



Community Environment Report

RED CHRIS MINE

2025

This report was created through the collaboration of:





About the Community Environment Report

2025

Welcome to the first **Red Chris Mine Community Environment Report**. This report highlights the 2025 results of environmental monitoring programs. Monitoring programs are tools used to check whether mining activities may be affecting air, water, fish, and wildlife. The report also provides an overview of new and ongoing initiatives to enhance environmental protections at Red Chris.

RED CHRIS CO-MANAGEMENT WITH TAHLTAN NATION

Red Chris is an open pit copper and gold mine located about 18 kilometres southeast of Iskut, within Tahltan Territory in northwestern British Columbia. The mine is operated by Newmont Corporation (Newmont) in close partnership with the Tahltan Nation through the Impact, Benefit and Co-Management Agreement (IBCA). This agreement ensures that Tahltan knowledge, values and priorities help guide how Red Chris is operated.

In June 2026, the Tahltan Nation and the Province of British Columbia approved Red Chris' proposed change to underground block cave mining. As part of the approval, the Tahltan Nation required Red Chris to regularly share monitoring program results with Tahltans, starting in 2027.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Before we get to work on next year's Community Environment Report, we'd like to hear from you. Please tell us if you were able to find the information you were looking for and/or if there are topics you'd like us to include in future updates. You can email your suggestions to: rcm.communityrelations@newmont.com

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Co-Management: How We Work Together

A major focus in 2025 was strengthening the people and systems that support Tahltan leadership in environmental protection:

- **Nearly half** of the environmental staff and contractors at Red Chris are **Tahltan or Tahltan associates**, ensuring Tahltan voices help guide environmental decisions.
- Newmont employs a **Tahltan Project Environmental Coordinator** (TPEC). This role, filled by a Tahltan member, works closely with the Red Chris environmental team and serves as a key liaison between Tahltan members, the Tahltan Central Government (TCG) and Newmont on environmental and heritage issues.
- The TCG helped guide decisions through committees such as the **Red Chris Monitoring Committee** and the **Red Chris Advisory Committee**. Regular dialogue through the **Environment and Heritage Protection Team** ensured that Tahltan values and knowledge remain central to how environmental and cultural resources are managed.
- The **Tailings and Water Management task force** ensured the TCG and the **Tahltan Heritage Resources Environmental Assessment Team** provided input on tailings and surface and groundwater management.
- **Joint teams** worked on seepage management, water balance and quality modelling, construction updates, and closure studies, sharing recommendations across co-management groups.

2025 Key Findings

- Monitoring and sampling results from 2025 indicated that overall Red Chris continued to meet its commitments and requirements.
- Air quality monitoring in Iskut indicated that Red Chris is not a significant contributor of air quality conditions in Iskut.
- Surface water quality monitoring showed no significant mine-related changes in Ealue and Kluea lakes.
- Wildlife, fish and vegetation data, sampling and predictive modeling revealed no anticipated adverse effects on culturally harvested species.





At Red Chris, an **Air Quality Monitoring Program** is maintained to protect the health of workers at site and residents of the local community.

There are eight air quality monitoring stations at Red Chris and three air quality stations in Iskut which track particulate matter and other parameters.

Particulate matter is tracked to ensure dust suppression measures at site are working effectively and to make adjustments as necessary.

2025 ISKUT AIR QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS

Station	Annual PM ₁₀
Band Office	~7 – 10 µg/m ³ *
Clinic	~7 – 10 µg/m ³ *
Motel	~2 – 4 µg/m ³

*According to the US Air Quality Index (AQI), concentrations between 0 and 50 µg/m³ indicate good air quality and little or no risk to human health from short-term (24-hour) exposure. Concentrations between 51–100 µg/m³ indicate good air quality with moderate health concerns for people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution if exposed for 24 hours.

What is Particulate Matter?

- Particulate matter is the general term for any solid particles or liquid droplets suspended in air that are caused by mining activities and/or can be spread by wind.
- Dust is one type of solid particulate matter which can be caused by blasting, crushing, grinding, mechanical handling or rapid movement of ore, rock or soil.

How Small is Particulate Matter?

- Red Chris monitors for “inhalable coarse particulate matter” or PM₁₀ which means the particles are 10 “micrometers” (µm) or smaller.
- By comparison, a single strand of human hair is about 50 to 70 micrometers wide, meaning PM₁₀ particles are invisible to the human eye.

2025 Iskut Air Quality Monitoring Findings

Air quality monitoring data suggested that air quality in Iskut was **generally good** in 2025. The data also suggested that Red Chris was not a significant contributor to particulate matter in Iskut:

- Annual PM₁₀ levels in Iskut were **generally low**, ranging from 2–11 µg/m³ across the three stations.
- In winter 2025, there were **17 days** when particulate matter levels in Iskut indicated good air quality but could have posed a moderate health concern for people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution and only if they were exposed for a short-term (24-hour) period.
- The 17 days occurred during periods of cold, calm winter weather, suggesting the particulate matter came from **smoke from residential wood burning** and **other local heating sources** in Iskut, and not Red Chris.

Red Chris Dust Management

Air quality monitoring data suggested that air quality at Red Chris was **generally good** in 2025.

Red Chris uses practical, seasonal approaches to keeping dust levels low. In warmer months, crews spray water on active work areas to reduce dust. When the ground is frozen, crews switch to approved chemicals that help bind fine particles.

Red Chris tracks “dust events” at site using an automated radio notification system.

- A dust event is when airborne dust concentrations suddenly increase above what are considered normal levels.
- There were **55 dust events** in 2025. Three dust events had particulate matter levels that indicated good air quality but could have posed a moderate health concern for people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution and only if they were exposed for a short term (24 hour) period.
- All dust events were related to the coarse ore stockpile. A cover is being installed over the coarse ore stockpile to reduce dust emissions.



One of three air quality monitoring stations (band office) installed in Iskut.



Red Chris maintains a comprehensive **Water Quality Monitoring Program** to identify changes over time, investigate potential concerns and ensure downstream water quality continues to support healthy fish and other aquatic life.

Red Chris monitors **groundwater** at more than **130 locations** and **surface water** at **80 locations**. Sixty water quality stations are located in streams, wetlands and lakes.

Samples are collected throughout the year and analyzed by an independent laboratory for a range of water quality indicators including minerals, nutrients and metals.

Results are compared to site-specific objectives and BC guidelines which are designed to protect fish and other aquatic life.

Overall Findings

- Water quality generally met BC guidelines for the protection of aquatic life at downstream monitoring locations in the Quarry Creek, Trail Creek-Kluea Lake, and Ealue Lake watersheds.
- Longer-term water quality trends reflected a combination of localized mine-related changes and broader natural environmental changes occurring across the region.

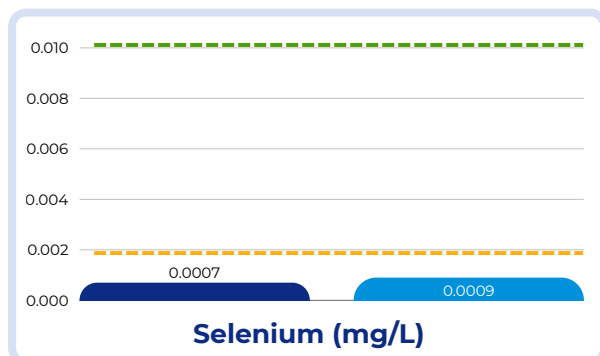
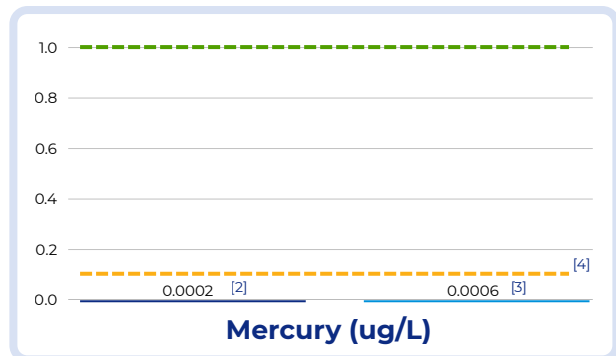
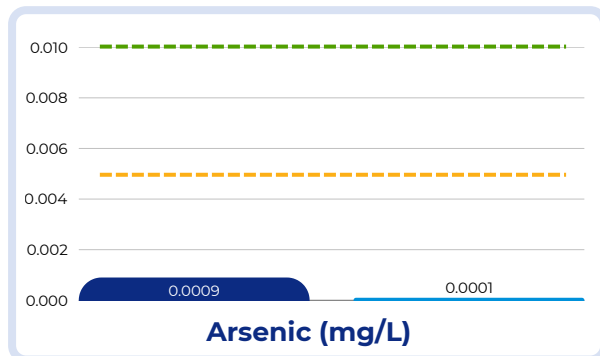
Ealue and Kluea Lakes Findings

Ealue and Kluea lakes have 16 water sampling stations. Sampling is done at various depths. The samples are then tested for **arsenic, mercury and selenium**, which are key indicators of fish health, as well as other parameters.

In 2025, the average sample results collected for these parameters were below the BC water quality guidelines (BC WQG) for aquatic life and source drinking water. When results are below BC guidelines, it means the amounts are considered too small to cause harm.

KEY RESULTS FROM WATER SAMPLING STATIONS

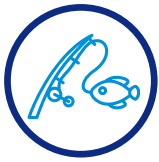
- Average concentration found in samples from Ealue Lake
- Average concentration found in samples from Kluea Lake
- Maximum allowable concentration for aquatic life [1]
- Maximum allowable concentration for source drinking water



Protecting Aquatic Health

- Arsenic, mercury and selenium are routinely tested because in certain concentrations they can harm fish and other aquatic life, and can build up over time.
- The elements are naturally occurring in the rocks and soils in northern BC.
- Regular testing helps to determine if mining is contributing to any changes or if the levels reflect the naturally occurring conditions.

[1] Presented maximum allowable concentration (MAC)
[2] Seven out of 12 samples collected in 2025 were below the lab detection limit
[3] 22 out of 34 samples collected in 2025 were below the lab detection limit
[4] Estimated BC WQG assuming methyl-mercury concentrations were $\leq 0.5\%$ of total mercury



Red Chris maintains a comprehensive **Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program**. The program examines different parts of an ecosystem – like Rainbow Trout, invertebrates (small bugs and other organisms eaten by fish) and sediment - together to understand whether mining activities are affecting aquatic life in nearby lakes, streams and wetlands.

Each year, monitoring results are compared with data collected before mining began, in previous years, and at key locations outside of the mine site.

These comparisons help confirm compliance with environmental requirements; identify changes that may be related to mining activities; and, guide future monitoring or management if needed.

Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program

- Annual “health check” of nearby lakes, streams and wetlands.
- Helps distinguish between mine-related changes and naturally occurring conditions.
- Tracks long-term trends.
- Supports adaptive co-management decisions.

2025 Overall Findings

- No evidence of mine-related effects on Rainbow Trout in Kluea, Todagin or Ealue lakes.
- Elevated selenium and mercury in fish tissue reflect naturally occurring conditions in the region.
- Longer-term trends reflected both localized mine influence and broader regional naturally occurring environmental conditions.



Toad located in marsh at Red Chris mine.

Findings by Watershed

Quarry Creek

- Water quality remained protective of aquatic life at downstream locations.
- Some localized changes near the Tailings Impoundment Area (TIA) reflected seepage influence, but these changes did not extend farther downstream.
- Elevated selenium levels occurred naturally in the watershed.
- Aquatic communities remained healthy, with localized changes linked to low-flow conditions.

Trail Creek-Kluea Lake

- The watershed continued to support a functioning aquatic ecosystem.
- Elevated selenium levels found in samples taken from locations near the mine and locations that aren't influenced by the mine were similar, suggesting it's caused by naturally occurring conditions in the environment.
- Minor changes in aquatic invertebrate communities were observed in Trail Creek close to the South Dam of the TIA, as anticipated, due to stream flows shifting during dam construction. Aquatic invertebrate communities downstream continue to reflect healthy stream flow conditions. Monitoring will continue.

Ealue Lake

- Mine-related influences were limited to localized upstream areas closest to the Rock Storage Area (RSA).
- Stations near the lake remained stable.
- Elevated selenium levels were observed at some locations but reflected naturally occurring environmental conditions. Monitoring to continue.



Wildlife Management & Monitoring

2025

The **Wildlife Management Plan (WMP)** is the roadmap for protecting wildlife and wildlife habitat that may be impacted by Red Chris operations. Co-developed by Red Chris and TCG, it guides how to reduce impacts on wildlife and wildlife habitat, how to keep people and wildlife safe during wildlife encounters, and how to monitor what's happening to wildlife and habitat over time.

Mitigation Measures to Protect Wildlife

The WMP includes measures to reduce the impact of Red Chris operations on wildlife and wildlife habitat:

- Before any new surface disturbance begins, Red Chris uses a **Ground Disturbance Permit** process that flags wildlife and habitat considerations. Third-party biologists conduct surveys such as bear den assessments, migratory bird nesting surveys, or amphibian monitoring. Based on these results, the mine implements mitigation measures to avoid or minimize impacts as much as possible.
- The WMP also includes **species-specific mitigation measures** developed with input from the TCG. These measures guide how operations can reduce risks to wildlife — whether that's adjusting work practices, managing attractants, protecting sensitive habitats, or responding appropriately when wildlife is nearby.



A moose is photographed on January 14, 2025 by a wildlife camera that captures images at night without visible light or noise that may spook an animal.



At Red Chris, bears and other wildlife are given the right-of-way on roads. Vehicles must stop at a safe distance and wait for the wildlife to leave the roadway before proceeding.

How Wildlife is Monitored

Wildlife monitoring at Red Chris covers a wide range of species, habitats, and methods. Some programs focus on specific species, while others collect broader information about wildlife activity across the mine site and surrounding areas. Together, these programs help identify what's happening on the land and guide decisions that support long-term wildlife health.

VOLUNTARY REPORTING

Everyone working at Red Chris plays a role in wildlife protection. Through the voluntary reporting program, **employees and contractors can log wildlife sightings using a QR-code form** or by reporting directly to the Environmental Department. These observations help fill in any gaps that formal monitoring might miss.

Voluntary Reporting Results

In 2025, Red Chris employees and contractors submitted **296 voluntary wildlife reports**, covering **21 different species**.

UNGULATE MONITORING

To track species like Stone's sheep, moose, and mountain goats, Red Chris uses **aerial surveys and time-lapse cameras placed in key locations**. These tools help identify where ungulates are spending time, how often they're present and whether mine activities are influencing their movement.

REMOTE CAMERA PROGRAM

Beginning in 2012, the Remote Camera Program has grown to **27 motion-triggered cameras across the mine area**. These cameras collect data on specific species, species at risk and animals with specific regulatory reporting requirements. The program provides long-term insight into how wildlife uses the landscape year-round.

BAT MONITORING

Bats are an important part of the local ecosystem, and the **Bat Monitoring Program** helps identify where they are active and how diverse bat populations are around the mine. This information supports decisions about habitat protection and disturbance planning.



Enhancing Protections

2025

In 2025, Red Chris, in collaboration with the Tahltan Nation strengthened environmental protections through major investments, expanded monitoring and new initiatives - all designed to reduce potential mine-related impacts and improve understanding of local conditions.

The work was focused on reducing dust, enhancing water and tailings management, expanding monitoring networks and advancing fisheries and aquatic health studies. It will continue in 2026.



A cover is being installed over the coarse ore stockpile at Red Chris to reduce dust emissions.

What to Expect in 2026 and Beyond

Air Quality

- Continued sharing of air quality monitoring results, on a quarterly basis, with community members from three monitoring stations in Iskut.
- Completed installation of coarse ore stockpile cover to minimize dust.

Water & Seepage Management

- Expanded seepage interception systems.
- Pilot study on seepage interception performance in Red Rock Canyon Creek continued.
- Continued upgrades to the East Diversion Ditch to reduce sediment entering Lower Trail Creek.
- A piece of equipment called a "tailings thickener" installed to improve water recovery and reduce freshwater use.

Monitoring Networks

- Continued water quality monitoring with additional sites added.
- Continued tracking of trends and distinguishing mine-related changes from naturally occurring conditions.
- Freshwater diversions maintained and **trigger action response plans** upgraded as needed.

Fish & Aquatic Health

- Surface water and aquatic effects monitored at new locations.
- Fish tissue chemistry sampled to assess reproductive health of fish in Kluea, Todagin and Ealue lakes.
- Fish and aquatic ecosystem sampling expanded to more lakes to strengthen long-term monitoring.

Trigger Action Response Plans

A Trigger Action Response Plan, or "TARP," is a proactive safety management tool. It defines specific, pre-determined actions to take when environmental or operational conditions (the "triggers") change from what is considered normal. It ensures hazards are addressed before they exceed regulations or develop into an urgent situation.

How Did We Do?

This is our first Community Environment Report, and we want to make sure it's useful for community members. Please tell us if you were able to find the information you were looking for and/or if there are topics you'd like us to include in future updates.

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STAY CONNECTED

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