

Mineral Resources Fact Sheet

This fact sheet explains the duties of the Mineral Resources Branch of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources (EMR).



Services and Responsibilities

The Mineral Resources Branch, of the Oil and Gas and Mineral Resources Division, is responsible for the development and management of Yukon minerals.

Contact Information

Department:

Energy, Mines and Resources,
Mineral Resources Division

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Locations of Mining Lands Offices**Whitehorse**

300 Main Street, Suite 102
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Mailing Address: PO Box 2703, Y1A 2C6
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Dawson City

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Mayo

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Watson Lake

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Mailing Address: PO Box 269, Y0A 1C0
E-mail: watson.mining@gov.yk.ca

The branch regulates exploration and mining activity and encourages its development.

This includes the following functions for placer, hard rock, coal, and dredging operations:

- issuing mineral titles, including fee collection, rentals and royalties, approval of assessment work and providing claim maps;
- permitting/licensing of proposed exploration and mining development;
- providing mine coordination support to facilitate development projects; and
- supporting training, education and policy/program review and development and other initiatives.

There are Mining Recorders offices in Dawson City, Mayo, Watson Lake and Whitehorse. These offices provide information and advice on how to stake and areas open for staking. The offices process all mining land use applications, issue and maintain mineral titles, review work filed for assessment credit and sell claim maps.

Visit yukonmining.com - your Yukon mining industry and geoscience information source:

- Yukon Geological Survey;
- Yukon Mining Recorders;
- Maps, Data, Publications;
- Prospecting, Exploration, Mines;
- Legislation & Guidelines;
- Environmental Assessment & Permits;
- Incentive Programs;
- Statistics, Studies, Research; and
- Incentives and programs.

Q&As - Mineral Resources

Where do I go to find prospecting and geological information?

The Yukon Geological Survey provides geological programs and services at its office in Whitehorse, Suite 102 - 300 Main Street, Elijah Smith Building.

How do I find out about staking a claim or getting a prospecting lease?

You can go to the Mining Records Office in Dawson, Mayo, Watson Lake and Whitehorse to find out how to stake your claim or prospecting lease, and what land is available for staking. Once you stake your claim, you must record it with the appropriate district office, in accordance with legislation.

What approvals are required?

Approvals are required for placer, coal and quartz exploration and production activities. There is a Mining Land Use Officer in each of the Mining Recorder Offices who can answer your questions.

Where do I go for inspections and reclamation information?

Inspection, monitoring, enforcement and compliance for natural resources are amalgamated under the Client Services and Inspections Branch of Energy, Mines and Resources. The Mineral Resources Branch works closely with Client Services and Inspections. Inspectors are in the field during the mining season and provide technical advice on the approval guidelines and operation conditions of projects to ensure operators know what to do to stay compliant. Offices are located in Dawson City, Mayo, and Whitehorse to ensure good client service. For more information on inspections, refer to the fact sheet on Client Services and Inspections.



What are the changes to the Mining Land Use Regulations with the introduction of the Yukon Environmental Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA)?

Under the revised regulation, Class 2 activities now require an assessment under YESAA prior to the proponent applying to the regulator for a notification. There are also new activity thresholds and new operating conditions which apply to all four classes of activities which make the standards clearer. The new class criteria thresholds allow for more people in an exploration camp than before and, in some cases, allow people to move sampling equipment from one spot to another on claims. Individuals working on a mineral claim will require government approvals to build access roads. There are also clearer operating conditions for the removal and re-establishment of vegetative mat, erosion control, permafrost, trenching, protecting historic objects, handling solid waste, and hazardous substances, contingency plans for spills and fuel, use of vehicles, timber and brush cutting, drilling, and road, trail and off-road trail use.

Please contact your district Mining Records Office for more information on Mining Land Use Regulations and to find out if your application is subject to an assessment under YESAA.

Where do I find out more information on Yukon's mining and exploration industry?

Visit our mining portal website at yukonmining.com