At BHP, we’re committed to having a positive impact beyond the life of our operations. BHP supplies essential materials for infrastructure, improving living standards and fostering greater prosperity. Our commitment to the areas where we operate doesn’t end with mine closure.

Through careful planning and ongoing consultation, we’re able to achieve successful reclamation of Legacy Assets. This includes taking measures to enhance the environment and supporting communities during the transition.

We’re focused on leaving a positive legacy in the communities where we operate.

Legacy Assets is made up of 25 historic sites in Canada and the United States that were acquired largely through corporate mergers and acquisitions close to or after their closure.

The factors that lead to mine closures include depletion of mineral resources, changes in market demand, government regulations, economic and political landscape, and environmental factors.

These sites mainly produced copper, zinc, uranium, tin, and gold, and a majority ceased production decades ago.

BHP takes responsibility for rehabilitating and restoring these sites for future land use. Proper mine reclamation and closure management of Legacy Assets are crucial to minimizing the impact on local communities and the environment.

At our legacy sites, we undertake a range of activities that seek to ensure that we operate in a safe, responsible, and sustainable manner. Some of the key activities we carry out include:

- Tailings and water management
- Risk mitigation and technical studies
- Closure and remediation projects
- General site care and maintenance
Going above and beyond

At our Legacy Assets sites, we recognize that responsible mine closure entails more than just fulfilling our legal requirements. It’s about playing an active role in environmental and economic development in the local community. As a result, we undertake a range of voluntary activities, focused on:

Community
- Emergency response planning
- Donations to food banks
- Scholarships
- Youth and women centres
- Multi-social service NGOs
- Promoting community recreation

Environment
- Plant nurseries
- Fish hatcheries
- Walking and hiking trails
- Campgrounds

Indigenous Peoples
- Conducting heritage and cultural surveys
- Engaging with Indigenous organizations to align our Legacy Assets with their goals and values

Collaborative planning

BHP is fully committed to collaborating with government officials, community groups, Indigenous Peoples, environmental experts, emergency responders, and industry stakeholders to develop and implement effective strategies for managing our Legacy Assets sites.

Legacy Assets in focus

- Island Copper, British Columbia
- Reclaimed mine site in Selbaie and Poirier, Quebec
- Restored habitat surrounding Elliot Lake, Ontario
- New Melones Reservoir from the top of the former Carson Hill Gold Mine, California
- Former tailings pile for Miami Unit Copper Mine, Arizona
- Former Copper Cities Copper Mine, Arizona