Appendix 25

Whale Tail 2020 Thermal Monitoring Report



WHALE TAIL PIT PROJECT

Thermal Monitoring Report 2020

In Accordance with Project Certificate No. 008, T&C 14

Prepared by: Agnico Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Division

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1 INTRODUCTION

Agnico Eagle Mines Limited – Meadowbank Division (Agnico Eagle) is developing the Whale Tail Pit Project (Project), a satellite deposit located on the Amaruq property, to continue mine operations and milling at Meadowbank Mine.

This document presents the Thermal Monitoring Report include the following mine facilities and natural locations as described in the Thermal Monitoring Plan:

- Waste rock storage facility (WRSF)
- Water management facilities including Whale Tail Dike, Mammoth Dike, North-East Dike, WRSF Dike, and the Whale Tail Attenuation Pond
- Whale Tail Pit

The Thermal Monitoring Report provides the instrumentation data and their interpretation. Refer to the Thermal Monitoring Plan for a general descriptions of the different facilities, the anticipated impact of operation of the facilities on the permafrost and the general guidelines that are used to define instrumentation needs for each facility.

2 AVAILABLE DATA

There are currently 45 active thermistors at the Whale Tail Site project area.

The location and installation summary of the 45 active thermistors within the Project site are presented in the table in Appendix A. Figure 1 shows locations of active and inactive thermistors. Data are collected from the thermistors by data loggers or using manual readout units.

Results of active thermistors are presented in Appendix A.



Figure 1. Location of Thermistors

3 THERMAL MONITORING RESULT

This section presents a summary expected thermal effect as well as interpretation of the instrumentation data gathered for the reporting period.

3.1 WASTE ROCK STORAGE FACILITY

3.1.1 Expected Thermal Effects on Permafrost

Construction of the WRSF on the permafrost is expected to result in aggradation of permafrost into the pile. The permafrost under the pile would remain, but temperatures in the upper permafrost zone are expected to increase gradually until a thermal equilibrium is established with the active zone and zero-amplitude zone moving upward and being located within the waste rock pile. Convective cooling conditions often occur in waste piles and would potentially offset some of the temperature increase in the permafrost.

The waste rock pile itself is expected to freeze back with time and have an active layer formed on the upper portion (Okane 2019b). Climate change in the long-term is expected to extend the depth of the active layer in the pile, but the thick waste rock pile will constitute a protection to the underlying permafrost. If heat generation occurs associated with the oxidation of sulphide-bearing minerals within the pile, the process of freeze-back would be delayed and, depending on the location of the heat generation source, the upper portion of the permafrost foundation could be impacted.

3.1.2 Thermal Monitoring Results

For the thermistor installed in the foundation of the WT WRSF, the instrumentation data is showing thermal behaviour along the expected trend (no permafrost degradation)

The instruments installed at mid-elevation in the PAG of the first bench are now covered in waste rock. 65 % of beads on the horizontal instruments are still operational and due to the redundancy of the installation it is still possible to have a complete horizontal profile for most of the length. The data show that the PAG material is all in permafrost.

3.2 WATER MANAGEMENT FACILITIES

3.2.1 Expected Thermal Effects on Permafrost

The Whale Tail Dike is constructed within the lake where talik is anticipated to exist, therefore there will be no direct negative impact on the permafrost zone underneath the talik. The construction of the Whale Tail Dike is expected to have a cooling effect on the lake ground underneath the dike due to exposure to lower dike temperature than lake water. Minimal effects to the permafrost at the abutment areas are expected.

Following lake dewatering and beginning of operations, areas downstream of the Whale Tail Dike are expected to freeze back progressively, and the upstream area of the dike is expected to remain unfrozen.

After the dike is breached in the final stages of closure, the Whale Tail Lake will be restored, causing frozen zones located downstream of the dike to thaw and progressively restoring the original lake talik.

The other dewatering dike areas are expected to have similar thermal impacts on the permafrost associated with construction, operation and closure of the dikes.

The WRSF Dike will periodically contain a pond formed from water flowing out of the waste rock facility. Depending on pond depth and operational conditions there would be impact with possible thawing of a shallow upper permafrost zone underlying the pond. However, due to the operational pond level that is normally maintained low to reduce the hydraulic gradient, this issue is unlikely.

The talik zone under the Attenuation Pond would remain, but depth of the talik could be reduced as the Attenuation Pond will likely be shallower than the existing lake at that location. The surrounding areas to the pond would freeze back progressively after dewatering but would restore to talik condition after breaching of the dewatering dikes and flooding of the area.

3.2.2 Thermal Monitoring Results

Mammoth Dike

The instrumentation data are showing thermal behaviour along the expected trend at Mammoth Dike with an active layer contained in the rockfill shell and the foundation and key trench are in permafrost condition.

WRSF Dike

A degradation of the thermal condition in the keytrench of WRSF Dike was observed in the summer of 2019 leading to seepage. In 2020 the instruments show that the foundation and keytrench remained frozen all year long (permafrost aggradation of 2 m) which indicate that the mitigation measure implemented in 2020 were successful.

Whale Tail Dike

The trend of permafrost degradation at the abutment continued in 2020 and was observed at the Western abutment (0+142) and at the Eastern abutment up to Sta 0+750. A rapid warmup in the wall and foundation also was noted at 0+675 but is not related to local seepage through the wall. This permafrost degradation at the abutment has not resulted in a seepage increase for the moment.

The thermistors show that limited freezeback is happening in deep bedrock in some areas (0+260, 0+407, 0+520).

IVR Dike D-1 area (not yet constructed)

The thermistors installed in the projected footprint of IVR Dike D-1 (to be constructed in 2021) show that the active layer in this area is about 2 m thick, located within the overburden, while the bedrock is in permafrost.

3.3 OPEN PIT

3.3.1 Expected Effects on Permafrost

Whale Tail pit will be excavated through an upper closed talik zone and underlying permafrost. During operations of the pit the talik zone is expected to freeze back progressively and the lower permafrost zone surrounding the pit walls will, in general, experience reduction in temperature other than at a shallow active zone adjacent to the pit walls subjected to seasonal thawing during summer.

Upon closure and subsequent flooding of the WT pit, permafrost areas underneath the pit lake are expected to gradually thaw. Thermal assessments have indicated this process would take hundreds of years (Golder 2018a). The pit lake would eventually reduce the permafrost depth in the pit surrounding ground, but this process could take significantly longer time (in the order of 10,000 years) to complete.

IVR Pit is excavated through permafrost and as a result the mining activity are not expected to impact the thermal regime of that area.

3.3.2 Thermal Monitoring Results

Thermistors have been installed in 2020 in the talik zone near the south wall of the WT Pit. As there is less than a year of data available there is not enough data to draw conclusion for the moment.

The previous thermistors installed in the IVR area are no longer functioning due to mining activity in the sector but were showing permafrost until they stopped working. A deep thermistor has been installed in 2020 in that area (IVR long TH) and shows permafrost conditions down to 500 m below ground surface, to El. 9600 m (mining datum).

APPENDIX A – THERMAL MONITORING DATA



			Northing	Elevation				Active (Y) or	
Name	Area	Easting (X)	(Y)	(Z)	Azimuth	Dip	Installed	(N)	
AMQ15-324	WTP	606496.80	7254995.20	161.79	323.41	-55.46	2015	Ν	
AMQ17-1233	IVR	606778.00	7256254.00	162.00	252.71	-59.06	2017	Ν	
WTD 0+142	WTD	607119.94	7254637.98	156.75		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+190 U/S	WTD	607165.34	7254653.83	157.42		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+210	WTD	607182.85	7254666.19	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+260	WTD	607227.51	7254686.28	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+276 U/S	WTD	607237.2	7254677.3	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+310	WTD	607237.98	7254707.09	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+336 U/S	WTD	607298.44	7254713.45	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+360	WTD	607318.81	7254727.15	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+407	WTD	607363.08	7254744.86	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+453	WTD	607408.60	7254753.72	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+520	WTD	607473.78	7254764.22	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+607	WTD	607561.24	7254778.35	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+675	WTD	607262.31	7254788.86	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+710 U/S	WTD	607662.32	7254790.63	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+750	WTD	607701.81	7254797.04	157		-90	2018	Y	
WTD 0+772 U/S	WTD	607724.15	7254804.63	157		-90	2018	Y	
WRSF TH01	WRSF	615797.25	7238129.77	161.546		-90	2019	Υ	
WRSF TH02	WRSF	615861.49	7238133.24	162.053		-90	2019	Y	
		615814.31	7238118.6	162.744 to		0	2010	V (12/16 boads)	
	VVKJF	to 615799.6	to 7238117	162.042		0	2019	f (15/10 beaus)	
WRSF TH04	WRSF	615813.38	7238134.1to	162.138 to		0	2019	Y (8/16 beads)	
		to 615797.7	7238132.8	161.619		_		(-,	
WRSF TH05	WRSF	615860.9 to	/1238133.3	162 202		0	2019	Y (10/16 beads)	
	MD	Clane	Clare	102.202		Slope	2010	V	
	MD			-		31006	2019	Y	
NID-THU2	NID	605926.19	7255102.52	154.9		-90	2019	ř	
MD-TH03	MD	605926.74	7255102.6	154.9		-90	2019	Y	
WRSF TH01	WRSF Dike	Slope	Slope	-		Slope	2019	Y	
WRSF TH02	WRSF Dike	605416.44	7255526.7	159.07		-90	2019	Y	
WRSF TH03	WRSF Dike	605414.98	7255545.01	155.29		-90	2019	Y	
WRSF TH04	WRSF Dike	605387.14	7255524.47	158.15		-90	2019	Y	
WRSF TH05	WRSF Dike	605428.59	7255566.21	153.63		-90	2019	Y	
WRSF TH06	WRSF Dike	605435.56	7255544.29	155.35		-90	2019	Y	
WRSF TH07	WRSF Dike	605466.94	7255541.78	155.13		-90	2019	Y	
WRSF TH08	WRSF Dike	605384.991	7255544.818	159.886		-90	2019	Y	
WRSF TH09	WRSF Dike	605425.1	7255546.038	160.037		-90	2019	Y	
PSW DH2 TH	Pit South Wall	606998.837	7255127.783	149.02		-90	2020	Y	

PSW DH3 TH	Pit South Wall	607016.336	7255140.383	148.041	-90	2020	Y
PSW DH6 TH	Pit South Wall	607058.391	7255184.293	148.181	-90	2020	Y
PSW DH7 TH	Pit South Wall	607070.111	7255198.772	148.734	-90	2020	Y
PSW DH10 TH	Pit South Wall	607142.218	7255272.101	150.109	-90	2020	Y
PSW DH11 TH	Pit South Wall	607155.955	7255287.46	151.241	-50	2020	Y
PSW DH12 TH	Pit South Wall	607168.065	7255293.87	151.934	-50	2020	Y
PSW DH13 TH	Pit South Wall	14837.598	6846.924	145.398	-90	2020	Y
PSW DH14 Th	Pit South Wall	14889.046	6978.711	130.761	-90	2020	Y
V651A	IVR	607624.208	7256122.348	10163.28	-69	2019	Y
BH-T2	IVR	607850.8	7255563.9	164.303	-90	2019	N
BH-2	IVR	607930.1	7255525.4	162.159	-90	2019	N
BH-T9	IVR	607923.8	72555480.4	162.084	-90	2019	N
BH-4	IVR	608048	7255442	163.982	-90	2019	Ν











WTD-TH 0+190 U/S



AMQ - WTD TH-US: 0+190











AMQ - WTD TH: 0+210

Thermistor string damaged due to drilling, for historical data before October 2019 only. --- 2021-01-31 06:00 158 → 2020-12-02 06:00 --- 2020-10-03 06:00 --- 2020-08-04 06:00 156 -- 2020-06-05 06:00 - 2020-04-06 06:00 - 2020-02-06 06:00 154 --- 2019-12-08 06:00 **FINE FILTER** --- 2019-10-09 06:00 152 - 2019-06-11 06:00 -- 2019-04-12 06:00 - 2019-02-19 19:00 Elevation (m) 150 🛶 Limit Profile 148 146 BEDROCK 144 142 -7.5 -5 -2.5 0 2.5 5 7.5 10 12.5 Temperature (°C)













WTD-TH 0+276 U/S

















WTD-TH 0+336 U/S



AMQ - WTD TH-US: 0+336

























AMQ - WTD TH: 0+453









AMQ - WTD TH: 0+520















AMQ - WTD TH: 0+675





WTD-TH 0+710 U/S



AMQ - WTD TH-US: 0+710









WTD-TH 0+772 U/S



AMQ - WTD TH: 0+772









AMQ - WRSF - Dump TH_01

Thermistor in Waste Rock Elevation 162.042 to 162.812.

Thermistor in Waste Rock Elevation 161.619 to 162.138.

MD TH01

AMQ - MD TH_01

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35

SCALE : 1:13

MD TH02

AMQ - MD TH_02

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Mammoth Dike

MD TH03

AMQ - MD TH_03

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SCALE : 1:15 BITUMINOUS GEOMEMBRANE ROCKFILL COARSE FILTER FILTER FFAB VERTICAL EXAGERATION

AMQ - WRSFD TH_01

AMQ - WRSFD TH_02

AMQ - WRSFD TH_05

156 - 2021-01-31 06:00 -- 2021-01-01 06:00 - 2020-12-02 06:00 155 - 2020-11-02 06:00 Rockfill -- 2020-10-03 06:00 154 - 2020-09-03 06:00 -- 2020-08-04 06:00 Coarse Filter 153 --- 2020-07-05 06:00 - 2020-06-05 06:00 FFAB 152 --- 2020-05-06 06:00 - 2020-04-06 06:00 -- 2020-03-07 06:00 151 Frozen Till Foundation (At time of Construction) - 2020-02-06 06:00 --- 2020-01-07 06:00 150 --- 2019-12-08 06:00 - 2019-11-08 06:00 149 --- 2019-10-09 06:00 - 2019-09-09 06:00 - 2019-08-10 06:00 148 - 2019-07-11 06:00 🗢 Limit Profile 147 146 Bedrock 145 144 143 142 -32.5 -30 -27.5 -25 -22.5 -20 -17.5 -15 -12.5 -10 -7.5 -5 -2.5 0 2.5 Temperature (°C)

AMQ - WRSFD TH_08

UPSTREAM

Temperature(°C): AMQ - WRSFD TH_08

DOWNSTREAM

AMQ - WRSFD TH_09

Temperature(°C): AMQ - WRSFD TH_09

PSW – DH 2 TH

AMQ - PSW - DH02_TH

Top Casing 149.020

148.650 147.150 145.650

142.450

129.845

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PSW – DH 3 TH

AMQ - PSW - DH03_TH

DH-3

Top Casing 148.041

147.641	
145.641	
144.141	_
143.641	

137.641	
137.141	

126.891

PSW – DH 6 TH

AMQ - PSW - DH06_TH

Top	147.791	148.1
	<u>145,291</u>	
	144.891	

139,791	
137,791	

124.986

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PSW – DH 7 TH

AMQ - PSW - DH07_TH

148.314

145,814

142.814

133,314

126,994

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PSW – DH 10 TH

- 2020-09-15 09:00 --- 2020-09-01 09:00 142 - 2020-08-18 09:00 Bedrock **→** 2020-08-04 09:00 141 140 - 2020-07-07 09:00 Fractured bedrock Bedrock --- 2020-06-23 09:00 139 - 2020-06-09 18:00 Fractured bedrock 138 - Limit Profile 137 Bedrock 136 Fractured bedrock 135 134 133 132 Bedrock 131 130 129 128 -1.5 -0.5 0.5 1.5 2.5 -1 2 3 -2 0 1

Temperatures (°C)

<u>149,699</u>	
<u>146.699</u>	
<u>143,699</u>	
<u>139,699</u>	~
139,199	

138.699 <u>138,199</u> 135,699

135,199

128,504

PSW – DH 11 TH

AMQ - PSW - DH11_TH

74,640

PSW – DH 12 TH

AMQ - PSW - DH12_TH

PSW – DH 13 TH

5105

Elev

-1

-2

0

1

2

- 3 Temperature (°C)

AMQ-PSW-DH14 (Depth = 75m)

AMQ-PSW-DH13 (Depth 100m)

Approx. Coordinates x: 14831 y: 6831 z: 5144

Approx. Coordinates

x: 14860

: 6960 5133

100 90 80 BEDROC - e 70 60 -50 · AMQ - PSW - DH13_TH -- 2021-02-02 09:00 --- 2021-01-30 09:00 - 2021-01-27 09:00 - 2021-01-24 09:00 - 2021-01-18 09:00 -- 2021-01-15 09:00 --- 2021-01-12 09:00 ***** 2021-01-09 09:00 -- 2021-01-06 09:00 - 2021-01-03 09:00 -- 2020-12-31 09:00 - 2020-12-28 09:00 - 2020-12-25 09:00 --- 2020-12-22 09:00 **---** 2020-12-19 09:00 --- 2020-12-16 09:00 - 2020-12-13 09:00

4

6

PSW – DH 14 TH

AMQ 15-324

AMQ 17-1233

70 - IVR - AMQ17-1233

Temperature (°C): AMQ 17-1337 OVERBURDEN

10125 -

10100 -

10075 -

10025

10000

9975 -

REDROCK

2017-09

â g 10050

<u>e</u>

2018-01 2018-03 2018-05 2017-11 Time: from 5/24/2017 to 3/9/2019 1

V651A Long TH

IVR-BH-T2

IVR Dike-1_Temporary TH_BH-T2 - Bead Temperature vs. Elevation - 2019

IVR-BH-2

IVR Dike-1_Temporary TH_BH-2 - Bead Temperature vs. Elevation - 2019

IVR-BH-T9

IVR-BH-4

IVR Dike-1_Temporary TH_BH-4 - Bead Temperature vs. Elevation - 2019