



Global Supporting Document

Position Statement on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

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Position Statement on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

This position statement describes Hydro's approach to the management of biodiversity and ecosystem services (BES). Hydro defines biodiversity (or biological diversity) as:

the variability among living organisms from all sources including, among other things, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems

and ecosystem services as:

the benefits that people, including businesses, derive from ecosystems. Ecosystem services are organized into four types: (i) provisioning services, which are the products people obtain from ecosystems; (ii) regulating services, which are the benefits people obtain from the regulation of ecosystem processes; (iii) cultural services, which are the nonmaterial benefits people obtain from ecosystems; and (iv) supporting services, which are the natural processes that maintain the other services

These definitions are aligned with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the UN's Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA).

Hydro acknowledges that effective management of BES requires an integrated and rigorous approach to identify risks and impacts to priority biodiversity features and ecosystem services and mitigate these through strict adherence to the biodiversity mitigation hierarchy. Successful BES management is dependent upon collaboration and participation from all affected parties, including government, civil society, business and local communities through inclusive stakeholder engagement. As a stakeholder in land management and a contributor to land-use change, Hydro acknowledges its responsibility to be an effective land steward in the locations where it operates.

Hydro recognizes that:

1. Biodiversity, and the ecosystem services that it supports, is vital for human existence and the sustainable growth of industry and society.
2. Biodiversity is under immediate threat, with an unprecedented number of species at risk of extinction, through the direct and indirect effects of human activity, including land-use change, pollution, hunting, introduction of invasive species and climate change.
3. Industry can be the cause of, and is affected by, the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Hydro, as an industrial company with presence in the extractive and energy sectors, has a responsibility to manage the impact of its activities on biodiversity and ecosystem services to ensure a sustainable outcome.

4. Solving the current and urgent threat to biodiversity and ecosystem services requires collaboration between industry, academia, government, civil society and local communities to ensure a positive outcome for society and the environment.
5. Effective management practices for biodiversity and ecosystem services can create substantial competitive advantage through reducing material risk to the environment and society, attracting investment and building stakeholder trust through improved transparency.

Hydro has a commitment to adhere to the biodiversity mitigation hierarchy in its existing operations, to minimize its impact upon biodiversity and ecosystem services, and the ambition to achieve No Net Loss of biodiversity features that qualify an area as natural or critical habitat in new projects and major changes to existing operations.

This position statement is supported by the Hydro’s Global Directive on Sustainability and Global Procedure on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and is aligned with the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative’s (ASI) Performance Standards and the International Council on Mining and Metals’ (ICMM) Principles and Performance Expectations.

Change log

Rev. nr.	Date	Description of change	Approver/Verifier
0		New Document	Helena Nonka