



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

Pêches et Océans
Canada

Arctic Regions
Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program
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Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
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Régions de l'Arctique
Programme de protection du poisson et de son habitat
301 – 5204 50th Ave. (Wuilhideh)
Yellowknife, Territoires du Nord-Ouest
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July 7, 2026

Your file *Votre référence*
2AM-MEA1530, 2AM-WTP1830

Our file *Notre référence*
16-HCAA-00370, 20-HCAA-00275

Nunavut Water Board
Attn: Richard Dwyer
Manager of Licensing
PO Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU
X0B 1J0

Via email to: richard.dwyer@nwb-oen.ca

Subject: 2AM-MEA1530 & 2AM-WTP1830– Agnico Eagle – Meadowbank Gold Mine and Whale Tail Pit Projects (Meadowbank Complex) – 2025 Annual Monitoring Report

Dear Richard Dwyer,

The Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program (FFHPP) of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) received your request for comments on April 7, 2026. DFO has reviewed the above 2025 Annual Monitoring Report in accordance with its mandate, i.e. the management, protection and conservation of fish and their habitats. The Nunavut Water Board (NWB) invited parties to submit comments.

Specifically, DFO has reviewed the following:

- 2025 Annual Report
- Appendix 1 – Meadowbank Update on Implementation of Commitments
- Appendix 2 – Whale Tail Update on Implementation of Commitments
- Appendix 3 – NIRB and NWB 2024 Annual Report Commitments
- Appendix 7 - Meadowbank and Whale Tail 2025 Geotechnical Inspection Report
- Appendix 10 - Meadowbank and Whale Tail 2025 Annual Geotechnical Recommendation Implementation Plan
- Appendix 11 - Meadowbank 2024 Geomechanical Inspection Implementation Plan
- Appendix 12 - Whale Tail 2024 Geomechanical Inspection Implementation Plan
- Appendix 13 - Meadowbank Water Management Plan Version 15
- Appendix 14 - Whale Tail Water Management Plan Version 15
- Appendix 25 - Meadowbank OPEP and OPPP Version 19

Unclassified - Non-Classifié

- Appendix 26 - Meadowbank and Whale Tail 2025 CREMP Report
- Appendix 28 – Meadowbank and Whale Tail 2025 Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan
- Appendix 29 – Whale Tail 2025 Report on the Implementation of Measures to Avoid and Mitigate Serious Harm
- Appendix 30 – Meadowbank and Whale Tail 2025 Marine Mammal and Seabird Report
- Appendix 31 – Meadowbank and Whale Tail 2025 Blast Monitoring Report
- Appendix 34 – Whale Tail 2025 Fish Habitat Offsets Monitoring Report
- Appendix 35 – Meadowbank 2025 Habitat Compensation Monitoring Report
- Appendix 37 - Whale Tail 2024 Fish Habitat Offsets Monitoring Report
- Appendix 36 – Meadowbank and Whale Tail 2025 Wildlife Monitoring Summary Report

DFO provides the following comments for the NWB's consideration.

DFO is generally agreeable with Agnico Eagle Mine's reporting and has the following comments or concerns to provide at this time.

Comment Number:	DFO-1
Subject/Topic:	Update Erosion and Sediment Control
References:	Erosion Management Plan (December 2018), Freshet Action Plan,
Comment:	DFO has recently released an interim standard for Planning for land-based erosion and sediment control . It is intended for use in implementing a plan for the management of sediment laden water when conducting works, undertakings and activities (projects) on land, near water. By following this standard, project proponents can reduce the risk of harmful impacts to fish and fish habitat
Conclusion/Request:	DFO recommends that the Proponent review the new DFO interim standard and consider incorporating the recommendations within the standard into an updated Erosion Management Plan and Freshet Action Plan. The interim standard should be used for all future works where erosion and sedimentation near water is a concern.

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If you have any questions with the content of this letter, please contact Holly Simpson by email at Holly.Simpson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca. Please refer to the file number referenced above when corresponding with the Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Harris', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dana Harris
A/Senior Biologist
Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

CC:
Holly Simpson, Fisheries and Oceans Canada