

Robert E. Leckie Award for Outstanding Reclamation Practices

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Mining Lands, Energy Mines and Resources

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OUTSTANDING QUARTZ RECLAMATION

DYNAMITE RESOURCES LTD.

Dynamite Resources Ltd. is a junior mining company that is exploring the highly prospective Mike Lake project. The claims are located about 80 km east-northeast of Dawson City and are accessible only by air.

During initial exploration, the company discovered an abandoned camp on a nearby property (Fig. 1). Over the next month, the operator returned the area to its original pristine environment. The camp was dismantled and all material disposed of or incinerated.

The company has followed every recommended best practice at its camp, drill sites, fuel and core storage areas, as well as preparation for seasonal closure (Fig. 2). This company has gone beyond the requirements of legislation by reclaiming an area where there was no requirement for it to do so.

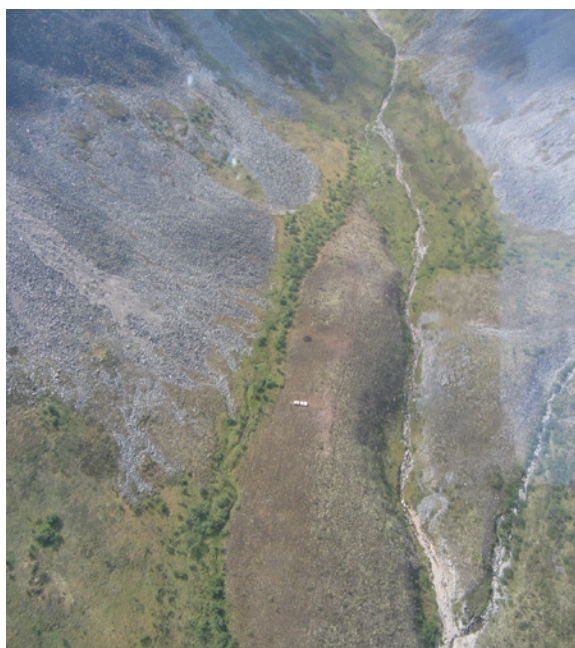


Figure 1. Abandoned camp reclaimed in Mike Lake area.

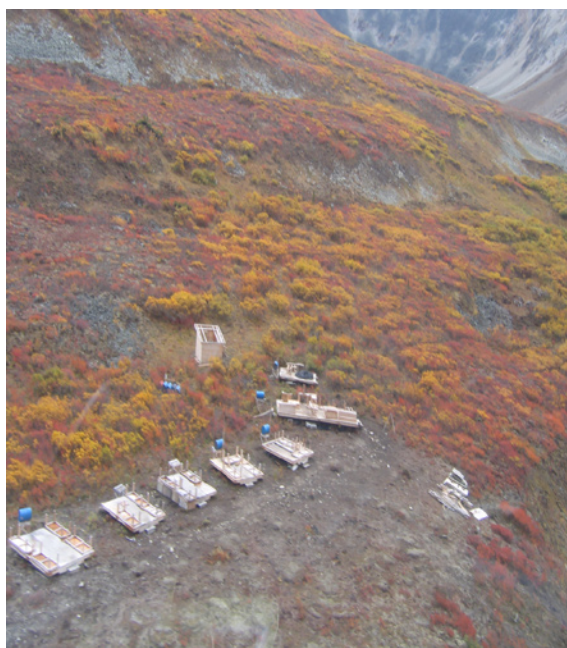


Figure 2. Seasonal closure, Mike Lake project.

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Honourable mention: Deloitte & Touche are the court-appointed receiver for Anvil Range Mining Corp. at Faro. Although revegetation of this site was required as part of a water use license, the work undertaken to reclaim the fresh-water reservoir and supply dam is commendable (Fig. 3).

For the revegetation program, indigenous flora was solely used. Seeds were manually broadcast using pouch-style seeders, and integrated into the soil substrate with hand rakes, as well as with harrows pulled by an ATV for selected areas. Due to this site's geographical features, hands-on seeding was needed, which was consequently very labour intensive.

Additionally, subsequent monitoring of plant growth and establishment has shown excellent results, which can be attributed to the diligence of the reclamation practices.

OUTSTANDING PLACER RECLAMATION

365334 ALBERTA LTD.

365334 Alberta Limited, operating as A-1 Cats, has mined on Dominion Creek in the Dawson Mining district since 2002 (Fig. 4).

A-1 Cats management continues to address land-based reclamation on an ongoing basis. Reclamation is timely and economical by minimizing movement of material. Use of organic material has expedited natural revegetation, and although seeding is not a requirement in areas where revegetation naturally occurs, the company has experimented in some areas with spectacular results.

Their desire to enhance old workings has resulted in low-relief topography, which is not only aesthetically pleasing but a safer environment for people and wildlife.

The entire property, including areas that were disturbed prior to their arrival, is being reclaimed to present day standards. The company's Best Management Practices are a credit to the placer industry.



Figure 3. Reclamation of fresh water reservoir and supply dam, Faro, Yukon.

Honourable mention: Bardusan Placers operate in the Mayo Mining District in a narrow valley with intermittent permafrost, vast quantities of slide rock, and extensive hard rock workings from past United Keno Hill Mines activities in the area. Bardusan Placers is working upstream on Lightning Creek using systematic mining practices and long-term planning (Fig. 5). They accomplish efficient and prompt reclamation of the previous year's mining cut by using the stripping/wastes from the following year's mining.

Rather than use the creek as a conduit, which is common in narrow valleys, the Barchens, in an innovative and forward-thinking fashion, transport water to their settling ponds via an underground culvert system.

The Barchen family has responded to the environmental challenges of the regulatory era by meeting and exceeding government expectations for operational considerations, discharge standards and final reclamation of the mined properties.



Figure 4. A-1 Cats' ongoing reclamation, placer mining at Dominion Creek.

Figure 5. Natural revegetation on Lightning Creek.



