PROTECTING OUR SHARED WATERS

B.C.'s role in environmental monitoring for mining

Inklin River

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Regulated under the Environmental Management Act (EMA)

Mines are required to monitor:

- Effluent quality and flows
- Surface & groundwater quality
- Ecosystem health indicators
- Treatment efficiencies
- Environmental toxicity
- Water balance & flows
- Sediment quality
- Tissue quality

Person sampling on the Stikine River

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

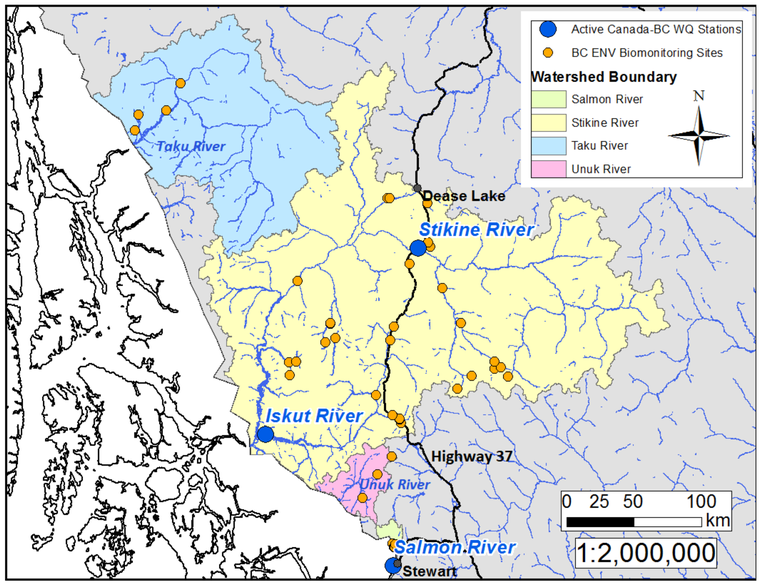
Reports available at mines.nrs.gov.bc.ca

- Water treatment performance
- Trend assessments & permit compliance
- Summary of non-compliance and corrective actions
- Monitoring locations & methods
- Environmental risk assessments

WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

Canada- B.C. Water Quality Monitoring Program

- Regular monitoring of Salmon, Stikine, and Iskut Rivers.
- Salmon and Iskut rivers have been monitored since the early 1980s, the new Stikine River site was established April 2024.
- Tahltan Central Government samples the new Stikine River site monthly.
- Biomonitoring with Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network (CABIN) protocols.



JOINT PROGRAM

2017-2019 B.C.- Alaska Joint Water Quality Program

- Taku, Stikine, and Unuk watersheds sampled for water and sediment chemistry.
- Fish and aquatic organism tissue analyzed for metals.
- Generally, results showed compliance with water quality standards, low ecosystem risks.
- Natural mineral deposits affected water quality in certain areas. Localized effects were also noted below the Tulsequah Chief mine site.
- Alaskan Water Quality Standards were not exceeded downstream of the B.C.-Alaska border

Water quality reports are uploaded to the Provincial Environmental Management System (EMS) database