Glossary

Terminology in this Application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate/Environmental Impact Statement is defined where it is first used. The following list will assist readers who may choose to review only portions of the document. The italicized terms in definitions are defined elsewhere in this Glossary.

Air quality criteria	Objectives, guidelines or standards for maximum *criteria air contaminant* concentrations in the atmosphere, developed to ensure long-term protection of public health and the environment.
Acid rock drainage	Acid rock drainage occurs when minerals containing sulphide and elemental sulphur are exposed to oxygen and water, thus oxidizing and increasing their acidity and that of the receiving water body or drainage, depending on conditions (Price and Errington 1998).
Alluvial	Deposited by flowing water.
Alternative	A functionally different design specification or component location that is technically and economically feasible for use by the Project.
Ambient air quality	The quality of outdoor air in our surrounding environment. It is typically measured near ground level, away from direct sources of pollution.
Ammonium nitrate and fuel oil (ANFO)	A mixture of ammonium nitrate and fuel oil used extensively as a blasting agent in mining and quarrying.
Anemometer	Instrument for measuring air velocity (MBA Training Company n.d.).
Application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate/ Environmental Impact Statement (Application/EIS)	Application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate pursuant to BC's *Environmental Assessment Act* (2002a) and Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the Canadian *Environmental Assessment Act* (1992).
Application Information Requirements (AIR)	A document which identifies the information that is needed to complete the provincial and/or federal environmental assessment processes. The document outlines the information that will be included in the Application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate/Environmental Impact Statement.
Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA)	An assessment carried out under a *Heritage Conservation Act* (1996) Heritage Inspection Permit to determine the impact of a development on archaeological sites.
Archaeological Overview Assessment (AOA)	An assessment intended to identify and assess archaeological resource potential or sensitivity within a proposed study area. Recommendations concerning the appropriate methodology and scope of work for subsequent inventory and/or impact assessment studies are also commonly included.
Archaeological site	Location where there is evidence of human activity. The *Heritage Conservation Act* (1996) automatically protects all archaeological sites, whether on provincial Crown or private land, that predate AD 1846. Burial sites and rock art sites are protected regardless of age.

Archaeological Chance Find Procedure	Document detailing the steps that must be followed if an archaeological site is uncovered during ground altering activities.
Archaeology Branch	The Archaeology Branch of the British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations that administers the *Heritage Conservation Act* (1996).
Bacterioplankton	Free-floating aquatic microbes that obtain energy from the degradation of organic matter or the oxidation of compounds and metals.
Baghouse	Air pollution control device that removed dry particulate from a gas stream of air or combustion gas using fabric filters.
Baseflow	The component of flow discharge that is attributed to soil moisture and groundwater drainage into a channel.
Baseline condition	Pre-disturbance or pre-construction environmental setting; dataset used for comparison to assess changes in the environment resulting from Project activities.
Baseline studies	Scientific investigations that determine the present state of an area and establish the basic reference necessary for further studies.
Bedrock	Solid rock that underlies sediments, soils, softer rocks, or other unconsolidated materials (US Geological Survey n.d.).
Benthic invertebrate	Non-vertebrate animal living within or near the bottom sediments of a waterbody.
Bioaccumulation factor	Ratio of tissue chemical residue to chemical in concentration in an external environmental phase (i.e., water, sediment, vegetation, or food).
Bioavailability	The portion of the total quantity or concentration of a chemical in the environment or a portion of it that is potentially available for biological action, such as uptake by an aquatic or terrestrial organism (Rand 1995).
Biomass	The quantity of organic matter contained in organisms.
Block cave mining	A low cost bulk underground mining method in which the block of ore to be mined is undercut by drilling and blasting. Drawbells excavated beneath the undercut are used to extract the broken ore.
Borden Number	Each archaeological site in Canada is issued a unique, site-specific alpha-numeric identifier (Borden Number) using the Borden System. Canada is divided into a series Borden Blocks each roughly 16 by 16 km with a four letter designation. The first two letters, one capital and one lowercase letter, indicate the north-south location of the Borden Block, while the second two letters indicate the east-west location (i.e., AbCd). The four letter alpha segment is then followed by a number (i.e., AbCd-10) which is issued sequentially as sites are found within a Borden Block.
B-train	A mode of transporting bulk materials consisting of a truck (or tractor) pulling two interconnected trailers.

Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME)	CCME is comprised of the environment ministers from the federal, provincial, and territorial governments. These 14 ministers normally meet at least once a year to discuss national environmental priorities and determine work to be carried out under the auspices of the CCME. The Council seeks to achieve positive environmental results, focusing on issues that are national in scope and require collective attention by a number of governments.
Carbon monoxide (CO)	A colourless, odorless gas emitted from combustion processes. It can cause harmful health effects by reducing oxygen delivery to the body's organs and tissues.
Carbon dioxide (CO_2)	A colourless, odorless gas emitted from combustion and respiration processes. It is an important greenhouse gas with a global warming potential value of one.
CO_2e	Carbon dioxide equivalency describes the amount of CO_2 that would have the same global warming potential as a given amount of another greenhouse gas (e.g., 1 kt CH_4 = 21 kt CO_2e).
Cause-effect pathway	Cause-effect pathway refers to the relationship between the Project component/physical activity that is causing the change or effect in the condition of the receptor VC.
Clay	A soil description for extremely fine particles, less than 0.002 mm, exuding little or no water and forming a thread when rolled between the fingers.
Climate	Average weather conditions over a long time period, usually exclusive to one region or area. Climate depicts weather patterns over years, decades, or centuries, whereas meteorology measures day-to-day activities.
Climate change	Statistically significant variation in either the mean state of the climate or in its variability, persisting for an extended period (i.e., decades or longer) that may be due to natural internal processes/external forcing, or to persistent anthropogenic changes in the composition of the atmosphere or in land use.
Closure phase	The third phase of the Brucejack Gold Mine Project, expected to last two years, during which time Project facilities that are no longer required will be decommissioned and reclaimed.
Colluvial	Deposits formed by gravity-transported material.
Comminution	The crushing and pulverizing of ore to prepare for the process of separation of valuable minerals from matrix rock.
Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC)	Committee that assesses the status of species and recommends to the government those species that should be listed as at risk under the federal *Species at Risk Act* (2002b).
Concentrate	The product of ore processing.
Confidence	Confidence, which can also be thought of as scientific uncertainty, is a measure of how well residual effects are understood, which includes a consideration of the acceptability of the data inputs and analytical methods used to predict and assess Project effects.

Construction phase	The first phase of the Brucejack Gold Mine Project, expected to last approximately two years.
Contact water	Water includes all water that is collected for treatment at the WSF.
Contaminants of potential concern (COPC)	Chemical substances identified through a screening process that may have the potential to cause adverse effects in receptors.
Criteria Air Contaminants (CACs)	A group of pollutants which cause air issues such as smog and acid rain. CACs include the following pollutants; sulphur oxides (SO_x), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), various size fractions of particulate matter (PM), volatile organic compounds (VOC), carbon monoxide (CO), and ammonia (NH_3).
Crusher	A machine for crushing rock to create smaller particle sizes for transportation or processing.
Culturally Modified Tree (CMT)	A CMT is a tree that has been altered by Aboriginal people. For the purpose of this report, only CMTs predating 1846 alterations are considered.
Cumulative change	See *cumulative effect*.
Cumulative effect	An effect that arises as a result of an effect from the Project interacting with residual effect(s) from another activity to create a cumulative effect(s).
Cumulative impact	See *cumulative effect*.
Cut-and-fill	An underground mining technique used in steeply-dipping or irregular ore zones, in particular where the hanging wall limits the use of long-hole methods.
Cyanidation	A hydrometallurgical gold extraction technique commonly used at hard-rock gold mines to separate gold or other minerals from rock matrix.
Decommissioning	The process of removing facilities from service and the dismantling of buildings.
Deposit	A deposit is a body of a useful mineral or an ore in sufficient extent and degree of concentration to invite mining.
Dimictic	Describes a lake that is stratified for most of the annual cycle and mixes twice per year in the spring and fall.
Drainage	The process of removing surplus ground or surface water either by artificial means or by gravity flow (MBA Training Company n.d.).
EA Working Group	A forum for discussion and resolution of technical issues associated with the proposed Project, as well as providing technical advice to the BC EAO and CEA Agency, which remain ultimately responsible for determining significance. Comprises representatives of provincial, federal, and local government, and Aboriginal groups.
Ecosystem	A volume of earth-space that is composed of non-living parts and living or biotic parts, which are all constantly in a state of motion, transformation, and development.
Effect	The specific consequence (to a resource/receptor) arising from an alteration of existing conditions caused by the Project.

Electoral Area A of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN)	The major community in the RDBN's Electoral Area A is the Town of Smithers.
Emissions	Solid or gaseous pollutants released from point sources or fugitive sources, including greenhouse gas.
Embedded Controls	Embedded controls are physical or procedural controls that are planned as part of the Project design (i.e., not added solely based on a mitigation need identified by the effects assessment process). While embedded controls may effectively serve to mitigate effects just as mitigation measures do, they are distinguished from mitigation measures in that effect significances are assigned for the Project including embedded controls (i.e., as opposed to assigning them based on a hypothetical version of the Project with no such controls), and residual effect significances are assigned based on a consideration of the Project including embedded controls and additional mitigation measures that are declared during the IA Process. It is best practice to include both embedded controls and mitigation measures in the Project management plan, as it is important to ensure implementation of both.
Environment	The environment includes both the natural and socio-economic environments, as defined under Paragraph 2 of the Canadian *Environmental Assessment Act* (1992). Earth's components, including land, water, air, and all layers of the atmosphere. The environment includes all organic and inorganic matter, other living organisms, and the interaction natural systems of such, including cultural and social components.
Environmental Assessment (EA) process	The process of assessing the environmental, economic, social, heritage, and health effects of a proposed development.
Euphotic zone	The sunlit volume of water near the surface of a waterbody with sufficient light to sustain the growth of primary producers.
Eutrophic	A body of water with high abundances of primary producers and high concentrations of nutrients (Wetzel 2001).
Explosive	Any rapidly combustive or expanding substance, the energy release from which can be used to break rock.
Exposure	The degree of contact of organisms to a chemical or physical agent.
Fluvial	Sediments deposited by flowing water, including *glaciofluvial* deposits.
Fossil fuel	Any naturally occurring fuel of an organic nature, such as coal, oil, and natural gas.
Freshet	In channels, the relatively high annual peak water discharge period resulting from spring/summer meltwater runoff of the snowpack accumulated over the winter.
Fugitive dust	*Particulate matter*, often sand or mineral dust, released to the atmosphere by mechanical disruption or by wind scouring.

Geographic Information System (GIS)	Mapping tool used to depict large amounts of information in a spatial context.
Geohazard	Landslide or snow avalanche process with the potential to result in some type of undesirable outcome.
Geohazard risk	Likelihood of a geohazard scenario occurring and resulting in a particular severity of consequence, defined in terms of economic, environmental, safety, or reputation loss.
Glaciation	The erosive action exercised by land ice upon the land over which it flows.
Glaciofluvial	Material moved by glaciers and subsequently deposited by streams flowing from the melting ice. The deposits may be unsorted or sorted.
Global climate change	Usually refers to the gradual warming of the earth due to the greenhouse effect. Many scientists believe this is the result of man-made emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, chlorofluorocarbons and methane.
Greenhouse effect	The natural phenomenon that occurs when atmospheric gases trap radiated heat in the atmosphere. The greenhouse effect keeps the atmosphere warm and makes life on earth possible.
Greenhouse gases (GHGs)	Gases that trap the sun's heat, creating a greenhouse effect that keeps the earth warm and sustains life. However, as GHGs increase in the atmosphere, more heat is trapped, which causes global climate change. GHGs include carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), sulphur hexafluoride (SF_6), water vapour (H_2O), ozone (O_3), water vapor, hydrofluorocarbons, and perfluorocarbons.
Grizzly	Course screening or scalping device that prevents oversized bulk material from entering a material transfer system.
Groundwater	Water stored in soil or rock.
Habitat	Land and water surface used by wildlife. May include biotic and abiotic aspects such as vegetation, exposed bedrock, water, and topography.
***Heritage Conservation Act* (HCA)**	The provincial law that authorizes and mandates British Columbia to manage heritage resources.
Horizon	In geology, any given definite position or interval in the stratigraphic column or the scheme of stratigraphic classification; generally used in a relative sense (MBA Training Company n.d.).
Human action	A human action is defined as a project or activity (CEA Agency 1999). Projects are typically some form of commercial or industrial development that is planned, constructed, and operated (e.g., a mine or a resource access road); activities are the other actions of humans in an area, such as public highway traffic, hiking, and hunting.
Human health risk assessment	A process used to estimate the nature and probability of adverse health effects in humans exposed to chemicals in environmental media, now or in the future.

Hydrocarbon	A class of compounds containing hydrogen and carbon formed by the decomposition of plant and animal remains, including coal, mineral oil, petroleum, natural gas, paraffin, fossil resins, and solid bitumens occurring in rocks (MBA Training Company n.d.).
Hydrograph	A graphical plot of water discharge versus time
Hydrology	The movement and distribution of water.
Hypolimnion	Dense bottom layer of water in a thermally stratified lake.
Intermediate Component	A specific attribute of the biophysical environment that if affected either positively or negatively, would act as a pathway to pass on those changes to receptor Valued Components.
Highway 37	A 725-km long two lane hard surface public highway connecting Highway 16 mid-way between Smithers and Terrace near Gitwangak (Kitwanga) to the Yukon border.
Highway 37A	A two-lane hard surfaced public highway that extends from the Canada/United States boundary at Stewart to the junction with Route 37 at Meziadin Lake.
Hydrology	The movement and distribution of water.
Impact	Any alteration of existing conditions, adverse or beneficial, caused directly or indirectly by the Project. An impact may or may not lead to one or more effects.
Intake	The passage through which fresh air is drawn or forced into a mine or to a section of a mine (MBA Training Company n.d.).
Ion exchange	A water treatment method that involves water clarification and purification typically through selectively removing charged inorganic species from water using an ion-specific resin.
Issues scoping	A process of compiling and analyzing available information to identify environmental, economic, social, heritage and health issues that may be related to the Brucejack Gold Mine Project. These Project-specific issues are generally indicative of the local and regional values held by the public, Aboriginal groups, and other stakeholders in the Project area. They also reflect issues of concern to the scientific community or to government (BC EAO 2013a).
Lentic	Standing or relatively still water (e.g., lakes, ponds, and swamps).
Lotic	Moving water (e.g., rivers, creeks, and streams).
Limnology	The description and study of freshwater systems, including lakes, streams, and rivers.
Lithics	The material created during stone tool manufacturing.
Long-hole open stoping	An underground mining technique used for vertical or steeply-dipping ore bodies with regular boundaries.
Mesic	Water removed somewhat slowly in relation to supply; soil may remain moist for a significant, but sometimes short, period of the year. Available soil moisture reflects climatic inputs.

Mesotrophic	A body of water with a moderate amount of dissolved nutrients and primary producers (Wetzel 2001).
Metal leaching	Metal leaching is associated with acid rock drainage due to high solubility of metals and sulphide weathering rates under acidic conditions.
Mitigation measure	A feature, procedure or other action that the Project commits to implement to avoid or reduce the magnitude of an adverse effect, or to enhance the magnitude of a positive effect.
Morainal	See *till*.
Mount Edziza	A volcano in northwestern BC that is a source of obsidian (a lithic material used in stone tool manufacture).
n.d.	No date. Used for citing publications that do not indicate a publication date.
National Topographic System (NTS)	A mapping system used by the Natural Resources Canada providing general purpose topographic maps of the country. NTS maps are available in 1/50,000 and 1/250,000 scales and include details on landforms and terrain, lakes and rivers, forested areas, administrative zones, populated areas, roads and railways, as well as other man-made features.
Nitrogen oxide (NO_x)	Formed when nitrogen (N_2) combines with oxygen (O_2) in the burning of fossil fuels, from the natural degradation of vegetation, and from the use of chemical fertilizers. It is a significant component of atmospheric acid deposition and photochemical smog. The primary source of nitrogen oxide emissions is automobile exhaust (MBA Training Company n.d.).
Non-contact water	Includes all natural catchment water that is diverted around the surface disturbance.
Oligotrophic	A body of water that has low concentrations of nutrient and relatively few primary producers (Wetzel 2001).
Operation phase	The second phase of the Brucejack Gold Mine Project, expected to last 22 years, during which ore is mined and processed to produce concentrate for sale.
Outcrop	Bedrock that appears at or near the surface.
Overburden	Layers of soil and rock covering a deposit. In surface mining, overburden is removed using large equipment prior to mining. When mining has been completed, it is either used to backfill the mined areas or is hauled to an external disposal or storage site (MBA Training Company n.d.).
Particulate matter	Tiny pieces of solid or liquid matter associated with the Earth's atmosphere. Sources of particulate matter can be human-made or natural.
Paste backfill	Unclassified mill tailings from initial ore flotation processing are mixed in a paste plant with adequate cementitious binder to form paste that meets strength requirements to be backfilled into the underground mine spaces.
Periphyton	Complex matrix of algae, bacteria, microbes, and detritus that attaches to submerged surfaces.

Permafrost	Soil at or below the freezing point of water 0ºC for two or more years. Most permafrost is located in high latitudes (i.e., land close to the North and South poles), but alpine permafrost may exist at high altitudes in much lower latitudes.
Permit	A document issued by a regulatory agency that gives approval for specified activities to take place.
Phytoplankton	Minute, free-floating aquatic organisms that play an important role in many aquatic systems as primary producers and prey for other organisms.
PM_{10}	Inhalable particulate matter. PM_{10} particles are airborne particles that have a diameter of 10 µm or less and are thus a subset of total suspended particulate.
$PM_{2.5}$	Respirable particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) particles are a subset of PM_{10} and are defined as particles with a diameter less than 2.5 µm. These particles are small enough to enter deep into the respiratory system.
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)	Organic compounds comprised of two or more aromatic rings. These compounds are by-products of combustion.
Portal	The mouth of an adit or tunnel.
Potential effects	The potential effects of a proposed project are those effects identified without taking any mitigation or management measures into account, with the exception of measures that are integral components of the project design.
Primary producers	Organisms capable of using energy derived from light or a chemical substance to manufacture energy-rich organic compounds from inorganic nutrients. Primary producers form the base of many foodwebs.
Proglacial Lake	A proglacial lake is a lake formed either by the damming action of a moraine or ice dam during the retreat of a melting glacier, or by meltwater trapped against an ice sheet due to isostatic depression of the crust around the ice.
Project footprint	The Project footprint refers to the area that may reasonably be expected to be physically touched by Project activities, across all phases. The Project Footprint includes land used on a temporary basis such as construction lay down areas or construction haul roads, as well as disturbed areas in transport corridors, both public and private.
Public, the	The public is a broad entity that includes people who are not necessarily affiliated with an interest group, although there is overlap between these groups.
Receptor	An environmental value or feature of the social environment which may be sensitive to changes in condition as a result of the Project activities.

Receptor Valued Component	A receptor Valued Component (receptor VC) is a receptor along a cause-effect pathway and is a candidate environmental, social, economic, health, or heritage component that the public, scientists, government agencies, Aboriginal groups, or other stakeholders consider important. In accordance to the *Guideline for the Selection of Valued Components and Assessment of Potential Effects*, receptor components are to be the focus of an effects assessment. In the Application/EIS, receptor VC will be used to refer to all candidate components subject to effects for which a determination of significance is made.
Reclamation	The process of restoring land that has been mined to a natural or economically usable purpose. Reclamation operations are usually underway as soon as the deposit has been removed from a mine site. The process includes restoring the land to its approximate original appearance by restoring topsoil and planting native grasses and ground cover.
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (RDKS)	The local government of a 100,000 km^2 area in northwestern British Columbia including the Project area. Member municipalities are Kitimat, Terrace, Stewart, Hazelton, and New Hazelton.
Regional Study Area	Spatial area within which direct and indirect effects are anticipated to occur.
Regulatory Framework	The compendium of requirements with which the Project is required to, and/or has chosen to, comply. This will typically include the following: o legal requirements (laws, regulations, decrees, etc.); o international treaties or conventions, including those ratified by the country in which the Project will occur and potentially those non-ratified; o internal corporate standards (e.g., company-specific environmental performance standards, company-specific IA standards); o programme requirements (e.g., EHS Guidelines); and o policies. The Regulatory Framework will include two broad types of requirements: o the requirements that apply to the Project (e.g., to meet a particular emission limit); and o the requirements that apply to the EA process, consultation, and associated permitting process.
Remote Access to Archaeological Data (RAAD)	A web-based application, maintained by the Province of British Columbia, which enables authorized users to access data housed in the British Columbia Archaeological Site Inventory.
Residual effects	Residual effects are the effects of a project that remain after mitigation and management measures are implemented. Project-specific effects are separate/differentiated from cumulative effects.
Reverse osmosis	A water treatment method that involves using a semi-permeable membrane to purify water of several molecules and ions.

Richness (taxonomic)	A description of the abundance of different taxa within a defined, ecologically relevant area or habitat.
Room and pillar	An underground mining technique used for relatively flat or gently sloping deposits.
Secondary producers	Organisms that consume primary producers; in aquatic ecosystems, secondary producers are primarily invertebrates.
Sediment quality	Physical and chemical properties of sediment in streams and lakes.
Shrinkage stoping	An underground mining technique used for steeply-dipping, vertical to sub-vertical narrow ore bodies with self-supporting walls and ore.
Significance	Significance is defined as a measure of the degree or severity of direct and indirect effects caused to human, social, heritage, environmental, and economic components by the Project.
Silt	A soil description for fine particles between 0.06 and 0.002 mm.
Snow avalanche	A sudden, drastic flow of snow down a slope.
Spatial boundaries	Spatial boundaries consider the potential geographic or physical extent of change generated by the project, as related to a specific assessment topic or valued component.
Stage	The depth of water in a watercourse or channel
Stakeholders	Stakeholders are interest groups whose interests could be affected by the project and its associated activities. Stakeholders do not include treaty and non-treaty First Nations, but generally include land-user groups with interests or tenures in the project area.
Stope	Stoping is the process of extracting the desired ore or other mineral from an underground mine, leaving behind an open space known as a stope.
Subaqueous deposition	Disposal of waste rock or tailings through placement submerged below water, which is a preferred means of disposal to limit potential *metal leaching* and *acid rock drainage* (MLARD).
Sulphur dioxide (SO_2)	Fossil fuel that contains a small amount of sulphur-containing organic compounds. During fuel combustion, the sulphur is oxidized and emitted as SO_2 gas with the engine exhaust. In the atmosphere, SO_2 can further oxidize to sulphate, which contributes to acid deposition.
Tailing	Tailing is a mixture of water and finely ground rock that is left over once the valuable minerals are removed by processing of the ore.
Taxon	A label for a group of organisms that are related and share relevant life-history, physiological, or ecological traits.
Temporal boundaries	Temporal boundaries are the time periods considered in the assessment, which take into account the phases of the Brucejack Gold Mine Project and the timelines of other human actions.
Temporal scope	The time period over which Project activities may cause an effect.

Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping	Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping is an approach to stratifying the landscape into map units according to ecological features using a combination of manual air photo interpretation and ground sampling (BC MOE n.d.).
Till (morainal material)	A heterogeneous and poorly sorted mixture of silt, sand, and rock deposited by a glacier.
Topography	Surface configuration, including relief and position of natural and man-made features.
Total Suspended Particulates (TSP)	A measure of the mass concentration of particulate matter in air.
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	A measure of the dry weight of particulate material in a water sample.
Toxicity Reference Value (TRV)	The maximum acceptable dose or concentration of a chemical that can be received by a receptor without an appreciable risk of adverse health effects during a human lifetime.
Tunnel	An excavated horizontal, or near-horizontal, underground passage that is open to the surface at both ends.
Valued Components (VCs)	Valued Components are environmental, social, economic, health, and heritage components that the public, scientists, government agencies, Aboriginal peoples, and stakeholders consider important. They are identified, in part, through consultation with the above and may be determined on the basis of values including First Nations' or Nisga'a interests, cultural value, scientific and/or regulatory concern, conservation status, biodiversity, and sensitivity to proposed Project effects.
Ventilation	The provision of a directed flow of fresh and return air along all underground roadways, travelling roads, workings, and service parts.
Waste rock	That rock that must be removed from a mine to safely and economically extract the ore, but which has no value.
Wetlands	Wetlands are lowland or depressional features where water saturation is the dominant factor determining the nature of soil development and the resulting vegetation communities.
Wildfire	An unplanned or unwanted natural or anthropogenic fire.
Wilp	The wilp is a basic matrilineal kinship unit among some First Nations in northwestern British Columbia.
X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry	A non-destructive method used to determine the elemental composition of natural and man-made materials, such as obsidian, to aid in determining its source.
Zooplankton	Free-swimming aquatic organisms that feed on detritus, primary producers, and other aquatic invertebrates. Zooplankton are important secondary producers in some lakes and are responsible for transferring energy to higher levels in the aquatic foodweb.

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