



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



July 13, 2026

File No: LQ00608

Blende Silver Corporation
11th Floor, 1111 Melville Street,
Vancouver, BC
V6E 3V6

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval

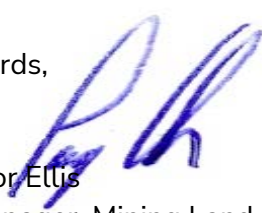
Your application for a Class 3 approval has been approved and is subject to the attached conditions. The effective date of this approval will be July 13, 2026. All work, including restoration, must be completed by July 12, 2031, and inspected before completion certificates can be applied for.

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 Tenure and Exploration 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 867-667-3190 should you have any questions.

Regards,


Trevor Ellis
A/Manager, Mining Land Use

cc: EMR Natural Resources Officer, Compliance Monitoring and Inspections



MINING LANDS
MINERAL TENURE AND EXPLORATION BRANCH
GOVERNMENT OF YUKON

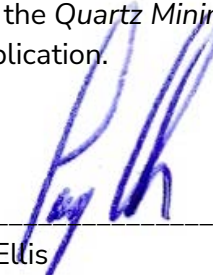
Pursuant to the *Quartz Mining Act* and *Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation*, the Manager, Mining Land Use hereby grants a Class 3 approval to:

Blende Silver Corporation
11th Floor, 1111 Melville Street
Vancouver, BC V6E 3V6

APPROVAL NUMBER:	LQ00608
PROPERTY NAME:	Blende Project
UNDERTAKING:	Quartz
CLASS:	Class 3 Approval
EFFECTIVE DATE:	July 13, 2026
EXPIRY DATE:	July 12, 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 July 13, 2026



Trevor Ellis
A/Manager, Mining Land Use

**MINING LAND USE
APPROVAL
Class 3**

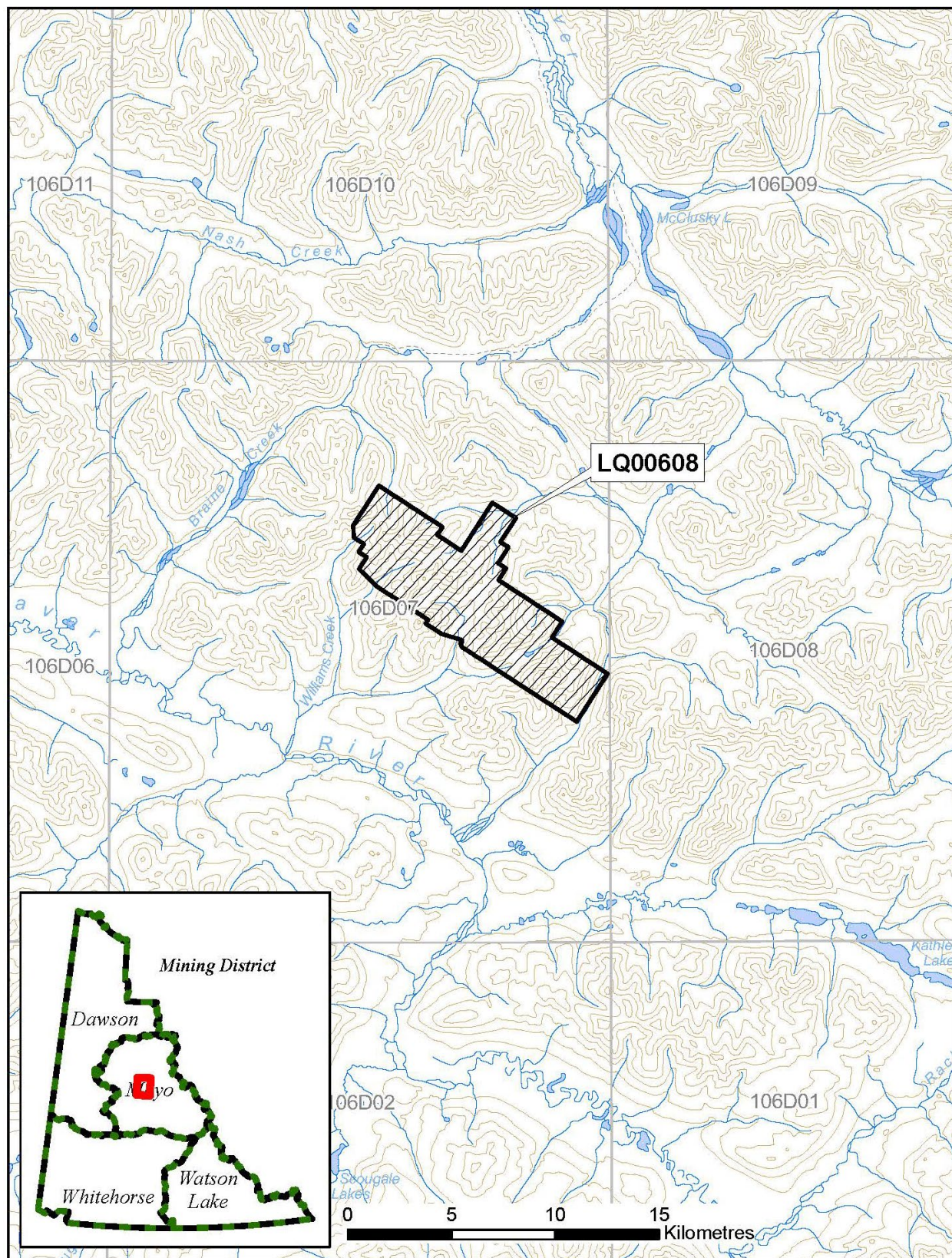
SCOPE OF APPROVAL:			
Claim Status Report (Appendix A)		LQ00608	
Operating Season	February 1 - September 15	260 Quartz Claims	
PROJECT ACTIVITIES (ON-CLAIM):			
USE OF VEHICLES/EQUIPMENT			
Use of vehicles on existing roads or trails			☐ No ☒ Yes
Gross vehicle weight	On-roads: less than 40 t, or within 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			☒ No ☐ Yes
Off-road use of vehicles in winter			☒ No ☐ Yes
NEW & EXISTING ACCESS			
Upgrading of existing access	☐ No ☒ Yes	Length: 5 km	Width: 5 m
New roads	☐ No ☒ Yes	Length: 2 km	Width: 5 m
New trails	☒ No ☐ Yes	Length: 0 km	Width: 0 m
New temporary trails	☒ No ☐ Yes	Length: 0 km	Width: 0 m
Other new access: Wind River Winter Road, two round-trip per year.			
LINES & CORRIDORS			
Lines	☒ No ☐ Yes	Length: 0 km	Width: 0 m
Corridors	☒ No ☐ Yes	Length: 0 km	Width: 0 m
SITE PREPARATION			
Total number of clearings/claim: 1	Total number of clearings: 3		
Total number of drill pads: 0	Total area: 0 m ²		
Air Strip: 1	Total area: 25,000 m ²		
Total number of camps: 1	Total area: 47,500 m ²		
Total area of Clearings: 72,500 m ²	Vegetative mat removed: 72,500 m ²		
EXPLORATION TRENCHING & BULK SAMPLING – No Trenches or bulk sampling			
EXPLORATION DRILLING			
TYPE	Allowed to Proceed		
Diamond	yes		

**MINING LAND USE
APPROVAL
Class 3**

FUEL STORAGE		
FUEL TYPE	STORAGE TYPE & CAPACITY	TOTAL VOLUME
Diesel	240 L Drums, 2,500 L Double Walled Fuel Tank	16,000L
Gasoline	240 L Drums	5,125L
Jet B	240 L Drums	20,500L
Propane	Cylinders (50lbs and 100lbs) and Bottles 20lbs)	1,000lbs
FACILITIES & STRUCTURES		
Camp structures: 20 Wall Tents, Five Privy Houses, and sea-can for storage		
Number of persons in camp at any one time: 50		Number of person days: 11,300
Construction of underground structures		☒ No ☐ Yes
Amount per year: 0		Amount per program: 0

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.

**MINING LAND USE
APPROVAL
Class 3**



**MINING LAND USE
APPROVAL
Class 3**

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;

“Adverse effects” of an exploration program means its adverse environmental or socio-economic effects and any adverse effects it may have on the existing or asserted aboriginal or treaty rights of any First Nation;

“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 evidenced 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;

“Isolated road” means a road that does not provide access to a public highway directly or through a private road;

“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;

**MINING LAND USE
APPROVAL
Class 3**

“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;

“Response” means a notice given by the Manager, Mining Land Use that indicates whether or not an exploration program may be carried out or that extends the time for the Manager, Mining Land Use review of a Notification or operating plan;

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

“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 Records Office - Mayo
Box 10, K-MA
Mayo, YT Y0B 1G0
mayo.mining@yukon.ca

The contact for the operator will be:

Blende Silver Corporation
1100 - 1111 Melville Street
Vancouver, BC V6E 3V6
Andrew Rees: andrewhr@outlook.com

Pre-season and Post-season Reporting

- 1.3 A pre-season report shall be submitted no later than March 31st outlining the exploration activities planned for the season including the proposed locations.
- 1.4 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 The operator shall contact the Northern Tutchone Mining Inspections Office (Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections) at (867) 996-2343 at least 14 days prior to commencing the field season.
- 1.7 The operator shall contact the Northern Tutchone Mining Inspections Office (Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections) at (867) 996-2343 at least 14 days prior to leaving the site at the end of the operation.

Spill Reporting

- 1.8 All spills must be reported immediately to the 24-Hour Yukon Spill Reporting Line (867) 667-7244 and to the Northern Tutchone Mining Inspections Office (Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections) at (867) 996-2343.
- 1.9 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.

Heritage Reporting

- 1.10 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.
- 1.11 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.
- 1.12 The report(s) developed for Section(s) 2.22 to 2.23 shall be submitted to Government of Yukon, Heritage Resources Unit, Cultural Services Branch.

Wildlife Reporting

- 1.13 All incidents with wildlife shall be reported to the District Conservation Officer in Mayo (Northern Tutchone Region) at (867) 996-2247.

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

- 2.0 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

- 2.1 Open trenches shall be sloped at one end to avoid entrapment of wildlife.
- 2.2 The operator must ensure that all employees and contractors working at the trench sites are aware of the operating conditions for trenching.

Solid Waste

- 2.3 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*.
- 2.4 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.

- 2.5 All attractants, including garbage, kitchen waste and strained solids from gray water, shall be stored in a container that prevents access by bears and other wildlife, until properly disposed according to the Solid Waste Regulation or burned daily to ash by forced air and fuel fired incineration according to the Air Emissions Regulations.
- 2.6 The operator shall install and maintain an electric fence around the perimeter of camp, or at the minimum, around the kitchen, food preparation and storage area, grey water sump and waste disposal area.

Petroleum Fuel and Hazardous Substances

- 2.7 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.
- 2.8 All fuel cache(s) must be protected with an earthen berm or suitable barrier and flagged to prevent spills resulting from accidental contact with heavy equipment. Flags should be visible above the snowpack.
- 2.9 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.
- 2.10 Equipment and vehicles 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.

Drilling

- 2.11 The operator must ensure that all employees and contractors working at the drill sites are aware of the operating conditions for drilling.

Wildlife

- 2.12 Project activities shall cease if ungulates are observed from the active work areas until the animals have moved away on their own accord.
- 2.13 The operator shall avoid carrying out exploration activities, including helicopter use, in sensitive caribou habitat (Wildlife Key Areas) from May 15 to July 15 and from September 15 to October 15 to avoid disturbance to calving, post-calving, and rutting caribou.

- 2.14 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 photos 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 lichen is dying off or if re-establishment and growth is occurring. All of this information, including any alternative measures applied to ensure re-establishment success of lichen, shall be included annually in the post-season report.
- 2.15 The operator must avoid carrying out exploration activities, including helicopter use and infrastructure use, in sensitive sheep habitat (Wildlife Key Areas) between April 1 and June 15 to avoid disturbance to sheep.
- 2.16 The operator shall avoid carrying out exploration activities, including helicopter use, in sensitive moose habitat (Wildlife Key Areas) between February 1 and April 30 to avoid disturbance to moose.
- 2.17 The operator shall maintain a 50m no disturbance buffer around known and observed raptor nests from April 1 - September 30. If two or more nests are within 100m of each other they shall be considered as one nest site and a 50m buffer applied around the whole area. The operator shall make best efforts to not island raptor nests, allowing for 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. The operator shall report any observed nests to the WKA program.
- 2.18 The operator shall conduct pre-activity surveys for Collared Pika and Collared Pika habitat (eg. talus slopes) prior to ground disturbing activities, within the work site area, in accordance with YG's Protocol for detecting Collared Pika, https://yukon.ca/sites/default/files/env/env-protocol-detecting-collared_pika.pdf. If Collared Pika are identified during the survey the operator shall maintain a 30m buffer around the area. The operator should report sitings of Collared Pika to the Yukon Conservation Data Centre (yukoncdc@yukon.ca).
- 2.19 The operator shall avoid conducting land-clearing activities during the typical bird-nesting period for Yukon (May 1 to August 31). If avoidance is not possible, the operator shall conduct a non-intrusive search for bird nests prior to clearing activities taking place. If active bird nests are discovered, project activities shall be postponed in the nesting area until nesting is completed.

- 2.20 The operator shall use end-of-pipe fish protection screens that have appropriately designed screen areas, materials and shapes as well as an appropriate withdrawal flow rate to avoid the death and entrapment of fish. The operator shall use DFO's Interim standard: "Water intake end-of-pipe fish screens", available online at: (<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/standards-normes/fish-screen-grillage-poisson-eng.html>) and the tool to determine the water withdrawal flow rate for the chosen screen design (<https://fishprotectiontools.ca/basicendofpipe/>). An appropriate depth and flow (i.e., base flow and seasonal flow of water) shall be maintained in all watercourses for the protection of fish and fish habitat.

Communications

- 2.21 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 First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun and other land users (e.g. outfitters, trappers, tour guides etc.). The operator shall work with First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun and land users to identify potential land use conflicts arising from these activities. The operator shall make best efforts to resolve identified conflicts. As part of the Post-Season Report, the operator shall provide all records of communications (e.g. emails, letters, meetings, discussions) on plans and timing of activities to the Manager, Mining Land Use.

Heritage

- 2.22 The operator shall conduct an updated heritage resource overview assessment (HROA) for the entire project area prior to any land altering activities. The HROA shall include a refinement and reconsideration of areas of elevated potential from the 2012 HROA 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 contacts YG Heritage -Tourism Branch to discuss the standards and changes and improved mapping data and to discuss proposed heritage resources assessments.
- 2.23 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, except for areas where a HRIA has been previously completed.
- 2.24 Upon discovery of a heritage resource, the operator shall notify the affected First Nation Heritage Department(s) in addition to Government of Yukon, Manager, Mining Land Use and Yukon Heritage.

Wetlands

- 2.25 Prior to undertaking project activities in wetlands, a physical assessment to determine wetland presence and the current site disturbance shall be completed. A high-quality map that meets Mineral Resources' digital mapping standards (<https://yukon.ca/en/mineral-resources-branch-digital-mapping-standards>), representing the assessment and locations of all physical features, shall be submitted to the Manager, Mining Land Use prior to commencement of activities. Updates to this assessment shall be reported to the Manager, Mining Land Use annually via the post-season reports and shared with the affected First Nation.
- 2.26 The operator shall avoid exploration activities and developing exploration-related infrastructure in undisturbed wetlands, unless avoidance is not possible, in which case, the operator shall minimize disturbance to wetlands. Any wetlands identified in the project area impacted by exploration, must be reclaimed to standards set out in the Ruby Creek Guidelines (<https://yukon.ca/en/wetland-reclamation-guide-ruby-creek-and-indian-river-east-block-placer-mine-2015-0150>), and any other direction required by the Manager, Mining Land Use. Annually, in their post-season reports, the operator shall submit to the Manager, Mining Land Use, and to affected First Nations the status of wetland areas, including on-going/completed reclamation activities in wetlands and the need for continued use of any un-reclaimed wetland areas.

Bridge

- 2.27 The operator shall install a clear span bridge according to DFO's Code of Practice for Clear Span bridges (available online at <https://waves-vagues.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/library-bibliotheque/41113251.pdf>) at William's Creek by the end of the second exploration season in which the ford at William's Creek shall be reclaimed.

Vegetation

- 2.28 Equipment and vehicles 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.

Reclamation

- 2.29 Reclamation and/or decommissioning of new roads and trails shall be progressive in nature and shall occur as soon as they are no longer needed for mining activities. The operator shall submit a map, and shapefiles (including distances) of created and reclaimed roads and trails as part of the post-season report to the Manager, Mining Land Use. This map shall be shared with First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun.

- 2.30 Reclamation of all exploration activities, including but not limited to drill pads, sumps, trenches, helicopter pads, and camp infrastructure shall be progressive in nature and shall be documented annually to the Manager, Mining Land Use in the post-season report. Reclamation shall occur as soon as activities are no longer needed for exploration purposes, unless the need for continued use is documented in both pre- and post-season reports annually, and in concert with a valid regulatory approval.

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.
- 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 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 will be retained as per Section 139 of the Quartz Mining Act and section 18 of the Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation.
- 4.2 If activities described in the pre and post season reports result in the requirement for security, the security shall be paid on or before April 30 annually, or prior to the work season starting, whichever is earlier.
- 4.3 Adjustments to the initial security, provided in Sections 4.1 and 4.2, 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 A Claim Status Report

Claim Name and Nbr.	Grant No.	Expiry Date	Registered Owner	% Owned	NTS #'s	Grouping	Permit	Settlement Land
Max 1 - 64	YC50636 - YC50699	2028/12/08	Blende Silver Corp	100.00	106D07	HM02859		
Max 66 - 153	YC50700 - YC50787	2028/12/08	Blende Silver Corp	100.00	106D07	HM02859		
Max 154 - 161	YC54978 - YC54985	2029/12/08	Blende Silver Corp	100.00	106D07	HM02859		
Mix 1 - 16	YC09985 - YC10000	2029/12/08	Blende Silver Corp	100.00	106D07	HM02859		
Trax 1 - 28	YC39822 - YC39849	2027/12/08	Blende Silver Corp	100.00	106D07	HM02859		
Trix 1 - 46	YC11723 - YC11768	2029/12/08	Blende Silver Corp	100.00	106D07	HM02859		
Trix 47 - 56	YC32293 - YC32302	2027/12/08	Blende Silver Corp	100.00	106D07	HM02859		

Criteria(s) used for search:

CLAIM STATUS: ACTIVE & PENDING OWNER(S): BLENDE SILVER CORP REGULATION TYPE: QUARTZ

Left column indicator legend:

- R - Indicates the claim is on one or more pending renewal(s).
- P - Indicates the claim is pending.

Right column indicator legend:

- L - Indicates the Quartz Lease.
- F - Indicates Full Quartz fraction (25+ acres)
- P - Indicates Partial Quartz fraction (<25 acres)
- D - Indicates Placer Discovery
- C - Indicates Placer Codiscovery
- B - Indicates Placer Fraction

Total claims selected : 260

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).

Invasive species

To minimize the risk and consequences of spreading invasive plant species the operator should:

- Become familiar with the Yukon invasive species and how to manage them by referring to the Yukon Invasive Species Council document, "Why Should I Care About Invasive Species" (https://www.yukoninvasives.com/_files/ugd/43ffdd_334a04bc9dfb446d8ca0162c2793639f.pdf).

Heritage Resources

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

- Mineral Exploration Best Management Practices for Heritage Resources (<https://yukon.ca/en/yukon-mineral-exploration-best-management-practices-heritage-resources>).
- 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 MTEB for map requirements, the operator should refer to the following document(s):

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