

Incident Management

A core element of managing our environmental impact is tracking the frequency and nature of environmental incidents. Our Incident Reporting Guidelines ensure appropriate reporting, investigation, level of control and response are applied to all incidents. Having a clear, easy-to-follow classification system allows any employee or contractor to record a wide variety of environmental incidents, including non-conformance with internal procedures, and encourages reporting of all incidents so action can be taken to prevent recurrence. All of our operations and projects report, investigate and remediate environmental incidents. The reporting guidelines ensure consistent categorization of incidents across all jurisdictions and allow us to share lessons learned through incident investigations so we can continually improve.

Since 2020, we have provided quarterly environmental performance updates on our website. We use a rating system that classifies incidents as 'low,' 'minor,' 'moderate,' 'major' or 'catastrophic.' Incidents classified as moderate or above are considered 'significant.' This category includes:

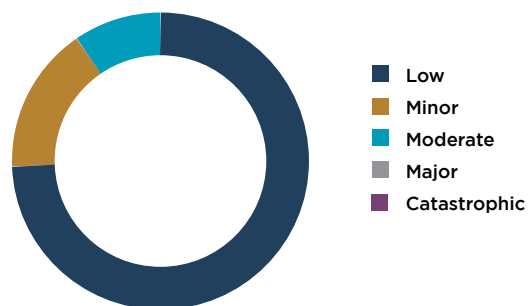
- Cyanide spills outside of normal containment area
- Wildlife deaths due to cyanide
- Death of species with special protection status according to local jurisdiction
- Environment-related regulatory non-compliance that triggers regulatory reporting
- Spills that trigger regulatory reporting
- Confirmed abnormal monitoring results detecting cyanide outside of a cyanide facility, or a breach of permit conditions

2021 Performance

There were no 'major' or 'catastrophic' incidents at any of our sites in 2021. We achieved a Significant Environmental Incident Frequency Rate of 0.68, which was 58% better than our 2021 target of 1.6 and also 58% better than our 2020 performance.

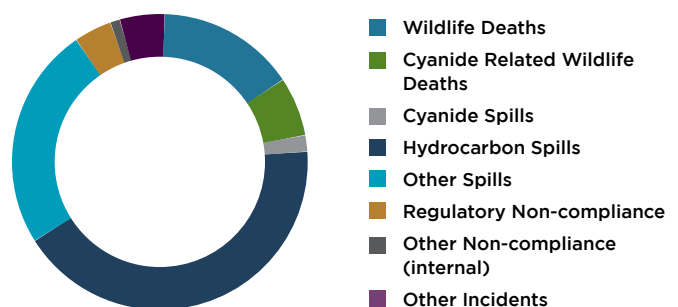
A significant achievement during 2021 was formalizing reporting guidance and requirements for all operations and projects. During the year, we recorded 126 environmental incidents, of which 13 were classified as 'moderate' and therefore categorized as 'significant' incidents based on our internal rating system.

2021 Environmental Incidents by Consequence Ranking



There were no incidents classified as Major or Catastrophic in 2021.

2021 Environmental Incidents by Category



Eight of the incidents categorized as significant were cyanide-related wildlife deaths, though none of the species are listed as endangered. These incidents were reported to regulators and appropriate mitigating action plans have been implemented, including diversion techniques (supply of fresh water in safer areas) or hazing techniques (such as flashing lights or noises to warn animals away from production areas). Other mitigations include regular monitoring and covering of solution ponding that could attract wildlife. At Castle Mountain, more than \$200,000 has been spent on mitigative actions to resolve these issues since the mine commenced operations in late 2020.

Other incidents included four regulatory non-compliances. One of these occurred at Aurizona when an exceptionally heavy (1-in-10,000-year) rainstorm caused widespread flooding in the region and a freshwater pond on the Aurizona site overflowed. Other regulatory non-compliances included the exceedance of permitted lime use at Castle Mountain, elevated levels of ammonia discharged from the effluent treatment plant at Greenstone and surpassing the daily water use limit at RDM. Following investigation, mitigations were implemented to prevent recurrence including improved monitoring of lime and

other regulated substances at Castle Mountain, additional mixing of water from blasting areas prior to treating site water, and changing a faulty water meter at RDM. All of these incidents were reported to the regulators. Only the Aurizona event resulted in fines, which Equinox Gold is disputing with regulators.

At Castle Mountain, a power outage and high wind event contributed to a minor release of leach solution containing very low concentrations of cyanide. Most of the solution was contained to secondary concrete spill containment but a small portion of solution was blown (by high winds) outside the containment structure. The incident was reported to regulators and no fine or permit violations were issued.

What's Next

For 2022, we have set the target of achieving a Significant Environmental Incident Frequency Rate per million worked hours of 1.60, similar to last year's target when Greenstone was not owned by Equinox Gold. We will continue to report, investigate and remediate environmental incidents. We will also complete the implementation of software to provide integrated environmental performance and risk management tracking that will allow us to better manage incident reporting and standardize the documentation and investigation of incidents.

2021 Environmental Incidents Categorized as Significant

