



WEBEQUIE SUPPLY ROAD PROJECT

Community Newsletter
Issue 15 – October 2022



Greetings!

The Webequie Supply Road (WSR) Project Team wish to provide an update on the WSR project, focusing on the Environmental Effects Assessment, Baseline Studies, and the Radio Show and Livestream Schedule for October.

Since the Terms of Reference (ToR) was approved on October 8, 2021, the Project has entered the Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment phase, which will result in a single report addressing the requirements of both the federal IA and provincial EA.

Throughout the EA / IA phase, the Project Team conducts studies to gather information on a wide range of topics and consults with Indigenous communities, members of the public, and other stakeholders, to evaluate the Project and its potential effects. We have concluded our first round of consultation and will be moving into the second round.

Environmental Effects Assessment

What is the environmental effects assessment?

The *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act* requires an assessment of the potential environmental effects, evaluation of alternatives, description of potential impacts, identification of mitigation measures and description of the net effects of the Project on the environment.

The assessment approach for the Project is guided by the Webequie First Nation Three-Tier approach to consultation which focuses on respectful engagement with neighbouring First Nations to acknowledge and reflect the culture, traditions and beliefs of their people and ancestors.



Baseline Studies

What is a baseline study?

A baseline study is a collection of data about potential project areas before the project begins. It provides a detailed description of the current state of the Natural, Socio-Economic, and Cultural environments in a potential project area through several data collection methods.

How will baseline data be collected?

Baseline data will be gathered from:

- Government agencies and other stakeholders.
- Published and unpublished data sources.
- Indigenous Knowledge from WFN and other Indigenous communities that will be incorporated into aspects of the EA, subject to consultation with and willingness of traditional knowledge holders and communities.

For existing *environmental* conditions, the Project will use sources such as:

- Previously conducted environmental studies, including Indigenous Knowledge obtained through consultation with Indigenous communities.
- Regulatory Databases.
- Aerial Photography.
- Geographic Information System (GIS) databases.
- Academic literature.
- Information obtained from regulatory agencies and other stakeholders.
- Field investigations.
- First-hand Consultation with Indigenous communities.

Baseline Study Environments

Natural Biophysical Environment

- Terrestrial Environment (Vegetation, Wildlife, Wildlife Habitat)
- Aquatic Environment
- Species at Risk
- Air Quality
- Climate Change
- Acoustic Environment (Noise and Vibration)
- Surface Water, including Hydrology and Water Quality
- Groundwater
- Geology, Terrain, and Soils, including Geochemistry

Socio-Economic Environment

- Profiles of Indigenous Communities - Population, Demographics, Education, Household Composition and Infrastructure, Social Services
- Traditional Land and Resource Uses
- Regional and Local Economies

Cultural Environment

- Archaeological Resources
- Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage Landscapes

Radio Show and Livestream Schedule

The WSR radio show and livestreaming event has resumed on October 11, 2022. See more information below about our upcoming livestream topics this month.

Date	Topic
October 11, 2022	Baseline Field Studies – Preliminary Observations: Caribou
October 25, 2022	Baseline Field Studies – Preliminary Observations: Wolverine



We continue to offer opportunities to comment and give input through email, comment box on the website, Wawatay radio call-in shows, and during our live streaming events.

Stay Tuned!

For additional information on the project, please visit our project website at: www.supplyroad.ca or by contacting:

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