

Table A - IR2: Information Requests Derived from the Canadian Malartic Corporation's Responses to Information Request #1 (IR1) on the Final Environmental Impact Statement /Environmental Assessment Report for the Federal Environmental Assessment of the Hammond Reef Gold Mine Project

Reference #	Link to IR1	Ecosystem Topic	Reference to EIS Guidelines	Reference to EIS	Summary of Comment/ Rationale	Information Request Response to Information Request
T(2)-10	T-55	Migratory Birds Species at Risk	10.2.7, 13.1.2	EIS Table 8-8 Terrestrial Ecology TSD Section 3.8, Table 3-21, Figure 2 of Appendix 2.VII	<p>The effect of noise disturbance on migratory birds has not been evaluated. Noise greater than 50 dB can have an adverse effect (i.e. disturbance) on birds, and this threshold is referenced in the guidance to avoid incidental take (www.ec.gc.ca/paom-itmb/default.asp?lang=En&n=C51C415F-1).</p> <p>The EIS describes noise effects (Terrestrial Ecology TSD, p. 149) as follows: <i>"The noise in the LSA and beyond will be barely detectable above normal background noise. Therefore the elevated noise is not expected to have a negative effect on the remaining breeding birds in the LSA."</i> This brief description of noise effects should be substantiated by a table of estimated areas of disturbance within the various habitat types within the greater than 50 dB zone. A simple GIS calculation of area disturbed should be summarized and presented as an additional column in Table 3-21, so that all the information related to habitat loss and disturbance appears in a single summary.</p> <p>The amount of habitat within which birds will likely be displaced by noise greater than 50 dB is a quantifiable adverse effect that is not reflected in the other tabular presentations of habitats "changed". These estimates of the area of habitat disturbed or degraded due to noise greater than 50 dB should be in addition to the simple loss/"change" calculations already presented, and not 'double-count' the area of habitat physically lost.</p> <p>In addition to the estimated area of habitat affected by noise disturbance greater than 50 dB, the number of birds potentially affected by noise should also be provided (similar to the "Estimated Displacement of BCR Priority Species of Upland Breeding Birds" table).</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Present in a table by habitat type (Ecosite) the estimates in hectares and percentages of the areas disturbed or degraded by noise greater than 50 dBA. Include the project footprint information as a total. Ensure the estimates reflect additions to the simple loss/"change" calculations already presented and do not double count the areas of physically lost habitat. 2. In addition to question 1 above, indicate the species of migratory birds that would be affected within each ecosite (habitat types) disturbed or degraded by noise greater than 50dBA. Identify mitigation measures and follow-up monitoring objectives to determine the effectiveness of proposed mitigation measures and verify the accuracy of the environmental assessment predictions. 3. (new) Provide a map with isopleths, including at 50dBA, at a relatively large scale that shows the project components and the area surrounding the project footprint affected by 50 dBA or greater, overlaid on habitat types. <p>Response:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please see Table T(2)-10-1. 2. The number and species of migratory birds that may be present in the areas affected by noise greater than 50 dBA may change annually. Breeding bird surveys were completed from 2010 to 2012 in the local study area (LSA). Migratory bird species protected by the Migratory Birds Convention Act (1994) that were detected within 50 metres (m) of observers during baseline upland breeding bird surveys, and the habitats they were detected in, are presented in Table T(2)-10-2. <p>Mitigation to limit effects from noise on migratory birds includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to the extent practicable, land and vegetation clearing will occur outside of the general nesting season, which is defined as occurring from April 8 to August 31 for the Project site (zone C4; Environment Canada 2014); • implementing and enforcing speed limits on the Site; • installing and maintaining noise suppression equipment on vehicles (i.e., mufflers); and • housing loud, stationary equipment in buildings. <p>Follow-up monitoring to verify predictions that were made in the environmental assessment includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • long-term monitoring of upland breeding birds using point count surveys <p>REFERENCES</p> <p>Environment Canada. 2014. General Nesting Periods of Migratory Birds in Canada. Available at: http://www.ec.gc.ca/paom-itmb/default.asp?lang=En&n=4F39A78F-1#_fig01. Accessed:</p>

Version 3 Hammond Reef Gold Project EIS/EA – Addendum (Part A)
 Responses to Federal Information Requests

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						<p>September 8, 2015.</p> <p>Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994, c. 22. Government of Canada.</p> <p>Attachments: Table T(2)-10-1: Projected Change in Habitat Area with in the Local Study Area Excluding Open Water Table T(2)-10-2: Migratory Birds Protected under the Migratory Birds Convention Act (1994) that were Recorded as within 50 metres of Observers during Baseline Upland Breeding Bird Surveys for the Hammond Reef Project (by Habitat Type), 2010 to 2012</p>