

Land and Water Boards of the Mackenzie Valley



APPLICATION FOR LICENCE, AMENDMENT OF LICENCE, OR RENEWAL OF LICENCE IN FEDERAL AREAS

Subsection 6(1) and Schedule III of the [Mackenzie Valley Federal Areas Waters Regulations](#)

Use an "X" to indicate which Board the Application is being made to:	Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board:		Sahtu Land and Water Board:	
	Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board:	X	Gwich'in Land and Water Board:	

To complete this form, please refer to the MVLWB [Guide to the Water Licensing Process](#) (Guide) and fill in the grey fields; attach additional pages, as necessary. Indicate N/A in the grey fields for Items or parts of Items that are not applicable. Review the following MVLWB guidance for formatting your Application Package:

- [Document Submission Standards](#)
- [Standard Outline for Management Plans](#)

If applicable, provide the existing or current Water Licence number:	W2018L2-0002 (federal) and W2018L2-0003 (non-federal)		
Use an "X" to indicate if this Application is accompanied by another Application for a Water Licence in a non-federal area and/or a Land Use Permit.	Water Licence:		X
	Land Use Permit:		X

1. NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION – APPLICANT

Applicant's Name:	Nighthawk Gold Corp.		
Position:			
Mailing Address:	141 Adelaide St. W., Suite 301		
Community:	Toronto	Telephone:	647-794-4313
Prov/Terr:	Ontario	Email:	info@nighthawkgold.com
Postal Code:	M5H 3L5	Other:	

2. NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION – APPLICANT’S HEAD OFFICE

Include a Certificate of Corporate Registration from the Government of the Northwest Territories to your Application Package.

Use an “X” to indicate if this information is the same as Item 1 above:			
Name:	Denise Lockett		
Position:	Manager, Stakeholder Relations, Licensing and Permitting		
Mailing Address:	141 Adelaide St. W., Suite 301		
Community:	Toronto	Telephone:	604-340-4756
Prov/Terr:	Ontario	Email:	dlockett@nighthawkgold.com
Postal Code:	M5H 3L5	Other:	

3. LOCATION OF PROJECT

Use the grey fields below to provide or reference the following information:

Maps and Geographic Information System (GIS) Data: Include a map in your Application Package, identifying local geographic features, watercourses and water sources, project structures, and location(s) of any proposed waste deposits. Provide geographic coordinates (latitude and longitude) of project features, and the maximum and minimum project boundary in degrees, minutes, seconds, or decimal degrees. Include GIS data in your Application Package, if applicable. Refer to the MVLWB [Guideline for Geographic Information Systems \(GIS\) Submission Standard](#) for providing geographic information.

Minimum latitude:	63° 57’ N	Maximum latitude:	64° 35’ N
Minimum longitude:	114° 42’ W	Maximum longitude:	115° 33’ W

NTS Map Sheet No.: Provide the map sheet number:

086 B

Land Types: Use an “X” to indicate the type(s) of land on which the activities are proposed:

Free Hold/ Private:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner’s/ Territorial Lands:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Federal Land:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Municipal Land:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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4. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

Describe your proposed activities in the grey field provided below and contact Board staff to determine whether additional information will be required. For proposed amendments to authorized activities, specify: the nature of the amendment, the condition(s) to be amended, and the rationale for the amendment.

Nighthawk is a Canadian-based gold exploration company with 100% ownership of a the Indin Lake Gold Property, located approximately 200 km north of Yellowknife. Exploration focusses on the Colomac Mine and surrounding area, with other exploration targets throughout Nighthawk’s leases and claims. Exploration is primarily surface geology and drills. Drills are transported by helicopter, and by existing roads within Colomac. An exploration camp is established at the Colomac Mine under a Type A Land Use Permit.

The proposed activities include:

- Construction, use, and maintenance of winter roads and spur roads within the land use area.
- Establishment and use of camps.

- Establishment of fuel caches.
- Surface exploration, including prospecting, geological mapping, bedrock sampling, geophysics and surface diamond drilling (helicopter supported).
- Use of water for camp use, drilling and winter road construction.
- Deposit of Waste related to the Damoti Lake Project.

This water licence application is for use of up to 800 cubic metres per day of water for drilling, camp use and ice road construction on federal lands.

5. TYPE OF UNDERTAKING

Refer to Schedule II of the [Mackenzie Valley Federal Areas Waters Regulations](#). Use an “X” to indicate which one type of undertaking applies:

1	Industrial	
2	Mining and milling	X
3	Municipal	
4	Power	
5	Agriculture	
6	Conservation	
7	Recreation	
8	Miscellaneous	

6. WATER USE CRITERIA

Refer to Schedules IV to VIII of the [Mackenzie Valley Federal Areas Waters Regulations](#). Use an “X” to indicate which criteria apply:

	Type B	Type A	
To obtain water		X	
To cross a watercourse			
To modify the bed or bank of a watercourse			
Flood control			
To divert water			
To alter the flow of, or store, water			
Other			(describe):

7. PROPOSED QUANTITY OF WATER INVOLVED

Describe the purpose of each proposed water use, name, and type (e.g., lake, river) of the water source, the location, and the quantity of water that would be used in the grey fields below. Add more rows as needed.

Purpose of Water Use	Name and Type of Water Source	Location	Geographic Coordinates		Proposed Water Use Volume/Rate, including units
			Latitude	Longitude	

Up to 800 cubic metres per day for drilling, camp use and ice road construction. Please refer to the Water Use Plan Version 5.0 provided with this application.

For each water source identified in the table above, provide a comparison of total proposed water use to the available capacity. Add more rows as needed.

Water Source	Capacity of Water Source, including units	Other Users of the Water Source	Comparison of Total Proposed Water Use to Available Capacity
Please refer to the Water Use Plan Version 5.0 provided with this application.			

8. PROPOSED WASTE MANAGEMENT METHODS

Use the grey fields below to provide or reference the following information:

Waste Management Plan: Include your Waste Management Plan in your Application Package, if applicable, or for small-scale activities, describe your proposed waste management activities in the grey fields provided below. A template for the Plan is available in the MVLWB [Guidelines for Developing a Waste Management Plan](#).

If waste is proposed to be disposed of off-site within the NWT, written confirmation (e.g., an email, letter, etc.) from the facility/facilities indicating they will accept the waste is required. Include it/these in your Application Package. Please note this information will be required by the Board prior to commencement of activities.

Municipalities: Complete the relevant Operations and Maintenance Plans using the available [Templates](#) and include them in your Application Package. Please refer to Sections 4-8 of Environment and Climate Change Canada’s [Solid Waste Management for Northern and Remote Communities: Planning and Technical Guidance Document](#).

EQC and AEMP: For activities that involve the deposit of waste into water, provide proposed effluent quality criteria (EQC) in accordance with the MVLWB [Water and Effluent Quality Management Policy](#) and MVLWB/GNWT [Guidelines for Effluent Mixing Zones](#). Please refer to the MVLWB/GNWT [Guidelines for Effluent Mixing Zones](#) when mixing zones are being considered. Please refer to the MVLWB/GNWT [Guidelines for Aquatic Effects Monitoring Programs](#) for more information regarding the development of AEMP programs.

Please refer to the Waste Management Plan Version 4.0 and Spill Contingency Plan Version 4.0 provided with this application.

9. EXISTING WATER USERS AFFECTED BY THIS PROJECT

Describe pre-Application engagement efforts with any existing water users and associated possible claims for water compensation or compensation agreements. Include the names and locations of existing water users. Water Licence – Application – Non-Federal Areas

users (e.g., persons or organizations) in the grey fields below. An additional table should be added for each water user.

See approved Engagement Plan Version 4.0 and the attached Engagement Record Update.

The only other active water licence in the region is W2014L8-0003 issued to CIRNAC for remediation and reclamation of the Colomac Mine. Nighthawk and CIRNAC have been operating jointly at Colomac since 2012 without issue.

10. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE PROJECT AND PROPOSED MITIGATIONS

Using the Impact-Mitigation Table below, or the more detailed Table in Appendix F of the [Guide](#), identify all potential impacts and possible mitigations that are relevant to the proposed project, and indicate whether any of the mitigation measures have been developed as a result of input from affected parties. Applicants for type A water licences must use the detailed Table in the Guide; other applicants may choose either the Table below or the Table in the Guide. Possible potential impacts are listed below; however, these lists are not exhaustive and may not apply to all projects. All information provided should reflect the size, scale, and nature of the proposed project. Cumulative impacts and climate change must be considered. Attach additional pages if needed.

Please refer to the Impact Mitigation Table provided with this application. This table summarizes impacts and mitigation for the entire Project (i.e. the Land Use Permit and both Water Licence applications), but excludes features that have already undergone preliminary screening (see a summary of previous preliminary screenings in the cover letter).

Spill Contingency Plan: Include your Spill Contingency Plan in your Application Package, if applicable, or for small-scale activities, provide relevant details in the grey field provided below. An example of this Plan can be found in the INAC [Guidelines for Spill Contingency Planning](#).

Please refer to the Spill Contingency Plan Version 4.0 provided with this application.

11. NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION – CONTRACTORS AND SUB-CONTRACTORS

Include relevant names, responsibilities, and contact information in the grey fields below. An additional table should be added for each contractor and sub-contractor.

Name:			
Responsibilities:	Logistics, equipment and operators		
Company Name:	Tlicho Logistics and other Tlicho Investment Corporation companies		
Mailing Address:	Stanton Plaza, Bay 25, Borden Drive		
Community:	Yellowknife	Telephone:	(867) 766-4909
Prov/Terr:	NT	Email:	
Postal Code:	X1A 2P2	Other:	

Name:	
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Responsibilities:	Charter aircraft		
Company Name:	Air Tindi / Tłjchq Air		
Mailing Address:	126 Bristol Avenue		
Community:	Yellowknife	Telephone:	(867) 669-8200
Prov/Terr:	NT	Email:	
Postal Code:	X1A 3T2	Other:	

Name:			
Responsibilities:	Consultants		
Company Name:	Golder Associates		
Mailing Address:	#9, 4905 – 48 Street		
Community:	Yellowknife	Telephone:	(867) 873-6319
Prov/Terr:	NT	Email:	
Postal Code:	X1A 3S3	Other:	

Name:			
Responsibilities:	Geologists, geological technicians, field assistants		
Company Name:	GeoMinEx Consultants Inc.		
Mailing Address:	595 Burrard Street		
Community:	Vancouver	Telephone:	(604) 682-4583
Prov/Terr:	BC	Email:	
Postal Code:	V7X 1A3	Other:	

Name:			
Responsibilities:	Drilling personnel		
Company Name:	Major Diamond Drilling		
Mailing Address:	337 Old Airport Road		
Community:	Yellowknife	Telephone:	(867) 873-4037
Prov/Terr:	NT	Email:	
Postal Code:	X1A 3T3	Other:	

Name:			
Responsibilities:	Camp personnel, caretakers, assistants, Industrial Occupation First Aid Level 3 staff, camp cooks)		
Company Name:	Discovery Mining Services Ltd.		
Mailing Address:	#101 – 487 Range Lake Road		
Community:	Yellowknife	Telephone:	(867) 920-4600
Prov/Terr:	NT	Email:	
Postal Code:	X1A 3R9	Other:	

Name:			
Responsibilities:	Helicopter support for diamond drilling		
Company Name:	Great Slave Helicopters		
Mailing Address:	106 Dickens Street		
Community:	Yellowknife	Telephone:	(867) 873-2081

Prov/Terr:	NT	Email:	
Postal Code:	X1A 3T2	Other:	

Name:			
Responsibilities:	Surveyors		
Company Name:	Sub-Arctic Geomatics Ltd.		
Mailing Address:	226 Utsingi Dr.		
Community:	Yellowknife	Telephone:	(867) 873-2047
Prov/Terr:	NT	Email:	
Postal Code:	X1A 0E7	Other:	

Name:			
Responsibilities:	Medic		
Company Name:	62 Degrees North		
Mailing Address:	25-100 Borden Drive		
Community:	Yellowknife	Telephone:	(867) 446-7883
Prov/Terr:	NT	Email:	
Postal Code:	X1A 0E5	Other:	

12. STUDIES UNDERTAKEN TO DATE

In the grey field below list any relevant studies that support the proposed activities and include them in your Application Package.

None

13. PROPOSED PROJECT SCHEDULE AND TERM

Indicate the proposed project start and completion dates, and the time of year the project activities are planned to occur. Describe any anticipated temporary closure(s) or seasonal shutdowns. Indicate the term requested.

Start Date:	March 2021	Completion Date:	Start date plus seven years
Exploration and the Colomac Camp are typically active from February to October annually.			
Term of Licence Requested:	Seven years		

14. ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Use the grey field below to provide or reference the following information:

Engagement: Conduct engagement, prepare an Engagement Record and Engagement Plan in accordance with the MVLWB [Engagement Guidelines for Applicants and Holders of Water Licences and Land Use Permits](#), and include them in your Application Package. Templates are provided in the Guidelines. Please also refer to [Information for Proponents on MVLWB's Engagement Requirements](#).

Eligibility: Contact federal, territorial, and Indigenous governments, and other parties to ensure all appropriate authorizations have been obtained or are in the process of being obtained. Obtain permission from the landowner(s), if necessary (e.g., obtain and reference licences of occupation, leases, access authorizations, etc.) and attach it/them to the Application.

Land Use Plans: Contact the applicable Land Use Planning Board or the Tłı̨chǫ Government to discuss conformity with the relevant Land Use Plan(s). Include a Land Use Plan Conformity Table in your Application Package, demonstrating how the project meets the requirements of the Land Use Plan, if applicable.

Traditional (Environmental) Knowledge (TEK/TK): Provision of TEK/TK is mandatory for Applications to the Sahtu Land and Water Board. Other applicants are strongly encouraged to include TEK/TK.

Facilities: Include the supporting information required under subsection 6(2) of the [Mackenzie Valley Federal Areas Waters Regulations](#) if the project includes the following: dam(s); storage reservoir(s); watercourse crossing(s); camp(s) or lodge(s); use of water for industrial use or mining and milling; deposit of waste; or handling or storage of petroleum products or hazardous materials.

Closure and Reclamation: Describe your plans for closure and reclamation, including any temporary closures and seasonal shutdowns. Include your Closure and Reclamation Plan in your Application Package, or for small-scale activities, describe the proposed activities in the grey field provided below. Please also refer to the MVLWB/AANDC [Guidelines for the Closure and Reclamation of Advanced Mineral Exploration and Mine Sites in the Northwest Territories](#) and Environment and Climate Change Canada's [Solid Waste Management for Northern and Remote Communities: Planning and Technical Guidance Document](#).

Closure Cost Estimate: Prepare a Closure Cost Estimate and include it in your Application Package. Applicants are encouraged to contact the Board, prior to applying, to determine which closure-cost-estimate template is most suited to the project activities being applied for. Guidance is provided in section 2.2 of the MVLWB/AANDC/GNWT [Guidelines for Closure and Reclamation Cost Estimates for Mines](#). If your Application is submitted concurrently with a Land Use Permit Application, the estimate should include a breakdown of water- and land-related activities and liabilities.

Financial Capacity: Provide information relating to your financial capacity, as outlined in in paragraph 72.03(5)(d) of the [Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act](#). Please note this information will be required by the Board prior to issuance.

Closure and Reclamation

Most of Nighthawk's activity is within the disturbed area of the Colomac Mine, which has been fully closed by Canada but remains a disturbed area. Nighthawk's activities at Colomac are subject to the Colomac Site Restrictions, appended to the Land Use Permit.

Nighthawk's camp is situated at the location of the old Colomac camp and mill, Nighthawk uses the Colomac airstrip, Nighthawk uses existing roads to access exploration targets, and much of the drilling occurs in disturbed areas. With this in mind, the closure goal is to return the areas of the Colomac Mine used by Nighthawk to their condition prior to Nighthawk activities, and to return exploration drill sites in undisturbed areas to viable and self-sustaining ecosystems that are compatible with a healthy environment and with human activities. This will be met through the principles of providing physical and chemical stability, no long-term care, and compatibility with ongoing traditional land use.

The main components of Nighthawk's activities that require closure planning are: Nighthawk's camp at Colomac, drill sites (both on and off the Colomac site) and the Damoti site (described in the Damoti approved Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan Version 3.3). Closure of the Colomac camp and all drill sites are described below.

Continual waste management at the Colomac camp reduces the amount of material that must be removed at closure and minimizes the likelihood of contamination. Fuel drums are continually removed from sites when they are empty. All waste, with the exception of greywater from camp use, is returned to Yellowknife for final disposal. Examples of such waste removed offsite include scrap wood, metal, incinerator ash, recyclables, hazardous materials and contaminated soil as per the Waste Management Plan. Food waste and other possible attractants are incinerated daily. Camp waste and human waste is managed daily as described in the Waste Management Plan.

Full closure of the Colomac camp would be completed by winter road. Camp closure will include disassembly of all insulated tents and heating systems. Plywood structures will be demolished, clean wood waste burnt onsite and non burnable building materials transported to Yellowknife for disposal. Light and heavy mobile equipment, camp appliances, communications and computer equipment and other salvageable equipment will be returned to Yellowknife for recycling or disposal. There are no permanent structures at the Colomac camp. Demolition would occur during the winter road season. The nearest winter road access is the GNWT road Wekweeti, which passes within 20 km of the Colomac camp. An additional 10 km spur winter road is required to access the Damoti site.

Drill sites, whether on disturbed areas of Colomac or in undisturbed areas, are closed immediately following the end of drilling operations. Drill sites are typically active for a week or less. All equipment, supplies and staff are transported to the drill site by helicopter. All drilling equipment and supplies are removed immediately at the end of drilling. The area is searched for debris. Trees that were felled to accommodate the drill are spread out among the drill site and branches removed so that the wood is on the ground to facilitate decomposition and natural revegetation, as per Permit conditions. Drill casings are cut and sealed at ground level, as per Permit conditions. Sumps with drill cuttings are restored as per Permit conditions.

Water licences W2018L2-0002 and W2018L2-0003 (Part I) require that Nighthawk submit a Closure and Reclamation Plan as directed by the Board. The Board has not yet requested a Closure and Reclamation Plan. It is expected that the new licence will include a similar condition.

RECLAIM Security Estimate

The previously approved Security Estimate for licenses W2018L2-0002/0003 and W2018C007 include in the October 2020 Land Use Permit amendment and associated security have been amalgamated in the RECLAIM 7.0 Model provided with this application. The RECLAIM model was circulated to GNWT and CIRNAC for input. Engagement with these parties confirmed in the Engagement Record, and their recommendations were taken into consideration in the development of the submitted RECLAIM model.

The RECLAIM model assumes that reclamation would occur during a single winter road season. A small camp would be mobilized to support remediation efforts along with the required heavy equipment. The existing camp at Colomac sits on a level gravel pad. It is assumed that no grading or excavation of this area will be required during reclamation. Areas disturbed by the Colomac Mine are currently undergoing natural revegetation, any additional trails created by Nighthawk will do the same.

The main changes to the previously approved security estimate, and included in the submitted RECLAIM model, includes:

- Added inflation.
- Clearly separated Territorial and Federal securities.
- Revised waste fuel allowance based on GNWT input.
- Added equipment listed as per the permit application.
- Added Damoti Waste Rock Pile closure costs for grading of the piles. This included including the supply costs of the geomembrane rock pile cover suggested by the GNWT, and transport costs for the geombrane based on retaining a single haul truck to complete the delivery and provided as site-specific costs.
- Revised building/structure footprint based on permit application.
- Added one year of Interim Care and Maintenance costs following GNWT input based on actual Surveillance Network Program costs.
- Added post closure site assessment costs for each the bulk fuel storage area at Damoti and the fuel handling area at the Colomac Airstrip.
- Five years of post-closure costs are included (two geotechnical investigations and ten Surveillance Network Programs).
- Southbound haul costs are provided as site specific costs as time and effort will be required on both ends of the journey for loading/unloading and disposal. The standard km-tonne rate provided does not adequately reflect this.

Land Use Plans

The Project is not located on Tlicho Lands, and so the Tlicho Land Use Plan is not applicable.

Archaeological Sites

Nighthawk has undertaken Archaeological Overview Assessments and field investigations for Archaeological Impact Assessments to identify and avoid known archaeological sites and areas with high likelihood of containing archaeological sites. All documents have been provided to the Territorial Archaeologist at the GNWT Department of Education, Culture and Employment.


15. FEES

Refer to the following guidance for assistance with determining relevant fees: [Water Use Fee Policy](#); [Water Use Fee Calculator](#); and [Water Licence Application Fee, Water Use Fee, and Security Deposit Information](#).

Type of Fee	Amount (\$)
Application fee:	\$30.00
Water use fee deposit:	\$2,920.00
Total Fees:	\$2,950.00

16. SIGNATURE

Denise Lockett Nighthawk Gold Corp.	Manager, Stakeholder Relations, Licensing and Permitting
Applicant’s Name (print) or Company Name	Position (print)

	14 October 2021
Signature	Date

Please submit completed applications to the Regulatory Manager or Executive Director identified on the “Contact Us” pages of the respective Land and Water Board (www.mvlwb.com, www.wlwb.ca, www.slwb.com, www.glwb.com).