



Government of Northwest Territories
Gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest

Government of the Northwest Territories
Department of Infrastructure
Whatì Community Access Road Upgrades
Closure and Reclamation Plan



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1. INTRODUCTION

This Closure and Reclamation Plan (CRP) has been developed by the Government of the Northwest Territories' Department of Infrastructure (GNWT-INF) for use by GNWT-INF Personnel and it's Contractor(s) during operations and maintenance activities on the Whatì Community Access Road Rehabilitation/Maintenance project.

The purpose of the CRP is to describe plans and procedures to be followed for abandonment or closure of camps, equipment, quarries and access roads that are no longer required during operations and maintenance of the Access Road. If and when necessary, the plan will be revised accordingly and submitted to the Wek'èezhì Land Water Board (WLWB) for review and approval prior to the revisions becoming effective.

1.1 Objective

The main objective of CRP is to communicate the minimum requirements to be met at the end of operations and maintenance. This plan provides information on the steps and procedures that will be taken to close and abandon areas outside of the Whatì Access Road right-of-way. No closure planning will be undertaken for the right-of-way and roadway.

The CRP is limited to maintenance camps, access roads, equipment, and quarries. GNWT intends to seek authorization from the Community Government of Whatì (CGW) to use the community's quarry (Prospect 116) shown on the map (Attachment A). In this case, the CGW will be responsible for closing and reclaiming the quarry. Otherwise, Prospect 105 (Attachment A) along the Tłchq All-Season Road will be used and will follow this CRP. Closure of the camps and quarries will be carried out to the satisfaction of the appropriate regulatory bodies.

1.2 Relevant Guidelines

The CRP has been developed in consideration of the applicable Territorial legislation including the following guidelines:

- Northern Land Use Guidelines: Camp and Support Facilities (GNWT-Lands 2014a)
- Northern Land Use Guidelines: Pits & Quarries (GNWT-Lands 2015)
- Guidelines for the Closure and Reclamation of Advanced Mineral Exploration and Mine Sites in the Northwest Territories (MVLWB and AANDC 2013)



2. CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

2.1 Camp

2.1.1 Desired Future Condition

To facilitate the maintenance of the Whatì Access Road, a 50-100 person-days camp is expected to be established at a location yet to be determined. Details of the camp are not available at this time. Once the camp location is identified, the CRP will be revised and resubmitted to the WLWB for review and approval. Once the camp is no longer needed for use, all infrastructure associated with it will be removed from the site. Infrastructure associated with the camp includes buildings, sheds, storage containers, concrete pads, foundations and debris.

Although the amount of waste generated is expected to be minimal, all waste generated from infrastructure removal will be managed in accordance with the Waste Management Plan and where applicable, only licensed / approved contractors will be used.

2.1.2 Aesthetics

Camp areas will be cleaned and inspected for debris or garbage. Camp areas located within the alignment will be integrated into the road, whereas camp areas located within quarries will be subject to the requirements of quarry closure.

2.1.3 Water Diversion

Upon removal of camp infrastructure regrading may be necessary to maintain positive drainage.

2.2 Quarries

2.2.1 Desired Future Condition

Operations of quarry (ies) are anticipated to continue during the upgrading and into operations and maintenance either until the material is depleted or until it is determined that the quarry is no longer required. The active quarry site will be kept clean, tidy, trimmed and free of any garbage and debris during the operational time frames of the Land Use Permit. Upon the final completion of quarrying operation, the active quarry area will be:

- Trimmed and sloped along the active areas of the pit.
- All equipment, seasonal storage shed, trails, etc. will be removed.



All waste generated from decommissioning quarries will be managed in accordance with the Waste Management Plan and where applicable, only licensed and approved contractors will be used.

2.2.2 Aesthetics

The quarry (ies) sites, upon completion of the life of operations, will be reclaimed using appropriate equipment to trim, level and replace reclamation materials as much as aesthetically possible over the required areas of the pit floor and side slopes. The two quarries, one of which may be use, already have buffer of natural vegetation maintained between the quarry and the Access Road alignment to reduce visibility of the quarry from the road.

2.2.3 Water Diversion or Protection

Upon completion of the operations/maintenance and final clean-up of the quarry, the desired drainage will be maintained or improved to enhance drainage. Disruption of drainage courses will not be permitted in the development, operation and rehabilitation of the quarry.

2.2.4 Sloping/Benching

A progressive maintenance program will be maintained to ensure that the quarry is kept sloped and contoured throughout the operation. At the end of the quarry life, stripping piles and organic sources stockpiled in the pit staging area will be spread at even intervals on the pit floor and surrounding quarry perimeter.

2.2.5 Access

Access roads from the Whatì Access Road right-of-way to quarries and/or water sources are to be modified to restrict vehicle access following closure. Boulders or other approved natural barriers will be placed at the entrance to restrict unauthorized vehicle access.

3. REFERENCES

- GNWT-Lands (Government of the Northwest Territories, Department of Lands). 2014a. Northern Land Use Guidelines: Camp and Support Facilities. <https://mvlwb.com/resources/policy-and-guidelines>. Accessed March 1, 2018.
- GNWT-Lands. 2014b. Northern Land Use Guidelines: Access Roads and Trails <https://mvlwb.com/resources/policy-and-guidelines>. Accessed March 1, 2018.
- GNWT-Lands. 2015. Northern Land Use Guidelines: Pits & Quarries <https://mvlwb.com/resources/policy-and-guidelines>. Accessed March 1, 2018.
- MVEIRB (Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board). 2018. Report of Environmental Assessment and Reasons for Decision. GNWT Tłıchǵ All-Season Road Project. EA1617-01.
- MVLWB (Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board) and AANDC (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada). 2013. Guidelines for the Closure and Reclamation of Advanced Mineral Exploration and Mine Sites in the Northwest Territories.

Attachment A