
HAMMOND REEF GOLD PROJECT RESPONSE TO COMMENTS ON FINAL EIS/EA

COMMENT – T-59

Source: Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

Summary of Comment

It is noted in MNR's comment (MNR-6BJ) that the potential impact of increased fishing activities in Marmion Lake and the adjacent waterbodies needs to be identified and evaluated.

This information will be necessary to have a clear understanding of the impact of increased fishing activities on socio-economic conditions from the Project. It will inform any mitigation measures and any monitoring networks required.

Proposed Action

Reassess the socio-economic impact of the Project on the tourism industry and the potential biological impact of increased harvest on fish populations and develop an effective mitigation and monitoring plan (e.g. surveys of angler use and use patterns and fish harvest on Marmion Lake).

Provide confirmation that monitoring will include angling effort surveys on the Marmion system, which is consistent with previous surveys, so that the predicted social economic effects can be validated.

Reference to EIS

Main Document

Table 6-58 (Fishing and Outdoor Tourism)

And TSD Socio-economic Environment report

Response

Canadian Malartic Corporation understands that the Government Review Team is concerned about the potential for the Project to result in increased fishing pressures. This potential increase was considered and assessed in the existing socio-economic assessment through the Valued Ecosystem Components: Outdoor Tourism and Recreation and Fishing.

The effects to Outdoor Tourism and Recreation are expected to be low-level adverse, meaning a small decrease in tourism and recreation is anticipated over the short term. Canadian Malartic Corporation has reached out to the tourism and recreation industry through information sharing and workshops with local owners and operators. This group of business owners provided input to the mitigation measures for this potential decline in tourism and recreation. The identified mitigation measures are direct investment in the tourism industry through funding of advertisement and public awareness efforts and ongoing support for the Atikokan Bass Classic.

With regards to the potential increase in fishing pressure from the Hammond Reef workforce, Canadian Malartic Corporation has committed to implementing a fishing policy which will fully restrict employee fishing while at camp. Canadian Malartic Corporation is also committed to undertaking regular resource use surveys of the Project workforce to assess the direct effect of the Project on recreational fishing and land use.