

# How to Request a Review of Heritage Polygons on your Claims

## About heritage potential polygons

As part of the YESAB and Class 1 Notification review process, Yukon government archaeologists conduct desktop GIS reviews of placer mining proposals to identify areas with heritage potential, shown as hand-drawn polygons. These are based on various sources to highlight areas where physical heritage resources may be present. Avoiding these areas can help reduce impacts to heritage values.

Heritage-related terms and conditions are outlined in the project's decision document or notification and often include either avoiding the polygons or assessing them with a heritage consultant. If heritage potential is identified during a YESAB review, Archaeology Program staff email proponents with guidance on next steps. These messages come from [heritage.review@yukon.ca](mailto:heritage.review@yukon.ca).

For Class 1 Notifications, heritage details and site maps are included in the operator's package. Polygons may be updated over time as new information becomes available. If updates affect your claims, staff will contact you directly using the information on file.



Figure 1: Heritage potential polygons in a placer claim area.

## Process to request a review of a polygon

Because heritage polygons are created through desktop reviews, occasional anomalies can occur—for example, historically mined areas may look undisturbed, or recent disturbances may not appear in older satellite imagery. If you believe a polygon on your claim is inaccurate, you can request a review by emailing [heritage.review@yukon.ca](mailto:heritage.review@yukon.ca) with your project info (project name, YESAB project number, water license and/or mining land use approval number, Class 1 notification number and claim numbers), the polygon number(s), and a short explanation.

Initial reviews are typically completed within 15 days, depending on season and backlog . In many cases, additional information is needed to consider changes. This could include consultant reports (like a Heritage Resource Overview



Assessment completed by a qualified heritage consultant), drone or aerial imagery, LiDAR data, geo-tagged photos, or historic air photos. Any submitted material should cover the polygon and its surrounding area.

A full review may take up to 30 days. Not all reviews result in changes.

### Image Submission Examples



Figure 2: Oblique-angle aerial image captured by a drone.



Figure 3: Birds-eye view aerial image captured by a drone.



Figures 4&5: Two views of a recently-mined area. Images captured by a smartphone.

For further information, please contact the Heritage Unit or your local Mining Recorders Office.

#### Heritage Unit

[heritage.resources@yukon.ca](mailto:heritage.resources@yukon.ca) or the phone number on your heritage maps

#### District Mining Recorder's offices:

Dawson 867-993-5343 [dawson.mining@yukon.ca](mailto:dawson.mining@yukon.ca)

Mayo 867-996-2256 [mayo.mining@yukon.ca](mailto:mayo.mining@yukon.ca)

Whitehorse 867-667-3190 [whitehorse.mining@yukon.ca](mailto:whitehorse.mining@yukon.ca)

Watson Lake 867-536-7366 [watson.mining@yukon.ca](mailto:watson.mining@yukon.ca)

