

BRONZITE EXPLORATION CORP.

Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan

Somerset Trough Project

Somerset Island, Nunavut, Canada

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REVISION HISTORY

The table below is a revision history table that outlines the revisions made by Bronzite Exploration Corporation to this document.

Version	Date	Location of Changes	Purpose
0	December 18, 2023	All	Support document for project proposal submission to the NPC.
1.1	May 15, 2024	Title page	Changed title to “Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan”
		Section 1	Updated maps
		Section 2	Added new Regulatory Framework section
		Section 3.2	Added new section on Sensitive Habitats
		Table 2	Updated mitigations regarding birds and flying altitudes over caribou and muskox
		Section 5.3	Included information on pollution incidents, including spills

1.0 Introduction

Bronzite Exploration Corporation (Bronzite) is a mineral exploration company holding mineral claims in the Western Somerset Island Watershed of Somerset Island, Nunavut (the Project). Bronzite is planning on constructing a small camp on the claim block and conducting early exploration activities such as geophysical surveys and mapping in 2025. Depending on findings from the 2025 field season, Bronzite could commence drilling activities as early as 2026.

This Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (the WMMP) has been developed in support of Bronzite's Project scope change proposal to the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC), land use permit amendment application to Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), and water use authorization from the Nunavut Water Board. The WMMP has been developed to describe wildlife management practices for the proposed 2025 camp and exploration activities, and the Plan will be updated in the future to account for additional considerations as the project progresses.

The 2025 field program will consist of airborne helicopter and fixed-wing surveys, prospecting, geological mapping, rock and channel sampling, and ground-based electromagnetic geophysical surveys. No drilling will take place during the 2025 field season, but drilling could commence as early as 2026. An exploration camp consisting primarily of Weatherhavens will be constructed within the Western Somerset Island Watershed and will include:

- 6 shared sleeper tents
- 1 kitchen / dining hall
- 2 camp dry tents
- 1 storage tent
- 1 first aid tent
- 1 washroom with 2 Pecto toilets and small handwashing sink
- 1 sample processing tent
- 1 incinerator building
- 1 generator building

See Figures 1 to3, incl., for the general location and layout of the exploration camp, as well as the full extent of the Project area where exploration activities may take place. There are currently no plans to conduct ground-based work on Inuit Owned Lands during the 2025 field season. No ground-based work will be conducted on Inuit Owned Lands without obtaining the proper authorizations from either the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) or the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA).

Figure 1. Project Location

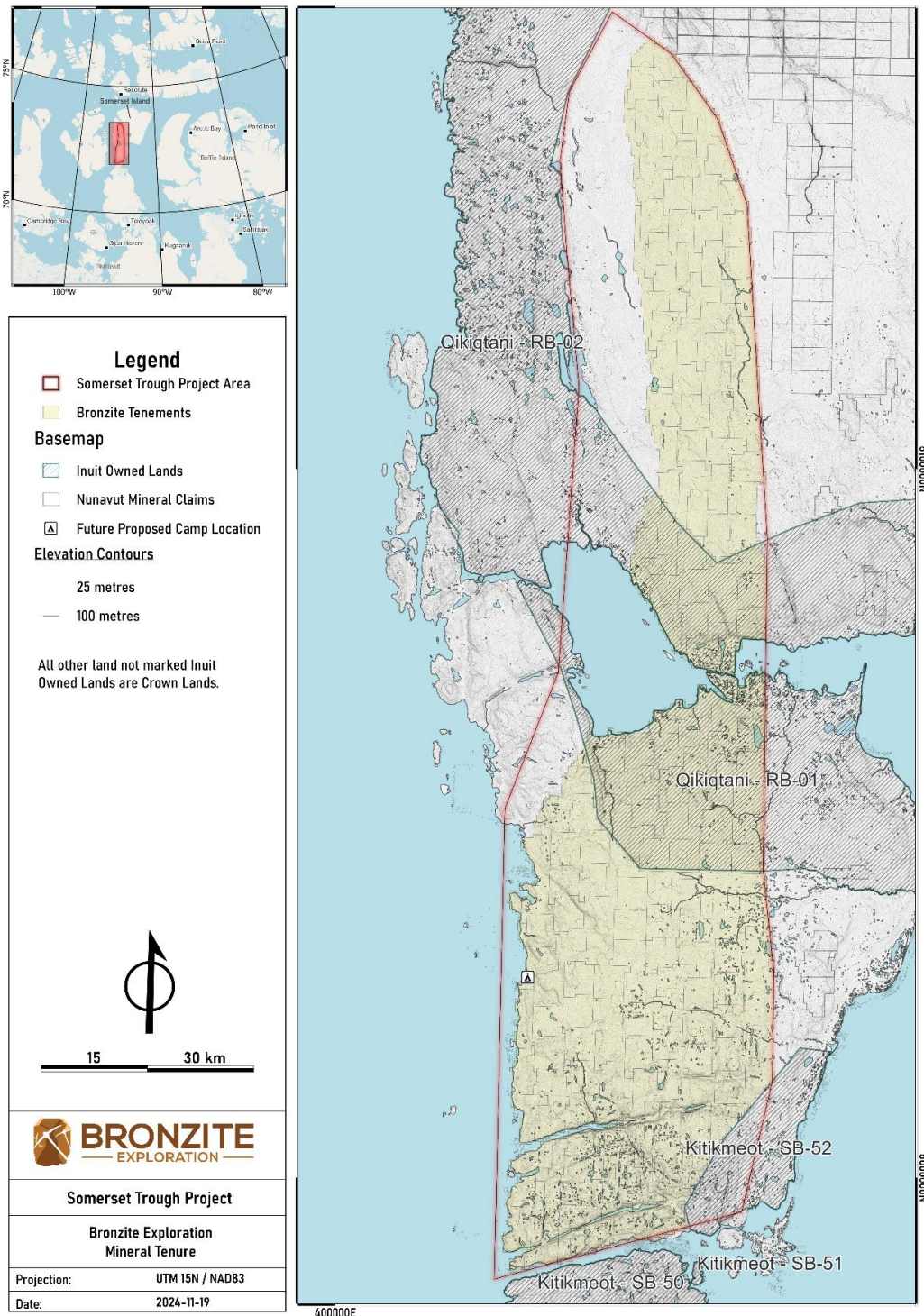


Figure 2. Camp Area

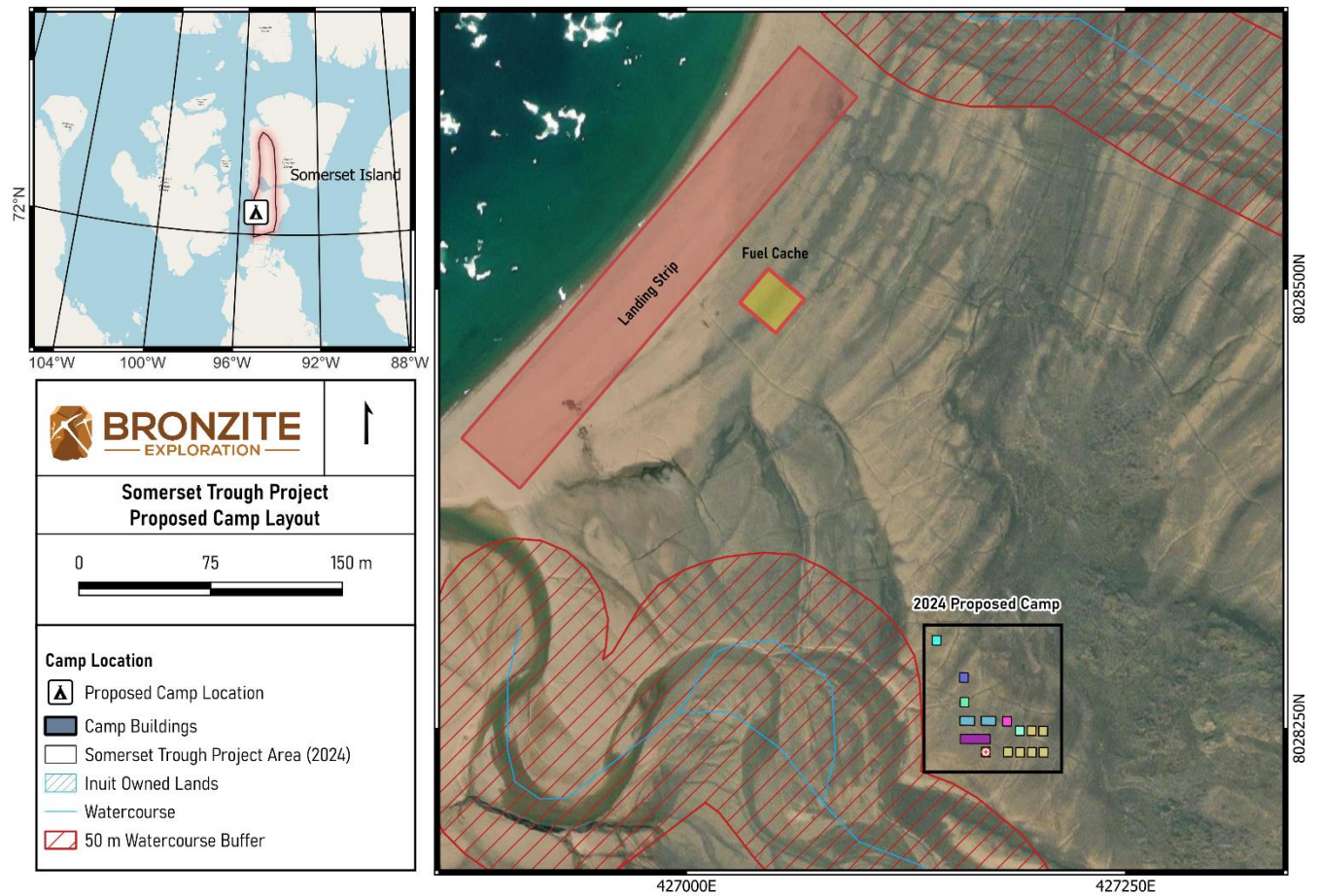
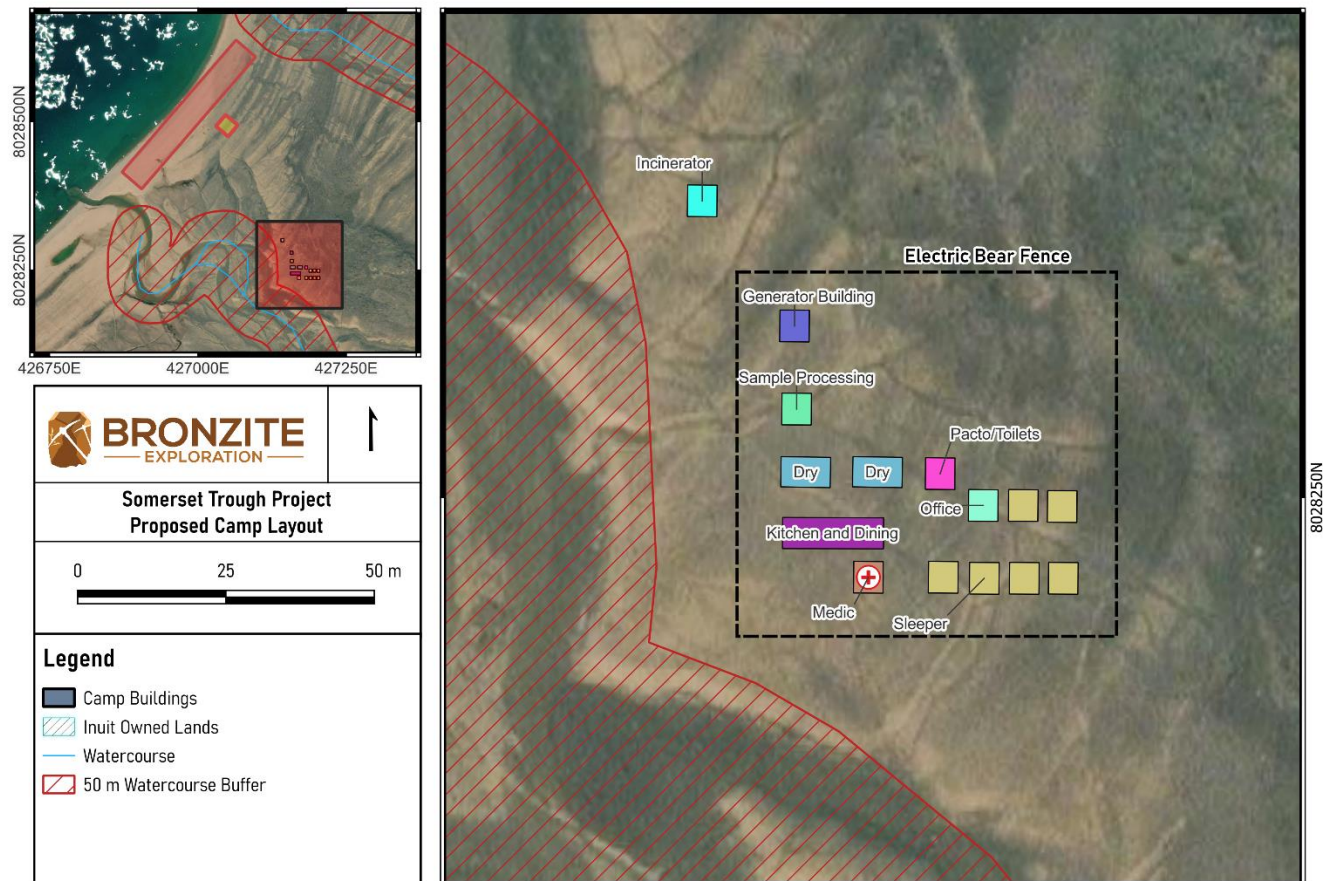


Figure 3. Camp Layout



2.0 Regulatory Framework

There are several acts, regulations, and guidelines pertaining to wildlife management in Nunavut. Bronzite intends to comply with applicable federal and territorial legislation. The following are the key pieces of legislation and guidance documents that apply to operations at the Somerset Trough Project:

Nunavut Wildlife Act – Territorial legislation established for the management of wildlife and habitat, including the protection of species at risk.

North Baffin Land Use Plan – Land use plan developed to ensure the well-being of the communities and permanent residents of the North Baffin Planning Region, while considering the interests of all Canadians. The Plan stresses the need to conserve wildlife species, habitat, and community harvesting areas, and provides caribou protection measures for the region.

Nunavut Land Claims Agreement – Under this agreement, the Government of Nunavut takes ultimate responsibility for wildlife.

Species at Risk Act – Federal legislation designed to prevent the extirpation and/or extinction of wildlife species through formal protection measures. Schedule 1 of SARA lists species of conservation concern in four categories: extirpated, endangered, threatened, and species of special concern. Species listed in Schedule 1 are protected from killing, harming, harassing, capturing, taking, possessing, collecting, buying, selling, or trading.

Migratory Birds Convention Act – Federal legislation protecting migratory bird populations, individuals, and their nests through the prohibition of:

- Possession, purchase, sale, or exchange of a migratory bird or nest; and
- Deposition of substances into waters that is harmful to migratory birds, or in a location where the substance could enter waters, without appropriate authorizations.

Guideline to Avoid Harm to Migratory Birds – Federal guideline providing information on avoiding harm or disturbance to migratory birds, nests, and eggs. Guidance is also provided on how to manage the discovery of a nest and how to create a protective buffer zone.

3.0 Wildlife, Habitat Features, and Key Areas of Concern

3.1 Species

Table 1, below, lists the terrestrial species that may be encountered in the Project area and marine mammals in the surrounding waters, as well as listings from the federal *Species at Risk Act*. The Act defines “threatened” as a species likely to become endangered if nothing is done to reverse the factors leading to extirpation or extinction. “Species of special concern” means a wildlife species that may become threatened or endangered because of a combination of biological characteristics and identified threats. None of the specific populations of marine mammals in the Project area are currently listed in Schedule 1 of the Act, though they are in consideration for addition.

Table 1. Species in the Project area

Species	Species at Risk Act Status	Primary Management Responsibility	Available Recovery Documents
Land Mammals			
Fox	Not applicable	Not applicable	None
Muskox	Not applicable	Not applicable	None
Peary Caribou	Threatened	Government of Nunavut	Recovery Strategy Critical Habitat Description
Polar Bear	Special Concern	Government of Nunavut	None
Wolf	Not applicable	Not applicable	None
Wolverine	Special Concern	Government of Nunavut	None
Birds			
Buff-Breasted Sandpiper	Special Concern	Environment and Climate Change Canada	Management Plan
Ivory Gull	Endangered	Environment and Climate Change Canada	Recovery Strategy Critical Habitat Description
Peregrine Falcon	Special Concern	Environment and Climate Change Canada	Recovery Strategy Management Plan

Red Knot (islandica subspecies)	Special Concern	Environment and Climate Change Canada	Recovery Strategy Management Plan
Red Knot (rufa subspecies)	Endangered	Environment and Climate Change Canada	Recovery Strategy Critical Habitat Description
Red-necked Phalarope	Special Concern	Environment and Climate Change Canada	Management Plan
Marine Mammals			
Atlantic Walrus – High Arctic Population	Under consideration for addition	Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Integrated Fisheries Management Plan
Bowhead Whale – Eastern Canada – West Greenland Population	Under consideration for addition	Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada	None
Killer Whale	Under consideration for addition	Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada	None
Narwhal	Under consideration for addition	Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Integrated Fisheries Management Plan
Ringed Seal	Under consideration for addition	Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada	None

Information for Table 1 was obtained from Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* as well as the “Species at Risk in Nunavut 2021” guide.

3.2 Sensitive Habitats

Creswell Bay lies midway along the eastern coast of Somerset Island and features an abundance of lowlands and tidal flats. The international conservation initiative, the Important Bird Area (IBA) Program, classifies Creswell Bay as an IBA due to the population and diversity of shorebirds in the area. Creswell Bay also hosts several marine mammals, such as beluga whales and narwhals. Through engagement with the QIA, Bronzite has learned of the cultural significance of Creswell Bay and the abundance of archaeological and cultural sites and artifacts within the area.

Due to the ecological sensitivity and cultural significance of Creswell Bay, Bronzite commits to not conducting any drilling within the Creswell Bay area. Pilots will make every effort to route flights around Creswell Bay, but any flights over the area will be at an altitude of 610m or higher, if safe to do so. As per the “Recovery Strategy for the Peary Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus pearyi*) in Canada

2022”, the Project also overlaps with Important Peary Caribou Habitat. Bronzite will employ the mitigations listed in Table 2 to minimize impacts on local Peary Caribou populations.

4.0 Project Impacts and Mitigations

Table 2 below describes the potential direct and indirect impacts on wildlife and/or wildlife habitat and mitigations for the species list in Table 1.

Table 2. Potential wildlife impacts and mitigations

Species	Potential Impacts	Mitigations
Peary Caribou Muskox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human-wildlife interactions Alteration to migratory routes Sensitivity to disturbance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always give wildlife the right-of-way, delay working in any locations where caribou or muskox are present Avoid landing helicopter or fixed wing aircraft in areas where wildlife is present Avoid flying below 610 m above ground level during straight and level flight or operating snowmobiles/ATVs in areas where caribou or muskox are present Do not locate any operations so as to block or cause substantial diversion to migration Adhere to the Waste Management Plan and Spill Contingency Plan to minimize wildlife attractants in camp Employ a zero-tolerance policy for feeding or harassing wildlife Erect a bear fence around the camp to prevent wildlife from interacting with personnel or infrastructure

Species	Potential Impacts	Mitigations
Polar Bear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human-wildlife interactions Attraction to work areas (food, fuel, etc.) Sensitivity to disturbance, especially during denning or when with their young 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always give wildlife the right-of-way, delay working in any locations where polar bears are present Avoid landing helicopter or fixed wing aircraft in areas where wildlife is present Adhere to the Waste Management Plan and Spill Contingency Plan to minimize wildlife attractants in camp Conduct daily inspections to ensure no significant wildlife attractants are present on the site Conduct frequent wildlife scans, particularly when first exiting a building or entering a new work area Stock bear-bangers and noise makers at site to keep approaching wildlife from coming close to camp Employ a zero-tolerance policy for feeding or harassing wildlife Erect a bear fence around the camp to prevent wildlife from interacting with personnel or infrastructure Show the training video <i>Working in Bear Country</i> to all contractors, employees, and visitors to site In the unlikely event that a polar bear must be euthanized, stock equipment to properly dress the animal to avoid wasting the hide

Species	Potential Impacts	Mitigations
Wolverine Fox Wolf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human-wildlife interactions Attraction to work areas if food or shelter is available Rabies potential in the fox population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always give wildlife the right-of-way, delay working in locations where wildlife is present Avoid landing helicopter or fixed wing aircraft in areas where wildlife is present Adhere to the Waste Management Plan and Spill Contingency Plan to minimize wildlife attractants in camp Conduct daily inspections to ensure no significant wildlife attractants or wildlife shelter are present on the site Conduct frequent wildlife scans, particularly when first exiting a building or new area Stock bear-bangers and noise makers at site to deter wildlife from coming close to camp Employ a zero-tolerance policy for feeding or harassing wildlife Assume any fox acting aggressively or failing to respond to deterrence is rabid and could pose a threat to site personnel Erect a bear fence around the camp to prevent wildlife from interacting with personnel or infrastructure
Buff-Breasted Sandpiper Peregrine Falcon Red Knot Ivory Gull Red-necked Phalarope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat shifting or alteration Nest disturbance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid active nests and relocate work activities if possible If a nest containing a migratory bird or egg is discovered, establish a protective buffer zone and halt disruptive activities in the nesting area until nesting is complete, and the young have fledged Record all bird sightings, particularly large concentrations Conduct visual scan of work area for nests prior to any work or land disturbance Employ a zero-tolerance policy for feeding or harassing wildlife Create flight plans to avoid known concentrations of birds (ex. Creswell Bay) by a lateral distance of at least 1.5 km, or fly at a minimum altitude of 1,000 m if avoidance is not possible Create flight plans to avoid areas used by flocks of coastal migrating waterfowl by a lateral distance of at least 3 km, or fly at a minimum altitude of 1,000 m if avoidance is not possible Avoid excessive hovering or circling over areas of high bird concentrations Inform pilots of these mitigations and areas of high bird concentrations

Species	Potential Impacts	Mitigations
Atlantic Walrus Bowhead Whale Killer Whale Narwhal Ringed Seal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitivity to disturbance from aircraft or equipment operating near shore 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid flying or landing aircraft near the shoreline if marine mammals are present in the area Employ a zero-tolerance policy for feeding or harassing wildlife Report all whale sightings immediately to Takuvunga@gov.nu.ca

5.0 Monitoring and Mitigation Procedures

Bronzite commits to respecting local wildlife and taking required measures to mitigate against negative impacts to wildlife and wildlife habitat. This section addresses Bronzite's approach to several aspects of the operation, including the main camp, waste and fuel management, and internal and external reporting.

5.1 Camp Setup

Prior to any ground disturbances such as the camp, fuel caches, or aircraft landing areas, the site supervisor or designate will survey the areas and ensure it is suitable for disturbance. Bronzite will avoid setting up camp or working in areas where active wildlife or important wildlife habitat are present.

Bronzite will employ a full-time wildlife monitor to support the safety of site personnel and help mitigate against interaction or harm to wildlife. All signs of wildlife, wildlife dens, or nests will be properly reported, recorded in the Wildlife Log, and discussed at daily meetings with all employees and contractors.

5.2 Aircraft

The presence of aircraft can be stressful for animals, particularly during sensitive periods of the years such as calving and rutting. Bronzite will work with fixed-wing and helicopter pilots to follow best practices for minimizing disturbance to local wildlife such as caribou, muskox, and polar bears.

As per the *North Baffin Land Use Plan*, over-flight altitudes of at least 300 m above ground level (AGL) will be maintained when caribou are present to help reduce stress on the animals. When safe to do so, helicopters and fixed wing aircraft will avoid landing in areas where wildlife are present.

5.3 Waste and Fuel Management

Bronzite will adhere to the Waste Management Plan the Spill Contingency Plan to ensure that animal attractants such as food and waste hydrocarbons are managed properly at the Somerset Trough Project.

Domestic waste will be stored in designated waste bins inside camp infrastructure and incinerated daily to eliminate wildlife attractants. Hazardous waste and waste hydrocarbons will be sorted and placed in sealed metal drums to prevent wildlife access. Fuel will be stored in secondary containment and fuel containers will be inspected daily to check for damage or leaks.

Pollution incidents such as spills can present a threat to wildlife and migratory birds. As per the Spill Contingency Plan and Bronzite's Emergency Response Plan, all spills will be cleaned up immediately and contaminated snow/ice and soil will be placed in separate sealed drums and backhauled off site for disposal. If spill sites must be left unattended and there is free product on the tundra, Bronzite will take measures to prevent wildlife and bird interaction with the spill, such as covering the spilled product with a tarp or erecting a bear fence around the site. All wildlife

interactions or sightings around the spill site will be recorded and reported as detailed in Section 5.5 of this Plan.

5.4 Site Inspections

Designated employees will conduct daily inspections to ensure the site is free of wildlife and wildlife attractants. Site inspections will help ensure personnel are adhering to the Waste Management Plan and Spill Contingency Plan for the Project. Site inspections will also scan for possible wildlife access to site infrastructure, and for any signs of wildlife entering the site (prints, diggings, tracks, etc.). Findings of the site inspections will be reported to the site supervisor and necessary corrective actions will be completed in a timely manner.

5.5 Reporting

In the event of a wildlife sighting, wildlife incident (equipment or human interactions, mortalities, etc.), or a bear sighting/incident, personnel will follow the steps in Table 3 below.

Table 1. Reporting Procedures and Contacts

Step	Procedure
1	Report the wildlife sighting/incident to the site supervisor
2	RECORDKEEPING Sighting only: Fill out the Wildlife Observation Log (Appendix A) Incident: Fill out the Wildlife Log and proceed to Step 3 Keep copies of all records for discussion with regulators and Indigenous partners
3	REPORTING Report all wildlife incidents to: Local Conservation Officers Resolute: (867) 252-3879 Taloyoak: (867) 561-6231 Local Hunters and Trappers Organizations Resolute: (867) 252-3170 Taloyoak: (867) 561-5066 If it becomes necessary to euthanize an animal due to suspected rabies or aggressive behavior, approval to proceed should be sought from the local Conservation Officer. For foxes, avoid head shots and direct contact with the carcass unless instructed otherwise by the Conservation Officer. Migratory birds: Report mortalities or incidents of disturbance to individuals or nests to:

	Environment and Climate Change Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service (cwsnorth-scfnd@ec.gc.ca) Whales: Report all whale sightings (with photos if possible) to Takuvunga@gov.nu.ca
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5.6 Roles and Responsibilities

Bronzite Senior Management - Responsible for ensuring that the site supervisor is aware of wildlife species present in the area, as well as appropriate mitigations to minimize impact to wildlife and wildlife habitat. The Senior Management team will ensure that management plans are properly implemented and that the site supervisor is familiar with the conditions of site authorizations such as the land use permit.

Site Supervisor – Responsible for ensuring employees and contractors on site are aware of wildlife and wildlife habitat protection measures and appropriate procedures for wildlife encounters. The site supervisor is responsible for implementing management plans such as the Waste Management Plan to minimize wildlife interaction with the Project. Should a wildlife sighting or incident occur, they will ensure proper documentation and that the appropriate authorities are notified in a timely manner.

Staff and Contractors – All personnel working on site must be familiar with the Wildlife Management Plan and understand how to respond to a wildlife sighting and/or incident. Staff and contractors must adhere to the Waste Management Plan and Spill Contingency Plan to help minimize wildlife attractants and environmental risks created by the Project.

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