



21 March 2022

Ryan Fequet, Executive Director

Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board
#1-4905 48th St
Yellowknife, NWT X1A 3S3

**INDIN LAKES PROJECT WILDLIFE MITIGATION AND MONITORING PLAN 2021 ANNUAL REPORT,
W2018C0007**

Dear Mr. Fequet

Nighthawk Gold Corp. (Nighthawk) submits this Annual Report for the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (WMMP) Version 3.1. This Annual Report covers activities in 2021.

Wildlife Observations

Wildlife species of concern for the Colomac camp are communicated to all staff and contractors at Safety Meetings (see the Water Licence Annual Reports). Staff and contractors are required to document all relevant wildlife sightings at the Colomac camp.

A total of eight wildlife species were observed at the site in 2021. Black bears were the most common species recorded with a total of 13 observations. Grouse and moose were the next most commonly observed species, with 10 and 11 observations, respectively. Other species that were observed include bald eagle (4 individuals), porcupine (3 individuals), barn swallow, common loon and raven. Barn swallows (groups up to 100 individuals) and loons (up to 3 individuals) were observed daily during the month of August and September. Ravens were generally reported daily over the course of the exploration season between March and November. Copies of wildlife sightings logs are provided in the Water Licence Annual Report.

Few wildlife observations are noted at the Colomac camp because people are generally working in buildings with high noise levels and no view to the outside. If field crews are working outside, they are either in close vicinity to drill rigs, which are noisy and so are avoided by most wildlife species, or wear bear bells to warn wildlife of their presence. As most of the exploration work occurred within the footprint of the Colomac mine, there was very little disturbance to vegetation or wildlife habitat.

Wildlife Incidents

No wildlife incidents occurred in 2021.

Unanticipated Disturbance to Wildlife Habitat

There were no instances of impacts to wildlife habitat that were not predicted.

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Observations of Traditional and Non-Traditional Land Use

No instances of traditional or non-traditional land use were observed during the exploration activities.

Discussion of the Effectiveness of the WMMP Mitigation

The WMMP mitigation is reviewed with site staff during orientation, and during safety meetings. Examples of wildlife issues discussed during safety meetings are provided in the Water Licence Annual Reports. Observation sheets used for reporting and recording all wildlife sighting are in the kitchen at camp for ease of access and reporting.

Recommended Changes to the WMMP

The Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan has been an effective tool to limit and monitor impacts to wildlife and wildlife habitat at the Indin Lakes Gold Property. Currently, Nighthawk is in the process of obtaining Type A Water Licences (both Federal and Non-Federal) and a Type A Land Use Permit for the Indin Lakes Gold Property. As part of the application process, a new version of the WMMP (Version 4.0) was submitted to the Board. It is expected that Version 4.0 will require updates in 2022 following issuance of those authorizations to incorporate changes outlined in the Reasons for Decision and recommendations received by Intervenors through the Online Review System (ORS).

Closure

Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Regards,

Nighthawk Gold Corp.



Denise Lockett
Manger, Stakeholder Relations, Licensing and Permitting