

WHALE TAIL PROJECT

Monitoring Program Summary Report

December 2020

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SECTION 1 • BACKGROUND

On May 13, 2020, Agnico received the minister's approval for the Water License 2AM-WTP1830 Amendment No.1. This amendment was required to authorize changes to the previously-approved uses of water and deposit of wastes needed to reflect the expansion of the Whale Tail Pit Project.

As required under Part I, Item 22 of Type A Water License 2AM-WTP1830, this report documents the water management and monitoring activities at the mine site for the month. This includes water usage, water and seepage monitoring around site, sewage treatment plant discharge, Whale Tail Attenuation Pond discharge and dewatering discharges.

In addition, a summary of spills/actions for the month is reported.

SECTION 2 • WATER MANAGEMENT

2.1 WATER USAGE

Fresh water usage for December is summarized in Table 2.1 below

Table 2.1: December 2020 – Freshwater Usage (m³)

Water Location	Source Lake	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June
Camp	Nemo	2,062	2,184	2,317	1,485	1,845	2,013
Construction/Operation	Nemo	1,518	1,840	1,284	879	1,967	1,039
Dust Suppression	Nemo / WTHR Pond	0	0	0	0	0	0
Explosive	Mammoth Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drilling	Proximal Sources	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Freshwater Usage (m³)		3,579	4,024	3,601	2,364	3,812	3,052

Water Location	Source Lake	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Camp	Nemo	2,187	2,424	2,620	2,709	2,745	2,826	24,590
Construction/Operation	Nemo	498	1,533	1,935	1,261	1,031	1,050	14,786
Dust Suppression	Nemo / WTHR Pond	1,500	0	0	0	0	0	1,500
Explosive	Mammoth Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drilling	Proximal Sources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Freshwater Usage (m³)	4,184	3,958	4,555	3,970	3,777	3,875	40,876	

2.2 LAKE WATER MONITORING

Lakes around the Whale Tail Project were not monitored during the month of December due to the lakes being frozen. Lakes are only monitored during open water conditions as per the Water Licence.

2.3 WHALE TAIL SOUTH CHANNEL

The Whale Tail South Channel was frozen in December, no sampling at station ST-WT-13 was conducted during the month. Sampling is to be conducted during open water conditions as per the Water License.

2.4 WHALE TAIL DIKE SEEPAGE MONITORING

Seepage at the toe of Whale Tail dike was still observed during the month. Agnico continues to manage seepage water from WTD as part of the Whale Tail Attenuation Pond.

Seepage water quality is monitored as per requirements of the Water License. The sampling station is ST-WT-17 and is sampled minimally on a monthly basis for Group 1 parameters.

2.5 SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

Effluent from the sewage treatment plant is discharged to the Whale Tail Attenuation Pond. As per Water License Schedule I Sampling Station ST-WT-11, effluent is to be sampled four times per calendar year. Agnico is currently sampling the STP monthly and thus a sample was taken in December. A total of 2,873 m³ was discharged during the month.

2.6 WHALE TAIL ATTENUATION POND

Water from the Whale Tail Attenuation Pond was discharged to Whale Tail South using the Whale Tail South permanent diffuser. Discharge via the Whale Tail South permanent diffuser occurred on December 1 to 2, 5 to 14, and 27 to 31. The total discharge volume for December was 129,620 m³.

As per Water License Part F Item 5, the effluent from this discharge shall not exceed the limits detailed in Table 2.6.1 below.

One Water License / MDMER non-compliance were reported during the month.

 A weekly Water License/MDMER sample was missed during the week of December 13 to 19 due to the discharge being stopped and not restarted until December 27.

There were no exceedances of Water License or MDMER limits during the month.

Table 2.6.1: Whale Tail Attenuation Pond Discharge to Whale Tail South Permanent Diffuser (ST-WT-24b)

Parameter C

	Maximum	Maximum						
Parameter	Authorized Concentration Grab Sample	Authorized Monthly Mean Concentration	Unit	12/1/2020	2/1/2020 12/7/2020 12/27/2020		Monthly Average	
Field Measured								
pН	6.0 - 9.5	6.0 - 9.5	pH units	6.83	7.2	6.71	6.96	
Conventional Parameters								
Total suspended solids	30	15	mg/L	<1	3	2	2	
Nutrients								
Total phosphorus	0.6	0.3	mg/L	<0.01	0.01	0.03	0.02	
Total ammonia (NH3-N)	32	16	mg/L	0.3	1.08	0.41	0.60	
General Organics								
Total Petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH)	6	3	mg/L	<0.1	0.2	1.78	0.68	
Total Metals								
Aluminum	1	0.5	mg/L	0.023	<0.005	0.023	0.023	
Arsenic	0.2	0.1	mg/L	0.0014	0.0026	0.002	0.0020	
Cadmium	0.004	0.002	mg/L	<0.00002	<0.00002	<0.00002	0.00001	
Chromium	0.04	0.02	mg/L	<0.0006	<0.0006	<0.0006	0.0003	
Copper	0.2	0.1	mg/L	<0.0005	0.0046	0.0006	0.0018	
Iron	2	1	mg/L	0.51	0.07	0.14	0.24	
Lead	0.1	0.05	mg/L	<0.00017	<0.00017	<0.00017	0.000085	
Mercury	0.008	0.004	mg/L	<0.00001	<0.00001	<0.00001	0.000005	
Nickel	0.5	0.25	mg/L	0.0032	0.0034	0.005	0.004	
Zinc	0.2	0.1	mg/L	0.01	<0.001	0.002	0.004	

SECTION 3 • SPILL MANAGEMENT

Figure 3.1 shows reported and non-reported spills for 2020 broken down per month and Table 3.1 summarizes Agnico Eagle spill reports for December.

Nine (9) spills were reported internally and zero (0) reportable spills occurred in December. Spills were contained and cleaned, contaminated material was disposed to the appropriate area, and the clean-up actions were monitored closely by the Environment Department. There was no off-site impact to any watercourses.

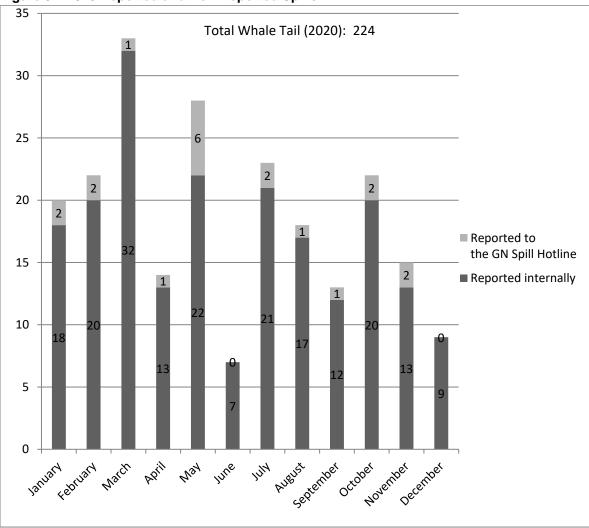


Figure 3.1 2020 Reported and Non-Reported Spills

Table 3.1: Summary of Agnico Eagle Internal and Reported Spill Reports, December 2020

Date of Spill	Hazardous Material	Qty	Units (L / Kg)	Location	Cause of spill	Clean-up action taken
December 5, 2020	Coolant	20	L	Explo Camp Road	Coolant hose clamp failure	Spill pads were used to contain the spill. The contaminated soil and spill pads were adequately disposed of.
December 5, 2020	Transmission oil	40	L	Underground	Hose failure	The spill was contained using spill pads and the contaminated material was disposed of in a quatrex bag.
December 7, 2020	Hydraulic oil	25	L	WRSF	Hydraulic hose failure	Contaminated material was adequately disposed of.
December 14, 2020	Hydraulic oil	3	L	SANA Garage	Hydraulic hose failure	Spill pads were used to contain the spill. Contaminated material was removed and adequately disposed of.
December 15, 2020	Coolant	35	L	Whale Tail Pit View Point	Coolant hose failure	Contaminated material was disposed of in the yellow bin.
December 15, 2020	Diesel Fuel	45	L	IVR Waste Dump	Fuel line filter failure	Contaminated material was disposed of in the yellow bin.
December 17, 2020	Coolant	60	L	Winter Parking	Broken radiator	Contaminated material was disposed of in the yellow bin.
December 18, 2020	Engine Oil	30	L	Whale Tail Pit	Breather on drill engine froze causing engine oil leak	Contaminated material was adequately disposed of.
December 21, 2020	Hydraulic oil	40	L	Washroom Parking	Equipment failure	Spill pads were used to contain the spill. Contaminated material was adequately disposed of.