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A.2 – FIRST NATIONS AND COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

A.2.1 INTRODUCTION

Casino Mining Corporation (CMC) is committed to developing and operating the Casino Project (the Project) in a safe, ethical and socially-responsible manner. Consistent with this, CMC recognizes that meaningful First Nations and stakeholder engagement is important to the success of the Project. CMC has completed consultation in accordance with the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) Proponent's Guide to Information Requirements for Executive Committee Project Proposal Submissions ("Information Requirements Guide") (YESAB 2005). Consultation activities and the provision of information about the Project have been undertaken with First Nations, the Yukon Government and Agencies, the Federal Government, Municipal Governments, and communities. Consultation tracking was employed to compile and track consultation activities that have occurred to date and will continue to be employed into the future. A detailed log of the consultation activities that were undertaken prior to Proposal submission was provided in Appendix 2A of the Proposal.

As summarized in Section 2 of the Proposal, CMC has shared information and consulted with potentially affected First Nations, local communities, Yukon government and federal agencies, non-government organizations (NGOs), and individuals since 2008. CMC's consultation program included a range of techniques to identify concerns and methods to address those concerns. Techniques used by CMC to consult included: one-on-one, group and community meetings, Open Houses, presentations, field trips, general and Project Proposal meetings, interviews and questionnaires, as well as phone calls, e-mails, and letters.

Since the initiation of the consultation program in 2008, CMC has engaged the following First Nations, the Yukon Government and Agencies, the Federal Government, Municipal Governments, and communities:

First Nations and Renewable Resource Councils:

- Selkirk First Nation;
- Selkirk Renewable Resource Council;
- Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation;
- Carmacks Renewable Resource Council;
- Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation;
- Champagne and Aishihik First Nation;
- Kluane First Nation; and
- White River First Nation.

Yukon Based Government and Agencies:

- Yukon Community Services;
- Yukon Development Assessment Branch;
- Yukon Development Corporation;
- Yukon Energy Corporation;
- Yukon Energy, Mines and Resources;
- Yukon Environment;
- Yukon Executive Council;
- Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Board (YESAB);
- Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board;
- Yukon Health and Social Services;
- Yukon Highways and Public Works;
- Yukon Housing Corporation;
- Yukon Tourism and Culture; and
- Yukon Water Board.

Federal Government:

- Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency;
- Environment Canada;
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada;
- Natural Resources Canada; and
- Transport Canada.

Yukon Public:

- Village of Carmacks;
- Carmacks (Tantalus) School;
- Carmacks Health Centre;
- City of Whitehorse;
- Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce;
- Whitehorse Hospital;
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police;
- Yukon College;
- Yukon Tourism Industry Association;
- Yukon Mine Training Association;
- Yukon Conservation Society;
- Yukon Fish and Game Association;
- Yukon River Panel;
- Trapping Concession #121;
- Trapping Concession #148;
- Trapping Concession #116;
- Trapping Concession #122;
- Trapping Concession #130 and Land Owner;
- Trapping Concession #131;
- Trapping Concession #145;
- Trapping Concession #146;
- Other Trapline Tenure holders;
- Prophet Muskwa Guide Outfitters;
- Mervyn's Yukon Outfitting; and
- Local businesses.

Additionally, CMC shared and received information from various NGOs, special interest groups and individuals.

Following submission of the Project Proposal (YESAB Project No. 2014-0002) on January 3, 2014, on March 3, 2014 the YESAB Executive Committee determined that for the purposes of s. 50(3) of the YESAA, CMC's statutory requirement for consultation with the Selkirk First Nation (SFN), Little Salmon / Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN) and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (TH) First Nation, and the residents of the communities of Carmacks and Pelly Crossing was deemed to have been met. Consequently, the Project entered the pre-screening adequacy review phase of the YESAB process.

Based on discussions between CMC and LSCFN, on May 23, 2014, CMC made a request to the Executive Committee of YESAB to place the review on hold for all parties for a period of up to 180 days. The purpose of this request was to enable CMC to engage in additional consultation with LSCFN and other First Nations. CMC believes that the hold period and the additional consultation has placed the Project on a better footing for the YESAB process moving forward. CMC continues to carry out consultation and will consider and integrate new information as it becomes available.

On January 27, 2015, the Executive Committee requested that CMC provide supplementary information to the Casino Project (YESAB Project No. 2014-0002) to enable the Executive Committee to commence Screening. The Executive Committee considered received comments from various First Nations, Decision Bodies and regulators on the adequacy of the Project Proposal in the preparation of the Adequacy Review Report (ARR). Casino Mining

Corporation is providing this Supplementary Information Report (SIR) to comply with the Executive Committee's ARR; CMC anticipates that the information in the SIR and Proposal, when considered together, is adequate to commence Screening.

The Executive Committee has 8 requests for supplementary information related to Section 2 First Nations and Community Consultation of the Project Proposal submitted on January 3, 2014. These requests are outlined in Table A.2.1-1. Some responses require detailed technical information, data, and figures. Where necessary, this additional supporting information is provided as appendices to the SIR, as outlined in Table A.2.1-1.

Table A.2.1-1 Requests for Supplementary Information Related to First Nations and Community Consultation

Request #	Request for Supplementary Information	Response
R395	Clarification on the specific efforts and processes undertaken by the Proponent to gather TK and TLU in order to inform the proposal. A description of what TK or TLU information the Proponent received for the purposes of drafting the proposal.	Section A.2.2.1.1 Appendix A.2A Traditional Knowledge Literature Review Bibliography
R396	A TK and TLU study for the Project.	Section A.2.2.1.2
R397	A review of effects from resource projects and effects on TLU in a northern context.	Section A.2.2.1.3
R398	A framework for monitoring effects to TLU resulting from the Project.	Section A.2.2.1.3 Appendix A.22F Socio- Economic Management Plan
R399	An assessment of impacts of the Project on traditional economy.	Section A.2.2.1.4
R405	Description of discussions with and feedback from affected trapline concession holders including how many trapline concession holders were contacted and responded.	Section A.2.3.1.1
R406	Description of discussions with and feedback from affected outfitting concession holders including how many outfitting concession holders were contacted and responded.	Section A.2.3.1.2
R408	A description of any contact or discussions between CMC and mineral rights holders in relation to the road.	Section A.2.4.1.1

Notes:

1. Request # refers to the assigned identification number in the YESAB Adequacy Review Report January 27, 2015 Prepared by Executive Committee Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board.
2. Response refers to the location of CMC's response to the YESAB request for supplementary information.

A.2.2 TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND TRADITIONAL LAND USE

A.2.2.1.1 R395

R395. Clarification on the specific efforts and processes undertaken by the Proponent to gather TK and TLU in order to inform the proposal. A description of what TK or TLU information the Proponent received for the purposes of drafting the proposal.

Consultation Efforts and Processes

The *Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act* (YESAA) defines traditional knowledge (TK) as “the accumulated body of knowledge, observations and understandings about the environment, and about the relationship of living beings with one another and the environment, that is rooted in the traditional way of life of first nations”. Traditional Land Use (TLU) is not defined by YESAA but the Proposal considers traditional uses to include hunting, trapping and guide outfitting, fishing, and forest uses (firewood collection and gathering). Throughout the consultation process, since 2008, CMC and its consultants have made efforts and undertaken processes to engage First Nations and communities about appropriate and effective ways of collecting and incorporating TK and TLU information into the Casino Project.

Casino Mining Corporation values the knowledge and expertise that is held by knowledge holders and if available and appropriate, CMC will take TK and TLU information into consideration to further the Project’s understanding of potential effects. Throughout the consultation process and development of the Proposal, CMC has balanced its desire to collect and consider TK and TLU information with the need to protect sensitive information and ensure confidentiality within the YESAB process. Casino Mining Corporation is also aware that there are several proposed developments that are making similar requests for TK and TLU information, which may increase research fatigue and frustration among knowledge holders. Casino Mining Corporation is sensitive to this reality and has asked for input and guidance from knowledge holders on proceeding in the most appropriate manner.

It continues to be the intention of CMC to work collaboratively with First Nations and communities to develop and agree upon approaches for TK and TLU data collection and consideration for the Casino Project prior to undertaking any work. CMC has engaged with First Nations, their respective Renewable Resource Councils, special advisors on TK and consultants regarding the potential to conduct a TK or TLU study for the Casino Project on 17 separate events (Table A.2.2-1).

Table A.2.2-1 Summary of Consultation Events

Event No.	First Nations	CMC Record of Contact ID No.	Event Type	Date
1	SFN	95	Meeting	May 3, 2008
2	SFN	21	Drop-in Visit/ Casual Meeting	May 4, 2008
3	SFN	22	Open House	October 20, 2008
4	SFN	26	Meeting	October 20, 2008
5	SFN	12	Meeting	June 10, 2009
6	SFN	17	Meeting	October 14, 2009
7	SFN	121	Email	October 30, 2009
8	SFN	413	Memo	March 2, 2010
9	SFN	31	Meeting	March 16, 2010
10	SFN	112	Letter	October 24, 2011
11	SFN	465	Meeting	April 10, 2012
12	SFN	173	Email	January 11, 2013
13	SFN	182	Email	January 18, 2013
14	SFN	274	Meeting	February 14, 2013
15	LSCFN	472	Meeting	June 5, 2012
16	LSCFN	301	Meeting	February 12, 2013
17	LSCFN	323	Email	June 11, 2013

Through these in-person meetings, community open houses, and correspondences, CMC has discussed the need for, collection of, and incorporation of TK and TLU information into the Proposal. The following is not an exhaustive list but summarizes the types of information requested of First Nations and communities by CMC:

- Past and contemporary land and resource use information;
- Traditional knowledge information;
- TK or TLU studies that have been completed;
- Information on when the TK or TLU studies were conducted and their purpose or objective(s);
- If CMC can receive a copy of the studies or be able to review them together;
- Interest in undertaking a TK or TLU study and preference to complete a full or partial program, or no program; and
- The approaches preferred by First Nations and communities for collecting TK or TLU information and for incorporating the information into the Proposal.

In more advanced discussions that have occurred with SFN prior to submission of the Proposal, CMC suggested that the types of information and data that would assist CMC to successfully and comprehensively integrate TK and TLU information into the Proposal are those listed in Table A.2.2-2. The following table was provided to SFN in CMC's memo of March 2, 2010 (Table A.2.2-1) as an overview of the types of TK and TLU information CMC wished to collect collaboratively in order to contribute to a more informed understanding of potential effects.

Table A.2.2-2 Requested Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Land Use Information and Data

Traditional Land Use Information	Traditional Knowledge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burial/Sacred sites • Camps and/or cabins, settlements, villages, community • Culturally modified trees (CMTs) • Culturally significant landscape features (e.g., mountains, marked boulders, confluence of two rivers) • Trails and/or travel routes • Key sites for hunting, trapping, fishing plant/berry/bark harvesting • Any other important sites of significance to Selkirk First Nation • Place names • Other lesser locations and numbers of people hunting, trapping and fishing • Broader cultural issues, context and history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valued Ecosystem Components (VECs) • Culturally important wildlife, bird and fish species • Culturally important plants, berries, trees, mushrooms • Avalanche/Landslides – location, dates and severity • Wildlife, birds and fish – locations, numbers, changes in numbers and behaviours, culturally significant species, migration corridors, rare and/or diseased wildlife, birds or fish • Plant, trees, soil – condition, location and uses of plants, trees, mushroom and/or soil. Rare or diseased fauna • Changes in weather and climate • Disasters: Flooding, wildfires, droughts • Wind: Dominant direction and speed

Traditional Land Use Information	Traditional Knowledge
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air and water quality • Potential effects • Mitigation measures • Aboriginal language use: number of speakers and levels of fluency • Government system • Stories/Legends • Clan/house/family system

In summary, the responses to CMC’s request for TK and TLU information ranged from:

- Referral to another person;
- Request for elders to be involved;
- Suggestion to develop a simple protocol for handling the collection of TK and TLU information;
- Suggestions of combining efforts with the Minto Project (also currently collecting TK and TLU);
- Concerns about community research fatigue; and
- Statements that TK and TLU are not necessary.

Casino Mining Corporation continued to follow-up with First Nations and communities to confirm CMC’s understanding of their responses and to request further clarity and direction about next steps and appropriate approaches. For First Nations with whom there have been more advanced discussions, CMC has proposed different options for going forward for their review and consideration. The following list is meant to summarize the different options considered and proposed by CMC throughout the consultation process from 2008 to 2013 with SFN, in preparation for the development of the Casino Project Proposal, a more detailed discussion of consultation was provided in Section 2 of the Proposal:

- A desk-based effort informed by previous TK and TLU studies and ethnographic research with minimal involvement of knowledge holders to update and add to existing information. Results will be compiled by First Nations and provided to CMC for use in the Casino Project Proposal. Integration of this information into the Casino Project Proposal will be a collaborative and iterative process between First Nations and CMC.
- A dialogue-based effort. A meeting will be organized between key discipline leads (i.e., wildlife, archaeology, and fish) and knowledge holders and First Nations leadership. This option would entail an exchange of information about the Project, including a Project description and information gathered to date by discipline leads and input and information from knowledge holders as to their knowledge and use of the area in and around the Casino Project.
- A field-based effort whereby key knowledge holders go on site to discuss and document their past and current use sites and knowledge of the area.
- An interview-based effort. Involves organizing one-on-one or group interviews with a mapping exercise to locate and describe sites.

Information Received

The Project took into consideration and incorporated available TK and TLU information throughout the Proposal, keeping in mind the need to protect sensitive information and ensure confidentiality. For example, CMC selected Valued Components (VCs) taking into consideration input from First Nations and local communities. In addition, all CMC consultants that provided input into the Proposal were instructed to incorporate TK and TLU information into their disciplines to the best of their ability and a number of personal connections were made over the years between consultants and knowledge holders which informed the Proposal. The types of TK and TLU information received and integrated into the Proposal include:

- Traditional harvest of wildlife;
- Traditional harvest of plants and plant products from secondary TK information;
- Avian-specific secondary TK information;
- *Community-Based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation Traditional Territory 2012-2017* (Little Salmon/Carmacks Fish and Wildlife Planning Team 2011);
- *Opening the Land: a Study of the Impacts of the Casino Trail on the Northern Tutchone of Pelly Crossing and Carmacks, Yukon Territory* (Pearse and Weinstein 1988); and
- Potentially important sites along the Freegold Road.

With respect to discussions around incorporating TK into the Proposal, the importance of protecting locations of traditional harvest of wildlife is a consistent theme expressed by First Nations. The Proposal has considered and taken into account potential adverse effects on existing natural resources (including wildlife) that are potentially used for traditional purposes by First Nations.

In the absence of primary information related to the traditional harvest of plants and plant products, the Proposal identified TK information from secondary sources. This information informed the Vegetation Baseline Report (Appendix 11A) and effects assessment, wherever possible. The Proposal reference list includes 10 sources of avian-specific secondary TK information. While this information is of a more general nature, it is presented in the Bird Baseline Report (Appendix 12B).

The *Community-Based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation Traditional Territory 2012-2017* was developed jointly by the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN), the Carmacks Renewable Resources Council and Yukon Government (Little Salmon/Carmacks Fish and Wildlife Planning Team 2011). This publicly available report was designed to coordinate the efforts of each of the participants in addressing fish and wildlife concerns in the LSCFN Traditional Territory. The plan noted that access due to mining and exploration activity was a concern, due to effects on wildlife and wildlife habitat; it was noted that awareness and monitoring of traffic patterns and access routes would contribute to determine how linear features affect wildlife. The plan specifically notes ongoing concerns for the Klaza Caribou herd related to access and high traffic from bison hunters and miners. The proposed work to be conducted by the planning participants includes a full census survey on the herd; collecting baseline information, including project information from other sources; updating habitat information; and monitoring of harvest levels. The information presented in the plan has contributed to the development of proposed wildlife mitigation measure proposed by CMC in its Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (Appendix A.12A).

In 2008, CMC, at the advice of SFN, acquired historical documents that were prepared for SFN in response to previous plans (circa 1980's) to develop a mine at the current proposed location of the Casino Project. These documents contained important traditional knowledge and formed an important foundation for the development of

proposed mitigation measures included in the Proposal. In particular the report *Opening the Land: a Study of the Impacts of the Casino Trail on the Northern Tutchone of Pelly Crossing and Carmacks, Yukon Territory* (Pierce and Weinstein 1988) was particularly helpful with respect to providing TK. This report and other materials are noted in the bibliography in Appendix A.2A.

Casino Mining Corporation has held in-depth consultations with LSCFN and SFN regarding potentially important sites along the Freegold Road Extension. These discussions about potentially important sites and relevant publically-available secondary sources of information have been incorporated into the Proposal. To mitigate for potential adverse effects to traditional uses related to the Freegold Road, CMC has proposed mitigation measures, including:

- Avoidance of known or suspected historical, cultural, or archaeological places. If the places cannot be avoided, then the necessary staged archaeological mitigation of the archaeological sites and recording and archival research as well as excavation and removal will be completed following the *Operational Policy for Heritage Resources Management on Yukon Lands* (Yukon Tourism and Culture 2010).
- The Freegold Road Extension will be managed as a privately owned and operated road from km 106 to the mine site, with no public access.
- A Road Use Plan will be developed in coordination with First Nations and the Yukon Government to manage and limit public access, minimize increased hunting pressures on wildlife, reduce possible wildlife-human conflicts and protect existing wildlife-dependent land users (draft provided in Appendix A.22E).

On-going Consultations and Efforts

Discussions are ongoing between CMC and First Nations and communities to gauge the level of interest to undertake TK and TLU studies and/or to participate in activities to share TK and TLU information with CMC.

Since the submission of the Proposal on January 3, 2014, CMC has completed a search of publically-available secondary sources of information related to potential traditional knowledge and traditional uses of key components within the Project area. A bibliography of the publicly-available literature sources reviewed as part of this desk-top effort is presented as *Traditional Knowledge Literature Review Bibliography* (Appendix A.2A). The information collected is not included in the SIR at this time because CMC has not had an opportunity to consult potential knowledge holders and the secondary sources of information have not been verified. Discussions with potential knowledge holders on the appropriateness and application of the secondary sources of information could take place if there is interest.

A.2.2.1.2 R396

R396. A TK and TLU study for the Project.

Discussions are ongoing between CMC and First Nations with respect to a TK and/or TLU study for the Project. Casino Mining Corporation has written to SFN to confirm our understanding of their views on the collection of TK and TLU information for the Casino Project. Casino Mining Corporation is willing to cooperate with SFN and other First Nations if there is general agreement from First Nations and potential knowledge holders to share TK and TLU information for the Project.

Casino Mining Corporation is willing to assist interested First Nations in assembling TK and TLU information for the Project and to explore opportunities to consider and integrate any collected information either during the YESAB review or subsequent permitting processes. The details of any TK and/or TLU study will need to be jointly developed by CMC and interested First Nations through an agreement or protocol.

If there is interest, CMC anticipates that the parties will need to meet to develop a work plan which will include the agreed upon approach to document relevant information and include details on Project personnel, their respective roles and responsibilities and associated budgetary needs, including compensation to participating Elders and knowledge holders; specifics on information processing, including provision for transcription, translation and synthesis of documented information; and coordination and review of TK and TLU information integration efforts, and a work schedule and milestones for completion of specific tasks. This work plan could also identify how and when collected TK and TLU information will be used.

A.2.2.1.3 R397

R397. A review of effects from resource projects and effects on TLU in a northern context.

Selkirk First Nations in its review of the Proposal states that “in order to better understand impacts to TK and TLU, a comparison of other similar projects’ impacts to TK and TLU within a northern context would be beneficial” (YOR 2014-0002-258-1). The Executive Committee has requested a review of effects from resource projects and effects on TLU in a northern context.

It is CMC’s view that a comparison of the Project’s potential effects to other project’s impacts and effects on TLU in a northern context is not a requirement of YESAA. With respect to understanding the Project’s potential residual effects on traditional uses, the Land Use and Tenure Baseline Report (Appendix 19A of the Proposal) characterizes existing TLU in the Local Study Area (LSA) and Regional Study Area (RSA). Traditional and domestic uses, hunting, guide outfitting, and trapping have been considered in the Proposal. Characterization of the Project’s potential residual effects on these traditional uses after the implementation of mitigation measures is presented as part of the Land Use and Tenure Valued Component (VC) in the Proposal (Section 19).

In addition to considering the Project’s residual effects on traditional uses, the Proposal presents a Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA) for the Land Use and Tenure VC to identify potential cumulative effects and assess the significance of those cumulative effects. The CEA was limited to those residual effects (post-mitigation) on VCs resulting from past, present, or reasonably foreseeable human activities or actions, as defined by YESAA. Cumulative effects have the potential to occur within the time and space where an overlap between the residual effects resulting from the activities related to the Project and the residual effects of other actions and projects may occur.

The Proposal reviewed other projects and activities that overlap with the Land Use and Tenure LSA and it was determined that very few past, present or reasonably foreseeable land uses occurred in the area that would have a measurable/quantifiable residual effect that might combine cumulatively with the Project’s residual effects. Potential residual effects from other projects or activities spatially overlapping the LSA and temporally overlapping the construction, operations and closure and decommissioning phases of the Project are predicted to be limited to future placer and quartz exploration and mining activities. Residual effects associated with increased exploration and mining activity predicted to occur in the future due to improved access along the Freegold Road is predicted to combine cumulatively with similar projects’ residual effects. Potential residual cumulative effects are predicted to include increase in noise levels, emissions and traffic and changes in disturbed and reclaimed areas. The potential cumulative residual effects on land use and tenure are rated as low in magnitude, localized in geographic extent and reversible over time. New future exploration and mining activities, that have not been deemed as reasonably foreseeable, cannot be assessed because their details are uncertain at this time.

Casino Mining Corporation believes that the Proposal has fulfilled the YESAA requirement by assessing the potential for residual adverse effects of the Project on traditional uses and has also taken into consideration the potential cumulative effects of other past, present or reasonably foreseeable human activities or actions.

A.2.2.1.4 R398

R398. A framework for monitoring effects to TLU resulting from the Project.

Casino Mining Corporation is willing to develop a framework for monitoring potential effects of the Project to TLU if it is determined to be appropriate and meaningful. A preliminary *Socio-Economic Management Plan* (SEMP) has been developed by CMC to mitigate potential adverse residual effects of the Project and to enhance potentially beneficial residual effects (Appendix A.22F). Conceptually, the SEMP can be expanded to include a specific monitoring program to support this initiative.

At this time, the preliminary SEMP describes commitments and policies that CMC will undertake to promote positive socio-economic benefits to improve quality of life and well-being for those that live in neighbouring communities and is consistent with the Mining Association of Canada's Guiding Principles of "Towards Sustainable Mining" (MAC 2014). Prior to construction and throughout the life of the Project, the SEMP will be updated to include details and actions to monitor Project-specific socio-economic effects, the effectiveness of the mitigation measures, and a framework to adaptively manage unpredicted adverse effects. The SEMP is not a static document, but will be informed by suggestions and recommendations received through consultations with stakeholders throughout the YESAB review and subsequent mine permitting processes, and also regularly throughout the implementation of the plan for the life of the Project.

For the purpose of responding to this information request by the Executive Committee, CMC is providing a conceptual framework for monitoring effects to TLU based on the three areas of potential effects identified in the Proposal:

- Change (reduced or increased) in area available for traditional land use activities;
- Change (reduced or improved) in access to the area for traditional land users, or others; and
- Change (reduced or improved) in wilderness experience for traditional land users, trappers, and guide outfitters.

As part of the Proposal, CMC commits to mitigate potential adverse residual effects to Land Use and Tenure, including traditional land use activities, by working collaboratively with First Nations and Yukon Governments to establish monitoring programs to track potentially conflicting land uses as a result of the Project. If appropriate and meaningful, CMC will work with First Nations and Yukon Government to develop an agreed upon framework for monitoring effects to TLU and for monitoring the effectiveness of mitigation measures, which will be documented in the monitoring plan.

The conceptual monitoring framework, that would become an extension of the SEMP, will include collaboration with First Nations, traditional land use users and Yukon Government to review anticipated potential effects, proposed mitigation measures, pre-Project baseline and the selection of indicators for the monitoring program. The potential monitoring program could track indicators for TLU such as:

- The ability of harvesters to relocate elsewhere;
- Level and change of harvesting in proximity to the mine site and the Freegold Road; and
- New users of the study area and the effects of these new uses on harvesting and other traditional use activities.

Monitoring protocols for the potential program could include:

1. **Timing:** Monitoring may commence at the start of the Project activity (likely in the construction phase) and continue for the life of the monitoring program.

2. **Frequency:** Frequency of monitoring will be established in consultation with First Nations, traditional land users and Yukon Government but is anticipated to be more frequent in the construction phase than the operations phase.
3. **Extent:** Establish geographic area(s) that will be monitored specific to each potential effect.

Indicator selection would be conducted in collaboration with the relevant Yukon Government departments and agencies so as to ensure the information is of greatest use in the understanding and management of potential direct Project-effects, including consistency with the existing monitoring and management measures of the Yukon Government. This will also permit the development of time series covering the pre-Project and post-Project periods and provide a measure of change from the baseline conditions for traditional land use.

The geographic extent that will be monitored will be specific to each potential effect, and will be established in consultation with First Nations, traditional land users and Yukon Government. The geographic areas monitored will be influenced by the known locations where traditional land uses are located. At this point it is anticipated that the monitoring program will include the area around the mine site, the Village of Carmacks and along the Freegold Road.

Finally, the results of the monitoring program for TLU could be shared through community meetings and routine information sharing protocols.

A.2.2.1.5 R399

R399. An assessment of impacts of the Project on traditional economy.

Casino Mining Corporation is committed to recognizing and to the extent practicable, enhancing positive Project effects on the traditional economy of First Nations and their relationship with the wilderness environment. As stated in Section 2(f) of YESAA, one purpose of the Act is “to recognize and, to the extent practicable, enhance the traditional economy of Yukon Indian persons and their special relationship with the wilderness environment”.

The Proposal presents the potential effects of the Project on Subsistence and Recreational Harvesting (Section 18) and Traditional Land Uses (Section 19) that may contribute to traditional economies. While not explicitly addressed as traditional economy, the Proposal has considered traditional economic activities such as hunting, fishing and trapping and has used available information on these activities to inform the assessment. Casino Mining Corporation recognizes that other potential activities, aside from hunting, fishing and trapping, could also contribute to traditional economies, though these other activities are likely inherently social, cultural and interrelated with the biophysical environment and this information was not available. CMC has taken into consideration the components of the natural environment that have the potential to contribute to traditional economies in the selection of Valued Components (VC) for the Proposal.

The Proposal has considered and integrated available information received from First Nations on traditional economies. The information includes:

- SFN have identified the development of hunting and the traditional economy as priorities and many members obtain a significant portion of their food supply through these means;
- Yukon First Nations have a Final Agreement in place that set out harvesting rights. First Nation members can give, trade, barter, or sell meat or fish obtained through their subsistence rights with other beneficiaries of the Final Agreements or of adjacent Trans-boundary Agreements for domestic purposes but not for commercial purposes (meat and fish cannot be traded or sold to non-First Nation people); and

- LSCFN's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan identifies subsistence hunting, fishing, and trapping as a way of life for their membership (Inukshuk Planning and Development 2009).

Casino Mining Corporation is willing to look for opportunities, to the extent practicable, to understand and enhance the traditional economy of First Nations and their relationship with the wilderness environment.

A.2.3 TRAPPING AND OUTFITTING

A.2.3.1.1 R405

R405. Description of discussions with and feedback from affected trapline concession holders including how many trapline concession holders were contacted and responded.

Appendix 19A, Section 1.3.4 provides information on trapping with specific details on the registered trapping concession holders potentially affected by Project components and activities. An abbreviated consultation log for consultations carried out by CMC or its consultants with trapline concession holders is reproduced in Table A.2.3-1.

Table A.2.3-1 Consultation Log for Trapline Concession Holders

Record #	Event Type	Date	Participating Organizations	Stakeholder Org Type	Event Summary
80	Letter	May 22 2012	Casino Trapping Concession #121, CMC	Trapline Tenure (Aboriginal)	CMC extended an invitation to attend a community meeting on the project in Carmacks on 12/05/28 or in Whitehorse on 12/05/30.
81	Letter	May 22 2012	Casino Trapping Concession #148/#150, CMC	Trapline Tenure (Aboriginal)	CMC extended an invitation to attend a community meeting on the project in Carmacks on 12/05/28 or in Whitehorse on 12/05/30.
211	E-mail	Sept 25 2012	Casino Trapline, CMC Socio-economic Consultant	Trapline Tenure	CMC Socio-economic consultant requested a meeting to discuss the Project and the stakeholder's trapline; stakeholder agreed. Stakeholder provided the name of another trapper who should be consulted.
230	Meeting	Oct 3 2012	Casino area trapline, CMC Socio-economic consultant	Trapline tenure	Socio-economic data collection. Trapper provided information on his trapline, including access, use and harvest information. Noted that access could be an issue unless it is controlled. Requested regular updates and communication on the Project. Concerns: (a) access of others to the trapline; (b) open communication.
191	E-mail	Oct 15 2012	Trapping Concession #121, CMC Socio-economic consultant	Trapline tenure (Aboriginal)	Socio-economic data collection. Discussed trapping and potential project effects on his tenure. Project will have limited effects on his tenure as long as it is confined to the upper portion. Concern: (a) project effects on trapping in portions of the tenure.

Notes:

1. Concession number #150 was not identified in the Project Proposal Consultation Log (Appendix 2A) but in CMC's record of consultation minutes it notes that this individual has two trapping concessions.

CMC interviewed three trappers regarding their traplines and how the Project might impact them; attempts were made to contact additional trappers but those have been unsuccessful to date. The trappers interviewed were concerned about road access, and the potential effects of air and noise on wildlife. Trappers expressed support for resource development in general, provided that it could be done in an environmentally responsible manner, and without resulting in a loss of their trapping livelihood.

The concerns of the trappers who participated in interviews have already been considered in the Proposal as part of the identification of potential effects and mitigation measures discussed in Section 19 Land Use and Tenure. In summary, the Proposal considered both potentially adverse and potentially beneficial effects of the Project including:

- The potential loss and decrease of available area for trapping and outfitting during construction, operations and closure and decommissioning of the Project;
- Easier access to area for others whose activities may conflict with trappers and outfitters (due to the Freegold Road Upgrade);
- Easier access to permitted concession areas for trappers and outfitters (due to the Freegold Road Upgrade);
- Reduced wilderness experience for trappers and outfitters utilizing the area;
- Negotiated road access to areas for existing trappers and outfitters (Freegold Road Extension); and
- Reduced access to trapping and outfitting concession areas due to Project traffic during construction, operations and closure and decommissioning.

The Proposal outlines mitigation measures to avoid and/or minimize potential adverse effects to trappers. The mine footprint will be minimized to the extent possible and the Project will implement appropriate best management practices. CMC commits to ongoing communications with registered trapline holders that may be affected by the Project. Individual access arrangements for the Freegold Road Extension could be negotiated with trappers and outfitters so that potential adverse effects due to access are minimized. CMC has committed to creating a communications protocol with respect to the Freegold Road Extension, which will inform road users with timely information on road access, road conditions, and wildlife mitigations and incidents.

CMC intends to engage additional trappers in the Project area (specifically, trapping concessions 122, 131, 146, 147, 149, and 408). To increase the success of the engagement activities, CMC will continue to work with SFN and LSCFN to contact trappers and discuss the potential effects of the Project on their ability to use their trapping concessions. CMC commits to continuing dialog with interested guide outfitters as they are part of the group of impacted stakeholders.

A.2.3.1.2 R406

R406. Description of discussions with and feedback from affected outfitting concession holders including how many outfitting concession holders were contacted and responded.

Appendix 19A, Section 1.3.4 provides information on guide outfitting concession holders with specific details on the guide outfitting concessions potentially affected by the Project components and activities. An abbreviated consultation log for consultations by CMC or its consultants with outfitting concession holders is reproduced in Table A.2.3-2.

Table A.2.3-2 Consultation Log for Outfitting Concession Holders

Record #	Event Type	Date	Participating Organizations	Stakeholder Org Type	Event Summary
474	Meeting	Nov 20 2012	Mervyn's Outfitters, CMC Socio-economic consultant	Land & Resource Use	CMC Socio-economic consultant met with the stakeholder and discussed the Project, potential effects on the guide-outfitting business.

Record #	Event Type	Date	Participating Organizations	Stakeholder Org Type	Event Summary
170	Email	Nov 23 2012	Prophet Muskwa Outfitters, CMC Socio-economic consultant	Land & Resource Use	CMC Socio-economic consultant requested a meeting with the stakeholder to discuss the project and potential effects on his guide-outfitting business.
171	Email	Nov 26 2012	Prophet Muskwa Outfitters, CMC Socio-economic consultant	Land & Resource Use	Stakeholder responded to CMC Socio-economic consultant's request to discuss the Project and potential effects on his guide-outfitting business.
475	Phone call	Nov 28 2012	Prophet Muskwa Outfitters, CMC Socio-economic consultant	Land & Resource Use	CMC Socio-economic consultant met with the stakeholder and discuss the Project, potential effects on the guide-outfitting business
298	Phone call	April 15 2013	Casino Trapping Concession #116, CMC Socio-economic consultant	Trapline tenure (Aboriginal)	Left a voicemail requesting a call back to discuss his trapline and the Project
414	Meeting	May 10 2013	Casino Trapline, CMC Socio-economic consultant	Trapline Tenure	Local trapper outlined the importance and scope of his trapping activities in the project area and stated concerns about the environmental effects the project is likely to result in including a reduced amount of wildlife within his trapline area. Suggested he would like to find an amicable solution with CMC.

Section 1.3.4.3 of the Land Use and Tenure Baseline (Appendix 19.A) discusses the outfitters who operate in the area. Casino Mining Corporation is not aware of any operating guide outfitting camps near the Freegold Road Extension or Freegold Road Upgrade or within the Land Use and Tenure LSA; as well, CMC is aware that hunting is closed in two of the game management zones in the LSA. Casino Mining Corporation commits to continuing the dialog with outfitters as part of the group of impacted stakeholders and adaptively manage any impacts that may arise as a result of the Project.

A.2.4 QUARTZ AND PLACER CLAIM HOLDERS

A.2.4.1.1 R408

R408. A description of any contact or discussions between CMC and mineral rights holders in relation to the road.

Placer Claim Mineral Rights Holders

Casino Mining Corporation contracted a Whitehorse-based engineer (NEW ERA Engineering Corporation) with expertise and extensive experience in the placer field to consult with placer mine owners/operators who may be impacted by the Freegold Road Extension and Freegold Road Upgrade. Placer mine owners/operators are considered to be all holders of claims and prospecting leases issued by the Yukon Government pursuant to the *Yukon Placer Mine Act* (R.S.C., 1985, c. Y-3) in good standing at the time of consultation.

The proposed access road for the Casino Project is composed of two segments: the Freegold Road Upgrade and the Freegold Road Extension. The Freegold Road Upgrade is an existing secondary, unpaved road currently maintained by Yukon Government (YG) that extends 83 km northwest of the village of Carmacks. Yukon Government owns and currently maintains the road on a seasonal basis up to km 60. YG is currently developing a new set of regulations to better manage industrial resources access roads: the Resources Access Road

Regulation, which would enable it to construct and/or manage resource industry access roads. Through this enabling legislation, the Freegold Road Extension will be constructed, operated and maintained as a private industry access road by CMC.

As part of the consultation activities carried out by NEW ERA Engineering Corporation on behalf of CMC, both a ground and aerial reconnaissance of the proposed Freegold Road were conducted in September 2013. Photo-mosaic maps of each area of overlapping placer claims and prospecting leases were produced and emailed/mailed with introductory letters to all registered owners of placer claims and leases in November 2013. The intent of this outreach was to allow potential impacted placer mine owners/operators to more fully understand the proposed alignments and existing works. Follow up meetings to answer questions from placer miners and to receive their suggestions and concerns were undertaken through to March 2014. Key observations from the consultations are:

- No owners/operators interviewed or corresponded with were against the extension or upgrade of the Freegold Road, all felt that they could benefit from an improved surface on the existing Freegold Road Upgrade or possibly from the proposed new extension into the Hayes Creek area;
- All of the miners were grateful to receive the photo-mosaic maps of their claim areas;
- Most owner/operators in the Big Creek area mine upstream (south) of Big Creek and would not have potential mine areas covered with the new alignments of the Freegold Road;
- Some owners/operations had concerns regarding the potential isolation of placer by the Freegold Road;
- No owners/operators expressed opposition to the proposed Freegold Road; and
- Some placer owners/operators provided helpful local knowledge with respect to hydrology and permafrost that will assist in the detailed engineering design of the Freegold Road.

Casino Mining Corporation does not anticipate that any areas will be newly isolated by the Freegold Road Extension or Freegold Road Upgrade. If required, mitigation measures can be implemented to ensure access for mining. This discussion would take place as part of the licensing process under the *Territorial Lands (Yukon) Act*.

Quartz Claim Mineral Rights Holders

Quartz claim holders are holders of valid recorded Quartz Claims pursuant to the *Yukon Quartz Mining Act*. These claim holders have been granted an interest in the minerals including certain rights of access to those minerals. A specific study and engagement of quartz claim holders was not warranted because no mineral leases were identified along the proposed Freegold Road Upgrade or Freegold Road Extension. As well, the quartz claim holders have long-established rights and interests in the area and are familiar with the Casino Project, including the proposed development of the Freegold Road Extension and Freegold Road Upgrade. If potentially impacted claim holders are identified and/or consultation is deemed warranted, CMC anticipates that consultations will take place during the licensing process under the *Territorial Lands (Yukon) Act*.