

Protected Areas Policy

Mining Mineral Resources S.A.S

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1. Objective

To ensure that MMR's operations **do not negatively impact legally protected areas** and to responsibly manage the environmental impacts on adjacent zones. MMR is committed to **biodiversity conservation, regulatory compliance, and proactive engagement with stakeholders** to uphold best practices in environmental management.

2. Policy Statement

MMR shall respect and uphold the integrity of **all legally protected areas** in accordance with **local, national, and international regulations**. Additionally, MMR shall **actively assess and mitigate** the environmental impact of its operations on **adjacent zones**, supporting responsible environmental stewardship.

Where protected area boundaries are **unclear or contested**, MMR shall seek **official government clarification before engaging in activities**. If a dispute arises after activities begin, MMR will engage in dialogue with relevant authorities and communities to determine an **appropriate resolution**.

3. Key Principles

3.1 Compliance with Laws and Regulations

- MMR shall strictly comply with all local, national, and international laws governing protected areas.
- MMR shall adhere to global standards such as the IFC Performance Standards, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) guidelines, and national biodiversity frameworks.

3.2 Defining Protected Areas

For the purpose of this policy, **protected areas** include, but are not limited to:

- National parks and nature reserves designated by governments.
- UNESCO World Heritage Sites and Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance.
- Community and Indigenous conservation zones with recognized protection status.
- Legally designated buffer zones adjacent to protected areas.

3.3 Protected Areas Risk Assessment (PARA) & Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

- MMR shall conduct a Protected Areas Risk Assessment (PARA) prior to exploration or operational expansion.
- **Independent EIAs** shall be conducted **prior to project approvals** in areas near protected zones.
- EIAs shall align with IFC Performance Standards and Equator Principles.
- **Baseline ecological surveys** shall be conducted to evaluate potential risks.

3.4 Biodiversity Conservation and No Net Loss Approach

- MMR shall adopt a **No Net Loss** approach, ensuring that any unavoidable biodiversity impacts are **offset** through conservation efforts.
- Active participation in reforestation, habitat restoration, and wildlife protection programs.
- MMR commits to avoiding deforestation in legally protected areas and implementing mitigation measures where impacts are unavoidable.

3.5 Stakeholder Engagement & Community Involvement

- MMR shall conduct regular stakeholder consultations with:
 - Local communities
 - Governmental agencies
 - Environmental NGOs & conservation experts
- While MMR will incorporate community feedback where possible, all final operational decisions shall comply with national legal frameworks and business feasibility.
- A **transparent grievance mechanism** shall be available to address concerns.

3.6 Monitoring, Reporting & Transparency

- Environmental impact monitoring **shall occur quarterly** to assess changes near protected areas.
- Findings from monitoring efforts shall be **independently verified**.
- All monitoring reports shall be reviewed internally before disclosure to external parties to ensure accuracy and compliance with regulatory requirements.
- MMR shall publish annual environmental impact reports for transparency.

4. Implementation & Compliance

4.1 Policy Enforcement

- **Senior Management** shall ensure this policy is effectively implemented.
- **Operations Teams** shall integrate environmental safeguards into all project phases.
- **Contractors and Suppliers** must comply with this policy, with **penalties for violations**.

4.2 Corrective Actions & Accountability

- If any MMR operation negatively impacts a protected area, **corrective actions** shall be implemented immediately.
- Non-compliance with this policy shall be addressed through a **tiered corrective action process**:
 - **First offense**: Internal corrective action and retraining.
 - **Repeated offenses**: Escalation to financial penalties.
 - **Severe, intentional violations**: Potential contract termination or legal action.
- Independent audits shall verify compliance annually.

5. Review and Continuous Improvement

This policy shall be reviewed **annually** to:

- Integrate new environmental regulations and industry best practices.
- Address stakeholder feedback and independent audit findings.
- Improve biodiversity conservation strategies and operational safeguards.

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