

News flash



safety



integrity



respect



responsibility



innovation



delivery

A new home for the chinchillas of Salares Norte

We aim to protect the environment and its biodiversity wherever we operate, and it is no different at our Salares Norte project in Chile. Our environmental team has started the process of relocating the 25 short-tailed chinchillas (*Chinchilla chinchilla*) – an endangered species – which currently reside in the core mining areas of the tenement.



The short-tailed chinchillas' safe, responsible rehoming is a commitment we made to the regulators as part of their approval of the project ahead of the start of major construction later this quarter.

The chinchillas will be relocated to an area about 4km away. The process entails various careful steps to ensure that they can adapt to their new surroundings, including fitting each chinchilla with a radio collar for continued monitoring after their release.

The team, led by Luis Ortega, our Environmental Specialist in Chile, is working with the Centre for Applied Ecology, a Chilean environmental consultancy, which also provides oversight of the relocation process. Researchers from the University of Chile and the University of La Serena have been invited to study these cute Salares residents.

[Click on this mailer](#) to read a recent article about the short-tailed chinchillas relocation.



- Adult short-tailed chinchillas can be between 28 and 49cm in length
- They weigh between 1,1-1,4kg
- Short-tailed chinchillas have historically been hunted for their fur, which led to their 'endangered' status
- They are social and live in colonies
- You'll find them in colder climates, usually burrowing under rocks or in the ground for shelter

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