## **Environment and Climate Change**

Equinox Gold is committed to achieving excellence in environmental performance. We recognize that many of the topics considered material to our stakeholders are directly related to environmental management practices. We implement international standards, principles and best practices to prevent and mitigate the environmental impacts of our activities, and look for opportunities to contribute to environmental stewardship initiatives and scientific research.

We take seriously the potential environmental impacts of our activities and have robust management systems, policies and safeguards in place to ensure these risks are managed correctly.

The Company's environmental management processes aim to protect the long-term health and viability of the natural environments that surround our mine sites or are affected by our activities. To achieve this objective, we:

- Promote the reduction in usage of raw materials and the reuse or recycling of waste
- Strive to prevent and mitigate impacts to biodiversity through best practice land management processes and partnerships with conservation groups and academia
- Foster and maintain a culture of environmental responsibility within the workplace
- Perform progressive reclamation activities during the life of each mine, and ensure closure plans consider the interests of host communities
- Have systems in place to ensure all environmental incidents are reported, investigated and remediated
- Resource our site teams so they are equipped to manage any conceivable environmental emergency
- Ensure the safe and responsible management and storage of tailings and mine waste during the mine life and after mine closure

Equinox Gold uses environmental management systems that conform with ISO 14001 and we are implementing the relevant TSM protocols and RGMPs across our operations. Our environmental management systems track compliance with legal obligations and other commitments, that we are proactive in identifying and mitigating risks before initiating work, and that we monitor our operations to ensure mitigations are effective. The systems also include auditing and annual review processes that promote continual improvement.

## 2021 Performance

In 2021, we formalized the Equinox Gold Environment and Climate Change Policy, outlining our commitments to environmental protection, the role we play in the global response to climate change, and our expectations of both our workforce and suppliers. Our workforce plays a critical role in protecting our environment. Our training programs emphasize both individual and collective responsibility for environmental protection and set the expectation that Equinox Gold's environmental management systems will meet or exceed international standards.

## What's Next

Equinox Gold is committed to managing energy use and promoting efficiency across the business by identifying energy-intensive activities, seeking greater efficiency or alternative energy sources, including low carbon energy sources, and setting measurable targets related to energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. We will also add key performance indicators for water, climate change and biodiversity to our reporting initiatives.

## Environmental Education for RDM Employees and Surrounding Communities

Since 2015, Equinox Gold has run an environmental education program for our workforce and the communities near our RDM Mine. The program is designed to foster engagement with employees and the community, and to improve their understanding of how the mine operates and the care we take to protect the environment. We strive to share our conservation knowledge and also learn from local communities, so that together we act as responsible stewards of the land, water, flora and fauna.

During 2021 we were unable to deliver many of our planned community events due to COVID-19 restrictions, but we were able to host some activities with residents of five local communities focused on the local biome, water springs and soils. During these events, the RDM team facilitated workshops on soils and water spring conservation and worked with local residents to develop environment-focused educational materials.

We also delivered environmental education sessions to our workforce, with special events to acknowledge World Water Day and Environment Week. World Water Day events included a discussion about the importance of conscious use of water, showing data on water consumption in the workplace and at home. During Environment Week, among other activities, workshops were held on topics such as agriculture and livestock, water and soil conservation, ecosystem recovery, waste reduction and recycling. The workforce was also engaged in a discussion about the social and environmental impacts generated by the mine's activities, and the role we all play in minimizing and mitigating our environmental footprint.

We look forward to resuming a full environmental education program with a broader range of local communities in 2022, as COVID-19 restrictions are reduced.



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