

Appendix 5

2023 Annual Report NIRB 11EN010



**AMARUQ AND MEADOWBANK
EXPLORATION PROJECTS**

Addendum 2023 Annual Report

Prepared for:
Nunavut Impact Review Board
SCREENING DECISION 11EN010

Prepared by:
Agnico Eagle Mines Limited

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Approved by:



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Superintendent of Environment and Critical Infrastructures

SECTION 1. ADDENDUM ANNUAL REPORT

As part of this addendum, the information provided relates the 2023 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. Exploration workers are accommodated at the existing mining camps.

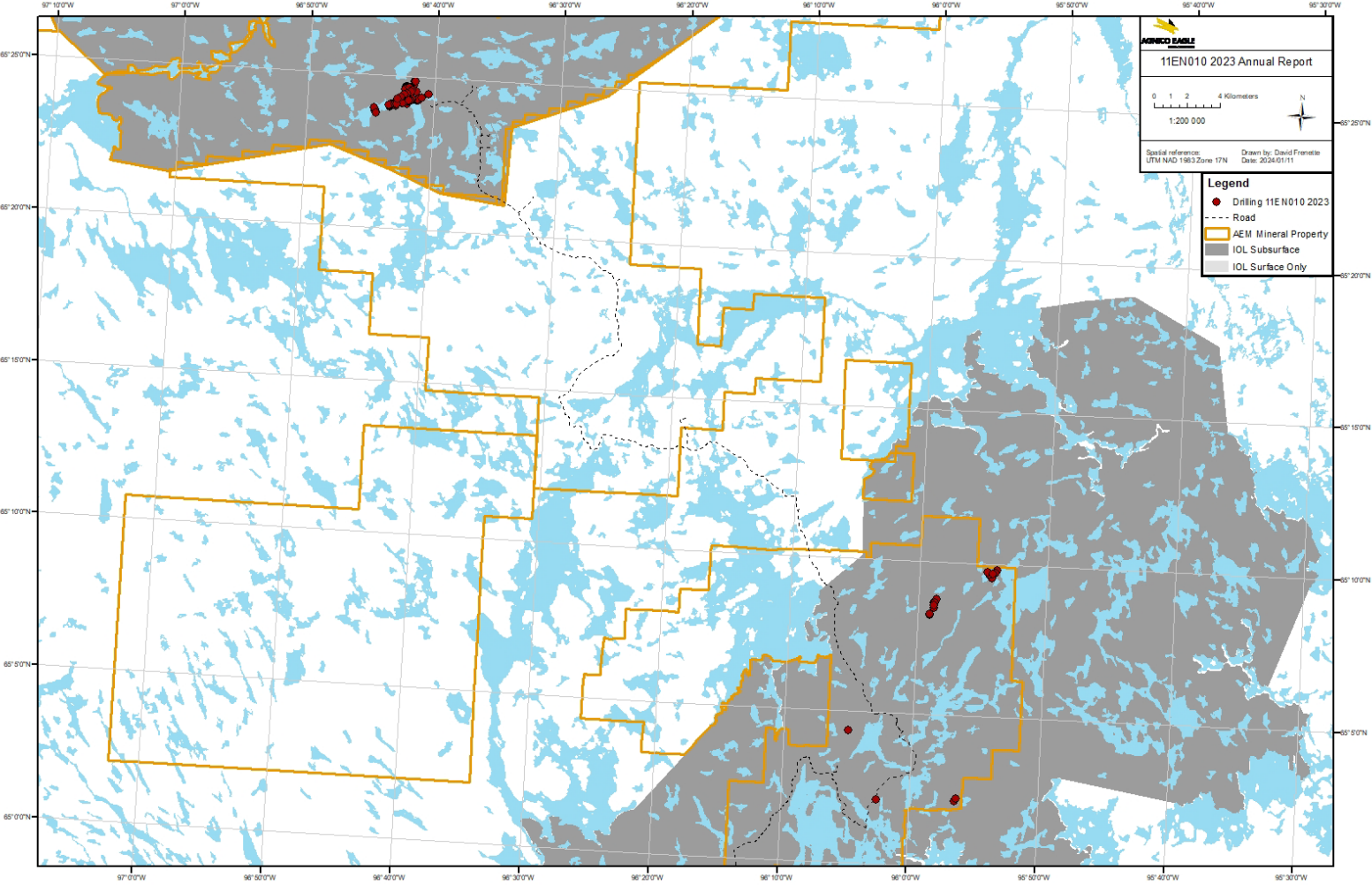
Annual report

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 2023, 181 holes were drilled by Agnico Eagle Mines on the Amaruq property, and 18 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. 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: 2023 Drilling Program Locations under 11EN010



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

In 2023, 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 fuel farm.

iii. site photos;

Figure 1-2 Aerial photo of Whale Tail and IVR Pits (Summer 2023)



Figure 1-3 Aerial photo showing Whale Tail camp infrastructure (Summer 2023)



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 between February and November.
- 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 between February to September.
- 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;

Here is the summary of the engagement related to exploration in 2023:

- March 15th - One (1) in person meeting with Rankin Inlet cabin owners on Nunavut exploration update.
- March 16th – One (1) in person meeting with Kangiqliniq Hunter and Trappers Organization on Nunavut exploration update.
- March 17th – One (1) community session in Rankin Inlet on Nunavut exploration update.
- May 31st to June 2nd – Three (3) in-person engagement sessions in Baker Lake (Elders, Hunters and Trappers and public session) on Nunavut exploration update.
- November 27th – One (1) in person meeting with Kangiqliniq Hunter and Trappers Organization on Nunavut exploration update.
- November 27th – One (1) in person meeting with Rankin Inlet Kivalliq Elders Advisory committee on Nunavut exploration update.

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 14th, 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 Mine.
- In July 2020, Agnico received the Fisheries authorization 20-HCAA-00275 for the Whale Tail Expansion Mine.

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 2023 Annual Report submitted under the NIRB Project Certificate 004 and 008.
- For the Whale Tail and Meadowbank sites, Agnico Eagle will refer to the 2023 Annual Report submitted under the NIRB Project Certificate 004 and 008 for a complete review of the environmental monitoring conducted in 2023.

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, regulars 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 Mine) and along the AWAR, 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 and KivIA, 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 Eagle will refer to the 2023 Annual Wildlife Monitoring Summary Report for a complete review of the environmental monitoring conducted in 2023. This report can be found as an appendix of the 2023 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 2023 Wildlife log for the Meadowbank and Whale Tail Mines is presented in 2023 Wildlife Monitoring Summary Report. Agnico Eagle will refer to the 2023 Wildlife Monitoring Summary Report found as an appendix of the 2023 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 2023 was conducted for seven (7) exploration areas within the vicinity of the Meadowbank Mine.

Each of these 7 areas were fully subject to helicopter assessment followed by ground inspection on foot of areas with moderate to high potential to contain archaeological sites. Ground coverage was undertaken by the archaeologists in July and August of 2023. These field studies were intensive and intended to represent full impact assessment coverage relative to archaeological sites.

Agnico Eagle will submit to the GN Cultural and Heritage department the 2023 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 2023 Annual Reports for a completed review of the 2023 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 2023 Annual report for a complete review of the traffic data for 2023.
- Road traffic data along the Whale Tail Haul Road for 2023 can be found in Table 1-2.

Table 1-2: 2023 Whale Tail Haul Road Traffic Data

2023	Long Haul	Medium Equipment	Light Equipment	Total
January	4,580	453	347	5,380
February	4,590	437	252	5,279
March	6,066	541	227	6,834
April	1,710	222	170	2,102
May	4,014	449	280	4,743
June	6,060	447	131	6,638
July	6,326	519	152	6,997
August	4,694	493	166	5,353
September	5,236	517	127	5,880
October	5,400	656	212	6,268
November	4,608	240	107	4,955
December	5,000	305	239	5,544
Total	58,284	5,279	2,410	65,973