

TSX-V: NWST | OTCQX: NWCCF

NorthWestcopper

2022 ESG REPORT

About this report

Unless otherwise noted, all data contained in this report cover the period of January 1 to December 31, 2022.

For the 2022 ESG reporting period, Vesta Filipchuk, Vice President of Sustainability and Tyler Caswell, Vice President of Exploration, were responsible for the implementation and reporting of the Environmental, Social, and Governance strategy, programs, and performance. This responsibility was delegated and overseen by NorthWest Copper's Board of Directors and CEO.

This is the second ESG report for NorthWest Copper Corp. In this report, we are aligning with the following ESG standards:

- ▶ **CDP** - Carbon Disclosure Project
- ▶ **GRI** - Global Reporting Initiative Comprehensive
- ▶ **GRI** - Mining and Metals Supplement
- ▶ **ICMM** - The International Council on Mining and Metals
- ▶ **ONYEN** - Institutional and Investor Questions
- ▶ **SASB** - Sustainability Accounting Standards Board
- ▶ **UGC** - UN Global Compact

For the purpose of this report, NorthWest Copper is disclosing ESG information related to the following active projects:

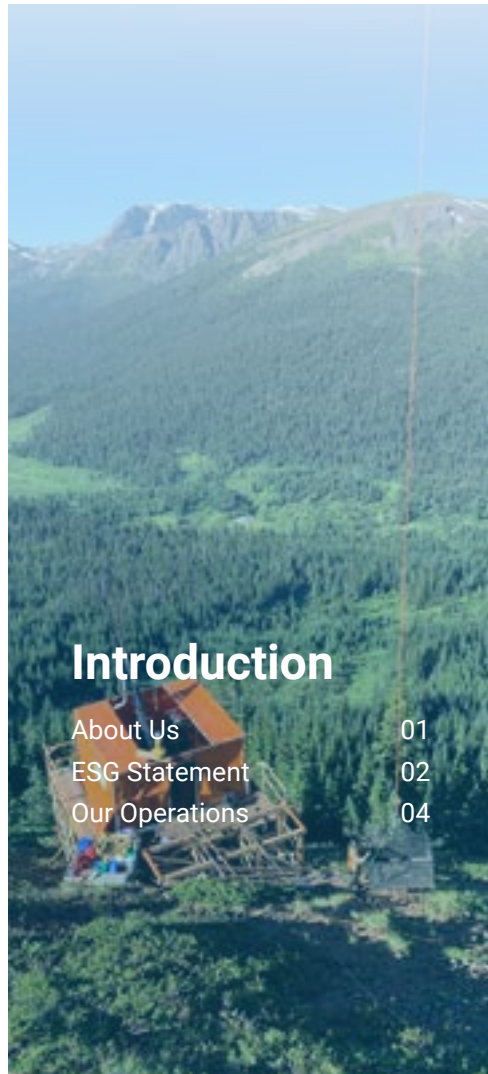
- ▶ **Kwanika-Stardust**
- ▶ **Lorraine**
- ▶ **East-Niv**
- ▶ **Arjay**

This report does not cover projects where no exploration work was conducted in 2022, including Croy Bloom, Tchentlo, Milligan West, and UDS.

For any inquiries or comments regarding the information disclosed in this report, please send an email to info@northwestcopper.ca

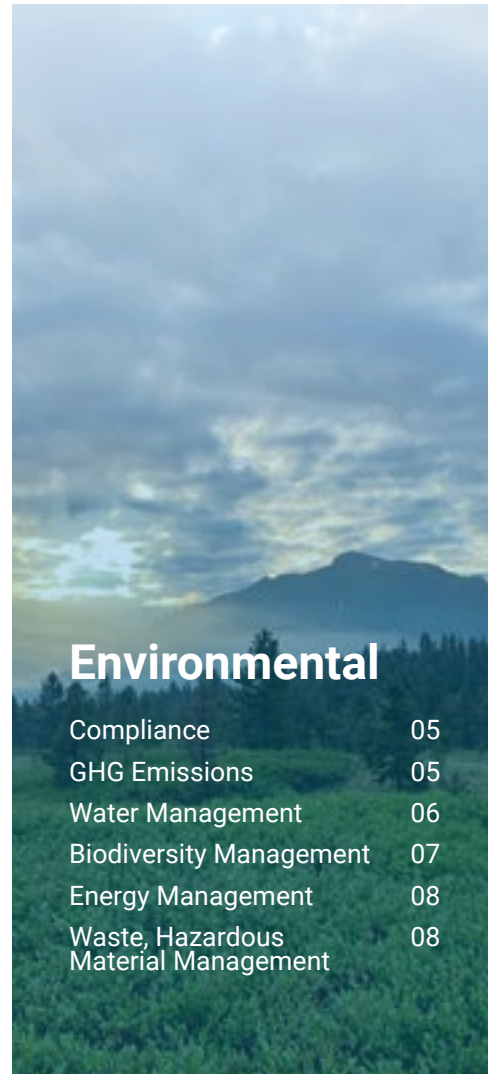


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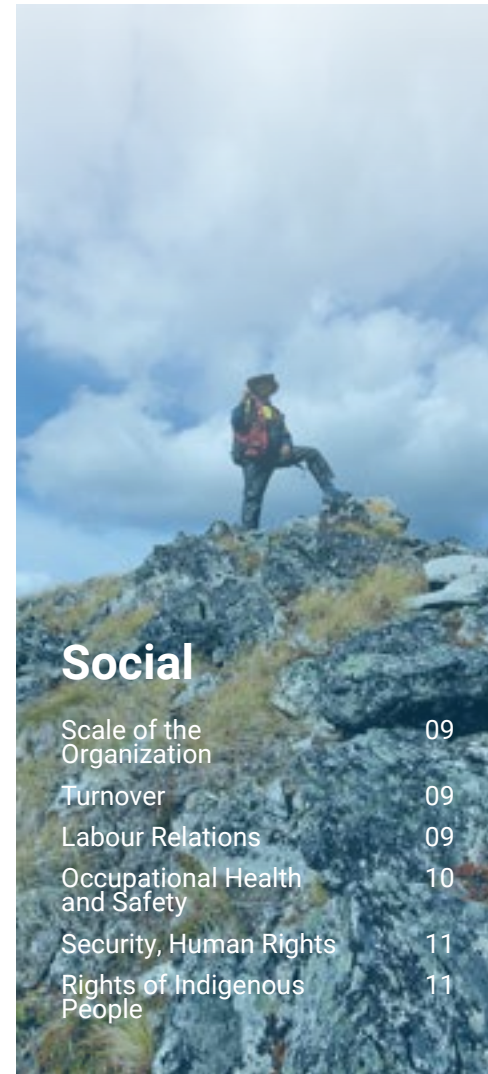
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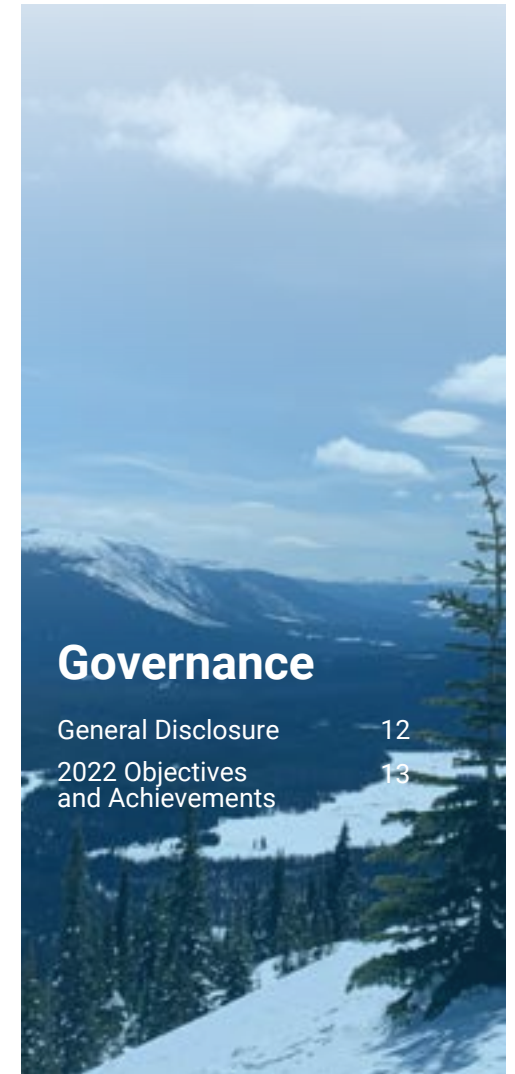
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About us

NorthWest Copper is a leading copper-gold deposit exploration Company with projects located in north-central British Columbia, Canada.

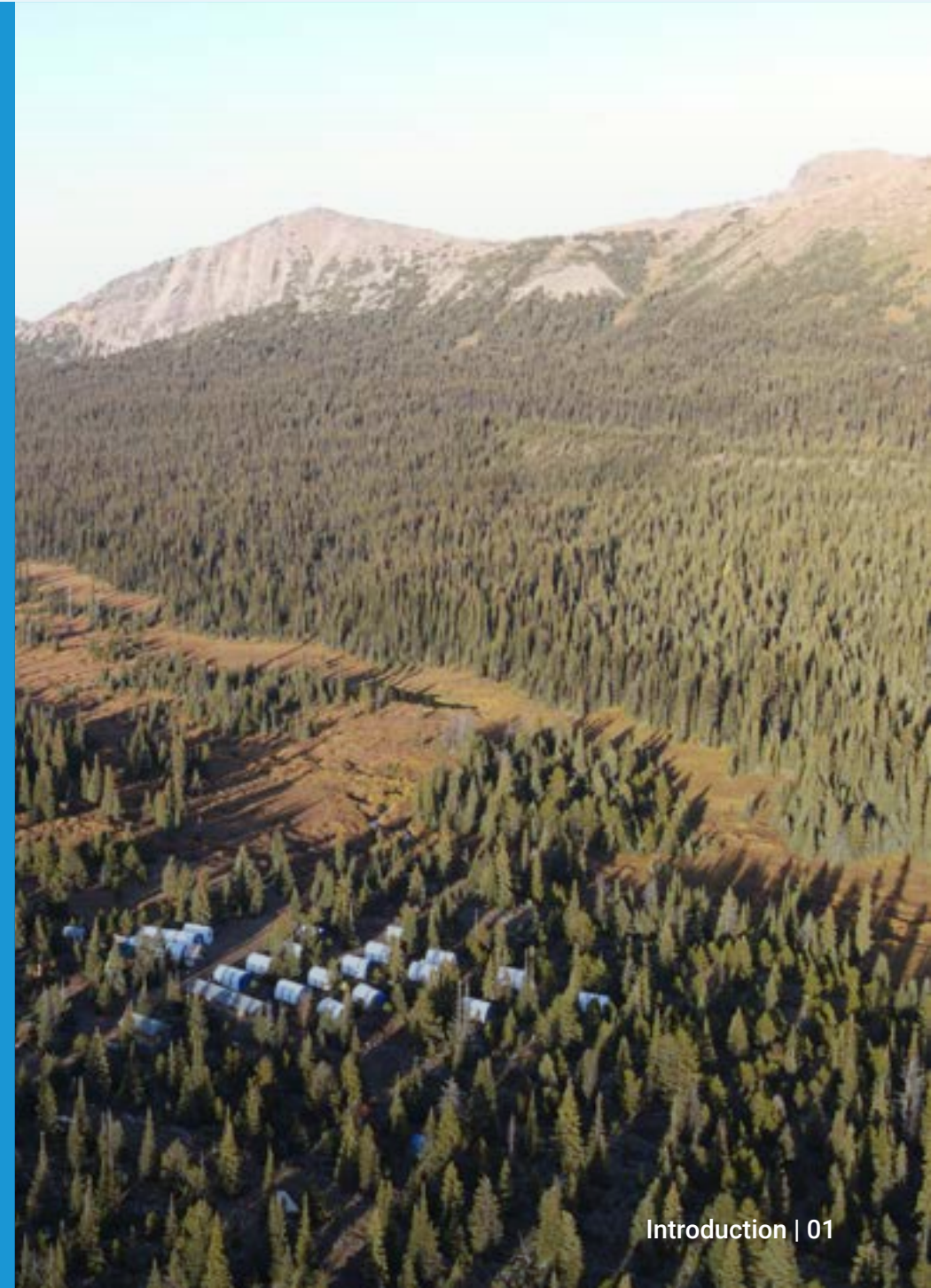
The Company was formed in March 2021 with the merger of two companies, SunMetals and Serengeti Resources. Since its formation, NorthWest Copper has been advancing its ESG commitments with the goal of becoming a partner of choice for responsible mineral exploration and development.

Central to this goal is building strong and respectful working relationships with Indigenous Peoples whose lands host the mineral potential needed to meet the demands for critical minerals.

Our projects include the high-grade Kwanika-Stardust project, which underwent a Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) in 2022; the advanced Lorraine project, which received a 5-year Multi-Year Area Based Permit in 2022 to allow for further resource definition; and

the newly discovered copper-gold porphyry located at East Niv where a drill program was conducted in 2022.

With a diverse and prospective portfolio in a tier-one jurisdiction, NorthWest Copper is well-positioned to participate in strengthening the global copper supply and building local economies while respecting the environment and traditional land use.



ESG Statement



When NorthWest Copper was formed in 2021, we focused on setting ourselves apart from other mineral explorers. We not only wanted to advance our understanding of the geology and resource potential to deliver value to our shareholders and local communities - but we also wanted to prioritize our working relationships with Indigenous Peoples to ensure our environmental practices met their stewardship standards and that the traditional use and cultural importance of the areas we explore are understood and respected by our management team and all employees. As noted in the United Nations Declaration on

the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and reinforced in the provincial Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, we believe the Indigenous Peoples where we explore should have the right to self-determination. We also believe local communities should benefit from the wealth generated from their lands and oversee the stewardship for future generations. Our foundational ESG report filed in 2021 marked a starting point for this journey.

During 2022, we focused on engagement and working collaboratively with Indigenous Peoples and their development corporations to implement existing and negotiate new exploration agreements, which enabled us to deliver exploration projects at East Niv and Arjay, Lorraine and Top Cat, and our flagship project Kwanika-Stardust.

We shared information early and engaged on a regular basis to ensure

the Indigenous communities and leadership were aware of our field activities as well as interactions with other Indigenous communities, governments, and other communities of interest. We updated our Wildlife Management and Mitigation Plans (WMMPs) for all our active projects in 2022. These were prepared by professional biologists working in partnership with Indigenous communities to reflect current regulatory policies and represent a broader spectrum of wildlife species of importance to support biodiversity and traditional use. In 2023, these WMMPs will be updated based on planned activities to ensure any sensitive wildlife species are monitored, and actions are taken to mitigate any potential impacts.

To further assess the cultural aspects of our projects, we conducted Archaeological Overview Assessments (AOAs) across our active mineral tenures. We sought input from the respective Indigenous communities within whose territories our exploration activities are being undertaken.



ESG Statement

Working with professional registered archaeologists recognized by the Indigenous communities, we also prepared Archaeological Chance Find Procedures to define the procedures to be conducted in the event of an artifact discovery. As work advances at each project, archaeological work will be increased in areas of cultural sensitivity and traditional use.

On the exploration front, we actively worked on four different mineral exploration projects, which include our flagship Kwanika-Stardust projects and the Lorraine, East Niv and Arjay projects. These programs

included diamond drilling, airborne magnetics surveys, geophysical induced polarization surveys, assay of drill core, and geological core scanning of historical and new core samples. At the Kwanika-Stardust project, we continued to build on past success by testing brownfields exploration targets and drilling to expand the current mineral resources. NorthWest Copper completed the first drilling program at Lorraine in 14 years, reinvigorating the project and setting the stage for a robust exploration program in 2023. We built on the 2021 discovery of the East-Niv copper-gold system,

defining a mineralized system of approximately 4 kilometres in length and is still open in multiple directions. Additionally, at East Niv, the exploration team identified another high-grade copper silver-trend that is approximately 13 kilometres long.

As we move into our third year as NorthWest Copper, we will continue to focus on continual improvement, working collaboratively to address the interests and goals of Indigenous Peoples, defining targets leading to discovery and adding value, and improving our policies and procedures to address our ESG

objectives and commitments. We are excited about what the future may hold for local communities, our shareholders, and society. We believe with the right relationships and commitments to the environment and Indigenous Peoples, that good discoveries can lead to promising projects when the time is right.



Our Operations

Our Growth Platform



NorthWest Copper has a strong foundation for growth and optionality, with grade as the common project denominator. We have multiple projects in our portfolio that can each drive value.

NorthWest Copper land position of >150,000 hectares is 100% owned by NorthWest Copper, East Niv, Arjay and Kwanika-Stardust have no royalties, and occupies highly prospective ground between the long-life Mt. Milligan Mine and the Kemess Project.



1,163
Total amount of gross global Scope 1 GHG emissions (tonne)

30% female
Employees per employee category (full-time/direct)

30
Freshwater withdrawn (thousands of cubic metres)

1,400
Total energy consumed, electricity and hydrocarbons (GJ) Including Fuel Types

0 Number of fatalities as a result of work-related injury

3
Lost Time Injuries Rate (LTIR):

0
Rate of high-consequence work-related injuries

2
Average hours of health, safety, and emergency response training



Environmental Performance

Compliance

FINES AND NON-MONETARY SANCTIONS FOR NON- COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND/OR REGULATIONS IN TERMS OF (GRI 307-1)

| | |
|---|---|
| Total monetary value of significant fines | 0 |
| Total number of non-monetary sanctions | 0 |
| Cases brought through dispute resolution mechanisms | 0 |

NorthWest Copper is in compliance with all federal and provincial environmental laws and/or regulations administered by the ministries of Environment, Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, and Forest Lands and Natural Resources.



GHG Emissions

Gross global Scope 1 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to the atmosphere of the seven GHGs covered under the Kyoto Protocol (tonne CO₂-e) (SASB EM-MM-110a.1.1)

1,162.746

Carbon dioxide (CO₂)
(tonne CO₂-e)

The 2022 season was the second that GHG emissions were tracked. We will continue to document and track GHG emissions and establish a baseline relating to the activity level for a given year.

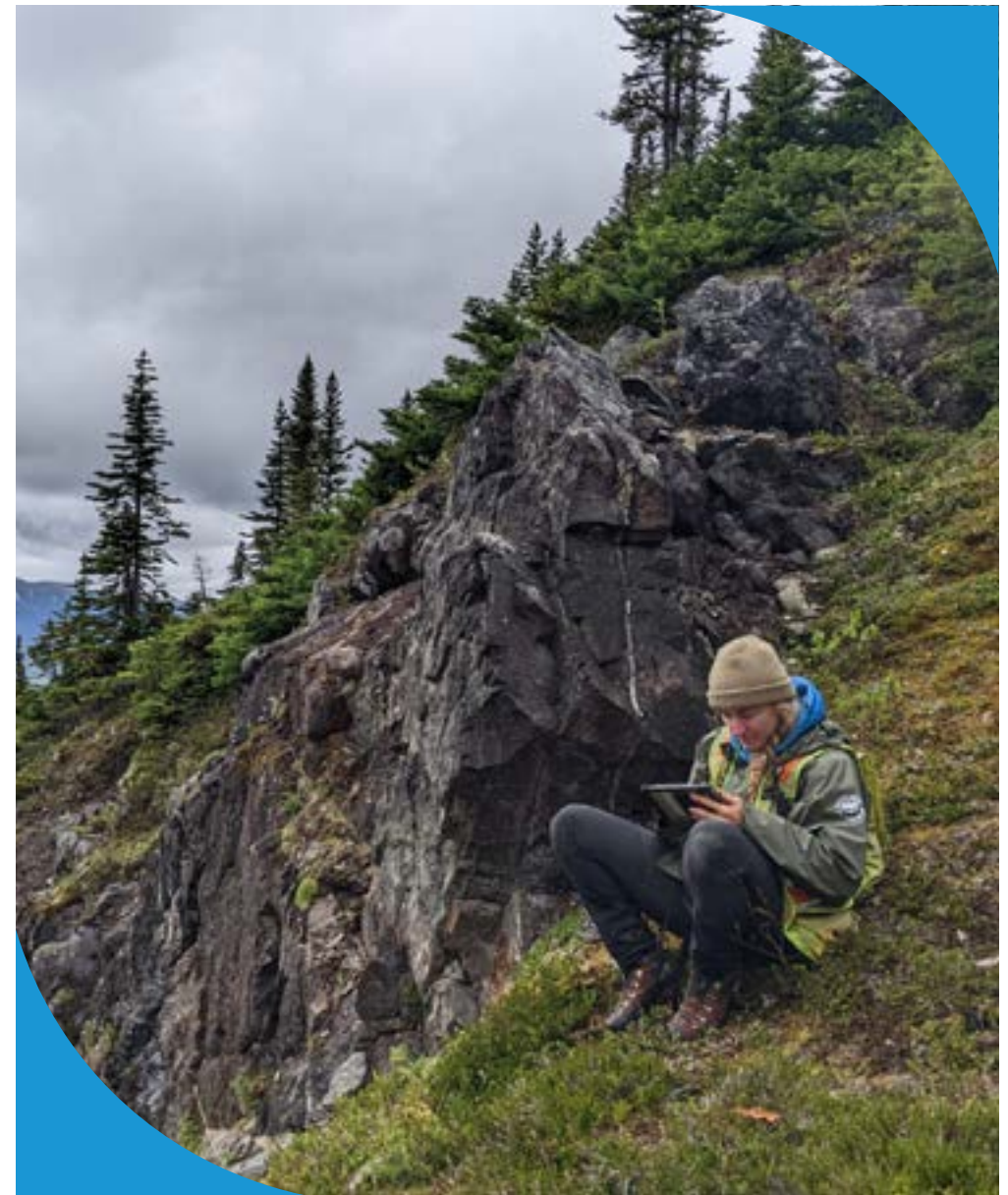
Water Management

| | |
|---|-------|
| AMOUNT OF WATER THAT WAS WITHDRAWN FROM FRESHWATER SOURCES (IN THOUSANDS OF CUBIC METERS) (SASB EM-MM-140A.1.1) | 29.98 |
|---|-------|

| | |
|--|-------|
| AMOUNT OF WATER THAT WAS CONSUMED IN ITS OPERATIONS (IN THOUSANDS OF CUBIC METERS) | 29.98 |
|--|-------|

This measurement includes all water withdrawn from freshwater sources.

The majority of this water is used in exploration drilling. Water from drilling is filtered to eliminate any fine materials and then returned to the watershed. Camp operations use the remainder of the water, and it is also collected in greywater sumps, where it is filtered and returned to the watershed. Water quality samples are taken before the seasonal program and after the seasonal program to ensure water quality is maintained and no contaminants are introduced to the environment. The majority of withdrawn water is returned to the watershed, and only a small proportion is lost through evaporation and other processes.



Biodiversity Management

NorthWest Copper uses industry best practices to minimize the impact on water quality and biodiversity.

The Company utilizes programs such as pre- and post-drilling water quality sampling for all drainages potentially affected by exploration activities. We apply best practices for drill site preparation prior to drilling and rehabilitation after drilling is completed to minimize environmental impact and restore vegetation.

NorthWest Copper prepares Wildlife Management and Mitigation Plans for each of its operational projects. The Company also prepares Emergency Management Plans that describe the management of any emergency or environmental incident associated with the operation of our exploration projects.

NorthWest Copper collects surface water flow data in parallel with water quality analyses. These programs are created with the consultation of professional industry experts.

DOES ACCESS TO THE SITE INVOLVE TRAVERSING A PROTECTED AREA (ONYEN)

NO

NORTHWEST COPPER PROJECTS ARE PRIMARILY ACCESSED VIA INDUSTRIAL LOGGING ROADS. NO PROTECTED AREAS ARE TRAVERSED TO ACCESS ANY OF THE PROPERTIES.

DO ANY OF THE ENTITIES CONCESSIONS SHARE A WATERSHED WITH A PROTECTED AREA (ONYEN)

YES

NORTHWEST COPPER USES INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES TO ENSURE THAT IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER A WATERSHED IS SHARED WITH A PROTECTED AREA OR NOT, THERE IS MINIMAL IMPACT ON WATER QUALITY OR BIODIVERSITY. THE COMPANY UTILIZES PROGRAMS SUCH AS PRE- AND POST-DRILLING WATER QUALITY SAMPLING FOR ALL DRAINAGES AFFECTED ALONG WITH WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLANS, AND BEST PRACTICES FOR DRILL SITE REHABILITATION POST-DRILLING TO MINIMIZE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ([CDP W8](#) | [SASB EM-MM-160A.3](#)).



Energy management

Total energy consumed in aggregate, in gigajoules (GJ) (hydrocarbons and electricity) including fuel types (e.g., biomass, hydroelectric or bioenergy) **(SASB EM-MM-130a.1.1)** **1,400**



Waste and Hazardous Materials Management

Total amount of tailings produced (tonne) **(SASB EM-MM-150a.5.1)** **0**

Spending on Research, Development, and Technologies for waste management compliances and improvement **(ONYEN)** **0**

NorthWest Copper did not produce tailings waste as the Company is not currently producing ore or managing any tailings facilities.



Social Performance

Scale of the Organization


| | |
|---|----|
| Report the total number of operations (GRI-2-6-B-1) | 4 |
| Report the total number of direct employees worldwide (exclude contractors) (GRI 2-7-a) | 15 |
| Report the total number of contract employees worldwide (GRI 2-7-b-ii) | 47 |
| Total number of employees worldwide (include contractors) (GRI 2-7-a) | 62 |
| Total number of direct female employees worldwide (exclude contractor) (GRI 2-7-a) | 5 |
| Total number of male direct employees worldwide (exclude contractors) (GRI 2-7-a) | 10 |



Labour Relations

0%

Percentage of total direct employees covered by collective bargaining agreements (GRI 102-41-a)



Each employee has a contractually specified notice period, which will depend on the role and seniority of the employee. This aligns with British Columbia's employment and labour laws.

Turnover

Total number of turnover (the number that left during the period) (GRI 401-1-b) 0

As an exploration Company, NorthWest Copper hires contractors on a seasonal and project basis. The Company's turnover rate is not indicative of the Company's workforce and, therefore, is not included in this disclosure.



Occupational Health and Safety

INJURIES - FOR ALL EMPLOYEES, CALCULATING PER 200,000 HOURS (GRI-403-9-A)

| | |
|---|---|
| Rate of fatalities resulting from work-related injuries | 0 |
| Rate of high-consequence work-related injuries (excluding fatalities) | 0 |
| Rate of recordable work-related injuries | 0 |
| Lost Time Injuries Rate (LTIR) | 0 |

INJURIES - WORKERS WHO ARE NOT EMPLOYEES BUT WORK AND/OR WHOSE WORKPLACE IS CONTROLLED BY THE ORGANIZATION (GRI-403-9-B)

| | |
|---|-------|
| Rate of fatalities resulting from work-related injuries | 0 |
| Rate of high-consequence work-related injuries (excluding fatalities) | 0 |
| Rate of recordable work-related injuries | 0 |
| Lost Time Injuries Rate (LTIR) | 3.058 |

NorthWest Copper identified operational risks ahead of the field season. When the season begins, all employees and contractors are required to take a site induction that includes a review of all potential risks. Site managers are required to identify these potential hazards and mitigate them before operation activities begin at each site.

In addition, exploration teams conduct daily safety meetings where any other previously unidentified hazards can be discussed and actions towards eliminating or minimizing these hazards are implemented.

In this reporting period, there were no high-consequence injuries at any of the active exploration sites managed by NorthWest Copper.

AVERAGE HOURS OF HEALTH, SAFETY, AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING FOR:

| | |
|---|------|
| Full-time direct employees (SASB EM-MM-000.B EM-MM-320a.1.3) | 2 |
| Contract Employees (SASB EM-MM-000.B EM-MM-320a.1.3) | 1.23 |

In this reporting period, the primary injury type were falls caused by working in rugged, uneven terrain.

Security, Human Rights, and Rights of Indigenous People

In 2022, NorthWest Copper engaged early with Indigenous communities and representatives to provide time and opportunities to discuss exploration activities and ways to minimize and manage potential impacts to the environment, cultural practices and traditional use, and archaeological artifacts.

NorthWest Copper's projects are located in the province of British Columbia, Canada, where Human Rights and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples are protected by federal and provincial laws that align with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (**UNDRIP**). The latter recognizes that Indigenous Peoples have the right to Free Prior and Informed Consent (**FPIC**). In 2019, the province of British Columbia enacted the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (**DRIPA**) as a provincial legal framework to establish a path for reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, also commonly referred to as First Nations.

NorthWest Copper is committed to working with Indigenous Peoples and to seeking their Free, Prior and Informed Consent when undertaking mineral exploration activities in their territories.

As a standard practice, NorthWest Copper reaches out early in the year to begin its engagement regarding proposed exploration activities. When seeking authorization to conduct exploration work, NorthWest Copper shares permit applications with Indigenous leadership and their lands and stewardship teams prior to sending applications to the Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation (**EMLI**). This provides an opportunity for Indigenous communities to consider the proposed activities and the potential impacts on ecological and cultural values and traditional use. NorthWest Copper encourages Indigenous communities to provide input and feedback on how the activities could be tailored to minimize the potential for impacts and implement sound stewardship practices. By taking this approach, NorthWest Copper can identify management plan

requirements, share employment opportunities, discuss contracting with Indigenous businesses and partnerships, and ensure field activities meet stewardship expectations and practices.

For each of our project sites, NorthWest Copper works with Indigenous leadership to establish exploration agreements that define the communities' expectations with respect to environmental management, cultural protection, employment, contracting and engagement.

To elevate the importance of our relationships with Indigenous communities, NorthWest Copper had 98% of its field and management team undertake cultural awareness training in 2022.

This helped to build a broader understanding and respect for the history of Indigenous Peoples in Canada, and we believe it will serve as a foundation to develop an Indigenous Peoples Policy and Reconciliation Plan in the future.



Governance

General Disclosure

In 2022, the Company's Board of Directors was comprised of seven members and the following four standing committees:

- ▶ Audit Committee;
- ▶ Compensation Committee;
- ▶ Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee; and the
- ▶ Health, Safety, and Sustainability Committee.

The Company had four Executives: the President and CEO, the Chief Financial Officer, the Vice President of Exploration, and the Vice President of Sustainability. The President and CEO reported directly to the Board; the remaining three Executives reported to the President and CEO.

The Health, Safety and Sustainability Committee was principally responsible for providing oversight with respect to:

- ▶ The protection of the health and safety of the Company's employees and contractors at its project sites; and,
- ▶ The conduct of operations in an environmentally and socially responsible manner through the application of prudent and sustainable design and operating practices and the education and training of employees and contractors who work for the Company.

1

Number of executive members

6

Number of non-executive members

The Board was composed of 6 males and 1 female



2022 Objectives and Achievements

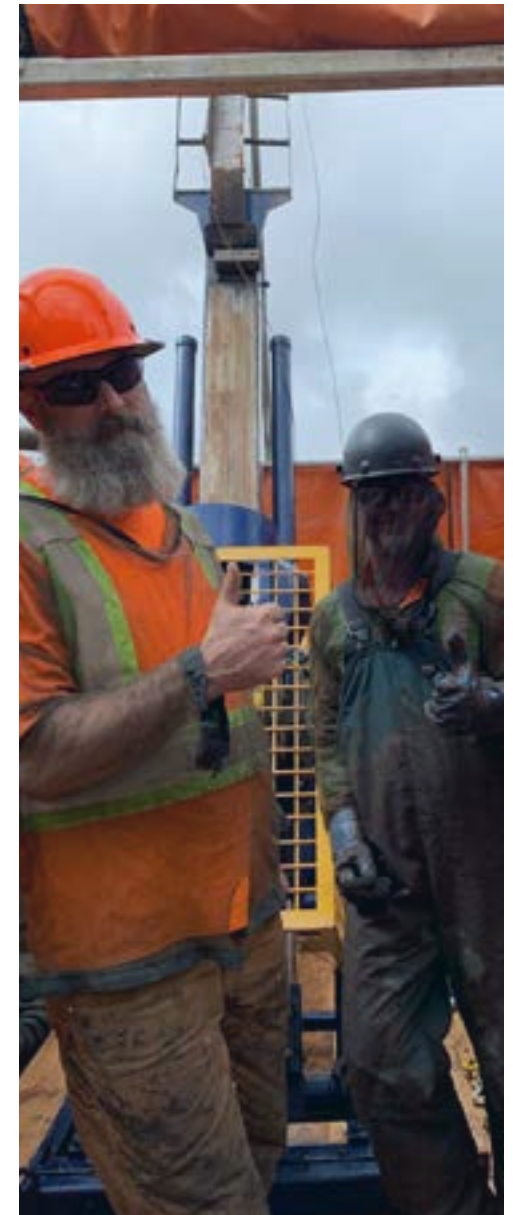
The NorthWest Copper team focused on working to improve its relationships with communities of interest by increasing the frequency of information sharing, working collaboratively with Indigenous communities to understand and incorporate values and interests into our project planning, and establishing different approaches to keeping communities up to date on our activities.

Throughout 2022, NorthWest Copper engaged and worked closely with five Indigenous communities and leadership:

- Takla First Nation
- Tsay Keh Dene Nation
- Nii Gyap Hereditary Chiefs - Gitxsan Nation
- Nak'azdli Whut'en Nation
- McLeod Lake Indian Band

This included implementing existing exploration agreements, negotiating new agreements, in-person and virtual meetings, ongoing communications, sharing and reviewing key project documents, leader-to-leader meetings, and site visits.

- ▶ At the beginning of the year, we reached out to provide an overview of our proposed exploration activities planned at our East Niv, Arjay, Lorraine and Kwanika-Stardust projects. For the Arjay and Lorraine multi-year area-based permits, we engaged early with three Indigenous communities to address concerns and interests prior to submitting the permits to the government. Once permits were submitted for regulatory approval, NorthWest Copper received letters of support from Tsay Keh Dene and Nii Gyap Hereditary Chiefs. Approval of these permits enabled NorthWest Copper to conduct a successful drill program at the Lorraine project in the summer of 2022.
- ▶ NorthWest Copper introduced the monthly activities update in the spring of 2022 to keep Indigenous stewardship teams and leadership informed of the Company's fieldwork, studies, and engagement with government and other Indigenous communities. The monthly update was well received, and NorthWest Copper had positive feedback for its efforts to keep communities and leadership informed. NorthWest Copper also had two articles featured in the Tsay Keh Dene Tracker, a quarterly community newsletter for Tsay Keh Dene Band members.
- ▶ In 2022, NorthWest Copper conducted Archaeological Overview Assessments (AOA), for each of the operational projects, as well as sought Indigenous input on Archaeological Chance Find Procedures for our exploration sites.
- ▶ Wildlife Management and Mitigation Plans were prepared and updated for each of NorthWest Copper's operational projects in 2022. These WMMPs were prepared by professional biologists and reviewed by the Indigenous stewardship teams and their advisors



2022 Objectives and Achievements

Many of NorthWest Coppers projects hold existing agreements with Indigenous leadership and communities.

Over the next few years, the Company will continue to implement these agreements, look to renew and update them, as well as negotiate new agreements where Exploration Agreements are not currently in place.

While the predecessor companies had good working relationships with Indigenous communities and employed many community members, NorthWest Copper is entering into more substantive dialogue with Indigenous leaders and representatives to discuss ways to improve collaboration, engage with communities, build and support ecological and cultural knowledge of the project areas, and assist Indigenous communities in stewardship planning and management through data collection when in the field.

We successfully hosted three site visits at our East Niv project in August for representatives of the Nii Gyap Hereditary Chiefs, the Tsay Keh Dene Chief and Council, and the Takla Chief and Councillor responsible for Lands and Stewardship. These site visits provided an opportunity to show Indigenous leadership the remote camp and demonstrate the Company's safety culture, environmental management, remediation and reclamation practices, and approach to geological research. NorthWest Copper also engaged with local guide outfitters, trapline holders, traditional land users, and government representatives responsible for permitting mineral exploration and environmental protection.

NorthWest Copper is also looking to improve its social management system by creating a better system to communicate with our communities of interest and the Company's shareholders. Included in this will be updating the Company's grievance mechanism and improving the management of its records of engagement.



NorthWestcopper

NorthWest Copper Corp. Contact Information

Peter Lekich

Director, Investor Relations

Tel: +1 604 683 7790

Email: plekich@northwestcopper.ca

Vesta Filipchuk MA, BSc., ESc.

Vice President Sustainability

Tel: +1 604 992 3663

Email: vfilipchuk@northwestcopper.ca

[*Visit our ESG Scorecard*](#)

[*Review our Disclaimer*](#)

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