

OUR APPROACH

Biodiversity

It is widely recognized that biodiversity – having a variety of plants, animals, insects and microorganisms – keeps our global ecosystem in balance and is a critical natural defence against climate change. Biodiversity protection is also vital to local communities and Indigenous peoples.



Raising the Bar on Biodiversity Reporting

Following a landmark agreement at the 2022 United Nations Biodiversity Conference to strive for widescale protection of the world’s lands and waters, a new Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Biodiversity Standard (GRI 101: Biodiversity 2024) was established to help organizations comprehensively disclose their operational and value chain impacts on biodiversity. It is important that businesses like ours support these global efforts by voluntarily tracking, reporting and mitigating their biodiversity impacts and making investments to help restore biodiversity in the areas where they work.

DISCLOSURES

GRI 3-3	GRI 304-4
GRI 304-1	EM-MM-160a.1
GRI 304-2	EM-MM-160a.2
GRI 304-3	EM-MM-160a.3

Taking Action to Preserve Biodiversity

Equinox Gold operates in proximity to several important ecosystems, including the Amazon Preservation Area in Maranhão, Brazil and the Caatinga region in Bahia, Brazil; the Zopilote Gorge near our operations in Guerrero, Mexico; the MacLeod Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada; and in the USA, the Mojave National Preserve in California and the Avi Kwa Ame National Monument in Nevada.

Policies and Standards

- Our [Environment and Climate Change Policy](#) outlines our commitment to protecting the species and habitats of the areas in which we operate and promoting the conservation of local biodiversity.
- We carefully adhere to all local and federal regulations related to biodiversity protection.
- We go beyond mandated regulatory requirements by implementing additional voluntary standards: the Responsible Gold Mining Principles (RGMPs) for Biodiversity, Land Use and Mine Closure and the Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) Biodiversity Conservation Management Protocol.
- All our sites monitor the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species as well as locally legislated protected species lists so we can adapt our activities to reflect urgent conservation needs.

Protected and High Biodiversity Value Areas

We have identified protected areas and regions of high biodiversity value in or near our operations to enhance our planning activities and management of the mining operation footprint. We use this information as crucial input during the development, implementation, and monitoring of biodiversity management plans for each operation.

SITE	PROTECTED AND HIGH BIODIVERSITY AREAS
Aurizona	Located near Reentrâncias Maranhenses Environmental Protection Area and the Extractive Reserve of Arapiranga-Tromai
Castle Mountain	Located near the Castle Mountains National Monument and the Mojave National Preserve
Greenstone	Located near the MacLeod Provincial Park
Mesquite	Located near Picacho ACEC
RDM	Located near the Serra Nova and Talhado State Park

Before Undertaking Any Activities That Could Disturb the Land

- We develop a baseline inventory of flora and fauna to identify the biota of both ecological and cultural significance.
- Based on this inventory, we conduct biodiversity impact assessments to understand our site's characteristics, allowing our local teams to ensure that significant native fauna and flora elements can be relocated during clearing procedures.
- We then develop biodiversity management plans for each mine. These plans detail our actions to mitigate or eliminate harm where possible and include monitoring and reclamation of habitats for local protected species. We update the plans as necessary to reflect evolving circumstances and the stages of mining development.
- Before we begin construction and operations, our local teams salvage and relocate native fauna and significant flora elements.



Vegetation Maintenance and Reclamation

- We maintain plant nurseries at most of our sites with plants salvaged during the clearing process or grown from locally sourced seed that can be used to replant areas as they are reclaimed.
- When undertaking reclamation, we set vegetation density and species targets that mirror the surrounding natural area so we can monitor the success of our reclamation activities.

Collaboration with Local Communities and Stakeholders

We collaborate with local communities, NGOs, government agencies, and academic institutions to improve each site's biodiversity plans. Since we work in a variety of ecosystems, each site's biodiversity plans and activities are tailored to the specific needs and circumstances of the area, reflecting community input and regulatory requirements.

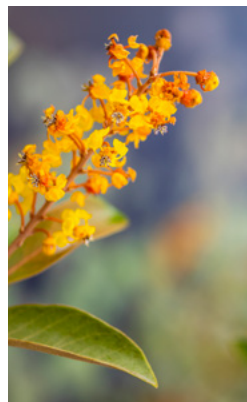
In Brazil, as required by law, we create conservation areas by purchasing undisturbed land to protect natural ecosystems. We safeguard these conservation areas from development, hunters, poachers and illegal small-scale mining activity, and also document the biological wealth of these areas and their importance to the maintenance of regional biodiversity.

Accountability

All employees and contractors are required to follow our [Environment and Climate Change Policy](#) and record and report environmental incidents. The Company's Director of Environmental Affairs, based at our corporate office, has general responsibility for monitoring and collating incident reporting data from the mine sites and providing this information to the Company's Vice President Health, Safety and Environment.

The ESG Committee is responsible for the Company's standards, policies and programs relating to environment, social and governance matters, including health, safety, sustainable development, climate change, community relations, human rights, government relations and social responsibility, and for monitoring the Company's performance regarding the same.

Details about the ESG Committee's structure and accomplishments are available in our [2025 Management Information Circular](#).



EXPLORE OUR PERFORMANCE AND METRICS

View Equinox Gold's [annual Sustainability Report](#) for our performance indicators relevant to biodiversity.