

Appendix 69

2021 Annual Report NIRB 11EN010



**AMARUQ AND MEADOWBANK
EXPLORATION PROJECTS**

Addendum 2021 Annual Report

Prepared for:
Nunavut Impact Review Board
SCREENING DECISION 11EN010

Prepared by:
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

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SECTION 1. ADDENDUM ANNUAL REPORT

As part of this addendum, the information provided relates the 2021 exploration activities as requested by NIRB Screening Decision #11EN010.

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's Meadowbank Exploration camp is located near Third Portage Lake adjacent to KM 100 on the all-weather access road (AWAR) between the hamlet of Baker Lake and the Meadowbank mine site. In 2014, trailers located at the Meadowbank exploration camp were prepared for transport over the winter access to the Amaruq site. These were moved in early 2015. The remaining infrastructure at the Meadowbank Exploration Project camp remains in place and is still used to support exploration activities in the vicinity.

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's Amaruq Exploration Project is located 50 kilometres (km) North-West of its Meadowbank Gold Mine in Nunavut. The intent of the Exploration Project is to explore its mineral lease and claims for potential ore deposits. Diamond drilling is being used in exploring promising areas on the mineral properties. The Amaruq Exploration Camp was initially planned to be relocated in 2020, but this project was postponed.

Annual report

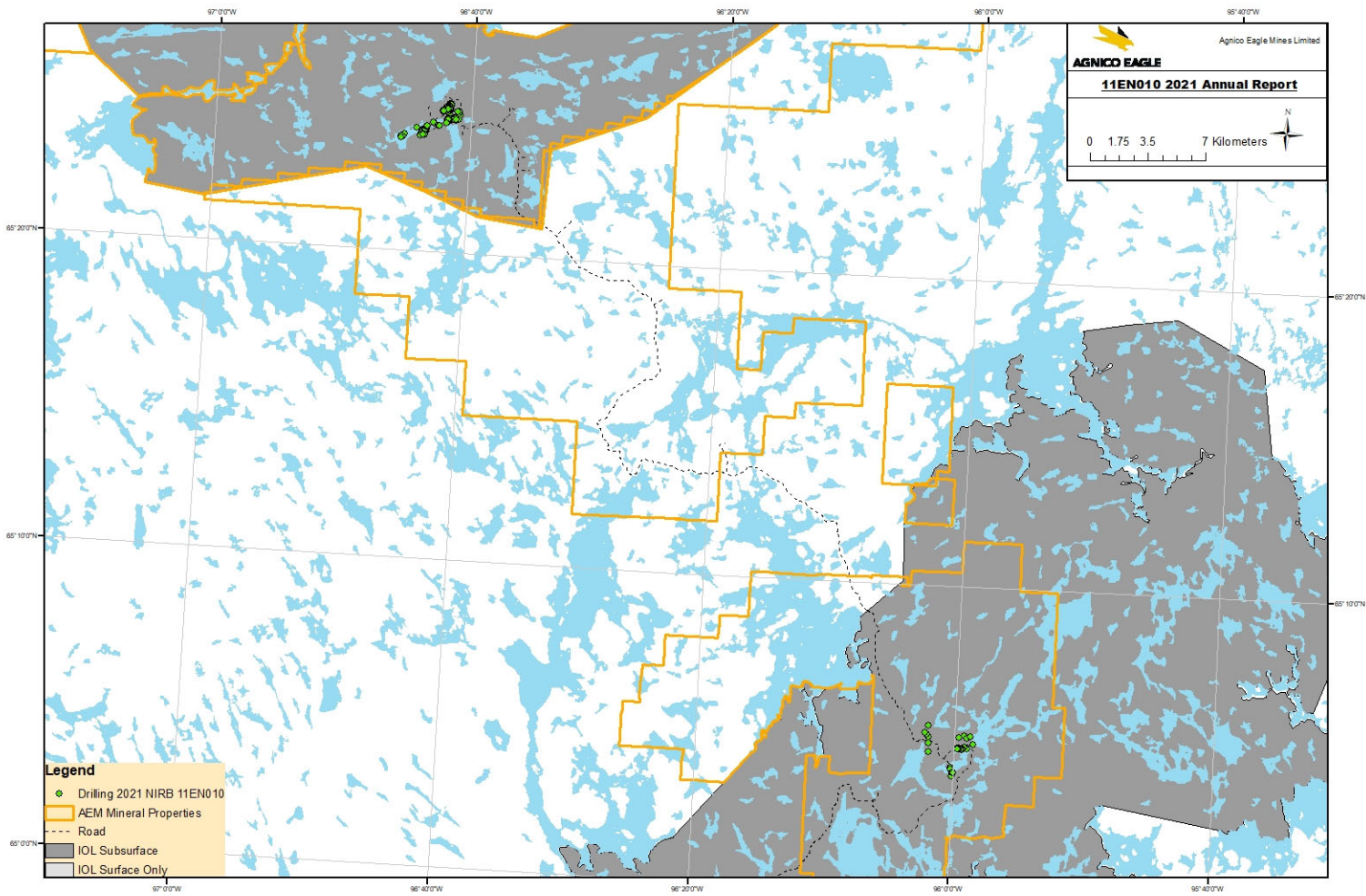
1. The Proponent shall include within its annual report for the Meadowbank Gold Project (NIRB File No. 03MN107), a comprehensive annual report of the activities undertaken as authorized by the Board for File No. 11EN010 to date. The annual report must contain at least the following information:

a. A summary of activities undertaken for the year, including:

i. a map showing the approximate location of drill sites;

In 2021, 271 holes were drilled by Agnico Eagle Mines on the Amaruq property, and 25 holes were drilled on the Meadowbank property (see Figure 1-1). All drilling areas were managed in such a manner as to reduce the environmental footprint to a minimum. At a drill site, the drill and the equipment are placed in a restrained area and will normally use less than 0.01 hectare. As a comparison, one (1) hectare per drilling site is paid to the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KivIA) for each piece of land used around a drill site outside the commercial lease and located on Inuit Owned Land. Cuttings generated by drilling are disposed of at a distance of at least 31 meters from a water body where a direct flow to the water is not possible. When drilling on ice, the cuttings generated are also disposed of at a distance of at least 31 meters from a water body using pumps and sludge lines or using settling tanks and transport. Once drilling is completed, the casing is then removed or cut off at ground level.

Figure 1-1: 2021 Drilling Program Locations under 11EN010



ii. a map showing the location of the fuel cache;

In 2021, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited's Exploration division has only one fuel storage locations related to the NIRB decision #11EN010. The fuel cache was located at the Meadowbank exploration camp and consist of four (4) tanks with a total capacity of 130,500 liters and drum stored in three (3) seacans for diesel and jet fuel. For the Amaruq exploration activities, fuel and jet fuel were supplied by the mine operations.

iii. site photos;



Figure 1-2 Aerial photo of Whale Tail Pit (Summer 2021)



Figure 1-3 Aerial photo showing Whale Tail camp infrastructure (Summer 2021)

b. A work plan for the following year, including any progressive reclamation work undertaken;

Amaruq

- Amaruq exploration activities are planned to be based from the Whale Tail Camp site.
- Exploration drilling to run all year long.
- Prospecting, mapping and geophysical surveying could be conducted on the entire property during the summer period

Meadowbank

- Most of the Meadowbank exploration camp was transported to Amaruq in 2015. The area and remaining infrastructures are used to support exploration activities in the vicinity
- Drilling is planned from February to September with two drills in operation.
- Prospecting, mapping and geophysical surveying could be conducted on the entire property during the summer period.

c. A summary of community consultations undertaken throughout the year, providing copy of materials presented to community members, a description of issues and concerns raised, discussions with community members and advice offered to the company as well as any follow-up actions that were required or taken to resolve any concerns expressed about the project proposal;

In 2021, fourteen (14) exploration-related community engagement activities were conducted:

- February 9th – One (1) conference call with KHTO (Rankin Inlet) manager about seeking help to build / locate safety cabin on land away from exploration sites. AEM to refer request to Donations' Committee.
- April 5th – One (1) in-person meeting with Mayor Kabloona and one (1) in-person meeting with KWB Chair Adjuk in Whale Cove to update on status of MEA and termination of exploration activities near Whale Cove.
- April 6th – One (1) in-person meeting with the KHTO and one (1) in-person meeting with the Mayor and SAO in Rankin Inlet to update on status of MEA and termination of exploration activities near Whale Cove. One (1) conference call with the Mayor and SAO of Arviat to update on status of MEA and termination of exploration activities near Whale Cove.
- April 7th – One (1) in-person meeting with Baker Lake HTO to update on exploration activities near Meadowbank, Amaruq and Upper Amer Lake. One (1) in-person meeting to provide a 2021 exploration update with the Hamlet Council of Baker Lake and discuss the decision to let go of claims near Whale Cove.

- April 27th – One (1) in-person meeting with IQ advisor to identify place names and traditional areas of interest on or near AWAR area known as White Hills.
- May 11th – One (1) in-person meeting with IQ advisor and Baker Lake Elders. White Hills traditional place names (IQ) now validated. Elders request Kingaqyuit be used instead of White Hills. One (1) conference call with Baker Lake HTO to schedule a time to review exploration activities for 2021. Also included a review of the process to ascertain traditional place names with board members. The Baker Lake HTO will provide a list of Elders having knowledge of the area known as Upper Amer Lake (GOT) so to carry out site visit to ensure no famine artifacts are remaining in area. AEM to organize a field trip with Elders and hunters.
- May 18th – One (1) meeting/conference call to provide formal presentation for exploration update 2021 with Baker Lake HTO board members and AEM staff. Presentation occurred at Nunammiut Lodge with live video Teams update. Items discussed included: organizing a trip to Amaruq to identify traditional names so locals can understand where the exploration / drilling locations are, to get names of Elders with knowledge of Amaruq area to go on trip, to provide monthly summer updates on helicopter trips, and the importance of using traditional names and locations when presenting to communities.
- June 22nd – One (1) field trip to Amaruq completed and traditional place names were identified on map with designated Elders by Baker Lake HTO to identify traditional place names. Traditional place names were updated by Elders on a map.
- September 22nd – One (1) field trip to Upper Amer Lake with Exploration geologist, Remi Verschelden and Elders: Phillipa Iksiraq, James Kalluk, Barney Kalluk, Thomas Anirniq, Hosea Iksiraq. IQ was collected (Figure 1-4).

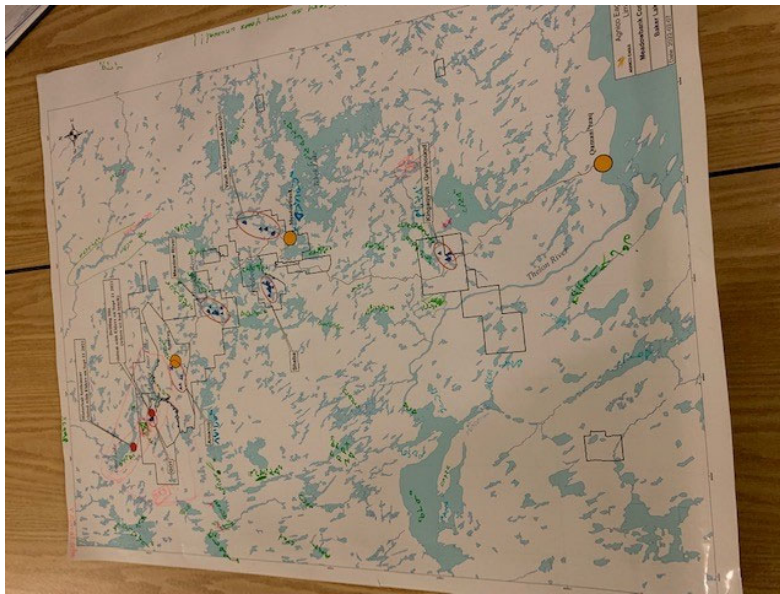


Figure 1-4 Photograph of IQ mapping process, to be digitized for Community Mapping Report in 2022

d. Summary of the consultation conducted with Government of Nunavut biologists if any and any relevant outcomes including revisions or alterations to the timing of project activities;

- This information was included in the application submitted to the NIRB related to the construction of the road and since the new NIRB decision was received, on November 4th, 2015, no new information in regard to exploration permitting is added.

e. Summary of follow-up consultation with Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) regarding the final construction designs and documents requested by DFO and any recommendations issued by DFO. The summary should include a summary of all available best management practices.

- Agnico Eagle received on March 14, 2016 the Letter of Advice 11-HCAA-CA7-00006 for the construction of the Amaruq Exploration Access Road (AEAR). In 2016, all works along the road were in accordance with DFO recommendation regarding the blasting and in water work. The road between Meadowbank Mine Site and Amaruq property is no longer considered as an exploration road but rather as the Whale Tail Haul Road.
- The AEAR was inspected regularly during construction and especially during freshet season with a dedicated resource able to log and deploy measures, if needed, consistently during the year. This practice has remained upon shifting to the Haul road and adaptive management used, when needed, to prevent any issues.
- In July 2018, Agnico received the Fisheries authorization 16-HCAA-00370 for the construction of the Whale Tail Project.
- In July 2020, Agnico received the Fisheries authorization 20-HCAA-00275 for the Whale Tail Expansion Project.

f. A discussion of issues related to wildlife and environmental monitoring, including the number of cease-work orders required as a result of proximity to caribou;

- For information purpose, wildlife and environmental monitoring along the Whale Tail Haul Road can be found in the 2021 Annual Report submitted under the NIRB Project Certificate 004 and 008.
- For the Whale Tail and Meadowbank sites, Agnico will refer to the 2021 Annual Report submitted under the NIRB Project Certificate 004 and 008 for a complete review of the environmental monitoring conducted in 2021.

g. An analysis of the effectiveness of mitigation measures for wildlife;

- Wildlife monitoring is an essential tool in protecting and maintaining wildlife occurring near the project. A comprehensive monitoring strategy, along with quantitative monitoring indicators, has been implemented and, as required, is adapted to evaluate the accuracy of impact predictions and to meet the objectives of the management strategy set out in the TEMP. Monitoring programs evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation measures and assess mine-related impact predictions. For all wildlife monitoring programs there is a certain level of uncertainty or unpredictability; therefore, residual effects identified during monitoring may require implementation of adaptive management strategies. Adaptive management is an ongoing process that evolves throughout the life of the project as better and more effective ideas are introduced in a process that is designed to be continually improving. Ongoing review of the TEMP, quarterly meeting with the TAG and annual Wildlife Monitoring Summary Reports (which provide results of TEMP monitoring programs) by regulatory agencies, technical reviewers, and stakeholders will further ensure that local and regional concerns have been adequately addressed.
- Environmental staff monitor wildlife near mine facilities (i.e., Meadowbank Mine and Whale Tail Pit) and along the AWAR, Vault Haul Road, and Whale Tail Haul Road on a regular basis. Where unacceptable risks to wildlife are observed, mitigation measures are implemented to avert animals from site activities in accordance with the TEMP. Detailed reporting protocols (e.g., a dangerous animal occurrence, monthly wildlife reports submitted to the GN, road closure notification to GN, KivIA, HTO, etc.) are established and implemented by on-site environmental staff. During these events, Agnico Eagle representatives communicate any issues directly with the GN Department of Environment (DoE) Conservation Officer, KivIA, and the local HTO.
- Agnico will refer to the 2021 annual 2021 Wildlife Summary Monitoring Report for a complete review of the environmental monitoring conducted in 2021. This report can be found as an appendix of the 2021 Annual Report submitted under NIRB Project Certificate 004 and 008.

h. A brief summary of Wildlife Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (WMMP) results including the wildlife log and record of observations as well as any mitigation actions that were undertaken;

The 2021 Wildlife log for the Meadowbank and Whale Tail Project is presented in 2021 Wildlife Report. Agnico will refer to the 2021 Wildlife report found as an appendix of the 2021 Annual Report

submitted under NIRB Project Certificate 004 and 008. This information is submitted on a monthly basis to the KivIA and GN.

i. Summary of any heritage sites encountered during the project activities and any follow-up action or reporting required as a result. The summary should include a map noting the sites encountered; and,

Archaeological assessment in 2021 was conducted for fifteen (15) exploration areas within proximity of Meadowbank Mine. In addition, six (6) quarry expansions along the AWAR from Baker Lake to Meadowbank Mine were also assessed. The six locations along the AWAR are (north to south):

- Quarry 22
- Quarry 21
- Quarry 20
- Quarry 5
- Quarry 4
- Quarry 3

The field studies included helicopter overflights of the proposed exploration areas, followed by surface inspection. Ground reconnaissance included visual inspection to identify stone features such as tent rings, caches, hearths, inuksuit, and graves, as well as historic items or prehistoric lithic artifacts. No areas with significant deposition (such as floodplain deposits along major watercourses) were identified that warranted shovel testing. Shovel testing was not conducted at identified archaeological sites pending determination of potential impacts; given that the current assessment program was conducted relative to exploration activities, avoidance is planned for all identified archaeological sites.

Agnico Eagle has submitted to the GN Cultural and Heritage department the 2021 Archaeological Site Status Report. This report and the information contained in it are confidential and therefore were submitted directly to the GN Cultural and Heritage department. Requests for information should be made directly to the GN.

j. A summary of how the Proponent has complied with conditions contained within this Screening Decision, and all conditions as required by other authorizations associated with the project proposal.

- For the Amaruq exploration site, Agnico Eagle maintains all authorizations to conduct its exploration activities. These authorizations include a water licence with NWB and exploration land use licenses with KivIA. Annual reports have to be submitted for each of these authorizations. Please refer to the Agnico Eagle 2021 Annual Reports for a completed review of the 2021 activities under these licenses and permits

- An amendment application was submitted to NWB to request a change in location of the Amaruq exploration camp under Water Licence 2BB-MEA1828. As of March 26, 2020, this amendment was approved. The exploration camp has not been reinstalled at this date.
- In addition to the amendment to NWB Water Licence 2AM-WTP1826, Agnico Eagle also submitted an application to transfer Whale Tail underground development activities, operation of the A-P5 (which will be converted into GSP-1 for the Expansion Project) and handling and storage of waste rock and ore on pads, and a few other associated activities from the NWB Water Licence 2BB-MEA1828 to the NWB Water Licence 2AM-WTP1826. As of March 27, 2020, this amendment was approved, and activities associated with the underground development are included in the new Water Licence 2AM-WTP1830.

k. Summary of traffic travelling via the road between Meadowbank and Amaruq.

- The Whale Tail Haul Road is now included in the NIRB Project Certificate 008. Please refer to the 2021 Annual report for a complete review of the traffic data for 2021.
- Road traffic data along the Whale Tail Haul Road for 2021 can be found in Table 1-2.

Table 1-2: 2021 Whale Tail Haul Road Traffic Data

| Month | Haul | Medium Equipment | Light Equipment | Total |
|--------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| January | 3750 | 372 | 434 | 4556 |
| February | 3492 | 250 | 206 | 3948 |
| March | 4966 | 319 | 277 | 5562 |
| April | 3750 | 244 | 271 | 4265 |
| May | 4594 | 262 | 297 | 5153 |
| June | 5528 | 258 | 354 | 6140 |
| July | 5398 | 323 | 397 | 6118 |
| August | 4990 | 347 | 271 | 5608 |
| September | 4952 | 301 | 447 | 5700 |
| October | 4768 | 297 | 371 | 5436 |
| November | 4560 | 173 | 510 | 5243 |
| December | 3784 | 195 | 329 | 4308 |
| Total | 54532 | 3341 | 4164 | 62037 |