

STATEMENT OF POSITION

BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

OVERVIEW

Biodiversity is vital to maintaining the health of local, regional and global ecosystems. Declining biodiversity creates imbalance to ecosystems which can result in adverse impacts to ecological, social, cultural and economic values.

Gold mining can impact biodiversity through land clearing, water abstraction and changes to air, water and soil parameters during exploration, development and operational mining phases. These activities require considered and appropriate management to minimise or potentially enhance biodiversity on a local, regional or international level.

RECOGNITION STATEMENTS

OceanaGold recognises:

- Biodiversity and ecosystems need to be valued for;
 - The provision of resources including food, fibres and medicines;
 - Regulatory functions such as carbon sequestration, oxygen generation and water purification;
 - Functions to sustain ecosystem health including soil generation and habitat provision; and
 - Cultural and recreational uses.
- Biodiversity destruction can have detrimental short and long-term impacts;
- As a global issue, biodiversity management must be a focus of host country policy development and requires input from all biodiversity stakeholders including ourselves;
- The greatest threats to biodiversity values relate to changing water quality, habitat modification and climate change; and
- The International Finance Corporations (IFC) Performance Standards provide an internationally benchmarked and accepted approach to biodiversity management.

COMMITMENTS

OceanaGold is committed to reducing its impacts on biodiversity. OceanaGold undertakes to manage all aspects of our business to meet the compliance requirements of host country regulations, minimise our operational impacts and seek opportunities to foster biodiversity.

To achieve this, OceanaGold will:

- Develop an OceanaGold Biodiversity Management Framework including operational standards including management performance requirements, and continuously review and improve the framework against of the requirements of leading globally recognised standards;
- Maintain a current Biodiversity Management Plan for each operation which details how the risks to biodiversity are managed including a description of how compliance with host country regulation is to be achieved.
- Undertake reviews of operation Biodiversity Management Plans annually and undertake corporate audits every three years. Issues and opportunities identified during these processes will be captured in corrective action plans;
- Not explore or seek to develop new mining operations in any designated World Heritage Area; and
- Design all new operations to meet the compliance requirements of the host country as well as the OceanaGold Biodiversity Management Framework.