

**License Number:** 03 056 11N-A

**Principal Investigator:** Witteman, John

**Affiliation:** Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited, Toronto ON; jwitteman@agnico-eagle.com

**Number in Party:** 4 to 12

**Research Area:** Kivalliq Region

**Locations:** Whale Cove to Chesterfield Inlet with an emphasis on the Meliadine Lake area, 25 km north of Rankin Inlet.

**Summary:**

Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited (AEM) is proposing to construct, operate and reclaim a gold mine located 25 km north of Rankin Inlet and 80 km southwest of Chesterfield Inlet in the Kivalliq region of Nunavut. Baseline environmental data is being collected in support of an Environmental Impact Statement for the Meliadine Project. The goal is to collect sufficient data to characterize the “before development” areas that could be impacted by the gold mine.

Sampling to date has been centered at Meliadine Lake where the proposed mine is to be located. Environmental data is also being collected along access road routes from Rankin Inlet, mine infrastructure to be located within the hamlet, and in the immediate marine environment of Rankin Inlet.

To date, environmental baseline data was collected on the following environmental components:

- climate, air quality and noise baseline conditions;
- marine and freshwater water and sediment quality;
- marine and freshwater aquatic biology;
- freshwater fish and their habitat;
- water quantity;
- terrestrial vegetation and soils;
- marine and terrestrial wildlife, and
- geotechnical information on permafrost and land forms.