

PERMIT TO ALTER A BODY OF WATER

Pursuant to the *Water Resources Act*, SNL 2002 cW-4.01, specifically Section(s) 39, 48

Date: **OCTOBER 29, 2025**

File No: **525**
Permit No: **ALT14634-2025**

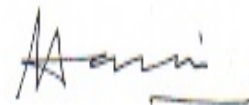
Permit Holder: **New Found Gold Corp.**
300 Garrett Drive
Gander, NL A1V 0H5
mregular@newfoundgold.ca

Attention: **Mike Regular**

Re: **Appleton (Multiple Waterbodies) - Geotechnical Drilling**

Permission is hereby given for : **geotechnical drilling within three (3) unnamed wetlands outside the Town of Appleton, in reference to the application received on September 03, 2025.**

- This Permit does not release the Permit Holder from the obligation to obtain appropriate approvals from other concerned municipal, provincial and federal agencies.
- The Permit Holder must obtain the approval of the Crown Lands Administration Division if the project is being carried out on Crown Land.
- This Permit is subject to the terms and conditions indicated in Appendices A and B (attached).
- It should be noted that prior to any significant changes in the design or installation of the proposed works, or in event of changes in ownership or management of the project, an amendment to this Permit must be obtained from the Department of Environment and Climate Change under Section 49 of the *Water Resources Act*.



(for) MINISTER

APPENDIX A
Terms and Conditions for Permit

General Alterations

1. Any work that must be performed below the high water mark must be carried out during a period of low water levels.
2. Any flowing or standing water must be diverted around work sites so that work is carried out in the dry.
3. Water pumped from excavations or work areas, or any runoff or effluent directed out of work sites, must have silt and turbidity removed by settling ponds, filtration, or other suitable treatment before discharging to a body of water. Effluent discharged into receiving waters must comply with the *Environmental Control Water and Sewage Regulations, 2003*.
4. All operations must be carried out in a manner that prevents damage to land, vegetation, and watercourses, and which prevents pollution of bodies of water.
5. The use of heavy equipment in streams or bodies of water is not permitted. The operation of heavy equipment must be confined to dry stable areas.
6. All vehicles and equipment must be clean and in good repair, free of mud and oil, or other harmful substances that could impair water quality.
7. During the construction of concrete components, formwork must be properly constructed to prevent any fresh concrete from entering a body of water. Dumping of concrete or washing of tools and equipment in any body of water is prohibited.
8. Wood preservatives such as penta, CCA or other such chemicals must not be applied to timber near a body of water. All treated wood or timber must be thoroughly dry before being brought to any work site and installed.
9. Any areas adversely affected by this project must be restored to a state that resembles local natural conditions. Further remedial measures to mitigate environmental impacts on water resources can and will be specified, if considered necessary in the opinion of this Department.
10. The bed, banks and floodplains of watercourses, or other vulnerable areas affected by this project, must be adequately protected from erosion by seeding, sodding or placing of rip-rap.
11. All waste materials resulting from this project must be disposed of at a site approved by the Department of Digital Government and Service NL.
12. Periodic maintenance such as painting, resurfacing, clearing of debris, or minor repairs, must be carried out without causing any physical disruption of any watercourse. Care must be taken to prevent spillage of pollutants into the water.
13. The owners of structures are responsible for any environmental damage resulting from dislodgement caused by wind, wave, ice action, or structural failure.
14. Sediment and erosion control measures must be installed before starting work. All control measures must be inspected regularly and any necessary repairs made if damage is discovered.

15. Fill material must be of good quality, free of fines or other substances including metals, organics, or chemicals that may be harmful to the receiving waters.
16. The attached Completion Report (Appendix C) for Permit No. 14634 must be completed and returned to this Department upon completion of the approved works. Pictures must be submitted along with the completion report, showing the project site prior to and after development.
17. This Permit is valid for two years from the date of issue. Work must be completed by that date or the application and approval procedure must be repeated.
18. The location of the work is highlighted on the Location Map for this Permit attached as Appendix D.
19. All work must be carried out within the Permit Holder's legal property boundaries.
20. This licence/permit does not constitute an acknowledgement of interest in any land claims adjacent.

Geotechnical Testing

21. A water quality monitoring program is not required at this time. However, the Department reserves the right to require that the Permit Holder sample, analyse, and submit results of water quality tests, for the purpose of ensuring that the water quality is maintained within acceptable guidelines. All analyses must be undertaken by a CALA accredited laboratory.
22. The proponent must use existing trails, winter roads or cut lines wherever possible as access routes to limit unnecessary clearing of additional vegetation and prevent soil compaction
23. Monitoring wells and boreholes, when no longer required, must be decommissioned as specified in this Department's policy - **Guidelines for Sealing Groundwater Wells**.
24. The work must meet the requirements of the Environmental Protection Plan (latest approved version) for the project.
25. Other than emergency repairs, all maintenance of the drill rig or other equipment, must be carried out on land, outside the Protected Public Water Supply Area, and no closer than 30 metres to any body of water.

PPWSA General

26. All persons working on this project must be informed that they are within a Protected Public Water Supply Area, and must be made aware of all conditions of this Permit. A copy of this Permit must be on site during operations.
27. An undisturbed (no cutting or ground disturbance) buffer zone of at least **300 metres** shall be maintained around Gander Lake, at least **50 metres** around major lakes and ponds and along both sides of all streams and main tributaries running into Gander Lake, and at least **30 metres** around all ponds, along both sides of all other water bodies and field identified streams within the Protected Public Water Supply Area. Activity or development within these buffer zones is prohibited. All buffer zones must be marked with signs or flagging tape to avoid encroachment into the buffer zones.
28. Officials of the Department and the appropriate Municipal Authority, Operator, or Watershed Management Committee may visit the site to ensure compliance with this Permit.
29. Liaison is to be maintained with the appropriate Municipal Authority and Environmental Scientist. If there are any specific problems (i.e. sedimentation, fuel spill, or other potential water quality impairment), the Chair of the Water Supply Committee must be notified immediately at (709)651-5915. The Environmental Scientist must also be notified immediately at (709)292-4280.
30. The felling or disposing of trees, parts of trees, sawdust, bark, logging debris or slash into a water body or upon the frozen surface of a water body is strictly prohibited.

31. Treated wood shall not be used in a water body or within buffer zones established in Condition 27 of any water body measured from the high water mark. The use of creosote treated wood anywhere within the Protected Public Water Supply Area is strictly prohibited.
32. The Permit Holder must inspect the site daily, and any water quality impairment related problems are to be reported immediately to the Environmental Scientist at (709)292-4280 and the Watershed Monitoring Committee at (709)651-5915.
33. Any changes in water quality resulting directly from this project, rendering the water unsuitable as a public water supply, are the responsibility of the Permit Holder. The Minister may order the Permit Holder to provide an alternate source of potable water to the affected community until water quality returns to an accepted level.
34. Exploration activities must not extend within 200 meters of a scheduled salmon river without prior registration for and release under the Environmental Protection Act, Environmental Assessment Division, Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment.
35. Where permits, licences, approvals or authorizations are issued by multiple governments, departments or agencies, in the case of similar conditions, the more stringent of those shall prevail; in the case of conflicting conditions, the Permit Holder shall seek clarification and direction in writing from each of the respective departments or agencies.
36. The Permit Holder is required to ensure that adequate sanitary (bathroom) facilities are available or provided on site. This may be in the form of a portable toilet, chemical toilet, pit privy (outhouse), sub-surface disposal system, or municipal sewer system. If a portable toilet or chemical toilet is used, the waste water must be disposed of in a septic disposal system approved by Service NL, or at an approved waste disposal site, outside the Protected Public Water Supply Area in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, SNL 2002 cE-14.2. If a pit privy (outhouse) or sub-surface disposal system is used, it must be located outside the required buffers, and be subject to the Department of Government Modernization and Service Delivery standards, requirements and approval.
37. The issuance of this permit does not guarantee, nor set precedent, that additional or similar permits or amendments will be issued in this or any other Protected Public Water Supply Area for additional or similar activity or development.

Fuel Storage

38. There shall be no bulk fuel storage associated with this project within the protected water supply area. Fuel shall be brought to the operating area in no more than two (2) 205 litre barrels or one (1) 500 litre slip tank. The Permit Holder is hereby informed that fuel storage and handling requires a separate approval under the *Storage and Handling of Gasoline and Associated Products Regulations*, CNR 775/96.
39. A complete oil spill clean-up kit must be on site at all times when gasoline or fuel powered equipment is being used or refueled. The kit must contain the following:
 - Fire pump and 100 metres of hose
 - Two hand operated fuel pumps
 - Six recovery containers such as empty 205 litre drums
 - Four shovels
 - Two pick axes
 - Ten metres of containment boom
 - Twenty-five absorbent pads
 - One hundred litres of loose absorbent material
40. Contaminated snow and soil must be removed from the site and disposed of at an approved location outside the protected public water supply area, in accordance with the *Environmental Protection Act, SNL 2002 cE-14.2*.
41. Any spills of gasoline, fuel or oil, regardless of volume, shall be reported immediately to the Environmental Scientist at (709)292-4280 and the appropriate Municipal Authority or Watershed Management Committee by calling (709)651-5915. Furthermore, all spills in excess of 70 litres shall be reported immediately to the 24 hour spill report line at 1-800-563-9089.

42. A complete oil spill clean-up kit must be on site at all times when gasoline or fuel powered equipment is being used or refuelled. The kit must contain the following:
- One hand operated fuel pump
 - One recovery container such as an empty 205 litre drum
 - One shovel
 - One pick axe
 - Five metres of containment boom
 - Five absorbent pads
 - Twenty-five litres of loose absorbent material
43. Refueling sites shall be located at least 150 metres from any water body or wetland.
44. The proponent is hereby informed that an application form for fuel storage must be obtained under the Storage and Handling of Gasoline and Associated Products Regulations, 2003, for any fuel storage outside the Protected Public Water Supply Area.

Exploration

45. All silt, sludge, sediment, cuttings, drilling additives, and drilling mud must be collected, properly disposed of and not permitted to flow freely over the ground into any receiving waterbody (including wetlands). A layered risk mitigation approach is required.
46. The primary layer of risk mitigation, where physical conditions allow, shall consist of the construction of a temporary sump pit. The temporary sump pit shall be constructed on the down-slope side of the drill pad to collect discharge waters and to allow solids to settle out. In areas where it is physically impossible to dig a sump pit, a settling tank will be required. Performance of the sump pit or settling tank during operations and after heavy rainfall events should be monitored on an hourly basis and any issues reported to the Water Resources Management Division of this Department.
47. The secondary layer of risk mitigation shall consist of, but may not be limited to, some combination of additional temporary sump pits, sediment traps, interceptor ditches of sump pit runoff prior to discharge into any waterbody, settling tanks or constructed settling ponds. The design of secondary risk mitigation layers shall be approved by the Environmental Scientist prior to any development activity.
48. Should an accumulated mass of material from the drilling activity be collected by either the primary or secondary risk mitigation layer, the accumulation shall be excavated and deposited in the sump pit prior to rehabilitation.
49. Material collected in a settling tank as part of a primary risk mitigation layer can be buried outside of the PPWSA or outside of any buffer zone within the PPWSA, if conditions are suitable.
50. All drill rigs, pumps, generators, other motorized equipment and associated fuel tanks shall have metal trays, absorbent pads or impervious liners under them to catch and contain in excess of 110 % of the aggregate volume of any fuel, lubricant and oil.
51. All water, runoff or effluent from the mineral exploration activity (or any other type of similar undertaking), that is pumped or flows by gravity, shall have silt, sludge, sediment, cuttings, and visible turbidity removed by means of sediment boxes, settling tanks, settling ponds, sumps dug into the ground, filtration or other suitable treatment, to less than or equal to 30 milligrams per litre of Total Suspended Solids (TSS), before being discharged to the environment. More specifically, at the last point of control, the final discharge of all water, runoff or effluent must conform to the limits specified in Schedule A of the Environmental Control Water and Sewer Regulations, 2003, <https://www.assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/Regulations/rc030065.htm>. It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to demonstrate, that the final discharge meets the requirement of these Regulations.
52. Drilling fluids other than water must be approved by this Department prior to their use.
53. All boreholes inside the Protected Public Water Supply Area shall be sealed with bentonite to prevent any artesian flow.

54. Unless listed above, all conditions outlined in the **Environmental Guidelines for Construction and Mineral Exploration Companies**, must be strictly adhered to.
55. At least seven (7) days advance notice of the beginning and end of the planned drilling operations is required. The Chair of the Water Supply Committee must be notified at jblackwood@gandercanada.com and the Environmental Scientist must be notified at trentpollett@gov.nl.ca. Any changes in the planned drilling operation must also be communicated in a timely manner, and approved with a subsequent Permit or amendment before being undertaken.
56. Prior to completion of the project, sump pits/trenches/test pits/any engineered excavation for the retention of sediment shall be rehabilitated appropriately. Rehabilitation may include backfilling of stockpiled materials such as subsoils and till, re-covering the backfilled site with stockpiled organic cover and any additional organic materials, seeding, or other measures.
57. There shall be no reinjection of silt, sludge, sediment, cuttings, drilling additives, and drilling mud back into the drill hole.
58. Water, runoff or effluent must not be discharged within 30 meters of a body of water including wetlands, nor in such a manner that it has a direct surface route back to a body of water.
59. In the case of an event that may impact drinking water quality, the Proponent's Contingency Plan shall be followed.
60. All storm runoff shall be diverted away from any engineered excavation for the retention of sediment (e.g. sump, sediment basin, settling pond).
61. The Permit Holder is required to provide this Department with all documents, information and data which may be requested or required in order to carry out an inspection or investigation.

Special Conditions

62. The five (5) preceding days to drilling must have daily recorded rainfall of less than 5 mm as recorded by the nearest Environment and Climate Change Canada Weather Station or other reliable daily rainfall recording methods approved by the Environmental Scientist.
63. Bog mats are to be used in wet areas along the access route and are mandatory inside the wetland, including a 30m buffer area around the wetlands.

APPENDIX B
Special Terms and Conditions for Permit

1. The Permit Holder and its agent(s), subcontractor(s), and consultant(s) shall keep all systems and works in good condition and repair and in accordance with all laws, by-laws, directions, rules and regulations of any governmental authority. The Permit Holder or its agent(s), subcontractor(s), or consultant(s) shall immediately notify the Minister if any problem arises which may threaten the structural stability of the systems and works, endanger public safety and/or the environment or adversely affect others and/or any body of water either in or outside the said Project areas. The Permit Holder and its agent(s), subcontractor(s), and consultant(s) shall be responsible for all damages suffered by the Minister and Government resulting from any defect in the systems and works, operational deficiencies/inadequacies, or structural failure.
2. The Permit Holder and its agent(s), subcontractor(s), and consultant(s) shall operate the said Project and its systems and works in a manner which does not cause any water related and/or environmental problems, including but not limited to problems of erosion, deposition, flooding, and deterioration of water quality and groundwater depletion, in or outside the said Project areas. The Permit Holder and its agent(s), subcontractor(s), and consultant(s) shall be responsible for any and all damages associated with these problems caused as a result of changes, deficiencies, and inadequacies in the operational procedures by the Permit Holder or its agent(s), subcontractor(s), or consultant(s).
3. If the Permit Holder or its agent(s), subcontractor(s), or consultant(s) fails to perform, fulfil, or observe any of the terms and conditions, or provisions of this Permit, as determined by this Department, the Minister may, without notice, amend, modify, suspend or cancel this Permit in accordance with the *Water Resources Act*.
4. The Permit Holder and its agent(s), subcontractor(s), and consultant(s) indemnify and hold the Minister and Government harmless against any and all liabilities, losses, claims, demands, damages or expenses including legal expenses of any nature whatsoever whether arising in tort, contract, statute, trust or otherwise resulting directly or indirectly from granting this Permit, systems and works in or outside the said Project areas, or any act or omission of the Permit Holder or its agent(s), subcontractor(s), or consultant(s) in or outside the said Project areas, or arising out of a breach or non-performance of any of the terms and conditions, or provisions of this Permit by the Permit Holder or its agent(s), subcontractor(s), or consultant(s).
5. This Permit is subject to all provisions of the *Water Resources Act* and any regulations in effect either at the date of this Permit or hereafter made pursuant thereto or any other relevant legislation enacted by the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador in the future.
6. This Permit shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

- cc: Mr. Trent Pollett
Environmental Scientist, Drinking Water
Water Resources Management Division
Department of Environment and Climate Change
3 Crommer Avenue
Grand Falls - Windsor, NL
A2A 1W9
trentpollett@gov.nl.ca
- cc: Ms. Deneen Spracklin, P.Eng.
Manager, Drinking Water and Wastewater Section
Water Resources Management Division
Department of Environment and Climate Change
P.O. Box 8700
4th Floor, West Block, Confederation Building
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6
dspracklin@gov.nl.ca
- cc: Ms. Paula Dawe, P.Eng.
Manager, Water Rights, Investigations and Modelling Section
Water Resources Management Division
Department of Environment and Climate Change
P.O. Box 8700
4th Floor, West Block, Confederation Building
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6
pauladawe@gov.nl.ca
- cc: Trevor Mills (Central)
Land Management Specialist
Agriculture and Lands Branch
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
PO Box 2222
Fraser Mall, Gander, NL
A1V 2N9
trevormills@gov.nl.ca
- cc: Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program
Aquatic Ecosystems Branch
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
P.O. Box 5667
St. John's, NL A1C 5X1
dfo.fppnl-ppptnel.mpo@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
- cc: Town of Appleton
62 Bowater Road
Appleton, NL A0G 2K0
townofappleton@personainternet.com
- cc: Town of Gander
100 Elizabeth Drive
Gander, NL A1V 1G7
info@gandercanada.com
- cc: Town of Glenwood
P.O. Box 130

Glenwood, NL A0G 2K0
townofglenwood@hotmail.com



Appendix C - Completion Report

Pursuant to the *Water Resources Act*, SNL 2002 cW-4.01, specifically Section(s) 39, 48

Date: **OCTOBER 29, 2025**

File No: **525**
Permit No: **ALT14634-2025**

Permit Holder: **New Found Gold Corp.**
300 Garrett Drive
Gander, NL A1V 0H5
mregular@newfoundgold.ca

Attention: **Mike Regular**

Re: **Appleton (Multiple Waterbodies) - Geotechnical Drilling**

Permission was given for : **geotechnical drilling within three (3) unnamed wetlands outside the Town of Appleton, in reference to the application received on September 03, 2025.**

I (the Permit Holder named above or agent authorized to represent the Permit Holder) do hereby certify that the project described above was completed in accordance with the plans and specifications submitted to the Department of Environment and Climate Change and that the work was carried out in strict compliance with the terms and conditions of the Permit issued for this project.

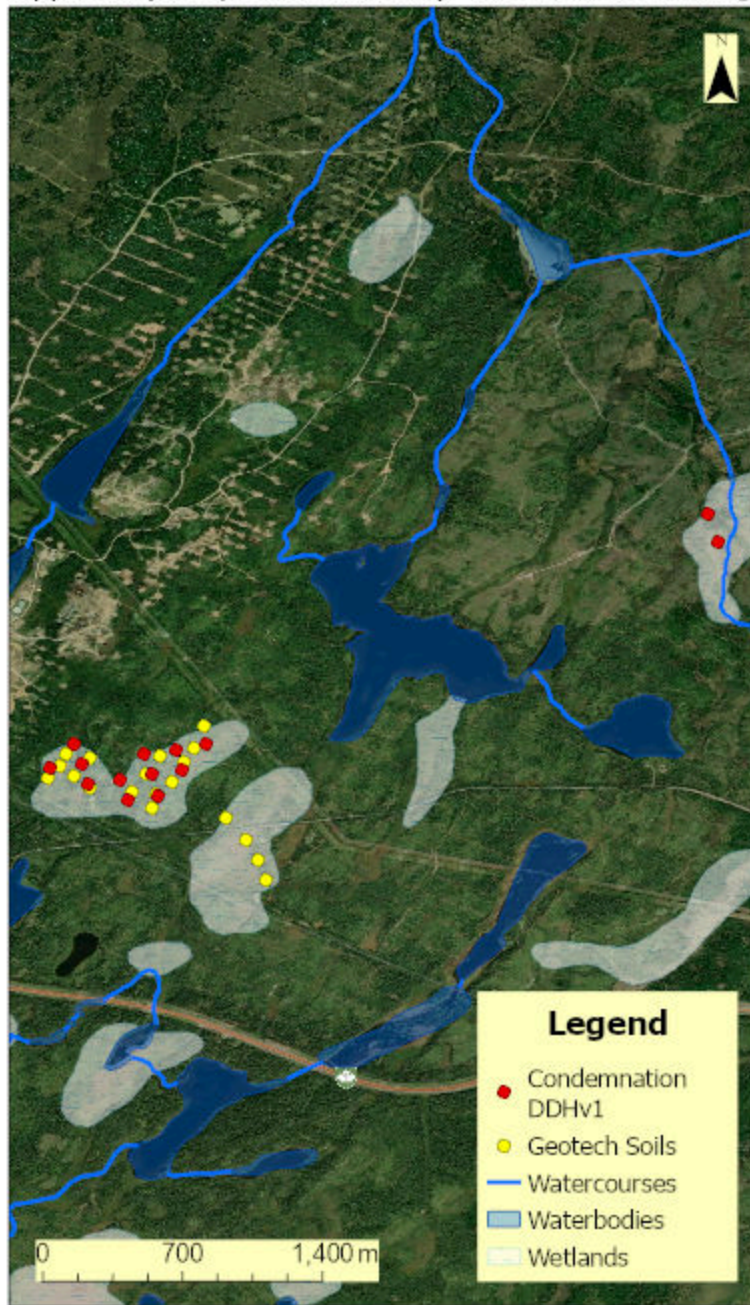
Date: _____ Signature: _____

This completion report must be completed and forwarded to the following address upon completion of the approved work.

Department of Environment and Climate Change
Water Resources Management Division
PO Box 8700
St. John's NL A1B 4J6

APPENDIX D
Location Map for Permit

Appleton (Multiple Waterbodies) - Geotechnical Drilling



Second Attached Image File

