



FIRST MINING GOLD

SPRINGPOLE PROJECT COMMUNITY UPDATE BULLETIN

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROGRESS AND UPDATES

AUGUST 2023

Baseline Studies

FMG has continued collecting data and information on the existing environment to incorporate into the baseline studies for the Project throughout 2023. Throughout the summer, surface water quality, hydrology, and groundwater studies have been carried out near the Project site. Ongoing geochemistry studies have continued, including the collection of samples from Field Leach Bins. FMG initiated a bat study, with Automatic Recording Units being placed in key habitat areas to collect continuous sound data. In August, a cultural heritage resource study was undertaken, which involved investigating and documenting potential built heritage resources and landscapes.

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Assessment of Alternatives

We have received feedback on the assessment of alternatives, including the criteria and indicators used, and the currently preferred alternatives. FMG is working to consider this input, as well as information from ongoing technical studies and engineering to refine the Project. Based on this, optimizations to the management and disposal of tailings and mine rock management have been identified and are being incorporated into the Project design. The mine access road route is also being refined to avoid a low-lying marshy area and to align the transmission line with the road to reduce linear corridors on the landscape.

Environmental Effects Assessment and Mitigation

In May 2022, we released the draft Environmental Impact Statement /Environmental Assessment (EIS/EA). The draft EIS/EA presents a comprehensive description of the Springpole Project and proposed mitigation measures, providing an opportunity for the Project to be considered holistically.

What We've Heard So Far

It's been over a year since we released the draft EIS/EA, and a lot of great feedback has been received from government agencies, Indigenous communities, and other stakeholders.

Key topics of interest identified include:



Water quality protection and maintaining natural water levels



Fish and fish habitat offsetting measures



Boreal Caribou (Species at Risk) management



Tailings management and long-term stability



Training, employment and business opportunities

First Mining Gold has been working with the reviewers to discuss their feedback and how it will be considered and incorporated into our decision making as part of the final EIS/EA targeted for submission in 2024. For example, FMG is working with vendors to advance the understanding of water treatment technologies, as water quality protection has been identified as a priority for mitigation by local Indigenous communities.

Information Sharing & Next Steps

Understanding the vision and goals of local communities to create beneficial opportunities is an integral element of our development planning. To facilitate information sharing through the EA process, we created the [Springpole Gold Project Environmental Assessment portal](#) where all EA related information, including the draft EIS/EA, is made available to the public in a timely and transparent manner. **To submit a comment or provide feedback on the Springpole EA/EIS please forward your remarks to communityrelations@firstmininggold.com**

FMG is now starting to develop the final EIS/EA, which is planned to be submitted in mid 2024.

New Proposed Fish Offsetting Measures – Shoreline Habitat Enhancement

The proposed enhancement of shoreline sections in Springpole Lake would increase production of forage fish (e.g., Spottail Shiner) and other species (Pike).

