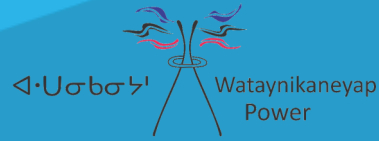


Wataynikaneyap Power Endangered Species Act (ESA) Permit



The Endangered Species Act allows Wataynikaneyap to carry out project activities which may affect these at-risk species, and which would otherwise not be allowed. This permit includes a number of conditions that Wataynikaneyap must meet, including to:

- Apply **mitigation measures** to protect at-risk species and monitor their effectiveness
- Implement “**beneficial actions**” to protect at-risk species and monitor their effectiveness

Indigenous Commitments

Several of the ESA permit conditions require Wataynikaneyap to include Indigenous communities and their input. These conditions include the following commitments:

- Retain and involve Indigenous Knowledge Holders in permit activities including: monitoring activities, training, and public education/outreach
- Make efforts to include Indigenous partnerships in caribou research projects
- Engage with Indigenous communities in the development & implementation of Monitoring Programs and Plans

Future/ongoing Opportunities for Indigenous Participation

- Help identify caribou ranges for range-level monitoring
- Identify presence of bat hibernacula and wolverine dens
- Provide feedback on how communities see monitoring happening from their perspectives
- Help conduct species monitoring surveys and prepare reports
- Identify local disturbed areas for restoration (tree-planting)
- Provide education and training from an Indigenous perspective

The permit applies to the following species:



Woodland Caribou (Threatened)



Wolverine (Threatened)



Northern Myotis/Bats (Endangered)



Little Brown Myotis/Bats (Endangered)

What we want to know:

Do you have any questions or concerns about the proposed field studies?

How do you think your communities can best participate in the programs/studies?

What types of information would you like shared with your community as studies progress and how would you like it shared?

Topic	When Input is Required
Effectiveness Monitoring programs/studies including how communities would like to participate.	<u>NOW</u> and right before each program.
Beneficial Action Monitoring programs/studies	<u>NOW</u> and right before each program.
Identification of metrics for reporting on monitoring	Prior to the start of each program/study.
Restoration Plan	After construction is complete.
Identification of caribou ranges for range-level surveys	After construction is complete.
Wolverine Den Site Management Plan	Only if a wolverine den is discovered.

Survey*	Frequency	Timing
Mitigation Effectiveness Monitoring		
Caribou Winter Habitat Aerial Surveys	1-, 2-, 5-, 10-, and 15 years post construction (2025–2039).	Feb 1–Mar 15.
Caribou Summer Nursery Area Ground Surveys	Eight times a year for the duration of the Project, up to 10-years post-construction (2020-2034).	Jun 15–Aug/Sep.
Permanent Survey Plots		Once per month between Dec 1 to Mar 31 and between Jun 16 and Sep 15.
Wolverine Den Surveys	TBD if wolverine dens are discovered.	
Habitat Restoration Monitoring	1-, 2-, 5-, and 10- years post-restoration (TBD).	TBD.
Bat Hibernaculum Monitoring	Twice per year 1-, 2-, 5-, and 10-years post-construction (2025-2034).	Fall (Aug 15-Oct 31) & Spring (Apr 15–May 15).
Beneficial Actions Monitoring		
Linear Feature Restoration Areas	Eight times per year starting a minimum of one year prior to restoration and 1, 2, 5 and 10 years post-restoration (TBD).	Once per month between Dec 1 to Mar 31 and Jun 16 and Sep 15.
Bat Gates	One year prior to gate installation and one year after gate installation.	Aug 15–Oct 31.
Range Level Monitoring		
Two Ranges to be Surveyed	Three surveys per range within six years post-construction (2025-2030).	Feb 1–Mar 15.

*More specific details on each survey are available for those who are interested.

Common Elements of all Surveys

- Notifications will be sent to nearby or impacted communities in advance of field work – including who, what, where, why, when and how.
- Field programs may include a combination of aerial surveys (helicopter and airplane) and ground surveys.
- Surveys are designed to meet technical requirements of the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks’ Species at Risk Branch.
- **Indigenous Knowledge holders will accompany licensed biologists in the field.**

Research Projects

Research Projects are separate from the monitoring programs and Wataynikaneyap will be choosing consultants to carry out the research. The following research projects will be conducted within six years of project completion:

- Two research projects for Caribou (one planned Caribou noise monitoring project)
- One research project for Wolverines
- One research project for Bats

Indigenous Partnerships Encouraged!

For further information on Environment Management, please visit:
www.wataypower.ca/engagement/environmental-management

If you have any questions or comments on the Endangered Species Act permit and its monitoring programs, or if you own a local Indigenous Environmental business and want to get involved in future opportunities, or would like to provide input on the above topics, or for any other questions or concerns, please contact:

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