



# **APPENDIX 8-F**

## **Addendum for Closure and Reclamation Plan**





## **8-F.1: Interim Whale Tail Closure and Reclamation Plan**





# **AGNICO EAGLE**

**Meadowbank Division**

**WHALE TAIL PIT**

## **Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan**

**JUNE 2016  
VERSION WT**



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**DOCUMENT CONTROL**

Version	Date	Section	Page	Revision	Author
WT	June 2016	All	n/a	Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan for the Type A Water Licence Amendment	Golder Associates Ltd.



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**1.0 SECTION 1 • PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY**

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Agnico Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Division (Agnico Eagle) is proposing to develop Whale Tail Pit (referred to in this document as the Project), a satellite deposit located on the Amaruq property, to continue mine operations and milling at Meadowbank Mine. Agnico Eagle is seeking approval to extend Meadowbank Mine to include development of resources from Whale Tail Pit. Concurrent with the reconsideration of the Project Certificate by the NIRB, Agnico Eagle is seeking an amendment to Meadowbank Mine Type A Water Licence (No. 2AM-MEA1525) to include mining of Whale Tail Pit and construction and operations of associated infrastructure from the Nunavut Water Board (NWB).

Agnico Eagle has provided financial security for the closure and reclamation of the Meadowbank Mine facilities. Refer to the existing Meadowbank Mine Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (ICRP) for details.

The Amaruq property was acquired by Agnico Eagle in April 2013 subject to a mineral exploration agreement with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. The Amaruq property is a 408 square kilometre (km<sup>2</sup>) site located on Inuit Owned Land approximately 150 kilometres (km) north of the hamlet of Baker Lake and northwest of Meadowbank Mine in the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut, Canada.

Ore from Whale Tail Pit will be segregated by grade, the high grade will be crushed on-site and transported to the approved infrastructure at Meadowbank Mine for milling as part of the run of mine operation while the low grade ore will be stockpiled on the low grade ore pad until the end of the mining operation and then crushed on-site and transported to the Meadowbank Mine. Agnico Eagle proposes to dispose the tailings slurry generated by the Project in the Meadowbank Tailings Storage Facilities authorized under the current Meadowbank Mine Certificate and Type A Water Licence.

In November 2015 Agnico Eagle received approval to construct an access road under the Type B Water License (2BE-MEA1318), which will connect the Vault Pit (one of the Meadowbank Mine pits) to the Amaruq exploration camp site in support of exploration activities. Vault Pit is approximately 8 km northeast of Meadowbank Mine. The proposed access road will be about 64.1 km long and during the exploration stage, it will have a top width of 6.5 m. Agnico Eagle is proposing to upgrade the proposed access road to accommodate increased traffic rates and haul trucks (referred to in this document as the haul road). No changes are proposed for the existing Meadowbank All Weather Access Road (AWAR) to Baker Lake, or any winter road.

Agnico Eagle expects to begin construction in 2018 and ultimately have full production in 2019. The operational phase will span three to four years, from Year 1 (2019) to Year 4 (2022). Mining activities are expected to end in Year 3 (2021) and ore processing is expected to end during Year 4 (2022). The Whale Tail Pit will produce approximately 8.3 million tonnes (Mt) of ore, 46.1 Mt of waste rock and 5.6 Mt of overburden (with very limited organic material) for a total of 51.7 Mt of waste.



As part of the exploration drilling program, some infrastructure has already been developed at the Project site and it will be developed further. The exploration program is being carried out following the approved Type B Water Licence and Land Use Permits. The exploration facilities include:

- an exploration camp;
- an exploration ramp and two vent raises (permit in process; permit is expected to be received by end of 2016);
- a small airstrip;
- 10 km of exploration roads;
- two borrow pits, and
- proposed access road and associated borrow pits (seven borrow pits).

The existing and proposed exploration facilities at the Project site are not covered in this Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (ICRP) as they are covered under the Exploration Facilities Conceptual CRPs (Agnico Eagle 2015b, 2015c). With respect to the Whale Tail access road, only the works related to upgrading the exploration access road for production use are covered in this ICRP.

The area that will be disturbed during construction and operations for the proposed Project is approximately 325.1 hectares (ha).

The infrastructure proposed at the Project and covered under this ICRP includes the following, see Figure 1.1-1 for Project infrastructure locations:

- Whale Tail Pit;
- a crushing facility;
- supporting infrastructure, including gated access, a communication tower, heli-pad, tank farm, potable water treatment plant, sewage collection and treatment system, effluent water treatment plant (WTP), a permanent camp (Main Camp), maintenance and on-site storage areas, three ore stockpiles, a temporary overburden stockpile, a power plant, two freshwater intakes and a water diffuser;
- a Waste Rock Storage Facility (WRSF) (waste rock and overburden will be co-disposed in the WRSF, the WRSF includes a landfill);
- four water retention dikes (Whale Tail, Mammoth, WRSF, and Northeast);
- two Saddle/Coffer Dams;
- three water diversion channels (Whale Tail, East, and North, if deemed necessary);
- the contact water collection channels and ponds in the different sectors of the Project (Main Camp, Industrial, Attenuation Pond, Open Pit, WRSF);
- transportation routes including internal access and the haul road; and
- quarries and borrow pits.

The Whale Tail deposit is partly located in Whale Tail Lake. The proposed approach to develop the pit involves isolating the pit area with three dikes (Whale Tail Dike, Mammoth Dike, and Northeast Dike).



The isolated area (referred to in this document as ‘dewatered Whale Tail Lake area’ or ‘dewatered area’) will be dewatered for the development and operation of the pit. The dewatered water level will be maintained through the life of the Project by diverting most the fresh water that would become in contact with the mine site to other sub-watersheds using diversion channels and by pumping (operational dewatering) the contact water to the WTP for treatment before discharge in Mammoth Lake.

Agnico Eagle has received comments from various local and regional communities and government stakeholders on the Project. Key community findings and the Company’s response to address them are outlined in the Whale Tail Pit Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS; Agnico Eagle 2016). Agnico Eagle has used this feedback to refine the Project design to reduce potential environmental impacts from the Project.

This report outlines the Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (ICRP) for the Project and it has been prepared in terms of an addendum to the current existing ICRP and financial security for Meadowbank Mine. It has been submitted to NWB for review and approval in support of the Type A Water Licence Amendment. This report is Version 0 of the ICRP for the Project.

The “Guidelines for the Closure and Reclamation of Advanced Mineral Exploration and Mine Sites in the Northwest Territories”, issued by the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) in 2013 (MVLWB/AANDC 2013), were used to prepare the ICRP. The ICRP will be updated through the detailed design and operational phases of the Project, as new information (such as monitoring results) become available.

The Project ICRP describes the plan to carry out the required closure activities, and to establish self-sustaining ecosystems with land uses similar to pre-development conditions. Progressive closure activities will take place during mining. Areas that have been disturbed by mining will be reclaimed once operations in that area are complete. The mining operation has been designed with final closure in mind. Where possible, the designs of the WRSF and water management facilities have been chosen to reduce the overall impact of the Project on the area.

If operations stop temporarily with the intent of resuming mining activities in the near future, the Project site would be placed in a care and maintenance phase. The Project may need to shut down for a short-term or indefinitely (long-term) due to economic, environmental and/or social factors. The plans for both of these closure periods are discussed in this ICRP.

Ultimately, the mining operations will stop as the pit is completed and the Project site would be closed. The work that would take place when the Project site is placed in closure is described in this ICRP.



Environmental design features and mitigation, as well as current wildlife management practices used in other mining projects in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories (e.g., Meadowbank, Ekati, Diavik, and Snap Lake mine sites) for closure, will also be used at the Project as much as possible.

There will be three main stages of closure at the Project. Activities that take place during each stage are:

- *Progressive Reclamation Stage* (Operating Year 1 to Year 3), during which reclamation of the WRSF through cover placement will occur progressively (Figure 1.1-1). Active care, maintenance, and monitoring will be required for the reclaimed areas of the WRSF throughout this stage.
- *Closure Stage* (Year 4 to Year 11), during which the removal of the non-essential site infrastructure and back-flooding of the dewatered area to re-establish the original water level of the Whale Tail Lake will occur (Figure 1.1-2). The dewatered Whale Tail Pit area will be back-flooded in two phases: 1) back-flood the pit area; and 2) back-flood to 152.5 m (the original lake water level). Active care, maintenance, and monitoring will be required for the decommissioned and remaining facilities throughout this stage.
- *Post-Closure Stage* (Year 11 onwards), will commence as closure is completed in Year 11. During this stage, continued monitoring and maintenance will be carried out at a reduced frequency, depending on the results of the monitoring and measures of success selected for closure (Figure 1.1-3).

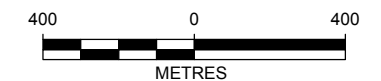
At closure, it is expected that the residual disturbances derived from the Project will be minimal (Figure 1.1-3).

Table 5.2-1 through Table 5.2-7 presented in Section 5.0 provide the interconnection between the closure objectives, closure criteria, and closure actions for each of the Project components. These are divided into valued ecosystem components (Component).



	ROAD
	TEMPORARY ROAD
	DIVERSION CHANNEL
	COLLECTION CHANNEL
	CULVERT
	INTAKE WATER PIPE
	CONTACT WATER PIPE
	FRESHWATER PIPE
	WATERCOURSE
	CLOSED FACILITY
	FINAL WHALE TAIL WASTE ROCK STORAGE FACILITY
	WHALE TAIL LAKE (SOUTH BASIN)
	FLOODED LIMIT (WATER LEVEL 156.0m)
	NATURAL WATERSHED
	DIKE
	POND/SUMP
	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE
	WATERBODY
A53	WATERBODY ID

1. INFRASTRUCTURE OBTAINED FROM AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED FROM 6108-600-210-002\_R2(2019)s.dwg.  
2. WATERCOURSE AND WATERBODY DATA OBTAINED FROM PHOTOSAT DATUM: NAD 83 CSRS PROJECTION: UTM ZONE 14



PROJECT

**AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED:  
MEADOWBANK DIVISION  
WHALE TAIL PIT PROJECT**

TITLE

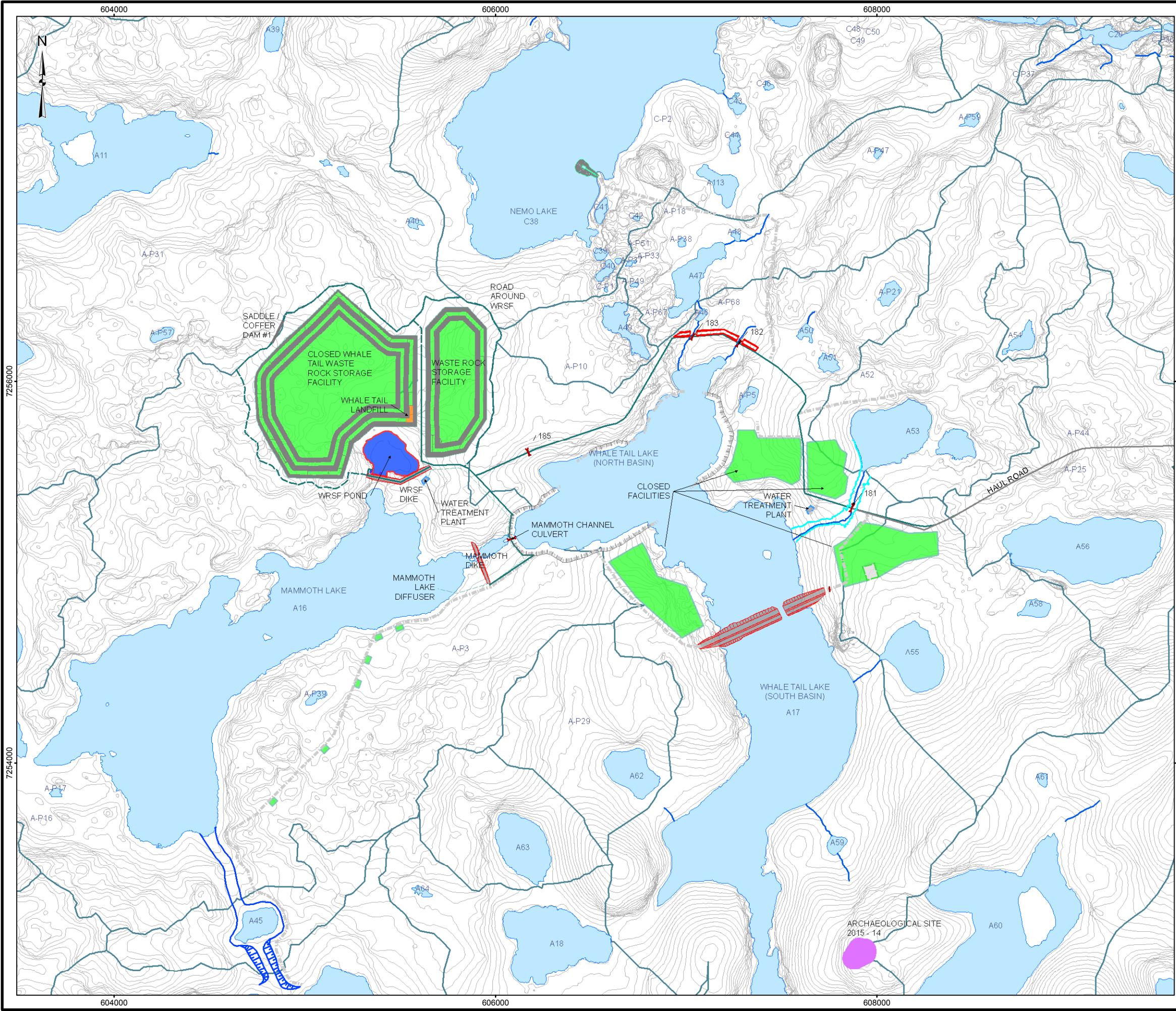
**GENERAL ARRANGEMENT PLAN  
AT END OF OPERATIONS - YEAR 4 (2022)**

The logo for Golder Associates, featuring a stylized green globe with a white 'G' and the company name 'Golder Associates' in green text.

PROJECT		1541520	PHASE		6100
DESIGN	AP	27 May 2016	SCALE AS SHOWN	REV.	0
GIS	MH/CD	26 May 2016	<b>FIGURE 1.1-1</b>		
CHECK	AP	1 June 2016			
REVIEW	IM/KAB	1 June 2016			



\\golder.gds\galiburnab\CAD-GIS\Client\Agnico\_Eagle\_Mines\_Ltd\Whale\_Tail\99\_PROJECTS\1541520\_FEIS\02\_PRODUCTION\FEIS\MXD\6100\_Closure\_Reclamation\Report\1541520\_FIG\_1\_1\_2\_GAP\_END\_CLOSURE\_YEAR\_11\_2029.mxd

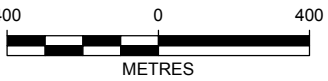



**LEGEND**

- TOP OF PIT SLOPE
- ROAD
- TEMPORARY ROAD
- SCARIFIED ROAD AND ACCESS
- CULVERT
- FRESHWATER PIPE
- DIKE
- WATERCOURSE
- CLOSED FACILITY
- POND/SUMP
- ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE
- NATURAL WATERSHED
- WATERBODY

**REFERENCE**

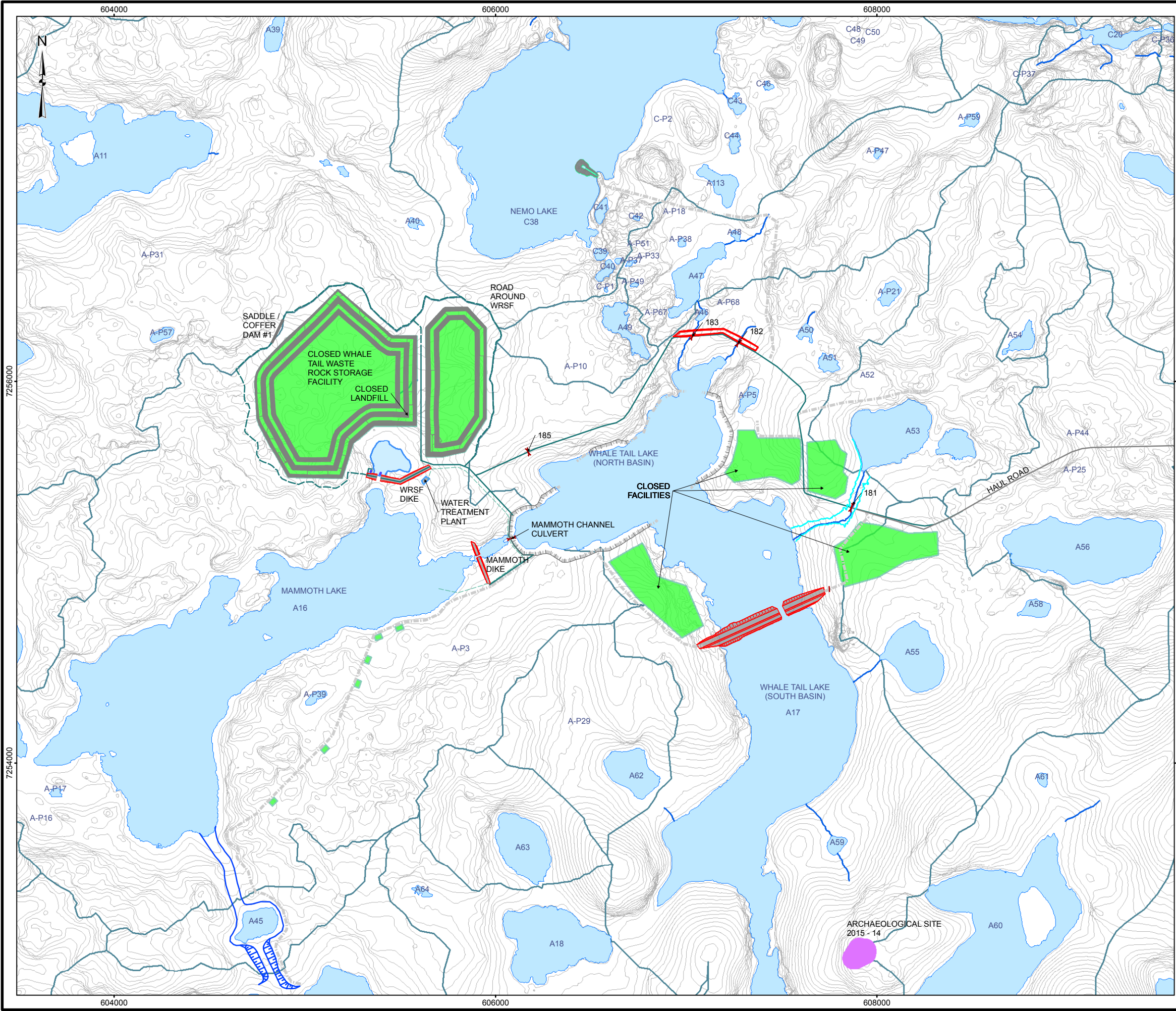
1. INFRASTRUCTURE OBTAINED FROM AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED FROM 6108-600-210-004\_R2(2029)s.dwg.  
2. WATERCOURSE AND WATERBODY DATA OBTAINED FROM PHOTOSAT  
DATUM: NAD 83 CSRS PROJECTION: UTM ZONE 14



PROJECT		AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED: MEADOWBANK DIVISION WHALE TAIL PIT PROJECT			
TITLE		<b>POST-CLOSURE GENERAL ARRANGEMENT PLAN YEAR 11 (2029)</b>			
	PROJECT	1541520	PHASE	6100	
	DESIGN	AP	27 May 2016	SCALE AS SHOWN	REV. 0
	GIS	MH/CD	11 May 2016		
	CHECK	AP	1 June 2016		
	REVIEW	IMKAB	1 June 2016	<b>FIGURE 1.1-2</b>	



\\golder.gds\galiburnaby\CAD-GIS\Client\Agnico\_Eagle\_Mines\_Ltd\Whale\_Tail\99\_PROJECTS\1541520\_FEIS\02\_PRODUCTION\FEIS\MXD\6100\_Closure\_Reclamation\Report\1541520\_FIG\_1\_1\_3\_GAP\_END\_CLOSURE\_YEAR\_17\_2035.mxd



LEGEND

TOP OF PIT SLOPE

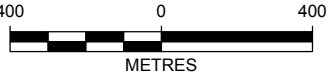
ROAD

REFERENCE

1. INFRASTRUCTURE OBTAINED FROM AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED FROM 6108-600-210-004\_R2(2029)s.dwg.

2. WATERCOURSE AND WATERBODY DATA OBTAINED FROM PHOTOSAT

DATUM: NAD 83 CSRS PROJECTION: UTM ZONE 14



PROJECT

AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED:  
MEADOWBANK DIVISION  
WHALE TAIL PIT PROJECT

TITLE

POST-CLOSURE  
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT PLAN  
YEAR 17 (2035)

Golder  
Associates

PROJECT	1541520	PHASE	6100
DESIGN	AP	27 May 2016	SCALE AS SHOWN
GIS	MH/CD	11 May 2016	REV. A
CHECK	AP	1 June 2016	
REVIEW	IMKAB	1 June 2016	

FIGURE 1.1-3



### 1.1 Closure and Reclamation Activities

The major closure and reclamation activities planned for the Project are expected to occur during the first two years of closure. It is expected that the original water level of the Whale Tail Lake in the dewatered area will be reached over an 8 year period (before the freshet of Year 2029) with the pit area itself back-flooded over a period of 4 years (by the end of Year 2025). The main components and activities proposed at closure, including progressive reclamation activities are summarized below.

#### Open Pit Mine Workings:

The dewatered Whale Tail Pit area will be back-flooded in two phases:

- Phase 1: back-flood the pit area (Figure 1.1-1) between Year 4 (2022) and Year 7 (2025); and
- Phase 2: back-flood the Whale Tail Lake to 152.5 m between Year 8 (2026) and Year 11 (2029) (Figure 1.1-2).

It is anticipated that approximately 24,000,000 m<sup>3</sup> will be required over 8 years to back-flood the mined-out Whale Tail Pit (i.e., approximately 17,000,000 m<sup>3</sup>) and Whale Tail Lake (North Basin) (i.e., approximately 7,000,000 m<sup>3</sup>) to its original level.

Once the water in the back-flooded area is suitable for direct discharge to the environment, the pumping and pipelines systems will be removed. The Whale Tail Dike and Mammoth Dike will then be breached and the back-flooded area would then be restored to the original conditions. The dikes will be breached at selected locations.

#### Waste Rock and Overburden Storage Facility:

The WRSF will be designed for long-term stability. Thus no additional re-grading of the sideslopes will be required. It will be necessary to contour the top surface to ensure positive drainage and to prevent ponding.

An engineered cover will be progressively placed on the surface of the WRSF. The design proposed is similar to the approved Vault WRSF at Meadowbank Mine, namely the addition of 2 to 4 m of non-potentially acid generating (NPAG) waste rock as final surface of the WRSF. The intent of the cover is to contain the yearly active layer inside the thickness of the cover and maintain a temperature below 0° Celsius for the underlying rock. The objective of the cover is the control of acid generating reactions and of migration of contaminants. The segregation of the PAG/NPAG and ML/Non-ML waste rock will occur during the operation of the mine. The covering of the top of the WRSF will be completed during the closure period using a storage of NPAG (and non-ML to the extent possible) waste rock.

Cover design will be finalized during the detailed design phase of the Project and will consider operational experience at other northern mine sites including the Meadowbank Mine, and available design guidelines including MEND Report 1.61.5c – Cold Regions Cover System Design Technical Guidance Document (MEND 2012).



The contact water management system for the WRSF will be maintained during the closure period. The water collected from the WRSF, will be treated in the WTP if required until water quality monitoring demonstrates that water flowing from this facility is acceptable for direct release to the environment. Once water quality is acceptable for direct release based on criteria established through the water licensing process, the WRSF contact water management system will be decommissioned.

**Buildings and Equipment:**

- Equipment used for closure activities and long-term maintenance (e.g., trucks, backhoes, etc.) will be removed from the Project site once they are no longer required. Most of the mobile equipment will be removed once the closure stage is complete. A small subset of equipment will be retained on-site for a portion of the post-closure stage.
- Phase 1 and 2 ESAs will be carried out to identify areas where soils may be contaminated by hydrocarbons; contaminated soils will be excavated and hauled to Meadowbank Mine landfarm for remediation.
- Salvageable buildings and surface structures will be dismantled and demobilized from the site. The buildings will be offered to the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA) (the land owner) at closure for potential re-use elsewhere.
- Non-salvageable buildings and structures will be dismantled or demolished and inert non-hazardous materials will be disposed in the landfill area in the WRSF.
- Hazardous wastes will be removed for disposal by a licensed handler.
- Any above grade concrete structures will be demolished and the rubble will be disposed of in the WRSF landfill. Any slabs on grade will be punctured and then left in place and covered with soil or NPAG/non-metal leaching waste rock. Any subgrade foundations will be left in place.
- All disturbed site areas will be re-graded to suit the surrounding topography. In areas where the original ground surface was lowered for site grading or structural requirements, the slopes will be stabilized and contoured. Cover materials may be required for erosion and dust control. It is anticipated that a succession of indigenous plant species will naturally re-vegetate the surface over time.
- Fuel not required during the closure and reclamation activities will be sold, returned to suppliers, disposed by a licensed handler or incinerated.

**Mine Infrastructure:**

- Salvageable equipment such as the jaw crushers and conveyors will be dismantled and demobilized from the site.
- Non-salvageable structures will be dismantled or demolished and inert non-hazardous materials disposed of in the landfill area in the WRSF.
- Hazardous wastes will be removed for disposal by a licensed handler.



- Any above grade concrete will be demolished and the rubble will be disposed in the WRSF landfill. Remaining concrete foundations and slabs will be cut in pieces and buried or removed.
- After the crushing facilities are removed, the areas will be re-graded to promote natural drainage. All disturbed site areas will be re-graded to suit the surrounding topography. In areas where the original ground surface was lowered for site grading or structural requirements, the slopes will be stabilized and contoured. Cover materials may be required for erosion and dust control. It is anticipated that a succession of indigenous plant species will naturally re-vegetate the surface over time.

**Transportation Routes:**

- The roads not required for post-closure monitoring, and not assumed by the community or by a third party after consultation, will be decommissioned and the terrain will be restored. Decommissioning of the road will start from the site.
- Decommissioning will occur by loosening compacted surfaces and flattening side slopes.
- The road surface will be scarified, allowing the native plant community to naturally establish itself on the former road surface.
- Slopes will be stabilized against erosion potential.
- If necessary, wildlife access will be provided at suitable intervals by re-grading the embankment shoulders to provide flatter slopes.
- All bridges and culverts will be removed and original drainage patterns will be restored.
- Stream crossings will be rehabilitated as they are encountered during the progression of the road decommissioning work.
- Cross-drain structures (cross-ditches) will also be installed where necessary between culvert sites. Where armouring rock (rip-rap) is required, this rock will be non-acid generating and non-metal leaching for the protection of aquatic life. Where affected watercourses are fish bearing, the timing of work will be restricted to within the designated Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) fisheries work window.
- The loosening of compacted surfaces will be accomplished by ripping the road bed using a dozer with a “ripper” attachment on the back. Successive passes with the dozer longitudinally along the road bed will eliminate the level road surface and make travel difficult. It is anticipated that, in this way, the abandoned roads will not be useable by wheeled vehicles (i.e., cars, trucks, and pick-up trucks). The road bed would still be useable by all-terrain vehicle or snowmobile after final reclamation.

**Landfill and Other Waste Disposal Areas:**

- The leachate from the landfill is anticipated to be of very low ionic strength (dilute) due to controls on materials to be placed in the landfill. Moreover, drainage from the landfill is



- largely expected to freeze within the WRSF, with little to none reporting to the water collection infrastructure.
- The design, operation, and/or closure of the landfill do not rely on total freezing; however, as an added control strategy, a minimum of 2 m thick NPAG waste rock cover will be placed over the landfill (as with other parts of the surrounding WRSF). The cover thickness is considered sufficient for planning purposes and is based on maintaining the active layer within the waste rock cover so that the materials landfilled will remain frozen. The cover will be placed at closure. The cover is designed to account for potential climate warming and would be modified if required. When finalizing the design for the cover, the need for thermistors to be installed will be evaluated. The surface will be left irregular so as to capture snow, windblown sediment, and plant seeds.
  - The hazardous waste and contaminated soil (soil not treated through the Meadowbank Mine landfarm (i.e., soil contaminated with heavy hydrocarbons or other contaminants not suitable for remediation in the landfarm) will be managed continually during operations and closure by sending the soil to a licensed off-site treatment facility. Therefore, there will be little to no accumulation of such wastes during mine operations or closure at the Project site, subject to seasonal shipping considerations.
  - Inert, non-combustible wastes will be disposed in the WRSF landfill.
  - Domestic waste will be burned in the Meadowbank Mine incinerator during operation and closure as part of camp maintenance.
  - Any above-ground structures will be demolished and the non-hazardous debris will be disposed in the WRSF landfill.
  - Concrete slabs on grade will be cut in pieces and buried, or moved to the WRSF landfill. Foundations will be left in place and covered with fill.
  - The top of the landfill will be contoured to encourage drainage and to prevent ponding. A 2 m thick cover of NPAG rock will be placed on top (as discussed above).

**Water Management Facilities:**

**Freshwater Intake and Potable Water Treatment Plant:** The pumps will be removed from the freshwater intake for salvage if economic to do so. The wet wells will be filled in with granular material. Above grade buildings will be demolished and the debris will be disposed in the WRSF landfill. The potable water treatment plant will be dismantled and salvaged or disposed of in the WRSF landfill when it is no longer required. Any slabs on grade from the potable water treatment plant will be perforated and covered, or removed. The areas will be re-graded to promote natural drainage and natural re-vegetation.

**WTP and Mammoth Lake Effluent Diffuser:** The WTP will be decommissioned once it is no longer required (i.e., when the water quality from the Project components meets licence criteria for direct discharge). The WTP and the Mammoth Lake effluent diffuser will be maintained for 3 water treatment seasons as a contingency before being dismantled and disposed of in the WRSF landfill.



Any concrete slabs on grade from the WTP will be perforated and covered, or removed, and the area will be re-graded to promote natural drainage and natural re-vegetation.

**Dikes/Dams:** The Northeast Dike will be breached at the end of the operations phase (expected in Year 4 2022). The remaining water retention and dewatering berms/dams will be kept intact to provide a barrier between the facilities and surrounding lakes until the water quality (seepage and runoff collected from facilities, and from the back-flooded area) is considered acceptable for release to the environment without treatment. Once this is achieved, the remaining dikes/dams will be breached. The dikes/dams will be breached at selected locations.

**Channels and ponds:** The channels and ponds for contact water will be maintained as required in closure until site water quality monitoring results indicate that the water can be released directly to the environment without further treatment. No closure measures are necessary for the fresh water bypass channel from Whale Tail Lake (South Basin) to Mammoth Lake because its invert elevation will be above the final water level in the lake.

All water management infrastructures when they are no longer required will be re-contoured and/or surface-treated according to site-specific conditions to minimize wind-blown dust and erosion from surface runoff to and enhance the site area for natural re-vegetation and wildlife habitat post-closure.

**Pipelines, culverts, pumps:** Pipes, culverts, and pumps will be maintained as required in closure until site water quality monitoring results indicate that the water can be released directly to the environment without further management (Golder 2016c). All water management infrastructure will be dismantled and salvaged or disposed of in the WRSF landfill when they are no longer required. Reclaimed areas will be re-graded to promote natural drainage and natural re-vegetation.

**Diversion channels:** The diversion channels will be maintained as required in closure until site water quality monitoring results indicate that the water can be released directly to the environment without further management.

The channels will be re-contoured and/or surface-treated according to site-specific conditions to minimize wind-blown dust and erosion from surface runoff to and enhance the site area for natural re-vegetation and wildlife habitat post-closure.

#### **Quarries and Granular Borrow Sites:**

The reclamation of the borrow sites is covered in the Exploration Facilities Conceptual CRPs (Agnico Eagle 2015b, 2015c).



## 1.2 Monitoring and Maintenance Plans

Monitoring and maintenance of the reclaimed facilities will be carried out during operations and into closure. It is planned that the haul road would be maintained for a sufficient period to enable access to the site for minor maintenance required in the initial portion of the post-closure period. The haul road, if not assumed by the community or a third party will be decommissioned once maintenance requirements at the site are anticipated to be minor and could be achieved with small crews sent to site via helicopter in the summer.

The proposed closure monitoring and maintenance activities are summarized below.

### Open Pit Mine Workings:

- carry out visual inspections of the reclaimed areas;
- sample surface water and profiles of the back-flooded area; and
- inspect fish habitat in back-flooded area.

### Waste Rock and Overburden Storage Facility (WRSF):

- periodic inspections will be performed by a geotechnical engineer to visually assess stability and performance of the WRSF;
- ground conditions in the WRSF will be monitored to confirm permafrost conditions are being established as predicted;
- thermistor data will be monitored to determine thermal conditions within the WRSF to confirm predicted permafrost aggradation/encapsulation and to verify that the thickness of the active zone is less than the design thickness of the cover;
- water quality from controlled discharge points around the WRSF will be monitored to confirm that drainage is performing as predicted and is not adversely affecting the environment; and
- any seepage areas from the toe of the WRSF will be identified and monitored.

### Buildings and Equipment:

- periodic inspections will be performed to visually assess the reclaimed areas; and
- all buildings and equipment left on-site during closure will be maintained until no longer required, at which time they will be removed from the site or demolished and disposed in the WRSF landfill.

### Mine Infrastructure:

- periodic inspections will be performed to visually assess the reclaimed areas.

### Transportation Routes:

- periodic inspections will be performed to visually assess the reclaimed areas; and
- all roads to be used during closure will be maintained until they are no longer required.



**Landfill and Other Waste Disposal Areas:**

- periodic inspections will be performed to visually assess the reclaimed areas;
- all waste management facilities to be used during closure will be maintained until they are no longer required; and
- visual observations for cracking or slumping of the landfill cover and for underlying waste material pushing its way up through the cover will be completed periodically.

**Water Management Facilities:**

- the water quality in the open pit will be profiled during the back-flooding process;
- water management points (including seepage) that were not anticipated will be identified and monitored;
- ongoing inspection and maintenance of the WTP will be conducted as long as it remains in operation;
- the rate of back-flooding of the open pit and the dewatered area will be monitored and compared with predictions;
- periodic inspections will be performed to visually assess the reclaimed areas;
- unstable areas will be identified and monitored; and
- all water management facilities to be used during closure will be maintained until they are no longer required.

A permanent closure and reclamation financial security cost estimate has been prepared to a conceptual level with the present Project layout and infrastructure.

**1.3 Cost Estimate**

The cost estimate covers the closure and reclamation of all Project facilities as described in this ICRP and was prepared using RECLAIM Version 7.0, March 2014, for permanent closure of the Project.



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## 2.0 SECTION 2 • INTRODUCTION

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### 2.1 Background

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Division (Agnico Eagle) is proposing to develop Whale Tail Pit (referred to in this document as the Project), a satellite deposit located on the Amaruq property, to continue mine operations and milling at Meadowbank Mine. Agnico Eagle is seeking approval to extend Meadowbank Mine to include development of resources from Whale Tail Pit. Concurrent with the reconsideration of the Project Certificate by the NIRB, Agnico Eagle is seeking an amendment to Meadowbank Mine Type A Water Licence (No. 2AM-MEA1525) to include mining of Whale Tail Pit and construction and operations of associated infrastructure from the Nunavut Water Board (NWB).

The Project involves construction, operations, and closure, including decommissioning and the rehabilitation of the Project facilities. The Project is 100% owned by Agnico Eagle.

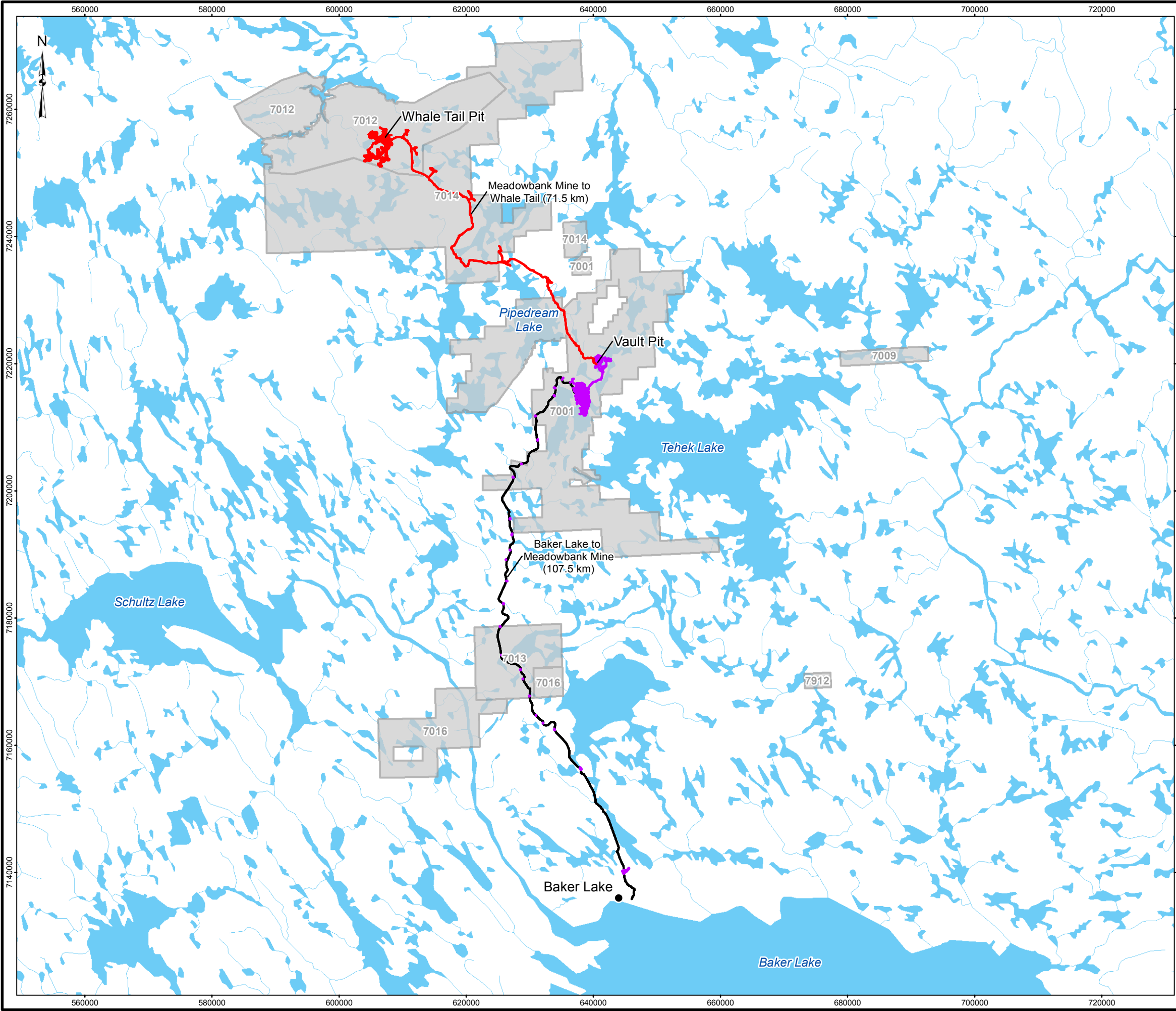
The Amaruq property is located in the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut, Canada, centered at approximately latitude 65° 24' 36 " N, longitude 96° 41' 41" W. The property was acquired by Agnico Eagle in April 2013 subject to a mineral exploration agreement with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. The Amaruq property is a 408 square kilometre (km<sup>2</sup>) site located on Inuit Owned Land approximately 150 kilometres (km) north of the hamlet of Baker Lake and northwest of the Meadowbank Mine (Figure 2.1-1). Inuit Owned Land is governed under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA).

In November 2015, Agnico Eagle received approval to construct an access road under the Type B Water License (2BE-MEA1318), which will connect the Vault Pit to the Amaruq exploration camp site in support of exploration activities. Vault Pit is approximately 8 km northeast of Meadowbank Mine site. The proposed access road will be about 64.1 km long and it will have a top width of 6.5 m. Prior to mining of the Project, Agnico Eagle is proposing to upgrade the proposed access road to accommodate increased traffic rates and haul trucks. (The upgraded road is referred to in this document as the haul road.) No changes are proposed for the existing Meadowbank All Weather Access Road (AWAR) to Baker Lake, or any winter road.

The proposed upgrade of the access road mainly entails widening from the current 6.5 m width to 9.5 m width. Road surfacing will be constructed using waste rock or aggregates from the quarry sites. The access road bridges and culverts were already designed at the exploration stage to accommodate potential for use of the access road as a haul road.



\\golder.gds\galiburnab\CAD-GIS\Client\Agnico\_Eagle\_Mines\_Ltd\Whale\_Tail\99\_PROJECTS\1541520\_FEIS\02\_PRODUCTION\FEIS\MXD\6100\_Closure\_Reclamation\Report\1541520\_FIG.2.1\_1\_SITE\_LAYOUT\_PLAN.mxd



LEGEND

COMMUNITY

PROPOSED HAUL ROAD

ALL WEATHER ROAD

WHALE TAIL PROJECT

MEADOWBANK OPERATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

CLAIM BOUNDARY

WATERCOURSE

WATERBODY



REFERENCE

1. HAUL ROAD OBTAINED FROM AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED. 2015-10-14 FROM 6103-117-230-200\_R0.dwg

2. CLAIM BOUNDARIES OBTAINED FROM AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED.

3. WATERCOURSE AND WATERBODY DATA OBTAINED FROM CANVEC © DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

4. INSET MAP DATA OBTAINED FROM ESRI.

DATUM: NAD 83 CSRS PROJECTION: UTM ZONE 14



PROJECT

AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED:  
MEADOWBANK DIVISION  
WHALE TAIL PIT PROJECT

TITLE

GENERAL PROJECT SITE LAYOUT PLAN

Golder Associates

PROJECT	1541520	PHASE	6100
DESIGN	AP	27 May 2016	SCALE AS SHOWN
GIS	CDB	24 Mar. 2016	REV. 0
CHECK	AP	1 June 2016	
REVIEW	IMKAB	1 June 2016	

FIGURE 2.1-1



The Whale Tail deposit is partly located within Whale Tail Lake. The proposed approach to develop the pit involves isolating the pit area with three dikes (Whale Tail Dike, Mammoth Dike, and Northeast Dike). The isolated area (referred to in this document as the 'dewatered Whale Tail Lake area' or the 'dewatered area') will be dewatered for the development and operation of the pit. The dewatered water level will be maintained through the life of the Project by diverting most the fresh water that would become in contact with the mine site to other sub-watersheds using diversion channels and by pumping (operational dewatering) the contact water to the WTP for treatment before discharge in Mammoth Lake (Figure 1.1-1).

Ore from Whale Tail Pit will be segregated by grade, the high grade will be crushed on-site and transported to the approved infrastructure at Meadowbank Mine for milling as part of the run of mine operation while the low grade ore will be stockpiled on the low grade ore pad until the end of the mining operation and then crushed on-site and transported to the Meadowbank Mine. Agnico Eagle proposes to dispose the tailings slurry generated by the Project in the Meadowbank Tailings Storage Facilities authorized under the current Meadowbank Mine Certificate and Type A Water Licence.

The Whale Tail Pit will produce approximately 8.3 million tonnes (Mt) of ore, 46.1 Mt of waste rock and 5.6 Mt of overburden (with very limited organic material) for a total of 51.7 Mt of waste.

There are four phases to the development of the Project:

- **Construction phase:** is anticipated to start in the second quarter of Year -1 (2018) and will focus on site preparation and the construction of infrastructure, with the development of the starter pit to produce construction material. The duration of the construction phase will be about 2 years.
- **Operations phase:** will span approximately three to four years, from Year 1 (2019) to Year 4 (2022). Mining activities are expected to end in Year 3 (2021) and ore processing is expected to end during the first quarter of Year 4 (2022). During this time reclamation of the WRSF through cover placement will occur progressively.
- **Closure phase:** will occur from Year 4 (2022) to Year 11 (2029) after the completion of mining and will include removal of the non-essential site infrastructure and the back-flooding of the dewatered area to the original Whale Tail Lake water level.
- **Post-closure phase:** will commence as closure is completed in Year 11 (2029) and will continue until Year 17 (2035) or it is shown that the site and water quality meets the regulatory closure objectives.

Infrastructure/activities at Meadowbank Mine that support the Whale Tail Pit will be extended for another three years and will remain the same as already approved.

Proposed Project facilities to support the mining activities over the Project life are listed in Section 1.0.



The Project is regulated by the NWB; which is also responsible for approving Closure and Reclamation Plans in the Nunavut region. This report outlines the Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (ICRP) for the Project and it has been prepared in terms of an addendum to the current existing ICRP and financial security for Meadowbank Mine. It has been submitted to NWB for review and approval in support of the Type A Water Licence Amendment. This report is Version A of the ICRP for the Project.

This ICRP has been completed following the “*Guidelines for the Closure and Reclamation of Advanced Mineral Exploration and Mine Sites in the Northwest Territories*” issued by the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) in 2013 (MVLWB/AANDC 2013). These Guidelines are an important tool for confirming responsible closure and reclamation at mine sites. This ICRP has also been completed following Agnico Eagle’s Closure Plan goals. It also addresses the Mine Site Reclamation Policy for Nunavut (AANDC 2002).

Mine closure is integral to the mine design and this plan is a “living” document that will be modified as the Project progresses. Planning for permanent closure is an active and iterative process, in which the intent is to develop a final plan using adaptive management. The process begins in the mine design phase and continues through to closure implementation. Adaptive management enables the plan to evolve as new information becomes available through analyses, testing, monitoring, and progressive reclamation.

A general layout plan of the Project at end of operations is shown in Figure 1.1-1.

## **2.2 Purpose and Scope of the Closure and Reclamation Plan**

Agnico Eagle has engaged Aboriginal groups and other stakeholders since the early stages of mine planning and closure and reclamation plan development. Their inputs have been considered in the preparation of this ICRP.

The regulatory process for the closure and reclamation planning in the Nunavut region require Agnico Eagle to amend the current existing Meadowbank Mine ICRP when changes to the mine planning are proposed and/or site-specific factors or new information resulting from reclamation research necessitate modifications to closure objectives for example. In this case, the Project will modify the mine planning and therefore this ICRP has been prepared in terms of an addendum to the Meadowbank Mine ICRP in support of the Meadowbank Mine Type A Water Licence Amendment. ICRPs and a Final Closure and Reclamation Plan (FCRP) are required during mining operations (MVLWB/AANDC 2013).

This ICRP is intended to provide NWB with a conceptual level description of all the related closure concepts and closure activities involved for the Project site following suspension of the mine operations, either temporarily or permanently.

The closure concepts and closure activities for the Project presented in this document will be refined through the detailed design and operation phases as additional information and monitoring results



become available and as additional community feedback is collected through ongoing public consultations. The refined closure concepts and closure activities for the Project will be incorporated in future updates of the current existing Meadowbank Mine ICRP. The ICRP is required to be updated every three years. The FCRP is required two years prior to the end of mining operations, and is to be approved by the NWB by the end of mining operations.

This ICRP does not include fisheries offsetting compensation activities. Independent closure plans and cost estimates for these activities are provided in the following documents which will be amended to include the Project:

- Agnico Eagles Mines Meadowbank Division No-Net-Loss Plan, October 2012;
- Agnico Eagles Meadowbank Mine Draft No-Net-Loss Plan, Implementation Cost Estimate and Construction Schedule, May 2013; and
- No Net Loss Plan (Offsetting) (Ver. 3, October 2013).

The focus of this ICRP for the Project is to:

- provide closure objectives for the Project components;
- describe closure options for temporary and permanent closure;
- identify uncertainties related to the proposed closure objectives, options, or criteria;
- identify post-closure monitoring requirements and responsibilities for the selected closure activities;
- predict the likelihood of potential post-reclamation risks to the environment and human and wildlife health; and
- estimate the closure and reclamation liability costs and financial security.

### **2.3 Goal of the Closure and Reclamation Plan**

The overall goal of closure is to return the proposed Project site and affected areas to viable and, wherever practicable, self-sustaining ecosystems that are compatible with a healthy environment and with human activities. The overall closure goal is supported by the four closure principles of physical stability, chemical stability, no long-term active care requirements, and compatibility with future land uses for each component of the Project.

The closure goals of this ICRP are to:

- preserve shareholder value;
- ensure Agnico Eagle and shareholder goals are included in closure planning;
- address water license Meadowbank Mine Type A Water Licence (No. 2AM-MEA1525) requirements;
- help protect traditional values;
- comply with applicable standards and guidelines requirements and objectives;



- protect public and employee health, safety and welfare using known, safe, and responsible reclamation practices;
- mitigate socio-economic impacts in the area where the mine is located following decommissioning and closure as practically possible;
- give preference to closure solutions that do not require subsequent maintenance (“walk away” solutions) or else solutions that reduce maintenance requirements (example “passive water treatment”);
- progressive closure of facilities, whenever possible, spaced out over the operational life of the mine as activities in areas are completed;
- establish conditions that allow the natural environment to recover from mining activities and that are compatible with future uses (including aesthetics and values) as agreed with local government and communities if applicable; and
- reduce costs and long-term liabilities to Agnico Eagle, the government, and the public.

#### **2.4 Closure and Reclamation Planning Team**

The proponent of the Project is: Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (Agnico Eagle)

The address for the proponent is: Agnico Eagle Mines Limited  
10200, Route de Preissac  
Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec J0Y 1C0  
Canada

The Project site is located at: latitude 65° 24' 36 " N, longitude 96° 41' 41" W  
Territory of Nunavut, Canada

Acting on behalf of the proponent: Golder Associates Ltd. (Golder)  
16820 107 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta  
T5P 4C3, Canada

The contact person for the Project is: Ryan Vanengen  
Environment Superintendent – Nunavut  
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited  
Baker Lake, Nunavut, Canada, X0C 0A0  
Ph.: 819.759.3555 x6838  
M: 819.651.2974  
Email: ryan.vanengen@agnicoeagle.com



## 2.5 Engagement

Since operation of the mine began, Agnico Eagle has continued public consultation on a regular basis by meeting with communities, local stakeholders, regulatory agencies, and local employees. Effective consultation has provided Agnico Eagle with a better general understanding of the rights, interests, values, aspirations, and concerns of the potentially affected stakeholders and in particular the local population. Through this continued consultation Agnico Eagle has developed an operational culture that recognizes and respects these relevant interests in the planning and executing processes at the Meadowbank Mine.

Consistent with the Whale Tail Pit Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) (Agnico Eagle 2016), Agnico Eagle has documented where, how, why, and with whom it conducted consultation. In addition, Agnico Eagle documented how the information collected from participants was used. Consultation records to date related to the Whale Tail Pit are presented in the FEIS (Volume 1, Agnico Eagle 2016). Records include discussions with the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA), Government of Nunavut (GN), local Hunters' and Trappers' Organizations (HTO), and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) for example.

### 2.5.1 Incorporation of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit

Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ) was used in the FEIS to enhance the understanding of the environment through literature review, public interaction, and interviews. Interviews were conducted by a local Inuit heritage consultant (Hattie Mannik). Workshops were held with the community and with HTO to help support and clarify the baseline data collected, specifically with regard to caribou migration patterns and fish (FEIS Volume 5, Agnico Eagle 2016). Arctic literature and an examination of other Arctic mining projects also yielded IQ information.

To date Agnico Eagle has conducted a series of engagement activities to gather IQ related to the Meadowbank Mine and associated exploration activities in the region, so that it can be considered and incorporated in all phases of the Whale Tail Pit development. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit already gathered for the Meadowbank Mine is applicable to the addition of Whale Tail Pit. Supplemental IQ information specific to the Whale Tail Pit expansion was gathered during engagement activities conducted in 2015 (Agnico Eagle 2016).

Consistent with the FEIS, all IQ information collected for the Project was used in all aspects of the Project design, where appropriate. For example, the haul road alignment was adjusted to ensure an archaeological site (i.e., gravesite) identified during the September 2015 consultation session was avoided and respected.

The field crews for the 2015 baseline western base science field programs were supported by local assistants for the collection of IQ. The IQ information collected during the field session was only recorded by field crews, if permission was granted. Through follow-up consultation sessions and/or



the workshop sessions, information relevant to the study area was marked on maps and recorded, where appropriate.

Agnico Eagle has taken a holistic approach to collecting IQ for the Whale Tail Pit that includes the following:

- reviewing the preceding IQ information relevant to the Project area prior to beginning new studies;
- conducting a IQ workshops with Baker Lake Elders;
- conducting detailed baseline data collection around the proposed Whale Tail Pit and haul road, using western science methods that were informed and partially designed by IQ workshop data, endorsed by local hunters and supported in the field by local Inuit; and
- facilitating the review and verification of IQ information by Elders and HTO members during a site visit (Agnico Eagle 2016).

## 2.6 Regulatory Instruments for Closure and Reclamation

The Project is located within the Nunavut Territory and is thus subject to the regulatory processes established under the applicable laws and regulations of Canada and of Nunavut.

A FEIS was submitted by Agnico Eagle in June 2016 for the Project.

In the preparation of this ICRP, Agnico Eagle has taken into account the following:

- comments received during public consultations;
- current existing Meadowbank Mine ICRP including the progressive reclamation activities carried out to date at the mine site;
- Mine Site Reclamation Policy for Nunavut (AANDC 2002);
- Mine Site Reclamation Guidelines for the Northwest Territories (AANDC 2007);
- Abandonment and Reclamation Policy for Inuit Owned Lands; and
- guidelines for the Closure and Reclamation of Advanced Mineral Exploration and Mine Sites in the Northwest Territories issued by the MVLWB and AANDC (MVLWB/AANDC 2013).

Fisheries protection and pollution prevention measures for the Project are subject to the requirements of the *Fisheries Act* s.35, which states that no person shall carry on any work, undertaking or activity that results in serious harm to fish that are part of a commercial, recreational, or Aboriginal fishery, or to fish that support such a fishery. The Project is not expected to cause serious harm to fish. Therefore, it is not anticipated that an authorization will be required under the *Fisheries Act* for the proposed Project undertakings, works, or activities. Agnico Eagle intends to follow DFO operational statements for the installation of clear span bridges and culverts.

The overall approach to closure and reclamation planning for the Project conform to accepted practices for mine closure. Selected aspects of closure and reclamation planning completed for other



mining operations in the Nunavut region have been reviewed and incorporated, where applicable, in the development of this ICRP.

Table 2.6-1 lists the known Federal and Territorial Acts and Regulations applicable to the ICRP. A list of existing authorizations for Meadowbank Mine and the Project is found in Table 2.6-2. Table 2.6-3 outlines the list of primary approval requirements for the Project that Agnico Eagle has identified to date which are also relevant to this ICRP.



Table 2.6-1: Primary Applicable Acts, Regulations, and Guidelines Applicable to Closure and Reclamation

Acts	Regulations	Guidelines
<b>Federal</b>		
<i>Canadian Environmental Protection Act</i> (1999 c.33)	<i>Storage Tank Systems for Petroleum Products and Allied Petroleum Products Regulations</i> (SOR/2008-197)	Canadian Council of the Ministers of Environment - Environmental Code of Practice for Aboveground and Underground Storage Tank Systems Containing Petroleum and Allied Petroleum Products
	<i>Environmental Emergency Regulations</i> (SOR/2003-307)	
	<i>Interprovincial Movement of Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Recyclable Material Regulations</i> (SOR/2002-301)	Notice with respect to substances in the National Pollutant Release Inventory
	<i>Release and Environmental Emergency Notification Regulations</i> (SOR/2011-90)	Canada-Wide Standards for Particulate Matter (PM) and Ozone
		Canada-Wide Standards for Petroleum Hydrocarbons (PHC) In Soil
<i>Canada Wildlife Act</i> (1985 w9)		
<i>Species at Risk Act</i> (2002 c.29)		Species at Risk Policies
<i>Canadian Transportation Accident Investigation and Safety Board Act</i> (S.C. 1989, c. 3)	<i>Transportation Safety Board Regulations</i> (SOR/92-446)	
<i>Navigable Waters Protection Act</i> (R.S. 1985 c. N-22)	<i>Navigable Waters Works Regulations</i> (C.R.C., c. 1232)	
	<i>Navigable Waters Bridges Regulations</i> (C.R.C., c. 1231)	
<i>Fisheries Act</i> (R.S.C. c. F-14)	<i>Metal Mining Effluent Regulations</i> (SOR/ 2002-2222)	The Policy for the Management of Fish Habitat
35. (1) No person shall carry on any work, undertaking or activity that results in serious harm to fish that are part of a commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fishery, or to fish that support such a fishery.	<i>Marine Mammal Regulations</i> (SOR/93-56)	The Fisheries Protection Policy Statement, 2013
Projects that have the potential to obstruct fish passage, modify flow or result in the entrainment of fish may also		Fisheries Productivity Investment Policy: A Proponent's Guide to Offsetting



**Table 2.6-1: Primary Applicable Acts, Regulations, and Guidelines Applicable to Closure and Reclamation (continued)**

Acts	Regulations	Guidelines
<p>cause serious harm to fish. In these situations, an authorization under Subsection 35(2) is required.</p> <p>Proponents are responsible for avoiding and mitigating serious harm to fish that are part of or support commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fisheries. When proponents are unable to completely avoid or mitigate serious harm to fish, their projects will normally require authorization under Subsection 35(2).</p>		
<i>Canada Labour Code</i> (R.S.C., 1985, c. L-2)	<p><i>Canada Labour Standards Regulations</i> (C.R.C., c. 986)</p> <p><i>Canada Occupational Health and Safety Regulations</i> (SOR/86 304)</p>	
<i>Territorial Lands Act</i> (R.S. 1985, c. T-7)	<p><i>Northwest Territories and Nunavut Mining Regulations</i> (C.R.C., c. 1516)</p> <p><i>Territorial Land Use Regulations</i> (C.R.C. 1524)</p> <p><i>Territorial Quarrying Regulations</i> (C.R.C. c. 1527)</p>	
<i>Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act</i> (2002, c. 10)	<i>Northwest Territories Waters Regulations</i> (SOR/93/303)	
<i>Nunavut Act</i> (1993 c.28)	<i>Nunavut Archaeological and Paleontological Sites Regulations</i> (SOR/2001-220)	
<i>Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act</i> (1993, c. 29)		



**Table 2.6-1: Primary Applicable Acts, Regulations, and Guidelines Applicable to Closure and Reclamation (continued)**

Acts	Regulations	Guidelines
<b>Territorial – Nunavut</b>		
<i>Environmental Protection Act</i> (RSNWT (Nu) 1988, c E-7)	<i>Spill Contingency Planning and Reporting Regulations</i> (NWT Reg (Nu) 068-93)	Guideline on Dust Suppression  Guideline for the General Management of Hazardous Waste in Nunavut  Environmental Guideline for Waste Asbestos  Guideline for Industrial Waste Discharges in Nunavut  Guideline for Industrial Projects on Commissioner's Land
<i>Historical Resources Act</i> (RSNWT (Nu) 1988, c H-3)		
<i>Territorial Parks Act</i> (RSNWT (Nu) 1988, c T-4)	<i>Territorial Parks Regulations</i> (RRNWT (Nu) 1990 c T-13)	
<i>Wildlife Act</i> (RSNWT (Nu) 1988, c W-4)	<i>Wildlife General Regulations</i> (NWT Reg (Nu) 026-92)  <i>Wildlife Licences and Permits Regulations</i> (NWT Reg (Nu) 027-92)  <i>Wildlife Management Barren-Ground Caribou Areas Regulations</i> (NWT Reg (Nu) 099-98)  <i>Wildlife Management Zones Regulations</i> (RRNWT (Nu) 1990 c W-17)  <i>Wildlife Regions Regulations</i> (NWT Reg (Nu) 108-98)	
<i>Commissioner's Land Act</i> (RSNWT 1988, c C-11)	<i>Commissioner's Land Regulations</i> (RRNWT 1990, c C-13)	
<i>Mine Health and Safety Act</i> (SNWT (Nu) 1994, c 25)	<i>Mine Health and Safety Regulations</i> (NWT Reg (Nu) 125-95)	



**Table 2.6-2: List of Existing Licenses/Permits for the Project**

Permit/License	Type	Licensor	Approved Ops	Status	Begin of Term	End of Term	Comments
66A/8-71-2	Land Lease	INAC	All Weather Private Access Road construction, operation, maintenance and reclamation	Active	01-Jan-07	31-Dec-21	
66A/8-72-2	Land Lease	INAC	Quarrying for the AWPAP	Active	01-Jan-07	31-Dec-16	
08-HCAA-CA7-00039	Freshwater Intake Pipe Screen Approval	DFO	Freshwater Intake Pipe at Exploration Camp	Active	06-Jan-09		No obligations or renewal deadlines. Approval does not have expiry date.
08-HCAA-CA7-00040 (NU-08-0040)	Freshwater Intake Pipe Screen Approval	DFO	Freshwater Intake Pipe at Meadowbank Camp	Active	06-Jan-09		No obligations or renewal deadlines. Approval does not have expiry date.
NU 03-191 s30	Freshwater Intake	DFO	Freshwater Intake at Emulsion plant	Active	16-Nov-09		No obligations or renewal deadlines. Approval does not have expiry date.
FWISL-ACC-07-08-056	Animal Use Protocol	DFO		Expired		31-Mar-08	
FWI-ACC-2009-027	Animal Use Protocol	DFO		Expired	04-Jun-09	31-Dec-09	
FWI-ACC-2008-2009-054	Animal Use Protocol	DFO		Expired	07-Jul-08	31-Mar-09	
FWI-ACC-2008-2009-064	Animal Use Protocol	DFO		Expired	31-Jul-08	31-Mar-09	
FWI-ACC-2010-022	Animal Use Protocol	DFO		Expired	09-Jun-10	31-Dec-10	
FWI-ACC-2011-025	Animal Use Protocol	DFO		Expired	17-Jun-11	31-Dec-11	
FWI-ACC-2012-038	Animal Use Protocol	DFO		Expired	13-Jun-12	01-Oct-12	
FWI-ACC-2013-033	Animal Use Protocol	DFO		Expired	11-Jun-13	01-Nov-13	
FWI-ACC-2015-021	Animal Use Protocol	DFO		Expired	11-Jun-15	01-Dec-15	



Permit/License	Type	Licensor	Approved Ops	Status	Begin of Term	End of Term	Comments
S-08/09-1042-NU	Licence to fish for scientific purposes	DFO		Expired	11-Aug-08	31-Oct-08	
S-08/09-1040	Licence to fish for scientific purposes	DFO		Expired	14-Jul-08	30-Sep-08	
S-09/10-1027-NU	Licence to fish for scientific purposes	DFO		Expired	24-Jun-09	30-Sep-09	
S-10/10-1011-NU	Licence to fish for scientific purposes	DFO		Expired	17-Jun-10	15-Oct-10	
S-11/12-1015-NU	Licence to fish for scientific purposes	DFO		Expired	15-Jun-11	15-Oct-11	
S-11/12-1042-NU	Licence to fish for scientific purposes	DFO		Expired	10-Aug-11	31-Aug-11	
S-12/13-1023-NU	Licence to fish for scientific purposes	DFO		Expired	15-Jun-12	30-Sep-12	
S-13/14-1010-NU	Licence to fish for scientific purposes	DFO	AWPAR and on-site fisheries monitoring including CREMP	Expired	15-Jun-13	15-Oct-13	
S-13/14 3018-YK	Licence to fish for scientific purposes	DFO	Vault Fishout	Expired	15-Jul-13	31-Mar-13	
S-15/16-1012-NU	Licence to fish for scientific purposes	DFO	AWAR and habitat compensation work	Expired	30-Jun-15	31-Jan-16	
NU-03-0190	HADD Authorization - AWPAP (amendment #1 and #2)	DFO	AWPAR - Infilling of fish habitat as a result of water crossing construction affecting a total of 0.53 HU / 2,793 m <sup>3</sup> of fish habitat	Expired	02-May-07	31-Dec-08	
NU-03-0191	HADD Authorization - Mine Site. <i>Fisheries Act</i> Authorization	DFO	Infilling of fish habitat as a result of infilling and dewatering of Second	Expired	30-Jul-08	15-Dec-15	



Permit/License	Type	Licensor	Approved Ops	Status	Begin of Term	End of Term	Comments
			and Third Portage Lakes - dikes and pits + airstrip extension				
NU-03-0191.02	s.32 <i>Fisheries Act</i> Authorization - Meadowbank Dewatering Bay Goose	DFO	Authorization for the fish destruction by means other than fishing during the dewatering of Bay Goose impoundment area in Third Portage Lake	Expired	22-Feb-11	31-Jul-12	
NU-03-0191.03	Portage Pit and Bay Goose <i>Fisheries Act</i> Authorization	DFO	Second Portage Lake: Dewatering, excavation, dike and road footprint (east and central dikes) and in water placement of coarse material  Third Portage Lake : Dewatering, excavation, road footprint, Bay Goose and South Camp Dike footprints and in water placement of coarse material	Active	05-Mar-13	31-Dec-17	
NU-03-0191.04	Vault <i>Fisheries Act</i> Authorization	DFO	Dewatering, excavation, dike construction and placement of coarse material in Vault Lake basin	Active	02-Apr-13	31-Dec-17	
NU-08-0013	HADD Authorization - Western Channel	DFO	Infilling of fish habitat as a result of a temporary culvert installation	Expired	28-May-08	13-Jun-08	



Permit/License	Type	Licensor	Approved Ops	Status	Begin of Term	End of Term	Comments
			affecting 1.01 HU on the westernmost channel connecting 2PL and 3PL				
NU-08-0052	Authorization for destruction of fish	DFO	<i>Fisheries Act</i> Sec.32 - destruction of fish arising from dewatering of NW arm of 2PL	Expired	02-Mar-09	31-Dec-10	
NU-10-0049	Vault Culvert Crossing	DFO	Vault Culvert Crossing	Active	25-Jan-11		No end term
MMER Sec 27.1 Approval TIA (08-HCAA-CA7-00191)	Letter of Approval	DFO	Authorization for deposition of tailings in TIA. Approval of Compensation Plan.	Active	14-Jan-10		TIA Habitat Compensation Plan
DvlptPA	Development Partnership Agreement	GN	700,000 m <sup>3</sup> /annually - mining, milling & associated activities, operation of Baker Lake Facilities, operation of AWPAP	Active	17-Feb-07	17-Feb-22	As per article 11.1, Agreement remains in force until completion of Closure and Reclamation
L-51260	Baker Lake Marshalling Area	GN	Marshalling Facility; tank farm, explosive area, access road.	Active	01-Mar-10	01-Mar-13	Permit renewal on going
L-51261	Baker Lake Marshalling Area, Land Lease	GN	Baker Lake Spud Barge	Active	01-Mar-10	01-Mar-20	
L-51262	Baker Lake All Weather Private Access Road Section	GN	Municipal Lands portion of Tahek Lake AWPAP, Baker Lake, Nunavut	Active	01-Mar-10	01-Mar-20	
LUP-06-603-001 (a)	Land use permit	GN	AWPAP construction	Expired			
QP-06-603-001 (a)	Quarry Permit	GN	AWPAP Quarry 1 : authorization to take 85,388m <sup>3</sup> of quarries bedrock - granite	Expired			



Permit/License	Type	Licensor	Approved Ops	Status	Begin of Term	End of Term	Comments
603-0-LUP-07-001	Land use permit	GN	Baker Lake Marshalling Area	Expired	01-May-07	01-May-08	
WL-2012-050	Wildlife Research Permit	GN	Ground survey of birds, nest, raptors, other animals, and wildlife signs. Must submit report at end of study	Expired	01-Jun-12	31-May-12	
WL-2014-055	Wildlife Research Permit	GN	Ground survey of birds, nest, raptors, other animals, and wildlife signs. Must submit report at end of study	Expired	1-Aug-14	31-Jul-15	
WL-2015-058	Wildlife Research Permit	GN	Ground survey of birds, nest, raptors, other animals, and wildlife signs. Must submit report at end of study	Expired	1-Jun-15	1-Jun-16	
WL-2016-044	Wildlife Research Permit	GN	Ground survey of birds, nest, raptors, other animals, and wildlife signs. Must submit report at end of study	Active	1-Jun-16	30-Jun-17	
Memorandum of Understanding	Wildlife Research	GN	GN has requested that the Proponent participate in the Kivalliq Ungulate Monitoring Program and the Proponent desires to work collaboratively and in good faith to increase the common knowledge	Active	11-Sep-13	11-Sep-16	



Permit/License	Type	Licensor	Approved Ops	Status	Begin of Term	End of Term	Comments
			of caribou and muskoxen for mutual benefit.				
IIBA	Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement	KIA	Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement	Expired	25-Mar-06	23-Jun-11	Reviewed every third year for material change and automatically renewed for a subsequent 3 year term
IIBA	Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement	KIA	Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement	Expired	23-Jun-11	23-Jun-14	Reviewed every third year for material change and automatically renewed for a subsequent 3 year term
IIBA	Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement	KIA	Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement	Active	23-June-14	23-June-17	Reviewed every third year for material change and automatically renewed for a subsequent 3 year term
KVCA06Q11	Quarry Permit - AWP	KIA	Quarrying for All Weather Private Access Road, 254,546 m <sup>3</sup> of material	Active	02-Feb-07	31-Dec-21	Permit expires in 2022 or when the specified amount of material has been quarried
KVCA09Q09	Quarry Permit	KIA	Removal of 50,000 m <sup>3</sup> of gravel material - sand quarry for concrete production	Expired	03-Mar-09	03-Mar-11	Expires within 24 months or when material has been quarried
KVCA08Q10	Quarry Permit	KIA	Removal of 250,000 m <sup>3</sup> of gravel, sand, loam,	Expired	15-May-08	15-May-12	Expires 12 months from the date hereof



Permit/License	Type	Licensors	Approved Ops	Status	Begin of Term	End of Term	Comments
			mining backfill or shot rock from the land				or when material has been quarried
KVPL08D280	Surface Production Lease (Amendment #1 and #2)	KIA	Surface Production Lease: Construction, operation and closure of the mine on Inuit owned land	Active	24-Jul-08	31-Dec-27	Production Lease Amended #1 Feb. 9th, 2009 ; Production Lease Amended #2 May 2, 2013
KVRW06F04	Right of Way Agreement - AWPARG (amendment #1)	KIA	All Weather Private Access Road (and Quarry - KVCA06Q11)	Active	01-Jan-07	31-Dec-21	
KVRW09F05	Right of Way Authorization	KIA	Winter Access Road for sand quarry	Expired	03-Mar-09	31-May-11	ROW expires one year before the sand quarry
Mine Water Comp Agrmt	Water Compensation Agreement - Mine	KIA	Compensation for water consumption at Meadowbank site and any changes in water quality, quantity or flow due to project activities	Active	14-Apr-08		Agreement terminates with C&R when KIA provides a letter of clearance
Road Water Comp Agrmt	Water Compensation Agreement - Road (amendment #1)	KIA	Compensation where development and operation of AWPARG has substantial effect on water quality, quantity or flow	Active	29-Jan-08		Agreement terminates following C&R of the road and all IOL affected by road
PC_NIRB-004	Project Certificate + modification condition 32	NIRB	Approval for the Meadowbank Project to proceed subject to its Terms & Conditions	Active	30-Dec-06	31-Dec-21	change in Condition 32 in September 15, 2010 (ATV access on AWPARG)  Removal of condition 48 and changes to



Permit/License	Type	Licensor	Approved Ops	Status	Begin of Term	End of Term	Comments
							condition 49 and 53 related to Phaser Lake (NIRB decision on April 18, 2016)
03-023-10N-M	Scientific Research License	NRI	Wind Data Collection	Expired	01-Jan-10	31-Dec-10	Multi-year license for January 1, 2010 - October 29, 2011 but needs to renewed each year
BL14-001-PL Vault	Subsurface Production Lease	NTI	Vault	Active	01-Jul-12	01-Jul-17	
							Approved by the Minister on July 10, 2008
2AM-MEA0815	Water License + Modification East Dike + Modification Airstrip + Amendment Fuel Tank Baker Lake	NWB	700,000 m <sup>3</sup> annually - Milling, mining and associated activities at the Meadowbank Project site  Amendment freshwater use permit – 1,870,000 m <sup>3</sup> in 2013 and 1,150,000 m <sup>3</sup> thereafter	Expired	10-Jul-08	31-May-15	Modification East Dike approve on July 3, 2013  Modification Airstrip approved in 2012  Amendment Fuel Tank Baker Lake on May 5, 2010
2AM-MEA0815	Short Term Water Licence	NWB	Same conditions as the approved 2008 water licence and amendment	Expired	20-April-15	27-Nov-15	Short term licence while waiting for the water licence renewal



Permit/License	Type	Licensors	Approved Ops	Status	Begin of Term	End of Term	Comments
2AM-MEA1525	Renewed Water Licence	NWB	2,350,000 m <sup>3</sup> annually up to December 31 2017 and 4,935,000 m <sup>3</sup> annually starting in 2018 through to the Expiry of the License- Milling, mining and associated activities at the Meadowbank Project site	Active	23-Jul-15	22-Jul-25	

INAC = Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (formally Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada); DFO = Fisheries and Oceans Canada; GN = Government of Nunavut; KIA = Kivalliq Inuit Association; NRI = Nunavut Research Institute; NTI = Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated; NWB = Nunavut Water Board; m<sup>3</sup> = cubic metres.



Table 2.6-3: Primary Project Approval Requirements

Permit/Approval Legislation	Administering Agency	Project Activity
<b>Project Certificate</b> NLCA (Article 12)	NIRB	Project approval
<b>Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement</b> NLCA (Article 26)	KIA	Project commencement
<b>Mineral Production Lease</b>	Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.	Required for mineral production
<b>Inuit Water Rights Compensation Agreement</b> NLCA (Article 20)	KIA	May be required
<b>Water Licence</b> <i>Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act</i>	NWB	Required for water use and waste disposal
<b>Class 1/Class 2 Archaeology Permit</b> <i>Nunavut Archaeological and Paleontological Sites Regulations</i>	Government of Nunavut Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth (CLEY)	Required to conduct archaeology research and to mitigate archaeological sites to allow development to occur
<b>IOL – Commercial Land Use Lease or Right of Way</b> NLCA	KIA	Long-term land tenure required for land use on Inuit Owned Lands; land required for infrastructure, roads and activities associated with construction, operations, and closure phases
<b>IOL – Quarry Lease/Permit</b> NLCA	KIA	Required for quarrying of material on Inuit Owned Lands during construction, operation and closure
<b>Crown Land – Lease/Land Use Permit</b> <i>Territorial Lands Act</i> <i>Territorial Land Use Regulations</i>	INAC	Required for quarrying of material on Crown land during construction, operation and closure
<b>Approval and/or Exemption</b> <i>Navigable Waters Protection Act</i> (sections 5, 22 and 23)	Transport Canada	Construction of works in navigable waters. Prescriptions of Sections 22 and 23 of the Navigable Waters Protection Act will be followed as necessary.
<b>Fisheries Authorization for Harmful Alteration Disruption or Destruction (HADD) of Fish or Fish Habitat</b>	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Required if HADD cannot be avoided; if HADD can be avoided, DFO may provide a letter of advice outlining best management practices



Permit/Approval Legislation	Administering Agency	Project Activity
<i>Fisheries Act (section 35)</i>		
<b>Licence for a Factory and Magazine</b> <i>Explosives Act and Regulations</i>	Natural Resources Canada	Required for construction of explosives factories and magazine(s) and storage of explosives
<b>Permit to Store Detonators</b> <i>Explosives Use Act</i> <i>Mine Health and Safety Act and Regulations</i>	Nunavut Mine Health and Safety Nunavut Workers Compensation Board	Required to store detonators in a magazine
<b>Explosive Use Permit</b> <i>Explosives Use Act</i> <i>Mine Health and Safety Act and Regulations</i>	Nunavut Mine Health and Safety Nunavut Workers Compensation Board	A permit is required to use explosives unless used in accordance with the regulations
<b>Spill Contingency Plan Approval</b> <i>Environmental Protection Act</i> <i>Spill Contingency Planning and Reporting Regulations</i>	Nunavut Department of Environment (DoE)	A Spill Contingency Plan must be filed with the Chief Environmental Protection Officer to store fuel in an above-ground facility with a 20,000 L capacity or greater
<b>Assorted Scientific Research Permits</b> <i>Scientist Act</i> <i>Wildlife Act</i>	Nunavut Research Institute	Required to conduct some of the environmental monitoring activities



## **2.7 Related Management Plans**

This Plan should be read in conjunction with the following key plans submitted as part of the Type A Water Licence Amendment Application:

- Water Management Plan;
- Mine Waste Rock and Tailings Management Plan;
- Landfill Design and Management Plan; and
- Road Management Plan (including Quarry Management Plan).



### 3.0 SECTION 3 • ENVIRONMENT

This section provides a detailed description of the pre-disturbance conditions and the current development status of the Project).

#### 3.1 Atmospheric Environment

##### 3.1.1 Climatic Conditions

Climate characteristics for the Project presented herein were extracted from the 2015 Hydrology Baseline Report (Golder 2016a), Section 5.3 – Terrain, Permafrost, and Soils of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016) and the Water Management Plan in Appendix 8-B.2 of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016).

The site is located at the southern limit of the Northern Arctic terrestrial ecozone, with a Low Arctic ecoclimate (Golder, 2016a). This ecoregion is classified as a polar desert and is characterized by long cold winters and short cool summers (Agnico Eagle 2016).

The Baker Lake A meteorological station (ID: 2300503) operated by Environment Canada located approximately 125 km southeast of the Project was selected to represent conditions at the Project site. Long-term (1981 to 2010) meteorological records from the Baker Lake A meteorology station record average daily air temperature in June to September of approximately 7 degree Celsius (°C) with October to May average daily air temperatures of -20.6 °C (Agnico Eagle, 2016). The mean annual air temperature at the Project site is approximately -11.3 degrees Celsius (°C). The monthly average temperature ranges from -31.3°C in January to +11.6°C in July, with above-freezing averages for only four months of the year (i.e., June to September (Agnico Eagle, 2016).

Total annual precipitation at Baker Lake station is low, averaging just 249 millimetres (mm) per year, with 59% of precipitation falling as rain, and 41% falling as snow. (Agnico Eagle 2016). Table 3.1-1 summarizes estimated monthly climate characteristics at the Project site. Average annual evaporation for small waterbodies in the Project area is estimated to be 248 mm between June and September. The average annual loss of snowpack to sublimation and snow redistribution is estimated 29% of the total precipitation for the winter period and occurs between October and May.

Winds are predominately from the northwest and exceed 20 kilometres per hour (km/hr) more than 25% of the time (Agnico Eagle 2016).

Short-duration rainfall, representative of the Project are presented in Table 3.1-2, based on Intensity-duration-frequency (IDF) curves available from the Baker Lake A meteorological station (1987-2006) operated by Environment Canada (Agnico Eagle, 2016).



**Table 3.1-1: Estimated Mine Site Monthly Climate Characteristics (Agnico Eagle 2016)**

Month <sup>(a)</sup>	Monthly Air Temperature (°C)	Monthly Precipitation <sup>(b)</sup> (mm)			Lake Evaporation (mm)	Snow Sublimation (mm)
		Rainfall	Snowfall <sup>(c)</sup>	Total		
January	-31.3	0	7	7	0	9
February	-31.1	0	6	6	0	9
March	-26.3	0	9	9	0	9
April	-17.0	0	13	13	0	9
May	-6.4	5	8	13	0	9
June	4.9	18	3	21	9	0
July	11.6	39	0	39	99	0
August	9.8	42	1	43	100	0
September	3.1	35	7	42	40	0
October	-6.5	6	22	28	0	9
November	-19.3	0	17	17	0	9
December	-26.8	0	10	10	0	9
<b>Annual</b>	<b>-11.3</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>72</b>

Note: Some numbers may not add due to rounding.

(a) Climate characteristics obtained from the Water Management Plan Report in Appendix 8-B.2 of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle, 2016).

(b) The Baker Lake A precipitation data were available between 1946 and 2015 (excluding 1973 and 1993). Smaller data gaps were filled using the average values from available years for the same day and month.

(c) Snowfall was estimated as total precipitation minus rainfall.

**Table 3.1-2: Estimated Mine Site Extreme 24-hour Rainfall Events (Agnico Eagle 2016)**

Return Period (Years) <sup>1</sup>	24-hour Precipitation (mm) <sup>1</sup>
2	27
5	40
10	48
25	57
50	67
100	75
1000	101

Notes:

IDF curve values obtained from the Water Management Plan Report in Appendix 8-B.2 of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016).

IDF curve values for return period higher than 100 years were computer based on Gumble probability distribution and the method of moments.



### 3.1.2 Climate Change

Climate Change characteristics for the Project presented herein were extracted from Section 5.3 – Terrain, Permafrost, and Soils of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016) and Water Management Plan in Appendix 8-B.2 of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle, 2016).

The climate in the Arctic is changing faster than at mid-latitudes (IPCC 2014). The most recent set of climate model projections (CMIP5) predict an Arctic-wide year 2100 multi-model mean temperature increase of +13°C in late fall and +5°C in late spring under the IPCC's "business as usual scenario" (RCP8.5). IPCC climate change mitigation scenario RCP4.5 results in a year 2100 multi-model Arctic wide prediction of +7°C in late fall and +3°C in late spring (Overland et al. 2013). The effects of changes of this magnitude to terrestrial, aquatic and marine ecosystems, social and economic systems of the Arctic are an active area of research. However, the short duration of the proposed Project means that climate change related effects to the Project are likely negligible.

Permafrost is sensitive to climate change and an increase in air temperature will likely cause natural permafrost degradation. The sensitivity of permafrost to climate warming in Canada has been assessed by Smith and Burgess (1998, 2004) by categorizing the response of ground thermal conditions to climate and the effects of permafrost thaw on terrain stability. The impacts of the warming and thaw of permafrost will be most important in areas of ice-rich permafrost. The Project is within the continuous permafrost zone, and the ground ice content is reported to be between 0 and 10% (Heginbottom et al. 1995). Within the Project area, permafrost is regionally predicted to be moderately thermally sensitive to climate change, with a low to moderate physical response resulting from thaw (Smith and Burgess 2004).

### 3.1.3 Air Quality

The baseline air quality was characterized through a review of the publicly available Canadian Arctic air quality monitoring data. The Canadian Arctic air quality monitoring data were analyzed using statistics to estimate background concentrations of criteria air contaminants (Golder, 2015a). Background concentrations of particulate matter smaller than 2.5 micrometers (i.e., PM<sub>2.5</sub>) were calculated as 6.6 microgram per cubic meter (µg/m<sup>3</sup>) for the 24-hr period for the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile and 3.6 µg/m<sup>3</sup> for the average annual (between 8.8 to 28 of the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards) (Agnico Eagle, 2016). Background concentrations for gases including carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone and sulfur dioxide were calculated as 0.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 5.0 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 17.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> - 30.6 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 1.0 µg/m<sup>3</sup> for the 1-hour period of the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile respectively (Agnico Eagle, 2016).

### 3.1.4 Noise

Noise and vibration characteristics for the Project presented herein were extracted from Section 4.4 – Noise and Vibration of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016) and Golder (2015b). To gather information about existing ambient noise levels in support of the Project noise impact assessment, a baseline field survey was completed in August 2015. The purpose of this baseline field survey was to measure existing



ambient noise levels at four locations in the Local Study Area (LSA) and Regional Study Area (RSA). The results of the baseline field survey are described in detail in Volume 4 of the FEIS.

The baseline noise results indicate that the baseline noise levels in the area of the proposed Project, except for the area adjacent to Vault Pit operations, are primarily influenced by noise generated by natural noise sources, (e.g., wind, waves, birds). The baseline daytime and nighttime noise levels from natural sources varied between 29 decibels (i.e., dBA) and 31 dBA for daytime, and between 29 dBA and 31 dBA for nighttime (Golder, 2015b).

### **3.2 Physical (Terrestrial) Environment**

#### **3.2.1 Topography and Lake Bathymetry**

The topography surrounding the Project is generally flat with local surface relief of up to 20 m. The low terrain of the area has resulted in a diffuse drainage pattern. High flows are observed during spring runoff, while low flows and dry stream channels are typical in late summer. Whale Tail Lake drains to the south via a network of low lying lakes.

The following characteristics of Whale Tail Lake are based on a bathymetry survey completed in 2015 (provided by Groupe Conseil Nutshimit-Nippour, 2015).

- The lake elevation was measured at 152.4 meters above sea level (masl) in August 2015.
- The depth of the lake in the northwest end of the lake, in the vicinity of the pit, ranges from 1 to 16 m.
- The lake bottom is terraced. The terraces extend out from the shoreline for a distance of between 1 m and 150 m. Beyond the terrace is an abrupt drop-off.

Mean annual temperatures from the bottom of the lakes in Nunavut and North West Territories (that do not freeze in winter) are 4°C.

Regional lake ice characteristics were reviewed using the Canadian Ice Database. The closest reference to Whale Tail Lake is Baker Lake (120 km to the south), which records a mean maximum lake ice thickness of 2.25 m (data from 1957 to 1990). It is expected that the mean ice thickness over Whale Tail Lake is within this range.

#### **3.2.2 Terrain and Soil**

Terrain and soil characteristics for the Project presented herein were extracted from Section 5.3 – Terrain, Permafrost, and Soils of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016). In general, the local surficial geology shows strong evidence of glacial activity. The area is dominated by veneers and blankets of till overlying undulating bedrock. Bedrock frequently outcrops in isolated exposures, elevated plateaus and elongated ridges. The southern part of the haul road is controlled more by the underlying bedrock than the Whale Tail Pit where thicker till deposits are more common. A large glaciofluvial esker and



terrace complex is found in the northeast part of the Whale Tail Pit and extends towards the southeast intersecting at or close to the haul road in several areas. Lakes and ponds are abundant throughout the LSA, occupying approximately 16% of the area.

Soils within the LSA are dominated by Cryosols (in particular Turbic Cryosols) which develop on till dominated landscapes. Saturated soil layers overlying frozen layers were observed in Turbic and Static Cryosols during the 2015 field survey (Agnico Eagle, 2016), and were also noted in CRL (2005b). Other soils identified within the LSA include Brunisols, which are most prevalent on glaciofluvial material (e.g., eskers), Gleysols, which develop on till in transition areas between upland and depressional landscape positions, and Regosols, which are poorly developed soils. Organic Cryosolic soils were found in wetlands.

Soil erosion risk is a primary concern for disturbed soils because the sparse vegetation cover exposes soil materials to the elements (e.g., wind and water). Field results suggest that the mineral soils in the LSA are predominantly acidic to neutral, ranging from pH 5.14 to 6.96, with pH tending to increase with soil depth. Due to their mineralogy, the mineral soils in the Project area are increasingly sensitive to adverse effects due to acid deposition with decreasing baseline pH.

The coarse-textured soils commonly found in the LSA, with their higher initial total porosity, are relatively resistant to compaction compared to finer textured soils found in other geographies. Soil compaction influences the success of reclamation by decreasing plant establishment and plant growth. Soil changes due to compaction causes shifts in the microbial community, impedes root growth and seedling establishment, decreases water, air and nutrient movement, and reduces plant productivity (Agnico Eagle, 2016).

### **3.2.3 Geotechnical Characteristics**

Geotechnical characteristics for the Project presented herein were extracted from the Amaruq Dikes Pre-Feasibility Study – Geotechnical Investigation Report (Agnico Eagle 2015a), the Geotechnical and Water Management Infrastructure Report (SNC 2015) and the Geochemistry report (Golder 2016b). A geotechnical site investigation program was carried out at the Project site in May 2015 in the areas of the proposed alignment for the Whale Tail Dike and the Mammoth Dike.

A total of 14 geotechnical boreholes were drilled. Of these, eleven were in the Whale Tail Dike area, and these holes were drilled from the ice on Whale Tail Lake. The other three boreholes were located in the Mammoth Dike area. Three thermistors were installed (i.e., two on Whale Tail Dike area and one on Mammoth Dike area) during the site investigation program.

The results from the geotechnical investigation revealed that the bedrock is encountered at shallow depth along the proposed alignment of both structures. An esker at the west abutment of the Whale Tail Dike has been identified.



The underlying overburden material encountered a till deposit underlain by bedrock in most of boreholes. The till deposit consisted mainly of a sand and gravel some silt matrix, with cobbles and boulders. The till thickness ranged between 0.4 m and 3.7 m. The bedrock was encountered at depths between 1.9 m and 6.6 m under Whale Tail Lake.

Overburden in the Whale Tail Pit area is expected to be similar to that of the Meadowbank Mine. At the Meadowbank Mine, overburden consists of glacial till having an average thickness of 2.75 m, with local deposits over 10 m thick (CRL, 2003). The glacial till varies from silty sand to gravel with minor boulders (Golder 2002). In a previous report (Golder 2005), overburden is described as silty to sand-sized with 25 to 50% pebble to boulder-sized particles. Where sampled at Whale Tail Pit (in July), the overburden was frozen below 1 meter depth, and samples were collected in the surficial unfrozen zone only.

### **3.2.4 Permafrost**

Permafrost characteristics for the Project presented herein were extracted from Section 5.3 – Terrain, Permafrost, and Soils of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle, 2016), Section 6.2 – Hydrogeology of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016) and Water Management Report in Appendix 8-B.2 of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016).

The Project site is located within a region of continuous permafrost. In this region, the layer of permanently frozen subsoil and rock is generally deep and overlain by an active layer that thaws during summer. The depth of the active layer is estimated to range between 1 and 3 m. Permafrost thickness (defined by the depth of zero degree isotherm in the baseline study area is expected to be approximately 425 m below ground surface (Agnico Eagle 2016). Below Whale Tail Lake, a talik is expected to form a continuous channel that is closed in the northern portion of Whale Tail Lake below the open pit and becomes open towards the south and central portion of the lake. Circular lakes with a radius greater than 300 m, or elongated lakes with a half-width of at least 150 m, are assumed to be connected to the deep groundwater flow regime through open taliks.

Periglacial processes are evident throughout the landscape in the form of frost shattered bedrock, sorted and non-sorted polygons, mud boils, ice wedge polygons and solifluction. Detailed descriptions of these processes are provided in Volume 5, Appendix 5-A of the FEIS in Agnico Eagle (2016). The typical permafrost ground temperatures at the depths of zero annual amplitude (typically at the depth of below 15 m) is approximately -8.0 °C in the areas away from lakes and streams (Agnico Eagle 2016). The geothermal gradient measured is 0.02 °C/m (Agnico Eagle, 2016). Late-winter ice thickness on freshwater lakes is approximately 2.0 m. Ice covers usually appear by the end of October and are completely formed in early November. The spring ice melt typically begins in mid-June and is complete by early July.



### 3.2.5 Hydrology

Hydrology characteristics for the Project presented herein were extracted from Section 6.3 – Surface Water Hydrology of the FEIS and Appendix 6-C (Agnico Eagle 2016). The Hydrology Baseline Study included characterization of local watersheds and drainage patterns, flow regimes, and lake shoreline and outlet channel geomorphology, based on a desktop review of available data and five field visits in May (during frozen conditions), June, July, August, and in September 2015.

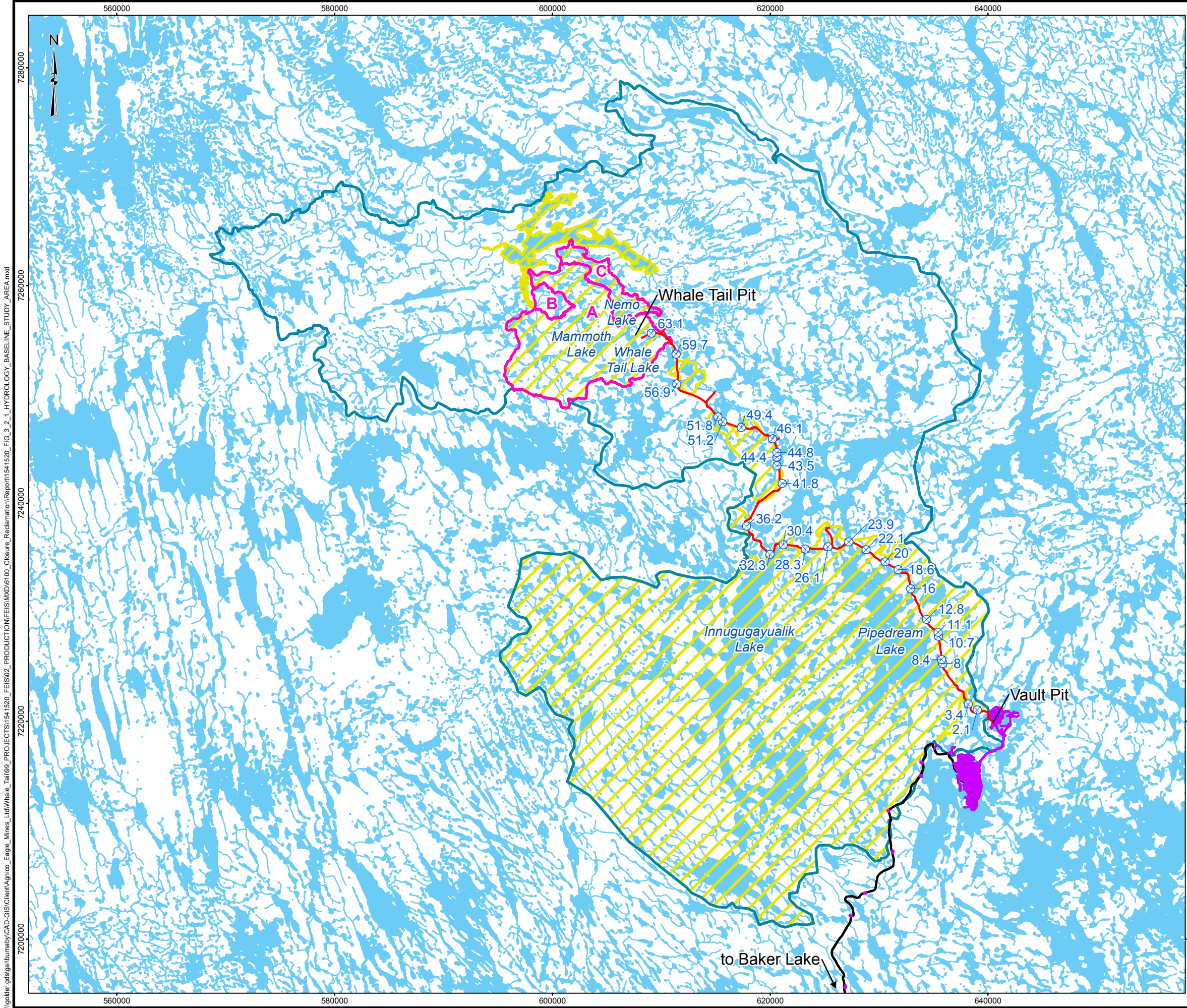
The Project site, and specifically the haul road, is located within the Meadowbank River, Quioich River, and Thelon River watersheds. Three distinct watersheds within the Hydrology baseline study area were defined as the A watershed (i.e., where Whale Tail and Mammoth Lake are located) with a total drainage area of 110 km<sup>2</sup>, the B watershed (i.e., located just north of the A watershed, and west of Nemo Lake) with a total drainage area of 7.1 km<sup>2</sup>, and the C watershed (i.e., where Nemo lake is located) with a total drainage area of 17.6 km<sup>2</sup>. The proposed Mine Site is located within the A watershed and Lake A16 (i.e., Mammoth Lake) and the water management activities are planned in the A watershed, and the C watershed. These three watersheds each drain into Lake DS1. See Figure 3.2-1 for the hydrology baseline study area. These watersheds comprise an extensive network of lakes, ponds, and interconnecting streams, and have lake water surface fractions (i.e. the ratio of lake surface area to watershed area) of 16% (A watershed) and 23% (C watershed).

Two types of hydrometric stations were installed in 2015, including six continuous hydrometric stations equipped with data loggers and sixteen (16) manual hydrometric stations, primarily reliant on discrete discharge and water level measurements and visual observations.

Derived mean annual water yields for lakes varied between 86 mm (i.e., Lake C38 – Nemo Lake) and 230 mm (Lake A69). The lower water yields at Lake C38 may be attributed to proportions of ineffective areas in the watersheds and the potential for shallow subsurface flow to convey water outside the assumed drainage boundaries.

The majority of the shorelines surveyed exhibit a consistent terrain type related to shorelines that have developed in morainal material. These morainal shorelines were observed at all lakes visited during the field survey. Limited areas of bedrock and shallowly sloped sandy shorelines were also observed. As a general characteristic for the surveyed shorelines, the predominant materials are boulder gardens with cobble with very limited soils or organic materials on top. The outlet channels are short relative to lake dimensions, with a low sinuosity and exhibit the same characteristics for streambed materials. This results in interstitial between large boulders or below the surface likely close to the bedrock, making low and moderate flows difficult to observe and measure.





LEGEND

WATER CROSSING LOCATION

ALL WEATHER ROAD

PROPOSED HAUL ROAD

WATERCOURSE

MEADOWBANK INFRASTRUCTURE

SURFACE WATER QUANTITY REGIONAL STUDY AREA

SURFACE WATER QUANTITY LOCAL STUDY AREA

WATERSHED

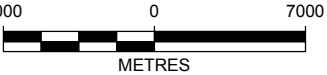
WATERBODY

REFERENCE

1. MEADOWBANK INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROPOSED WHALE TAIL HAUL ROAD ALIGNMENT OBTAINED FROM AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED.

2. WATERCOURSE AND WATERBODY DATA OBTAINED FROM CANVEC © DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

DATUM: NAD 83 CSRS PROJECTION: UTM ZONE 14



PROJECT

AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED:  
MEADOWBANK DIVISION  
WHALE TAIL PIT PROJECT

TITLE

HYDROLOGY BASELINE STUDY AREA

PROJECT	1541520		FILE No.	
DESIGN	JL	23 Mar. 2016	SCALE AS SHOWN	REV. 0
GIS	MH	18 Apr. 2016		
CHECK	AP	18 Apr. 2016		
REVIEW	IM/KAE	18 Apr. 2016		

FIGURE 3.2-1



### 3.2.6 Geology

Geology characteristics for the Project presented herein were extracted from the Geochemistry Report (Golder 2016b).

The Amaruq property is underlain by Archean supra crustal rocks of the metamorphosed Woodburn Lake Group; the same sequence as at the Meadowbank Mine. These rocks are believed to have been deposited in a continental rift setting. They are comprised of mafic to ultramafic volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks interlayered with clastic sedimentary units that include greywacke, siltstone, mudstone, chert and banded iron formation. This rock sequence has been intruded by granitoid rocks and lamprophyres, and underwent multiple deformation events and metamorphism to the upper greenschists facies. There are four Paleo-Proterozoic aged events of deformation recognised, two of which have significant effects on the geometry of the deposit. There are four Paleo-Proterozoic aged events of deformation, two of which have significant effects on the geometry of the deposit.

The main lithological units associated with the Whale Tail deposit include: ultramafic komatiites, clastic sedimentary rocks, mafic volcanic rocks and felsic to intermediate intrusive rocks. Details on these lithological units are provided in (Golder 2016b).

### 3.2.7 Hydrogeology

Hydrogeology characteristics for the Project presented herein were extracted from the Section 6.2 – Hydrogeology of the FEIS and Appendix 6-A (Agnico Eagle 2016) and the Water Management Report in Appendix 8-B-2 of FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016) and are briefly summarized herein.

Two groundwater flow regimes in areas of continuous permafrost are generally present at the Project: a deep groundwater flow regime beneath the base of the permafrost; and a shallow flow regime located in an active (seasonally thawed) layer near the ground surface. With the exception of areas of taliks beneath lakes, the two groundwater regimes are isolated from one another by thick permafrost.

The shallow groundwater regime is active only seasonally during the summer months, and the magnitude of the flow in this layer is expected to be several times less than runoff from snowmelt (Woo 2011). Groundwater in the active layer primarily flows to local depressions and ponds that drain to larger lakes; therefore, the total travel distance would generally extend only to the nearest pond, lake, or stream. Water in the active layer is stored in ground ice during the cold season, and is then released with the ice thaws in late spring or early summer, thus providing flow to surface waterbodies (Woo 2011). During the warm season, groundwater in the active layer is recharged primarily by precipitation.

Groundwater flow within the deep groundwater flow regime is limited to the sub-permafrost zone. This deep groundwater flow regime is connected to the ground surface by open taliks underlying larger lakes. The elevations of these lakes are expected to be the primary control of groundwater flow directions in the deep groundwater flow regime, with density gradients providing a secondary control



on groundwater flow directions. The elevations of these lakes in the baseline study area indicate that Whale Tail is likely both a groundwater recharge and discharge zone. Hydraulic gradients are expected to range from slightly downward to slightly upward. The Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) of groundwater (or salinity) is expected to increase with depth, resulting in increased density of groundwater with depth. This increase in density with depth will result in fluid density gradients which will tend to lessen the upward flow of denser groundwater water due to the buoyancy effect.

From late spring to early autumn, when temperatures are above 0°C, the active layer thaws out. Within the active layer, the water table is expected to be a subdued replica of topography, and is expected to parallel the topographic surface. Project area groundwater in the active layer flows to local depressions and ponds that drain to larger lakes at velocities estimated to range from about 0.004 m/day to 0.08 m/day.

Taliks exist beneath waterbodies that have sufficient depth such that they do not freeze to the bottom over the winter. Beneath small waterbodies that do not freeze to the bottom over the winter, a talik bulb that is not connected to the deep groundwater flow regime will form (a closed talik). When the size of a waterbody is above a critical value, the talik beneath the waterbody will be an open talik, which connects to the deep groundwater flow regime beneath the permafrost. Elongated waterbodies with central pool(s) (where the depth is greater than the range of winter ice thickness), and a width of 300 m or greater are expected to have open taliks extending to the deep groundwater flow regime at the Project site. Circular lakes with a central pool (where depth is greater than the range of winter ice thickness) and a radius of 300 m or greater are expected to have open taliks extending to the deep groundwater flow regime. A review of bathymetric data, ice thickness data, and results of thermal modelling suggests that the northern end of Whale Tail Lake and in the area of the open pit does not have an open talik; whereas, the central portion of the lake (north of the dike) is expected to have an open talik beneath it.

### **3.2.8 Seismicity**

Seismicity characteristics for the Project were extracted from the Water Management Plan (Agnico Eagle 2016).

The mine site is located in an area of relatively low seismic risk. The peak ground acceleration (PGA) for the area was estimated using seismic hazard calculator from the 2010 National Building Code of Canada-Natural Resources Canada (NRC) website (NRC 2010). The estimated PGA is 0.019 g for a 5% in 50-year probability of exceedance (0.001 per annum or 1 in 1,000 year return) and 0.036 g for a 2% in 50-year probability of exceedance (0.000404 per annum or 1 in 2,475 year return) for the area.



### 3.3 Chemical Environment

#### 3.3.1 Surface Water and Sediment Quality

Baseline surface water quality characteristics presented herein were extracted from Section 6.4 – Surface Water Quality of the FEIS and Appendix 6-G (Agnico Eagle 2016).

Baseline water and sediment quality studies were completed in 2014 and 2015 and presented in the Whale Tail Pit Core Receiving Environment Monitoring Program (CREMP) baseline study report. Water quality data in the Project area were collected and analysed for general parameters (field and laboratory), major ions, nutrients (carbon, phosphorus, and nitrogen), total and dissolved metals, and selected organic compounds. Water quality data were compared to the CCME *Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Freshwater Aquatic Life* (CWQG; CCME 1999) and the *Guidelines for Canadian drinking water quality* (GCDWQ; Health Canada 2014).

Baseline water quality sampling at Whale Tail Lake (Lake A17), Nemo Lake (Lake C38), and Mammoth Lake (Lake A16), tributaries within the Whale Tail Pit Study Area, tributaries along the proposed haul and reference lakes (Inuggugayualik Lake and Pipedream Lake) was completed by Portt and Associates in 2014, and by Azimuth in 2015 and Golder in 2015. Water samples were collected by Azimuth at the Sentinel stations along the proposed haul road in 2015. Tributaries within the Whale Tail Pit Study Area were sampled by Golder in 2015. Reference lakes were routinely sampled as part of Meadowbank Core Receiving Environment Monitoring Program (CREMP) monitoring.

Water temperature in lake stations ranged from 9°C to 11.5°C during the summer months in 2015 with minor thermal stratification evident at some deeper locations. The water column was generally well mixed with uniform specific conductivity (generally less than 25 µS/cm) and sufficient oxygen to support aquatic life (i.e., above the CWQG threshold). Lakewater pH was neutral to circum-neutral (6.4 to 7.6) in all lakes. Surface water collected during the open water season was characteristic of low productivity headwater lakes in the Arctic; soft, with low alkalinity, low TDS (less than 25 mg/L), low turbidity (and corresponding high Secchi depth) and low total suspended solids (TSS; less than 2 mg/L).

Nutrient concentrations were low in the lakes with results less than the detection limit in most samples. Ammonia was less than the detection limit in most samples, with highest concentration detected in Whale Tail (0.1 mg-N/L) and lowest detected concentration in Nemo Lake (0.006 mg-N/L); ammonia was not detected in the reference lakes. Total phosphorus was less than the detection limit in most samples with maximum concentration of 0.004 mg-P/L detected in Nemo Lake and maximum concentration of 0.003 mg-P/L detected in Whale Tail and Mammoth; maximum TP in the reference lakes was 0.006 mg-P/L.

Metals were below the analytical detection limit in most samples, and when they were detected, concentrations were below the CDWQG and CWQG.



There were a small number of constituents with concentrations that exceeded the Meadowbank trigger values (i.e., conductivity, hardness, calcium, magnesium, and potassium); however, triggers for these constituents were based on baseline/reference data from the Meadowbank project lakes and were provided for context only. Overall, the 2015 water quality results from the lakes in the Whale Tail Pit study area were similar to results from the reference lakes.

In situ water quality measurements taken at the tributary stations in the Whale Tail Pit study area and the hauls road study area show the water to be well oxygenated with dissolved oxygen concentrations consistently above 9.5 mg/L and low specific conductivity at all stations (i.e., less than or equal to 34  $\mu$ S/cm). Tributary pH was circum-neutral (6.2 to 7.3) across all stations.

Nutrient concentrations were low in the tributaries with results less than the detection limit in most samples. Ammonia was less than the detection limit in most samples with a higher maximum concentration detected in a tributary from the Whale Tail Pit study area (0.007 mg-N/L) as compared to the maximum detected in the haul road study area (0.005 mg-N/L). Phosphorus was detected more frequently in the tributary samples as compared to the lake samples. In the Whale Tail Pit study area, total phosphorus ranged from less than the detection limit to 0.004 mg-P/L and ranged from less than the detection limit to 0.007 mg-P/L in the haul road study area. The median value in tributaries (in both study areas) was 0.002 mg-P/L while the median was less than the detection limit in the lakes.

Metals were below the analytical detection limit in most samples, and when they were detected, concentrations were below the CDWQG and CWQG, with two exceptions. Aluminum was above the CWQG at two stations (A55-A17 and A5-A4) in August; all other detectable metal concentrations were less than the CWQG and the CDWQG.

Concentrations in the tributary samples did not exceed the Meadowbank triggers and thresholds.

Sediments were collected from lakes in the Whale Tail Pit study area and from the reference lakes by Portt and Associates in September 2014 and by Azimuth in August 2015 (Azimuth 2016) according to methods outlined in the Meadowbank CREMP (Azimuth 2015a). Concentrations were generally similar between lakes. Concentrations were less than the ISQG and PEL guidelines for cadmium, copper, lead, and mercury in all samples.

The particle size distribution in the top 3 to 5 cm of sediment from south Whale Tail Lake, Mammoth Lake, Pipedream Lake, and Inuggugayualik Lake was predominantly silt/clay, and characteristic of depositional areas in lakes from this region (Azimuth 2015a). A coarser particle size distribution was evident in samples collected from Nemo Lake and north Whale Tail Lake with sediment collected at similar depth (i.e., 8 m  $\pm$  1.5 m) being predominantly silt/sand.



Arsenic and chromium concentrations exceeded the interim sediment quality guidelines (ISQGs) and probable effect level (PEL) concentrations (CCME 2002) in sediment samples collected in 2014 and 2015 from all lakes in the Whale Tail Pit Study Area (Whale Tail Lake, Mammoth Lake, Nemo Lake) and in the reference lakes (Inuggugayualik Lake and Pipedream Lake). Sediment chromium concentrations were also above Meadowbank trigger values at Pipedream Lake, Mammoth Lake and select locations in Whale Tail Lake. Sediment arsenic concentrations were above Meadowbank trigger values at Inuggugayualik Lake, Mammoth Lake and Whale Tail Lake. Maximum sediment arsenic and chromium concentrations were observed at Whale Tail Lake (i.e., 1,760 mg/kg arsenic dry weight and 210 mg/kg chromium dry weight). Sediment copper concentrations were above the ISQG in all lakes sampled during 2014 and 2015. Sediment zinc concentrations were above the ISQG, PEL and Meadowbank trigger values at Mammoth Lake.

Sediment concentrations of hydrocarbons and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons were consistently low at all lakes sampled and below analytical detection limits.

### **3.3.2 Groundwater Quality**

Baseline surface water quality characteristics presented herein were extracted from Section 6.2 – Hydrogeology of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016).

Groundwater quality at the Project has been inferred to be similar to the Meadowbank Mine based on the similar geology and permafrost conditions (Knight Piésold 2015b). Groundwater quality at the Meadowbank Mine is generally described as being hard to very hard, with neutral to slightly basic pH and good buffering capacity. TDS concentrations range from 193 to 1,900 milligrams per litre (mg/L). Concentrations of fluoride, copper, iron, and selenium are elevated in comparison to guidelines for the protection of aquatic life and drinking water. Only the higher percentile values for nitrogen-containing compounds, aluminum, arsenic, boron, hexavalent chromium, molybdenum, and zinc exceed the CEQGs. Additionally, several of these parameters as well as chloride, manganese and sodium exceed aesthetic drinking water guidelines.

Consistent with other sites in the Canadian Shield, concentrations of TDS in groundwater are inferred to increase with depth, primarily in response to upward diffusion of deep-seated brines. The Meadowbank Mine TDS profile is considered applicable to the Project and is based on the site-specific data from the Meadowbank Mine up to depths of 177 m, and parallels the Diavik profile at deeper depths.

### **3.3.3 Geochemical Characterization of Waste Rock**

Geochemical characterization of waste rock presented herein were extracted from Volume 5, Appendix 5-E, of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016).

The main lithological units that will be mined include: ultramafic komatiites, sedimentary rocks (greywacke, iron formation and chert), mafic volcanic rocks and felsic to intermediate intrusive rocks.



The Whale Tail deposit mineralization is low sulphur but the sulphur carries arsenic which is enriched in all waste rock types along with antimony and bismuth. In addition to arsenic, chromium and nickel enrichment is observed in ultramafic, iron formation and mafic volcanic waste rock.

The majority (73%) of waste rock to be generated by mining is low sulphur and not potentially acid generating (non PAG). This is from low sulphur content and excess carbonate-mineral (reactive) buffering capacity. A limited number of samples from the ultramafic and iron formation units are PAG but the bulk of these lithologies carry sufficient reactive carbonate buffering capacity to neutralize any acidity that could be generated from these samples.

Arsenic is the principal element of environmental interest in Whale Tail mining wastes. No other element is systematically released in leachate from any rock type, tailings, ore or sediments at concentrations that exceed the Meadowbank effluent limits. Arsenic is released at concentrations that exceed the Meadowbank effluent limits from the non PAG rock ultramafic and iron formation lithologies, which comprise approximately 46% of the waste rock to be generated by mining, or 63% of the non PAG waste rock at Whale Tail Pit. The mafic volcanic lithology can leach elevated arsenic at the contact with the ultramafic and greywacke units, but the bulk of the samples are low arsenic. The exceedances noted in static and kinetic leaching tests do not necessarily mean that water contacting this rock at site will necessarily exceed the comparative criteria because conditions at site differ substantially from the aggressive leaching conditions of the laboratory tests. This does suggest, however, that arsenic is likely to be released from this rock upon contact with water and that this drainage should be captured and monitored before discharge to the receiving environment. The ore and lithologies that host to the ore, namely central greywacke and chert waste rock, are PAG. They represent 27% of waste rock to be generated by mining. The central greywacke samples (within the mineralized zone) are more silicified than the southern greywacke unit (outside the mineralized zone). Based on results to date, a total sulphur content of 0.1 wt% appears to be a suitably conservative cut-off criteria below which chert and greywacke waste rock are non PAG. Samples above 0.8 wt% are PAG. The ARD potential of samples having 0.1 to 0.8wt% sulphur is uncertain.

Kinetic leaching tests performed on 1-kg samples and on large bulk lithological samples corroborate results of static testing. Only one of the three PAG greywacke samples generated acid rock drainage (ARD) during testing. This sample represents a high-tier ARD potential end-member of this unit (high sulphur, low buffering capacity). Theoretical mineral depletion calculations and consideration of the field time equivalency of laboratory kinetic tests infers the PAG rock will not begin to generate ARD at site for more than a decade, as a minimum, if no ARD control mechanisms were put in place. This period of time is substantially longer than the 4 years of mine construction and operations.



### 3.3.4 Geochemical Characteristics of Ore and Tailings

A geochemical characterization program investigated the geo-environmental properties of both waste rock and ore at the Project. Geochemical characterization of ore presented herein were extracted from Volume 5, Appendix 5-E, of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016).

The ore is PAG, and it is enriched in arsenic, antimony, bismuth, chromium, selenium, silver and to a lesser extent, nickel. Some of the ore samples leached arsenic at concentrations that exceed the Portage effluent criterion in static (shake flask extraction) tests but exceedances were short-lived in the first cycles of the kinetic leaching tests. The delay to onset of ARD from ore is expected to be substantially longer than the seven years of mine construction, operations, and closure.

Based on the geochemical testing completed to date, the Whale Tail Pit tailings are expected to be PAG due to their low carbonate-mineral buffering capacity relative to sulphide sulphur content (2.8 wt%). The Whale Tail Pit tailings sample subjected to kinetic testing by humidity cell remained neutral for the 44-week test duration and showed little evidence of active sulphide mineral oxidation. However, mineral depletion calculations on kinetic test results suggest that the buffering capacity will eventually be consumed, after which the tailings may start to oxidize and develop acidic conditions. Therefore, the tailings are anticipated to require ARD control in the long-term.

### 3.3.5 Geochemical Characterization of Overburden

Geochemical characterization of Overburden presented herein were extracted from the Evaluation of the Geochemical Properties of Waste Rock, Ore, Tailing, Overburden and Sediment from the Whale Tail Pit and Road Aggregate Materials Report (Golder 2016b).

The overburden is NPAG based on the low sulphide sulphur content. The leachable arsenic content in these samples was low, below CCME aquatic life criteria. However the fines content may be amenable to transport as suspended solids in runoff.

## 3.4 Biological Environment

### 3.4.1 Vegetation

Baseline vegetation characteristics for the Project presented herein were extracted from Section 5.4 – Vegetation Section of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016).

The 2014 and 2015 vegetation surveys identified 138 vascular plants in the Project area, of which 107 were identified to species level and 31 were identified to genus level. A total of 61 non-vascular plants (20 bryophytes and 41 lichens) were identified from samples collected during 2015 field surveys. Of these, six specimens were identified to genus level.

The most common and widespread vascular species found were the northern Labrador-tea (*Rhododendron tomentosum*) and mountain cranberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idea*), which were both



observed in 99 of the 128 plots surveyed and present in all ELC types. The overall findings indicate that the majority of the areas surveyed consist of low-diversity vascular plant communities dominated by fewer than 10 species.

Two federally listed plant species (i.e., the moss species Porsild's bryum [*Haplodontium macrocarpum*] and felt-leaf willow [*Salix silicicola*]) have been identified within Nunavut; these species and suitable habitat were not observed within the LSA during field programs. Of the 107 confirmed vascular species recorded during field programs, six are territorially listed as *Sensitive* (CESCC 2011). A full list of the vascular and non-vascular species recorded during field surveys and their CESCC status is presented in Section 5.4, Appendix 5-C – Vegetation of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016).

### 3.4.2 Terrestrial Wildlife

Baseline terrestrial wildlife for the Project presented herein were extracted from Section 5.5 – Terrestrial Wildlife of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016).

Wildlife represents important ecosystem components, and some species are protected by legislation and/or are important to IQ. In addition to the environmental monitoring information collected at the Meadowbank Mine, wildlife baseline studies were completed for the Project during 2014 and 2015.

Caribou are an important part of the Arctic ecosystem, and a key part of the culture and traditional economy of Nunavut. There are five migratory barren-ground caribou herds identified in the Kivalliq including the Beverly, Ahiak, Wager Bay, Lorillard, and Qamanirjuaq. As a result, Inuit traditionally did not live at or near the calving grounds but rather chose to remain at a distance, and set up camps along the migration routes. Elders have stated that there are no caribou calving grounds identified near the Project area (Volume 7, Appendix 7-A), and according to Nagy et al. (2011), the nearest calving ground to the Project is over 100 km away.

Other land animals important to the communities include ungulates, such as muskox, and fur-bearing species, such as Arctic wolves, Grizzly bears, wolverines and raptors. Small mammals are a significant food resource for a variety of predatory mammals and birds. Several species, including Arctic hare, Arctic ground squirrel, and northern collared lemming, were observed during 2014 baseline studies.

### 3.4.3 Avifauna

Baseline avifauna for the Project presented herein were extracted from Section 5.5 – Terrestrial Wildlife of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016).

Water birds encompass waterfowl (ducks, geese and swans) and loons. There are few water birds in the area, as confirmed during baseline studies and monitoring for the Meadowbank Mine (CRL 2005a, Gebauer et al. 2013), and during baseline studies for the Whale Tail Project (Agnico Eagle, 2016).



Canada goose, snow goose, long-tailed duck and loons were found to be the most abundant water bird species.

Various upland breeding bird species, including horned lark, American pipit, white-crowned sparrow, savannah sparrow, Lapland longspur, snow bunting, willow ptarmigan, rock ptarmigan, semi-palmated sandpiper, and American golden-plover, are present within the study areas. None of the upland birds occurring within the study area are listed federally (COSEWIC 2016). The red-necked phalarope is listed federally as a species of special concern (COSEWIC 2016) but has not been observed in the Project area.

#### **3.4.4 Aquatic Life**

Baseline avifauna for the Project presented herein were extracted from Section 6.5 – Fish and Fish Habitat Section of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016).

Fish and fish habitat baseline studies were completed for both the haul road (formerly called Amaruq Exploration Access Road) (Portt 2015a) and the Whale Tail Pit Study Area (Portt 2015b) by C. Portt and Associates in 2014 and 2015.

Fish habitat was evaluated at 28 watercourses proposed to be crossed by the haul road. Watercourse descriptions are provided in Volume 6, Appendix 6-D– Fish and Fish Habitat Section of the FEIS (Agnico Eagle 2016). Three watercourses (at crossing km 16.0, km 23.9, and km 32.3) were classified as rivers (large, flowing open channels) with potential habitat for VCs, such as Arctic Char and Arctic Grayling. These large rivers provide spawning, rearing, and foraging habitat for small-bodied fish, and provide migratory corridors and various habitat functions for large-bodied fish (e.g., Arctic Char, Arctic Grayling).

Five streams (at km 3.4, km 10.7, km 20.0, km 26.1, and km 43.5) may also provide potential corridors for large-bodied fish. However, the majority of the crossing locations ( $n = 20$ ) only had the potential for seasonal use by small-bodied fish such as Ninespine Stickleback or Slimy Sculpin. Six watercourses (at km 2.1, km 26.1, km 28.3, km 36.2, km 41.8, km 51.2) are unlikely to support fish due to lack of surface water flows (Volume 6, Appendix 6-D), all of which were characterized by contributing drainage areas of less than 4 km<sup>2</sup> in size. Sixteen crossing locations were on boulder-dominant stream sections, potentially restricting fish passage to upstream locations. Potential spawning habitat for Arctic Grayling (i.e. areas of gravel substrate) was identified at two watercourse crossings: km 16.0 and km 44.8.

A total of 52 fish were captured using 186 mins of fishing effort at 11 watercourse crossing locations along the haul road alignment. Five species were captured. Slimy Sculpin were the most abundant, followed by Arctic Char, Arctic Grayling, Burbot, and Ninespine Stickleback. Arctic Char were captured at three watercourses upstream of Pipedream Lake (Tasirjuaraajuk Lake), a lake that supports Arctic Char, based on IQ (Volume 7, Appendix 7-A).



Bathymetric surveys of 19 lakes in the LSA identified Lake A17 (Whale Tail Lake) as the largest lake by both surface area and volume. Coarse substrates (i.e., gravel, cobble, boulder, and bedrock) dominated the littoral zone of both Lake A16 (Mammoth Lake) and Lake A17 (Whale Tail Lake). The 16 small lakes surveyed for bathymetry ranged in maximum depths from 1.8 m in Lake A55 to 25.0 m in Lake A20. Surface areas ranged from 3.0 ha in each Lakes A47 and A49 to 63.0 ha in Lake A65 (Volume 6, Appendix 6-M). Fish habitat was assessed at 31 headwater streams of the A watershed. Potential Arctic Grayling spawning habitat (i.e. gravel substrate) was observed at two locations in Stream A63-A18, however, no Arctic Grayling eggs or adults were observed nor collected (Volume 6, Appendix 6-K). A total of 1,223 fish were captured in lakes and streams in the regional study area near the Whale Tail Pit. Six species were captured in total: Lake Trout, Arctic Char, Round Whitefish, Burbot, Slimy Sculpin, and Ninespine Stickleback.



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## 4.0 SECTION 4 • PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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### 4.1 Location and Access

The Project is located approximately 150 km north of the hamlet of Baker Lake (Figure 2.1-1), additional detail on the location is provided in Section 2.0.

The approved access road that will connect the Vault Pit to the Amaruq exploration camp site in support of exploration activities will be upgraded to a haul road as described in Section 2.0. Agnico Eagle has sole responsibility for the construction and ongoing inspection and maintenance of all of the components of the access road, including the road bed, the bridges, the culverts, and the borrow/quarry sites used in the construction.

Meadowbank Mine relies on marine transportation (to Baker Lake) for most of its supplies including fuel, construction and operation equipment, materials and consumables, including dangerous goods, food, household goods and other non-perishable supplies. The Project requirements will be similar, and no changes will be required to the Baker Lake facilities for this Project.

Personnel (non-local crew) will access the Project site via the currently approved Airport Facilities at the Meadowbank Mine from which they will be transported by the haul road directly to the Project site. There are no anticipated changes to the currently approved Airport Facilities at the Meadowbank Mine. The small airstrip at the Amaruq exploration site will be progressively reclaimed when it is no longer required (when the access road is constructed), and potentially 4,000 m<sup>3</sup> of existing airstrip surface material may be reused as construction material for the proposed infrastructure at the Amaruq site.

The haul road will not be publicly accessible rather only used by Agnico Eagle Exploration Division and employees of its contractors.

### 4.2 Site History

The Project site history dates back to 2003. Exploration activities by operators are summarized in Table 4.2-1.

Table 2.6-2 in Section 2.6 provides a summary of all existing licenses, permits, and authorizations for Meadowbank Mine and the Project to date, organized by agencies.



**Table 4.2-1: Summary of 2003 to 2014 Exploration Works on the Amaruq Property**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
March 31, 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cumberland Resources Ltd. (Cumberland), the original owner of the Meadowbank Mine, submitted a Project Description Report for the Meadowbank Gold project to NIRB (Board)</li> </ul>
September 23, 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following receipt of Cumberland's application, the Board sent a Screening Decision to then-Minister Robert Nault of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. A review under Part 5 or 6 of Article 12 of the NLCA was proposed.</li> </ul>
December 3, 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister Nault referred the Meadowbank project to the NIRB for a Part 5 Review</li> </ul>
December 18, 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NIRB circulated the Draft Environmental Assessment Guidelines for the Meadowbank project to the Distribution List</li> </ul>
February 20, 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board issued the Final Environmental Assessment Guidelines (EIS Guidelines) to the proponent. The Proponent was advised to submit a Draft EIS based on the EIS Guidelines issued.</li> </ul>
January 4, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cumberland filed the DEIS. A Conformity Review of the DEIS was undertaken by NIRB.</li> </ul>
March 8, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cumberland advised that their feasibility study resulted in adjustments to the Project design. This included an increase in mine throughput tonnage, changes to the water tailings discharge, and a recommendation for a 102 km long all-weather access road from the Hamlet of Baker Lake to the mine site.</li> </ul>
March 21, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NIRB advised the Proponent that the DEIS generally conformed to the EIS Guidelines, meaning that the DEIS captured many, but not all, of the requirements set out in the EIS Guidelines. Detailed information regarding the deficiencies to be addressed prior to the technical review for the preparation of the FEIS was provided to the Proponent</li> </ul>
November 8, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cumberland submitted the FEIS to NIRB. NIRB's internal conformity review focused on the new content in the FEIS ensuring it responded to the direction provided by the Board in the PHC decision</li> </ul>
December 14, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cumberland corresponded with INAC, KivIA, GN, and the Hamlet of Baker Lake inquiring specifically about these organizations' interests in the regulation of the all-weather road and in the future of the all-weather road after the Project is completed.</li> </ul>
December 15, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cumberland submitted a supplemental FEIS submission to address the deficiencies identified in NIRB's conformity review</li> </ul>
March 27 to 29, 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Hearing was held in Baker Lake</li> </ul>
March 30, 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Hearing was held Chesterfield Inlet</li> </ul>
March 31, 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Hearing was held in Rankin Inlet</li> </ul>
December 30, 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NIRB approved the Meadowbank Project and this was followed by the Minister issuing the Nunavut Impact Review Board - Project Certificate No.4</li> </ul>
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agnico Eagle purchased the Meadowbank Project from Cumberland and began constructing the all-weather access road from Baker Lake to the Meadowbank Mine</li> </ul>
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mine site construction began</li> </ul>
since 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meadowbank Mine has been operated by Agnico Eagle</li> </ul>



**Table 4.2-1: Summary of 2003 to 2014 Exploration Works on the Amaruq Property (continued)**

Date	Activity
July 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project Certificate conditions 32 related to the AWAR reconsidered to allow for public access to km 85 of the AWAR from Baker Lake to Meadowbank Mine</li> </ul>
May 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Type A 2AM – MEA 1525 Amendment No. 1 to allow an expanded Marshalling Area Bulk Fuel Storage Facility</li> </ul>
September 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meadowbank Airstrip Extension approved.</li> </ul>
June 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Type A 2AM – MEA 1525 Amendment No. 3 to allow for an increase in freshwater use to a total amount of 1.87 Million m<sup>3</sup> in 2013 and 1.15 Million m<sup>3</sup> per year after 2013.</li> </ul>
July 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agnico Eagle submitted an FEIS addendum document that presented an overview of the Vault Pit Expansion (BB Phaser and Phaser Pit) to the NIRB.</li> </ul>
July 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Issuance of 2AM- MEA1525 NWB Type A renewal and Amendment to not exceed 9.12 Million m<sup>3</sup> annually as per Part E; expiration of renewal is July 22, 2025</li> </ul>
March 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agnico Eagle submits an application for a Type B Amaruq Exploration Access Road</li> </ul>
Nov 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NIRB positive screening decision for the Amaruq Exploration Access Road</li> </ul>
Nov 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NWB issues Type B 8BC – AEA1525 for the construction, operation and closure of the Amaruq Exploration Access Road (which is the same alignment as the proposed Whale Tail Pit Haul Road)</li> </ul>
Mar 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DFO letter of Advice issued to Agnico Eagle to construct bridges and culverts at fisheries crossings along the Amaruq Exploration Access Road</li> </ul>
April 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NIRB positive decision for the Vault Pit Expansion (BB Phaser and Phaser Pit); awaiting final Ministerial approval</li> </ul>
April 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NWB accepts Agnico Eagle's notification of a modification of the Type A to dewater using approved Vault facilities, deposit waste and mining of Vault Pit Expansion (Phaser Pit and BB Phaser Pit) using the approved Vault Waste Rock facility and Meadowbank Tailings Storage Facility</li> </ul>
May 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agnico Eagle submitted a request to NPC for a conformity determination for the Whale Tail Pit Project: Meadowbank Mine extension that is consistent with previously related determinations made for the Amaruq Exploration Access Road and Amaruq Exploration Activities (where Whale Tail deposit resides).</li> </ul>

### 4.3 Site Geology

The Kivalliq region is considered to have excellent mineral potential. For example, the Rankin-Ennadai-Kaminuriak (Qamanirjuaq) greenstone belt in the central Kivalliq is comparable to the Abitibi greenstone belt in Ontario and Québec for copper, gold, lead, nickel, platinum, silver, and zinc.

Structurally, the Whale Tail deposit lithologies trend ENE-WSW, which may represent the axis of an anticline or syncline. This is the dominant structural orientation. A series of diffuse ductile structures do exist that trend NE-SW, which offsets both the lithologies and the mineralization. A sub-horizontal set of structures has also been identified during the geomechanical site investigation program (Knight Piesold 2015a).



See Section 3.2.6 for additional geology characteristics for the Project site.

The following section provides details on mining resource and footprint.

#### 4.4 Project Summary

Development plans and potential impacts and benefits resulting from the proposed Project have been presented on an ongoing basis to the general public, community organizations, community leaders, businesses, and government. The feedback obtained from this engagement activity was incorporated in the Project planning to optimize the Project from an environmental and socio-economic point of view, including costs and operability. This is part of Agnico Eagle's approach to sustainable development in mining: limit negative environmental and social impacts, and enhance positive impacts. Agnico Eagle has adopted a precautionary approach while developing the Project details for the purpose of evaluating its potential impacts. As such, conservative assumptions have been used for design criteria and performance modelling of the Project, ensuring a robust concept and conservative impact predictions.

As part of the exploration drilling program, some infrastructure has already been developed at the Project site and it will be developed further. The exploration program is being carried out following the approved Type B Water Licence and Land Use Permits. The exploration facilities are listed in Section 1.0. Only the works related to upgrading the exploration road for production use are covered in this ICRP, as the existing and proposed exploration facilities at the Project site are covered under the Exploration Facilities Conceptual CRPs (Agnico Eagle 2015b, 2015c).

The infrastructure proposed at the Project and covered under this ICRP includes:

- Whale Tail Pit;
- a crushing facility;
- supporting infrastructure, including gated access, a communication tower, heli-pad, tank farm, potable water treatment plant, sewage collection and treatment system, effluent water treatment plant (WTP), a permanent camp (Main Camp), maintenance and on-site storage areas, three ore stockpiles, a temporary overburden stockpile, a power plant, two freshwater intakes and a water diffuser;
- a Waste Rock Storage Facility (WRSF) (waste rock and overburden will be co-disposed in the WRSF, the WRSF includes a landfill);
- four water retention dikes (Whale Tail, Mammoth, WRSF, and Northeast);
- two Saddle/Coffer Dams;
- three water diversion channels (Whale Tail, East, and North, if deemed necessary);
- the contact water collection channels and ponds in the different sectors of the Project (Main Camp, Industrial, Attenuation Pond, Open Pit, WRSF);
- transportation routes including internal access and the haul road; and
- quarries and borrow pits.



The Project infrastructure is described in detail below. See Figure 1.1-1 for locations.

Agnico Eagle expects to begin construction in 2018 and to ultimately achieve full production in 2019. Approximately 8.3 Mt of ore will be produced from the Whale Tail deposit over a mine life of about three to four years. Mining activities are expected to end in Year 3 (2021) and ore processing is expected to end during the first quarter of Year 4 (2022). Approximately 46.1 Mt of waste rock and 5.6 Mt of overburden (with very limited organic material) will be generated on site, for a total of 51.7 Mt of waste. The optimal throughput for the crushers will be approximately 9,000 to 12,000 t/day. As ore will be transported to Meadowbank Mine site for processing, tailings (8.3 Mt) will report to Meadowbank Tailings Storage Facilities, which are authorized under the current Meadowbank Mine Certificate and Type A Water Licence.

Table 4.4-1 presents the proposed milling schedule and mine waste production, along with the ore stockpile evolution and its maximum storage tonnage.

**Table 4.4-1: Mine Plan by Year**

Year	Ore Mined (t)	Waste Rock Excavated (t)	Overburden Excavated (t)	Ore Stockpile Balance (t)
2018	160,020	1,481,594	1,418,078	160,020
2019	2,289,976	13,797,463	4,118,981	807,495
2020	3,352,314	21,504,494	81,300	874,809
2021	2,476,834	9,320,843	0	66,644
2022 <sup>a</sup>	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,279,144</b>	<b>46,104,394</b>	<b>5,618,359</b>	<b>-</b>

<sup>a</sup> Preliminary economics do not include ore mined in 2022.

## 4.5 Project Components Description

### 4.5.1 Whale Tail Open Pit

At the end of operations, the proposed Whale Tail Pit is planned to extend approximately 115 m below current water level of Whale Tail Lake (152.5 m). It will have an ultimate footprint area of approximately 50 ha.

As indicated in Section 3.3.3, geochemical testing indicates that the majority (73%) of the total amount of waste rock to be generated by the pit is classified as NPAG (33.6 Mt) based on the low sulphur content and presence of excess carbonate buffering capacity. The remaining 27% of waste rock is classified as PAG. Various lithologies show metal leaching (ML) behaviour (leachable arsenic). The overburden is classified as NPAG based on the low sulphide sulphur content. The leachable arsenic content in these samples was low, below CCME aquatic life. See Section 4.5.2 for waste rock and overburden management details.



Meadowbank experience indicates a preference for steeper bench faces and wider berms in order to comply with the Nunavut regulation of minimum 'effective' 8 m berms. The selected pit slope designs copy this approach whenever possible; however, drill and blast trials will be carried out early in the mine development to validate and optimize the design.

The mine design approach selected by Agnico Eagle based on a scoping study carried out for the pit rock zones consists of selective mining using 10 to 14.4 m benches. The final bench height will typically be 21 m and the bench face angle will vary from 65° to 75° depending on the pit wall. The inter-ramp angles will vary from 41° to 53°.

Bench scale stability was assessed by means of Kinematic and Limit-Equilibrium analyses to identify potential bench-scale planar, wedge and toppling instability. The pit design and geotechnical stability will be monitored using the same best practices currently applied at Meadowbank Mine.

The Whale Tail deposit is partly located within Whale Tail Lake. The proposed approach to develop the pit involves isolating the pit area with three dikes (Whale Tail Dike, Mammoth Dike, and Northeast Dike). The isolated area will be dewatered during operations and the dewatered water level will be maintained through the life of the Project by diverting most of the fresh water that would otherwise come in contact with the mine site to other sub-watersheds using diversion channels and by pumping (operational dewatering) the remaining contact water to the WTP for treatment before discharge into Mammoth Lake. Agnico Eagle will work with DFO and Inuit communities to develop a fish-out plan for dewatering the isolated area. Once fish salvage and dewatering has been completed, the pit will be accessed by heavy equipment.

The Whale Tail Dike will be required to retain water upstream from the pit area. The normal water level of Whale Tail Lake (South Basin) will be raised by 4 m to reroute water flow towards the northwest passage through the South Whale Tail Diversion Channel into Mammoth Lake. Mammoth Dike is required for dewatering the pit area and to limit the water flow from Mammoth Lake back into the pit during important flood events. The pit area also needs to be protected from water flowing from the North-East Sector. This natural flow pathway will be blocked by the Northeast Dike, allowing the water level to rise approximately 2 m before overflowing towards Nemo Lake.

Based on bathymetry, the predicted volume of water in Whale Tail Lake (North Basin) is 3.4 Mm<sup>3</sup> at a level of 152.5 m. The bottom of the lake is at 135 m. It is assumed that the top 5 meters will consist of fresh water with low suspended solids. The remaining water volume may contain suspended solids from the re-suspension of lake-bottom sediments which will need to be removed prior to discharge into the environment. It is assumed that approximately 66% of the volume (i.e., approximately 2.2 Mm<sup>3</sup>) will be pumped directly to Whale Tail Lake (South Basin) if it meets discharge criteria (Dewatering Phase 1), and the remaining 34% (i.e., 1.2 Mm<sup>3</sup>) will be pumped to the WTP first and then discharged to Lake A16 (Mammoth Lake – Dewatering Phase 2).



During the operational phase of the Project, the anticipated average annual volume of water to be managed from the pit will be 0.11 Mm<sup>3</sup>.

Contact water from an area of 111 ha, not collected by the North Channel and the East Channel, along with groundwater seepage will be managed to report to the bottom of the pit and will be pumped to the Attenuation Pond and from there to the WTP for treatment. See Section 4.5.7 for additional details on water management components.

#### **4.5.2 Waste Rock and Overburden Storage Facility**

Approximately 2.5 Mt of NPAG waste rock will be used for construction of facilities such as roads, pads, and water management facilities (i.e., dikes, berms, rip rap, etc.). The remaining waste rock; not suitable/needed for construction and closure purposes, will be trucked to the WRSF until the end of the pit mining. The overburden will be trucked to the WRSF to be co-disposed with the waste rock or to the temporary overburden stockpile. The WRSF will have two piles.

About 5.5 Mt of overburden will be co-disposed within the WRSF. The remaining overburden, approximately 0.1 Mt, will be temporary stored in the temporary overburden stockpile and this material will be used for different purposes during the construction and operation stages. The temporary overburden stockpile will be located south of the open pit beside the Ore Stockpile 3 and it will have a footprint of approximately 3.2 ha.

The proposed WRSF will be located to the north-west of the open-pit in a sub-watershed allowing capture and control of seepage and runoff in one low topographic point. The locations of the WRSF and temporary overburden stockpile were selected considering environmental, social, economic, and technical aspects.

The WRSF will occupy an area of approximately 110 ha (two piles) and it will be approximately 80 m high, with bench heights of 20 m and an overall slope of 23 degrees (2.5H:1V); an angle generally considered gentle and stable for such facility. Slope stability analyses will be performed and provided 60 days prior to operations. The design is similar to the approved Vault WRSF.

The WRSF is designed to reduce impacts on the environment and to consider both the physical and geochemical stability of the stored waste rock and overburden. The WRSF is designed considering the placement of the waste and overburden in layers spread using a dozer to reduce the footprint and to limit dust generation. Each bench is going to be composed of 4 layers of 5 meters and where the toe will start at a setback distance of 20 meters from the crest of the previous bench.

The overburden will be removed first and placed into the WRSF. As soon as waste rock material is available from the pit, the overburden will be surrounded with run of mine material to control the stability of the pile. Consistent with Meadowbank, a classification system will be used to identify both PAG and metal leaching rock, and PAG mine rock will be stored at designated areas within the WRSF.

The mine landfill will be located within the WRSF (see Section 4.5.6 for landfill details).



A closure cover will be progressively placed over the WRSF to limit acid generating reactions and to control the migration of contaminants. The cover will be 2 to 4 m thick and constructed with NPAG waste rock. The intent of the cover is to contain the yearly active layer inside the thickness of the cover and to maintain a temperature below 0° Celsius for the underlying rock. Experience from the Meadowbank Mine will be used to develop the cover. By the time of permanent closure, it is expected that cover placement will have been completed over most of the sideslope areas. Additional cover placement will be required on the remainder of the sideslopes and on the top surface of the WRSF.

Thermistors will be installed in the WRSF to monitor the rate of freeze back and permafrost development in the facility. The locations for the thermistors will be determined during the final detailed design stage. The measured temperature within the WRSF will provide background information for the study of permafrost development within the facility. Shallow thermistor strings will also be installed to verify that the active layer depth does not exceed that of the cover layer.

#### 4.5.3 Buildings and Equipment

The main supporting facilities for the proposed Project development, described below, will include:

- machinery and equipment for mining activities; and
- supporting infrastructure including: gated access, a communication tower, heli-pad, a power plant, a permanent camp (Main Camp), maintenance and on-site storage areas, a tank farm and three ore stockpiles (Ore Stockpiles 1 to 3).

#### **Machinery and Mobile Equipment**

Agnico Eagle will use the machinery and mobile equipment already on site that is currently in use for the Meadowbank Mine operations, with the addition of specialized long-distance haul trucks. Information concerning vehicle types using the haul road is summarized in Table 4.4-2.

**Table 4.5-2: Vehicle Information**

Make	Model	Year	Weight Empty	Type
Cat	777F	2008	450,000 lbs	Rock haul
Western Star	4800SB	2012	66,000 lbs	Explosive truck
Blue Bird	VISION SL	2014	27,507 lbs	Bus
Kenworth	T800	2013	40,000 lbs	Fuel truck
Ford	F250	2013	10,000 lbs	Pickup
Kenworth	C500B	2006	128,000 lbs	Truck w/float
Western Star	6900XD	2015	188,100 lbs	Road haul truck

lbs = pounds.



**Supporting Facilities**

The communication tower will occupy an area of approximately 6,400 m<sup>2</sup> with a height of 45.5 m.

The Power Plant will be a diesel-fueled facility using reciprocating engines housed in the modular building with a floor area of 215 m<sup>2</sup>. The two 1.8 MW/600 Volt (V) gensets will be relocated from the Vault Mine site to Whale Tail. An initial load estimation has been completed which gives an expected load of 1,358 kW representing less than 85% of the capacity of a single gen set. The second gen set unit will be installed for standby and for service during maintenance.

Due to the remote location of the mine, it will be necessary to provide catered accommodation on-site for up to 350 people. The existing exploration camp will continue to be used during operations and a new camp (Main Camp) will be constructed on-site; the Main Camp will provide accommodation for 210 people. The Main Camp will include rooms, as well as a reception and security area, a kitchen and dining room, a laundry, recreational facilities, an administration building, and a first-aid clinic. The camp complex will be an insulated structural wood frame building resting on a structural steel frame floor on piles. It will be located at the industrial site pad and it will have a floor area of approximately 6,550 m<sup>2</sup>.

Primary maintenance of mobile equipment will make use of existing infrastructure at Meadowbank Mine. For light maintenance, the industrial site includes one maintenance shop for mine equipment and one for haul trucks. Agnico Eagle may also include a wash bay, a machine shop, and a welding shop. The concrete foundation will be designed according to the type of bay (e.g., for a wash bay, drains in the foundation will be designed for used water with a sump for an oil separator).

The existing emulsion plant at Meadowbank Mine will be maintained with deliveries to Whale Tail on an as need basis during operations. The haul road will be used to truck explosives between Meadowbank Mine and the Whale Tail site. Explosives truck(s) will be based at the Emulsion Plant at Meadowbank Mine. The emulsion storage capacity at the Whale Tail Pit site will comprise two 30,000 kg tanks.

The Whale Tail site will primarily use emulsion based explosives during construction and operations to minimize the use of ammonium nitrate/fuel oil (ANFO). Presplit explosives will also be used to control the final pit walls, where required.

The explosives storage facilities will be safely located away from vulnerable facilities, as stipulated by the federal and territorial *Explosives Use Act* and *Regulations*. The minimum setback distances between the proposed explosives storage facilities and the other mine site facilities will be governed by the *Quantity-Distance Principles User's Manual*, as published by the Explosives Branch of Natural Resources Canada. Use of these setback distances will ensure that the location of these proposed facilities meet all federal and territorial regulations regarding safe siting of such facilities.

The construction and operation of the Project site will require the use of fuel (P-50 Fuel Diesel ULSD-43). Fuel usage between the Meadowbank Mill and operations at the Whale Tail site is projected to



be approximately 66.8 million L/year. The Whale Tail Bulk Fuel Storage Facility will be located east of the Whale Tail Camp adjacent to the mine operations haul road (see Figure 1.2-1). Fuel storage at the Whale Tail site will be in one above ground storage tank with approximately 500,000 L capacity. The bulk fuel tank will be re-filled by a fuel truck on a regular basis throughout the year. The diesel tanks will be single-walled, constructed of welded steel, and designed, constructed, and located to meet the CCME guidelines for *Aboveground Storage Tank Systems Containing Petroleum and Allied Petroleum Products*. The fuel unloading facility will be located within a lined and bermed area sized to hold 110% of the volume of the largest tank. All other petroleum fuel and lubricant products will be delivered and stored in the original packing container from the manufacturer.

There will be three ore stockpile facilities on site; Ore Stockpile 1 and Ore Stockpile 2 will be located north of the Attenuation Pond and Ore Stockpile 3 will be located west of the Attenuation Pond. No ore will remain in the ore stockpiles by the end of operations. The ore stockpiles will have in total a maximum footprint of 156 ha. Evolution of the ore stockpiles by year is summarized in Table 4.4-1.

The mining plan considers that higher grade ores will be processed first, and lower grade ores will be stockpiled and processed at the end of operations. During the last year of operations, only low grade ore material stockpiled from the pit operations will be processed.

#### **4.5.4 Mine Infrastructure**

The only onsite mine infrastructure will be the two crushing facilities. (Crushed ore will be transported to the main Meadowbank Mine site for milling.)

The covered crushing facilities will be located east of the pit. Excavated material will be hauled to the one of the crushers using mine trucks. Material will either be dumped into a chute, which feeds the jaw crusher, or dumped on the ground and then dumped into the chute using a wheel loader. The throughput capacity for the crushers will be approximately 9,000 to 12,000 t/day.

#### **4.5.5 Transportation Routes**

##### **Haul Road**

In November 2015 Agnico Eagle received approval to construct an access road under the Type B Water License (2BE-MEA1318), which will connect the Vault Pit (one of the Meadowbank Mine pits) to the Amaruq exploration camp site in support of exploration activities. Vault Pit is approximately 8 km northeast of Meadowbank Mine site. The proposed access road will be about 64 km long with a top width of 6.5 m. Agnico Eagle is proposing to upgrade the proposed access road to accommodate increased traffic rates and haul trucks. The proposed upgraded road is referred to as 'the haul road'. Agnico Eagle has developed the Whale Tail Haul Road Management Plan in support of the Type A Water Licence Amendment.

The proposed upgrade of the exploration road mainly entails widening the top surface from the current 6.5 m width to 9.5 m width. Road surfacing will be constructed using waste rock, crushed rock aggregates from the quarry sites, or natural aggregate from borrow pits in esker material. The bridges



and culverts were already designed at the exploration stage to accommodate potential for use of the exploration road as a haul road. The access road will have 3 bridges, 8 large open bottomed arch culverts and 28 corrugated metal pipe round culverts to pass watercourse crossings. The bridges, open bottom arch culverts and round culverts will allow for normal river and stream flow, and for fish migration at road water crossings. There will also be many other localized drainage culverts to prevent erosion, reduce thaw susceptibility and washout of the road during freshet.

Agnico Eagle has also taken into account for stoppage of haul road closures due to caribou migration and weather by appropriately sizing on-site ore storage stockpile and at Meadowbank Mill.

#### **Internal Access and Haul Roads**

A network of roads (service roads and haul roads) on the proposed Project site will be required to connect up and to access the various Project facilities. Project roads will be designed much like the Meadowbank road design as this design is suitable for the Arctic conditions.

#### **4.5.6 Landfill and Other Waste Disposal Areas**

Sewage will be treated using a Bionest sewage treatment system (similar to system used at Meadowbank Mine). Sewage will be collected from the camp and change-room facilities and pumped to the sewage treatment system. The treated sewage would then be pumped to the Attenuation Pond and discharged with other site contact water.

The waste management philosophy on-site will be to reduce, reuse, or recycle material where practicable. Non-salvageable, non-degradable, non-hazardous, non-putrescible solid waste material generated during construction, operations, and closure will be disposed of in a solid waste landfill (as described in the Landfill and Waste Management Plan submitted in support of the Type A Water Licence Amendment Application). The exact location of the Landfill in the top of the WRSF are not currently available, but the details will be determined closer to the end of operations as the WRSF approaches its final as-built elevation. The landfill will not receive any waste that will attract birds or wildlife and it will be maintained in such a manner that windblown litter will be minimal. Following the example of Meadowbank, the landfill will be located within the WRSF and it will have berms on the south and east sides to protect debris from the wind. The landfill will be covered with a minimum 2 m of NPAG waste rock at closure. The surface runoff from the landfill will be managed as part of the contact water system for the WRSF.

All organic waste from the Project site will similarly be disposed of using the existing Meadowbank incinerator. Waste oil will be collected and used on-site in waste oil burners. Peak incinerated waste volumes are expected to remain similar to those occurring under current operational conditions at Meadowbank. Similar to the waste management philosophy, plans are to actively work towards minimizing spills through suitable work procedures. When spills cannot be prevented and do occur, the goal will be to limit the spread of the spill, and then to deal with any contaminated material resulting from the spill. Hydrocarbon contaminated soils (HCS) generated during the construction, operation, and closure phases will be adequately addressed. Soil contaminated with light



hydrocarbons, such as diesel, will be treated in the Meadowbank Mine landfarm. Materials contaminated with heavy hydrocarbons (not treatable in landfarm) (e.g., hydraulic fluid or grease) will be segregated, packaged and shipped south for treatment and/or disposal.

Hazardous wastes will be packaged for shipment off site to registered hazardous waste management facilities in the south. The accumulation of wastes will be avoided through an active waste management program. Hazardous waste will include the following:

- waste fuel: diesel fuel, oils and solvents, if not incinerated;
- lubricants: greases and other lubricants used for equipment operation and maintenance; and
- antifreeze.

#### **4.5.7 Water Management Facilities**

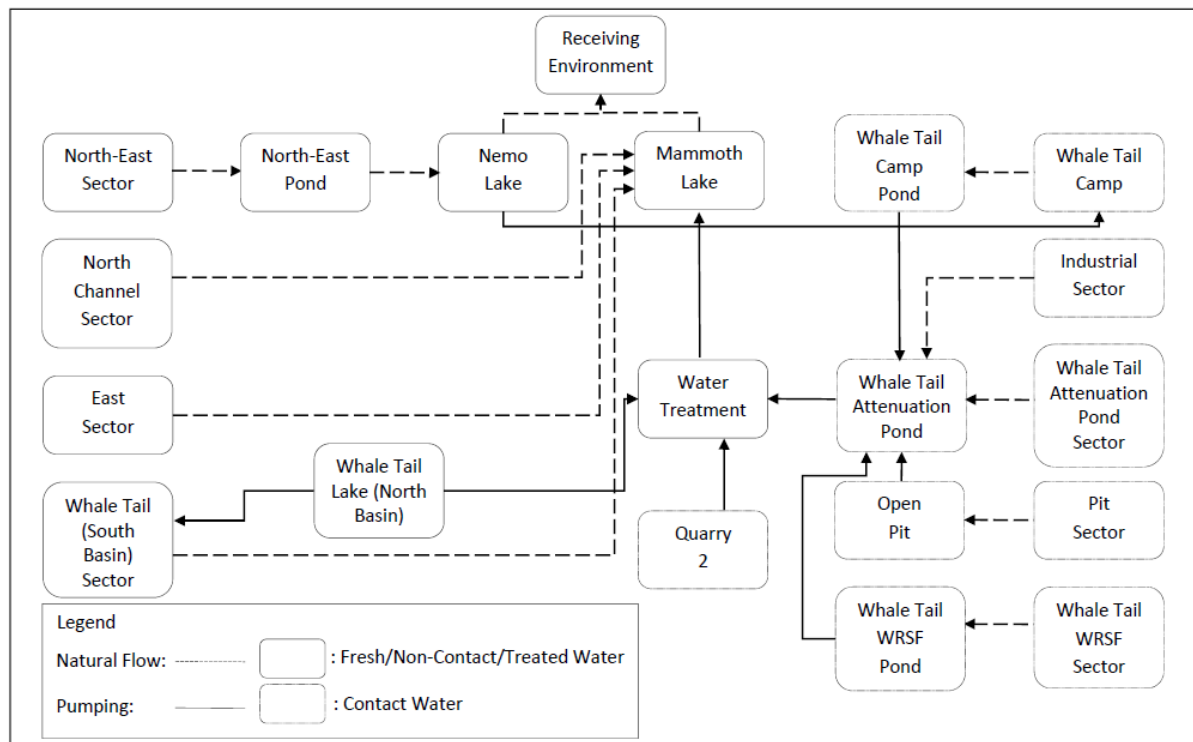
The Project will include construction of the following water management infrastructure:

- four turbidity curtains;
- two contact water collection ponds (Whale Tail Attenuation and Whale Tail WRSF);
- two fresh water collection ponds (Whale Tail Lake (South Basin) and North-East Sector);
- three proposed water diversion channels (Whale Tail, East, and North, if deemed necessary);
- four water retention dikes (Whale Tail, Mammoth, Whale Tail WRSF, and North-East);
- two coffer/saddle dams;
- seven proposed culverts (Culverts 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, and Mammoth Channel Culvert, if deemed necessary);
- a fresh water intake causeway and pump system;
- a Water Treatment Plant and associated intake causeway;
- a water treatment plant for construction;
- a Sewage Treatment Plant;
- pipeline and associated pump system;
- a potable water treatment plant; and
- a discharge diffuser located in Lake A16 (Mammoth Lake).

Figure 4.5-1 presents a schematic diagram of the planned water management strategy during the operational phase. All contact water from the site will eventually be pumped or will flow to the Attenuation Pond. Water stored in the Attenuation Pond will be treated in the WTP and recycled to satisfy water demand for mining process and to minimize freshwater make-up requirements from Nemo Lake. Any excess water from the Attenuation Pond will be also treated in the WTP as required prior to discharge to Mammoth Lake through the effluent diffuser.

For additional details see the Water Management Plan submitted in support of the Type A Water Licence Amendment Application.





**Figure 4.5-1: Water Management Flowsheet during Construction and Operations**

### **Non-Contact Water Management**

The non-contact water sectors are:

- South Whale Tail Lake Sector: The water will then flow through the South Whale Tail Diversion Channel and into Mammoth Lake.
- Northeast Sector: The water will be contained using a retaining dike and will flow toward Nemo Lake.
- East Sector: To limit the flow of non-contact water into the Attenuation Pond, a diversion channel (East Channel) will intersect the lake's final effluent. The East Channel will collect and divert the flow of Lake A53 to Whale Tail Lake.
- North Channel Sector: The construction of the road, or if deemed necessary the North Channel, located to the north of the pit will prevent non-contact runoff water from reaching the pit. This runoff water will flow by gravity towards Mammoth Lake.

### **Contact Water Management**

Contact water was categorized into the following five sectors:

- Whale Tail Waste Rock Storage Facility Sector: The water is considered to be contact water, such that a dike is required to contain the water in a pond to prevent flow to Mammoth Lake.



- Industrial Camp Sector: Pads in the industrial sector and in the crushing area will be graded to redirect contact water towards the collection channel. The contact water will then flow by gravity to the Attenuation Pond.
- Main Camp Sector: Water from the camp sector pad will be directed toward the Whale Tail Attenuation Pond.
- Pit Sector: All water not collected within the other sectors upstream of the pit will flow into it. Runoff from precipitation and ground will be pumped out of Whale Tail Pit, into the Attenuation Pond.
- Whale Tail Attenuation Pond Sector: Will collect all the water from the other contact water sectors, as well as the contact water from its own watershed and seepage from the Whale Tail Dike.

Contact water management associated with the existing facilities at Meadowbank Mine (i.e., tailings storage facility) is authorized under the Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-MEA1525 and will continue to be managed in the same way.

### **Freshwater Intake**

Freshwater for the Whale Tail Camp will be sourced from Whale Tail Lake and from Nemo Lake. Freshwater usage includes potable use, fire suppression, dust suppression, drilling water (if contact water is not available), and water for the truck shop. The freshwater source at the Whale Tail site is Whale Tail Lake during the first part of construction (i.e., Q1 and Q2 of 2018) and closure, and Nemo Lake during construction and operations. Freshwater will also be required to refill Whale Tail Lake (North Basin) at closure and will be sourced from the Whale Tail Lake (South Basin), and natural inflows to Whale Tail Lake (North Basin). Agnico Eagle will endeavour to minimize the amount of freshwater required for the Project, where possible.

Freshwater will be sourced from each lake through a fresh water intake and pump system, freshwater use will switch from Whale Tail Lake (Lake A17) to Nemo Lake (Lake C38) for the periods mentioned above. The intakes (at Nemo Lake and South Whale Tail Lake) will consist of vertical filtration wells fitted with vertical turbine pumps that supply water on demand. The intakes will be connected to the pump houses with piping buried under a rockfill causeway. The intake pipe inlets will be located at the bottom of the causeways, and will be fitted with a stainless steel screen. The rockfill causeways will act as a secondary screen to prevent fish from becoming entrained in the pumps. The stainless steel screen design for the water intakes will be consistent with DFO (1995).

Freshwater will be pumped from the lakes through overland pipelines to insulated storage tanks located at the Main Camp for potable water treatment, and south of the camp for other freshwater uses. The freshwater pipelines will be high density polyethylene pipe, which will be insulated and heat traced.



Storage capacity on site will be approximately 150 m<sup>3</sup> for potable water and 400 m<sup>3</sup> for freshwater. The storage tank located at the Main Camp will provide both fire suppression water and freshwater storage prior to potable water treatment. The tank size is adequate for two hours of firefighting.

The design flow rate for the potable water for the Main Camp and accommodations (i.e., kitchen, laundry) is 84 cubic metres per day (m<sup>3</sup>/day), based on a 350 people camp capacity, (using both the existing exploration camp and the additional 210 units), and a nominal consumption of 240 L/day/person. In total 118,625 m<sup>3</sup>/year will be required during operations from Nemo Lake, with 241 m<sup>3</sup>/day required for freshwater use and 84 m<sup>3</sup>/day required for potable water use.

#### **Effluent Water Treatment Plant (WTP)**

During operations, all site contact water will ultimately flow into or be pumped to the Attenuation Pond. Actiflo Clarifier, having an approximate hydraulic capacity of 2,000 m<sup>3</sup>/h, will be used to remove suspended solids. The Actiflo Clarifier process is based on the coagulation, flocculation, and clarification principle. Water will be treated to meet the discharge criteria and pumped to the receiving environment (Mammoth Lake) via the discharge pipeline and the submerged diffuser.

#### **Mammoth Lake Effluent Diffuser**

The Project will have only one mine effluent discharge point, where discharge water will be reintroduced to Mammoth Lake after final treatment (from the WTP). This effluent discharge will meet the MMER limits, as well as Water Licence requirements. The discharge diffuser will be conceptually similar to the diffuser for the Vault Pit discharge.



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## 5.0 SECTION 5 • PERMANENT CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

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The area that will be disturbed during construction and operation for the proposed Project is approximately 325.1 ha (Figure 5.2-1). At closure, it is expected that the residual disturbances derived from the Project will be minimal (Figure 1.1-3).

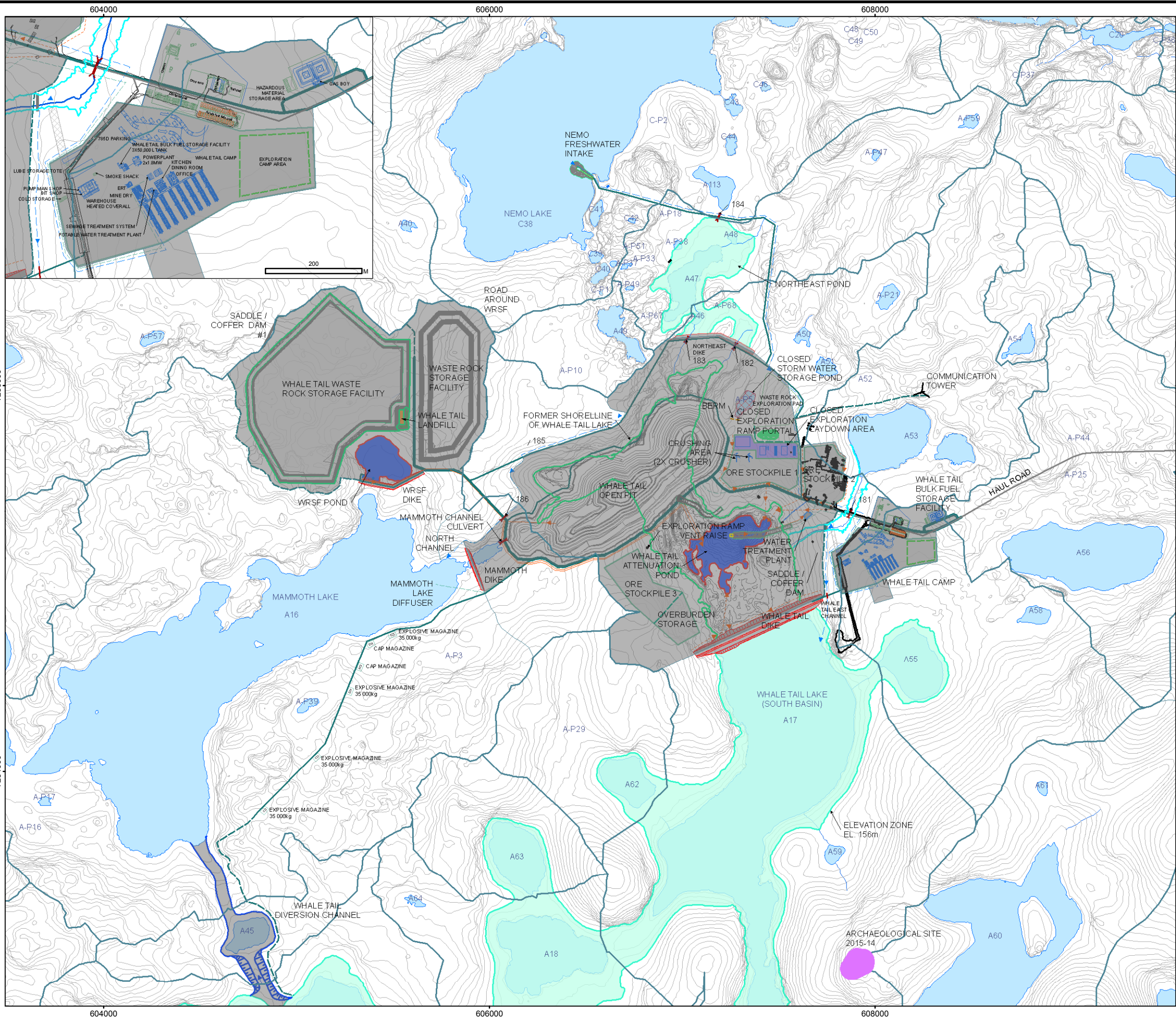
There will be three main stages of closure at the Project. Activities that take place during each stage are:

- *Progressive Reclamation Stage* (Operating Year 1 to Year 3), during which reclamation of the WRSF through cover placement will occur progressively (Figure 1.1-1). Active care, maintenance, and monitoring will be required for the reclaimed areas of the WRSF throughout this stage.
- *Closure Stage* (Year 4 to Year 11), during which the removal of the non-essential site infrastructure and back-flooding of the dewatered area to re-establish the original water level of the Whale Tail Lake will occur (Figure 1.1-2). Active care, maintenance, and monitoring will be required for the decommissioned and remaining facilities throughout this stage.
- *Post-Closure Stage* (Year 11 onwards), will commence as closure is completed in Year 11. During this stage, continued monitoring and maintenance will be carried out at a reduced frequency, depending on the results of the monitoring and measures of success selected for closure (Figure 1.1-3).

The closure measurements for the above stages are described in detailed in the following sections.



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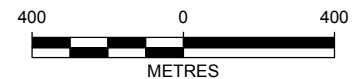



**LEGEND**

- ROAD
- TEMPORARY ROAD
- DIVERSION CHANNEL
- COLLECTION CHANNEL
- CULVERT
- INTAKE WATER PIPE
- CONTACT WATER PIPE
- FRESHWATER PIPE
- WATERCOURSE
- DISTURBANCE FOOTPRINT
- FINAL WHALE TAIL WASTE ROCK STORAGE FACILITY
- WHALE TAIL LAKE (SOUTH BASIN)  
FLOODED LIMIT (WATER LEVEL 156.0m)
- DIKE
- POND/SUMP
- ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE
- NATURAL WATERSHED
- WATERBODY

**REFERENCE**

1. INFRASTRUCTURE OBTAINED FROM AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED FROM 6108-600-210-002\_R2(2019)s.dwg.  
2. WATERCOURSE AND WATERBODY DATA OBTAINED FROM PHOTOSAT  
DATUM: NAD 83 CSRS PROJECTION: UTM ZONE 14



PROJECT		AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED: MEADOWBANK DIVISION WHALE TAIL PIT PROJECT			
TITLE		PROJECT DISTURBANCE FOOTPRINT			
	PROJECT	1541520	PHASE	6100	
	DESIGN	AP	27 May 2016	SCALE AS SHOWN	REV. 0
	GIS	CDB/CD	05 May 2016		
	CHECK	AP	1 June 2016		
	REVIEW	IMKAB	1 June 2016	<b>FIGURE 5.2-1</b>	



## **5.1 Definition of Permanent Closure and Reclamation**

Permanent closure is defined as the final closure of a mine site with no foreseeable intent by the existing proponent to return to either active exploration or mining. Permanent closure indicates that the proponent intends to have no further activity on the site aside from post-closure monitoring and potential contingency actions. Permanent closure does not, however, preclude the proponent or another party from pursuing opportunities at the existing site or in the area at a time beyond the foreseeable future (MVLWB/AANDC 2013).

## **5.2 Permanent Closure and Reclamation Requirements**

This sub-section provides the permanent closure and reclamation requirements for each individual component of the Project. The components are categorized in sub-sections for clarity. The specified closure objectives may be revised with subsequent updates to the Closure and Reclamation Plan, but are considered reasonable at this time to guide the advancement of closure planning. See the Water Management Plan and Mine Waste Rock and Tailings Management Plan, submitted as part of the Type A Water Licence Application, for additional details on the water management plan and water quality predictions, and the mine waste management plan.

See Figure 1.1-1 for Project component locations.

### **5.2.1 Underground Mine Workings**

The proposed underground workings and two vent raises associated with the exploration are covered by another permit which is currently being processed as discussed in Section 1.0.

### **5.2.2 Open Pit Mine Workings**

#### **5.2.2.1 Project Component Description**

The proposed Open Pit workings are described in Section 4.5.1.

#### **5.2.2.2 Pre-Disturbance, Existing, and Final Site Conditions**

The pre-disturbance site conditions are summarized in Section 3.0. Figure 5.2-2 presents an aerial photo of the proposed mine site area taken in 2015. Pre-disturbance conditions are based on baseline data collection programs carried out since 2013.

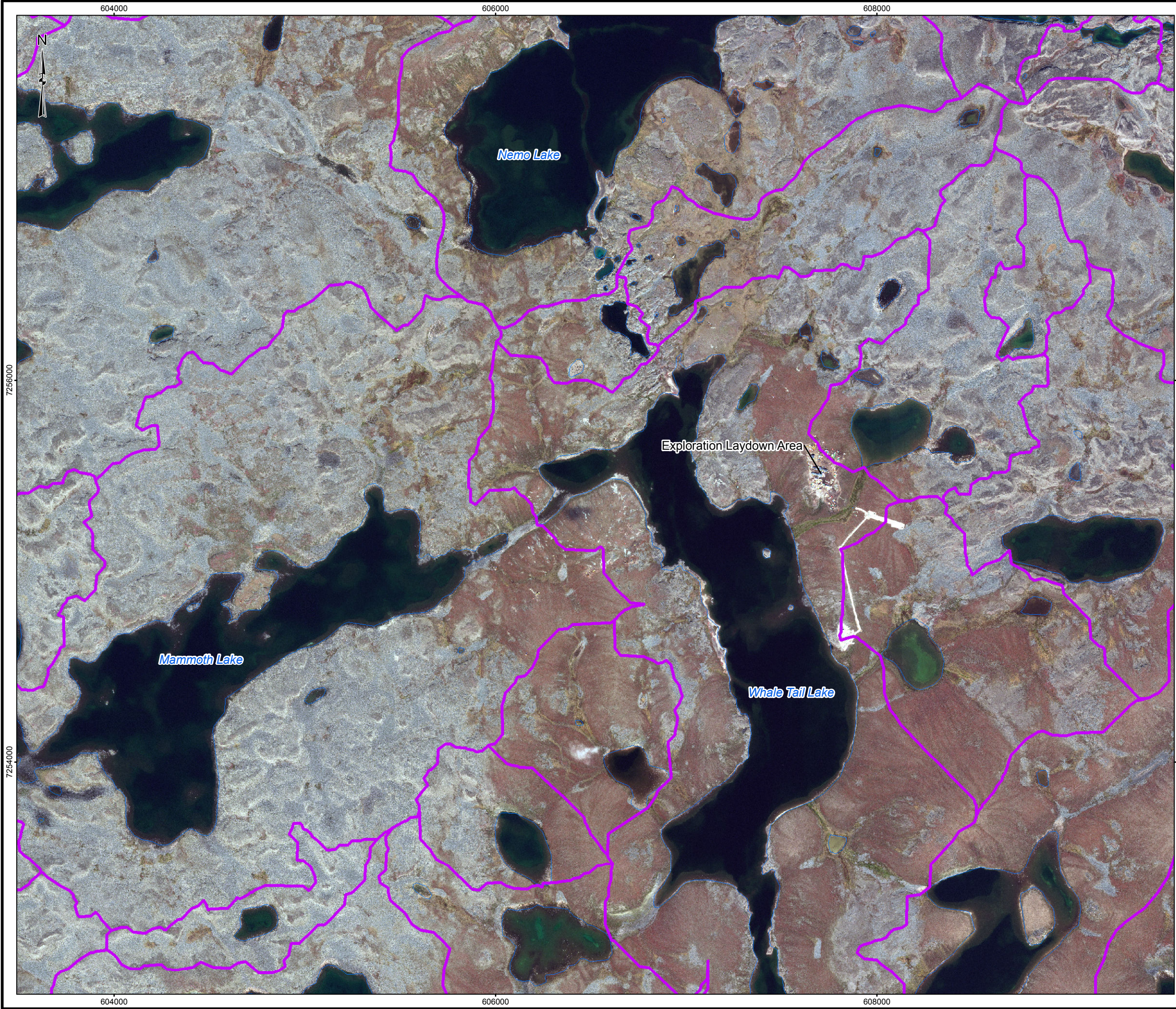
The condition of waterbodies that will be impacted by the pit mining activities are presented in the Water Management Plan submitted in support of the Type A Water Licence Amendment Application. All mining components have been located to avoid or reduce impact on the local environment to the extent possible.

The existing conditions at the pit area are the same as the pre-disturbance conditions.

At the end of operations, the proposed Whale Tail Pit is planned to extend approximately 115 m below current water level of Whale Tail Lake (152.5 m). It will have an ultimate footprint area of approximately 50 ha. The ultimate mine development of the Project is shown on Figure 1.1-1.



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**LEGEND**

WATERBODY

WATERSHED

**REFERENCE**

1. IMAGERY OBTAINED FROM PHOTOSSET, ACQUIRED ON AUGUST 28, 2015

2. WATERBODY DATA OBTAINED FROM PHOTOSAT

DATUM: NAD 83 CSRS PROJECTION: UTM ZONE 14

4000000

4000000

0

400

METRES

PROJECT

AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED:  
MEADOWBANK DIVISION  
WHALE TAIL PIT PROJECT

TITLE

PRE-DISTURBANCE MINE SITE CONDITIONS

Golder Associates

PROJECT	1541520		PHASE	6100	
DESIGN	AP	27 May 2016	SCALE AS SHOWN	0	
GIS	CDB/CD	5 May 2016	<b>FIGURE 5.2-2</b>		
CHECK	AP	1 June 2016			
REVIEW	IMKAB	1 June 2016			



### 5.2.2.3 Closure Objectives and Criteria

The closure objectives and closure criteria for the pit mine workings are listed in Table 5.2-1.

Table 5.2-1: Closure Objectives and Criteria – Open Pit Workings

Component	Closure Objectives	Closure Criteria	Actions/ Measurements
Air	Meet Canadian Ambient Air Quality standards	Best management practices for controlling fugitive and exhaust emissions during active reclamation	Implement best practices. Routine air quality monitoring
Land	Minimize the potential for inadvertent access by humans to slopes that are dangerous or unstable during the back-flooding stage	Maintain waste rock berm constructed during operations until pit area is back-flooded	Physical inspection by a qualified engineer
Water	Control contaminated flow from the back-flooded area which includes the pit area	Integrate a water management plan to control contaminated flow from the back-flooded area and have these waters meet site permit water quality objectives	Implement a system to collect and treat these waters, routine monitoring and sampling; water treatment if required
	Ensure outflow from the back-flooded area meets water licence criteria	Prior to breaching the Mammoth Dike, the water quality will be profiled to confirm it is suitable for release. Treatment options will be investigated, if necessary (e.g., in-situ treatment or through the WTP)	Routine monitoring and sampling; in-situ or water treatment at the WTP if required
	Control the rate of back-flooding	The pit will be actively flooded over a period of approximately 4 years. Back-flooding the dewatered area to original water level will take another 4 years.	Construction and operation of the active pit flooding system; routine monitoring and sampling
Wildlife	Discourage access to pit during back-flooding stage	A plan will be developed to allow for reasonable exit should inadvertent access occur Pit access ramps not used for back-flooding monitoring will be secured	Physical inspection; construction of rock barricades at pit access ramps
	Reduce the potential that water in the back-flooded area will affect wildlife health	Prior to breaching of the Mammoth Dike, the water quality will be profiled. Until it is suitable for release, the most appropriate treatment method will be determined if necessary (e.g., in-situ treatment or through the WTP)	Routine monitoring and sampling; in-situ or water treatment at the WTP, if required
Health and Safety	Allow emergency access and exit during back-flooding stage	A plan will be developed to allow for reasonable exit should inadvertent access occur	Physical inspection
	Reduce the potential for inadvertent access by humans to slopes that are dangerous or unstable during back-flooding stage	Maintain waste rock berm constructed during operations until pit area is back-flooded	Physical inspection by a qualified engineer
	Reduce the possibility that water quality in the restored Whale Tail Lake and downstream flows affect human health	The effluent water quality will be profiled. If it is not suitable for release, the most appropriate treatment method will be determined if necessary	Routine monitoring and sampling downstream
Community	Consider community land use expectations and traditional knowledge in the closure planning	Community engagement will continue to be implemented	Public engagement
	Consider transition plans	Community programs will be established to transition into closure	Physical inspection

WTP = water treatment plant



#### **5.2.2.4 Consideration of Closure Options and Selection of Closure Activities**

Closure activities for the pit were selected in consideration of the closure aspects listed below. This is considered the most appropriate closure plan based on the Meadowbank Mine experience.

##### **Open Pit Perimeter - Wildlife Protection**

The pit may be hazardous to wildlife species as wildlife may be injured by inadvertent access into the pit during the operations and back-flooding stages.

Environmental design features and mitigation, as well as current wildlife management practices used in other mining projects (Appendix C), will be implemented at the Project to limit wildlife injury and morbidity during the operations stage. As part of operations, a waste rock berm will be placed as part of the open pit periphery road on the side to the pit.

Based on above, no additional closure activities have been included in this ICRP for the open pit perimeter; only monitoring of the existing berm will be carried out during the back-flooding stage.

Once the original water level has been restored in Whale Tail Lake; the pit area will not represent a hazard to wildlife species as most of the pit area will be inundated.

##### **Open Pit Geotechnical Stability**

The pit slopes have been designed to be stable under operating conditions.

No additional closure activities (i.e., re-grading of slopes, erosion protection, re-vegetation, etc.) have been included in this ICRP for the stability of the pit walls after closure as the pit will be back-flooded; therefore, it will not represent a hazard after closure. In areas where the wall may slightly exceed the final water level a berm may be left or setback depending on stability.

##### **Open Pit Back-flooding**

A detailed water management multiple account analysis (MAA) was completed on various options for Project water management (FEIS Volume 1; Agnico Eagle 2016). From the options evaluated the Whale Tail Diversion Channel to reroute the water flow towards the Northwest Passage to Mammoth Lake watershed obtained the best score. This option was selected due to lower capital costs and lower operating costs during construction and more likely to be socially accepted as it is a passive water diversion system.

With respect to viability, this option integrates with Meadowbank current operations and allows natural hazards to be better managed. It also proposes a smaller diversion channel and uses a natural boulder-field prior to discharge into Mammoth Lake. In addition, this option is likely to be positively received by regulatory agencies since it uses a passive water management approach and creates additional fish habitat during operation and closure, thus offsetting temporal impacts due to the dewatering of Whale Tail Lake (North Basin). Also, its passive water management will facilitate the



closure and post-closure periods since the water accumulation from Whale Tail Lake (South Basin) will be used to back-flood the completed pit faster.

#### **5.2.2.5 Engineering Work Associated with Selected Closure Activity**

Guidance on engineering work options or strategies for the closure of open pits is provided in MVLWB/AANDC (2013). The relevant engineering works associated with the permanent closure activities for the open pit mine workings are discussed below.

Pit access ramps not used during the back-flooding stage will be secured by rock berm barricades during the closure stage, berms will be constructed around the perimeter of the pit at a given setback in accordance with applicable mine regulations and rock mechanics studies conducted for pit stability during the operations stage.

The pit is designed to have stable slopes during the mine life. The pit design and geotechnical stability will be monitored using the same best practices currently applied at Meadowbank Mine.

Following completion of mining, the dewatered Whale Tail Pit area (the isolated area) will be back-flooded to original water level (152.5 masl).

The dewatered Whale Tail Pit area will be back-flooded in two phases:

- Phase 1: back-flood the pit area (Figure 5.2-3) between Year 4 (2022) and Year 7 (2025) and
- Phase 2: back-flood the Whale Tail Lake to 152.5 m between Year 8 (2026) and Year 11 (2029) (Figure 5.2-4).

The dewatered area will be back-flooded with water from four sources:

- 1) The Whale Tail Lake (South Basin), the water accumulated over the operating years will be pumped into Whale Tail Lake (North Basin) until the original Whale Tail Lake level is reached (this will continue until the end of phase 2).
- 2) The Northeast Pond will be drawdown and the Northeast Dike breached at the beginning of the back-flooding phase 1 allowing the Northeast watershed to return to their natural water level and drainage patterns and contribute to the back-flooding of the area.
- 3) The contact water collected in the Attenuation Pond will be treated and discharged in the dewatered area until the end of phase 1. During phase 2 the Attenuation Pond will be reclaimed (back-flooded) and the contact water from the WRSF will be pumped directly to the WTP to be finally discharged in the Whale Tail Lake (North Basin).
- 4) The North Channel will be re-routed to discharge in the dewatered area at the beginning of phase 2, restoring the original drainage pattern of the north area.



Figure 5.2-3: Phase 1 - Back-flooding Area Diagram

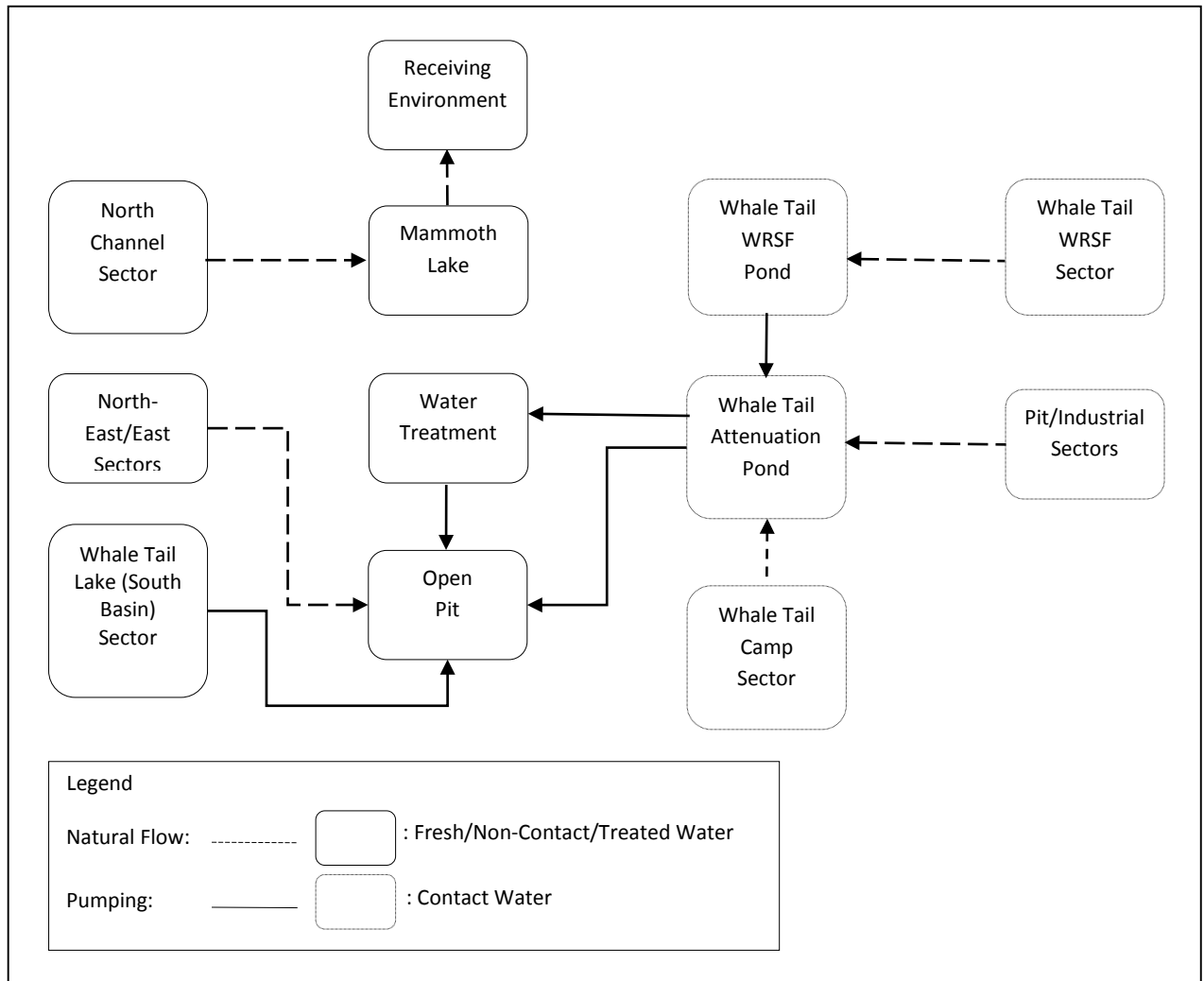
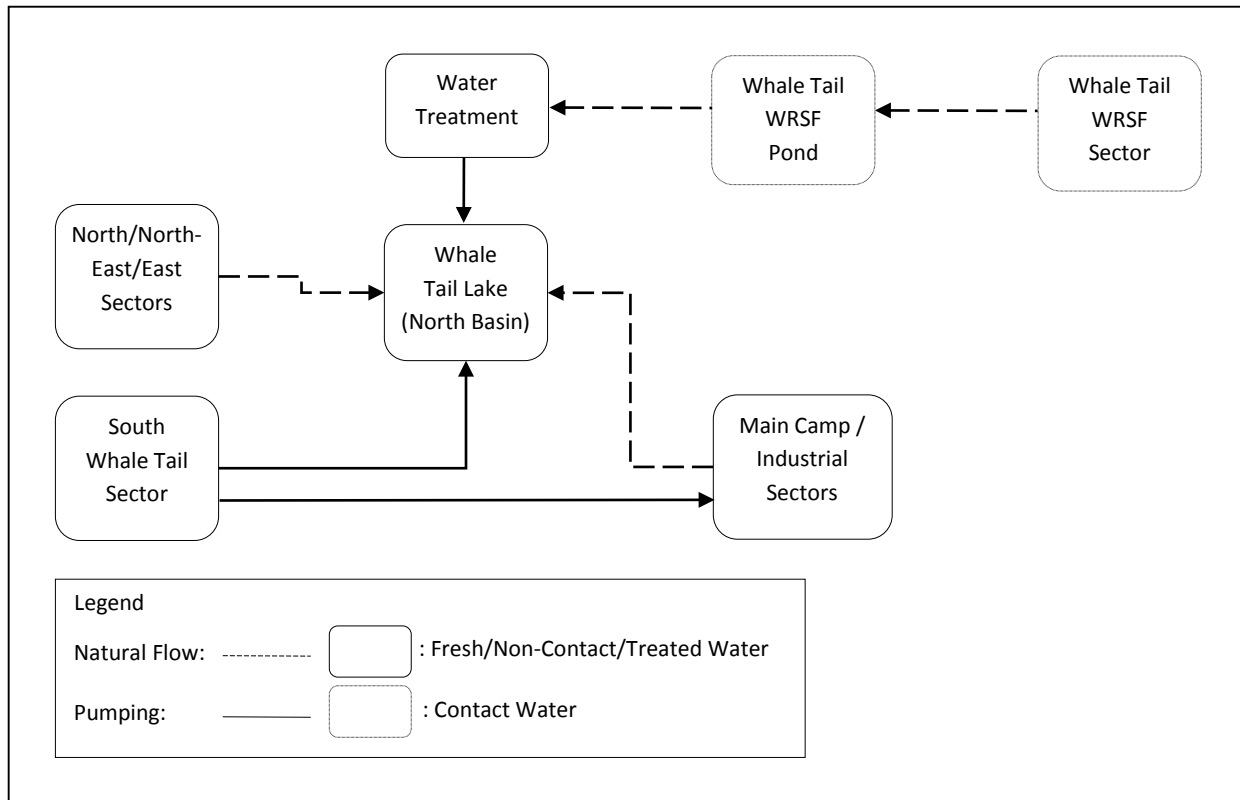




Figure 5.2-4: Phase 2 - Back-flooding Area Diagram



It is anticipated that approximately 24,000,000 m<sup>3</sup> will be required over 8 years to back-flood the mined-out Whale Tail Pit (i.e., approximately 17,000,000 m<sup>3</sup>) and Whale Tail Lake (North Basin) (i.e., approximately 7,000,000 m<sup>3</sup>) to its original level. The sources of this water will comprise approximately 2,300,000 m<sup>3</sup>/year from Whale Tail Lake (South Basin), 120,000 m<sup>3</sup>/year from tributaries to Whale Tail Lake (North Basin), and 580,000 m<sup>3</sup>/year from direct precipitation to Whale Tail Lake (North Basin).

Pump sizing for back-flooding and a more accurate estimate for the duration of back-flooding will be established during the detailed design phase of the Project to optimize pumping costs and to reduce potential impacts to Mammoth Lake. Agnico Eagle will follow the DFO Water Withdrawal Protocol (DFO 2010) when withdrawing water from Whale Tail Lake (South Basin).

The walls of the open pit will have been exposed for a number of years during mine operational phase, and some weathering may have occurred. As the pit back-floods, the water will contact the weathered rocks, which may affect the water quality by increasing concentrations of dissolved metals. The water quality model results indicated that the concentration of arsenic in the flooded pit may slightly exceed the aquatic life guideline (CCME 1999) and drinking water guideline (Health Canada 2014), and the



concentration of phosphorus may be above the mesotrophic trigger value (CCME 2004). No exchanges have been modelled between the Whale Tail pit water and the overlying water in Whale Tail Lake (North Basin) (Golder, 2016c). Water quality within the flooded pit and the Whale Tail Lake (North Basin) will be monitored during the back-flooding period to verify the prediction of the water quality model. The information will be used to develop a strategy to minimize contamination of the regional surface water system. If required, the back-flooding plan will be adjusted to reduce potential effects to the environment.

Once the water in the back-flooded area is suitable for direct discharge to the environment, the pumping and pipelines systems will be removed. The Whale Tail Dike and Mammoth Dike will then be breached and the back-flooded area would then be restored to the original conditions. The dikes will be breached at selected locations to a depth of approximately 3 m below average water level at Whale Tail Lake to account for ice formation, fish passage and navigable water requirements. Excavated materials (rockfill) will be locally placed to extend shallower areas on the residual sides of the dike and breaches.

#### **5.2.2.6 Predicted Residual Effects**

No discharges will occur to the downstream receiving environment during the Phase 1 of back-flooding since all contact waters will be diverted to the open pit and Whale Tail Lake (North Basin) for back-flooding. Accordingly, predictive water quality results are provided for the downstream receiving environment only (Golder 2016c). Given the relatively small volume and small catchment of the first three receiving Lakes (Mammoth Lake, Lake A15, and Lake A12), the water quality in these Lakes averaged over the closure period is predicted to be similar to that of the last year of operations, with similar maximum and average concentrations. It is predicted that arsenic will slightly exceed the aquatic life guideline (Mammoth Lake, Lake A15, Lake A12, and Downstream Node 2) and the drinking water guideline (Mammoth Lake, Lake A15, and Lake A12), and that cadmium and chromium will be at the aquatic life guideline in Mammoth Lake. It is also predicted that phosphorus concentrations will remain in the eutrophic range (Mammoth Lake, Lake A15, and Lake A12), in the mesotrophic range (Downstream Node 2), and in the oligotrophic range (Downstream Node 1).

It is predicted that, during Phase 2 of back-flooding, the dissolved concentration of all parameters in Whale Tail Lake (North Basin) will be less than aquatic life guidelines. The total parameter concentration (based on an addition of 15 mg/L suspended solids) could exceed the aquatic life guidelines for total aluminum, arsenic, chromium, and iron in this Basin.

The quality of Whale Tail WRSF drainage (long-term average, post-closure) is predicted to meet the aquatic life guidelines for all parameters except fluoride, aluminum, arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, iron, lead, mercury, selenium, and uranium. See Section 5.2.3.5 for additional details on WRSF expected water quality.



Runoff from the Whale Tail WRSF and discharge from Whale Tail Lake (North Basin) will enter and mix in Mammoth Lake. In general, concentrations in post-closure are predicted to be lower than those in closure, and that these concentrations will continue to decrease through post-closure.

Predicted concentrations of major ions, nutrients, and metals (except arsenic) in Mammoth Lake, and downstream environments, for post-closure are predicted to be lower than aquatic life guidelines. Concentrations of arsenic are predicted to be marginally above the aquatic life guideline (by less than two times) in Lake Mammoth Lake, Lake A15, and Lake A12. By Year 10 of post-closure, concentrations of arsenic are predicted to be lower than the aquatic life guideline, and phosphorus concentrations are anticipated to return to oligotrophic to ultra-oligotrophic concentrations.

#### **5.2.2.7      Uncertainties**

The following uncertainties were identified during closure planning for the proposed open pit.

##### **Water Quality**

Arsenic release from submerged Whale Tail Pit walls is a source of uncertainty in the prediction of the long-term water quality of the flooded pit lake and Whale Tail Lake (North Basin). The actual interaction between the two water bodies (water within the pit and water above it forming North Whale Tail Lake) as well as possible chemical stratification of the flooded pit lake (which would result in improved water quality in the shallow pit lake) should be investigated.

The source of the uncertainty lies in the occurrence of arsenic in waste rock and its leachability, which is currently being investigated. There is also uncertainty in the hydrogeochemical and hydrological conditions that will occur in the waste stockpiles and pit walls, and in the hydrological conditions in the Pit Lake and Whale Tail Lake, neither of which have been studied in detail. The base-case scenario results presented assume that arsenic diffusion will not be significant post-flooding because the Whale Tail Pit is assumed to act as a groundwater recharge zone. This assumption is based on an overview of area lake water elevations, but disregards the possible effects of differing pit and groundwater densities. This assumption should be verified going forward.

#### **5.2.2.8      Post-Closure Monitoring, Maintenance, and Reporting**

The post-closure monitoring and maintenance program for the open pit mine workings is discussed in the following sections, along with the reporting requirements. Some of the sections below are general and apply for the other Project components as well.

The ICRP is a “living” document and includes a commitment to adaptive management and monitoring during all stages of the mine life to demonstrate the safe performance of the mine facilities and to reduce the potential for any contamination on the site or in the adjacent area after mine operations cease. Monitoring during operations and in closure will identify non-compliant conditions; allow timely maintenance and clean up as needed; allow timely planning for adaptive and corrective measures; and enable successful completion of the ICRP. In this way, the Project is not anticipated to



contribute residual contaminants to the environment after closure and reclamation in the post-closure period.

Monitoring programs will be initiated during pre-development and operations to provide additional baseline information on which to base the FCRP document. The adaptive management plans to be used in closure and post-closure will follow the actions completed during operations, and will be coordinated with the operational monitoring programs (e.g., the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan [AEMP] and the Terrestrial Environment Management Plan [TEMP]) to set appropriate trigger levels, and mitigation plans and actions.

Monitoring and maintenance programs that are implemented during the closure and post-closure phases of the Project life will use the data collected during operational monitoring to assess the performance of the reclamation and closure procedures, and to identify long-term maintenance requirements, if any. The data collected during post-closure monitoring will allow the procedures and activities to be adjusted or modified as necessary to confirm ongoing environmental protection.

#### **Operational Monitoring Strategies**

The overall objectives during operations of the AEMP and the TEMP are to provide programs to identify and mitigate potential adverse Project-related impacts so that construction and operational activities do not cause any undue harm to water quality, sediment quality, vegetation, biota, wildlife, and wildlife habitats. Both the AEMP and the TEMP provide the basis for integrating monitoring efforts with future revisions to the Closure and Reclamation Plan to verify compliance with regulatory instruments and agreements, both federally and territorially, as summarized in Section 2.6.

The AEMP and the TEMP will be reviewed and updated in the final year of operations to reflect conditions at the site as the mine approaches closure. The changes would allow the basic portions of the plans to continue to be used to cover the closure period activities.

#### **Closure and Post-Closure Strategies**

Development of monitoring and maintenance programs is an iterative process in consultation with communities and regulators as the Project advances. The closure and post-closure monitoring and maintenance programs will be extensions of efforts undertaken during the operations phase and would reflect the success of the management of the site during operations to limit contamination. The actual conditions or impact from the operations within the mine footprint would be understood at closure and this information would be used to modify monitoring plans moving to closure and post-closure.

It is anticipated that monitoring and maintenance will be carried out during the active closure stage at frequencies similar to those required during operations. Post-closure monitoring and maintenance will be carried out at a reduced frequency depending on the results of the monitoring and the measures of success selected for closure.



Guidance on monitoring and maintenance programs for closure and post-closure is provided in MVLWB/AANDC (2013). The frame work for the relevant strategies for the back-flooded area identified at this time is discussed below:

- visual inspections of the reclaimed areas;
- sample surface water and profiles of the back-flooded area; and
- inspect fish habitat in back-flooded area.

As the closure effort is completed and the post-closure period begins, the AEMP and the TEMP would be reviewed and updated again to cover the remaining (post-closure) monitoring period.

It is also anticipated that after several years in the post-closure period, monitoring would no longer be required.

It is planned that the haul road would be maintained for sufficient period to enable access to the site for minor maintenance required in the initial portion of the post-closure period. The haul road will be decommissioned once maintenance requirements at the Project site are anticipated to be minor and could be achieved with small crews sent to site via helicopter in the summer (see Section 5.2.7 for details on haul road closure). It is anticipated that the need for ongoing maintenance would be reduced with time and will not be required once the site is physically and chemically stable.

### **Reporting**

The preparation of the following reports is required by the MVLWB/AANDC (2013) guidelines for closure and reclamation of all components of mine sites:

- **Annual Closure and Reclamation Plan Progress Report:** The general purpose of these annual reports is to provide an opportunity for all parties to track, modify, and report on reclamation. The annual review of research results also provides an opportunity to identify missing research tasks, which allows the research plans to continually evolve. The progress reports keep all parties informed about closure planning and allow the NWB to confirm that the proponent has remained on schedule. Any proposed changes to the CRP should be presented with supporting rationale in these reports for NWB approval.
- **Reclamation Completion Report:** The general purpose of the reclamation completion report is to provide details, including figures, of the actual reclamation work completed, and an explanation of any work that deviated from the original or approved CRP. The report should also provide a preliminary assessment on whether appropriate closure objectives and criteria have been achieved. With each reclamation completion report, there may be an opportunity to revise the financial security estimate depending on the stage of the operation and the current CRP.
- **Performance Assessment Report:** A performance assessment report is prepared at the completion of the reclamation work and following submission of the reclamation completion report. The general purpose of the performance assessment report is to provide a detailed



comparison of conditions at the site against the appropriate closure objectives and closure criteria. With each performance assessment report, there may be an opportunity to revise the security estimate depending on the stage of the operation and the current ICRP.

The timelines for preparation and submission to NWB of the above described reports will be according to the Meadowbank Mine approved license requirements; as the Project is being proposed as a satellite project.

#### **5.2.2.9 Contingencies**

The need for water treatment will be determined based on water quality monitoring before the Whale Tail Dike and the Mammoth Dike are to be breached. Prior to back-flooding of the pit, the quality of surface water and any groundwater seepage reporting from the pit walls will be sampled to assess potential for contamination of the pit water during filling. In addition, the surface water and profiles of the back-flooded area will be sampled. If the results of water quality monitoring indicate that water in the back-flooded area is not suitable for direct discharge, the following alternatives will be considered as contingencies for the treatment of the back-flooded area water:

- in-situ treatment; and
- active treatment through the WTP prior to discharge into the receiving environment.

### **5.2.3 Waste Rock and Overburden Storage Facilities**

#### **5.2.3.1 Project Component Description**

The proposed WRSF and temporary overburden storage facility are described in Section 4.5.2.

#### **5.2.3.2 Pre-Disturbance, Existing, and Final Site Conditions**

The pre-disturbance site conditions are summarized in Section 3.0. Figure 5.2-2Figure 5.2- presents an aerial photo of the proposed mine site area taken in 2015. Pre-disturbance conditions are based on baseline data collection programs carried out since 2013.

The waterbodies that will be impacted by the WRSF are presented in the Water Management Plan submitted in support of the Type A Water Licence Amendment Application. All mining components have been located to avoid or reduce the impact on the local environment to the extent possible.

The existing conditions at the WRSF area and temporary overburden stockpile is the same as the pre-disturbance conditions.

The ultimate mine development of the Project is shown on Figure 1.1-1. At the end of operations, the proposed WRSF will occupy an area of approximately 110 ha (two piles) and will have a maximum height of approximately 80 m. At the end of operations, it is expected that the material from the temporary overburden storage facility will have been used for different purposes during the construction and operation stages.



### 5.2.3.3 Closure Objectives and Criteria

The closure objectives and closure criteria for the WRSF are listed in Table 5.2-2.

**Table 5.2-2: Closure Objectives and Criteria – Waste Rock Storage Facility**

Component	Closure Objectives	Closure Criteria	Actions/ Measurements
Air	Meet Canadian Ambient Air Quality standards	Best management practices for controlling fugitive and exhaust emissions during active reclamation.	Implement best management practices. Routine air quality monitoring
Land	Confirm the WRSF slopes and top are stable	The WRSF will be designed for closure and will account for seismic and permafrost conditions	Physical inspection by a qualified engineer, and monitoring
		A thermal cover to limit acid generating reactions and migration of contaminants	Place thermal cover of NPAG rock on the WRSF surface during progressive reclamation and closure Thermistors to monitor verify that the active layer is less than the thickness of the cover
Water	Confirm runoff and seepage is collected	The runoff and seepage from the WRSF will continue to be collected in the designated collection pond and pumped to Attenuation Pond for treatment in the WTP, as per operational practices, until monitoring results demonstrate that water quality conditions from the WRSF are acceptable for direct discharge	Physical inspection. Routine monitoring and sampling
	Confirm runoff and seepage from the WRSF meet water licence criteria	As above	Routine monitoring and sampling
Wildlife	Ensure the WRSF surfaces are safe for wildlife	WRSF at post-closure will not compromise wildlife safety as the WRSF will be covered	Physical inspection
	Minimize the possibility that water from the WRSF will affect wildlife health	The runoff and seepage from the WRSF will continue to be collected in the designated collection pond and pumped to Attenuation Pond for treatment in the WTP, as per operational practices, until monitoring results demonstrate that water quality conditions from the WRSF are acceptable for direct discharge	Routine monitoring and sampling
Health and Safety	Ensure the WRSF is safe for monitoring and physical inspections	WRSF at post-closure will not compromise people's health	Routine monitoring and physical inspection
Community	Consider community land use expectations and traditional knowledge in the closure planning	Community engagement will continue to be implemented	Public engagement
	Consider transition plans	Community programs will be established to transition into closure	Physical inspection

WRSF = waste rock storage facility; WTP = water treatment plant

### 5.2.3.4 Consideration of Closure Options and Selection of Closure Activities

Construction / development of WRSF with long-term stable slopes and placing the cover in a progressive manner is considered the most appropriate closure plan based on Meadowbank experience.

No other options for the WRSF closure have been considered.



### 5.2.3.5 Engineering Work Associated with Selected Closure Activity

Much of the closure and reclamation of the WRSF will take place progressively during operations with the placement of the cover over the WRSF slopes. The remaining closure and remediation requirements of the WRSF will be completed after operations cease. Details of the closure activities are provided in the following subsections. The engineering works associated with the progressive closure activities for the WRSF are described in Section 6.2.3. Figure 1.1-1 shows the WRSF progressive reclamation advance by the end of the mine life.

Guidance on engineering work options or strategies for closure of WRSF is provided in MVLWB/AANDC (2013). The relevant engineering works associated with the permanent closure activities for the WRSF are discussed below.

The WRSF will be designed for long-term stability. Thus no additional re-grading of the sideslopes will be required. It will be necessary to contour the top surface to ensure positive drainage and to prevent ponding.

An engineered cover will be progressively placed on the surface of the WRSF as discussed in Section 4.5.2. The design proposed is similar to the approved Vault WRSF at Meadowbank Mine, namely the addition of 2 to 4 m of NPAG waste rock as final surface of the WRSF. The intent of the cover is to contain the yearly active layer inside the thickness of the cover and maintain a temperature below 0° Celsius for the underlying rock. The objective of the cover is the control of acid generating reactions and of migration of contaminants. The segregation of the PAG/NPAG and ML/Non-ML waste rock will occur during the operation of the mine. The covering of the top of the WRSF will be completed during the closure period using a storage of NPAG (and non-ML to the extent possible) waste rock.

Cover design will be finalized during the detailed design phase of the Project and will consider operational experience at other northern mine sites including the Meadowbank Mine, and available design guidelines including MEND Report 1.61.5c – Cold Regions Cover System Design Technical Guidance Document (MEND 2012). Thermistors will be installed to verify the predicted performance of the cover.

The contact water management system for the WRSF will be maintained during the closure period. The water collected from the WRSF will be treated if required until water quality monitoring demonstrates that water flowing from this facility is acceptable for direct release to the environment.

It is predicted that, at the WRSF pond, some parameters will exhibit average concentrations at post-closure that are above the CEQG-AL, including: arsenic, cadmium, copper, fluoride, lead, mercury, selenium, and uranium. All of the predicted average concentrations are within the same order of magnitude as the CEQG-AL guidelines, with the exception of arsenic, fluoride and cadmium.

WRSF pond drainage average water quality is predicted to meet CEQG-AL concentrations for most parameters, except arsenic, cadmium, and fluoride. Sporadic concentrations above CEQG-AL are



predicted for other parameters (e.g., chromium, copper, molybdenum, nickel, silver, lead, mercury, selenium, and uranium), based on the maximum predicted concentrations.

Once water quality is acceptable for direct release based on criteria established through the water licensing process, the WRSF contact water management system will be decommissioned (see Section 5.2.9 for decommissioning details).

#### **5.2.3.6 Predicted Residual Effects**

The following residual effects are predicted at the WRSF after reclamation:

- The WRSF will be a permanent feature on the landscape. The vegetation communities which formerly occupied the areas will be permanently lost but it is expected that some of the native community will re-vegetate the WRSF cover surface over time.
- No significant adverse impact on the continued opportunity for traditional and non-traditional use of wildlife in the region is anticipated with the closure of the WRSF or temporary overburden stockpile.
- Runoff from the Whale Tail WRSF and discharge from Whale Tail Lake (North Basin) will enter and mix in Mammoth Lake. In general, it is predicted that concentrations in post-closure will be lower than in those in closure, and that the concentrations will continue to decrease through post-closure. See Section 5.2.2.6 for additional details.

#### **5.2.3.7 Uncertainties**

The following uncertainties have been identified during closure planning of the WRSF:

##### **WRSF Cover**

As presented in Section 5.2.3.5, it is predicted that, at the WRSF pond, some parameters will exhibit average predicted concentrations at post-closure that are above the CEQG-AL.

The cover of waste rock is assumed to effectively host the active thaw depth in perpetuity over the entire WRSF. The rock type used for the cover is predicted to release arsenic at concentrations that may exceed the Portage effluent limit (Type A Water Licence No. 2AM-MEA1525). Fluoride concentrations are relatively elevated but are predicted to meet CEQG-AL in the receiving environment.

Experience at the Meadowbank Mine (Robert et al. 2012) suggests that field conditions are likely to show much lower concentrations in contact water than predicted. The assumptions used in modelling may be overly conservative and results may represent worst case water quality, should there be any water at all seeping out of the WRSF. Experience at Meadowbank Mine suggest there is likely to be very little water reporting to the base of the WRSF during operations.

The water quality predictions will be further investigated in the next design levels of the Project and during operations stage to confirm the above.



**Permafrost Development**

The thermal conditions within the WRSF will depend on the actual waste placement plan and schedule, initial waste temperatures when placed, and thermal conditions of the original ground before the waste materials are placed. Therefore, thermistors will be installed in the WRSF to monitor the rate of freeze back and permafrost development progress in the facilities during the operations stage. In addition, shallow thermistor strings will be installed in the cover as it is progressively placed to verify the cover performance, i.e. that the active zone thickness is less than the design cover thickness.

The locations for the thermistors will be determined during the final detailed design stage. Temperature readings will be taken according to Part I Item 9 of the Type A Water Licence to track permafrost development within the WRSF during operations and closure. The monitoring schedule will be reviewed and modified annually, as required, to reflect changes in operations and/or technology. The measured temperature within the WRSF will provide background information for the study of permafrost development within the facility.

**Re-vegetation Considerations**

The WRSF will be allowed to naturally re-vegetate.

**5.2.3.8 Post-Closure Monitoring, Maintenance, and Reporting**

The overall post-closure monitoring and maintenance program for the Project are discussed in Section 5.2.2.8 along with the reporting requirements. The following presents the relevant post-closure monitoring and maintenance strategies for the WRSF (guidance on generic monitoring and maintenance programs for closure and post-closure is provided in MVLWB/AANDC [2013]):

- periodic inspections will be performed by a geotechnical engineer to visually assess stability and performance of the WRSF;
- ground conditions in the WRSF will be monitored to confirm permafrost conditions are being established as predicted;
- thermistor data will be monitored to determine thermal conditions within the WRSF to confirm predicted permafrost aggradation/encapsulation and to verify that the thickness of the active zone is less than the design thickness of the cover;
- water quality from controlled discharge points around the WRSF will be monitored to confirm that drainage is performing as predicted and is not adversely affecting the environment; and
- any seepage areas from the toe of the WRSF will be identified and monitored.

Further details on the contact water management system in closure is presented in Section 5.2.9.

**5.2.3.9 Contingencies**

On-going monitoring and treatment of seepage from the WRSF will be the primary contingency until water quality meets criteria to direct discharge to the environment.



#### 5.2.4 Tailings Storage Facility

Tailings from the Project will report to Meadowbank Tailings Storage Facility. All tailings produced by Meadowbank Mine will be deposited in accordance with the approved Mine Waste Rock and Tailings Management Plan. Closure of the TSF is covered under the Meadowbank Mine ICRP.

#### 5.2.5 Buildings and Equipment

##### 5.2.5.1 Project Component Description

The proposed buildings and equipment are described in Section 4.5.3.

##### 5.2.5.2 Pre-Disturbance, Existing, and Final Site Conditions

The pre-disturbance site conditions are summarized in Section 3.0. Figure 5.2-2 presents an aerial photo of the proposed mine site area taken in 2015. Pre-disturbance conditions are based on baseline data collection programs carried out since 2013.

The existing conditions at the buildings area is the same as the pre-disturbance conditions with the exception of a few trailers used for the exploration stage.

The ultimate mine development of the Project is shown on Figure 1.1-1. The expected area of disturbance associated with the proposed on-site and off-site Project facilities including the mine infrastructure described in Section 5.2.6 is approximately 32 ha.

##### 5.2.5.3 Closure Objectives and Criteria

The closure objectives and closure criteria for the buildings and equipment are listed in Table 5.2-3.

**Table 5.2-3: Closure Objectives and Criteria – Buildings and Equipment**

Component	Closure Objectives	Closure Criteria	Actions/ Measurements
Air	Meet Canadian Ambient Air Quality standards	Best management practices for controlling fugitive and exhaust emissions during active reclamation	Implement best practices. Routine air quality monitoring
	Control dust generation from demolition and active reclamation activities	Best management practices to control dust	Implement controls and routine air quality monitoring
Land	Maintain required site infrastructure during active reclamation	Reduce the use of facilities after closure to promote early decommissioning	Physical inspection
	Clean up and remove machinery, materials and equipment	Machinery, materials and equipment will be removed off-site for salvage where economic to do so	Physical inspection
		Metals will be separated and shipped off-site as scrap if economical to do so or disposed on-site in designated areas for non-hazardous materials	Physical inspection
	Remove all hazardous wastes	Hazardous wastes will be removed for disposal by licensed handler	Physical inspection
	Remove all fuels, chemicals and industrial wastes	During or prior to closure, site inventory of all these products will be updated	Physical inspection



**Table 5.2-3: Closure Objectives and Criteria – Buildings and Equipment (continued)**

Component	Closure Objectives	Closure Criteria	Actions/ Measurements
		Any unused petroleum products or chemicals will be sold, returned to suppliers or disposed by a licensed handler	
	Remove surface infrastructure	Any above-ground infrastructure will be offered to the Kivalliq Inuit Association (the land owner) at closure for potential re-use elsewhere, or will be dismantled and demobilized from site or disposed in the landfill	Physical inspection
		Remaining concrete foundations and slabs will be cut in pieces and buried or removed and the area re-graded to promote natural drainage	
	Remove contaminated soils	An assessment will be carried out to identify areas where soils may be contaminated by hydrocarbons	Physical inspection
		A more detailed investigations will be carried out of the potential soil contaminated areas (i.e., Phase 1 and 2 ESA investigations) to determine the extent of the contamination	Environmental Site Assessment
		Selected hydrocarbon contaminated soils will be excavated and hauled to Meadowbank Mine landfarm for remediation	Physical inspection
Water	Ensure runoff is channelled through the watershed	Surfaces will be re-graded to promote natural drainage	Physical inspection and monitoring
Wildlife	Ensure the remaining surface areas are safe for wildlife use and access	Remaining areas will be scarified and remaining concrete foundations and slabs will be cut in pieces and buried or removed	Physical inspection
Health and Safety	Ensure reclaimed areas support continuation of human land use activities	Human land use of the reclaimed area at post-closure will not compromise people's health	Routine monitoring and physical inspection
Community	Consider community land use expectations and traditional knowledge in the closure planning	Community engagement will continue to be implemented	Public engagement
	Consider transition plans	Community programs will be established to transition into closure	Physical inspection

#### 5.2.5.4 Consideration of Closure Options and Selection of Closure Activities

If not properly reclaimed, wildlife maybe injured by entering reclaimed areas with depressions and if subsidence occurs. Environmental design features and mitigation, as well as current wildlife management practices used in other mining projects will be implemented at the Project to limit wildlife injury such as re-contouring reclaimed areas to reduce hazards to wildlife. Buildings and equipment not required for post-closure activities will be removed from the site.

This is considered the most appropriate closure plan based on the Meadowbank Mine experience; no other closure options were considered.



#### **5.2.5.5 Engineering Work Associated with Selected Closure Activity**

Guidance on engineering options or strategies for closure of buildings and general infrastructure is provided in MVLWB/AANDC (2013). The relevant engineering works associated with the permanent closure activities for the supporting building and equipment removal are discussed below.

- Equipment used for closure activities and long-term maintenance (e.g., trucks, backhoes, etc.) will be removed from the Project site once they are no longer required. Most of the mobile equipment will be removed once the closure stage is complete. A small subset of equipment will be retained on-site for a portion of the post-closure stage.
- Phase 1 and 2 ESAs will be carried out to identify areas where soils may be contaminated by hydrocarbons; contaminated soils will be excavated and hauled to Meadowbank Mine landfarm for remediation.
- Salvageable buildings and surface structures will be dismantled and demobilized from the site. The buildings will be offered to the KIA (the land owner) at closure for potential re-use elsewhere.
- Non-salvageable buildings and structures will be dismantled or demolished and inert non-hazardous materials will be disposed in the landfill area in the WRSF.
- Hazardous wastes will be removed for disposal by a licensed handler.
- Any above grade concrete structures will be demolished and the rubble will be disposed of in the WRSF landfill. Any slabs on grade will be punctured and then left in place and covered with soil or non-potentially acid generating/non-metal leaching waste rock. Any subgrade foundations will be left in place.
- All disturbed site areas will be re-graded to suit the surrounding topography. In areas where the original ground surface was lowered for site grading or structural requirements, the slopes will be stabilized and contoured. Cover materials may be required for erosion and dust control. It is anticipated that a succession of indigenous plant species will naturally re-vegetate the surface over time.
- Fuel not required during the closure and reclamation activities will be sold, returned to suppliers, disposed by a licensed handler or incinerated.

#### **5.2.5.6 Predicted Residual Effects**

No significant residual effects have been identified for after closure of the supporting buildings but changes to terrain caused by the construction and subsequent reclamation of the facilities could result in some alteration or loss of plant populations and plant communities.

#### **5.2.5.7 Uncertainties**

The pre-disturbance terrain is covered by discontinuous vegetation interspersed with few bedrock outcroppings. The reclamation plan will be designed to encourage a natural succession of indigenous plant species within disturbed site areas. Grading and contouring would be done, where appropriate, to control soil erosion and to promote re-vegetation by natural colonization.



Active revegetation has not been planned at this time as part of the reclamation plan given the cold climate setting of the Project. Additional research on active revegetation may be considered in future iterations of the closure activities.

#### **5.2.5.8 Post-Closure Monitoring, Maintenance, and Reporting**

Guidance on generic monitoring and maintenance programs for closure and post-closure is provided in MVLWB/AANDC (2013). The overall post-closure monitoring and maintenance program for the Project are discussed in Section 5.2.2.8 along with the reporting requirements. The following presents the relevant post-closure monitoring and maintenance strategies for the supporting buildings and equipment:

- periodic inspections will be performed to visually assess the reclaimed areas; and
- all buildings and equipment left on-site during closure will be maintained until no longer required, at which time they will be removed from the site or demolished and disposed in the WRSF landfill.

#### **5.2.5.9 Contingencies**

There are no activities proposed as contingencies for the closure of the buildings and equipment.

### **5.2.6 Mine Infrastructure**

#### **5.2.6.1 Project Component Description**

The proposed mine infrastructure are described in Section 4.5.4.

#### **5.2.6.2 Pre-Disturbance, Existing, and Final Site Conditions**

The pre-disturbance site conditions are summarized in Section 3.0. Figure 5.2-2 presents an aerial photo of the proposed mine site area taken in 2015. Pre-disturbance conditions are based on baseline data collection programs carried out since 2013.

The existing conditions at the two crushing facility areas is the same as the pre-disturbance conditions.

The ultimate mine development of the Project is shown on Figure 1.1-1.

#### **5.2.6.3 Closure Objectives and Criteria**

The closure objectives and closure criteria for the mine infrastructure are listed in Table 5.2-4.



**Table 5.2-4: Closure Objectives and Criteria – Mine Infrastructure**

Component	Closure Objectives	Closure Criteria	Actions/ Measurements
Air	Meet Canadian Ambient Air Quality standards	Best management practices for controlling fugitive and exhaust emissions during active reclamation	Implement best practices. Routine air quality monitoring
	Control dust generation from demolition and active reclamation activities	Best management practices to control dust	Implement controls and routine air quality monitoring
Land	Clean up and remove components or materials	All salvageable components or materials will be cleaned up and removed off-site for salvage	Physical inspection
		Metals will be separated and shipped off-site as scrap if economical to do so or disposed on-site in designated areas for non-hazardous materials	
	Remove surface infrastructure	Above grade concrete such as retaining walls will be demolished and the rubble will be disposed in the WRSF landfill. Remaining concrete foundations and slabs will be cut in pieces and buried or removed and the area re-graded to promote natural drainage	Physical inspection
Water	Ensure runoff is channelled through the watershed	Surfaces will be re-graded to promote natural drainage	Physical inspection and monitoring
Wildlife	Ensure the remaining surface areas are safe for wildlife use and access	Steep surfaces will be regraded. Remaining areas will be scarified and remaining concrete foundations and slabs will be cut in pieces and buried or removed	Physical inspection
Health and Safety	Ensure reclaimed areas support continuation of human land use activities	Human land use of the reclaimed area at post-closure will not compromise people's health	Routine monitoring and physical inspection
Community	Consider community land use expectations and traditional knowledge in the closure planning	Community engagement will continue to be implemented	Public engagement
	Consider transition plans	Community programs will be established to transition into closure	Physical inspection

#### 5.2.6.4 Consideration of Closure Options and Selection of Closure Activities

No viable alternative was identified other than the proposed demolition of the crusher facilities. This is considered the most appropriate closure plan based on the Meadowbank Mine experience.

#### 5.2.6.5 Engineering Work Associated with Selected Closure Activity

Guidance on engineering options or strategies for closure of mine infrastructure is provided in MVLWB/AANDC (2013). The relevant engineering works associated with the permanent closure activities for the mine infrastructure are discussed below.

- Salvageable equipment such as the jaw crushers and conveyors will be dismantled and demobilized from the site.



- Non-salvageable structures will be dismantled or demolished and inert non-hazardous materials disposed of in the landfill area in the WRSF.
- Hazardous wastes will be removed for disposal by a licensed handler.
- Any above grade concrete such will be demolished and the rubble will be disposed in the WRSF landfill. Remaining concrete foundations and slabs will be cut in pieces and buried or removed.
- After the crushing facilities are removed, the areas will be re-graded to promote natural drainage. All disturbed site areas will be re-graded to suit the surrounding topography. In areas where the original ground surface was lowered for site grading or structural requirements, the slopes will be stabilized and contoured. Cover materials may be required for erosion and dust control. It is anticipated that a succession of indigenous plant species will naturally re-vegetate the surface over time.

#### **5.2.6.6 Predicted Residual Effects**

No significant residual effects have been identified for after closure of the mine infrastructure but changes to terrain caused by the construction and subsequent reclamation of the facilities could result in some alteration or loss of plant populations and plant communities.

#### **5.2.6.7 Uncertainties**

Refer to Section 5.2.5.7 regarding revegetation.

It is uncertain whether or not it will be economically viable at the time of closure to ship out the jaw crushers and conveyors for salvage. However, given the length the operational period, it is likely they will have some salvage value.

#### **5.2.6.8 Post-Closure Monitoring, Maintenance, and Reporting**

Guidance on monitoring and maintenance programs for closure and post-closure is provided in MVLWB/AANDC (2013). The overall post-closure monitoring and maintenance program for the Project are discussed in Section 5.2.2.8 along with the reporting requirements. The following presents the post-closure monitoring and maintenance strategies for the mine infrastructure:

- periodic inspections will be performed to visually assess the reclaimed areas

#### **5.2.6.9 Contingencies**

There are no activities proposed as contingencies for the closure of the mine infrastructure.

### **5.2.7 Transportation Routes**

#### **5.2.7.1 Project Component Description**

The proposed transportation routes are described in Section 4.5.5.

The haul roads within the open pit and between the open pit and the crusher will become redundant when mining ceases. The haul road to the WRSF will be maintained until the closure of the WRSF is



completed. The internal access roads, as needed, will be active until water quality meets discharge criteria during post-closure.

### 5.2.7.2 Pre-Disturbance, Existing, and Final Site Conditions

The pre-disturbance site conditions are summarized in Section 3.0. Figure 5.2-2 presents an aerial photo of the proposed mine site area taken in 2015. Pre-disturbance conditions are based on baseline data collection programs carried out since 2013.

Ten km of roads have been also constructed on-site as part of the exploration activities carried out to date surrounding the camp and communication tower.

The ultimate mine development of the Project is shown on Figure 1.1-1. The expected areas of disturbance are shown on Figure 5.2-1.

### 5.2.7.3 Closure Objectives and Criteria

The closure objectives and closure criteria for the transportation routes are listed in Table 5.2-5.

**Table 5.2-5: Closure Objectives and Criteria – Transportation Routes**

Component	Closure Objectives	Closure Criteria	Actions/ Measurements
Air	Meet Canadian Ambient Air Quality standards	Best management practices for controlling fugitive and exhaust emissions during active reclamation	Implement best practices. Routine air quality monitoring
	Control dust generation from decommissioning and active reclamation activities	Best management practices to control dust	Implement controls and routine air quality monitoring
Land	Scarify and re-grade redundant roads to a state compatible with the desired end use	Haul road surfaces will be scarified, culverts and bridges removed, and surfaces will be re-graded to promote natural drainage. Same will be done with internal access roads above flooding level.	Physical inspection
Water	Ensure runoff is channelled through the watershed	Scarified surfaces will be re-graded to promote natural drainage	Physical inspection
Wildlife	Ensure the remaining surface areas are safe for wildlife use and access	Scarified surfaces will be re-graded	Physical inspection
Health and Safety	Ensure reclaimed areas support continuation of human land use activities and do not become a source of contamination	Human land use of the reclaimed area at post-closure will not compromise people's health	Routine monitoring and physical inspection
Community	Consider community land use expectations and traditional knowledge in the closure planning	Community engagement will continue to be implemented	Public engagement
	Consider transition plans	Community programs will be established to transition into closure	Physical inspection



#### **5.2.7.4 Consideration of Closure Options and Selection of Closure Activities**

##### **Migrating Caribou Protection**

Caribou are an important part of the Arctic ecosystem, and a key part of the culture and traditional economy of Nunavut. There are five migratory barren-ground caribou herds identified in the Kivalliq including the Beverly, Ahiak, Wager Bay, Lorillard, and Qamanirjuaq herds (Agnico Eagle 2016). As a result, Inuit traditionally did not live at or near the calving grounds but rather chose to remain at a distance, and set up camps along the migration routes. Elders have stated that there are no caribou calving grounds identified near the Project area (Agnico Eagle 2016), and the nearest calving ground to the Project is over 100 km away.

The RSA appears to be located within a transit corridor during spring and fall migration, predominantly for the Ahiak and Lorillard herds moving between calving and wintering grounds. For spring migration (April to June), areas of high use by collared caribou are more contained (i.e., less spread out), and these corridors are quite clearly delineated on the way to, and in proximity of, calving grounds outside the RSA.

Caribou entering the Project have a high probability of interacting with the Project haul road route. Based on caribou crossing information collected from 1993, there is a 0.6 caribou predicted to cross the proposed Project haul road route per kilometre.

According to the data collected (Agnico Eagle, 2016), individuals do not usually make repeated crossings of the proposed haul road route. The maximum number of crossings per individual for the proposed Project haul road route is predicted to be one to five crossings per individual, however the majority of the individuals still crossed only once.

To avoid disrupting movement patterns of caribou, particularly during the spring and fall migratory period, mitigation includes designing roads with low profiles, avoiding build-up of snowbanks in winter and enforcing speed limits. Agnico Eagle will work, during the operations and closure stages, with the KIA and HTO to monitor areas where the road may be impeding caribou migration.

Similarly, Agnico Eagle will work with the KIA and HTO to identify areas where the proposed haul road is impeding passage of snowmobiles and/or all-terrain vehicles for traditional hunting or fishing purposes and is committed to retrofitting appropriate crossings in such areas.

Heavy traffic on the haul road and on-site roads will cease at closure. Traffic associated with reclamation will continue at a reduced level for the first years of closure. After that, there will be very little vehicle traffic. The Project haul road will be decommissioned when it is no longer required.

##### **Haul Road Decommissioning**

Agnico Eagle has committed to decommission the haul road once the Project reclamation has been completed and the site no longer requires ongoing care and maintenance. However the community may want the haul road to remain open to allow public access with minimal restrictions.



Consequently, Agnico Eagle will continue to operate the haul road as privately operated road with unrestricted public access for as long as access is required to the proposed Project site.

For a third party to take over the road(s) following closure of the proposed Project, that third party would have to complete its own arrangements with the landowners (the KIA and the hamlet), and its own environmental assessment and permitting process covering future use. Agnico Eagle does not own the land on which the roads are constructed and, thus, cannot transfer future ownership or use privileges to any third party. Agnico Eagle must complete its obligation to decommission and reclaim all roads unless directed otherwise by a combination of the landowners and other regulatory agencies who issued permits/authorizations for the roads.

#### **5.2.7.5 Engineering Work Associated with Selected Closure Activity**

Guidance on generic engineering work options or strategies for closure of transportation routes is provided in MVLWB/AANDC (2013). The relevant engineering works associated with the permanent closure activities for the transportation routes are discussed below.

- The roads not required for post-closure monitoring, and not assumed by the community or by a third party after consultation, will be decommissioned and the terrain will be restored. Decommissioning of the road will start from the site.
- Decommissioning will occur by loosening compacted surfaces and flattening side slopes.
- The road surface will be scarified, allowing the native plant community to naturally establish itself on the former road surface.
- Slopes will be stabilized against erosion potential.
- If necessary, wildlife access will be provided at suitable intervals by re-grading the embankment shoulders to provide flatter slopes.
- All bridges and culverts will be removed and original drainage patterns will be restored.
- Stream crossings will be rehabilitated as they are encountered during the progression of the road decommissioning work.
- Cross-drain structures (cross-ditches) will also be installed where necessary between culvert sites. Where armouring rock (rip-rap) is required, this rock will be non-acid generating and non-metal leaching for the protection of aquatic life. Where affected watercourses are fish bearing, the timing of work will be restricted to within the designated DFO fisheries work window.
- The loosening of compacted surfaces will be accomplished by ripping the road bed using a dozer with a “ripper” attachment on the back. Successive passes with the dozer longitudinally along the road bed will eliminate the level road surface and make travel difficult. It is anticipated that, in this way, the abandoned roads will not be useable by wheeled vehicles (i.e., cars, trucks, and pick-up trucks). The road bed would still be useable by all-terrain vehicle or snowmobile after final reclamation.



**5.2.7.6 Predicted Residual Effects**

No significant residual effects have been identified for after closure of the transportation roads but changes to terrain caused by the construction and subsequent reclamation of the facilities could result in some alteration or loss of plant populations and plant communities. The former haul road will also provide a snowmobile or ATV access corridor. This could result in added hunting pressure along the corridor.

**5.2.7.7 Uncertainties**

Refer to Section 5.2.5.7 with regards to revegetation.

It may not be visually apparent if potentially acid generating bedrock has been exposed along the corridor of the Project haul road.

**5.2.7.8 Post-Closure Monitoring, Maintenance, and Reporting**

Guidance on generic monitoring and maintenance programs for closure and post-closure is provided in MVLWB/AANDC [2013]. The overall post-closure monitoring and maintenance program for the Project are discussed in Section 5.2.2.8 along with the reporting requirements. The following presents the post-closure monitoring and maintenance strategies for the transportation routes

- periodic inspections will be performed to visually assess the reclaimed areas; and
- all roads to be used during closure will be maintained until they are no longer required.

**5.2.7.9 Contingencies**

If exposures on the Project haul road corridor result in acidification of surface water, then such impacts will be assessed and an appropriate mitigation strategy will be put in place.

**5.2.8 Landfill and Other Waste Disposal Areas****5.2.8.1 Project Component Description**

The proposed landfill and other waste disposal areas are described in Section 4.5.6.

**5.2.8.2 Pre-Disturbance, Existing, and Final Site Conditions**

The pre-disturbance site conditions are summarized in Section 3.0. Figure 5.2-2 presents an aerial photo of the proposed mine site area taken in 2015. Pre-disturbance conditions are based on baseline data collection programs carried out since 2013.

The existing waste disposal currently authorized under 2BE-MEA1318 consists of incineration of waste, use of a greywater sump, use of latrine pits, and trench disposal of contaminated water. Any hazardous waste is placed into totes for hauling off site.

The ultimate mine development of the Project is shown on Figure 1.1-1. The expected areas of disturbance are shown on Figure 4.5-1.



### 5.2.8.3 Closure Objectives and Criteria

The closure objectives and closure criteria for the waste management facilities are listed in Table 5.2-6.

**Table 5.2-6: Closure Objectives and Criteria – Waste Management Facilities**

Component	Closure Objectives	Closure Criteria	Actions/ Measurements
Air	Meet Canadian Ambient Air Quality standards	Best management practices for controlling fugitive and exhaust emissions during active reclamation	Implement best practices. Routine air quality monitoring
	Control dust generation from decommissioning and active reclamation activities	Best management practices to control dust	Implement controls and routine air quality monitoring
Land	Treat light hydrocarbon contaminated soil in the Meadowbank Mine landfarm	As per operational practices light hydrocarbon contaminated soil will be treated in the Meadowbank Mine landfarm area during the active closure stage	Physical inspection
	Clean up and remove sewage plant materials	Once the active closure stage is completed, all salvageable components or materials will be cleaned up and removed off-site for salvage Metals will be separated and shipped off-site as scrap if economical to do so or disposed on-site in the WRSF landfill	Physical inspection
	Remove all hazardous wastes	Hazardous wastes will be removed for disposal by licensed handler as per operational practices	Physical inspection
	Remove sewage plant infrastructure	Any above-ground infrastructure will be demolished and the non-hazardous debris will be disposed in the WRSF landfill	
	Remove all non-hazardous wastes	Remaining concrete foundations and slabs will be cut in pieces and buried or removed and the area re-graded to promote natural drainage	Physical inspection
	Landfill is encapsulated in the WRSF	The landfill area will be covered at the end of active closure stage	Physical inspection
Water	Ensure runoff is channelled through the watershed	Surfaces will be re-graded to promote natural drainage	Physical inspection
Wildlife	Ensure the remaining areas are safe for wildlife use and access	Keep wildlife out of the landfill while it is active using day covers. The remaining areas will be re-graded to reduce hazards to wildlife	Physical inspection
Health and Safety	Ensure reclaimed areas support continuation of human land use activities	Human land use of the reclaimed area at post-closure will not compromise people's health	Routine monitoring and physical inspection
Community	Consider community land use expectations and traditional knowledge in the closure planning	Community engagement will continue to be implemented	Public engagement
	Consider transition plans	Community programs will be established to transition into closure	Physical inspection

### 5.2.8.4 Consideration of Closure Options and Selection of Closure Activities

#### Landfill

The landfill for non-hazardous solid waste will be maintained in such a manner that windblown litter will be minimal. Following the example of Meadowbank Mine, the landfill will be located within the



WRSF to avoid the disturbance of additional land area and to centralize waste disposal for monitoring. The concept is similar to that of a landfill in which waste is buried. The surface runoff from the landfill will be managed as part of the WRSF contact water management system.

### **Wildlife Protection**

If not properly reclaimed, wildlife maybe injured by entering reclaimed areas. Environmental design features and mitigation, as well as current wildlife management practices used in other mining projects will be implemented at the Project to limit wildlife injury. This will include re-contouring reclaimed areas to reduce hazards to wildlife and the use of day covers to keep wildlife out while the landfill is in active operation.

This is considered the most appropriate closure plan based on the Meadowbank Mine experience; no other closure options were considered.

### **5.2.8.5 Engineering Work Associated with Selected Closure Activity**

Guidance on generic engineering work options or strategies for closure of waste management facilities is provided in MVLWB/AANDC (2013). The relevant engineering works associated with the permanent closure activities for the waste management facilities are discussed below.

- The leachate from the landfill is anticipated to be of very low ionic strength (dilute) due to controls on materials to be placed in the landfill. Moreover, drainage from the landfill is largely expected to freeze within the WRSF, with little to none reporting to the water collection infrastructure.
- The design, operation, and/or closure of the landfill do not rely on total freezing; however, as an added control strategy, a minimum of 2 m thick NPAG waste rock cover will be placed over the landfill (as with other parts of the surrounding WRSF). The cover thickness is considered sufficient for planning purposes and is based on maintaining the active layer within the waste rock cover so that the materials landfilled will remain frozen. The cover will be placed at closure. The cover is designed to account for potential climate warming and would be modified if required. When finalizing the design for the cover, the need for thermistors to be installed will be evaluated. The surface will be left irregular so as to capture snow, windblown sediment, and plant seeds.
- The hazardous waste and contaminated soil (soil not treated through the Meadowbank Mine landfarm, i.e., soil contaminated with heavy hydrocarbons or other contaminants not suitable for remediation in the landfarm) will be managed continually during operations and closure by sending the soil to a licensed off-site treatment facility. Therefore, there will be little to no accumulation of such wastes during mine operations or closure at the Project site, subject to seasonal shipping considerations.
- Inert, non-combustible wastes will be disposed in the WRSF landfill.
- Domestic waste will be burned in the Meadowbank Mine incinerator during operation and closure as part of camp maintenance.



- Any above-ground structures will be demolished and the non-hazardous debris will be disposed in the WRSF landfill.
- Concrete slabs on grade will be cut in pieces and buried, or moved to the WRSF landfill. Foundations will be left in place and covered with fill.
- The top of the landfill will be contoured to encourage drainage and to prevent ponding. A minimum 2 m thick cover of NPAG rock will be placed on top (as discussed above).

#### **5.2.8.6 Predicted Residual Effects**

No significant residual effects have been identified for closure of the waste management facilities but changes to terrain caused by the construction and subsequent reclamation of the facilities could result in some alteration or loss of plant populations and plant communities.

#### **5.2.8.7 Uncertainties**

Refer to Section 5.2.5.7 with regards to revegetation.

#### **5.2.8.8 Post-Closure Monitoring, Maintenance, and Reporting**

Guidance on generic monitoring and maintenance programs for closure and post-closure is provided in MVLWB/AANDC (2013). The overall post-closure monitoring and maintenance program for the Project are discussed in Section 5.2.2.8 along with the reporting requirements. The following presents the post-closure monitoring and maintenance strategies for the waste management facilities

- periodic inspections will be performed to visually assess the reclaimed areas;
- all waste management facilities to be used during closure will be maintained until they are no longer required; and
- visual observations for cracking or slumping of the landfill cover and for underlying waste material pushing its way up through the cover will be completed periodically.

#### **5.2.8.9 Contingencies**

There are no activities proposed as contingencies for the closure of the landfill and other disposal areas.

### **5.2.9 Water Management Facilities**

#### **5.2.9.1 Project Component Description**

The proposed mine infrastructure are described in Section 4.5.7.

#### **5.2.9.2 Pre-Disturbance, Existing, and Final Site Conditions**

The pre-disturbance site conditions are summarized in Section 3.0. Figure 5.2-2 presents an aerial photo of the proposed mine site area taken in 2015. Pre-disturbance conditions are based on baseline data collection programs carried out since 2013.

The waterbodies that will be impacted by the pit mining activities are presented in the Water Management Plan submitted in support of the Type A Water Licence Amendment Application. All



mining components have been located to avoid or minimize impact on the local environment to the extent possible.

The ultimate mine development of the Project is shown on Figure 1.1-1. The expected areas of disturbance are shown on Figure 5.2-1.

### 5.2.9.3 Closure Objectives and Criteria

The closure objectives and closure criteria for the water management facilities are listed in Table 5.2-7.

**Table 5.2-7: Closure Objectives and Criteria – Water Management Facilities**

Component	Closure Objectives	Closure Criteria	Actions/ Measurements
Air	Control dust generation from active reclamation activities	Best management practices to control dust	Implement controls and routine air quality monitoring
	Maintain surface water drainage control systems	Whale Tail Lake and Nemo Lake fresh water intake and distribution system will be reclaimed	Physical inspection
		Maintain water management components until they are no longer required	Physical inspection
	Ensure dikes and dams are stable	Dikes and dams will be breached once water quality meets licence criteria for direct discharge	Physical inspection by qualified engineer
Land	Remove surface infrastructure (i.e., pipelines, culverts, pump systems, WTP)	Components or materials will be cleaned up and salvageable materials removed	Physical inspection
		Any above ground pipelines will be dismantled and associated distribution equipment will be salvaged or disposed of in the WRSF landfill	Physical inspection
		Reclaimed areas will be re-graded	Physical inspection
		Any culverts and equipment will be removed from site for salvage or disposed of in the WRSF landfill	Physical inspection
		Any above ground infrastructure will be demolished and the non-hazardous debris will be disposed in the WRSF landfill	Physical inspection
		Any concrete slabs on grade will be perforated and covered or removed and the area re-graded to promote natural drainage. Foundations will be left in place.	Physical inspection
	Remove all hazardous wastes	Hazardous wastes will be removed for disposal by licensed handler as per operation practices	Physical inspection
Water	Ensure runoff is channelled through the watershed	Surfaces will be re-graded to promote natural drainage	Physical inspection
	Ensure collected runoff and seepage meets water licence criteria	Collected runoff and seepage will be treated through the WTP until water quality meets licence criteria for direct discharge	Routine monitoring and sampling
	Remove facilities when treatment is no longer required	When water quality from the mine components is deemed suitable for direct discharge to the environment the dikes and dams will be breached	Routine monitoring and sampling
Wildlife	Discourage wildlife from entering the facilities	Wildlife will be discouraged from entering the facilities until water quality is acceptable	Routine water quality sampling



**Table 5.2-7: Closure Objectives and Criteria – Water Management Facilities (continued)**

Component	Closure Objectives	Closure Criteria	Actions/ Measurements
Health and Safety	Ensure the remaining areas are left in a healthy state that supports continuation of human land use activities	Human land use of the reclaimed areas at post-closure will not compromise people's health	Routine monitoring and physical inspection
Community	Consider community land use expectations and traditional knowledge in the closure planning	Community engagement will continue to be implemented	Public engagement
	Consider transition plans	Community programs will be established to transition into closure	Physical inspection

#### 5.2.9.4 Consideration of Closure Options and Selection of Closure Activities

If not properly reclaimed, wildlife may be injured entering reclaimed areas. Environmental design features and mitigation, as well as current wildlife management practices used in other mining projects will be implemented at the Project to limit wildlife injury. This will include re-contouring reclaimed areas to reduce hazards to wildlife.

This is considered the most appropriate closure plan based on the Meadowbank Mine experience; no other closure options were considered.

#### 5.2.9.5 Engineering Work Associated with Selected Closure Activity

Guidance on generic engineering work options or strategies for closure of water management facilities is provided in MVLWB/AANDC (2013). The relevant engineering works associated with the permanent closure activities for the water management facilities are discussed below.

**Freshwater Intake and Potable Water Treatment Plant:** The pumps will be removed from the freshwater intake for salvage if economic to do so. The wet wells will be filled in with granular material. Above grade buildings will be demolished and the debris will be disposed in the WRSF landfill. The potable water treatment plant will be dismantled and salvaged or disposed of in the WRSF landfill when it is no longer required. Any slabs on grade from the potable water treatment plant will be perforated and covered, or removed. The areas will be re-graded to promote natural drainage and natural re-vegetation.

**WTP and Mammoth Lake Effluent Diffuser:** The WTP will be decommissioned once it is no longer required (i.e., when the water quality from the Project components meets licence requirements for direct discharge). The WTP and the Mammoth Lake effluent diffuser will be maintained for 3 water treatment seasons as a contingency before being dismantled and disposed of in the WRSF landfill. Any concrete slabs on grade from the WTP will be perforated and covered, or removed, and the area will be re-graded to promote natural drainage and natural re-vegetation.



**Dikes/Dams:** The Northeast Dike will be breached in Year 4 (2022). The remaining water retention and dewatering berms/dams will be kept intact to provide a barrier between the facilities and surrounding lakes until the water quality (seepage and runoff collected from facilities, and from the back-flooded area) is considered acceptable for release to the environment without treatment. Once this is achieved, the remaining dikes/dams will be breached.

The dikes/dams will be breached at selected locations to a depth of approximately 3 m below the minimum water level at Whale Tail Lake to account for ice formation, fish passage and navigable water requirements for the dewatering dikes and to the original surface for the other containment structures.

Consideration will be given to breach staging, with above-water portions of the dike/dam in the breach area removed during winter periods, when there will be little surface water flow, thereby minimizing the potential release of sediments to the neighbouring lakes. The remainder of the breach would be completed during the following freshet. Exposed surfaces within the breach opening above normal lake water levels will be covered with erosion protection consisting of NPAG and non-ML materials when needed. These materials will also be used below the water surface.

It is expected that the breaching of the dikes/dams will be sequenced as follows, see Section 5.2.2 for additional details on back-flooding of the Whale Tail Lake dewatered area:

- Year 4 (Year 2022): the Northeast Dike will be breached to allow the Northeast watershed to accelerate the back-flooding of the dewatered area (Figure 1.1-1).
- Year 11 (Year 2029): the Whale Tail Dike and the Mammoth Dike will be breached to re-establish the natural water flow in the Whale Tail Lake area once the Whale Tail Lake level has reached 152.5 m (original water level) and water quality meets licence limits for release to the environment without treatment (Figure 1.1-2).
- Year 14 (Year 2032): the WRSF Dike and Coffey/Saddle Dam will be breached allowing the complete re-establishment of the natural drainage patterns for the Project. It is expected that the WRSF water quality meets licence limits for release to the environment without treatment.

**Channels and ponds:** The channels and ponds for contact water will be maintained as required in closure until site water quality monitoring results indicate that the water can be released directly to the environment without further treatment. No closure measures are necessary for the fresh water bypass channel from Whale Tail Lake (South Basin) to Mammoth Lake because its invert elevation will be above the final water level in the lake.

All water management infrastructures when they are no longer required will be re-contoured and/or surface-treated according to site-specific conditions to minimize wind-blown dust and erosion from surface runoff to and enhance the site area for natural re-vegetation and wildlife habitat post-closure.



**Pipelines, culverts, pumps:** Pipes, culverts and pipes will be maintained as required in closure until site water quality monitoring results indicate that the water can be released directly to the environment without further management. All water management infrastructure will be dismantled and salvaged or disposed of in the WRSF landfill when they are no longer required. Reclaimed areas will be re-graded to promote natural drainage and natural re-vegetation.

**Diversion channels:** The diversion channels will be maintained as required in closure until site water quality monitoring results indicate that the water can be released directly to the environment without further management.

The channels will be re-contoured and/or surface-treated according to site-specific conditions to minimize wind-blown dust and erosion from surface runoff to and enhance the site area for natural re-vegetation and wildlife habitat post-closure.

**Water quality predictions:** As described in Sections 5.2.2.6 and 5.2.3.5.

#### **5.2.9.6 Predicted Residual Effects**

No significant residual effects have been identified for closure of the water management facilities but changes to terrain caused by the construction and subsequent reclamation of the facilities could result in some alteration or loss of plant populations and plant communities.

#### **5.2.9.7 Uncertainties**

The following uncertainties were identified during closure planning of the water management facilities:

##### **Natural Re-vegetation**

Refer to Section 5.2.5.7.

##### **Water Quality**

The water quality predictions provide an estimate of water quality under fully mixed conditions where the effluent and downstream lake overflows are being mixed instantaneously in the downstream receiving water body. In reality, mixing will occur over time and could result in sporadic elevated concentrations at various locations at any given time.

The water quality predictions will be further investigated in the next design levels of the Project and during operations stage.

#### **5.2.9.8 Post-Closure Monitoring, Maintenance, and Reporting**

Guidance on generic monitoring and maintenance programs for closure and post-closure is provided in MVLWB/AANDC (2013). The overall post-closure monitoring and maintenance program for the Project are discussed in Section 5.2.2.8 along with the reporting requirements. The following presents the post-closure monitoring and maintenance strategies for the water management facilities



- the water quality in the open pit will be profiled during the back-flooding process;
- water management points (including seepage) that were not anticipated will be identified and monitored;
- ongoing inspection and maintenance of the WTP will be conducted as long as it remains in operation;
- the rate of back-flooding of the open pit and the dewatered area will be monitored and compared with predictions;
- periodic inspections will be performed to visually assess the reclaimed areas;
- unstable areas will be identified and monitored; and
- all water management facilities to be used during closure will be maintained until they are no longer required.

#### **5.2.9.9 Contingencies**

##### **Water Quality**

The WTP will be decommissioned once water treatment is no longer required on-site; when water quality from the mine components meets licence requirements for direct discharge. The WTP and Mammoth Lake effluent diffuser will be maintained for three water treatment seasons as a contingency before being dismantled and disposed of in the on-site WRSF landfill facility.

It is predicted that the water quality in the dewatered area will be acceptable to allow breaching of the Whale Tail Dike and the Mammoth Dike in Year 11 (2029). If that is not the case, the breaching will be deferred and the water level will be maintained below 152.5 m by pumping to the WTP for treatment and release.

It is also expected that the WRSF water quality will meet licence limits for release to the environment without treatment in Year 14 (Year 2032). If this is not the case; breaching of WRSF Dike and Coffey/Saddle Dam will be deferred and runoff and seepage from the WRSF will continue to be pumped to the WTP for treatment and release.

#### **5.2.10 Quarries and Granular Borrow Sites**

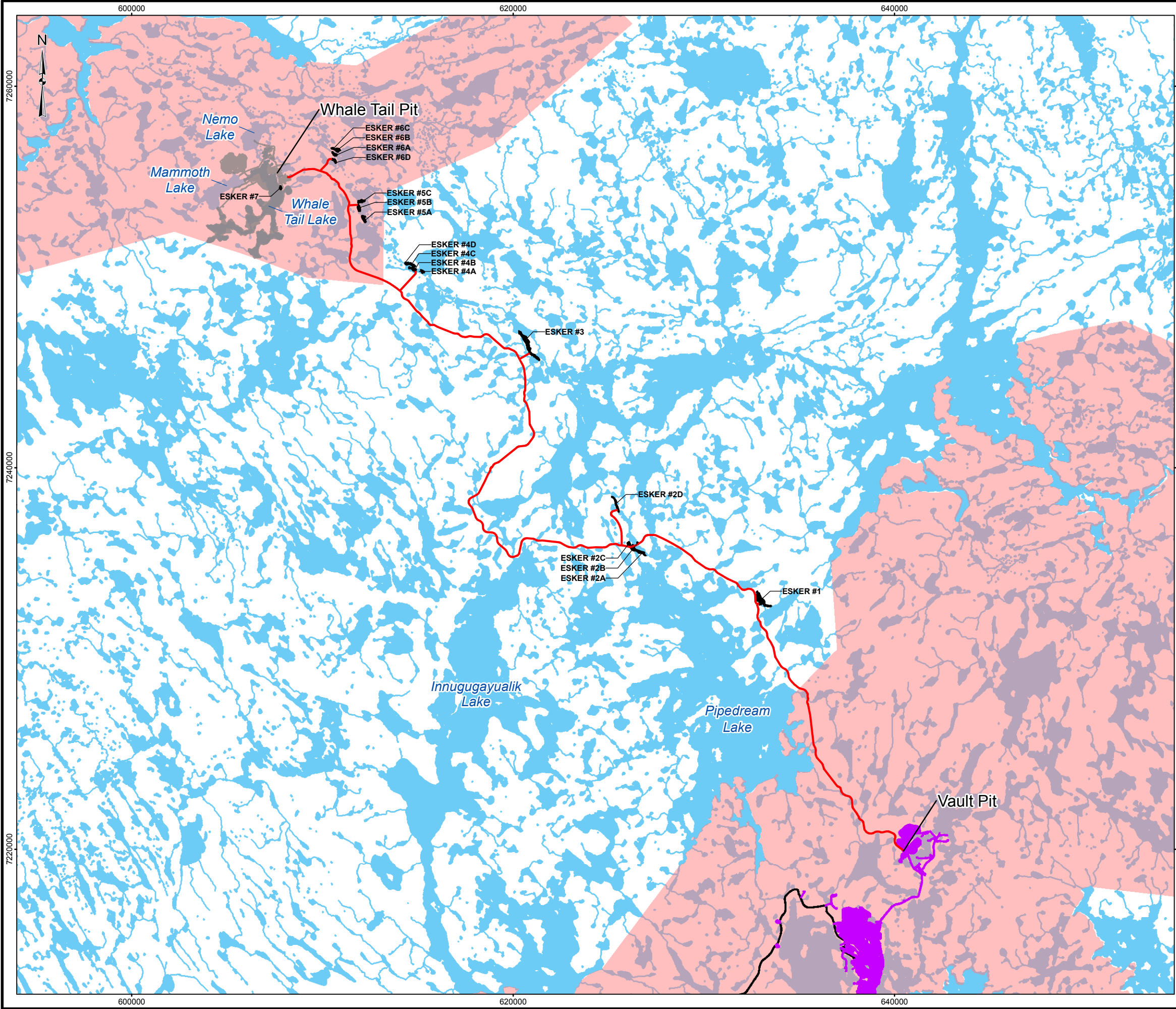
Construction of the exploration access road utilized a series of quarry sites from which road construction material is sourced (the exploration road is currently under construction). These quarries will be expanded (first by depth, and if needed in width) to obtain material for haul road construction, and for the Project components if needed. The borrow site locations that have been identified for the road construction are shown on Figure 5.2-5.

Agnico Eagle intends to use suitable open pit waste rock where practical to minimize or eliminate the need for additional rock quarries.

The reclamation of the borrow sites are covered in the Exploration Facilities Conceptual CRPs (Agnico Eagle 2015b, 2015c).



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**LEGEND**

- PROPOSED HAUL ROAD
- ALL WEATHER ROAD
- WATERCOURSE
- BORROW SOURCE
- WHALE TAIL INFRASTRUCTURE
- MEADOWBANK INFRASTRUCTURE
- WATERBODY

**REFERENCE**


1. MEADOWBANK INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROPOSED WHALE TAIL HAUL ROAD ALIGNMENT OBTAINED FROM AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED.  
2. INUIT OWNED LANDS OBTAINED FROM THE NUNAVUT-TUNNGAVIK INC.  
3. WATERCOURSE AND WATERBODY DATA OBTAINED FROM CANVEC © DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.  
DATUM: NAD 83 CSRS PROJECTION: UTM ZONE 14

PROJECT

AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED:  
MEADOWBANK DIVISION  
WHALE TAIL PIT PROJECT

TITLE

LOCATION OF BORROW PITS AND  
QUARRIES FOR THE PROJECT

Golder Associates

PROJECT		1541520	FILE No.	
DESIGN	DF	04 Mar. 2015	SCALE AS SHOWN	REV. 0
GIS	MH	18 Apr. 2016		
CHECK	AP	18 Apr. 2016		
REVIEW	MM/KAB	18 Apr. 2016		

FIGURE 5.2-5



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## **6.0 SECTION 6 • PROGRESSIVE RECLAMATION**

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### **6.1 Definition of Progressive Reclamation**

Progressive reclamation takes place prior to permanent closure to reclaim components and/or to decommission facilities that are no longer required for the Project, because the activity has been completed, or the facilities no longer serve a purpose. Progressive reclamation can be completed during operations with the available resources to reduce future reclamation costs, to reduce the duration of environmental exposure, and to enhance environmental protection. Progressive reclamation may shorten the time for achieving closure objectives and may provide valuable experience on the effectiveness of certain measures that might be implemented during permanent closure (MVLWB/AANDC 2013).

### **6.2 Opportunities for Progressive Reclamation**

The key closure activities that have been identified for progressive reclamation are summarized in the following sections for each individual component of the Project. The components are categorized in sub-sections for clarity. The progressive reclamations activities provided in this CRP will be updated in future versions of the ICRP to include new opportunities for progressive reclamation identified during operations.

#### **6.2.1 Underground Mine Workings**

The existing underground workings from the exploration stage are covered by the Type B Water Licence. The Whale Tail Project will involve only open pit mining. There will not be any underground mine workings associated with the Project.

#### **6.2.2 Open Pit Mine Workings**

No progressive reclamation activities have been identified for the open pit at this time.

#### **6.2.3 Waste Rock and Overburden Storage Facilities**

Closure and reclamation of the WRSF will take place progressively during operations with the placement of the cover over the WRSF sideslopes. See Section 5.2.3.5 for cover design details.

The WRSF will be designed for long-term stability. Thus no additional re-grading or construction will be required for stability.

It will not be possible to progressively reclaim the uppermost bench or the top surface of the WRSF, because these will be active until mine closure occurs.

#### **6.2.4 Tailings Storage Facility**

Tailings from the Project will report to Meadowbank Tailings Storage Facility (TSF). Closure of the TSF is covered under the Meadowbank Mine ICRP.



**6.2.5 Buildings and Equipment**

Potential progressive reclamation activities for the buildings and equipment include:

- demobilize, remove, and decommission equipment and facilities as the facilities are identified as no longer being required for operations; and
- reduce inventories of consumables leading up to the end of operations.

**6.2.6 Mine Infrastructure**

No progressive reclamation activities have been identified for the crushing facility at this time.

**6.2.7 Transportation Routes**

No progressive reclamation activities have been identified for the proposed transportation routes at this time.

**6.2.8 Landfill and Other Waste Disposal Areas**

The landfill will be in active use throughout the mining period and also during the closure period in order to receive debris from decommissioning. The final closure of the landfill will occur at the end of the post-closure stage. It will not be possible to carry out progressive reclamation of the landfill.

No progressive reclamation activities have been identified for the other waste disposal areas identified in Section 5.2.8 at this time.

**6.2.9 Water Management Facilities**

No progressive reclamation activities have been identified for the water management facilities at this time.

**6.2.10 Quarries and Granular Borrow Sites**

The quarries and granular borrow sites no longer required for operations will be progressively reclaimed. The closure activities are discussed in Section 5.2.10.

**6.3 Completed Progressive Reclamation**

Progressive reclamation has not been carried out at the Project site to date.



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## 7.0 SECTION 7 • TEMPORARY CLOSURE

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Temporary closure occurs when an advanced mineral exploration or mining operation ceases with the intent of resuming activities in the near future. Temporary closure could be due to an unplanned closure or a planned closure of certain facilities in a complex mining project (MVLWB/AANDC 2013).

The Project operation is planned to be continuous for the full proposed operating period. However, the mine may need to shut down for a short-term or indefinitely (long-term) due to economic, environmental and/or social factors. The plans for both of these closure periods are discussed below. Notification of temporary closure would be presented to the staff and the local population with at least 30 days' notice; if the conditions allow, a longer notice period will be provided where possible.

### 7.1 Temporary Closure Goal and Closure Objectives

The goal of temporary closure is ongoing protection of the environment, and regulatory compliance during the shutdown period. Temporary closure measures deemed necessary will depend upon the duration and extent of site activities/presence during the temporary closure. It is anticipated that water management and treatment facilities will function at the same level during temporary shutdown periods as during operations.

### 7.2 Temporary Closure Activities

The following temporary closure scenarios have been considered:

**Short-term temporary closure:** this would apply to any anticipated short term shut down or closure period of less than one year and could last for a period of weeks or several months (up to 12 months) based on economic, environmental, and social factors.

**Long-term temporary closure:** or indefinite shutdown is a cessation of mining and processing operation for an indefinite period of time greater than one year. The intention is that the mine will resume operations as soon as possible after the cause for the indefinite shutdown has been addressed. The site must maintain safety and environmental stability during this time. Possible causes for an indefinite shutdown could include prolonged adverse economic conditions or extended labour disputes. A decision on the estimated length of the indefinite shutdown would be made after the initial one year period. Decisions on possible extensions to the indefinite shutdown would be made every 6 months thereafter and would be based on the conditions at that time. At present, the maximum length of time or number of extensions for interim shutdown before moving to final closure has not been defined.

The proposed short-term and long-term temporary closure activities are presented in the following subsections.



**Short-term Temporary Closure**

The following summarizes the measures that will be taken as required during a short-term temporary closure:

- Warning signs and berms will be erected as needed around the pit perimeter.
- Dewatering of the pit will continue as conducted during operations.
- Environmental monitoring and sampling will continue at regular intervals as set out in the Project operations and monitoring program and in accordance with all applicable licenses, permits, and authorizations.
- Routine geotechnical stability monitoring and maintenance will continue at a reduced rate compared to that conducted during operations. The pit area will be inspected routinely to check for rock falls, changes to groundwater inflows and overall integrity.
- All mobile equipment except for small service equipment required for pit inspections will be removed and placed in secure on-site storage.
- Fuel, lubricants, and hydraulic fluids will be removed from the pit area and stored in designated areas.
- Fluid levels in all fuel tanks will be recorded and monitored regularly for leaks, or fuel will be removed from the site.
- An inventory of chemicals and reagents, petroleum products, and other hazardous materials will be conducted. These materials will be secured appropriately, or the materials will be removed from the site.
- All explosives will be relocated to the main powder magazine and secured, disposed of, or removed from the site.
- Surface water management facilities will be maintained to manage contact water runoff.
- Monitoring of water quality of the collection ponds will continue as per during operations.
- Unused water distribution lines will be drained, but would be left in place.
- Minimum staffing levels will be maintained to carry out care and maintenance.
- The camp will be operated at reduced staffing level.
- Critical facilities (camp) will have nominal heat to prevent freezing of the facilities and possible damage.
- The sewage treatment plant and potable water treatment plant will continue to operate as needed.
- Hazardous wastes on-site will be collected and stored in an appropriate area for annual disposal to a registered disposal facility.
- In most circumstances, the haul road will continue to be open. The status of the road during such periods would be assessed by Agnico Eagle on a case-by-case basis.

**Long-term Temporary Closure**

The following summarizes the measures that will be taken as required in addition to the short-term temporary closure activities previously mentioned during a long-term temporary closure:



- Environmental and geotechnical monitoring and sampling will continue at the regular level as set out in the mine operations and monitoring program, and in accordance with all applicable licenses, permits and authorizations.
- Pumps in the pit will be relocated and the pit will be allowed to flood passively (from rainfall and groundwater inflow).
- If necessary, the working face of the WRSF slopes will be graded to ensure stability and drainage to the contact water management system adjacent to the waste rock storage facilities. As the WRSF will be designed and operated for long-term stability, it is anticipated that any grading required will be localized and minimal. The WRSF will be monitored to ensure the site stays in compliance with any permits and/or licences.
- The dikes/dams will be monitored and maintained, and none of the dikes/dams will be breached.
- Surface water control structures will be maintained as required. In areas where water quality is suitable for discharge, natural drainage courses may be re-established.
- Unused water distribution lines will be drained. Unused lines on surface will be removed and placed in a secure lay down area to reduce impacts on wildlife.
- Dependent on the cause of the closure, the haul road may be inaccessible during the winter for cars and trucks. If Agnico Eagle requires continued presence on-site, then it is likely Agnico Eagle would maintain the road open in some manner over the winter.

### **7.3 Temporary Closure Monitoring, Maintenance, and Reporting**

Monitoring and reporting during the short-term and long-term temporary closure will continue at the regular level as set out in the mine operations and monitoring program, and in accordance with all applicable licenses, permits and authorizations.

The numbers of personnel on-site would be reduced to reduce operation costs. The staff present at site during temporary closure would be sufficient in number and expertise to successfully carry out care, maintenance and monitoring duties, and to address and remediate any potential problems that may arise. Sufficient equipment and supplies/reagents would be left on-site for any maintenance or reclamation activities that may need to take place.

### **7.4 Temporary Closure Contingency Program**

The key staff present at site during temporary closure would be sufficient in number and expertise to successfully address and remediate any conditions or unforeseen events that may arise through the monitoring programs. The key staff at the site would also have access to external consultants and advisors, as required.

The contingency options and actions for events or incidents defined for operations would be also implemented during the temporary closure (i.e., spill responses and reports).



### **7.5 Temporary Closure Schedule**

The temporary closure schedule would depend on when temporary closure occurs (i.e., what year of the operations stage) and its duration, both of which are commonly uncertain. Therefore, the schedule for the activities presented in Section 7.2 would be developed as temporary closure advances. The sequence of activities for short-term and long-term temporary closure would, in summary, be as follows:

- Restrict access to the site, buildings, and infrastructures to authorized personnel as required.
- Carry out an inventory of chemicals and reagents, petroleum products, and other hazardous materials and secure the inventory appropriately or remove some of it from site.
- Post warning signs and berms as needed around the open pit perimeter.
- Remove all mobile equipment except for small service equipment required for open pit inspections and place them in secure on-site storage.
- Temporary closure of unnecessary facilities and systems.
- Continue with environmental and geotechnical monitoring and sampling required for care, maintenance and monitoring at the regular level as set out in the mine operations and monitoring program, and in accordance with all applicable licenses, permits, and authorizations.



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**8.0 SECTION 8 • INTEGRATED SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES**

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This ICRP is based on permitting level design for many facilities and correspondingly the proposed closure schedule for the Project is based on the preliminary closure methods and strategies discussed in the above sections. It is anticipated that the schedule will be refined throughout the Project life as the designs are advanced and the closure methods and strategies are further developed. All schedules are subject to changes in mine plans and market conditions.

The proposed preliminary closure schedule for the Project is presented in Table 8.0-1 and includes the following:

- The back-flooding of the dewatered area (open pit area) will start in Year 4 (2022) with pumping of the water accumulated over the operating years in the Whale Tail Lake (South Basin), the contribution of the Northeast watershed area as a result of the Northeast dike breaching, and the pumping of the treated contact water collected in the Attenuation Pond.
- In Year 8 (2026), the North Channel will be re-routed to contribute to the back-flooding of the dewatered area until the original level in Whale Tail Lake is reached.
- In Year 11 (2029), the original water level at Whale Tail Lake will be reached.
- The Attenuation Pond will continue collecting water from the WRSF, the industrial sector, the main camp sector and the Attenuation Pond sector, this water will be pumped to the WTP for treatment to be finally discharged into the dewatered area between Year 4 (2022) and Year 7 (2025).
- The Attenuation Pond will be reclaimed (back-flooded) in Year 8 (2026) and the contact water from the WRSF will be pumped directly to the WTP to be finally discharged into Whale Tail Lake (North Basin).
- The crushing facility will be decommissioned in Year 4 (2022) as the facility will no longer be required.
- The camp and other supporting facilities will be removed in stages.
- The freshwater pipeline, causeway and pumping system from Nemo Lake will be dismantled in Year 4 (2022), after which time freshwater will be obtained from Whale Tail Lake (South Basin).
- The freshwater pipeline, causeway and pumping system from Whale Tail Lake (South Basin) will be dismantled in Year 11 (2029).
- The WTP will be operated for ten years after the WRSF closure has been completed (i.e. Year 5 (2023) to Year 14 (2032)) or until treatment of contact water from the site is found no longer required. This would occur when contact water quality satisfies water licence criteria for direct discharge. The WTP and Mammoth Lake effluent diffuser will be maintained for a further three water treatment seasons (i.e. Year 15 (2033) to Year 17 (2035)) as a contingency before being dismantled and disposed in Year 17 (2035). The treatment plant will be dismantled in Year 17 (2035) and rubble will be disposed of in the on-site landfill facility.



- Monitoring will be carried out for a minimum of 13 years after closure of the WRSF (Year 4 (2022) until Year 17 (2035)).

The schedule will be updated in subsequent Interim Closure and Reclamation Plans but will generally follow the present outline.



Table 8.0-1: Proposed Closure and Post-Closure Main Activities Schedule

Component	Description	Operating Stage (Progressive Reclamation)			Closure Stage							Post-Closure Stage						
		Year 1 (2019)	Year 2 (2020)	Year 3 (2021)	Year 4 (2022)	Year 5 (2023)	Year 6 (2024)	Year 7 (2025)	Year 8 (2026)	Year 9 (2027)	Year 10 (2028)	Year 11 (2029)	Year 12 (2030)	Year 13 (2031)	Year 14 (2032)	Year 15 (2033)	Year 16 (2034)	Year 17 (2035)
Machinery and Mobile Equipment	- Decommission machinery and equipment and ship off-site (leaving only on-site equipment required for closure and post-closure activities)				X													
	- Remove equipment used for closure activities (e.g. trucks, backhoes)										X							
	- Remove equipment used for long-term maintenance (e.g. backhoes) <sup>a</sup>																	X
Nemo Lake Freshwater Pumping System	- Decommission system				X													
South Whale Tail Lake Freshwater Pumping System	- Decommission system										X							
Dewatered Area	- Active flooding of pit area from Whale Tail Lake (South Basin), North-East watershed and treated contact water from Attenuation Pond				Year 4 to Year 7													
	- Active flooding of remaining area from Whale Tail Lake (South Basin), North-East watershed and North Channel watershed								Year 8 to Year 10									
	- Place warning signs around Open Pit perimeter and maintain berm from perimeter road.				X													
WRSF	- Cover placement and natural re-vegetation	Year 1 to Year 4																
	- Pump WRSF Pond contact water to the Attenuation Pond prior to treatment and discharge into the dewatered area				Year 4 to Year 7													



Table 8.0-1: Proposed Closure and Post-Closure Main Activities Schedule (continued)

Component	Description	Operating Stage (Progressive Reclamation)			Closure Stage							Post-Closure Stage							
		Year 1 (2019)	Year 2 (2020)	Year 3 (2021)	Year 4 (2022)	Year 5 (2023)	Year 6 (2024)	Year 7 (2025)	Year 8 (2026)	Year 9 (2027)	Year 10 (2028)	Year 11 (2029)	Year 12 (2030)	Year 13 (2031)	Year 14 (2032)	Year 15 (2033)	Year 16 (2034)	Year 17 (2035)	
WRSF (continued)	- Pump WRSF Pond contact water directly to the WTP for final discharge into Mammoth Lake								Year 8 to Year 13										
	- Breach WRSF Di­ke and Saddle Dam													X					
	- Decommission WRSF Pond																		
Mine Infrastructure and Support Buildings	- Decommission facilities and re-grade areas as needed				Year 4 to Year 10														
Water Management Facilities	- Breach North-East Di­ke and reclaim channel and pond areas when no longer needed				X														
	- Remove pumping system from the Attenuation Pond							X											
	- Breach South Whale Tail and Mammoth dikes										X								
	- Decommission WTP and Mammoth Lake effluent diffuser <sup>a</sup>																	X	
Haul Road	- Decommission haul road <sup>b</sup>																	X	
Long- Term Care and Maintenance (assumed for 10 years after closure)																			
Monitoring					Monitor back-flooded area and contact water reporting from closed mine facilities (post-closure stage duration may be reduced or in-situ treatment may be required)														

<sup>a</sup> Assumed that the WTP and Mammoth Lake effluent diffuser will be maintained for 3 years as a contingency after Year 14.

<sup>b</sup> Assumed for 14 years after operations; however, closure schedule dependent on monitoring results. Activities will occur when contact water quality satisfies water license criteria for direct discharge and/or access to the site is no longer required



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**9.0 SECTION 9 • POST-CLOSURE SITE ASSESSMENT**

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As mentioned in Section 5.2.2.8, the ICRP is a “living” document and includes a commitment to adaptive management and monitoring during all stages of the mine life to demonstrate the safe performance of the Project facilities and to reduce any contamination on the site or in the adjacent area after operations cease. Monitoring during operations and in closure will identify non-compliant conditions; allow timely maintenance and clean up as needed; allow timely planning for adaptive and corrective measures; and enable successful completion of the ICRP. In this way, the Project is not anticipated to contribute residual impacts to the environment after closure and reclamation (FEIS Volume 2; Agnico Eagle 2016).

Monitoring programs will be initiated during construction and operations to provide additional baseline information on which to base the Final Closure and Reclamation plan (FCRP) document. The adaptive management plans to be used in closure will follow the actions completed during operations, and will be co-ordinated with the existing operational monitoring programs (e.g., AEMP, TEMP) to set appropriate trigger levels, and mitigation plans and actions.

Monitoring and maintenance programs that are implemented during the closure and post-closure phases of the Project life will use the data collected during operational monitoring. The data collected in operation will assist with defining measures of success at closure and the performance of the reclamation and closure efforts. The data collected during post-closure monitoring will allow the procedures and activities to be adjusted or modified as necessary to confirm ongoing environmental protection, and ultimately will determine when final closure is complete, the closure objectives for the Project have been achieved, and the Project site and affected areas have been returned to viable and, wherever practicable, self-sustaining ecosystems that are compatible with a healthy environment and with human activities (Section 2.3).



**10.0 SECTION 10 • FINANCIAL SECURITY**

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A permanent closure and reclamation financial security cost estimate has been prepared to a conceptual level with the present Project layout and infrastructure (Appendix D).

The cost estimate covers the closure and reclamation of all Project facilities as described in this report and was prepared using RECLAIM Version 7.0, March 2014, for permanent closure of the Project.



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**11.0 SECTION 11 • REFERENCES**

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## APPENDIX A – GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

### Glossary of Terms and Definitions

Term	Definition
Acid Base Accounting (ABA)	Acid base accounting; a static test that defines the amounts, and relative balance, of potentially acid-generating and acid-neutralizing (or base) minerals in a sample.
Active layer	The layer of ground above the permafrost which thaws and freezes annually.
Acid rock drainage (ARD)	Acidic pH rock drainage due to the oxidation of sulphide minerals that includes natural acidic drainage from rock not related to mining activity; an acidic pH is defined as a value less than 6.0.
Advanced mineral exploration	Any appurtenant undertaking in which the proponent requires a Type A or Type B water licence in order to carry out the proposed activities.
Quarries and Granular Borrow Sites	Site from where soils and aggregates are obtained for use in earthworks construction.
Care and maintenance	The status of a mine when it undergoes a temporary closure.
Closure goal	The guiding statement that provides the vision and purpose of reclamation. Attainment of the closure goal happens when the proponent has satisfied all closure objectives. By its nature, the closure goal is a broad, high-level statement and not directly measurable.
Closure principles	The four core closure principles are 1) physical stability, 2) chemical stability, 3) no long-term active care requirements, and 4) future use (including aesthetics and values). The principles guide the selection of closure objectives.
Closure objectives	Statements that describe what the selected closure activities are aiming to achieve; they are guided by the closure principles. Closure objectives are typically specific to project components, are measurable and achievable, and allow for the development of closure criteria.
Closure options	A set of proposed alternatives for closing and reclaiming each mine component. The closure options are evaluated to determine the selected closure activity, which must be approved by the NWB.
Closure criteria	Standards that measure the success of selected closure activities in meeting closure objectives. Closure criteria may have a temporal component (e.g., a standard may need to be met for a pre-defined number of years). Closure criteria can be site-specific or adopted from territorial/federal or other standards and can be narrative statements or numerical values.
Contaminant	1) any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance in the air, soil, or water that has an adverse effect; and 2) any chemical substance with a concentration that exceeds background levels or which is not naturally occurring in the environment.
Effluent	Contact water flows that must be treated before being discharged to the environment.
Engagement	The communication and outreach activities a proponent undertakes with affected communities and Aboriginal organizations/governments prior to and during the operation of a project, including closure and reclamation phases.



Term	Definition
Environmental Site Assessment (ESA)	Phase I ESA: A review of available information to determine the likelihood of actual or potential environmental impacts. Phase II ESA: An intrusive investigation involving sampling and testing to better define the nature and scope of any environmental impacts.
Explosives	Gunpowder, blasting powder, nitroglycerine, gun-cotton, dynamite, blasting gelatine, gelignite, fulminates of mercury or of other metals and every other substance made, manufactured or used with a view to producing a violent effect by explosion.
Humidify cell test (HCT)	A type of kinetic test in which a small sample (about 1 kg) is placed in an enclosed chamber in a laboratory, alternating cycles of moist and dry air is constantly pumped through the chamber, and once a week the sample is rinsed with water; chemical analysis of rinse water yields concentrations of elements and other parameters used to calculate reaction rates.
Kinetic test	A geochemical procedure for characterizing the chemical status of a sample through time during continued exposure to a known set of environmental conditions, such as a humidity cell.
Landfarm	Infrastructure that uses biological and physical processes to treat (remove contaminants) contaminated soil.
Land owner	The responsible authority with administrative control and ownership of a type of land classified as crown land, commissioners land or Inuit Owned Land. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Crown land is land belonging to Her Majesty or in respect of which Government has the power of disposition. In Nunavut, this power rests with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC).</li> <li>b. Commissions land is land belonging to the Commissioner for the Government of Nunavut; which typically is land within an established municipality administered by a Municipal Corporation and/or the Department of Community Government and Services (CGS)</li> <li>c. Inuit Owned Land (IOL) are those lands vested in the Designated Inuit Organization (DIO) pursuant the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. For this Project the DIO is the Kivalliq Inuit Association.</li> </ul>
Land use permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. For Crown land a Class A Permit or Class B Permit as required by the Territorial Land Use Regulations SOR/82-217, s.1; SOR/88-169, s.2 administered by AANDC Lands Department.</li> <li>b. For IOLs- Land Use Licence I, II or III or Commercial Lease I, II, III as defined by the DIO.</li> <li>c. For Commissioners land - a permit or lease as required by the Municipal Land Administration Policy.</li> </ul>
Leachate	Water or other liquid that has washed (leached) from a solid material, such as a layer of soil or water; leachate may contain contaminants.
Long-term active care	A post-closure mine site is in long-term active care when sustained monitoring and maintenance of active facilities is required (e.g., for more than 25 years). This should be avoided whenever possible.



Term	Definition
Metal leaching (ML)	The release of a metal from its solid-phase mineral into mine site drainage; described by concentrations in static tests and by metal release rates obtained from kinetic tests.
Passive long-term care	Occasional monitoring, coupled with infrequent maintenance or repairs that takes place following reclamation in the post closure phase of the mine site. Many mine sites require ongoing passive care, which can be an acceptable practice.
Ore	Rock that is considered economic according to the parameters used in the ore reserve estimate. Ore will be processed at an existing Meadowbank mineral processing plant after it is mined from the Project open pit.
Overburden	A general term referring to soil and broken rock, lying above ore and mine rock, that can usually be removed without blasting; at mines in soft sedimentary rock like coal, overburden can be synonymous with mine rock.
Potentially acid generating (PAG)	Rock with an NP/AP ratio less than 2 as determined by static tests, as defined by MEND (2009). PAG rock can also be operationally defined based on the results of static testing such as ABA and NAG testing.
Permafrost	Bedrock or soil that maintains a temperature at or below 0° C for a continuous period of two years or more.
Progressive reclamation	Selected closure activities that can be taken at advanced mineral exploration and mine sites before permanent closure. Progressive reclamation takes advantage of cost and operating efficiencies by using the resources available from an operation to reduce the overall reclamation costs incurred. It enhances environmental protection and shortens the timeframe for achieving the closure objectives.
Proponent	Applicant for, or a holder of, a water licence and/or land use permit.
Reclamation	The process of returning a disturbed site to its natural state or which prepares it for other productive uses that prevents or minimizes any adverse effects on the environment or threats to human health and safety.
Reclamation research	Literature reviews, laboratory or pilot-scale tests, engineering studies, and other methods of resolving uncertainties. Proponents conduct reclamation research to answer questions pertaining to environmental risks; the design of reclamation research plans aims to provide data and information which will reduce uncertainties for closure options, selected closure activities, and/or closure criteria.
Remediation	The removal, reduction, or neutralization of substances, wastes, or hazardous material from a site in order to prevent or minimize any adverse effects on the environment and public safety now or in the future.
Risk assessment	Analysis of potential threats and options for mitigation for a given site, component, or condition. Risk assessments consider factors such as risk acceptability, public perception of risk, socio-economic impacts, benefits, and technical feasibility. It forms the basis for risk management.
Salvageable Materials	Decommissioned materials which can be sold or reused elsewhere.
Security deposit	Funds held by the Crown (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada) or land owner that can be used in the case of abandonment of an



Term	Definition
	undertaking to reclaim the site or carry out any ongoing measures that may remain to be taken after the abandonment of the undertaking.
Selected closure activity	The closure and reclamation activity chosen from the closure options for each Project component.
Stakeholders	Industry, federal agencies, the territorial government, Aboriginal organizations/governments, land owners, affected communities, and other parties with an interest in the Project.
Talik	Unfrozen ground surrounded by permafrost.
Traditional Knowledge	Accumulative, collective body of knowledge, experience, and values built up by a group of people through generations of living in close contact with nature. It builds upon the historic experiences of a people and adapts to social, economic, environmental, spiritual, and political change.
Type A water licence	A Type A water licence is required if the use is of a type set out in column 2 of Schedule 2 and satisfies a criterion set out in column 5 in respect of an undertaking set out in column 1 of the Nunavut Water Regulations SOR/2013-69 <i>(Note: despite definition of Type B water licence item a), a Type A licence is the appropriate licence for a use of waters if a Type A licence is required for another use of waters, or a deposit of waste, in respect of the same undertaking.)</i>
Type B water licence	A Type B water licence required if <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The use is of a type set out in column 2 of Schedule 2 and satisfies a criterion set out in column 4 in respect of an undertaking set out in column 1, or</li> <li>The use satisfies the criterion set out in paragraph 4(1)(a) but does not satisfy one or more criterion set out in paragraphs 4(1)(b) to (d) of the Nunavut Water Regulations SOR/2013-69</li> </ol>
Waste rock	All unprocessed rock materials that a mining operation produces.



**APPENDIX B – LIST OF ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS, UNITS AND SYMBOLS**

<b>Acronym/Abbreviation</b>	<b>Definition</b>
AANDC	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (formerly known as Indian and Northern Affairs Canada)
ABA	Acid-Base Accounting
AEMP	Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan
Agnico Eagle	Agnico Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Division
ARD	Acid Rock Drainage
ANFO	Ammonium Nitrate/Fuel Oil
AWPAR	All-weather Private Access Road
CNBC	Canadian National Building Code
CESCC	Canadian Endangered Species Conservation Council
CGS	Community and Government Services
CNBC	Canadian National Building Code
Comaplex	Comaplex Mines Corporation
COSEWIC	Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
CP	Collection Pond
CREMP	Core Receiving Environment Monitoring Program
CRL	Cumberland Resources Ltd.
CRP	Conceptual Closure and Reclamation Plan
DFO	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
DIO	Designated Inuit Organization
FCRP	Final Closure and Reclamation Plan
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
Golder	Golder Associates Ltd.
GCDWQ	Guidelines for Canadian drinking water quality
GN	Government of Nunavut
HADD	Harmful Alteration Disruption or Destruction
HDPE	High-Density Polyethylene
HTO	Hunters and Trappers Organizations
INAC	Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
ICRP	Interim Conceptual Closure and Reclamation Plan
IDF	Intensity-Duration-Frequency
IIBA	Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement
IOL	Inuit Owned Land
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IQ	Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit
ISQG	Interim Sediment Quality Guidelines
KIA	Kivalliq Inuit Association
LSA	Local Study Area
ML	Metal Leaching



MMER	Metal Mining Effluent Regulations
MVLWB	Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
NIRB	Nunavut Impact Review Board
NLCA	Nunavut Land Claims Agreement
NML	Non-Metal Leaching
NPAG	non-Potentially Acid-Generating
NRC	Natural Resources Canada
NRI	Nunavut Research Institute
NTI	Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
NWB	Nunavut Water Board
NWT	Northwest Territories
PAG	Potentially Acid-Generating
PEL	Probable effect level
PGA	Horizontal peak ground acceleration
PHC	Petroleum Hydrocarbons
Project	Whale Tail Gold Project
PEL	Probable Effect Level
RSA	Regional Study Area
SNC	SNC-Lavalin
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
TEMMP	Terrestrial Environment Management and Monitoring Plan
TSF	Tailings Storage Facility
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
WRSF	Waste Rock Storage Facility
WTP	Water Treatment Plant



**List of Units and Symbols**

centimetre	cm	megawatt	MW
cubic centimetre	cm <sup>3</sup>	metre	m
cubic metre	m <sup>3</sup>	metres above sea level	masl
Cubic metre per tonne	m <sup>3</sup> /t	metres per minute	m/min
day	d	metres per second	m/s
days per week	d/wk	metric ton (tonne)	t
days per year	d/y	milligram	mg
degrees Celsius	°C	milligrams per litre	mg/L
gram	g	millilitre	mL
grams per litre	g/L	millimetre	mm
grams per tonne	g/t	million	M
greater than	> (use only in tables)	Million cubic meters	Mm <sup>3</sup>
hectare (10 000 m <sup>2</sup> )	ha	million tonnes	Mt
hour	h (not hr)	month	mo
hours per day	h/d	parts per billion	ppb
hours per week	h/wk	parts per million	ppm
hours per year	h/y	percent	%
inch	"(symbol, not ")	pound	lbs
kilogram	kg	second (time) (not sec)	s
kilograms per cubic metre	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	square centimetre	cm <sup>2</sup>
kilograms per hour	kg/h	square kilometre	km <sup>2</sup>
kilograms per square metre	kg/m <sup>2</sup>	square metre	m <sup>2</sup>
kilometre	km	Tonnes per day	t/day
kilometres per hour	km/h	Tonnes per cubic metre	t/m <sup>3</sup>
less than	< (use only in tables)	week	wk
litre	L	year	y
litres per minute	L/m	watts per square metre per day	W/m <sup>2</sup> /d <sup>1</sup>



## APPENDIX C – LESSONS LEARNED FROM OTHER PROJECTS

Development	Activity Which Led to Lesson	Lesson Learned	Adaptive Management Result
Ekati, Diavik, and Snap Lake mine sites	Open pit mining	Wildlife injury or mortality may occur by entering the open pit	A rock berm(s) will be constructed around the open pit during the operations stage
Ekati, Diavik, and Snap Lake mine sites	Mine site infrastructure	Wildlife injury or mortality may occur by entering mine site facilities	Disturbed areas will be re-contoured at closure reducing hazards to wildlife
Meadowbank mine site	Landfill located within RSF	Birds or wildlife injury or mortality by entering the landfill	Landfill will be located within the WRSF and covered at closure reducing hazards to birds and wildlife



**APPENDIX D – RECLAIM**

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Project Name: <b>Reclaim Model - Overview of Program</b>	
<b>Whale Tail Project</b>	<b>All users are urged to read the Reclaim Model User Manual - Scroll down for overview description of program.</b>
<b>Important! Reclaim 7.0 works better with no other excel files open. If other excel files are open ignore run time error and proceed</b>	
<b>Reclaim Menu</b>	<p>The default Excel menu bar has an additional tab labelled "Add-Ins" that provides options specific to the Reclaim Model.</p> <p><b>Clear</b> This option deletes all input data, deletes any duplicated elements and blanks out the project name. It also allows for segregation into land costs vs water costs if required.</p> <p><b>Duplicate</b> This option Duplicates components of the project. E.g. if there is more than one Open Pit, use duplicate to add a second Open Pit. Quantities for the new Open Pit are erased, but the Activities and Cost Codes are carried over from the original Open Pit. The new Open Pit subtotal is added to the Summary page.</p> <p><b>Unit Costs</b> This option opens a window of unit costs to provide easy reference. NOTE: the unit cost table has a filter in the 'UNITS' column. You can select to only see a particular unit (eg km) or multiple units (km and m3) or all units.</p> <p><b>Print All</b> This option prints the Summary Worksheet, Unit Cost Worksheet, and the individual component worksheets having non-zero balances. Individual worksheets can be printed directly using standard printing methods, such as Ctrl - P.</p> <p><b>Quit</b> Select Quit to exit the program</p> <p><b>Help</b> Redirects user to Instructions worksheet.</p>
<b>WorkSheets</b>	<p><b>Summary</b> This worksheet contains a cumulative summary of costs for each component of the project. Associated costs such as engineering and project management are added as a percentage of the component costs.</p> <p><b>Components</b> Costs are derived for individual closure and reclamation activities by multiplying a "quantity" of activity by a "unit cost". An activity can be edited, added, or deleted from worksheet. However, care should be taken not to modify cells that are defined and used elsewhere in the program.</p> <p><b>Unit Costs</b> <b>Do not change the content or column width of the first column of each component worksheet.</b> This worksheet contains a look up table with costs for typical work associated with each closure and reclamation activity</p>
<b>Limitations</b>	<p><b>The Reclaim Program will NOT work if the worksheets are changed such that the following requirements are not met. Please review the following prior to modifying worksheets.</b></p> <p><b>Worksheet Names</b> The names of the worksheets must not be changed.</p> <p><b>Defined Names</b> Certain cells have defined names, which must not be changed. Where the cell is named, the name will appear in the "Name Box" to the left of the formula bar.</p> <p><b>First line of data</b> The first line of data for any component worksheet starts on line 4. <b>Do not change the first line of a component worksheet, ie the component name.</b></p> <p><b>Cell A1</b> Cell A1 on the component sheet MUST always contain the count of that component for the duplicate function to operate. <b>DO NOT CHANGE.</b></p> <p><b>Adding Lines</b> You can add lines to components and the unit cost table, as long as they are not the last lines. The last line might fall outside the named ranges. You can check the size of the named range by selecting the name from the drop down box at the top left of the sheet. Usually this box has a cell reference, or a name.</p> <p><b>Printing</b> A component will only be printed if its sub-total is greater than zero. In addition, a component and the summary sheet cannot be printed if there is an error. Printing has been set to print 1 page per component.</p>
<b>Conditions of Use</b>	<p>The Reclamation Cost Estimating Model was prepared to serve as a guide for Government Agencies, mining companies, and others to estimate the cost of mine reclamation. This model is not intended to replace reclamation planning or to be used to determine the activities required to reclaim a site or to dictate how much should be spent on reclamation.</p> <p>Reclaim was prepared by Brodie Consulting Ltd. on behalf of AANDC. AANDC and Brodie Consulting Ltd. are not responsible for the completeness or accuracy of any reclamation estimate made using this model. The user agrees to check and take responsibility for all aspects of any cost estimate made using this model.</p>

The following table provides guidance as to whether water management and treatment is considered short term or long term. Short term closure activities may be costed within a component (eg 'Open Pit' or 'Rock Pile') or 'Water Management'. Long term or post-closure water treatment is costed in 'Water Treatment'.

		Short Term/ Capital Ex.	Long term/ NPV
Open Pit	flood pit - install/operate pumping system	x	
	construct diversion ditches	x	
	treat 1st filling	x	
	install pump/decant system	x	
	passive/biological treatment	x	
	overflow treatment		x
Rock Pile/Heap Leach Facility	construct diversion ditches	x	
	install groundwater collection system	x	
	install toe seepage collection system	x	
	collect and treat groundwater		x
	collect and treat seepage (ARD/ML)		x
	install passive treatment system	x	
	operate and maintain passive treatment system		x
Tailings Facility	operate pump and detoxify heap leach pile (cyanide destruction)	x	
	construct diversion ditches	x	
	pump supernatant (to pit, U/G)	x	
	treat supernatant	x	
	install toe seepage collection system	x	
	collect and treat seepage (ARD/ML)		x
	install passive treatment system	x	
U/G Mine	operate and maintain passive treatment system		x
	accelerate flooding	x	
	install seepage collection system	x	
	install dewatering/pumping system	x	
	operate seepage/dewatering system (ARD/ML)		x
Water Management	refill lakes		
	redirect creeks/streams	x	
	stabilize water management ponds	x	
	stabilize/close sediment ponds	x	
	fresh water supply - breach embankment	x	
	fresh water supply - remove piping system	x	
	construct water treatment plant	x	
	construct sludge pond	x	
	water control in reclamation quarry	x	
	operate/maintain water treatment plant		x



**SUMMARY OF COSTS**

<b>CAPITAL COSTS</b>	<b>COMPONENT NAME</b>	<b>COST</b>	<b>LAND LIABILITY</b>	<b>WATER LIABILITY</b>
OPEN PIT	Whale Tail Pit	\$4,050,038	\$0	\$4,050,038
UNDERGROUND MINE		\$0	\$0	\$0
TAILINGS FACILITY		\$0	\$0	\$0
ROCK PILE		\$2,923,088	\$0	\$2,923,088
BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT		\$920,225	\$0	\$920,225
CHEMICALS AND CONTAMINATED SOIL MANAGEME		\$168,853	\$0	\$168,853
SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT		\$482,595	-	\$482,595
INTERIM CARE AND MAINTENANCE		\$0	-	\$0
<b>SUBTOTAL: Capital Costs</b>		<b>\$8,544,799</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$8,544,799</b>
<b>PERCENT OF SUBTOTAL</b>			<b>0%</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>INDIRECT COSTS</b>		<b>COST</b>	<b>LAND LIABILITY</b>	<b>WATER LIABILITY</b>
MOBILIZATION/DEMOBILIZATION		\$5,420,771	\$0	\$5,420,771
POST-CLOSURE MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE		\$3,131,499	\$0	\$3,131,499
ENGINEERING	5%	\$427,240	\$0	\$427,240
PROJECT MANAGEMENT	5%	\$427,240	\$0	\$427,240
HEALTH AND SAFETY PLANS/MONITORING & QA/QC	1%	\$85,448	\$0	\$85,448
BONDING/INSURANCE	1%	\$85,448	\$0	\$85,448
CONTINGENCY	20%	\$1,708,960	\$0	\$1,708,960
MARKET PRICE FACTOR ADJUSTMENT	0%	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>SUBTOTAL: Indirect Costs</b>		<b>\$11,286,606</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$11,286,606</b>

<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>		<b>\$19,831,405</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$19,831,405</b>
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Note: Existing underground workings from explorations are covered under Type B land and water permits



1	Open Pit Name:	Whale Tail Pit	Pit # 1					
ACTIVITY/MATERIAL	Notes	Units	Quantity	Cost Code	Unit Cost	% Cost Land	Land Cost	Water Cost
<b>CONTROL ACCESS</b>								
Fence,		m		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Signs	Assumed	each	15 SH	#N/A	\$37.08	\$556	\$0	\$556
Berm at crest	In place from perimeter road	m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Block roads	Assumed: 3 entrances, each block 5m base, 1 m crest width, 1 m high, 2H:1V slopes and 30m long	m3	270 RB1H	#N/A	\$17.05	\$4,604	\$0	\$4,604
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>STABILITY STUDY</b>								
Conduct stability and setback study		allow	1 EA		\$20,000.00	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
<b>STABILIZE SLOPES</b>								
Off-load crest, soil A		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Off-load crest, soil B		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Doze/trim overburden at crest		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Drill & blast pit crest		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Buttress slope		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>COVER/CONTOUR SLOPES</b>								
Place fill, soil A		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Place fill, soil B		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rip rap		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vegetate slopes		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vegetate pit floor		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>CONSTRUCT DIVERSION DITCHES</b>								
Excavate ditches -soil		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Excavate ditches -rock		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rip rap in channel base		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>CONSTRUCT SPILLWAY</b>								
Excavate channel	Mammoth channel culvert in operations	m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Concrete	Breach Mammoth Dike in Surface Water Management cost	m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rip rap		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>RECLAIM QUARRIES</b>								
Contour slopes		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Place overburden		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vegetate		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>FLOOD PIT-Capital</b>								
Remove stationary equipment (sump pumps) and dewatering pipeline		Allow	1 AE		\$10,000.00	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Remove dewatering pipeline		m		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Remove power lines		each		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construct diversion ditches		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
-Ditch, mat'l A		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
-Ditch, mat'l B		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construct embankment/dam		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supply/install pump station and piping system (including pumps)		Allow	1 AE		\$500,000.00	\$500,000	\$0	\$500,000
Supply/install piping system		m		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Remove pump post-closure		each		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Remove pipeline post-closure		m		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>FLOOD PIT-Annual Cost</b>								
Operate pumps to flood pit		each	1 AE		\$439,359.8	\$439,360	\$0	\$439,360
Maintain pump/pipeline		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Labour:fuel management, comissioning/decom		\$/h		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Chemical addition, _____ kg/m3 of water		tonne		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Chemicals, purchase and shipping		tonne		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Passive/biological additives		\$/ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Passive additives purchase and shipping		tonne		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other- Pump operation cost		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
					Annual pumping costs		\$439,360	
Number of years of pump flooding		years	8		Total pumping costs		\$3,514,878	\$0
					Total		\$4,050,038	\$0
					% of Total		0%	100%

Note: No water purchase is needed for back-flooding



1

Rock Pile Name:

ACTIVITY/MATERIAL	Notes	Units	Quantity	Cost Code	Unit Cost	% Cost	Land Cost	Water Cost
<b>STABILIZE SLOPES</b>								
Flatten slopes with dozer		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Flatten "bubble dump" areas		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Divert runon, ditch mat'l A		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Divert runon, ditch mat'l B		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Toe buttress, drain mat'l		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Toe buttress, fill mat'l A		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Toe buttress, fill mat'l B		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>COVER ROCK PILE</b>								
Subgrade preparation - doze surface		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Soil cover - excavate,haul,spread&compact		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cover will be 2 to 4 m thick - 4 m was used . Assumes that 80% will be placed during operations and therefore assumed as capital cost as the non-PAG will be placed with the PAG in the facility								
non-PAG waste rock cover (4 m thick)		m3	668160	SB1L	\$4.30	\$2,873,088	\$0	\$2,873,088
Excavate downslope drainage channel & chute		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rip rap drainage channel and chute		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vegetate		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>VERY LOW PERMEABILITY COVER (in addition to above)</b>								
Liner subgrade preparation - compact		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supply geomembrane		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Install geomembrane		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Protective cover - excavate,haul,spread&compact		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vegetate		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Install infiltration/seepage instrumentation		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>CONSTRUCT DIVERSION DITCHES</b>								
Excavate ditches -soil		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Excavate ditches -rock		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rip rap in channel base		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>CONSTRUCT SEEPAGE COLLECTION POND</b>								
Excavate seepage collection pond		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Doze & spread excavated material		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vegetate spread material		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Bedding layer		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supply geomembrane		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Install geomembrane		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Erosion protection layer		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>INSTALL GROUNDWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM</b>								
Excavate/install sumps		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Install pumping wells		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Install pumps/pipelines/power supply		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>RELOCATE DUMPS</b>								
Load, haul, dump or doze		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Add lime		tonne		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contour reclaimed area		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>SPECIALIZED ITEMS</b>								
Install permanent instrumentation	thermistors	Allow	1 EA		\$50,000.00	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
Install permanent instrumentation, drilling		each		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TREAT ROCK PILE SEEPAGE - "It is included on Water Treatment Sheet"</b>								
<b>HEAP LEACH SEEPAGE TREATMENT - Cyanide Detox</b>								
Cyanide destruction water treatment pumping		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Reagents		tonnes		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Electrician/mechanic to maintain treatment plant		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment maintenance and parts		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual treatment costs						\$0		
Number of years of treatment		years						
Total treatment costs						\$0		\$0
<b>HEAP LEACH SEEPAGE TREATMENT - ARD/ML**</b>								
Upgrade/modify pumping system - report to WTP		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0		\$0
<b>Total</b>						\$2,923,088	\$0	\$2,923,088
<b>% of Total</b>							0%	100%

\* For construction of passive treatment system refer to "Water Management". ARD/ML seepage treatment becomes post-closure water treatment cost

\*\*Heap leach ARD/ML seepage treatment becomes post-closure water treatment cost



1 Building / Equip Name:		Bldg / Equip #:						
ACTIVITY/MATERIAL	Notes	Units	Quantity	Cost Code	Unit Cost	% Cost Land	Land Cost	Water Cost
<b>DISPOSE MOBILE EQUIPMENT</b>								
Decontaminate and ship off-site		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Decontaminate and dispose on-site		manhours	300	MECHL	\$49.00	\$14,700	\$0	\$14,700
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>REMOVE BUILDINGS - see note below</b>								
Accommodation Complex - Main Camp		m2	4668.0	BRS1L	\$45.00	\$210,060	\$0	\$210,060
Process Facilities - Crushers		m2	700	BRS1H	\$65.00	\$45,500	\$0	\$45,500
Offices, kitchen, ERT		m2	1311.31	BRS1L	\$45.00	\$59,009	\$0	\$59,009
Storage Facilities (Main Warehouse)		m2	3699	BRS1L	\$45.00	\$166,455	\$0	\$166,455
Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities		m2	178.44	BRS1L	\$45.00	\$8,030	\$0	\$8,030
Power Plant		m2	215.6	BRS1H	\$65.00	\$14,014	\$0	\$14,014
Communication Tower		m2	100	BRS1H	\$65.00	\$6,500	\$0	\$6,500
U/G Heating Plant		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Emulsion Plant		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
AN Storage Facility		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Shops and Other		m2	1222.1	BRS1L	\$45.00	\$54,996	\$0	\$54,996
Storage Facility at Laydown/Airstrip		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fuel tanks on site / Bulk fuel tank		m2	213.09	BRS1H	\$65.00	\$13,851	\$0	\$13,851
Fuel Tanks		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fire protection- Pumping station		m2	29.74	BRS1H	\$65.00	\$1,933	\$0	\$1,933
Freshwater intake		m2	200	BRS1L	\$45.00	\$9,000	\$0	\$9,000
Reclaim pumps		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Outfall & Diffuser		allow	1	EA	\$20,000.00	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
Airstrip lighting, navigation, electrician		mandays		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Airstrip lighting, navigation, mechanical		mandays		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Break foundation slabs	total of all buildings	m2	1222.1	BRCS	\$6.00	\$7,333	\$0	\$7,333
Consolidate & dump boneyard debris		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ramp portal		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Workers Dry		m2	667.6	BRS1L	\$45.00	\$30,042	\$0	\$30,042
WTP & Fresh water pumping station		m2	832.09	BRS1L	\$45.00	\$37,444	\$0	\$37,444
WRSF Pond, Attenuation Pond pumphouses		m2	24.4	BRS1L	\$45.00	\$1,098	\$0	\$1,098
Water Intake		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>LANDFILL FOR DEMOLITION WASTE</b>								
Place rock cover	in WRSF cover cost	m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Place soil cover		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vegetate		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>GRADE AND CONTOUR PADS</b>								
Accommodation Complex - Main Camp		m3	867.35	AE	\$8.47	\$7,346	\$0	\$7,346
Process Facilities - Crushers		m3	700	AE	\$8.47	\$5,929	\$0	\$5,929
Offices, kitchen, ERT		m3	1203.75	AE	\$8.47	\$10,196	\$0	\$10,196
Storage Facilities (Main Warehouse)		m3	3699	AE	\$8.47	\$31,331	\$0	\$31,331
Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities		m3	178.44	AE	\$8.47	\$1,511	\$0	\$1,511
Power Plant		m3	215.6	AE	\$8.47	\$1,826	\$0	\$1,826
Communication Tower		m2	100	AE	\$8.47	\$847	\$0	\$847
U/G Heating Plant		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Emulsion Plant		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Shops and Other		m3	1222.1	AE	\$8.47	\$10,352	\$0	\$10,352
Fuel tanks on site / Bulk fuel tank		m3	213.09	AE	\$8.47	\$1,805	\$0	\$1,805
Fire protection- Pumping station		m3	29.74	AE	\$8.47	\$252	\$0	\$252
Ramp portal	in Type B permit	m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Workers Dry		m3	667.6	AE	\$8.47	\$5,655	\$0	\$5,655
Place rock cover		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vegetate		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
WTP & Fresh water pumping station		m3	832.09	AE	\$8.47	\$7,048	\$0	\$7,048
WRSF Pond, Attenuation Pond pumphouses		m3	24.4	AE	\$8.47	\$207	\$0	\$207
<b>PUNCTURE LINED SUMPS</b>								
Puncture liner and place soil cover		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>RECLAIM ROADS</b>								
Remove culverts		each		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Remove bridges		each		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Scarify and install water breaks	Account only remain width from exploration road (9.5-6.5)	ha	19.23	SCFYH	\$6,030.00	\$115,957	\$0	\$115,957
Scarify airstrip		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Scarify laydown and ore stockpile areas		allow	1	EA	\$20,000.00	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
Vegetate		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>SPECIALIZED ITEMS</b>								
Dispose of misc. debris and laydown area refuse				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>						\$920,225	\$0	\$920,225
<b>% of Total</b>							0%	100%

Note

Costs are based on file "6108 Building Listing\_RA.xlsx" dated 3/14/2016, total area used for remove buildings section, and ground area for grade and contour pads



## 1 Chemicals/Soil Area Name:

**Note:** The procedures, equipment and packaging for clean up and removal of chemicals or contaminated soils are highly dependent on the nature of the chemicals and their existing state of containment. Government guidelines should be consulted on an individual chemical basis. Any estimate made here should be considered very rough unless specific evaluations have been conducted.

ACTIVITY/MATERIAL	Notes	Units	Quantity	Cost Code	Unit Cost	% Cost Land	Land Cost	Water Cost
<b>HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AUDIT</b>								
Hazardous materials audit		mandays		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Phase 1 audit		each	1	CS1L	\$7,500.00	\$7,500	\$0	\$7,500
Phase 2 audit		each	1	CS2L	\$50,000.00	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
<b>BUILDING DECONTAMINATION &amp; CONSOLIDATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS</b>								
Environmental technician/coordinator		mandays		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Decontaminate: oil, fuel		mandays	20	AE	\$1,000.00	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
Decontaminate maintenance shop		mandays		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Decontaminate power plant		mandays	10	AE	\$1,000.00	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Decontaminate bulk fuel storage		mandays		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Decontaminate ANFO plant		mandays		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Decontaminate offices/warehouse/accom		mandays		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Removal of asbestos siding on buildings		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Removal of friable asbestos on equipment		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>HAZARDOUS MATERIALS REMOVAL</b>								
Waste oils	Burn on site	litre		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Waste fuel	Burn on site	litre		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Waste batteries	includes fee and transportation	allow	1	AE	\$3,000.00	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
Assay & environmental lab reagents		kg		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Machine shop paints, solvents etc	includes fee and transportation	allow	1	AE	\$10,000.00	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Glycol	includes fee and transportation	allow	1	AE	\$20,000.00	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
Process reagents		kg		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Nuclear sources		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other hazardous materials	includes fee and transportation	allow	1	AE	\$20,000.00	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
<b>HAZARDOUS MATERIALS</b>								
Transportation to disposal facility		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Disposal fees		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>CONTAMINATED SOILS</b>								
Contam. soil investigation - Phase 1		each		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contam. soil investigation - Phase 2	in Audit above	each		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>CONTAMINATED SOIL REMOVAL</b>								
Excavate and transport to Meadowbank landfarm (Site fuel, power plant, Mine maintenance shop)		m3	495	SC4L	\$9.30	\$4,606	\$0	\$4,606
Manage hydrocarbon remediation at Meadowbank landfarm		m3	495	CSRL	\$47.00	\$23,277	\$0	\$23,277
Reagents/stabilizing agent		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Excavate and transport to offsite facility		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contour decontaminated area		m3	495	DSL	\$0.95	\$470	\$0	\$470
<b>CONTAMINATED SOIL VERY LOW PERMEABILITY COVER</b>								
Supply geomembrane, HDPE, ES3, GCL		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Upper and lower bedding layers		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Install geomembrane, HDPE, ES3, GCL		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Erosion protection layer		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vegetate		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Install infiltration/seepage instrumentation		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>OTHER</b>								
				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>						\$168,853	\$0	\$168,853
<b>% of Total</b>							0%	100%



## 1 Capital Expenditures and Short Term Water Treatment identified in 'Instructions' worksheet

ACTIVITY/MATERIAL	Notes	Units	Quantity	Cost Code	Unit Cost	Cost
<b>BREACH DYKE EMBANKMENT</b>						
Remove (excavate) fill	Assumed a total of 8 breaches: 3 on Whale Tail Dyke, 2 on Northeast Dyke, 1 on Mammoth Dyke, 1 on WRSF Dyke and 1 on Saddle Dam. Total dyke material will be removed and placed on the WRSF	m3	20000	SC3L	\$8.90	\$178,000
Contour water intake area		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
<b>STABILIZE SEDIMENT PONDS/WATER MANAGEMENT PONDS</b>						
Place soil cover		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Doze & spread excavated material		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Vegetate spread material		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Rip rap in channel base		each		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Remove sediments from WRSF pond and place them in the landfill	assumed	allow	1	AE	\$10,000.00	\$10,000
<b>REDIRECT RUNOFF/CONSTRUCT DIVERSION DITCHES</b>						
Excavate ditches -soil	assumed 100 m	m3	720	SC3L	\$8.90	\$6,408
Excavate ditches -rock		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Stabilize side slopes		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Rip rap in channel base	assumed 100 m	m3	220	RR2L	\$14.20	\$3,124
<b>BREACH DITCHES</b>						
Excavate breaches		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
	Assumed - total excavation volume for channels construction = 147,100 m3 from SNC Lavalin report. 30% of this volume was assumed for recontour of channels to restore drainage path (remaining assumed that will be filled with sediments with time)	m3	44130	SB3L	\$5.10	\$225,063
Backfill/recontour		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Install flow dissipation		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Vegetate remainder of ditch		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
<b>DECOMMISSION FRESH WATER SUPPLY</b>						
Breach embankment		m		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Remove pump	Nemo Lake and Whale Tail (South Basin)	LS	1	EA	\$20,000.00	\$20,000
Remove pipeline	to Nemo Lake and Whale Tail (South Basin)	LS	1	EA	\$40,000.00	\$40,000
<b>WATER CONTROL IN RECLAMATION QUARRY</b>						
Install pumping system		LS		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Remove pumping system		LS		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
<b>REMOVE PIPELINES</b>						
Remove pipes		m		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Concrete plug deep pipes		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
<b>GROUNDWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM</b>						
Excavate/install sumps		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Install pumping wells		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Install pumps/pipelines/power supply		LS		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
<b>CONSTRUCT CONTAMINATED WATER STORAGE POND</b>						
Excavate pond		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Doze & spread excavated material		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Vegetate spread material		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Bedding layer		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Supply geomembrane		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Install geomembrane		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Erosion protection layer		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
<b>CONSTRUCT PASSIVE TREATMENT SYSTEM (e.g. Constructed Wetland)</b>						
Construct access roads		km		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Install HDPE piping system from collection pond		m		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Inter-cell flow structures		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Install liners		m2		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Install growth media		m3		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Wetland vegetation		ha		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
<b>CONSTRUCT WATER TREATMENT PLANT</b>						
Build treatment plant		LS		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Build sludge containment facility		LS		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
<b>Total</b>						<b>\$482,595</b>

For cost of long-term/post-closure water treatment see "WATER TREATMENT" Worksheet



## 1 Post Closure Water Treatment - Identified as long term/post-closure in 'Instructions' worksheet

ACTIVITY/MATERIAL	Notes	Units	Quantity	Cost Code	Unit Cost	Cost
ADDITION OF REAGENTS TO WTP						
H2O2		kg		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
lime		kg		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
ferric sulphate		kg		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
ferrous sulphate		kg		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
flocculents		kg		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Other		kg		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
LABOUR AND SUPPLIES						
Annual fuel		litres		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Annual power		kW-h		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Electrician/mechanic to maintain treatment plant		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Equipment maintenance and parts		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Misc. supplies, hoses, tools		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Communications		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
WATER MANAGEMENT						
Water Treatment (reagents, equip. Op., labour)		m3	154,740	AE	\$0.62	\$95,939
Water pumping from sumps and ponds to treatment plant		allow	1	AE	\$29,367.83	\$29,368
Annual Treatment Plant Servicing (2 Consultants x 7days/year)		manhours	168	LAB-SS	\$120.00	\$20,160
Treatment Plant Servicing Travel Allowance (Round Trip Flight/person)		visits	2	AE	2500.00	\$5,000
WTP WATER SAMPLING AND ANALYSES						
Sampling equipment		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Analyses		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Shipping to laboratory		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Reporting		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Other				#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
SITE ACCESS						
Road maintenance (incl. snow removal)		allow	1	AE	\$50,000.00	\$50,000
Winter road tariff		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Truck rental		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Air support		allow		#N/A	\$0.00	\$0
Annual water treatment costs						\$200,467
Number of years of water treatment		years	11		Total	\$2,205,133



## 1 Interim Care and Maintenance

ACTIVITY/MATERIAL	Notes	Units	Quantity	Cost Code	Unit Cost	Cost
INTERIM CARE & MAINTENANCE						
on-site caretaker		manmonths		#N/A	0	\$0
extra personnel		manmonths		#N/A	0	\$0
-electrician		manmonths		#N/A	0	\$0
-mechanic		manmonths		#N/A	0	\$0
annual fuel		litre		#N/A	0	\$0
misc. supplies		allow		#N/A	0	\$0
pick-up truck		each		#N/A	0	\$0
small dozer		allow		#N/A	0	\$0
small excavator		allow		#N/A	0	\$0
snow machine		allow		#N/A	0	\$0
communications		allow		#N/A	0	\$0
SNP/AEMP water sampling & reporting		each		#N/A	0	\$0
geotechnical assessment		each		#N/A	0	\$0
interim water treatment		each		#N/A	0	\$0
other		each		#N/A	0	\$0
Annual Interim C&M Cost						\$0
Number of years of ICM		years		Total		\$0



**1 Post-Closure Monitoring & Maintenance:**

ACTIVITY/MATERIAL	Notes	Units	Quantity	Cost	
				Code	Unit Cost
MONITORING & INSPECTIONS					
Annual geotechnical inspection		each	1	VIH	\$7,977.79
Surface water sampling		each	1	WSH	\$10,000.00
Ground water sampling		each	1	WSH	\$10,000.00
Receiving/downstream water sampling		each	1	WSH	\$10,000.00
Monitoring program	Assumed	ech	1	AE	\$100,000.00
Survey inspection		each		#N/A	\$0.00
Regulatory costs*		each		#N/A	\$0.00
Site water monitoring (AEMP and SNP)		each		#N/A	\$0.00
- Active closure and flooding		each		#N/A	\$0.00
- Post pit flooding		each		#N/A	\$0.00
Air Quality Monitoring Program (AQMP)		each		#N/A	\$0.00
Wildlife Effects Monitoring Program (WEMP)		each		#N/A	\$0.00
Vegetation Monitoring		each		#N/A	\$0.00
Other				#N/A	\$0.00
COVER MAINTENANCE					
Repair erosion - infill gullies		allow		#N/A	\$0.00
Repair erosion - upgrade diversion ditches		allow		#N/A	\$0.00
Remove problem vegetation		allow		#N/A	\$0.00
Repair animal damage		allow		#N/A	\$0.00
Repair/upgrade access controls		allow		#N/A	\$0.00
Other				#N/A	\$0.00
SPILLWAY MAINTENANCE					
Repair erosion		m3		#N/A	\$0.00
Clear spillway		each		#N/A	\$0.00
CWTS MAINTENANCE					
Maintain flow, restore vegetation		allow		#N/A	\$0.00
WATER TREATMENT					
Water treatment - refer to water treatment tab		each	1	WT tab	\$200,466.63
POST-CLOSURE WATER TREATMENT					
Subtotal, Annual post-closure costs					\$338,444
Discount rate for calculation of net present value of post-closure cost, %				3.00%	
Number of years of post-closure activity				11 years	
Present Value of payment stream					\$3,131,499

\*Regulatory costs - annual reporting, management plans, progress reports etc



1 Mobilization/Demobilization:

ACTIVITY/MATERIAL	Notes	Quantity	Cost Code	Unit Cost	Cost
MOBILIZE HEAVY EQUIPMENT					
Excavators		each	#N/A	0	\$0
Dump trucks		each	#N/A	0	\$0
Dozers		each	#N/A	0	\$0
Demolition shears	use of hot ram and cutting torches	each	#N/A	0	\$0
Crane		each	#N/A	0	\$0
Loader		each	#N/A	0	\$0
Compactor		each	#N/A	0	\$0
Light duty vehicles		each	#N/A	0	\$0
MOBILIZE MISC. EQUIPMENT					
Pump shipping		each	#N/A	0	\$0
Pipe shipping		m	#N/A	0	\$0
Motor tools and equipment		allow	#N/A	0	\$0
Truck fees		allow	#N/A	0	\$0
Other			#N/A	0	\$0
MOBILIZE CAMP					
Mannan Camp Accomodations		mandays	13748 ACCML	100	\$1,374,833
Reclamation activities		allow	#N/A	0	\$0
Long term reclamation activities (eg pump flooding)		allow	#N/A	0	\$0
MOBILIZE WORKERS					
Reclamation activities - travel time		manhours	21066 AE	80	\$1,685,267
Crew transportation (ticket and travel accomodation)		each	585 AE	3300	\$1,937,034
Reclamation activities - transport		each	#N/A	0	\$0
Long term reclamation activities (eg pump flooding) - travel time		manhours	2503 #N/A	80	\$200,229
Long term reclamation activities (eg pump flooding) - ticket and travel accomodation		each	70 AE	3300	\$229,429
Monitoring Activity		each	#N/A	0	\$0
WORKER ACCOMODATIONS					
Reclamation activities		manmonths	#N/A	0	\$0
Long term reclamation activities (eg pump flooding)		manmonths	#N/A	0	\$0
MOBILIZE FUEL					
Fuel freight - reclamation activities		litre	#N/A	0	\$0
Fuel freight - long term reclamation activities		litre	#N/A	0	\$0
Fuel freight accomodations		litre	#N/A	0	\$0
WINTER ROAD					
Construction and operation		km	#N/A	0	\$0
Limited service use		km	#N/A	0	\$0
Winter road tariff		km	#N/A	0	\$0
DEMObILIZE HEAVY EQUIPMENT					
Excavators		km	#N/A	0	\$0
Dump trucks		km	#N/A	0	\$0
Dozers		km	#N/A	0	\$0
Demolition shears		km	#N/A	0	\$0
Crane		km	#N/A	0	\$0
Loader		km	#N/A	0	\$0
Compactor		each	#N/A	0	\$0
Light duty vehicles		km	#N/A	0	\$0
Other		km	#N/A	0	\$0
DEMObILIZE CAMP					
		allow	#N/A	0	\$0
DEMObILIZE WORKERS					
crew travel time		mandays	#N/A	0	\$0
crew transportation		each	#N/A	0	\$0
WINTER ROAD					
Construction and operation		km	#N/A	0	\$0
Limited service use		km	#N/A	0	\$0
Winter road tariff		km	#N/A	0	\$0
Total					\$5,426,771

Note: Labour costs not included under mobilization - included elsewhere

Assumptions

Stage/description	2 shifts - day			3 weeks rotation			
	n (years)	# Staff permanent	hours/person	days/year	total hours	transportation/year	transportation
Active closure, back-flooding, treatment, monitoring	1	30	12	182.5	65700	261	261
Passive closure, back-flooding, treatment, monitoring	7	8	12	122	81760	46	324
Post-closure, treatment, monitoring	3	4	12	122	17520	23	70
Post-closure - assumed no monitoring will be necessary (walk away condition)	0						
Total	11						



## Unit Cost Table (for refining unit costs see "Estimator" worksheet)

Filter by unit

ITEM	Detail	COST CODE	UNITS	LOW \$	HIGH \$	SPECIFIED \$	COMMENTS
<b>Accommodation</b>							
		ACCM	manday	100.00	175.00		
<b>Buildings - Decontaminate</b>							
	Asbestos	BDA	m2	25.60	51.20		Low: removal of asbestos siding & flooring; High: removal of insulated pipes, friable asbestos
<b>Buildings - Remove</b>							
	Wood	BRW	m2	27.50	41.00		Unit costs are based on 3m high, single storey building. Scale areas accordingly.
	Concrete	BRC	m2	40.00	65.00	6.00	Specified: puncture concrete foundation slabs
	Steel - teardown	BRS1	m2	45.00	65.00		
	Steel - for salvage	BRS2	m2	67.00	100.00		
<b>Concrete work</b>							
	Small pour	CSF	m3	426.50	639.75		Low: YK; High=1.5xLow
	Large pour	CLF	m3	353.50	530.25	2,130.00	Specified: concrete crown pillar
<b>Contaminated Soils</b>							
	ESA Phase 1	CS1	each	7500.00			Low: small, "clean" site
	ESA Phase 1	CS2	each	50000.00			Low: small, "clean" site
	Remediate on site	CSR	m3	47.00	146.00		
<b>Dozing</b>							
	doze rock piles	DR	m3	1.05	2.40		Low cost: doze crest off dump
	doze overburden/soil piles	DS	m3	0.95	3.80		High cost: push up to 300 m
<b>Excavate Rock; Low Spec's and QA/QC</b>							
	drill/blast/load/short haul	RB1	m3	11.40	17.05		Low:quarry operations for bulk fill
	drill/blast/load/long haul	RB2	m3	12.05	17.80		
	RB1 + spread and compact	RB3	m3	12.05	17.80		
	RB2 + spread and compact	RB4	m3	12.50	30.75		
	Specified activity	RBS	m3				
<b>Excavate Rock; High Spec's and QA/QC</b>							
	drill/blast/load/short haul	RC1	m3	12.05	17.80		(e.g. ditch/spillway excavation)
	drill/blast/load/long haul	RC2	m3	12.70	18.40		Low:foundation excavation;High:spillway excavation
	RC1 + spread and compact	RC3	m3	12.70	18.40		e.g. cover construction
	RC2 + spread and compact	RC4	m3	13.50	19.20		e.g. cover construction
	Specified activity	RCS	m3			175.00	Specified-drift excavation
<b>Excavate Rip Rap</b>							
	drill/blast/load/short haul/place	RR1	m3	13.50	17.75		High: quarry & place rip rap in channel
	drill/blast/load/long haul/place	RR2	m3	14.20	20.65		
	source is waste dump/short haul	RR3	m3	7.00			cost includes sorting
	source is waste dump/long haul	RR4	m3	7.60			
	Specified activity	RRS	m3				
<b>Excavate Soil; Low Spec's and QA/QC</b>							
	clear & grub	SBC	m2	3.40	5.00		
	excavate/load/short haul	SB1	m3	4.30	5.90		
	excavate/load/long haul	SB2	m3	4.60	7.30		
	SB1 + spread and compact	SB3	m3	5.10	8.90		Low: non-engineered; High:engineered
	SB2 + spread and compact	SB4	m3	5.50	11.00		Low: non-engineered; High:engineered
	Specified activity	SBS	m3	3.20	6.30		Low: rehandle waste rock dump by dozing; High:rehandle waste rock by hauling
	Tailings	SBT	m3	1.35	3.70	15.50	High:contour surface - wet or frozen; Specified:haul/place wet infill
<b>Excavate Soil, High Spec's and QA/QC</b>							
	excavate/load/short haul	SC1	m3	6.80	9.30		
	excavate/load/long haul	SC2	m3	7.10	11.75		
	SC1 + spread and compact	SC3	m3	8.90	14.20		Low: non-engineered; High:engineered
	SC2 + spread and compact	SC4	m3	9.30	23.20		Low: non-engineered; High:engineered (e.g. complex covers, low volume dam construction)
	Specified activity	SCS	m3			18.80	Backfill adit with waste rock
<b>Fence</b>							
		FNC	m	13.55	203.00		
<b>Fuel and Electricity</b>							
	Fuel cost - gas	FCG	litre	1.05	1.40		
	Fuel cost - diesel	FCD	litre	0.99	1.39		
	Fuel mobilization	FCM	litre	0.22	0.42		High: winter road usage
	Electricity	FCE	kW-h	0.17	0.19	0.49	Low and High:Yellowknife; Specified:diesel generator
<b>Geo-Synthetics</b>							
	geotextile	GST	m2	3.44			Supply and install



**Unit Cost Table (for refining unit costs see "Estimator" worksheet)**

Filter by unit					
geogrid	GSG	m2	5.75		
liner, HDPE	GSHDPE	m2	7.95		Supply and install; large quantity
liner, ES3	GSES3	m2	20.20		FOB Yellowknife
geosynthetic installation	GSI	m2	3.16	14.00	Low: geotextile; High: ES3 or HDPE
bentonite soil amendment	GSCA	tonne	308.30	348.50	FOB Edmonton, add shipping & mixing
<b>Grouting (/m3 of rock grouted)</b>					
	grout	m3	236.55	286.75	High: cement, FOB Yellowknife
<b>Laboratory Chemicals</b>					
Remove from site	LCR	pallet	1966.36	2606.83	
<b>Labour &amp; Equipment Rates</b>					
Site manager	sman	\$/hr	125.00	152.00	
Supervisor	super	\$/hr	52.00	91.84	
Registered engineer	eng	\$/hr	95.00	220.00	
Environmental coordinator	envco	\$/hr	74.16	130.00	
Environmental technologist	envtech	\$/hr	36.00		
Electrician	elec	\$/hr	74.00	95.00	
Journeyman - various	journey	\$/hr	44.00	71.79	
Labour - skilled	lab-s	\$/hr	41.00	49.60	120.00 Specified - Skilled Manufacturer Mechanic
Labour - unskilled	lab-us	\$/hr	31.00	43.98	
Equipment operator	oper	\$/hr	41.00	65.00	
Heavy duty mechanic	mech	\$/hr	49.00	72.85	
Water treatment plant operator	oper-wt	\$/hr	41.00	59.86	
Security / first aid	safety	\$/hr	36.00	66.97	
Administrative staff	admin	\$/hr	38.00	57.89	
Equipment rates include operator and fuel					
Loader - 4 cu.yd (3.06m3)	load-s	\$/hr	175.00		
Loader - 7 cu.yd (5.35m3)	load-l	\$/hr	315.00		
Excavator - 26.76-30.84 tonnes	exc-s	\$/hr	190.00		
Excavator - 68.95+tonnes	exc-l	\$/hr	420.00		
Grader	grad	\$/hr	190.00		
Dump truck off hwy 30-50 tonnes	truck-s	\$/hr	225.00		
Dump truck off hwy 55-75 tonnes	truck-l	\$/hr	300.00		
dozer, small	dozers	\$/hr	205.00	260.00	
dozer, large	dozerl	\$/hr	490.00	565.00	
smooth drum compactor	comp	\$/hr	155.00		
scooptram, 6 yd3 bucket	scoop	\$/hr	170.00		
flat bed truck with hiab	hiab	\$/hr	155.00		
fuel truck	ftruck	\$/hr	150.00		
water truck	wtruck	\$/hr	58.00	150.00	
<b>Mobilize Heavy Equipment</b>					
Road access	MHER	kmtonne	3.40	10.25	
Air access	MHEA	kmtonne	12.00		cargo rate>500lb
<b>Mobilize Camp</b>					
Road access	MCR	each	50000.00		refurbish existing camp
<b>Mobilize Workers</b>					
flight	MW	each	4500.00	9100.00	Low: e.g. 8 passenger; High: Dash 7
<b>Oil Removal</b>					
oil removal	OR	litre	0.43	1.20	Low: waste oil heater; High: ship offsite
<b>PCB Removal</b>					
Remove from site	PCBR	litre	40.20	46.90	Low: shipping, handling & disposal from Yellowknife
<b>Pipes, small (&lt;6in dia.)</b>					
remove/dispose on site	PSR	m	1.00	24.00	Low: remove/dispose on site; High: remove/re-use
supply	PSS	m	6.10	11.10	Low: supply; High: supply and ship
install	PSI	m	25.00		
<b>Pipes, large (&gt;6in dia.)</b>					
remove/dispose on site	PLR	m	22.00	72.00	Low: remove/dispose on site; High: remove/re-use
supply	PLS	m	129.00	143.00	Low: supply; High: supply and ship
install	PLI	m	50.00		
<b>Power Lines</b>					
remove/dispose on site	POWR	m	25.50		
<b>Process Chemicals</b>					
Remove from site	PCR	kg	0.45	2.50	Low: shipping, handling & disposal from Yellowknife



**Unit Cost Table (for refining unit costs see "Estimator" worksheet)**

Filter by unit

**Pumps**

Pump capital cost	PC	each	195000.00		
Pump shipping	PS	each	2500.00		
Pump operating cost	POC	m3	0.12		
Pump maintenance	PM	allow	25000.00		

pump operating costs should be calculated based on pump capacity, fuel costs, etc.

**Pump sand BackFill**

PBF	m3	85.00	300.00		
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**Scarify - road/mine site**

SCFY	ha	4300	6030	2150	
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**Shaft, Raise & Portal Closures**

Shaft & Raises	SR	m2	645.00	2132.00	
Portals	POR	m3	18.80	250.00	1200.00

Low:pre-cast concrete slabs, little site prep. Area=shaft+&gt;1m all around

Low:unit cost code SCS;High:excavate &amp; backfill collapsed portal;Spec: installed pressure plug

**Signs**

Signs	S	each	12.36	37.08	
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**Site Inspection Report**

RPT	each	10000.00	20000.00		
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**SpillWay - Clear**

SW	each	3000.00	7000.00		
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**Survey/Instrumentation**

SI	each	1800.00	3600.00		
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2 person crew

**Treatment Plant - Construct**

Small (< 1000 m3/d)	TPS	lump sum	9000000	15000000	
Large (> 1000 m3/d)	TPL	lump sum	15000000	46000000	
Constructed Wetland	CWTS	ha	200000	300000	

**Treatment Plant - Operate**

TPO	m3	0.35	2.00		
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**Treatment Chemicals**

ferric sulphate	ferric	kg	1.19		
ferrous sulphate	ferrous	kg	1.32		
lime	lime	kg	0.56		
hydrogen peroxide, 35%	hperox	kg	1.50		
Sodium Metabisulfate	Nametab	kg	1.18		
Caustic soda, 50%	caustic	kg	0.74		
Sulfuric acid, 93%	sulfuric	kg	0.31		
flocculant	flocc	kg	6.00		
copper sulphate	copper	kg			
shipping	shipping	kg	0.20		

**Vegetation**

Hydroseed, Flat	VHF	ha	4000.00		
Hydroseed, Sloped	VHS	ha	4500.00		
Veg. blanket/erosion mat	VB	ha	13000.00		
Tree planting	VT	ha	2600.00	6000.00	
Wetland species	VW	ha			47.72

Specified= /m3, Wetland Growth Media Substrate mixed and installed (sand, biochar and fertilizer, woodchips)

**Visual Site Inspection**

Visual site inspection	VI	each	3955.18	7977.79	11000.00
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**Water Sampling/Analysis/Reporting**

WS	each	7000.00	10000.00		
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**Winter Road**

Construction	WRC	km	2000.00	11500.00	
Usage	WRU	kmtonne	0.29		



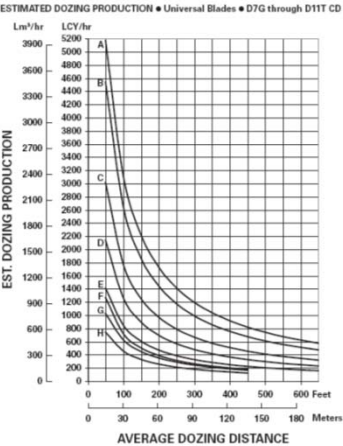
Unit Cost Estimator

1 Equipment Productivity Figures and Graphs have been reproduced from Caterpillar Performance Handbook - Edition 42

EXCAVATION		
Productivity		
Machine Cat 336EL		
bucket capacity	3.16 m3	
fill factor	75% %	
cycle time	45 seconds	
operator skill	80% %	
machine availability	83% %	
altitude adjustment	100% %	
Hourly productivity	125.89 m3/hr	
Operating Costs		
- Contractor		
Contractor hourly rate	\$180.00 \$/hr	
Excavation cost - contractor rate	1.43 \$/m3	
- Owner		
ownership, daily		\$/day
maintenance		\$/hr
fuel		\$/hr
consumables (cutters, tires)		\$/hr
operator		\$/hr
Owner hourly rate	\$0.00 \$/hr	
Excavation cost - owner rate	\$0.00 \$/m3	
Excavation cost - select contractor or owner rate (D22 or D31)		\$/m3

HAUL AND DUMPING		
Productivity		
Machine Cat 770		
truck capacity	25.1 m3	
fill factor	80% %	
load time	6.0 min.	
haul distance	1.5 km	
average velocity	20.0 km/hr	
haul time + return time	9.0 min.	
wait time	0.5 min.	
dump time	1.0 min.	
cycle time	16.5 min.	
machine availability	83% %	
altitude adjustment	100% %	
Hourly productivity	13.7 re. min/cycle	
Hourly productivity	88.0 m3/hr	
Operating Costs		
- Contractor		
Contractor hourly rate	\$225.00 \$/hr	
Haul and Dump - contractor rate	2.56 \$/m3	
- Owner		
ownership, daily		\$/day
maintenance		\$/hr
fuel		\$/hr
consumables (cutters, tires)		\$/hr
operator		\$/hr
Owner hourly rate	\$0.00 \$/hr	
Haul/Dumping Cost - owner rate	\$0.00 \$/m3	
Haul/Dumping Cost - select contractor or owner rate (I22 or I31)		\$/m3

SPREADING/DOZING		
Productivity		
Machine Cat D8		
Estimate production using example curves provided or equivalent from other supplier	600 m3/hr	
Correction factors (see table provided)		
operator skill	0.75	
material type, see table	0.80	
slot dozing	1.00	
side by side dozing	1.00	
visibility	1.00	
job efficiency	0.83	
altitude adjustment	1.00	
slope adjustment	1.00	
Hourly productivity	298.8 m3/hr	
Operating Costs		
- Contractor		
Hourly rate - contractor supplied	\$260.00 \$/hr	
Dozing - contractor rate	0.87 \$/m3	
- Owner		
ownership, daily		\$/day
maintenance		\$/hr
fuel		\$/hr
consumables (cutters, tires)		\$/hr
operator		\$/hr
Owner hourly rate	\$0.00	
Spreading/Dozing Cost - owner rate	\$0.00 \$/hr	
Spreading/Dozing Cost - select contractor or owner rate (N22 or N31)		\$/m3



Excavator			
heaped bucket capacity, m3	Cat 320 1.5	Cat 325B 2.2	Cat 375 5.4
Typical Cycle Times (seconds)			
easy digging, shallow digging, small swing angle	16	18	20
med. to hard digging, rocky soil, swing angle to 90 deg.	23	23	25
tough digging, sandstone, caliche, at max. machine depth, swing angle > 120 deg.	27	29	35
Material Fill Factor (% of heaped bucket capacity)			
Moist loam or sandy clay	100 - 110		
sand and gravel (not till)	95 - 110		
hard tough clay	80 - 90		
rock - will blasted	60 - 75		
rock - poorly blasted	40 - 60		
Operator Skill	poor	average	good
Correction factor	0.6	0.75	1
Machine availability	poor	average	good
Correction factor	0.9	0.95	1

Trucking			
Truck capacity - heaped, m3	Cat 771 D 27.5	Cat 777D 60.5	Cat 789C 137

Dozing	
JOB CONDITION CORRECTION FACTORS	
	TRACK-TYPE TRACTOR
OPERATOR —	
Excellent	1.00
Average	0.75
Poor	0.60
MATERIAL —	
Loose stockpile	1.20
Hard to cut; frozen —	
with tilt cylinder	0.80
without tilt cylinder	0.70
Hard to drift; "dead" (dry, non-cohesive material) or very sticky material	0.80
Rock, ripped or blasted	0.60-0.80
SLOT DOZING	1.20
SIDE BY SIDE DOZING	1.15-1.25
VISIBILITY —	
Dust, rain, snow, fog or darkness	0.80
JOB EFFICIENCY —	
50 min/hr	0.83
40 min/hr	0.67
BULLDOZER*	
Adjust based on SAE capacity relative to the base blade used in the Estimated Dozing Production graphs.	
GRADES — See following graph.	
*NOTE: Angling blades and cushion blades are not considered production dozing tools. Depending on job conditions, the A-blade and C-blade will average 50-75% of straight blade production.	

