

WEBEQUIE SUPPLY ROAD (WSR) PROJECT

Wildlife Habitat Study Plan - Fact Sheet

What is the primary purpose of this assessment?

- Assesses the potential effects of the WSR on specifically terrestrial (non-avian) wildlife species and their habitat;
- Identify terrestrial wildlife species of ecological, economic, social, or cultural importance (particularly to Indigenous peoples);
- Describe the biodiversity, abundance, life cycle, seasonal ranges, migration patterns, and sensitive periods of these species;
- Gather data on the Gray Wolf and Black Bear in particular because of the predation pressures they have over species at risk;
- Describe the historical and current use of wildlife as a source of food and cultural importance; and
- Describe any current disturbances on wildlife such as habitat fragmentation.



What is the study area for the potential effects on wildlife and wildlife habitat?

Study areas are used to define the geographic boundaries in which the Project may have environmental effects. At this stage, there are three general study areas:

- **Project Footprint (PF):** The area of direct disturbance (i.e., the physical area required for Project construction and operation);
- **Local Study Area (LSA):** The area where largely direct, and indirect effects of the Project are likely to be measurable; and
- **Regional Study Area (RSA):** The area where potential, largely indirect and cumulative effects of the Project in the broader, regional context may occur.

What is the timeline for potential effects on wildlife and wildlife habitat?

The Assessment process will consider both the short and long-term effects of the Project on wildlife and wildlife habitat. The Project will occur in two phases:



- Construction phase; and
- Operations phase.

WHERE WILL THE INFORMATION BE GATHERED FROM?

Secondary sources:

- o Indigenous Knowledge information obtained through consultation with Indigenous communities;
 - o Regulatory databases;
 - o Provincial Park Management Plans and Life Science Reports;
 - o Far North Biodiversity Project;
 - o Aerial photography; and
- + other previously conducted environmental assessments and studies



The Project Team will also conduct various field surveys including:

- o Winter Aerial Surveys on Moose, Gray Wolf, Canada Lynx, Beaver, etc;
- o Bat Acoustic Surveys; and
- o Acoustic Surveys on reptiles and amphibians.



What are some of the species being assessed?

Moose, American Marten, Otter, Beaver, Bats, Wolf, Frogs, Black Bear

What are some ways the WSR might affect wildlife?

The WSR may change habitat availability, quantity, and quality, may affect the survival and reproduction of certain species along with abundance and distribution. It may cause changes to species that are of cultural significance and importance.