



Annual Report 2000-2001

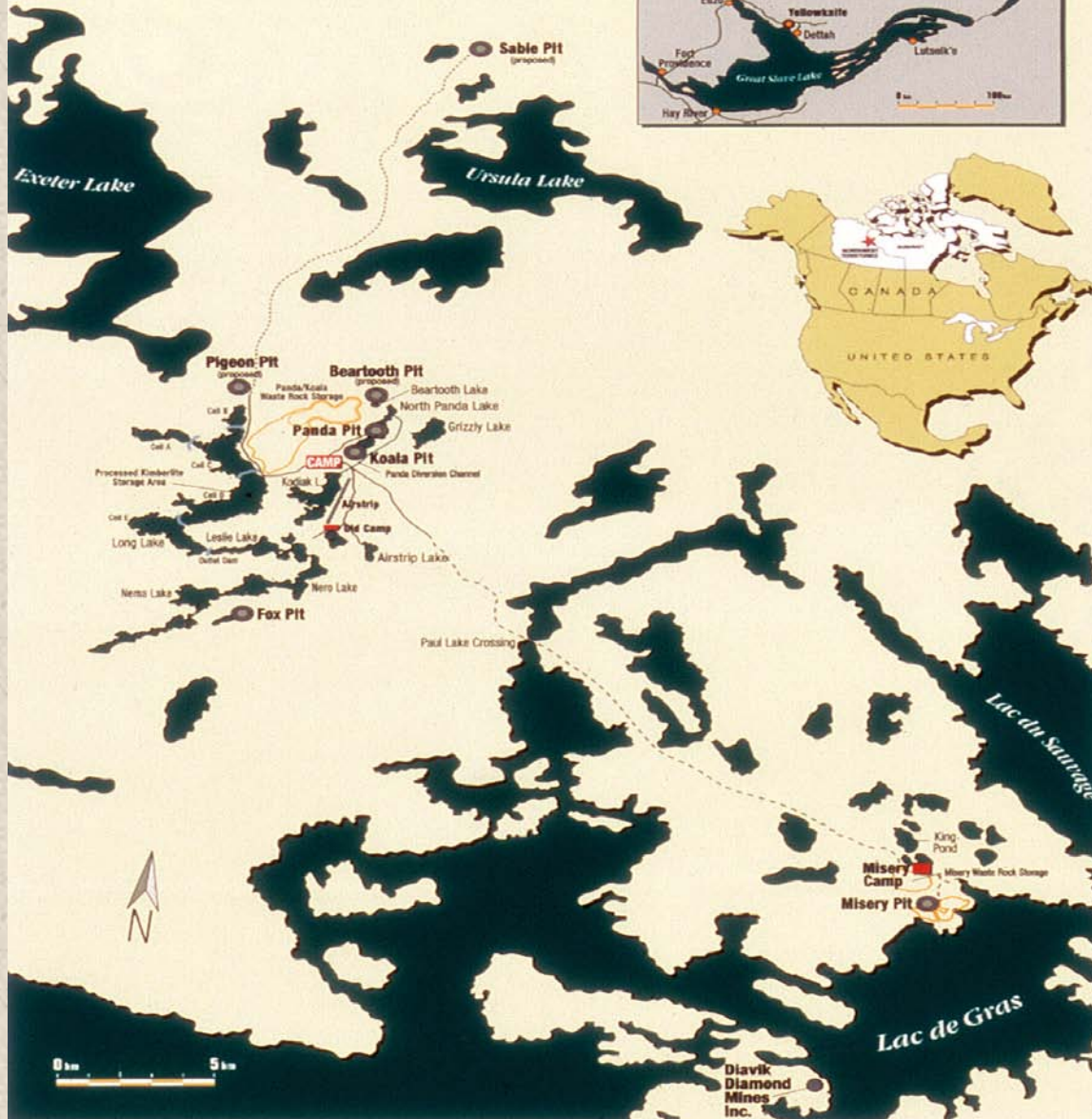
The Independent Environmental
Monitoring Agency

Independent Environmental
Monitoring Agency





BHP EKATI™ Diamond Mine



Diavik
Diamond
Mines
Inc.

BHP Diamonds Inc.



Annual Report 2000 - 2001



“The Monitoring Agency shall report annually.....to BHP, the Minister, and the GNWT. All reports of the Monitoring Agency shall be made available to the Aboriginal Peoples and the general public.”



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Listening to Our Members

- 2000-2001 responding to MacLeod Evaluation
- Chair located to YK for portion of year, and is available to meet with all our members
- In 2000 – 2001 met with members whenever invited
- Regularly meet with BHP and government members



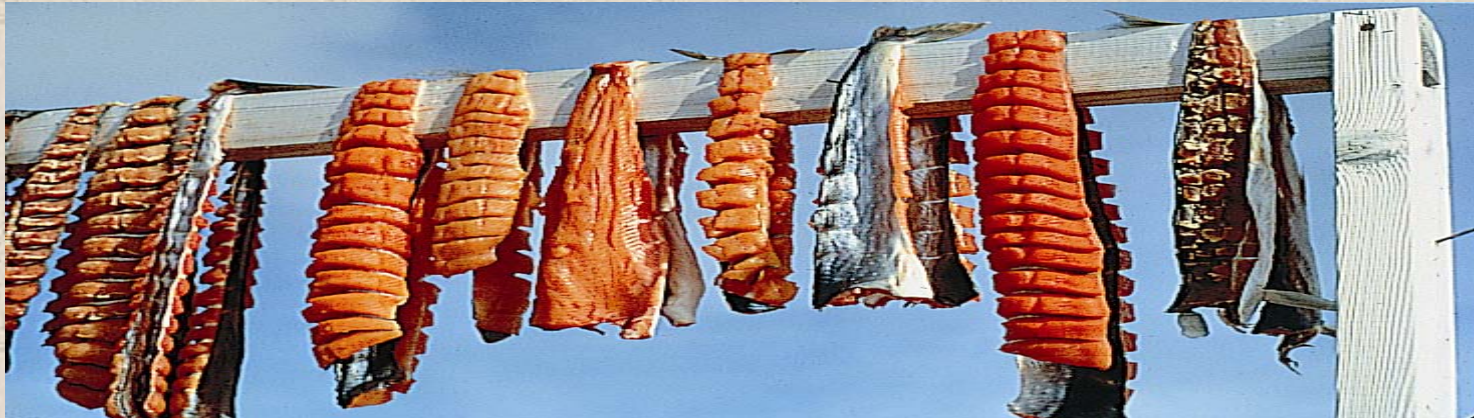
JEANNETTE LOCKHART, LUTSEL K'E
DENE FIRST NATION



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Traditional Knowledge



POPKO/RWED/GNWT

- Challenges exist for both Aboriginal members and BHP in incorporating TK into project environmental management
- Agency compliments BHP for support of Phase II TK Studies, continued Elders site visits and use of TK in Wolverine Monitoring Program and Lake Fish Outs
- Agency recommends aboriginal members and BHP work together to develop a more formal process or mechanism to facilitate incorporation of TK into management decisions



Traditional Knowledge Recommendation

“The Agency recommends that:

- 1) aboriginal parties meet to develop consensus where they and their knowledge best fit into BHP’s environmental management and monitoring programs, and
- 2) aboriginal members and BHP work together to develop more effective means incorporate aboriginal people and their ecological knowledge into BHP’s planning and operations. The Agency, if requested, would be available to assist in these initiatives.”



Wildlife Effects Monitoring Program



RWED/GNWT

- **2000 WEMP improvement over the 1999 WEMP**
- **BHP's stated willingness to develop common monitoring protocols with other companies is important**
- **Waste Management issues are a serious concern**
- **Agency is still concerned about limited involvement of elders in monitoring programs**



Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program

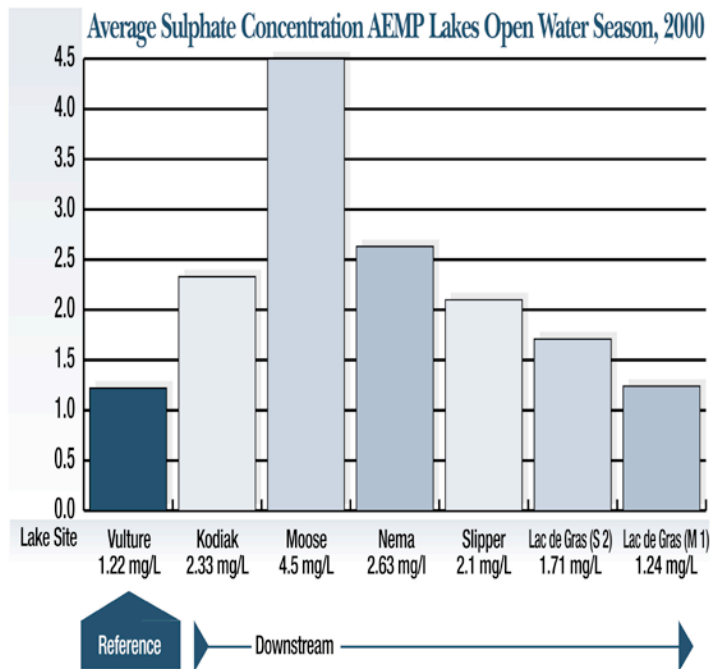
Kodiak Lake and downstream lakes are recovering from the impact of input of treated sewage



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Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program



Downstream Effects in the Koala watershed geochemistry and aquatic environment are now being detected



AEMP Recommendations

“The Agency recommends that BHP expand the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program to include a full range of water quality data in the winter months for all AEMP and SEMP lakes.

“The Agency recommends that BHP analyze and determine the sources of substances affecting water quality by using the full range of data from all programs and studies that collect water quality at the site (i.e. aquatic and special effects monitoring programs, seepage surveys, snow surveys etc.)”



Special Effects Monitoring Program

- Kodiak Lake Sewage Study
 - More monitoring and interpretation required, especially of metals during winter conditions.
- Panda Diversion Channel
 - Arctic Grayling young-of-the-year appear to growing at low rate.



SEMP Recommendation

“The Agency recommends that BHP place priority in 2001 on determining whether the very slow growth rates of young-of-the-year grayling rearing in the diversion channel adversely affect their survival.”



Waste Rock

PANDA WASTE ROCK

- Low pH seepage in a number of 2000 seeps
- BHP required to carry out Enhanced Monitoring and Confirmation Program
- Ongoing monitoring by BHP and review by Agency, regulators and government agencies to confirm origin of acidic seepage



Waste Rock



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MISERY WASTE ROCK

- Design and management of Misery waste rock pile requires special attention
- Current Construction practices not reflected in current management plans
- BHP needs to reassess Misery Waste Rock Plan in light of all new geochemistry and seepage data available



Waste Rock Recommendations

“The Agency recommends that BHP needs to develop a more detailed understanding of what is happening with the waste rock geochemistry at EKATI™ and determine effective management responses that may be needed to deal with the emerging water quality problems at the site

“The Agency recommends that BHP should update its Waste Rock Management Plans for Misery, Koala, Fox and other pipes to be developed. It should also ensure that these designs are properly reflected in the current Waste Rock and Ore Storage Management Plan and Abandonment and Restoration Plan.”



Reclamation Research



Jeri Herman/BHP Diamonds Inc.

- BHP's efforts to identify and evaluate viable revegetation strategies are supported
- Criteria must be developed to assess when reclamation is satisfactory



Expansions and Amendments

Fox Pit Amendment

- Application from BHP to dewater and mine Fox Lake
- Agency recommended approval of dewatering phase, but presentation of more information on waste rock management required before approving mining

Sable, Pigeon and Beartooth

- Applications to mine three new pipes.
- Sent for Environmental Assessment
- Decision by the MVEIRB for approval with a number of specific conditions
- Minister and MVEIRB in consultation



Assessment of the Regulators

- **MVRMA established two new boards in recent past: MVLWB & MVEIRB**
- **Both must work with communities and companies to develop effective and efficient processes and guidelines.**
- **RWED & DIAND inspectors to be commended for continued scrutiny of onsite management**
- **Communication between boards, agencies and the company must continue to improve**



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Cumulative Effects

- Agency released paper on future of environmental monitoring and management in the north
- Agency met with Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board for the DIAVIK project
- Attended workshops on Cumulative Effects Assessment and Management Framework
- Attended workshop on the Bathurst Caribou Herd Management Plan
- Agency concerned about significant adverse impact on wolverine from BHP's Misery camp, DIAVIK camp and Nuna winter road camp



Cumulative Effects Recommendation

“The Agency recommends that BHP take immediate actions to improve waste management in order to reduce the risks that wolverines and grizzly bears become attracted to camps. Prompt actions are needed at Misery camp where the cumulative effect on carnivores is of great concern.”



THANK-YOU



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