / Paxistima myrsinites*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X
tufted clubrush / golden star-moss	*Trichophorum cespitosum / Campylium stellatum*	Blue	Not Available	Not Available	X	X
common cattail Marsh	*Typha latifolia* Marsh	Blue	Not Available	Not Available		X

Appendix G. Wildlife Species at Risk with Potential to Occur in the Project Area

Yellowhead Copper Project

Initial Project Description

June 23, 2025

Taseko Yellowhead

Table G-1: Wildlife Species at Risk with Potential to Occur in the Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act*	Project Location	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
Amphibians						
Western Tiger Salamander	*Ambystoma mavortium*	Red	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
Western Toad	*Anaxyrus boreas*	Yellow	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog	*Ascaphus montanus*	Blue	Threatened	Threatened	X	X
Northern Leopard Frog	*Lithobates pipiens*	Red	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
Coeur d'Alene Salamander	*Plethodon idahoensis*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	x	X
Great Basin Spadefoot	*Spea intermontana*	Blue	Threatened	Threatened		X
Birds						
American Goshawk, *atricapillus* subspecies	*Accipiter atricapillus atricapillus*	Blue	Not at Risk	—	X	X
Western Grebe*	*Aechmophorus occidentalis*	Red	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
White-throated Swift*	*Aeronautes saxatalis*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Grasshopper Sparrow*	*Ammodramus svannarum*	Red	—	—		X
Great Blue Heron, herodias subspecies*	*Ardea herodias herodias*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Short-eared Owl	*Asio flammeus*	Blue	Threatened	Special Concern	X	X
Burrowing Owl	*Athene cunicularia*	Red	Endangered	Endangered		X
Upland Sandpiper*	*Bartramia longicauda*	Red	—	—	X	X
American Bittern*	*Botaurus lentiginosus*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Brant*	*Branta bernicla*	Blue	—	—		
Swainson's Hawk	*Buteo swainsoni*	Red	—	—	X	X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act*	Project Location	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
Green Heron*	*Butorides virescens*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Smith's Longspur*	*Calcarius pictus*	Blue	—	—		X
Canyon Wren*	*Catherpes mexicanus*	Blue	Not at Risk	—	X	X
Lark Sparrow*	*Chondestes grammacus*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Common Nighthawk*	*Chordeiles minor*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
Evening Grosbeak*	*Coccothraustes vespertinus*	Yellow	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
Olive-sided Flycatcher*	*Contopus cooperi*	Yellow	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
Black Swift*	*Cypseloides niger*	Blue	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
Bobolink*	*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*	Red	Special Concern	Threatened	X	X
White-headed Woodpecker*	*Dryobates albolarvatus*	Red	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
Gray Flycatcher*	*Empidonax wrightii*	Blue	Not at Risk	—		X
Horned Lark, *merrilli* subspecies*	*Eremophila alpestris merrilli*	Red	—	—	X	X
Rusty Blackbird	*Euphagus carolinus*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
Prairie Falcon	*Falco mexicanus*	Red	Not at Risk	—	X	X
Peregrine Falcon, *anatum* subspecies	*Falco peregrinus anatum*	Red	Not at Risk	—		X
Gyrfalcon	*Falco rusticolus*	Blue	Not at Risk	—	X	X
Caspian Tern	*Hydroprogne caspia*	Blue	Not at Risk	—	X	X
Barn Swallow*	*Hirundo rustica*	Yellow	Special Concern	Threatened	X	X
Yellow-breasted Chat*	*Icteria virens*	Red	Endangered	Endangered	X	X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act*	Project Location	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
California Gull*	*Larus californicus*	Red	—	—	X	X
Short-billed Dowitcher*	*Limondromus griseus*	Red	Endangered	—	X	X
Hudsonian Godwit*	*Limosa haemastica*	Red	Threatened	—		X
Western Screech-Owl, *macfarlanei* subspecies	*Megascops kennicottii macfarlanei*	Blue	Threatened	Threatened	X	X
Lewis's Woodpecker*	*Melanerpes lewis*	Blue	Threatened	Threatened	X	X
Surf Scoter*	*Melannitta perspicillata*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Double-crested Cormorant	*Nannopterum auritum*	Blue	Not at Risk	—	X	X
Black-crowned Night-Heron*	*Nycticorax nycticorax*	Red	—	—	X	X
Long-billed Curlew*	*Numenius americanus*	Yellow	Threatened	Special Concern	X	X
Sage Thrasher*	*Oresoscoptes montanus*	Red	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
Band-tailed Pigeon*	*Patagioneas fasciata*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
American White Pelican	*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*	Red	Not at Risk	—	X	X
Red-necked Phalarope*	*Phalaropus lobatus*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
American Golden-Plover*	*Pluvialis dominica*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Eared Grebe*	*Podiceps nigricollis*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Purple Martin*	*Progne subis*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Flammulated Owl	*Psiloscops flammeolus*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern		X
American Avocet*	*Recurvirostra americana*	Blue	—	—	X	X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act*	Project Location	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
Bank Swallow*	*Riparia riparia*	Yellow	Threatened	Threatened	X	X
Bay-breasted Warbler*	*Setophaga castanea*	Red	—	—	X	X
Cape May Warbler*	*Setophaga tigrina*	Blue	—	—		X
Black-throated Green Warbler*	*Setophaga virens*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Williamson's Sapsucker*	*Sphyrapicus thyroideus*	Blue	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
Brewer's Sparrow, *breweri* subspecies*	*Spizella breweri breweri*	Blue	—	—		X
Forster's Tern	*Sterna forsteri*	Red	Data Deficient	—	X	X
Winter Wren*	*Troglodytes hiernalis*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Sharp-tailed Grouse, *columbianus* subspecies	*Tympanuchus phasianellus columbianus*	Blue	—	—		X
Barn Owl	*Tyto alba*	Blue	Threatened	Threatened	X	X
Mammals						
Mountain Beaver	*Aplodontia rufa*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
Tonwsend's Big-eared Bat	*Corynorhinus townsendii*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Spotted Bat	*Euderma maculatum*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern		X
Wolverine	*Gulo gulo*	-	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
Silver-haired Bat	*Lasionycteris noctivagans*	Yellow	Endangered	—	X	X
Hoary Bat	*Lasiurus cinereus*	Blue	Endangered	—	X	X
Western Small-footed Myotis	*Myotis ciliolabrum*	Blue	—	—		X
Little Brown Myotis	*Myotis lucifugus*	Blue	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
Northern Myotis	*Myotis septentrionalis*	Blue	Endangered	Endangered	X	X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act*	Project Location	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
Fringed Myotis	*Mytois thysanodes*	Blue	Data Deficient	Schedule 3	X	X
Yuma Myotis	*Myotis yumanensis*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Least Chipmunk, *oreocetes* subspecies	*Neotamias minimus oreocetes*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Least Chipmunk, *selkirki* subspecies	*Neotamius minimus selkirki*	Red	—	—	X	X
Red-tailed Chipmunk, *ruficaudus* subspecies	*Neotamius ruficaudus ruficaudus*	Red	—	—	X	X
Red-tailed Chipmunk, *simulans* subspecies	*Neotamius ruficaudus simulans*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Mountain Goat	*Oreamnos americanus*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Bighorn Sheep	*Ovis canadensis*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Columbia Plateau Pocket Mouse	*Perognathus parvus*	Blue	—	—		X
Fisher, Columbian population	*Pekania pennanti pop. 5*	Red	—	—	X	X
Caribou (Southern Mountain Population)	*Rangifer tarandus pop. 1*	Red	Endangered	Threatened	X	X
Western Harvest Mouse	*Reithrodontomys megalotis*	Blue	Endangered	Special Concern		X
Preble's Shrew	*Sorex preblei*	Red	—	—		X
Nuttall's Cottontail	*Sylvilagus nuttallii*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern		X
Northern Bog Lemming,	*Synaptomys borealis artemisiae*	Blue	—	—	X	X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act*	Project Location	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
artemisiae subspecies						
American Badger	*Taxidea taxus*	Red	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
Northern Pocket Gopher, *segregatus* subspecies	*Thomomys talpoides segregatus*	Red	—	—	X	X
Grizzly Bear	*Ursus arctos*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
Reptiles						
Northern Rubber Boa	*Charina bottae*	Yellow	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
Painted Turtle - Intermountain - Rocky Mountain Population	*Chrysemys picta pop. 2*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
North American Racer	*Coluber constrictor*	Blue	Threatened	Threatened	X	X
Western Rattlesnake	*Crotalus oreganus*	Blue	Threatened	Threatened		X
Desert Nightsnake	*Hypsiglena chlorophaea*	Red	Endangered	Endangered		X
Gophersnake. *deserticola* subspecies	*Pituophis catenifer deserticola*	Blue	Threatened	Threatened		X
Western Skink	*Plestiodon skiltonianus*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
Invertebrates						
Rocky Mountain Capshell	*Acroloxus coloradensis*	Blue	Not at Risk	—	X	X
Lance-tipped Darner	*Aesha constricta*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Oregon Forestsnail	*Allogona townsendiana*	Red	Endangered	Endangered		X
Banded Tigersnail	*Anguispira kochi*	Blue	Not at Risk	—	X	X
Mormon Metalmark	*Apodemia mormo*	Red	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
Emma's Dancer	*Argia emma*	Blue	—	—		X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act*	Project Location	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
Vivid Dancer	*Argia vivida*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
Albert's Fritillary	*Boloria alberta*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Immaculate Green Hairstreak	*Callophrys affinis*	Blue	—	—	X	X
River Jewelwing	*Calopteryx aequabilis*	Blue	—	—		X
Hoffman's Checkerspot	*Chlosyne hoffmanni*	Red	—	—	X	X
Badlands Tiger Beetle	*Cicindela decemnotata*	Red	—	—		
Hairy-necked Tiger Beetle	*Cicindela hirticollis*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Dark Saltflat Tiger Beetle	*Cicindela parowana*	Red	Endangered	Endangered		X
Mead's Sulphur	*Colias meadii*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Columbia Dune Moth	*Copablepharon absidum*	Red	Data Deficient	—	X	X
Coeur d'Alene Oregonian	*Cryptomastix mullani*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Eastern Tailed Blue	*Cupido comyntas*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Monarch	*Danaus Plexippus*	Red	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
Familiar Bluet	*Enallagma civile*	Red	—	—		X
Alkali Bluet	*Enallagma clausum*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Silver-spotted Skipper, *clarus* subspecies	*Epargyreus clarus clarus*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Magdalena Alpine	*Erebia magdalena*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Gillette's Checkerspot	*Euphyrides gillettii*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Dun Skipper	*Euphyes vestris*	Blue	Threatened	Threatened		X
Variegated Fritillary	*Euptoieta Claudia*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Shortface Lanx	*Fisherola nuttalli*	Red	Endangered	—	X	X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act*	Project Location	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
Ashy Pebblesnail	*Fluminicola fuscus*	Red	—	—	X	X
Dusky Fossaria	*Galba dalli*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Prairie Fossaria	*Galba bulimoides*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Golden Fossaria	*Galba obrussa*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Pygmy Fossaria	*Galba parva*	Blue	—	—		X
Attenuate Fossaria	*Galba truncatula*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Rocky Mountain Ridged Mussel	*Gonidea angulata*	Red	Endangered	Special Concern		X
Star Gyro	*Gyraulus crista*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Pale Jumping-slug	*Hemphillia camelus*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Nevada Skipper	*Hesperia nevada*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Pygmy Slug	*Kootenaia burkei*	Blue	Special Concern	—	X	X
Twelve-spotted Skimmer	*Libellula pulchella*	Blue	—	—		X
Dione Copper	*Lycaena dione*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Bronze Copper	*Lycaena Hyllus*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Lilac-bordered Copper	*Lycaena nivalis*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Western River Cruiser	*Macromia magnificia*	Blue	—	—		X
Magnum Mantleslug	*Magnipelta mycophaga*	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X
Swamp Fingernailclam	*Musculium partumeium*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Long Fingernailclam	*Musculium transversum*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Jutta Arctic, *chermocki* subspecies	*Oeneis jutta chermocki*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Sinuous Snaketail	*Ophiogomphus occidentis*	Blue	—	—	X	X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act*	Project Location	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
Subalpine Mountainsnail	*Orehelix subrudis*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Indra Swallowtail	*Papilio indra*	Red	—	—		X
Clodius Parnassian, *pseudogallatinus* supspecies	*Parnassius clodius pseudogallatinus*	Blue	—	—		X
Pronghorn Clubtail	*Phanogomphus graslinellus*	Blue	—	—		X
Common Sootywing	*Pholisera catullus*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Rotund Physa	*Physella Columbiana*	Red	—	—		X
Rocky Mountain Physa	*Physella propinqua*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Sunset Physa	*Physella virginea*	Blue	—	—	X	X
River Peaclam	*Pisidium fallax*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Caribou Rams-horn	*Planorbella columbiensis*	Red	—	—		X
Meadow Rams-horn	*Planorbula campestris*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Sandhill Skipper	*Polites sabuleti*	Red	—	—	X	X
Sonora Skipper	*Polites sonora*	Blue	Not at Risk	—	X	X
Tawny-edged Skipper, *themistocles* subspecies	*Polites themistocles themistocles*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Northern Tightcoil	*Pristiloma arcticum*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Umbilicate Sprite	*Promenetus umbilicatellus*	Blue	—	—		X
Checkered Skipper	*Pyrgus communis*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Behr's Hairstreak	*Satyrium behrii*	Red	Endangered	Endangered	X	X
California Hairstreak	*Satyrium californica*	Blue	—	—	X	X

Common Name	Scientific Name	BC List	COSEWIC	*Species at Risk Act*	Project Location	
					Project Site[1]	Transmission Line[2]
Half-moon Hairstreak	*Satyrium semiluna*	Red	—	—	X	X
Quebec Emerald	*Somatochlora brevicincta*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Forcipate Emerald	*Somatochlora forcipata*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Aphrodite Fritillary, *manitoba* subspecies	*Speyeria aphrodite manitoba*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Mormon Fritillary, *eurynome* subspecies	*Speyeria mormonia eurynome*	Yellow	—	—	X	X
Herrington Fingernailclam	*Sphaerium occidentale*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Striated Fingernailclam	*Sphaerium striatinum*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Abbreviate Pondsnail	*Stagnicola apicina*	Blue	—	—		X
Wrinkled Marshsnail	*Stagnicola caperata*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Widelip Pondsnail	*Stagnicola traski*	Blue	—	—	X	X
Olive Clubtail	*Stylurus olivaceus*	Blue	Endangered	Endangered		X
Glossy Valvata	*Valvata humeralis*	Red	—	—	X	X
Threeridge Valvata	*Valvata tricarinata*	Red	—	—	X	X
Callused Vertigo	*Vertigo arthuri*	Blue	—	—		X
Tapered Vertigo	*Vertigo ventricose*	Red	—	—	X	X
Sheathed Slug	*Zacoleus idahoensis*	Red	Special Concern	Special Concern	X	X

Notes:

*Denotes migratory birds protected under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*.

Taseko Yellowhead