



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

Pêches et Océans  
Canada

Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program  
Arctic Region  
301 – 5204 50th Ave. (Franklin)  
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories  
X1A 1E2

Programme de protection du poisson et de son habitat  
Région de l'Arctique  
301 – 5204 50th Ave. (Franklin)  
Yellowknife, Territoires du Nord-Ouest  
X1A 1E2

January 30, 2026

*Your file*      *Votre référence*  
2AM-LUP2032

**Subject:      Request for Variance to Discharge Timing – Lupin Mine, Water  
Licence 2AM-LUP2032.**

To whom it may concern,

On January 8, 2026, the Nunavut Water Board invited parties to comment on the Lupin Discharge Variance Request for Water Licence 2AM-LUP2032. The Fish and Fish Habitat Program of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (FFHPP) appreciates the opportunity to review the application and offers a comment below.

**DFO Comment:**

The Lupin Discharge Variance Request for Water Licence (file number: 2AM-LUP2032) discusses the discharge of Pond 2 effluent.

Impacts to fish and fish habitat can occur during discharge activities through loss of riparian habitat due to excess water levels, erosion and sedimentation, disturbance to fish and fish habitat during sensitive life stages, and increased water velocities.

**Recommendation:**

In order to comply with the Fisheries Act, it is recommended that the Proponent follow DFO's protective measures for fish and fish habitat and standard codes of practice which can be found on DFO's website (<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html>) and <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/practice-practique-eng.html>).

Proponents are also asked to respect the NU in-water works restricted activity timing windows ([Projects Near Water - Nunavut Restricted Activity Timing Windows for the Protection of Fish and Fish Habitat \(dfo-mpo.gc.ca\)](https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/projects-near-water-nunavut-restricted-activity-timing-windows-for-the-protection-of-fish-and-fish-habitat-dfo-mpo.gc.ca)) to protect fish during spawning and incubation periods when spawning fish, eggs and fry are vulnerable to disturbance or sediment.

Based on the information that was submitted, DFO recommends the proponent to complete and submit a request for review form (<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/request-review-demande-d-examen-004-eng.html>) as the application meets the criteria for a site specific review, as described on DFO's website

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(<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/request-review-demande-d-examen-003-eng.html>).

It is also the proponent's Duty to Notify DFO if they have caused, or are about to cause, the death of fish by means other than fishing and/or the harmful alteration, disruption, or the destruction of fish habitat. Such notification should be directed to [DFO.ARCETriage-TriageGEARC.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.ARCETriage-TriageGEARC.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "NATALIE GRISHABER". The signature is written in a cursive style with the first name in all caps and the last name in title case.

Natalie Grishaber  
Biologist  
Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada