

Table 1. Definition of terms relevant to monitoring plan and monitoring reports.

Adaptive Management	A style of resource management that uses an iterative cycle of innovation, monitoring, and adjustment to learn how natural systems function while identifying the best practices to optimize long-term management outcomes
Contact	The presence of a bird on a pond or shore area that comes in contact with process-affected water at any time of the year; includes birds landed on the pond, diving under the water surface, on vegetation on the pond surface, or on the adjacent shore
Deterrent	An instrument stationed beside or on a tailings pond to deter birds; in the oil sands these include both audio deterrents (e.g. propane cannons, phoenix wailers, speaker systems associated with visual deterrents, LRAD speaker systems) and visual deterrents (e.g. human effigies, peregrine effigies, lasers)
Flyover	One or more birds flying over a pond during an observation period; includes migrating flocks or individuals
Freshwater pond	Ponds not involved in the waste of the bitumen mining process; includes reservoirs, compensation ponds, and natural lakes
Incident	Observations of birds where harm or danger to a bird has occurred or had the potential to occur
Incidental Observation	Any detection of a bird that occurred randomly without following any particular survey methodology
Landing	A bird coming into contact with the pond, the shore, or the inside of the dyke
Lease site	An area of publicly-owned land that is leased to private interests for a specified period of time for specified purposes and subject to regulatory approval
Non-target bird	Birds that scavenge, fly, glean, depredate, and peck for food as their primary means of foraging

Process-affected water	Water that has been used in any part of the mining process; includes tailings, recycled water, and run-off water; some process-affected water contains bitumen, which can sit like a mat on the water where it may be blown around by the wind; under most conditions, bitumen is heavier than water, but adhesion to gases and temperature differentials can cause it to rise to or remain on the surface of the water
Species at Risk	Species listed as threatened, endangered, or of special concern under the Alberta Wildlife Act or the federal Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
Target bird	Birds that dabble, dive, or wade for food as their primary means of foraging. These birds are targeted by the program because they have a greater likelihood of contacting process-affected water or its residue