

Box 938 , 5102-50th Avenue, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7  
[www.mveirb.nt.ca](http://www.mveirb.nt.ca)

**NOTES:**

This transmission may contain information that is confidential and privileged. It is intended solely for the use of the addressee and is protected by legislation. If you have received this fax transmission in error, please call (867) 766/050 (collect) and destroy any pages received. Thank you.

Fisheries  
and OceansPêches  
et Océans

**Western Arctic Area Office**  
**Suite 101, 5204 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue**  
**YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 1E2**  
**PH: (867) 669-4900**  
**FX: (867) 669-4940**

Page 1 of/de 6 (including cover)

DATE: October 29, 2003

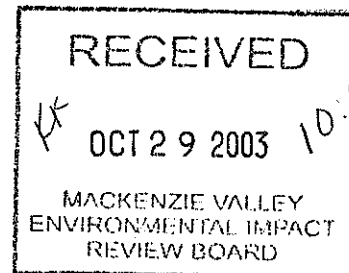
## TO/A:

Name/ Nom	Sherry Sian
Organization/Company Organisation/Compagnie	EA Officer, MVEIRB
Telephone Number/ Numéro de téléphone	
Facsimile Number/ Numéro de téléphone	766-7074

## MESSAGE:

Sherry – the two letters referenced in our Email.

Elaine.



## FROM/DE:

Name Nom	Elaine Blais, Area Habitat Biologist
Telephone Number Numéro de téléphone	(867) 669-4912

*The documents accompanying this transmission contain confidential information intended for a specific individual and purpose. The information is private, and is legally protected by law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or taking of any action in reference to the contents of this telecopied information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone and return the original to us by regular mail.*



Fisheries  
and Oceans

Pêches  
et Océans

Fish Habitat Management  
Suite 101, 5204-50<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Yellowknife, Northwest  
Territories  
X1A 1E2

Your file *Voire référence*

Our file *Notre référence*  
SC03031

July 4, 2003

Robert T. Paterson  
Snowfield Development Corp.  
100-1009 Expo Boulevard,  
Vancouver, B.C.  
V6Z 2V9

**RE: Land Use Permit Application – MV2003C0023: Snowfield Development Corp., Mineral Exploration, Drybones Bay, Great Slave Lake.**

Dear Mr. Paterson:

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Fish Habitat Management – Western Arctic Area (DFO) has reviewed the land use application submitted on your behalf by the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (Board). We are also in receipt of a fax dated June 20, 2003 addressed to The Honourable Robert G. Thibault describing the proposed exploration work.

Under Sections 124 and 125 of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA), DFO participates in a preliminary screening by providing specialist information and/or advice. DFO's assessment takes into consideration primarily fish and fish habitat related concerns.

The information provided in the proposal is not sufficient to enable us to determine whether the proposed works will result in a harmful alteration, disruption or destruction (HADD) of fish habitat. The attached Project Review Information Requirements sheet is intended to guide the proponent in providing the information that DFO requires to facilitate its review of a proposed project. Not all elements will pertain to your project and the level of detail required should be scaled to your project and level of environmental review being undertaken.

Please refer to the DFO comments that were forwarded to the Board on July 2, 2003 and copied to you, that describe in more detail the site specific information that we require at this stage in the project review.

Please note that if the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction (HADD) of fish habitat occurs as a result of works or undertakings associated with these project plans, and an authorization is not obtained for the HADD, contravention of section 35(1) of the Fisheries Act could occur. Section 35(1) states:

*"No person shall carry on any work or undertaking that results in the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat."*

If you have any questions or if our understanding of the project is either incorrect, incomplete, or if there are changes to the proposed work, please contact me at (867) 669-4926, Elaine Blais at (867) 669-4912, or by fax at (867) 669-4940.



Dave Balint  
Fish Habitat Biologist  
Fish Habitat Management  
Department of Fisheries and Oceans- NWT Area

/db

Copy: Julie Dahl, Habitat Chief, Western Arctic Area, DFO

Attachments: Letter to MVLWB  
Information Requirements Sheet

Fisheries  
and OceansPêches  
et OcéansFish Habitat Management  
Suite 101, 5204-50<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Yellowknife, Northwest  
Territories  
X1A 1E2Your file *Votre référence*

MV2003C0023

Our file *Notre référence*

SC03031

July 2, 2003

Latisha Heilman  
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor – 4910 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
P. O. Box 2130  
Yellowknife, NT  
X1A 2P6

Dear Ms. Heilman:

**Re: Land Use Permit Application – MV2003C0023: Snowfield Development Corp., Mineral Exploration, Drybones Bay, Great Slave Lake.**

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Fish Habitat Management – Western Arctic Area (DFO) has reviewed the land use application submitted by Snowfield Development Corporation. DFO's assessment takes into consideration primarily fish and fish habitat related concerns.

The information provided in the proposal is not sufficient to enable us to determine whether the proposed works will result in a harmful alteration, disruption or destruction (HADD) of fish habitat. The attached Project Review Information Requirements sheet contains information that a developer will be required to submit to DFO. The developer will need to identify the information that pertains to their project.

Some of the specific information that should be provided is listed below:

In Item 6, *Summary of potential environmental and resource impacts*, there are contradictory statements. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph it is stated, "Where pumping drill cuttings from lake-ice based drilling sites is impractical...deposited in an appropriate land-based sump." and "All drill sites are land based."

The location of drill sites in proximity to lakes, streams and/or fish habitat need to be delineated on detailed maps. A description of fish habitat in water bodies where proposed drilling is to occur should also be provided.

Specific information detailing the quantities and sources of water to be used in the drilling processes and disposal to sumps should also be provided.

Bulk sampling activities are also proposed. These activities have a greater potential to cause a harmful alteration, disruption or destruction (HADD) of fish habitat. More

**Canada**

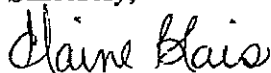
specific site delineation will be required to determine if this is the case and to determine if mitigation can be employed.

Reference to the set-up of a camp is indicated in the application. However a camp is proposed to be located 75 m from Great Slave Lake, and the application also states that a camp will be located at least 50 m from surface water.

The specific location of the camp needs to be delineated. A camp on the shores of Great Slave Lake would likely necessitate the building or use of a dock. Should a dock be required, this will also require a review and/or permit under the Navigable Waters Protection Act.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (867) 669-4912, Fax at (867) 669-4940 or Dave Balint at (867) 669-4926.

Sincerely,



Elaine Blais

Area Habitat Biologist

Department of Fisheries and Oceans

DB

Cc: Robert Paterson, Snowfield Development Corporation

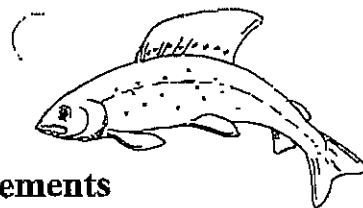
Attachment: Project Review Information Requirements

**Canada**



Fisheries  
and Oceans

Pêches  
et Océans



## Project Review Information Requirements

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans – Fish Habitat Management, Western Arctic Area (DFO-FHM) is responsible for the review of projects proposed to occur in and around water in the NWT, for compliance with the *Fisheries Act*. This entails a review of the potential effects a project may have on fish and fish habitat, which may include; alteration to the bed or bank of a watercourse, impediments to fish passage, impacts due to the use of explosives and entrainment of fish in water intakes. DFO-FHM also administers reviews on behalf of Canadian Coast Guard for projects subject to the *Navigable Waters Protection Act*.

To allow for an expeditious review of a project DFO-FHM requires well documented information about the site conditions and the project. Photographs, diagrams and maps of the project site are very useful. An information requirement guide is listed below. Not all elements may be relevant to your particular project.

### Proponent:

- o contact name, company or agency
- o property ownership
- o address, phone, fax, e-mail

### Project Location Detail:

- o town, city or community (or nearest)
- o nearest waterbody and nearest major drainage
- o map, incl. map sheet number, lat./long, UTM
- o name of roadway and km mark

### Project Description:

- o all phases incl. any temporary structures
- o description of need for project
- o alternatives considered (design, relocation etc.) and reasons for rejection
- o drawings of site and project- top and side view, dimensions, existing structures, high/low water

### Construction:

- o proposed start and completion dates
- o methods of construction
- o details of materials and machinery to be used
- o expected water flows/levels during construction
- o mitigative measures (erosion control etc.)
- o spill contingency plan
- o explosives to be used

### Navigation:

- o current use of the waterway for recreation, commerce, transportation
- o potential effects on navigability
- o upstream and downstream photos of waterway

### Environment:

- o detailed site description (incl. diagrams, photos)
- o description of fish habitat (river, lake or marine substrates, aquatic and shoreline vegetation)
- o presence of sensitive habitats (spawning etc.)
- o potential impacts to fish habitat and mitigative measures
- o area (in m<sup>2</sup>) to be impacted
- o fish community and life stages present
- o potential impacts to fish (incl. marine mammals, shellfish or crustaceans where applicable) and mitigative measures
- o max/min water flows, depths, tides and watercourse width at work site and 500m upstream and downstream

### Compensation/Monitoring:

- o habitat compensation/site restoration plan
- o on site construction monitoring plan
- o contingency plans
- o post construction monitoring plan

### Other:

- o other Agencies or Groups contacted
- o other permits/approvals applied for
- o sport, commercial, subsistence fishery present

**Please note:** Additional information may be required by DFO-FHM and other federal agencies contacted for advice under the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* and/or *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. A post-construction monitoring report may be required, including photographs of the site before, during and after construction, taken from the same reference point for comparison.

Fish habitat is any area that fish depend on directly or indirectly to carry out their life processes (i.e. food, cover, spawning, nursery, migration), at any life stage (i.e. egg, larval, juvenile, adult) and may include seasonally wetted areas and riparian zones.

Department of Fisheries and Oceans  
Fish Habitat Management-Western Arctic Area  
Yellowknife (867) 669-4900 Inuvik (867) 777-7500

Updated Feb. '03

Canada