

The Environmental Assessment Process and Public Involvement

Copper Fox Metals is proposing to develop the Schaft Creek Copper-Gold-Molybdenum-Silver Project, which must be reviewed by:

- THREAT (Tahltan Heritage Resources Environmental Assessment Team),
- The province's Environmental Assessment Act (EAA), S.B.C. 2002, c.43, and
- The federal government's Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA).

What is an Environmental Assessment?

An environmental assessment is a way of reviewing major projects and their potential impacts on the environment, communities, health, heritage and wider-regions. In order for a major project to proceed, an environmental assessment (EA) review must be completed successfully and the proposed project must be approved by two provincial government Ministers.

How do communities participate?

Public participation in the environmental assessment helps ensure community values, concerns and development goals are considered during the project planning and decision making stages. Community members become involved by:

- Participating in public meetings, open houses, and other public forums arranged by Copper Fox and/or the province's Environmental Assessment Office (EAO);
- Reviewing the draft terms of reference for an application for an environmental assessment certificate and submitting comments (e.g. issues and concerns) to the EAO, during a public comment period; and
- Reviewing the application and submitting comments (e.g. issues and concerns) to the EAO, during a public comment period.

What has Copper Fox done so far?

To date, Copper Fox has had meetings in June 2007 and February 2008, with communities close to the project area. During the pre-application and application review phase of the EA the public will be invited to comment on:

- Terms of Reference - Terms of reference identify issues and the information the company has to provide as part of their EA application.
- Application - The company's formal submission of what they are proposing to develop.

