

PEEL WATERSHED APPROVED LAND USE PLAN CONFORMITY CHECK		
YESAB Project #	2021-0176	
Project Title:	Quartz Exploration -Michelle Creek	
Date:	March 10, 2022	
Submitted to:	YESAB Dawson Designated Office Box 5060 Dawson City, YT Y0B1G0	
Completed by:	Ron Cruikshank/Joe Copper Jack Yukon Land Use Planning Council 201-307 Jarvis St Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2H3 1-867-667-7397 sam@planyukon.ca	 YUKON LAND USE PLANNING COUNCIL
More information on PWLUP Conformity checks:	https://planyukon.ca/index.php/resources/planning-regions/peel/391-peel-watershed-conformity-checks	
Project conforms to the Peel Watershed Regional Land Use Plan: (select one)		Yes

Background Information and Conformity Check Analysis

Affected Landscape Management Unit (LMU)(s):

Map 2 and Section 5

LM Unit #	4	LMU Name:	West Hart River
Zoning:	WA	Land Owner:	YG
LM Unit #	5	LMU Name:	Blackstone River
Zoning:	IMA Zone III	Land Owner:	YG
LM Unit #	6	LMU Name:	Hart River
Zoning:	WA	Land Owner:	YG

Landscape Disturbance Indicators:

Surface Disturbance (ha):

LMU	Cautionary Level*	Critical Level*	Current est. Level**	Project Estimate ***	Total Estimate	Cautionary level exceeded	Critical level exceeded
4	Not identified	Not identified	Not identified	1.475		Not Determined	Not Determined
5	1346	1795	2.0			No	No
6	Not identified	Not identified	Not identified			Not Determined	Not Determined

Linear Disturbance (km):

LMU	Cautionary Level*	Critical Level*	Current est. Level**	Project Estimate ***	Total Estimate	Cautionary level exceeded	Critical level exceeded
4	Not identified	Not identified	Not identified	.5		Not Determined	Not Determined
5	1346	1795	6.1			No	No
6	Not identified	Not identified	Not identified			Not Determined	Not Determined

* Disturbance levels were not given for WA and SMAs as their management intent implied no new disturbances. However, the Plan allowed pre-existing claims to remain, implying that on-claim disturbances could be permitted.

****Current estimated disturbance levels are to be provided by the Plan Parties. As an interim measure, disturbance levels were determined from coarse LandSat-based disturbance data provided by YG. They have not been approved. .5 ha SD and .3 km was allocated to the Blackstone LMU.**

***The project description did not specify the exact locations but most activities are in Hart River Wilderness Area.

Special Management Considerations: (Section 5, LMUs)	
LMU	Special Management Consideration
4	• Extensive regional rare overlap of winter core areas of two caribou herds
5	• Major River Corridor management directions apply along the Ogilvie and Blackstone Rivers. • Dempster Corridor management directions apply near the Dempster Highway. [These SMDs are unlikely to apply to this project – assuming the work will not occur at the western edge of the claim block]
6	• N/A
Affected Values and General Management Directions (GMD): (Section 4) Only include values identified in LMU. If no GMDs exist or are relevant, do not include in this table.	
Ecological Resources:	Corresponding GMD:
WILDLIFE and TERRESTRIAL HABITATS	• Reduce size, intensity and duration of human-caused physical surface disturbances (e.g., utilize low impact seismic, winter roads and principle of full reclamation). • Avoid or reduce activities in significant wildlife habitats during important biological periods (e.g., utilize timing windows). ○ Avoid sensitive sheep habitats and key areas, with emphasis on winter range avoidance (see Map 3, Appendix A for locations). ○ Avoid concentrated woodland caribou use areas (see Map 3, Appendix A for locations) • Reduce other human land use-related disturbances such as noise, odours and light.
HYDROLOGY and AQUATIC HABITATS	• Minimize surface and vegetation disturbance in riparian areas.

Heritage, Social, Cultural Resources:	Corresponding GMD:
	• Avoid or minimize land use conflicts by avoiding or reducing the level of land use activities in important subsistence harvesting and current community use areas. • Avoid or reduce activities in significant heritage and current community use areas during important seasonal use periods (e.g. utilize timing windows). • Where impacts to identified heritage and cultural sites and resources may occur, implement the following appropriate mitigation practices. - o Establish work camps associated with resource exploration and development activity near areas of resource production, and away from identified heritage routes, historic sites, and current community use areas. - o Implement immediate stop work orders if evidence of heritage or cultural values is detected, to assess significance.

Economic Development:	Corresponding GMD:
Access (Recommended policies)	N/A

Plan Recommended Best Management Practices:	
Water	Preferred practices for works affecting Yukon waters, Water Resources Branch, Yukon Environment. March 25, 2019. Available online: https://yukon.ca/en/preferred-practices-works-affecting-yukon-waters . This document has a number of recommendations on culverts.
Wildlife and fish	- Flying in Sheep Country. How to minimize disturbance from aircraft. MPERG Report 2002-6. Available online: https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/env/env-flying-sheep-country.pdf - Flying in Caribou Country. How to minimize disturbance from aircraft. MPERG Report 2008-1. Available online: https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/env/env-flying-caribou-country.pdf - Guidelines for Industrial Activity in Bear Country. For the mineral exploration, placer mining and oil and gas industries. MPERG Report 2008-2. Available online: https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/env/env-guidelines-industrial-activity-bear-country.pdf
Industry	Yukon Mineral and Coal Exploration Best Management Practices and Regulatory Guide. Yukon Chamber of Mines. August 2010. Available online: https://www.yukonminers.org/index.php/all-docs/guidebooks/3-yukon-mineral-and-coal-exploration-best-management-practices-and-regulatory-guide/file

Additional Analysis or Comments:
- This project is occurring on existing mineral claims. Existing mineral claims and leases are respected and can be developed, including those within a Wilderness Areas. - There are currently no thresholds for linear and surface disturbance for Wilderness Areas that would apply to existing claim development. - Regardless of the lack of thresholds for linear disturbance and surface disturbance, this project adds little linear or surface disturbance to these landscape units - Area identified as winter core area for two caribou herds, shoulder seasons may result in need for action in the event of herds migrating into the area (primarily in Hart River LMU) - There are other <i>recommendations</i> which may apply to this project but these are a listed as <i>recommendations</i> in the approved plan and it is not clear if these are simply for consideration or binding policy. Two examples: 1. ensure adequate wildlife and habitat baseline data is completed prior to any development activities occurring the Peel Watershed Planning Region (pg 48) and 2. development of an air access management plan (pg. 64)