



Crown-Indigenous Relations
and Northern Affairs Canada

Relations Couronne-Autochtones
et Affaires du Nord Canada

FCSAP Engagement Session – May 4, 2023

Northern Contaminated Sites Program



Canada



Objectives

- Provide an overview of the Northern Contaminated Sites Program and its Funding Programs
 - Background
 - Objectives and goals
 - Partnerships and Initiatives

- Provide a Regional Overview of FCSAP Contaminated Sites
 - Nunavut
 - Yukon
 - Northwest Territories





Northern Contaminated Sites Program

- Through the Northern Contaminated Sites Program, the Department is responsible for the management of contaminated sites in the North representing an estimated \$6.3 billion in environmental liabilities.
- Most of these sites originate from private sector mineral exploration and development activity and were abandoned to the federal government when their owners became insolvent.
- The sites became the responsibility of the Department as owner of last resort in the territories.
- The objectives of the Program is to reduce risks to human health and the environment, decrease federal liabilities, and maximize socio-economic benefits for Indigenous Peoples and Northerners.
- The Program works closely with Public Services and Procurement Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Indigenous partners, territorial governments, and the private sector to manage its sites.





Northern Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program and Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan

- The Northern Contaminated Sites Program receives funding from two sources:
 - *Special Purpose Allotment*: Northern Abandoned Mines Reclamation Program (NAMRP) – \$9.1 billion over 15 years; and
 - Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP) - \$188 million for the Department over five years.
- The “Big 8” projects to be managed under NAMRP are the following: Faro, United Keno Hill, Mount Nansen, Ketzka River, and Clinton Creek mines in Yukon; and, Giant, Cantung and Great Bear Lake group of mines in the Northwest Territories. The program allows the Department to better address the unique scale, duration and complexities of these projects.
- Funding for the Department’s other 100+ Northern contaminated sites will continue to come from FCSAP, a horizontal initiative led by Environment and Climate Change Canada and Treasury Board Secretariat.





Total and CIRNAC Total Sites by Territory

Total Federal Contaminated Sites: 24,013

Total CIRNAC Contaminated Sites N60: 1,003

	Sites in Territory	CIRNAC Sites in Territory	CIRNAC Liabilities
Northwest Territories	1,665	673	\$3.1 B
Suspected		3	
Active		75	
Closed		595	
Yukon	147	11	\$3.1 B
Suspected		0	
Active		8	
Closed		3	
Nunavut	807	319	\$0.17 B
Suspected		10	
Active		67	
Closed		242	





Legal Framework – Why We Are Involved

- Legal authority
 - *Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Act* provides a mandate for the North and responsibility to administer public real property and public lands in the territories.
 - *Territorial Lands Act* and *Federal Real Property and Federal Immovables Act* provides the authority to manage federal lands.
- Devolution Agreements
 - Legal obligations under the Yukon and Northwest Territories Devolution Agreements. Nunavut Devolution Agreement currently being negotiated.
 - General principle is that Canada is responsible for costs of cleaning up contamination that occurred prior to devolution.
- Modern treaties and Self-Government Agreements
 - Legal obligation to consult and deliver socio-economic benefits to local Indigenous communities, including training and employment opportunities.
- Legislative and regulatory requirements
 - As responsible operator or owner, the federal government must comply with environmental legislation and regulations.





Core Activities Related to Contaminated Sites

- Investigation and assessment of suspected contaminated sites.
- Care and maintenance of sites during or in advance of remediation.
- Development of remediation or risk management plans.
- Securing regulatory approvals for remediation activities.
- Implementation of remediation.
- Long-term monitoring and adaptive management of remediated sites and permanent infrastructure.
- Intergovernmental relationships with territorial partners.
- Management of insolvencies and re-commercialization of abandoned mines.
- Throughout the process – Consultation and engagement with Indigenous communities.





Stakeholders and Partnerships

- The Program has built strong relationships with territorial governments, Indigenous partners, and other stakeholders.
- Indigenous communities are engaged throughout the life of a project to inform the selection and implementation of remedial options.





Strategic Initiatives

- The Program manages active mining insolvencies and leads commercialization discussions with potential investors.
- Some sites have remaining resources or exploration potential of interest to the private sector, which can reduce federal liabilities.
- The Program also participates in negotiations with the Government of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut on matters related to post-devolution and Nunavut Devolution, respectively.

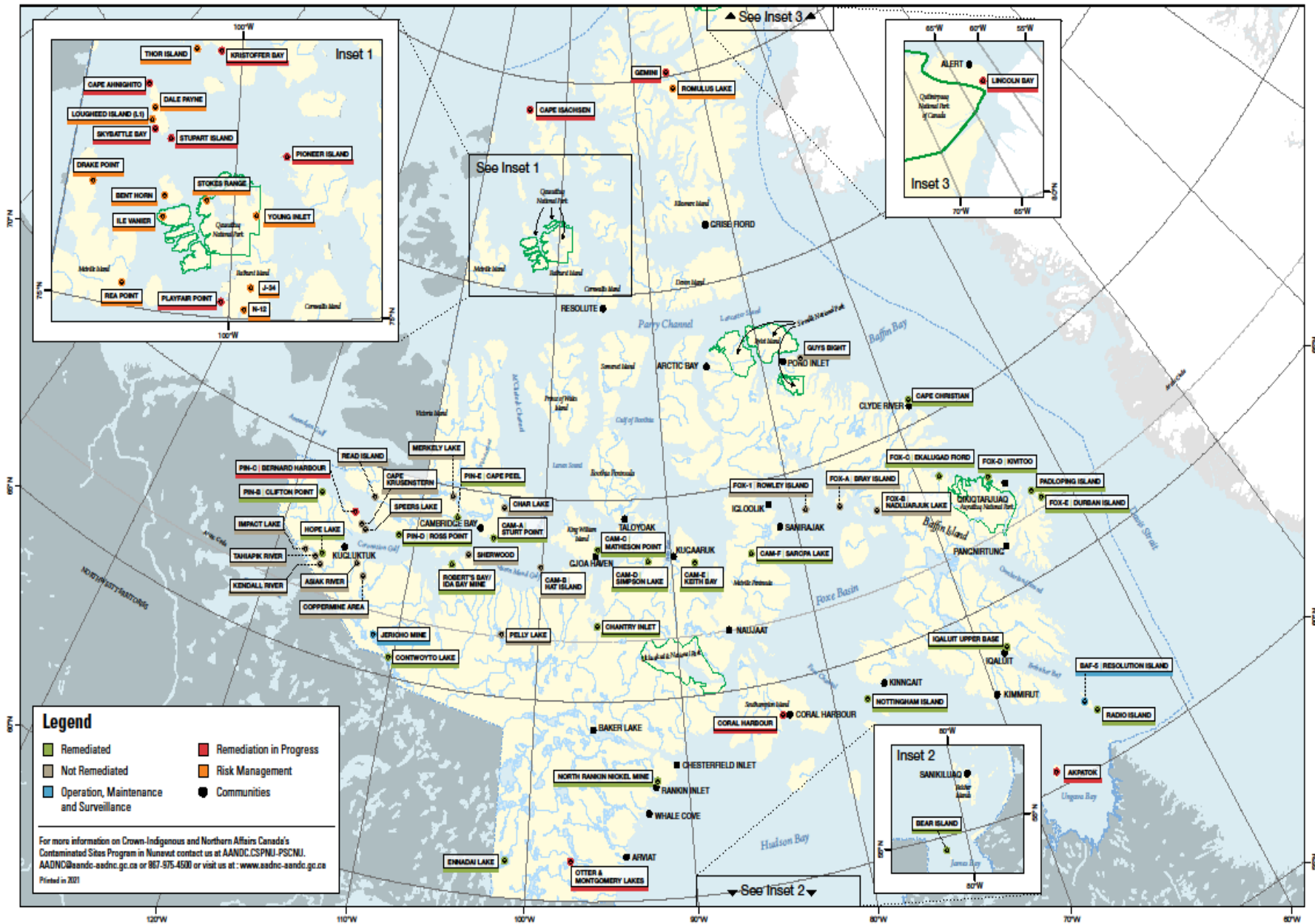




FCSAP Site Successes to Date

	Remediated and Closed Sites	Sites in Long- term Monitoring	Expenditures since 2005-06
Northwest Territories	36	28	\$377.2 M
Yukon	2	0	\$21.8 M
Nunavut	25	12	\$172.5 M
Total	63	40	\$571.5 M







Nunavut Project Portfolio - 2023-2024

Assessment Work/Remediation Planning

- Speers Lake
- Sherwood

Permitting and contracting

- Pelly Lake
- Cape Krusenstern
- PIN-C Bernard Harbour

Remediation Implementation

- Otter and Montgomery Lakes (demob only)
- Coral Harbour
- Cape Isachsen
- Kristoffer Bay
- Playfair Point
- Pioneer Island

Long Term Monitoring (LTM) and Operation, Surveillance and Monitoring (OMS)

- FOX-C
- North Rankin Nickel Mine
- Jericho

Other works

- Reconnaissance of oil and gas sites
- Phase 1 and 2 ESA on 9 suspected sites
- IMI funding





Nunavut Regulatory Process and Regional Work

- Assessment work usually doesn't require set up of camps, and as such does not trigger Nunavut Planning Commission's (NPC) conformity determination process
- Archaeological Impact Assessments are usually done during detailed site assessments and require permitting from the Government of Nunavut Culture and Heritage
 - The process requires the archaeologist applying for the permit to reach out to affected communities to advise of the upcoming work.
- Remediation work is considered a Project
 - Remediation Project must go through NPC, Nunavut Impact Review Board, and Nunavut Water Board review and licensing processes.
 - Public review and commenting can be done through all these processes.
- Remediation work also requires Land Use Permits, through CIRNAC Lands Administration, and the appropriate Regional Inuit Association if work or access on Indigenous Owned Land is required.





Yukon

Map of sites

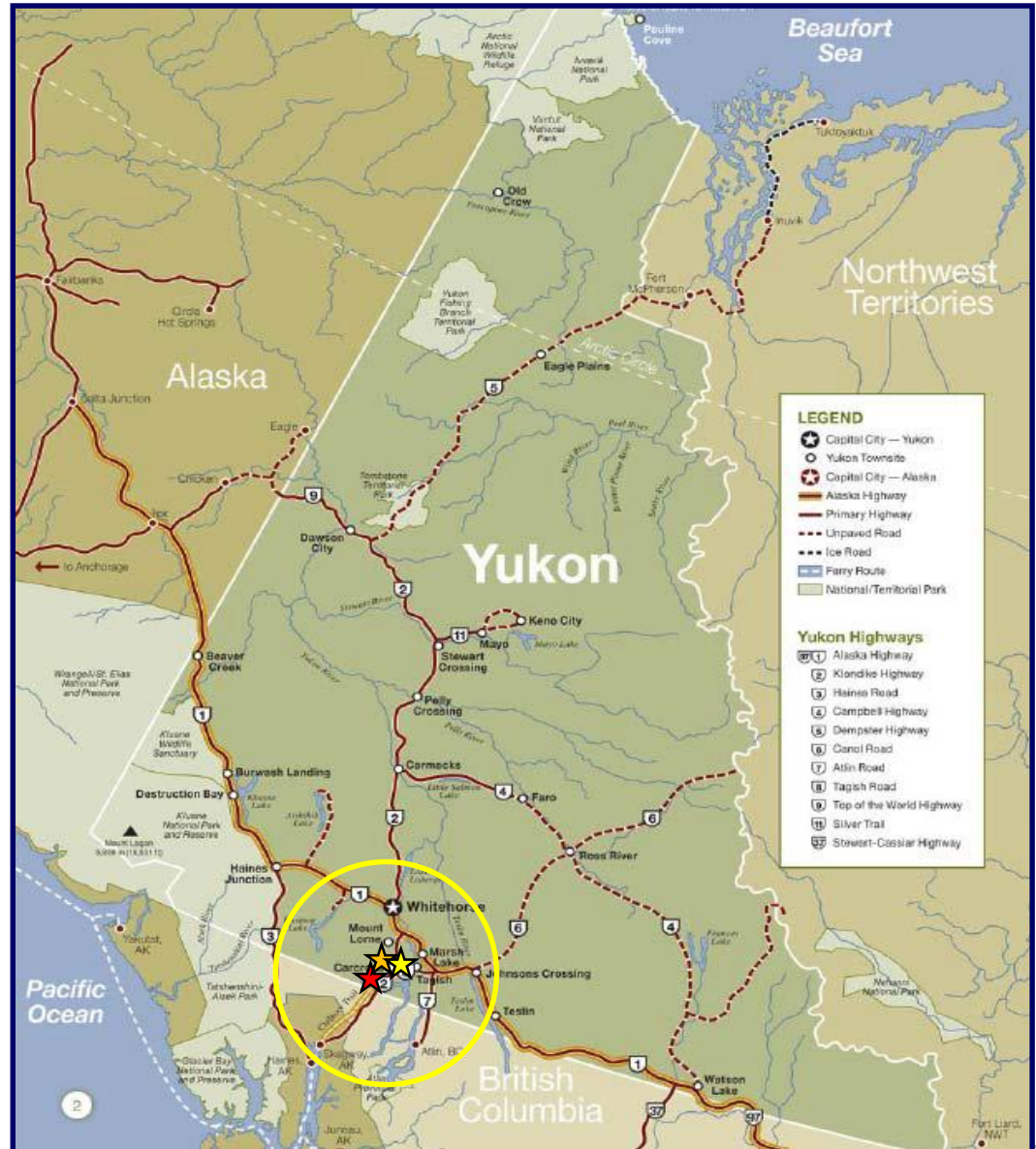
- ★ Arctic Gold and Silver Mine Site
- ★ Venus Mill and Tailings Site
- ★ Chooutla Residential School



Former Chooutla school



Current stage of the site





Yukon Project Portfolio - 2023-2024

Remediation Planning

- Arctic Gold and Silver Mine Site
- Venus Mill and Tailings Site
- Chooutla Residential School



Venus Mill Site



Arctic Gold and Silver Tailings Impoundment





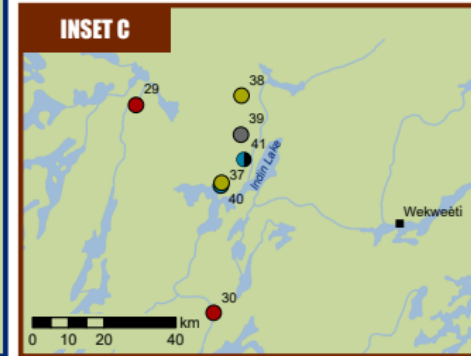
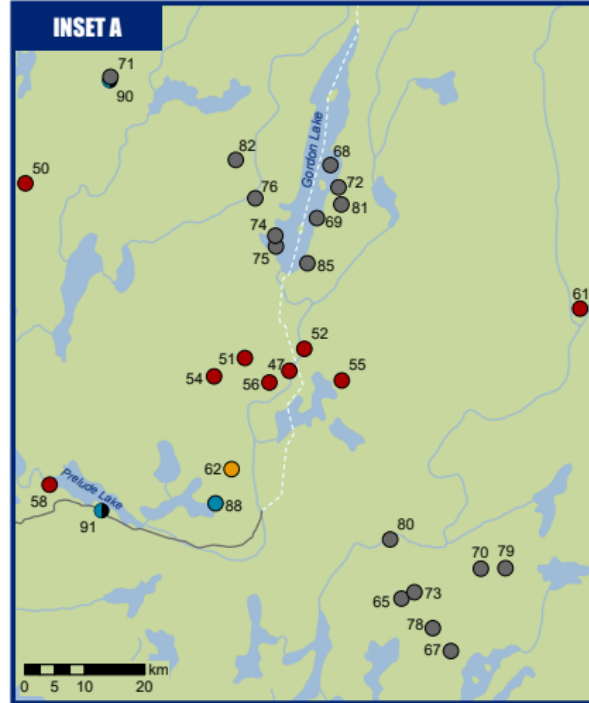
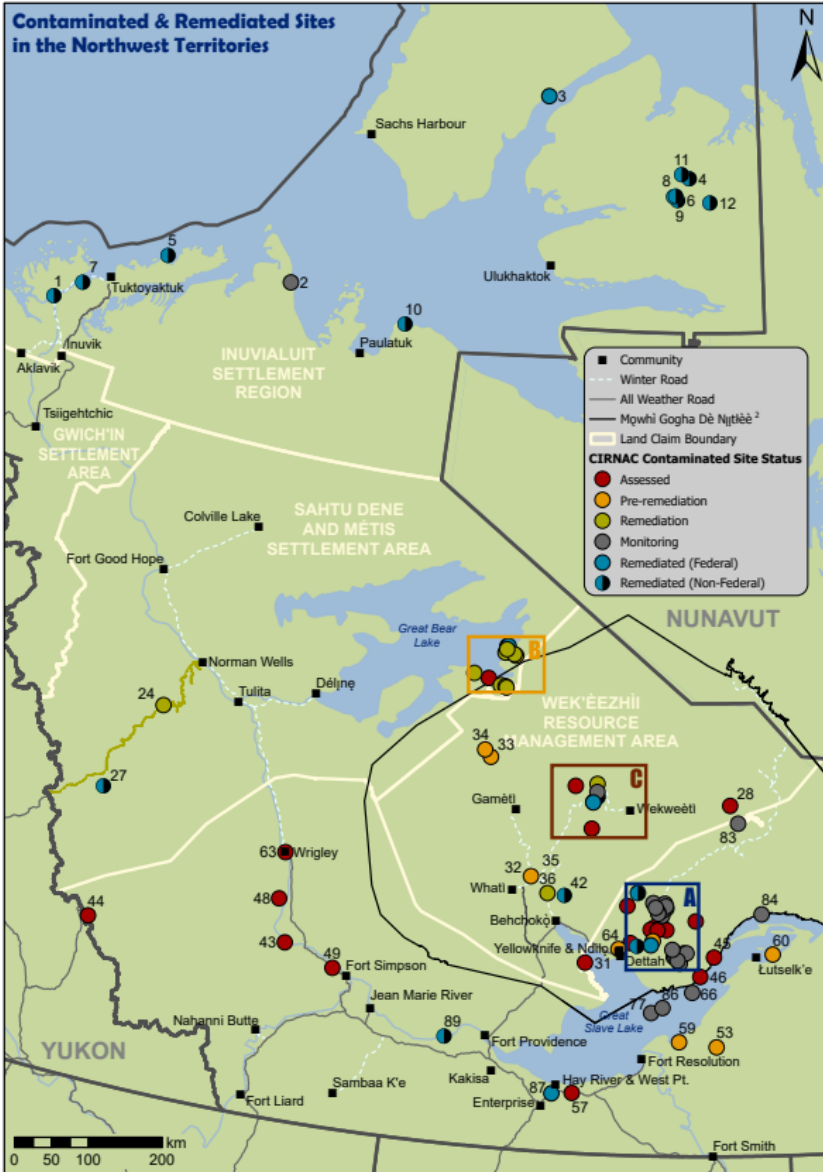
Yukon Regulatory Process and Regional Work

- CIRNAC Yukon Region has 3 FCSAP projects, all are located within the Traditional Territory of the self-governing Carcross/Tagish First Nation (C/TFN).
- C/TFN has designated their development corporation, the Carcross Tagish Energy Corporation (CTEC), as the lead to coordinate efforts with CIRNAC.
- Current activities include monitoring of the AGS and Venus sites and development of a Governance Agreement between CIRNAC and C/TFN.
- Upcoming activities include finalizing site characterization and conceptual site model, and updating the Human Health Risk Assessment that will then be used to engage with the First Nation.
- As part of developing remediation plans projects are assessed through a process administered by the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB). YESAB is an independent arms-length body, responsible for the assessment responsibilities of the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA) legislation and regulations.
- Apart from the 3 FCSAP Projects, CIRNAC Yukon Region has 5 Northern Abandoned Mine Remediation Program (NAMRP) projects.
- CIRNAC Yukon Region is also responsible for other sites identified in the Yukon Devolution Transfer Agreement (DTA).





Northwest Territories



- Inuvialuit Settlement Region**
1. BAR-C - Tununuk (Imperial Oil Ltd.)
 2. Horton River BAR E
 3. Johnson Point
 4. Area #21 Exploration Camp
 5. Altkinson Point BAR-D
 6. Grand Roy Mines Camp
 7. Kittigazuit Bay
 8. Muskox Mines Airstrip
 9. Muskox Mines Camp
 10. Pearce Point PIN A
 11. Victoria Island
 12. Western Mining Co. Camp

- Sahtu Settlement Area**
13. Great Bear Lake Outfall Camp
 14. Bear Portal
 15. Contact Lake Mine
 16. Contact Lake Portal
 17. El Bonanza Mine
 18. Mystery Island
 19. Sawmill Bay
 20. Silver Bear - Norex/ Graham Vein
 21. Terra - North Mine
 22. Silver Bear - Northrim
 23. Silver Bear - Smallwood
 24. Canol Trail (24 sites)
 25. Port Radium
 26. Glacier Bay
 27. June Lake

- Wek'èezhii/Tiçho Resource Management Area**
28. Courageous Lake
 29. Norris Lake
 30. Wijnnedi Lake
 31. Wrigley Point
 32. Horn Plateau/Marian Lake Area - REX
 33. Hottah Mine
 34. Indore Mine
 35. Rayrock Mine (Kwetjzab)
 36. Sun Rose Claim
 37. Diversified¹
 38. Spider Lake¹
 39. Colomac Mine
 40. North Inca Mine
 41. Chalco Lake
 42. Russell Lake/Marian Lake Area

- Areas with ongoing negotiations**
43. Camsell Bend
 44. Cantung Mine
 45. Copper Pass
 46. De Staffany Mine
 47. Dome Lake
 48. FPC Tenco Root River I-60
 49. Highway #1 km 508
 50. Johnson Lake
 51. Mitchell Lake Mine
 52. Myrt Lake
 53. O'Connor Lake
 54. Old Parr and Liten Mine
 55. Peg Tantalum Mine
 56. Pensive Lake Mine
 57. Pine Point Railbed

58. River Lake Portage
59. Rocher River
60. Stark Lake
61. Sunset Lake Mine
62. Thompson-Lundmark Mine
63. Wrigley Dismantled Refueling Station
64. Giant Mine
65. Beaulieu Mine
66. Blanchet Island
67. Bullmoose Lake Mine
68. Burnt Island
69. Camlaren Mine
70. Chipp Lake Mine
71. Discovery Mine
72. Goodrock Mine
73. Joon Mine
74. Knight Bay - Kidney Pond
75. Knight Bay - Treacy
76. Murray Lake
77. Outpost Island
78. Spectrum Lake
79. Ruth Gold Mine
80. Storm Mine
81. Storm Property
82. Try Me
83. Tundra Mine
84. Waldron River
85. West Bay Mine
86. Wilson Island
87. Frobisher Gas Wells
88. Hidden Lake Mine
89. Axe Point
90. Discovery Mine Power Line
91. Ingraham Trail km 35.4

Map notes: (1) Conveyance and Reclamation Agreement with Nighthawk Gold Corp; (2) Mqwhi based on metres and bounds description in Tiçho Agreement.





Northwest Territories Project Portfolio - 2023-2024

Remediation Planning

- Thompson Lundmark
- Pine Point Rail Bed
- Rocher River
- Stark Lake

Remediation Implementation

- O'Connor Lake Mine
- Rayrock Mine

Adaptive Management (Pre-LTM)

- Bullmoose-Ruth (7 sites) – Remediated 2018

Long Term Monitoring (LTM)

- Tundra Mine
- Gordon Lake (9 sites)
- Great Slave Lake (4 sites)
- Colomac Mine
- Port Radium Mine

Other sites in portfolio do not require monitoring in 2023-24





Northwest Territories Regulatory Process and Regional Work

- Regulatory:
 - CARD remediation activities usually require a preliminary screening and land use permit through the various Land and Water Boards across the NWT. More complex projects that require extensive water use or waste disposal may also require a water licence. Engagement is completed prior to applications, but there is also public review/input opportunities throughout these processes and the associated plans required for approval.
 - Projects may also require archeological permits, quarrying permits, access agreements, Species at Risk Act permits, wildlife permits etc. Sites with radiological elements like Rayrock Mine also require permits from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).
 - A Waste Sites Management Committee was created under the NWT Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement and includes all of the signatories of the agreement. It provides an opportunity for parties to review, discuss, consider, and provide advice and recommendations to Canada regarding Waste Sites/Contaminated Sites
- Regional Work:
 - CARD's 2023-24 portfolio includes 10 projects made up of 53 sites (60% of the NWT portfolio).





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