



Department of Energy, Mines & Resources
PO Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6



May 21, 2026

File No: LQ00591

Aben Minerals Ltd.
Suite 1610-777 Dunsmuir St
Vancouver, BC V7Y 1K4

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval

Your application for a Class 3 approval has been approved and is subject to the attached conditions. The effective date of this approval will be May 21, 2026. All work, including restoration, must be completed by May 20, 2031, and inspected before full security and/or completion certificates can be applied for.

The attached 'Operational Guidelines' offer additional mitigations that would enable you to maximize the environmental performance of your program but are not approval conditions.

Please ensure that pre-season and post-season reports are provided before and after each exploration season. Pre- and post-season reports assist the Mineral Resources Branch in monitoring exploration activity and reclamation. Not providing reports may result in additional security being required.

Please feel free to contact our office at 867-536-7366 should you have any questions.

Regards,

Janet Bell-MacDonald
Manager, Mining Land Use

cc: EMR Natural Resources Officer, Compliance Monitoring and Inspections
ENV Environmental Affairs, Environmental Protection Branch



MINING LANDS
MINERAL RESOURCES BRANCH
GOVERNMENT OF YUKON

Pursuant to the *Quartz Mining Act* and *Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation*, the Manager, Mining Land Use hereby grants a Class 3 approval to:

Aben Mineral Ltd.
Suite 1610-777 Dunsmuir St
Vancouver, BC V7Y 1K4

APPROVAL NUMBER: LQ00591
PROPERTY NAME: Justin Gold
UNDERTAKING: Quartz
CLASS: Class 3 Approval
EFFECTIVE DATE: May 21, 2026
EXPIRY DATE: May 20, 2031

This approval shall be subject to the restrictions and conditions contained herein and to the restrictions and conditions contained in the *Quartz Mining Act* and the *Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation* made there under as proposed in Mining Land Use Application.

Dated this May 21, 2026

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janet Bell-MacDonald".

Janet Bell-MacDonald
Manager, Mining Land Use

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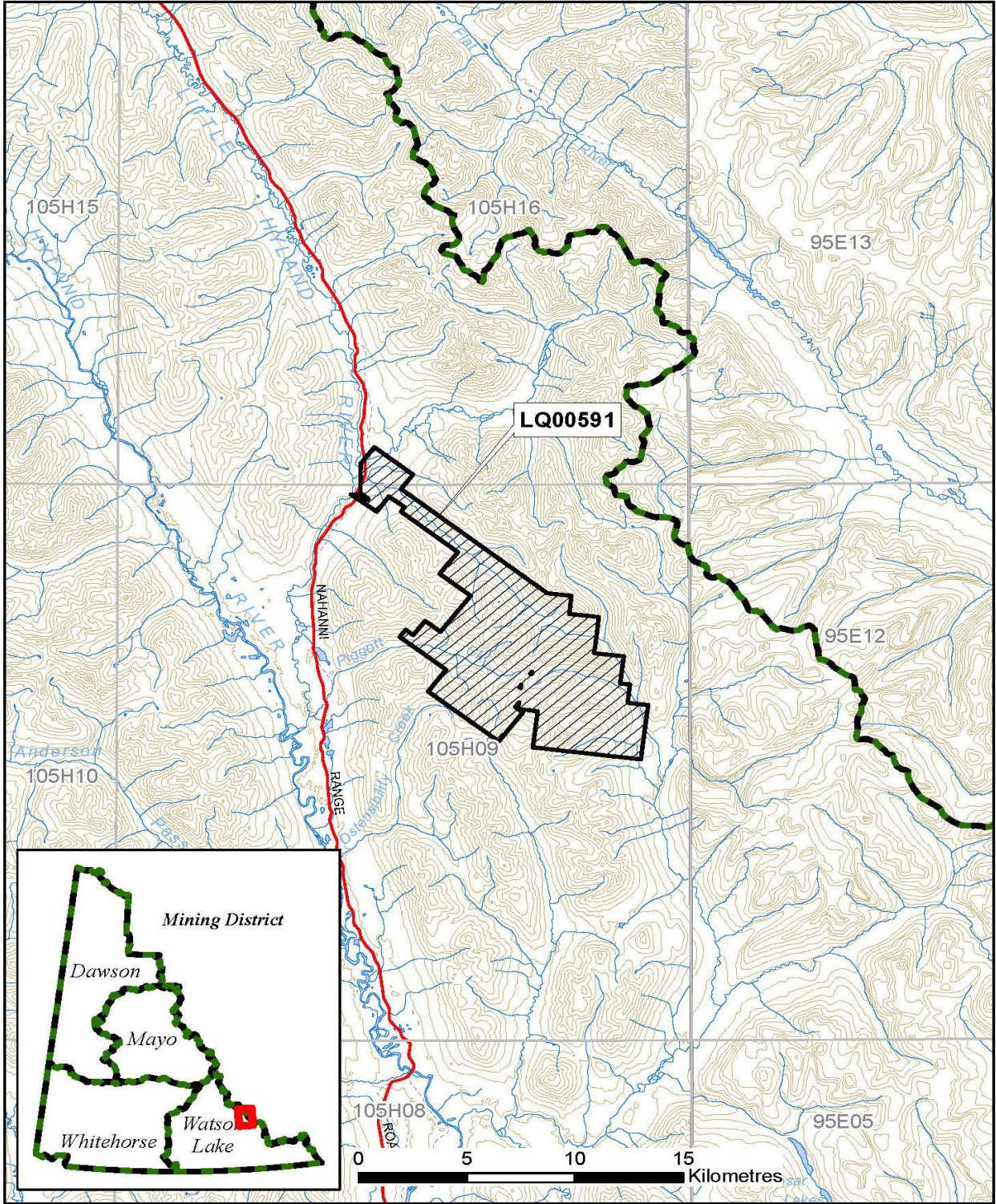
SCOPE OF APPROVAL:				
Claim Status Report (Appendix A)		LQ00591		
Operating Season	May 1 – October 31	375 Claims		
PROJECT ACTIVITIES (ON-CLAIM):				
USE OF VEHICLES/EQUIPMENT				
Use of vehicles on existing roads or trails				<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
Gross vehicle weight		On-roads: less than 40 t, or within the design tolerances of the road	On-trails: Less than 20 t, or within the design tolerances of the trail	
Off-road use of vehicles in summer				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Off-road use of vehicles in winter				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
NEW & EXISTING ACCESS				
Upgrading of existing access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Length: 0 km	Width: 0 m	
Existing Access Road (2012)	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	Length: 0.170 km	Width: 5 m	
New roads	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Length: 0 km	Width: 0 m	
New trails	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Length: 0 km	Width: 0 m	
New temporary trails	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	Length: 5 km	Width: 3 m	
Other new access: Helicopter pads (5/year) (16m ² each)				
LINES & CORRIDORS				
Lines	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	Length: 10 km	Width: 1.5 m	
Corridors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Length: 0 km	Width: 0 m	
SITE PREPARATION				
Existing 2012 Camp (Claim YF33118): 123m x 60m		Total Area = 7380 m ²		
Number of clearings per claim: 10		Total number of clearings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 drill pads @ 60 m² each • 25 heli pads @ 16 m² each 		
Total area of Clearings: 3,400 m ²		Vegetative mat removed: 500 m ² Vegetative mat intact: 2,900 m ²		
EXPLORATION TRENCHING & BULK SAMPLING				
Hand-dug				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Mechanized				<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
Number: 25	Length: 30 m	Width: 1.5 m	Depth: 2 m	Total volume: 2,250 m ³
Bulk sampling			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Amount/year: 0 tonnes
Explosives		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Total amount: 0 kg	Max. in 30 days: 0 kg

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SCOPE OF APPROVAL:		
Claim Status Report (Appendix A)		LQ00591
Operating Season	May 1 – October 31	375 Claims
EXPLORATION DRILLING		
TYPE		
Rotary Air Blast		Yes
Diamond		Yes
FUEL STORAGE		
FUEL TYPE	STORAGE TYPE & CAPACITY	TOTAL VOLUME
Jet B	Metal drums – 205 L	10,000 L
Propane	Steel Cylinders – 100 lb.	600 lbs.
Gas	Metal drums – 205 L double-walled tank	5,000 L
Diesel	Metal drums – 205 L double -walled tank	10,000 L
FACILITIES & STRUCTURES		
Camp structures: Use existing Infrastructure listed below; 1 new pit privy		
Number of persons in camp at any one time: 20	Number of person days: 3,680	
Construction of underground structures		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE		
Trenches: 3 (TR18-003 to TR18-005)	Total Area: 23m ²	
Existing Camp Clearing (YF33118)	Total Area: 7,200m ²	
Existing Camp Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 – 20' seacan • 4 frame Structures (dry, office, kitchen, storage) • 8 tent frame structures, wooden • 1 core shack • 5 wooden boxes along the road • 1 pit privy 	

All other applicable legislation, regulations, laws, by-laws and ordinances must be complied with. Additional authorizations or approvals may be required. Any doubt as to whether an additional authorization or approval is required should be verified by a duly authorized official at the appropriate government body or bodies.

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DEFINITIONS

“**Act**” means the *Quartz Mining Act*, S.Y. 2003, c.14;

“**Access road**” means a road that provides access to a public highway or to a private road;

“**Clearing**” means an area that is cleared of trees, brush or vegetative mat for the purpose of establishing a campsite or carrying out mining exploration, but does not include an area cleared for the purpose of establishing a corridor or trail;

“**Corridor**” means a path from which trees and brush have been cut to accommodate a water line, fuel line or power line;

“**Effective date**” means the date this Approval comes into force as evidence by the date of the signature of the Manager, Mining Land Use;

“**Exploration program**” means any activity or group of activities undertaken for the sole or principal purpose of assessing land for its suitability for the production of minerals;

“**Foundation**” means the part of a structure that penetrates the ground and supports the structure;

“**Inspector**” means an inspector designated pursuant to the Act;

“**Line**” means a line cut for the purpose of carrying out a geophysical, geological, or engineering survey;

“**Low ground pressure vehicle**” means a vehicle that applies 35 kPa of pressure or less to the ground surface;

“**Manager, Mining Land Use**” means the Chief, Mining Land Use, designated pursuant to the Act;

“**Operator**” means a person who is engaging in an exploration program, or in development or production;

“**Person-day**” in respect of the use of a campsite, means the use of the campsite by one person during a period of 24 hours;

“**Road**” means a pathway for vehicular traffic the construction of which requires the movement of rock or earth;

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“Site” means the area bounded by the sum of the mineral claims described above under ‘Scope of Approval’;

“Summer” means the period of a year that is not winter;

“Trail” means an access to a site within a claim or lease that is constructed with little or no movement of rock or earth; and

“Trenching” means excavation carried out on a mineral claim for the purpose of obtaining geological information;

“Upgrading”, in relation to a road, means re-establishing a road that has not been useable for more than five years by vehicles of a type the road was originally designed to serve, modifying a road to provide usability for vehicles that are of a different type than those for which the road was originally designed to serve and any other upgrading or modifying of a road, other than for maintenance or erosion control;

“Vegetative mat” means the organic surface of soil, characterized by the accumulation of organic matter, or partly decomposed organic matter, derived mainly from leaves, twigs, and woody materials, and includes the root mass of living vegetation;

“Winter” means the period of the year during which (a) the ground is frozen sufficiently to support a vehicle, other than a low ground pressure vehicle, without rutting or gouging of the surface; and (b) there is a sufficient amount of snow on the ground to produce a packed base of 10 cm.

PART ONE – GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Duration of Approval

- 1.0 This approval is valid upon signature of the Manager, Mining Land Use until the expiry date. In the event that claims lapse, or that agreements to operate on claims are dissolved, the approval becomes null and void for that portion of the operating plan, where there is no right to the minerals.

Compliance with Operating Conditions

- 1.1 All mineral exploration activities must comply with the Operating Conditions contained in Schedule 1 of the *Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation* and within the approval. Where there is a difference between the operating conditions and approval, the terms of this approval shall prevail. These Operating Conditions are enforceable.

Reporting Requirements

Contact Information

- 1.2 Submissions and reports to the Manager, Mining Land Use should be made to both the following addresses:

Manager, Mining Land Use
Box 2703, K-9
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 2C6

Mining Lands Officer
Box 269
Watson Lake, YT Y0A 1C0
watson.mining@yukon.ca

- 1.3 The contact for the operator will be:

Aben Minerals Ltd
Suite 1610-777 Dunsmuir St
Vancouver, BC V7Y 1K4
rtrimble@abenminerals.com

Pre-season and Post-season Reporting

- 1.4 A pre-season report shall be submitted no later than March 31st outlining the exploration activities planned for the season including the proposed locations.
- 1.5 A post-season report shall be submitted no later than December 31st indicating exploration activities completed during that season. This report shall include but is not limited to:
- detailed mapping of all areas worked;
 - location of new construction;
 - shp files of new areas of disturbance;
 - map data, in the form of Shp files or GIS compatible, of all new roads and trails;
 - map data, in the form of Shp files or GIS compatible, of all reclaimed roads and trails;
 - areas of permafrost encountered;
 - total disturbed area;
 - pre-activity survey results, if applicable;
 - reclamation activities (including photos); and
 - documentation produced by environmental monitors.

Spatial data (in the form of shapefiles or other GIS compatible file) shall be attributed with the type of feature (e.g. road, trail, drill pad etc.), their width (in metres, for linear features only), ground surface type, date of capture, and method of capture used to delineate new disturbance (e.g. digitized from satellite/aerial imagery, GPS point collection etc.). Spatial data shall be provided in NAD83 or Yukon Albers projection.

- 1.6 All pre and post season reports shall be shared with Ross River Dena Council, Kwadacha Nation, Acho Dene Koe First Nation, Dease River First Nation and Liard First Nation.
- 1.7 The operator shall contact the Tintina Mining Inspections Office (Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections) at (867) 536-7335 at least 14 days prior to commencing the field season.
- 1.8 The operator shall contact the Tintina Mining Inspections Office (Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections) at (867) 536-7335 at least 14 days prior to leaving the site at the end of the operation.

Spill Reporting

- 1.9 All spills must be reported immediately to the 24-Hour Yukon Spill Reporting Line (867) 667-7244 and to the Tintina Mining Inspections Office (Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections) at (867) 536-7335. The operator shall share all spill reports with Liard First Nation at consultation@liardfirstnation.ca.

1.10 An operator who takes an emergency remedial measure shall, as soon as possible but not later than 10 days after taking it, send a written report to the Manager, Mining Land Use describing the duration, nature and extent of the emergency and the measures taken to respond to it. The operator shall share this report with Liard First Nation at consultation@liardfirstnation.ca.

Heritage Reporting

1.11 All paleontological resources uncovered during operations shall be reported to the Yukon Paleontology Program, Government of Yukon in Whitehorse at (867) 667-8089 or (867) 667-5386 and the Manager, Mining Land Use.

1.12 All archaeological resources uncovered during operations shall be reported to the Yukon Archaeology Program, Government of Yukon in Whitehorse at (867) 667-3771 or (867) 667-5386 and the Manager, Mining Land Use. The operator shall also report all archaeological discoveries to affected First Nations.

1.13 The report(s) developed for Section(s) 2.22 shall be submitted to Government of Yukon, Heritage Resources Unit, Cultural Services Branch. The operator shall share all Heritage Resources reports with affected First Nations.

Wildlife Reporting

1.14 All incidents with wildlife shall be reported to the District Conservation Officer in Watson Lake (Liard Region) at (867) 536-3210.

PART TWO – PROJECT SPECIFIC OPERATING CONDITIONS

Schedule 1 Operating Conditions (Appendix B)

The operator is bound by the Schedule 1 Operating Conditions per the *Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation*. In addition to the Schedule 1 Operating Conditions, the operator must also comply with the following terms and conditions:

Erosion Control and Permafrost

2.1 The operator shall insulate the ground surface beneath all temporary structures and temporary facilities used in the project where permafrost is present to: prevent any vegetation from being removed; and prevent the ground from settling or eroding.

Trenching

2.2 Open trenches shall be sloped at one end to avoid entrapment of wildlife.

2.3 The operator must ensure that all employees and contractors working at the trench sites are aware of the operating conditions for trenching.

Solid Waste

- 2.4 The operator shall keep all garbage, including kitchen waste, in a container that prevents access by bears and other wildlife, until properly disposed of in accordance with the *Solid Waste Regulations*.
- 2.5 When burning kitchen waste on site, it must be burned regularly to reduce odors that might attract wildlife and be burned to ashes by forced air or fuel fired incineration.

Petroleum Fuel and Hazardous Substances

- 2.6 The operator shall, with an indelible marker or paint, clearly identify the owner, the contents and the date on fuel drums to establish and manage ownership and responsibility.
- 2.7 All fuel cache(s) must be protected with a rubber or rubber-lined berm and flagged to prevent spills resulting from accidental contact with heavy equipment. Flags should be visible above the snowpack.
- 2.8 The location of any spills shall be clearly marked until cleanup has taken place. Location markings shall not be removed until directed in writing by an Inspector.

Drilling

- 2.9 The operator must ensure that all employees and contractors working at the drill sites are aware of the operating conditions for drilling.
- 2.10 The operator shall store drill core in a manner that will ensure it remains stable and protected from the elements over time (long-term), unless proven to not contain sulfidic minerals.

Wildlife

- 2.11 The operator shall suspend exploration activities if ungulates are observed from the active work area until they move off on their own accord.
- 2.12 The operator shall take all reasonable precautions to minimize disturbance to caribou-specific habitat (lichen) within the project area. Where disturbance is unavoidable, the lichen mat shall be separately stored and replaced as soon as the exploration activities are complete. The operator shall provide the location and photo of the reclaimed area, as well as conduct annual monitoring for the effectiveness of the lichen mat replacement and re-establishment. Monitoring efforts shall determine if the lichen is dying off or if re-establishment and growth are occurring. All this information shall be provided to the Manager, Mining Land Use, annually in the post-season report.
- 2.13 Exploration, including helicopter use, will not take place before June 15 of each year.

2.14 During sensitive times of the year (May 1 - July 15 and September 15 - October 15) for caribou and other ungulates, the operator shall maintain over-flight altitudes at least 600 m (2,000 ft) above ground level, when safe to do so.

2.15 The operator shall apply the principals and recommendations found in “Flying in Caribou Country”; (<https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/env/env-flying-caribou-country.pdf>) and “Flying in Sheep Country” (<https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/env/env-flying-sheep-country.pdf>) when safe to do so, these documents shall be reviewed with pilots and staff.

2.16 The operator shall submit for review and approval a Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (WMMP), within 90 days of the issuance of an Approval, to the Manager, Mining Land Use. The Manager, Mining Land Use, will consult with affected First Nations prior to the Plans approval. The operator shall engage with affected First Nations, the Liard Regional Biologist, registered trapping concession holders, and local outfitters to identify potential concerns. These concerns shall be addressed in the Plan. The WMMP shall include but not be limited to

- A list of all project activities and how they affect wildlife,
- 2) Mitigations to be implemented to reduce impacts to wildlife from the identified activities,
- 3) Procedure to be implemented for monitoring wildlife (caribou, sheep, goats, bears, etc.) and determining success of mitigations,
- 4) A list of pre-determined triggers that would signal adaptive measures are needed,
- 5) A list of Adaptive measures to be implemented when a trigger is reached and how the adaptive measure is expected to work and how long it would be in place for.
- 6) Procedure to be implemented for monitoring adaptive measures to determine success.

All reports generated as a result of this WMMP shall be provided to the Manger, Mining Land Use and affected First Nations via Post Season Reports. The approved Plan shall be incorporated as a condition of this Approval.

2.17 The operator shall contact the Wildlife Key Area program (wka@yukon.ca) to identify the location of mineral licks in the project area. If a mineral lick is identified within the project area or if the operator identifies a mineral lick, the operator shall maintain a 500 m buffer zone around the mineral lick in which no high impact ground disturbing activities (e.g. drilling, trenching, heavy equipment use, etc.) exploration work shall occur. The operator may conduct low impact exploration activities (e.g. soil sampling, geophysical surveys, geological mapping, and prospecting) and use existing access within the 500 m buffer. If the operator identifies a mineral lick while carrying out project activities, the operator shall report the location of the mineral lick to the Wildlife Key Area program.

- 2.18 The operator shall remove any flagging tape used to carry out project activities once the activities are completed unless bio-degradable tape is utilized.
- 2.19 The operator shall, when safe to do so, avoid flying over raptor nesting sites and avoid approaching cliff nests from behind.
- 2.20 The operator shall maintain a 50 m no-disturbance buffer around known and observed raptor nests from April 1 to September 30. If two or more nests are within 100 m of each other, they shall be considered as one nest site and a 50 m buffer applied around the whole area. The operator shall make best efforts to avoid islanding raptor nests, maintaining connectivity to the forest from nest sites. The operator shall contact the Wildlife Key Area (WKA) program (wka@yukon.ca) for information on known raptor nests within the project area, and shall report any observed nests to the WKA program.

Invasive Species

- 2.21 The operator shall familiarize themselves with the types and management of invasive species in Yukon. The Yukon Invasive Species Council (YISC) document "Why should I Care About Invasive Species?" will provide guidance, found at the following site: <https://www.yukoninvasives.com/~documents/resources/brochures/why-should-i-care-about-invasive-species/?layout=default>. Equipment (i.e. heavy equipment, hand-held tools, drills) shall be cleaned of foreign soil and plant material prior to moving it onto the project property and to a new site within the property. Cleaning shall pay particular attention to high seed and soil catchment areas such as tracks and wheel wells.

Communication

- 2.22 At least thirty (30) days prior to each field season, the operator shall communicate plans and timing of activities, including details of progressive reclamation planned for each season, to the affected First Nations, the Regional Biologist and other land users (e.g. Trapping Concession holders, tour guides etc.). The operator shall work with these First Nation governments and land users to identify potential land use conflicts arising from these activities. The operator shall make best efforts to resolve identified conflicts. The operator shall provide all records of communication (e.g. emails, letters, meetings, discussions) on plans and timing of activities to the Manager, Mining Land use, include as part of its post-season report details regarding the invitation and if the affected First Nation chooses to participate in these discussions.
- 2.23 The operator shall provide an opportunity for site visits and post-season meetings with the affected First Nation governments.

Heritage

- 2.24 The operator shall conduct an updated heritage resource overview assessment (HROA) for the entire project area prior to any ground disturbing activities, with the exception of areas where the heritage resources impact assessments (HRIA) have been completed. The HROA shall include a refinement and reconsideration of areas of elevated potential from the 2012 HROA¹ study area. Areas with elevated potential for the presence of archaeological or historic sites shall be avoided until such time as a heritage resources impact assessment can be completed. It is recommended that the operator contact YG Heritage-Tourism Branch to discuss the standards and changes, improved mapping data, and to discuss proposed heritage resources assessments. The operator shall conduct a heritage resource impact assessment (HRIA) prior to land altering activities in areas identified as having an elevated potential for the presence of archaeological or historic sites (excluding areas where HRIAs) have already occurred. Prior to conducting HRIA(s), the operator shall invite affected First Nations to participate in the HRIA(s). The results of these assessments shall be shared with affected First Nations.
- 2.25 The operator shall follow applicable Best Management Practices (BMP) and industry guidelines, to protect heritage resources. A copy of industry BMP for Heritage Resources can be downloaded at: <https://yukon.ca/en/yukon-mineral-exploration-fbest-management-practices-heritage-resources>.
- 2.26 The operator shall not conduct any ground disturbing activities within 30 m of a discovered heritage resource unless prior approval has been granted, in writing, by the Manager, Mining Land Use. The operator is encouraged to contact heritage.review@yukon.ca for information.

PART THREE – RECLAMATION AND/OR DECOMMISSIONING

- 3.0 Reclamation and/or decommissioning shall be progressive in nature where possible and will occur prior to the expiry of the exploration program or prior to the expiry of this approval, whichever comes first, according to standards outlined in the operating conditions, unless otherwise specified by the Manager, Mining Land Use.
- 3.1 Debris, equipment, fuel barrels, scrap metal and other waste at the work site shall be completely disposed of, so as not to attract wildlife, by removal to an authorized disposal site at the cessation of the exploration program or prior to the expiry of the approval, whichever comes first.

¹ *Heritage Resources Overview Assessment: Justin Gold Property, Southeastern Yukon*, Ecofor Consulting Ltd., April 17, 2012

- 3.2 Structures must be removed and the site restored at the end of the exploration program or prior to the expiry of this approval, whichever comes first, to a level of utility comparable to its previous level of utility.
- 3.3 If an amendment to this approval or a new approval is granted for the claims within the scope of this approval (Appendix A), all outstanding reclamation continues to be the responsibility of the operator.

PART FOUR – OTHER MATTERS

- 4.0 Security may be required at any time by the Manager, Mining Land Use. The operator must furnish security within thirty (30) days of receiving the written notice from the Manager, Mining Land Use of the requirement to post security.
- 4.1 Security in the amount of seventeen thousand four hundred and four dollars (\$17,404.00) will be paid within thirty (30) days of issuance of approval LQ00591, unless otherwise notified by the Manager, Mining Land Use in writing.
- 4.2 Security will be retained as per Section 139 of the Quartz Mining Act and section 18 of the Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation.
- 4.3 Adjustments to the initial security, provided in Sections 4.1 may be required at any time by the Manager, Mining Land Use.
- 4.4 Notice of Schedule III must be provided to the Yukon Water Board ten (10) days prior to use of water.

APPENDIX B

Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation

Schedule 1 **Operating Conditions**

Removal of the Vegetative Mat

1. If the vegetative mat must be removed to carry out exploration activities, it must be removed so as to protect the seed and root stock contained within the mat and be stored separately from other overburden or bedrock removed for use in re-establishing the vegetative mat when the exploration program ceases.

Re-establishment of the Vegetative Mat

2. (1) All vegetated areas disturbed by exploration activities, including fuel and waste storage areas, clearings, corridors, temporary trails, camps and supporting infrastructure, and trenches and drill sites, must be left in a condition conducive to re-vegetation by native plant species or other species adaptable to the local environment to encourage re-vegetation comparable to similar, naturally occurring, environments in the area.

(2) Conditions conducive to re-vegetation include provision of adequate soil layer with moisture retaining ability, no soil contamination by hydrocarbons or other hazardous substances, provision of adequate seed or root stock, and contoured or otherwise stable slopes.

3. If adequate seed or root stock is not naturally available, re-seeding or transplanting of vegetation is required. Only non-invasive species may be used for re-seeding or transplanting. Consult with the Mining Inspector prior to seeding.

Erosion Control and Permafrost

4. All areas disturbed during an exploration program must be re-sloped, contoured or otherwise stabilized to prevent long-term soil erosion, slumping and subsidence.
5. All exploration activities must be carried out to avoid or minimize damage to and loss of permafrost.

Trenching

6. Trenching carried out by hand or using hand-held tools must be methodical. All trenches must be stabilized and marked to minimize risk to the public.
7. Trenches constructed with mechanized equipment must be back filled by first depositing any removed overburden and bedrock and then replacing the vegetative mat that was removed to construct the trench.

Historic Objects and Burial Grounds

8. Exploration activities must not be carried out within 30m of a known archeological site unless the Manager, Mining Land Use indicates, in writing, that such activities may be carried out.
9. Any sites containing archeological objects, paleontological objects or human remains or burial sites discovered in the course of carrying out an exploration program must be immediately marked and protected from further disturbance and, as soon as practicable, the discovery reported to the Manager, Mining Land Use. No further activities may be carried out within 30m of the site until the Manager, Mining Land Use indicates, in writing, that activities may be resumed.

Solid Waste

10. All solid waste, including debris, equipment, barrels, drums, and scrap metal, must be safely stored on the site of the exploration program while the program is carried out and must be disposed of in accordance with the *Solid Waste Regulation* when the program ceases.
11. Camps must be kept clean and tidy.

Petroleum Fuel and Hazardous Substances

12. If petroleum fuel storage capacity exceeds 4000 L, a secondary containment structure must be constructed. The containment structure must be made of a material impervious to petroleum products and:
 - a) if there is a single storage tank, be of sufficient size to accommodate at least 110% of the capacity of the storage tank; or
 - b) if there is more than one storage tank, be of sufficient size to accommodate 110% of the capacity of the largest storage tank or 10% of the total capacity of all the tanks, whichever is larger.
13. All petroleum products, including waste petroleum products, and any other hazardous substances must be stored in a secure fashion no less than 30m from the ordinary high water mark of any water body.
14. All petroleum products, including waste petroleum products, and any other hazardous substance, must be transferred and handled without spillage.
15. All petroleum products and any other hazardous substances must be removed from the site of the exploration program when the program ceases.
16. All waste petroleum products and any other special waste, as defined in the *Special Waste Regulations*, generated in the course of carrying out the exploration program must be disposed of in accordance with the *Special Waste Regulations* when the program ceases.

Spills and Spill Contingency Plans

17. A spill contingency plan for petroleum products and other hazardous waste must be prepared and posted in the camp and at all fuel handling locations used in carrying out the exploration program.
18. All spill clean-up equipment and material must be maintained in a state of readiness sufficient at all times to contain and clean-up any hazardous material spills.
19. If a spill occurs, the spill contingency plan must be immediately implemented and notice given to the 24-hour Yukon Spill Report Line. As soon as practicable, an inspector must be contacted. Whatever remedial action is required to clean-up the spill and reclaim the affected land and water must be taken.

Use of Vehicles

20. Vehicles must be maintained and operated to prevent spills of fuel, lubricants, coolants and oil.

Timber and Brush

21. Cut brush must not be piled so that it blocks movement of wildlife or people.
22. Leaning trees created by cutting of lines, corridors, temporary trails, and clearings must be felled.
23. When it is economically viable to do so, timber suitable for sale must be salvaged and stockpiled.
24. All risk of fire hazard must be avoided.

Drilling

25. All reasonable efforts must be made when drilling to minimize the impact on wildlife and the public.
26. Vegetation other than that within a drill sump, must not be covered with drill cuttings.
27. Core must be stored in a stable fashion.
28. Drill mud must be re-circulated when possible.
29. All drill fluids must be contained in a sump.
30. Drill holes that pose a hazard or that lead to ground water must be plugged to prevent flow of water to the surface.

31. The location of drill holes must be marked on the ground by flagging or other suitable means at the location of the drill hole.
32. Drilling waste, including fluid, cuttings and mud must not be left within 30m of a water body.

Roads, Trails, and Off-road Trail Use

33. All vehicles must be operated to avoid rutting and gouging of roads and trails.
34. Off road and trail routes must be reconnoitered and must be used in a way that minimizes ground disturbance, including damage to permafrost and sensitive wildlife habitat.
35. If rutting, gouging, ponding or permafrost degradation occurs off road or trail, vehicle use must be suspended or relocated to ground that is capable of bearing the weight of the vehicle without causing such damage.
36. Use of skids on permafrost or wet ground is only permitted outside of winter where it is not reasonable to use any other means of transporting equipment.
37. Routes for temporary trails must be reconnoitered and flagged.
38. In addition to any remedial action required in relation to item 2 of this schedule, temporary trails must be blocked to prevent further vehicular access.

Release of Sediment

39. All reasonable care must be taken in carrying out exploration activities near or adjacent to a water body to prevent sediment from entering a water body, unless otherwise permitted by law.

Use of Explosives

40. Explosives must be set off in a manner to minimize impact on wildlife and the public to ensure that forest fires, unplanned landslides, or artificial damming of water bodies does not occur.

Waste Rock

41. Waste rock piles must be located at least 30m from any water body and be physically stable.
42. Waste rock containing sulfides must be returned underground.
43. Access to underground openings must be blocked to prevent access by wildlife and people.

Operational Guidelines

Exploration activities

The Yukon Chamber of Mines has developed an informative Best Management Practices document that should be reviewed in the context of project activities. The operator should reference the following document when planning and conducting project activities:

- Yukon Mineral and Coal Exploration Best Management Practices and Regulatory Guide (<https://www.yukonminers.org/index.php/all-docs/guidebooks/3-yukon-mineral-and-coal-exploration-best-management-practices-and-regulatory-guide/file>).

Bears and other wildlife

To increase worker safety, reduce potential conflicts and prevent unnecessary wildlife mortality, the operator should implement pertinent components of:

- Guidelines for Industrial Activity in Bear Country for the Mineral Exploration, Placer Mining and Oil & Gas Industries (<https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/env/env-guidelines-industrial-activity-bear-country.pdf>).
- If an electric fence is an appropriate precaution, or a requirement, the operator should reference the following comprehensive and highly informative guide: Reducing Wildlife Conflict with Electric Fencing: A Beginner's Guide (https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/env/env-electric-fencing_en.pdf).

Heritage Resources

To better understand how to manage potential impacts to heritage resources, the operator should refer to the following document(s):

- Guidelines Respecting Discovery of Human Remains and First Nation Burial Sites in Yukon (<https://yukon.ca/en/guidelines-respecting-discovery-human-remains-and-first-nation-burial-sites-yukon>).

Work in/near water

Project activities have the potential to affect water quantity, quality and/or rate of flow. The operator should provide for the protection of water by applying practices described in:

- Best Management Practices for Works Affecting Water in Yukon (<https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/env/env-preferred-practices-works-affecting-yukon-waters.pdf>).

Aircraft use

Project activities are authorized in an area known to be inhabited by sheep and/or caribou. The operator and/or aircraft pilots should plan flight paths and protocols based on the published guideline(s):

- Flying in Sheep Country: How to Minimize Disturbance from Aircraft (<https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/env/env-flying-sheep-country.pdf>).
- Flying in Caribou Country: How to Minimize Disturbance from Aircraft (<https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/env/env-flying-caribou-country.pdf>).

Wetlands

To better understand how to manage potential impacts to wetlands, as well as mapping standards used by MRB for map requirements, the operator should refer to the following document(s):

- Ruby Creek Guidelines to wetland reclamation (<https://yukon.ca/en/wetland-reclamation-guideruby-creek-and-indian-river-east-block-placer-mine-2015-0150>).
- Mineral Resources Branch's digital mapping standards (<https://yukon.ca/en/mineral-resourcesbranch-digital-mapping-standards>).
- A Policy for the stewardship of Yukon's wetlands (<https://yukon.ca/en/policy-stewardship-yukons-wetlands>).