

## What's new with Class 1 Notification?

On April 1, 2020, the requirement to submit a notification to the Yukon government to conduct Class 1 level activities on claims and placer prospecting leases will become Yukon-wide. Prior to starting Class 1 activities, a letter response from the Manager of Mining Land Use is required. Please note that if there is an existing Class 2, 3 or 4 mining or placer land use authorization in place for your claims/leases, a Class 1 Notification is not required. To find out more about Class 1 Notification and how to submit your notification online visit <https://yukon.ca/submit-class-1-exploration-notice> or contact the district Mining Recorder's Office.

### Why now?

The Yukon government and Yukon First Nations with Final Agreements reached an agreement to require notification of Class 1 level activities across Yukon. They have also worked together to develop an approach that may result in shorter timelines for receiving a response to Class 1 notifications. The approach fulfills the Yukon government's legal requirement to notify and consult with First Nations on potential impacts from mining and exploration while providing the opportunity for efficient processing of Class 1 Notifications and reduced timelines for claimholders and operators.

### Class 1 thresholds

The agreed upon approach divides Class 1 level activities into two categories. The first category is referred to as "notice only" or "Prospector's Class 1" (see column A in tables below). The activities in this category are considered to have the lowest impact. The second category is referred to as "notice and review" (see column B in tables below). The activities in this category are considered to have a greater impact than the activities in the first category.

To formalize the two categories, changes to the mining legislation are required. The timing for these changes is yet to be determined, however any proposed changes will include engagement with the mining industry. Until changes to the mining legislation are made, the Yukon government will continue to work with Yukon First Nations with Final Agreements in streamlining Class 1 Notification reviews by applying this approach.

## Class 1 Level Activities

Class 1 level activities are defined in the Operation Criteria Table in the *Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation* and the *Placer Mining Land Use Regulation*.

If **all** of your planned Class 1 activities are listed in the “A-Prospector’s Class 1” column, and only occur on Territorial lands (Crown land) outside of the asserted traditional territories of Ross River Dena Council, Liard First Nation, White River First Nation and Taku River Tlingit First Nation, you may anticipate shorter timelines for receiving a response to your notice.

If **any** of your planned Class 1 activities are listed in the “B-Notice and Review” column and/or occur on Settlement Land or the asserted traditional territories stated above, you can expect normal timelines.

### Placer Class 1 Level Activities

Placer Activity	Class 1 Threshold	A – Prospector’s Class 1	B – Notice and Review
Construction of structures other than underground structures	Structures without foundations intended for use of not more than 12 consecutive months	Mobile and/or temporary structures (e.g., tent, RV)	All structures that do not fall within column A
Number of person days per camp	Not exceeding 250	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Number of persons in a camp at any one time	Not exceeding 10	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Storage of fuel, total amount stored	Not exceeding 5,000 L	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Storage of fuel, per container	Not exceeding 2,000 L	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Construction of lines	Not exceeding 1.5 m in width and cut by hand or with hand-held tools only	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Construction of corridors – width	Not exceeding 5 m in width		All corridors up to Class 1 Thresholds
Construction of corridors – length	Total length not exceeding 0.5 km		All corridors up to Class 1 Thresholds



Placer Activity	Class 1 Threshold	A – Prospector’s Class 1	B – Notice and Review
Trenching	Total volume not exceeding (a) 1,200 m <sup>3</sup> on a group of three adjoining claims in the operation, provided that no claim in the operation forms part of more than one group; or (b) 400 m <sup>3</sup> per claim that is not part of a group of three adjoining claims referred to in paragraph (a)	Hand labour only	Other than hand labour
Total volume of ditching and drains	Total volume not exceeding 250 m <sup>3</sup> per claim		All ditching and drains up to Class 1 Thresholds
Area stripped per claim per year	Total not exceeding 600 m <sup>2</sup>		All stripping up to Class 1 Thresholds
Establishing new access roads per operation	Not authorized		
Upgrading of access roads per operation	Not authorized		
Use of vehicles on existing roads and trails	Within the design limits or tolerances of the road or, if design limits or tolerances of roads or trails are not known, vehicles with a gross vehicle weight of less than 40 t for roads, and less than 20 t for trails	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Off-road use of vehicles in summer	Low ground pressure vehicles only		All off-road use of vehicles up to Class 1 Thresholds
Off-road use of vehicles in winter	Low ground pressure vehicles or vehicles with a gross vehicle weight not exceeding 40 t, used over a distance of not more than 15 km		All off-road use of vehicles up to Class 1 Thresholds
Use of explosives	Not exceeding 1,000 kg in any 30-day period		Any use of explosives up to Class 1 Thresholds



Placer Activity	Class 1 Threshold	A – Prospector’s Class 1	B – Notice and Review
Height of overburden piles	Not exceeding 3 m in height	Up to Class 1 Threshold	

## Quartz Class 1 Level Activities

Quartz Activity	Class 1 Threshold	A – Prospector’s Class 1	B – Notice and Review
Construction of structures other than underground structures	Structures without foundations intended for use for a period of not more than 12 consecutive months	Mobile and/or temporary structures	All structures that do not fall within column A
Number of person-days in camp	Not exceeding 250	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Number of person in camp at any one time	Not exceeding 10	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Storage of fuel, total amount stored	Not exceeding 5,000 L	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Storage of fuel, amount per container	Not exceeding 2,000 L	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Construction of lines	Not exceeding 1.5 m in width and cut by hand or with hand held tools	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Construction of corridors – width	Not exceeding 5 m in width		All corridors up to Class 1 Thresholds
Construction of corridors – length	Total length not exceeding 0.5 km		All corridors up to Class 1 Thresholds
Trenching	Not exceeding, (a) 1,200 m <sup>3</sup> on a group of three adjoining claims in the program, provided that no claim in the program forms part of more than one group; or (b) 400 m <sup>3</sup> per claim that is not part of a group of three adjoining claims referred to in paragraph (a)	Hand labour only	Other than hand labour

Quartz Activity	Class 1 Threshold	A – Prospector’s Class 1	B – Notice and Review
Number of Clearings per claim, including existing clearings	Not exceeding 8	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Number of clearings, helicopter pads and camps	No more than 2 of the 8 clearings	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Clearings – removal of vegetative mat	No removal of vegetative mat within 30 m of a water body	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Surface area of clearings	Not exceeding 200 m <sup>2</sup> , except for clearings for helicopter pads and camps which cannot exceed 500m <sup>2</sup>	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Establishing new access roads, per exploration program	Not authorized		
Upgrading of access roads, per exploration program	Not authorized		
Establishment of trails, other than temporary trails, per exploration program	Not authorized		
Establishing or using temporary trails, per exploration program	<p>Not authorized on Category A Settlement Land or on Category B Settlement Land</p> <p>On Land other than Category A Settlement Land or Category B Settlement Land, establishing a temporary trail or using temporary trail that was established for another program if</p> <p>(a) the temporary trail width does not exceed 7 m or 1 m more than the width of the equipment to be moved along the temporary trail, whichever is less;</p>		<p>On land other than Category A Settlement Land, establishing a temporary trail or using a temporary trail that was established for another program if:</p> <p>the temporary trail width does not exceed 7 m or 1 m more than the width of the equipment to be moved along the temporary trail, whichever is less;</p> <p>the total temporary trail length does not exceed 3 km; and</p> <p>the temporary trail is only used for the purpose of moving sampling equipment between test sites</p>



Quartz Activity	Class 1 Threshold	A – Prospector’s Class 1	B – Notice and Review
	(b) the total temporary trail length does not exceed 3 km; and  (c) the temporary trail is only used for the purpose of moving sampling equipment between test sites		
Use of vehicles on existing roads or trails	Within the design limits or tolerances of the road or, if design limits or tolerances of roads or trails are not known, vehicles with a gross weight of less than 40 t for roads, and less than 20 t for trails	Up to Class 1 Threshold	
Off-road use of vehicles in summer	Low ground pressure vehicles only		All off-road use of vehicles up to Class 1 Thresholds
Off-road use of vehicles in winter	Low ground pressure vehicles or vehicles with a gross vehicle weight not exceeding 40 t used over a distance of not more than 15 km		All off-road use of vehicles up to Class 1 Thresholds
Use of explosives	Not exceeding 1,000 kg in any 30 day period		Any use of explosives up to Class 1 Thresholds
Construction of underground structures	Construction in which not more than 500 t of rock is moved to the surface		Any construction of underground structures up to Class 1 Thresholds

