Appendix U

Land and Resource Use Technical Support Document

MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION
COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

Final Land and Resource Use Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment

February 2026

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AECOM: 2024-12-21

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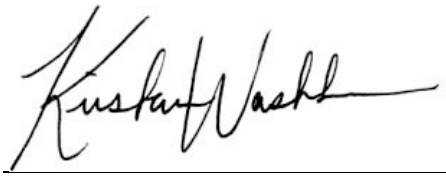

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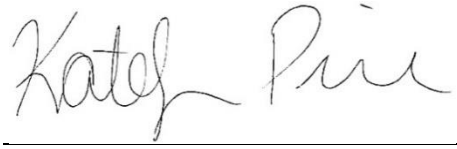

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Revision History

Revision Number	Date	Revised By:	Revision Description
1	December 29, 2025	C. LeBlanc	Updated report based on comments and edits made my Lead Verifier and Leader Reviewer
2	February 9, 2026	C. LeBlanc	Updated report based on comments and edits made by final review.

Executive Summary

Marten Falls First Nation, a First Nation community in northern Ontario, has proposed a Community Access Road that will connect the community to Ontario's provincial highway network via the existing Painter Lake Road. Located at the junction of the Albany and Ogoki rivers, approximately 430 kilometres from Thunder Bay, Marten Falls First Nation is a remote community currently accessible by air year-round and by winter road when conditions permit. The proposed Community Access Road would provide reliable, all season access, improving connectivity for residents, visitors, and essential services.

This report incorporates and adapts material from the *Draft Land and Resource Use Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions and Effects* Assessment (Dillon, 2024) which was submitted with the Marten Falls Community Access Road Draft Environmental Impact Assessment / Impact Statement.

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada describes **Valued Components** as the environmental, health, social, economic, or additional elements or conditions of the natural and human environment that may be impacted by a proposed project and area of concern or value to the public, Indigenous peoples, federal authorities and interested parties (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, 2021).

Indicators represent the resource, feature, or issue related to the Valued Component that, if changed, may demonstrate an effect on the environment. Indicators may be characterized quantitatively or qualitatively. For example, effects from changes to the availability and distribution of Valued Components are often expressed through quantitative assessment of direct vegetation removals as well as predicted indirect effects on retained vegetation.

The Land and Resource Discipline has identified the following Valued Components and Indicators as they relate to the Project and include:

Valued Component	Indicators
Land Use Compatibility	■ Land Use Planning in the Study Area
Parks and Protected Areas	■ Area of Park and Protected areas impacted
	■ Accessibility to parks and protected areas
Recreation and Tourism	■ Land and waterway disruption and access
	■ Environmental Conditions
	■ Availability of species harvested for recreation purposes
Extractive Resource Industry	■ Removal of lands with potential for mineral extraction
	■ Proximity to and access to lands with future potential for mining development
Forestry Industry	■ Availability and access to lands with potential for forest harvesting operation
Remote Outfitters	■ Change to operations of remote outfitters in vicinity of the Marten Falls Community Access Road
Trapping	■ Change to trapping activity in the vicinity of Marten Falls Community Access Road
Energy and Linear Infrastructure	■ Opportunity for development of energy facilities and linear infrastructure

This document outlines the Land and Resource Use existing conditions and Impact Assessment required for Project review by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada under the federal *Impact Assessment Act* and an Environmental Assessment required for Project review by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks under the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act*.

Data for the Land and Resource Use description of existing conditions was collected from October 2021 to October 2025. The existing conditions, as documented in **Section 5** of this report, considers areas of features encountered for all route alternatives.

The project affected lands are remote in character with access only through float plane, boat (canoe) and possibly snowmobile in the winter. Land use activities are primarily trapping, hunting and fishing. Hunting and fishing are generally provided by remote tourism outfitters through fly-in commercial outfitter camps and local guiding. The road will pass through the Albany River Provincial Park by means of a proposed bridge. The waterway park is where recreation activities such as canoe tripping are possible although use is understood to be limited due to the non-operating nature of the parks. There are no known designated recreation features / facilities in the Local Study Area, aside from backcountry campsites and portage trails. There is some active logging in proximity to the road in the Ogoki Forest. There are no active mines, but mining exploration is ongoing in the Local and Regional Study Areas. Commercial trapping has occurred historically in the Local and Regional Study Areas, but Indigenous Knowledge provided by Marten Falls First Nation and adjacent communities indicates a reduced level of trapping has occurred in the last ten years. There are no energy facilities in the Local or Regional Study Area at the time this report was written.

This document also outlines the results of the impact / effects assessment of the Project including the preferred road route for the Valued Components for the Land and Resource Use discipline.

Land Use Compatibility

The Construction Disturbance Area is under the jurisdiction of the *Public Lands Act*, *Far North Act* and the *Mining Act*. The applicable policies and procedures under these Acts provide guidelines for land use in this area. There is currently one ‘Draft’ Marten Falls First Nation Community Based Land Use Plan for the area, the proposed route is located in lands identified in the Draft Community Based Land Use Plan. Recommendations include involving Marten Falls First Nation in land and resource use planning to manage new developments, confirming conformity with the updated plan.

In addition to the above, Ontario Parks has indicated the possible need to amend the park management statement for the Albany River Provincial Park.

Parks and Protected Areas

The construction phase will involve clearing 5.7 ha of the Albany River Provincial Park and building a bridge over the Albany River, causing some noise, air quality, and visual impacts. These impacts are considered minor due to the limited affected area relative to the Park's total size and the amount of time users will be in proximity to the bridge. Improved access during operations might increase park usage, enhancing recreational opportunities but potentially impacting wilderness experiences. Any improved access facilities require the support of Ontario Parks through the Project Evaluation Policy and consultation with local communities. Mitigation measures include limiting the footprint of land clearing, monitoring noise and air quality during construction, and working with Ontario Parks on the environmental management plan. Residual effects are deemed not significant, with expected positive outcomes related to improved park access, subject to Ontario Parks support.

Recreation and Tourism

While there is limited recreation activity under existing conditions, the Project will enhance access to the remote lands and water resources, potentially resulting in increased recreation activity opportunities such as hunting and fishing. Construction and operation phase impacts on noise, air quality, and species abundance are expected to be minimal. Mitigation measures will manage these potential disruptions including proper design of water crossings to address navigation impacts. Potential adverse residual effects on recreation and tourism are assessed as not significant.

Extractive Resource Industry

Approximately 2,234 ha of active mining claims intersect with the Regional Study Area. Mining companies anticipate positive impacts from improved access to mineral resource areas, despite minor adverse effects on future mineral development. Ongoing engagement with claim holders during the road design stage is recommended. Overall, the residual effects on the extractive resource industry are assessed as not significant, with potential benefits to regional mineral development and future mining operations.

Forestry Industry

The Construction Disturbance Area overlaps 384.4 ha of the Ogoki Forest, in the Ogoki Forest Management Unit. Given the upgrades to the existing Painter Lake Road, the effects on the Forest industry are expected to be negligible. Enhanced access to forest lands may positively affect future timber harvesting. Residual effects on the forestry industry are deemed not significant.

Remote Outfitters

Six remote outfitter camps were identified to be in the vicinity of the Project area. Outfitter camps at Painter Lake, Caviar Lake, and Teabeau Lake are most at risk to being affected given proximity to potential aggregate sites. Mitigation measures include engaging with outfitters, managing access, and discussions with the Ministry of Natural Resources regarding hunting and fishing in the area. Residual effects on remote outfitters are assessed as not significant.

Trapping

The Project overlaps with seven trapline tenures, where the affected area represents a small fraction (<0.5%) of the total tenure. Key species such as wolverine, American marten, and beaver are expected to maintain self-sustaining populations with the Project in place. Commercial trapping has occurred historically in the Regional Study Area, but Indigenous Knowledge indicates that very little trapping has occurred in the last ten years. It is possible that local populations of furbearers in the vicinity of the road may result from disturbance effects such as noise. Populations of furbearers in the larger area are not predicted to be affected by the Project. Improved access to the area may benefit trapping activities. Mitigation includes notifying trapline holders about construction, managing noise, and protecting sensitive sites. Adverse residual effects on trapping are considered not significant.

Energy and Linear Infrastructure

There are no existing energy or linear infrastructure facilities in the Project area. The road corridor once established may facilitate future energy development opportunities. There are no direct or indirect adverse impacts expected, and no specific mitigation measures are recommended.

While certain adverse effects are identified, they are manageable with the proposed mitigation strategies. The Project presents overall positive benefits, particularly in enhancing access to various land and resource use opportunities.

Cumulative Effects Assessment presents the assessment of potential cumulative effects completed as part of the Project. The only Valued Component carried forward into the Cumulative Effects Assessment for the Land and Resource Use Discipline is Trapping.

There is potential for combined effects on trapping within three trapping tenure areas (GE148, GE153, GE154) because of potential effects from the Community Access Road combining with effects of other projects (Northern Road Link and forestry activity in the Ogoki Forest Management area). These effects are primarily related to habitat loss for furbearing species and disturbances during construction and operation phases of the projects.

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1. Introduction

This Report presents the existing conditions and effects assessment for the Land and Resource Use Discipline and was prepared in support of the Marten Falls Community Access Road Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report. The Land and Resource Use Discipline is focused on the use of land and resources for Indigenous non-traditional purposes and non-Indigenous uses of the land. The Land and Resource Use for this area is anticipated to be modified with the introduction of transportation infrastructure. This Report will analyze the potential short-term and long-term impacts that the road will have on access to resource values and land users, it incorporates and adapts material from the *Draft Land and Resource Use Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions and Effects Assessment* (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025) which was submitted with the Marten Falls Community Access Road Draft Environmental Impact Assessment / Impact Statement.

Marten Falls First Nation is a remote First Nation community in northern Ontario, approximately 430 km from Thunder Bay, Ontario, located at the junction of the Albany and Ogoki rivers. Marten Falls First Nation is proposing a multi-purpose all-season Community Access Road (the Project) that will connect the community to the Ontario provincial highway network.

The Project includes the construction and operation of a Community Access Road with the following key characteristics:

- Approximately 184 km two-lane gravel all-season road on a new right-of-way;
- Approximately 100 m wide right-of-way cleared to a width of 60 m; and
- Proposed designated speed limit of 80 km per hour.

Marten Falls First Nation is currently accessible year-round by air transportation out of Thunder Bay, Ontario and Nakina, Ontario, and by a winter access road constructed on an annual basis, if winter conditions permit. Since the 1990s, Marten Falls First Nation has received provincial funding to maintain the 140 km of winter road to the community.

1.1 Project Overview

The Project consists of a new all-season road from Painter Lake Road, located approximately 57 km north of Nakina, Ontario, to the community of Marten Falls First Nation, a remote First Nation community in northern Ontario located at the junction of the Albany and Ogoki rivers. The Community Access Road will serve community access and industrial supply needs for both the community (e.g., fuel, construction supplies, water treatment supplies) and industrial proponents (e.g., mining, forestry), thereby minimizing

infrastructure corridors in the Far North (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). Therefore, the Project will be for a multi-purpose road built to meet the multi-use specifications.

In April 2018, Marten Falls First Nation signed an agreement with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to prepare an individual environmental assessment under the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act*, 1990 to support the development of the Community Access Road. A study under the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act* was formally initiated by Marten Falls First Nation in March 2019 when the Notice of Commencement for a Terms of Reference for the Project was published.

1.2 Qualifications of Individuals

A list of names and qualifications of the authors and technical reviewers of this Report is presented in **Table 1-1**.

Table 1-1: Qualifications of Individuals

Name	Title / Role	Years of Experience	Qualifications
Chelsea LeBlanc	Land and Resource Use Discipline Lead	12	MASc.,BSc.- Hon
Kristan Washburn	Lead Verifier	17	MES
Katelyn Price	Senior Environmental Planner	13	EP

2. Project Description

The Project will be executed in three main phases:

- Planning and design, which includes the preparation of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report, obtaining regulatory approvals and detailed engineering design;
- Construction, which is anticipated to last between three and ten years; and
- Operation and maintenance, for a permanent road.

The decommissioning of the road is not anticipated.

2.1 Project Components

2.1.1 Road Construction

The Project will consist of a 184 km all-season or primary road within a 100 m wide right-of-way, 60 m of which will be cleared of vegetation. Additional clearing occurring in certain locations to accommodate construction activities, access, pits and quarries aggregate source areas, and temporary infrastructure such as staging areas, camps and debris, and / or timber stockpiles or laydown areas will be required. It has a roadway approximately 11 m in width to accommodate a two-lane gravel road with culverts and two-lane bridges at water crossing locations. Traffic levels for the Project have been estimated at 700 vehicles per day for the north-south section and 100 vehicles a day for the east-west section of the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road. These volumes are reflective of the anticipated peak traffic in 2046. Given that the ownership of the Community Access Road is not determined at this time, the reference to the road is being considered as a Community Access Road on Public Lands by definition under the Public Lands Act until the ownership is determined.

The predominant construction materials will be blasted rockfill from nearby aggregate and composite excavation material capped with granular surface material. The majority of blasted rockfill will be obtained from rock outcrops within and / or adjacent to the Right-of-Way. Other construction materials will be primarily obtained from nearby aggregate sources through permitted pits and quarries developed specifically to support construction of the Project. The potential source for aggregate is discussed in further detail below and the locations can be found in **Figure 1.**

Early investigations on permafrost have shown the Project is located within a sporadic discontinuous permafrost zone, with known locations documented and monitored. At the time of drafting, no areas of known permafrost have been found within the Construction Disturbance Area. Excavation within identified permafrost areas will be avoided, whenever

possible, as cutting into surface vegetation can disturb the permafrost regime resulting in thaw and unstable ground. As a precaution, the design will primarily use fill to minimize any permafrost degradation and will follow the recommendations outlined in the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement.

2.1.2 Bridges and Culverts

Water crossings such as bridges or culverts will be required over the various waterways, including the rivers, creeks and associated tributaries. Navigability considerations will determine sizing requirements of structures or culverts. Consideration will also be given to streams or waterbodies that may only be seasonally inundated; however, this will be considered for navigability as identified by land users.

Bridges will be required to provide grade separation with sizes ranging from single span to multi-span bridges to carry two lanes of traffic with appropriate shoulder widths. The foundation support for the bridge abutments are expected to consist of driven steel piles, drilled concrete piles, or concrete spread footings. Foundations investigations are currently on going to determine future requirements for abutments for these bridge crossings.

Equalization culverts will be installed at locations where it is determined that spring-melt or storm runoff needs to pass from one side of the Project to the other to prevent flooding and / or erosion. The purpose of equalization culverts is to maintain the existing surface water drainage patterns in the area. Culverts will be put in place as construction progresses along the Project.

2.1.3 Pits and Quarries

Quarries, pits, and aggregate source areas will be investigated and are anticipated to be developed along the proposed roadway to provide crushed rock and granular materials for the construction of the Project and temporary access roads. These sites have been identified and considered in this Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment. Most of the rock required for construction is expected to come from quarry sites in the vicinity of the Community Access Road route. Temporary or operational access roads will be established to connect the various Project components as required and will be limited in length to the extent feasible. All materials will be subject to a geotechnical verification process in order to confirm they possess the desired physical properties for use in construction. The development and operation of all Pits and Quarries will be subject to the aggregate permitting process under the *Aggregate Resources Act*.

All materials will be subject to a geotechnical verification process in order to confirm they possess the desired physical properties for use in construction. The development and operation of all pits and quarries will be subject to the aggregate permitting process under the *Aggregate Resources Act* (Aggregate Resources of Ontario: Site Plan (2020)

Standards and Technical Reports and Information (2023)). Permitted pits and quarries will follow the progressive and final rehabilitation requirements outlined in the approved site plans under the Act.

2.1.4 Temporary Infrastructure for Construction

Operational or temporary access roads may be required to access the Right-of-Way during the construction process of the primary road. The purpose of the temporary access roads is to facilitate emergency access, equipment and personnel access, and to provide access to and from quarries, pits, and aggregate source areas. The temporary access roads will be cleared of trees and vegetation, but not grubbed, to approximately 10 m wide to accommodate equipment movement.

Upon completion of construction, sand and gravel pits, including temporary access roads leading to the pits will be rehabilitated (progressive and final rehabilitation) and surrendered in accordance with the Aggregate Resources Act.

Temporary construction camps, staging areas, and stockpile areas are anticipated to be established at various locations along the Right-of-Way and / or near other Project components. These components are proposed to support crews, store equipment, vehicles, materials, and supplies. Rehabilitation and reforestation / re-greening will be considered for these areas after they are no longer required for future maintenance of the roadway.

3. Information Shared by Indigenous Peoples & Other Interested Persons Which Informed This Report

In the course of completing the description of baseline conditions and effects assessment for this Report, information provided by Indigenous knowledge holders, Indigenous community members, regulators, and public stakeholders was used to develop the approach and assessment conducted for this study. This information and how it informed the development of this Report are described below. This section does not detail all the information, comments, or questions received related to the Project and is limited to only the information which informed this Report. For a full description of all consultation and engagement related to the Community Access Road, a Record of Consultation and Engagement for the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report will be made available when documents are finalized. Information related to Indigenous Knowledge can be found in the *Marten Falls Community Access Road: Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Final Report* (Dillon, 2024).

3.1 Indigenous Knowledge

Indigenous Knowledge refers to Indigenous systems of knowledge as well as cultural practices related to the production of knowledge based on traditional belief systems, relationships to the environment, and community practices. It is the accumulated and living knowledge built upon the historic experiences of Peoples living on the land and adapting to social, economic, environmental, spiritual and political change (Chiefs of Ontario, n.d.). It includes knowledge about the natural environment (e.g., locations of caribou seasonal use and calving areas), the relationships between environmental changes and species or ecosystems, and how potential effects to the environment can be avoided or reduced.

Indigenous Land and Resource Use refers to specific areas and resources used for traditional purposes when Indigenous peoples learn and practice their Indigenous Knowledge (Garvin & Northern Forestry Centre (Canada), 2001). This includes the areas and sites used for hunting, trapping, fishing, and gathering and the resources harvested, as well as cultural sites, features and practices—sometimes referred to as Traditional Land Use.

In 2019, the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road project launched a program to collect Indigenous Knowledge. The Indigenous Knowledge is a critical component of the information base upon which the assessments will rely. The information generated through the Indigenous Knowledge has been woven with scientific approaches, and both knowledge systems will be given equal consideration in forming the foundation

for existing conditions, predicting potential Project effects, and determining appropriate mitigation and monitoring methods.

The Indigenous Knowledge gathering occurred in two concurrent phases:

1. Collecting existing Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use to help inform the early stages of the assessments; and
2. Completing Project-specific Indigenous Knowledge and Lands & Resource Use studies.

The protection and confidentiality of Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use is of the utmost importance. To honour and respect this important information, Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreements were established with interested communities prior to the use of community information. The Sharing Agreement outlines how confidential and sensitive information will be woven into the Project's environmental / impact and design processes.

All Indigenous communities and groups identified by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) through the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan have had the opportunity to participate in Indigenous Knowledge gathering. The Indigenous Knowledge gathered provides interested Indigenous communities an opportunity to: share existing Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values that may be relevant to the Project, and / or complete Project-specific studies to collect and share Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values. The Indigenous Knowledge gathered included opportunities for Indigenous communities and groups to meet with the Proponent to discuss the project, ask questions, and share concerns and interests.

The Proponent strove to respectfully collaborate with Indigenous communities on how Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values were considered in reporting, and how potential effects to Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests were assessed. Measures to support this included but were not limited to: engaging Indigenous communities to solicit information on Indigenous Knowledge and Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values; to inform baseline conditions, providing Indigenous communities with draft sections of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report; to illustrate how Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values has been integrated, and to confirm it has been presented appropriately. The proponent aims to complete collaborative working sessions with Indigenous communities to inform the effects assessment on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests. Further information on how potential effects on Indigenous rights were assessed is provided in the *Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Study Plan* (Dillon, 2021).

At the time this report was prepared, Project specific Indigenous Knowledge had been provided by Marten Falls First Nation, Aroland First Nation, Fort Albany First Nation, Kashechewan First Nation and Weenusk First Nation. Most of the applicable information considered in this assessment was obtained through literature review; refer to the *Marten Falls Community Access Road: Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Draft Report* for more information. The information, some of which is confidential, that has been used to inform this reporting is described in **Table 3-1** below.

Table 3-1: Indigenous Knowledge

Valued Component	Indigenous Community	Details	Section Reference
Recreation and Tourism	■ Aroland First Nation	■ Information, via literature review, pertaining to the Kenogamisis Lake / River and Goldfield Lake Areas but can interpret that these concerns would apply to the Marten Falls Community Access Road: – Snowmobile trails are used; – Disruptions to use of trails; and – Provide alternative access routes.	■ The Project is not located close to these features and will not result in effects to them
Trapping	■ Fort Albany First Nation	■ No trapping is allowed on other trapline holders' traplines; a trapping permit only permits trapping on your own trapline area, via literature review.	■ **Section 7.2** assesses Project impacts to trapping
Parks and Protected Areas	■ Kingfisher Lake First Nation	■ Use of the Pipestone River Provincial Park waters for social and economic transportation is recognized as continuing and acceptable, via literature review.	■ The Project is not located close to these features and will not result in effects to them
Forestry Industry	■ Eabametoong First Nation	■ Indicated interest in forest product opportunities, via literature review.	■ **Section 7.2** assesses Project impacts to forestry activity
Recreation and Tourism	■ Eabametoong First Nation	■ Indicated interest in recreation and tourism values, via literature review.	■ **Section 7.2** assess Project impacts to recreation and tourism activity
Land Use Compatibility, Remote Outfitters, Recreation and Tourism	■ Marten Falls First Nation	■ Indicated areas of moose hunting and fishing areas, outfitters camp, and potential Aroland First Nation land use, via consultation field program.	■ Location data added to Geographic Information Systems database.
Harvesting and Trapping	■ Aroland First Nation ■ Weenusk First Nation ■ Kashechewan First Nation	■ Provided confidential information via Indigenous Knowledge regarding commercial harvesting and trapping areas with the Preferred Route.	■ **Section 7.2** assesses Project impacts to trapping

3.2 Indigenous Community Knowledge

Indigenous community knowledge is knowledge about Indigenous communities provided by Indigenous community members and staff living either on or off-reserve. While this knowledge may be connected to Indigenous Knowledge, it is also distinguishable based on local understandings and lived experiences that could include place-based information about (e.g., housing, education, social services and infrastructure, and governance) for example. This information may be based on and presented in ways that reflect different and diverse community members' social identities.

Indigenous community knowledge for this assessment was obtained through the consultation and engagement activities. Where it was provided and made available, applicable and relevant Indigenous community knowledge related to Land and Resource Use was woven into this Report. It is noted that the Land and Resource Use discipline is focused on non-traditional land use. Indigenous Community Knowledge which informed this Report is described in **Table 3-2**.

Table 3-2: Indigenous Community Knowledge

Valued Component	Details	Section Reference
Trapping	■ Ginoogaming First Nation determined that there are traplines within the Project area that are significant to Ginoogaming First Nation members: GE210, GE138, GE150, and GE153. ■ Of these, GE153 is the only trapline that overlaps with the Preferred Route. ■ **Section 7.2** assesses Project impacts on trapping.	■ **Section 5.1** ■ **Section 7.2**
Recreation and Tourism / Remote Outfitters	■ At a meeting on July 16, 2024, Aroland First Nation indicated their preference for road access to be limited to Indigenous peoples only. Aroland First Nation wants controlled access of the road and no new remote outfitters and limits on recreational use.	■ **Section 7.2**

3.3 Indigenous Engagement

In addition to the Indigenous Knowledge provided by Indigenous Knowledge Holders, information was collected from all Indigenous community members with interests in this Project. The information that has been used to inform this report is described in **Table 3-3** below.

3.4 Regulator and Public Stakeholder Input

The Proponent engaged with Regulators and Public Stakeholders with technical knowledge related to the Valued Components in order to inform aspects of this Report. The information and how it informed the development of this Report are described in **Table 3-4** below.

Table 3-3: Indigenous Engagement

Valued Component	Details	Section Reference
Land Use Compatibility	■ Neskantaga First Nation informed Marten Falls First Nation of the presence of a historical trail that overlaps with the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project area. During the course of correspondence with Marten Falls First Nation, Neskantaga First Nation provided maps showing the approximate location(s) of the trail and potential intersects with the Marten Falls Community Access Road proposed road routes and study areas. Neskantaga First Nation also referenced a report entitled "Report of the (Mines, Twenty-First Annual Report , 1912). Vol. XXI, Part II. Reports on the District of Patricia Recently Added to the Province of Ontario. Compiled and Edited with an Introduction by Willett O. Miller, Provincial Geologist" (aka "The Miller Report"), in which Neskantaga First Nation states that the historical trail is documented. Neskantaga First Nation did not, however, provide specific references from the report (sections or page numbers) where the trail was mentioned.	■ Refer to the *Marten Falls Community Access Road: Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Draft Report* (Dillon, 2024)
Trapping	■ At Public Information Centre #5, held in Thunder Bay and Geraldton, Ontario on October 25 to 26, 2023, attendees from Marten Falls First Nation and Fort Albany First Nation noted on a map where they hold fishing licences and traplines in the vicinity of the Segment 2 West Alternative. – This information was noted. ■ At the meeting at the Marten Falls First Nation Public Information Centre #4 on December 6, 2022, a community member noted that family traplines have been positioned around Dusey Lake and up to Marten Falls First Nation. – Response: As Design continues for the Marten Falls Community Access Road, trappers will be provided with updated information on trapline locations, owners / users, or concerns from those who operate them. ■ It had been noted during a meeting on May 21, 2025 that one of the members held trapline GE210 and that most of his family members held the others around the proposed Community Access Road.	■ **Section 5** ■ **Section 7**

Table 3-4: Public, Agency, and Other Input

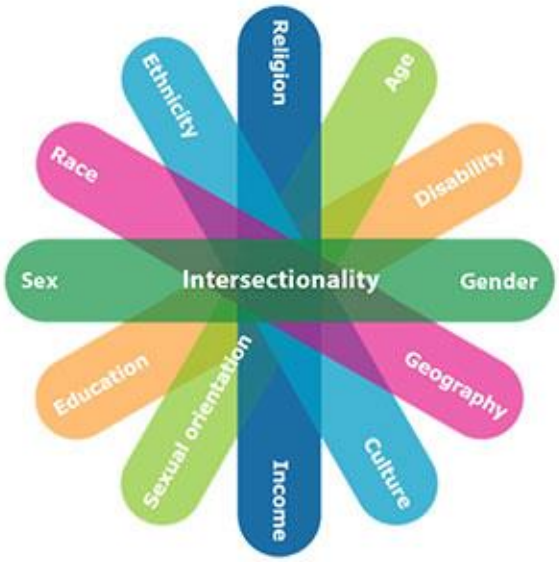
Valued Component	Provided By	Details	Section Reference
Remote Outfitters	■ Interested parties	■ Questions and comments submitted by interested parties, including remote tourism outfitters and community members in the Local Study Area. Questions included if there would be compensation provided for impacts to remote outfitter camp locations. Comments provided additional information on recreational use of land.	■ **Section 5**
Various	■ Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	■ Comments from attendees regarding categories of land users included in primary data.	■ **Section 5**
Trapping	■ Attendees	■ At the Public Information Centre #4 in December 2022, the following was provided: – People in Round Lake trap wolverine within their trapline frequently. ▪ This information was noted.	■ The Project is not known to be in proximity to Round Lake
Recreation and Tourism	■ Attendees/ interested parties ■ Phone conversation	■ At the Public Information Centre #4 in December 2022, the following was asked by attendees: – How will tourism operators be affected? ▪ The Tourism Outfitter Map provides an overview of the tourism operators identified in the area. Those in the Project area may be affected by noise or visual impacts from the construction and operation of the road. Potential effects on wildlife populations and access to the operators' hunting / fishing areas are still being evaluated and will be determined once the preferred route has been determined. ■ During a call with an interested Tourism Outfitter on June 17, 2025, they provided their opinion on the proposed road development. Although they did not operate in the area, the perspective from someone who operates in the tourism industry would be helpful in gauging overall interest from Tourist Outfitters. The following questions were asked ■ Do you see any benefits for your business with having an access road? ■ Comments indicated that there would be no benefit to the road for businesses, the resources in these areas a relatively untouched and the pressure on the fisheries and moose population would be greater if the road is open to the public. ■ Have you had any issues or conflicts between your guests and Indigenous Community members using the same area for hunting or fishing? ■ Response was their business works with community members to fly them to their traditional camps during hunting and fishing seasons. ■ Do any clients you serve require accessibility accommodations? ■ Response was that the [commercial outpost] camps are not wheelchair accessible; therefore, the lack of accessibility isn't about the mode of transportation, rather the properties are not wheelchair friendly.	■ **Section 5**
Remote Outfitters	■ Email	■ An email was received on May 23, 2022 from the owner of Andomoozwe Outfitters asking how the Project will affect the environment and his business. – Response: It was noted that the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report will assess impacts on the environment as it relates to outfitters.	■ **Section 7**
Remote Outfitters	■ Attendees	■ At the Public Information Centre #5 in October 2023, an attendee asked when there would be meetings with outfitters. – Response was that outreach would take place before the outfitter season starts up.	■ **Section 7**

3.5 Gender-Based Analysis Plus

The *Impact Assessment Act* of Canada (Government of Canada, 2019) requires Gender-Based Analysis Plus to be applied to Impact Assessments in Canada. Gender-Based Analysis Plus is not a specific set of methods for Impact Assessments, but rather an approach that is adapted to the project and the communities potentially impacted and / or being engaged.

Gender-Based Analysis Plus is an approach to assessing inequalities and impacts of policies, programs, projects on diverse groups and identities. These identities could include (but are not limited to): gender, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnicity, class, religion, and mental or physical disability (Women and Gender Equality Canada, 2022). These identities can also intersect or overlap; for example, where an individual identifies as being both Indigenous and an Elder or youth.

Figure 3-1: Gender Based Analysis Plus Intersecting Identity Factors



Source: (Canadian Institutes of Health Research, 2022)

The Gender-Based Analysis Plus approach involves understanding how certain vulnerable groups such as Indigenous peoples, women, Elders, youth, and Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual persons experience, and could be disproportionately impacted by a project. Understanding how these groups could be affected by projects allow for more targeted, sensitive, and appropriate enhancement measures, mitigations, monitoring, and follow-up (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, 2021).

It is important to understand that vulnerability in impact assessment is understood primarily, but not solely, as a structural vulnerability. This means that in many cases it is

the systems and power structures that make certain groups more vulnerable (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, 2021). For Indigenous peoples this includes historic and ongoing colonialism, loss of lands and culture, intergenerational trauma, and the residential school system that have resulted in significant social, economic, health and well-being disparities relative to the non-Indigenous Canadian population (Kim, 2019). Exceptions to this are where vulnerability may be associated with biological sex, pregnancy, or age in relation to environmental determinants of health and exposure to contaminants, for example.

For each discipline of the Impact Assessment, a Gender-Based Analysis Plus approach was employed. This approach and extent of its application also varied, however, depending on the type of study, and the relevance of Gender-Based Analysis Plus to that study. The details of the approach for the discipline are outlined below.

3.5.1 Land and Resource Use Discipline Gender-Based Analysis Plus Approach

To fulfill requirements of the *Impact Assessment Act*, the Land and Resource Use Discipline considered any provided perspectives from marginalized, vulnerable, and / or at-risk sub-populations who often experience inequality and barriers. The Land and Resource Use report uses the provided information as well as any background research to discuss features of the environment such as parks, game harvesting, access points, and industry land use rights.

During consultation and engagement, activity-based subgroups (e.g., recreationalists, snowmobilers, tourism establishment operators), mining companies, and known trappers were consulted with. Other specialized knowledge was gathered through other disciplines such as Social, Economic, and Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests. Refer to the *Draft Socio-Community Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment* (Dillon, 2024) and *Marten Falls Community Access Road: Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Draft Report* (Dillon, 2024) for more detailed information on potentially affected vulnerable groups.

No information and / or statistics are available for vulnerable groups (i.e., women and youth) as it relates to the Valued Components for the Land and Resource Use Discipline. In the absence of this information, possible perspectives have been considered for non-Indigenous women and youth and are included in **Section 7,** specifically **Sections 7.2.2** (Valued Component #2 Parks and Protected Areas) and **7.2.3** (Valued Component #3 Recreation and Tourism). No other Valued Components for the Land and Resource Use Discipline are expected to affected vulnerable groups in relation to Gender-Based Analysis Plus. More information for identification of vulnerable group impacts can be found in the *Final Community Well-Being Technical Support Document* (AECOM, 2026) and Appendix T of the Final Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement.

4. Study Methods and Assessment Scope

This section contains excerpts from the *Draft All Season Community Access Road: Land and Resource Use Discipline Study Plan* (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2021) and *All Season Community Access Road: Land and Resource Use Workplan* (Dillon, 2021) prepared for the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada at the outset of this Project. The Final Study Plan and Workplan, including comments from regulators can be found in **Attachment A**. In some instances, the approach to the assessment deviated from what was described in the Study Plan, these deviations are outlined in **Section 4.6 – Table 4-9**. General administrative type changes such as changes to section headings, organization of sections and subsections and, changes to phrasing and tense are not documented in **Table 4-9**.

4.1 Study and Work Plan Purpose and Objectives

As required by the *Impact Assessment Act* (Government of Canada, 2019) and referenced in the *Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines* (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, 2020), Study Plans and Work Plans were developed for disciplines as required. The purpose of the Study Plan is to explain:

- An Existing Conditions study methodology that will result in a comprehensive description of the existing environment potentially impacted by the Project;
- The process for confirming efficient and transparent data management and analysis was completed; and
- Developing the discipline specific Effects Assessment methodology.

Work Plans included details on how to action the study plans; containing information such as location of sampling sites, scheduling, and sequencing. As noted above the *Draft All Season Community Access Road: Land and Resource Use Study Plan* (Dillon, 2021) and *All Season Community Access Road: Land and Resource Workplan* (Dillon, 2021) can be found in **Attachment A**.

4.2 Study Scoping

4.2.1 Temporal Boundaries

Project phases, which are temporal boundaries, are developed to establish the timeframes within which potential effects of the Project will be considered. The Project is planned to occur in three phases, which are briefly described below.

- **Construction Phase:**
  The time from start of construction, including site preparation activities, to the start of operations and maintenance of the Community Access Road.

Decommissioning of construction works is included in the construction phase. The construction phase is anticipated to take approximately three to ten years to complete.

- **Operations and Maintenance Phase:**
  The operations and maintenance phase starts once construction activities are complete and lasts for the life of the Project. The operations and maintenance phase of the Project is considered to be permanent based on the expected timeline for when major refurbishment of road components (e.g., bridges), is anticipated.
- **Decommissioning Phase:**
  There are currently no plans to decommission the Community Access Road as there is no expected / known end date for it. With the exception of aggregate pit access and camps which are anticipated to be rehabilitated to as close to their natural state as much as possible.

In determining the temporal boundaries, in particular the long operations and maintenance phase, consideration was given to the long-term effects on the well-being and land use of the area by present and future generations.

4.2.2 Valued Components and Indicators

The Agency describes **Valued Components** as the environmental, health, social, economic, or additional elements or conditions of the natural and human environment that may be impacted by a proposed project and area of concern or value to the public, Indigenous peoples, federal authorities and interested parties (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, 2021).

Indicators represent the resource, feature, or issue related to the Valued Component that, if changed, may demonstrate an effect on the environment. Indicators may be characterized quantitatively or qualitatively. For example, effects from changes to the availability and distribution of Valued Components are often expressed through quantitative assessment of direct vegetation removals as well as predicted indirect effects on retained vegetation.

The Final Study Plan presented indicators and rationale for selection known to the Proponent at the time of drafting. The draft table and the factors that influenced it can be found in Section 9.2 of the *Draft All Season Community Access Road: Land and Resource Use Discipline Study Plan* (Dillon, 2021) in **Attachment A**.

An updated list of Land and Resource Use Indicators can be found in **Table 4-1** below.

Table 4-1: Land and Resource Use Indicators

Valued Component	Indicators	Sub-Indicator	Rationale for Selection	Measures of Change
Land Use Compatibility	■ Land use compatibility	■ Binary alignment with established planning policy requirements	■ The Project should be compatible with existing land use designations within the Construction Disturbance Area as much as possible. Alternatively, amendment processes will be noted and addressed.	■ Change will be measured against whether the alternative road segments align or are consistent with existing planning policies and legislation. Alternative road segments that align with existing planning policies will be considered to be more favourable than those alternative road segments that are less aligned or consistent with planning policies.
Parks and Protected Areas	■ Area of Park and Protected areas impacted	■ Area of Park and Protected area with natural, cultural, or recreational values impacted	■ Provincial parks, Dedicated Protected Areas, and protected areas are regulated in Ontario for their preservation of these values. Consideration of potentially effected values will include physical, social, and natural science considerations in relation to these values.	■ Change will be measured against the extent to which the Project (alternative route segments) results in impact to areas of cultural, natural, or recreational values within Parks and Protected areas. Route segments with a greater area of impact will be viewed less favourably than road segments with less area of impact.
	■ Land and waterway disruption and access	■ Change to access to land utilized for recreation and / or tourism ■ Disruption (temporary or permanent) of lands and waterways used for recreation	■ Recreation and tourism are important for community well-being and economic opportunity within the Project area. The Project has the potential to disrupt existing recreation and tourism land and waterway uses and generate new access opportunities within the Project area.	■ Change will be measured against the extent to which recreation and tourism activities are impacted. Both positive and negative changes to recreation and tourism are possible. For example, improved access to remote areas may negatively impact remote tourism as this could change the remote experience and / or the demand for back country camping sites. Alternatively, improved access to the lands / waterways could result in a greater number of people using the land for recreation / tourism purposes which would be viewed as a positive change. Finally, the Project could impact the navigability of waterways and change boat (canoe) travel through the area.
	■ Accessibility to parks and protected areas	■ Change in access to lands within Parks and protected areas used for recreation purposes	■ Provincial parks, Dedicated Protected Areas, and protected areas are regulated in Ontario for their preservation of these values. Consideration of potentially effected values will include physical, social, and natural science considerations in relation to these values.	■ Change will be measured against the extent to which access to Parks and protected areas is increased as a result of the road. This may be considered to be both a positive and negative impact as indicated above. The road could increase access and result in greater use of the Park for recreation. The increase in access could also be viewed negatively if it impacts the remote character of the Park which may be valued by some users.
Recreation and Tourism	■ Land and waterway disruption and access	■ Change to access to land utilized for recreation and / or tourism ■ Disruption (temporary or permanent) of lands and waterways used for recreation	■ Recreation and tourism are important for traditional use of lands and socio-economic opportunity within the Project area. The Project has the potential to disrupt existing recreation and tourism land and waterway uses and generate new access opportunities within the Project area.	■ Change will be measured against the extent to which recreation and tourism activities are impacted. Both positive and negative changes to recreation and tourism are possible. For example, improved access to remote areas may negatively impact the remote tourism as this could change the remote experience and / or the demand for outfitter services. Alternatively, improved access to the lands / waterways could result in a greater number of people using the land for recreation / tourism purposes which would be viewed as a positive change. Finally, the Project could impact the navigability of waterways and change boat (canoe) travel through the area.
	■ Environmental Conditions	■ Change to environmental conditions including Atmospheric Environment, Acoustic Environment, Surface Water, Vegetation, Fish and Fish Habitat, Wildlife, and Visual Aesthetics	■ Recreation and tourism rely on a distinct environmental setting including a remote and wilderness character. The Project may change the environmental conditions in recreation and tourism areas.	■ Recreation and tourism activity in the Local Study Area is largely outdoor oriented and related to the natural environment character of the area. Change to environmental conditions as a result of road development (e.g., potential impacts to moose and fish populations, and noise) could lead to a reduced attractiveness of the area for recreation and tourism activity. The level of change to the attractiveness of the area for recreation and tourism will be dependent on the level of change of environmental conditions determined by other disciplines.
	■ Availability of species harvested for recreation purposes	■ Change to target species populations harvested for recreation purposes, including species identified in the *Fish and Fish Habitat and Wildlife Study Plans* ■ Change to the habitat for these target species ■ Additional hunting and fishing pressures for target species	■ Many recreation and tourism activities involve resource harvesting such as fishing and hunting. Changes to the availability of target species may impact the recreation and tourism environment. ■ Availability of access could bring additional hunters and anglers which could increase pressures on fish and wild game populations. ■ Lack of monitoring for poaching in the remote area could also result in illegal harvesting of species such as moose or sturgeon.	■ A decrease in the population of targeted harvested species could reduce recreation and tourism activity in the Local Study Area. The level of change to recreation and tourism will be dependent on the projected changes to the population and habitat of the targeted species as determined by other disciplines. ■ A decrease in the population of harvested species could also reduce the number of species harvested by Indigenous Communities, impacting traditional harvesting practices.

Valued Component	Indicators	Sub-Indicator	Rationale for Selection	Measures of Change
Extractive Resource Industry	■ Removal of lands with potential for mineral extraction	■ Area of land under mining claims that the road segments pass through	■ The Project will require lands to be withdrawn of mining rights and will physically remove lands with the potential for extraction activities. In addition, changes to land use near the Project may alter access to existing extractive features.	■ There are no operating mines in the Local Study Area so the assessment is focused on the existing mining claims and potential for future mine development. ■ The development of a road on lands will withdraw (remove) mining claims in the Construction Area and would not allow claim holders to conduct any exploratory works in the area. This would mean the mining rights are no longer with the mining holder and could limit how the remaining mineral deposit could be developed for extraction. Change will be measured against the extent to which the road segment and aggregate development passes through lands covered by mining claim. The road segments that pass through the least amount of mineral claim lands are preferred.
	■ Proximity to and access to lands with future potential for mining development	■ Change to access to extractive land features	■ The Project has the potential to create access to existing mining claims or future extractive features.	■ Change will be measured on the extent to which the road segment increases access to lands either under mining claims or proposed for mining development. Road segments that improve access to a greater area of land under mine claim will be preferred.
Forestry Industry	■ Removal of commercial forestry lands	■ Areas of the Ogoki Forest that the road segment (Painter Lake Road) will pass through	■ Forestry has an important role in the northern Ontario economy and requires the use of large areas of land (divided into Forest Management Unit) with planning considerations. The Project has the potential to physically remove land within the Forest Management Unit. In addition, changes to land use near the Project may alter access to future Forestry operations.	■ Change will be measured on the basis of the amount of commercial forestry lands that the road segments pass through. The segments that pass through the least amount of commercial forest stands will be preferred.
	■ Proximity to and access to lands with potential for forestry operations and harvesting	■ Change to access to harvest blocks ■ Change to access of forestry area due to habitat (e.g., caribou) fragmentation	■ The Project has the potential to physically remove land with the Forest Management Unit. In addition, changes to land use near the Project may alter habitat.	■ Change will be measured on the extent to which the road segment increases access to lands that contain identified harvest blocks. Road segments that improve access to a greater area of commercial timber lands will be preferred. Also, to be considered, is the potential for the road to result in wildlife habitat fragmentation which could put restrictions on timber harvesting.
Remote Outfitters	■ Change to operations of remote outfitters in the vicinity of the Marten Falls Community Access Road	■ Disruption (noise, air quality, visual) to the outfitters area of operations and resulting change in enjoyment by guests and attractiveness of the outfitter ■ Change on wildlife and fish populations ■ Change to the remoteness of the area as a result of new road access and change to guest experience / attractiveness of the outfitters camp	■ The Project has the potential to physically remove land areas with the potential for remote outfitters operations. In addition, changes to land use near the Project may alter access and enjoyment of existing outfitter operations.	■ Change will be measured against the extent to which remote outfitters are impacted. Road segments that cause the least amount of disruption (e.g., noise) or pressure to game species populations will be preferred. ■ Reduction in key game species such as moose and certain fish species that could impact the attractiveness of the outfitter. ■ As a result of new access to the area, the lands used by the outfitter may feel less remote to people and affect the desirability of the outfitter. There could also be increased hunting and fishing pressure as a result of new access which again could reduce the attractiveness of the outfitter to people.
Trapping and Harvesting (hunting and fishing)	■ Change to trapping activity in vicinity of Marten Falls Community Access Road	■ Change in populations of harvested furbearing species ■ Disruption effects to habitat of furbearing species in the vicinity of the Project ■ Change in access to lands for trapping	■ The Project has the potential to physically remove land areas with the potential for trapping. In addition, changes to land use near the Project may alter access to existing trapping uses.	■ Change will be measured against the extent to which trapping activity is impacted. Reduction in key furbearing species could impact the value of the study area for trapping. ■ This could reduce the number of animal harvested and / or require the trapper to go to other locations which may be considered less accessible and result in higher costs to obtain the pelts. ■ Improved access to the land through the road could reduce the time and cost to access the lands for trapping and thus increasing the attractiveness of some traplines.
Energy and Linear Infrastructure	■ Opportunity for development of energy facilities and linear infrastructure	■ Change in access or opportunity for new energy development and / or linear facilities	■ The Project has the potential create a corridor with the potential for energy infrastructure or existing linear infrastructure activities. In addition, changes to land use near the Project may alter access to existing features.	■ Change will be measured on the extent to which the road segments increase access or opportunity to develop new energy facilities and / or linear facilities. The road segments that provide the greatest new opportunity for development will be preferred.

4.2.3 Spatial Boundaries

Project Study Areas

Study areas identify the geographic extents within which potential effects of the Project are likely to occur and will be considered in the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report. General Project boundaries were established for the scoping of field programs, and to delineate study areas for discipline specific surveys. These general Project boundaries are described in **Table 4-2** below:

Table 4-2: Project Study Areas Definition and Description

Study Area	Definition	Description
Construction Disturbance Area	■ Area of expected direct disturbance	■ 100 m wide Community Access Road right-of-way, temporary construction access roads, work areas, worker camps, and pits, quarries, and associated access roads.

Land and Resource Use Study Areas

Discipline-specific Local Study Areas and Regional Study Areas have been defined for the Project. For the Land and Resource Use discipline, this was determined based on the receptor for each land and resource use value and proximity to the road. The Regional Study Area incorporated the larger land masses or values that may be close to or within the 5 km buffer around the proposed route. The Local Study Area incorporated the 100 m wide right-of-way. In defining these areas, the following was considered:

- Location and other characteristics of the discipline relative to the Project;
- The anticipated extent of the potential Project effects;
- Federal, provincial, regional, and local government administrative boundaries;
- Input from Indigenous communities;
- Community knowledge and Indigenous Knowledge;
- Current or traditional land and resource use by Indigenous communities;
- Current land and resource use by other land users such as hunting and fishing opportunities and resource extractors access to lands;
- Exercise of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of Indigenous peoples, including cultural and spiritual practices; and
- Physical, ecological, technical, social, health, economic, and cultural considerations by other land users.

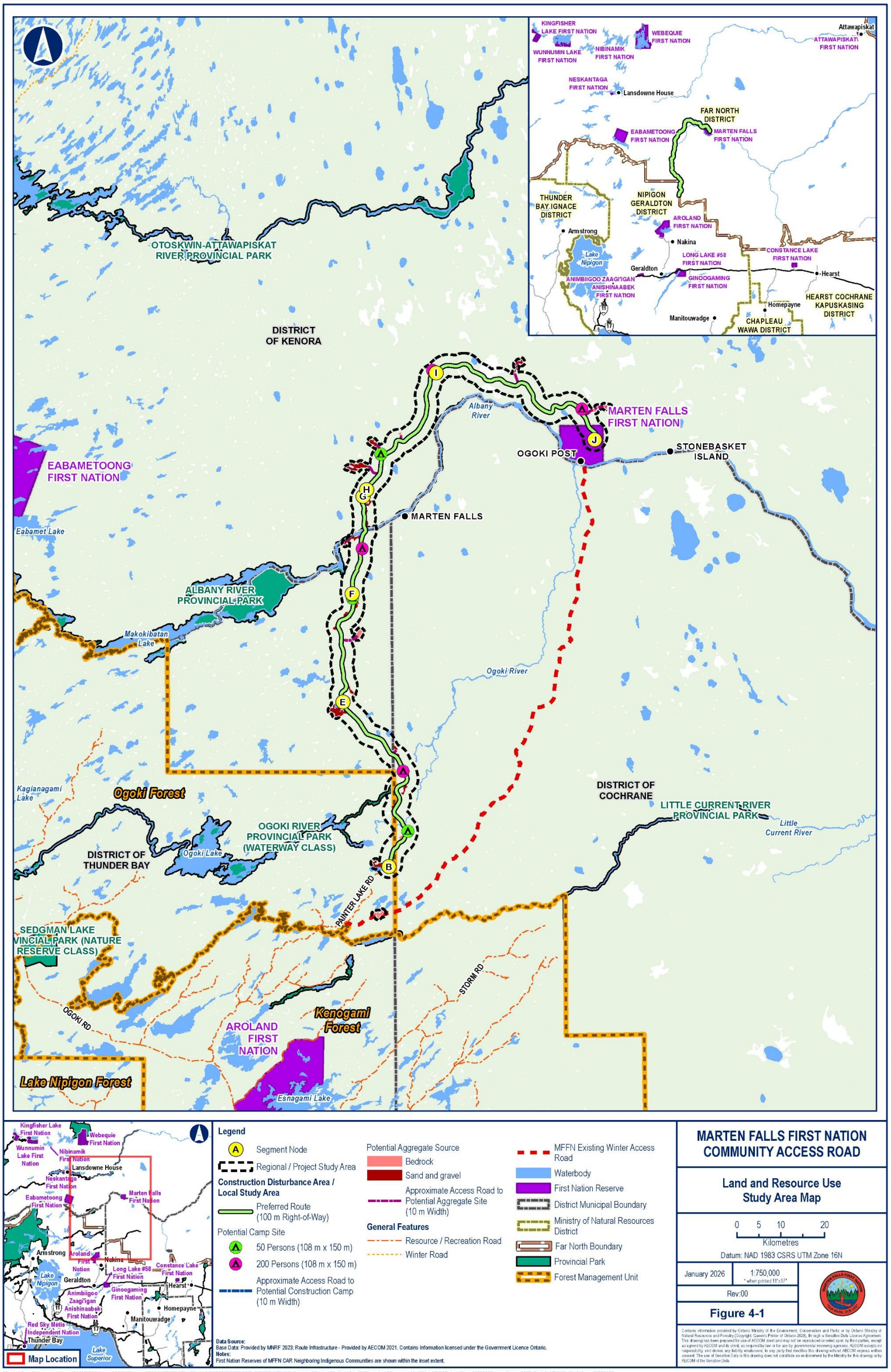
The Local and Regional Study Areas for the Land and Resource Use Discipline and the rationale for their selection are described in **Table 4-3** and shown in **Figure 4-1**.

Table 4-3: Discipline Specific Study Areas Description and Rationale

Valued Component	Study Area	Geographic Extent	Rationale	Area Size
Land Use Compatibility	Construction Disturbance Area	■ The extent of the Construction Disturbance Area which also includes development of aggregate pits and quarries.	■ The Marten Falls *Draft Community Base Land Use Plan* identifies lands that are available for development and set aside for protection. Since the Plan is in draft format, the Crown land management under the *Public Lands Act*, *Mining Act* and *Far North Act* will apply to the Local Study Area and Regional Study Areas for the land use compatibility Valued Component.	■ 4,700 ha
Parks and Protected Areas	Local Study Area	■ Includes parks and protected areas within the Construction Disturbance Area.	■ The Project will run through one waterway Provincial Park which may cause temporary disruptions to land users during construction. This may affect the natural, cultural, and recreational features within provincial park. This includes the extent to which physical and biophysical components of the environment may be affected.	■ 5.7 ha
	Regional Study Area	■ Includes the entirety of the Parks and protected areas that are within the 5 km buffer. (Albany River Provincial Park).		■ 239,095 ha
Recreation and Tourism	Local Study Area	■ Includes the Construction Disturbance Area (previously Project Development Area). The impact for the Atmospheric Environment, Acoustic and Vibration Environment, Surface Water, Vegetation, Fish and Fish Habitat, and Wildlife (relevant game species only) will also be considered.	■ The Project may alter recreation and tourism opportunities such as hunting and fishing remote excursions including access and use of lands that were previously not accessible. Changes to the environmental conditions in the Project area may also impact other land uses. This could also include greater access for hunting of certain species (i.e. moose) and more pressure for fishing on waterbodies that were previously untouched. Additional notes are included in Tourism Outfitters below. ■ Considered both access to traditional hunting areas as well as access connectivity for Wildlife Management Units that cross through the lands which includes Wildlife Management Unit 17 and 1D for non-indigenous hunters. Fisheries Management Zones 2 and 3 fall within the study area.	■ 4,700 ha
	Regional Study Area	■ Included the Construction Disturbance Area plus 5 km buffer. Area of focus is the area of impact on populations of relevant fish and game species whether through habitat disturbance, tag allocations or increase access and pressure on species.		■ 239,095 ha
Extractive Resource Industry	Local Study Area	■ Includes the Construction Disturbance Area (previously Project Development Area).	■ Small portions of the lands required for the proposed road have been withdrawn from Surface Rights and Mining Rights in May 2018, as part of the *Draft Marten Falls First Nation Community Based Land Use Plan*, therefore prohibited from prospecting, mining claim registration, sale and lease under Order No. W-TB-39/18. The remaining segments of the proposed road will require to be withdrawn from mining rights once the route has been approved. This will cause restrictions to the existing land claims within the Construction Disturbance Area. The Project will alter the land available and access to lands for exploratory and extractive purposes.	■ 4,700 ha
	Regional Study Area	■ Includes the Construction Disturbance Area boundary plus the 5 km buffer. Currently there are no operating mines in the location of the road, however, there is the possibility of a future mine, Eagle's Nest Mine which is located North of Marten Falls. This development will overlap the treaty and territorial lands of surrounding Indigenous communities which include; – Aroland First Nation – Marten Falls First Nation – Kashechewan Cree First Nation – Constance Lake First Nation – Ginoogaming First Nation – Long Lake 58 First Nation – Neskantaga First Nation	■ The area capturing the regional context for extractive developments including cumulative effects to the sector. Access will be available for extractive industries such as development of mines. The extent of impacts to neighbouring communities is unknown as the impacts of these mining operations cannot be measured as this is out of scope for the road.	■ 239,095 ha
Forestry Industry	Local Study Area	■ Considers any Forestry Management Unit transected by the Construction Disturbance Area (Previously Project Development Area). This only includes the Ogoki Forest Management Unit.	■ The Project may alter the land available and access to lands for forestry purposes (Ogoki Forest Management Unit). It is uncertain at this time if lands will be made available for harvesting in the future as a Forest Management Unit.	■ 195.4 ha
	Regional Study Area	■ This includes the 5 km buffer around the Construction Disturbance Area. To be considered are Forestry Management Units intersected by the area of impact to Caribou populations which is to be determined by the Wildlife Valued Component. Potential future forest harvesting could be accessible with the introduction of the road if the Ministry of Natural Resources creates a Forest Management Unit. These areas would include any merchantable timber but must have the capability of being considered sustainable.	■ The Regional Study Area outside of the Ogoki Forest does not contain a Forest Management Unit, however does contain values that would generally be accepted by a local Mill. Future harvesting could include stands of black spruce and jack pine that are considered merchantable under the definition of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act*. The Ministry of Natural Resources has the authority and jurisdiction to create new Forest Management Units. If lands surrounding the Marten Falls Community Access Road become a Forest Management Unit, the possibility of processing at Nakina Lumber would increase production rates.	■ 239,095 ha

Valued Component	Study Area	Geographic Extent	Rationale	Area Size
Remote Outfitters	Local Study Area	■ Considers outfitters close to the Construction Disturbance Area (Previously Project Development Area)	■ The Project could impact the attractiveness of remote tourism outfitters. This could also result in reduced return clients for outfitters.	■ 4,700 ha
	Regional Study Area	■ Considers outfitters within the Construction Disturbance Area (Previously Project Development Area) plus a 5 km buffer.	■ The Study area will provide regional contextual information regarding the importance of remote tourism.	■ 239,095 ha
Trapping and Harvesting	Local Study Area	■ Considers traplines and harvesting areas (fishing and hunting) crossed by the Construction Disturbance Area.	■ The Project could impact trapping activity in the vicinity of the Project. This could include the potential for reduction in furbearing species and / or change in access to trapping lands. The road could also introduce more economical access to bring furs to market.	■ 4,700 ha
	Regional Study Area	■ Furbearing species within the 5 km buffer zone in the Regional Study Area.	■ The area will contain additional all-season access which could have impacts on populations in the greater area. The road will also provide further opportunities for setting traps in areas potentially not previously accessed by trapline holders and their helpers.	■ 239,095 ha
Energy and Linear Infrastructure	Local Study Area	■ Includes the Construction Disturbance Area (Previously Project Development Area) and a 5 km buffer from the Construction Disturbance Area (Previously Project Development Area) boundary.	■ The Project may alter the land available and create access to lands for energy and linear infrastructure purposes. The requirement for hydro lines would be either an easement or additional lands adjacent to the right-of-way.	■ 239,095 ha
	Regional Study Area	■ The study area will encompass potential utility linkages across several proposed road corridors in the north and possible future waterpower lease agreements in the area. The road would create connectivity to the following territorial districts and Indigenous Communities: – Cochrane, including the following Indigenous communities: ○ Constance Lake First Nation; and ○ Fort Albany First Nation. – Kenora, including the following Indigenous communities: ○ Attawapiskat First Nation; ○ Eabametoong First Nation; ○ Kasabonika First Nation; ○ Kashechewan First Nation; ○ Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug; ○ Kingfisher Lake Fist Nation; ○ Marten Falls First Nation; ○ Mishkeegogamang First Nation; ○ Neskantaga First Nation; ○ Nibinamik First Nation; ○ Wapekeka First Nation; ○ Wawakapewin First Nation; ○ Webequie First Nation; ○ Weenusk First Nation; and ○ Wunnumin Lake First Nation. – Thunder Bay, including the following Indigenous communities: ○ Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nation; ○ Aroland First Nation; ○ Ginoogaming First Nation; ○ Long Lake #58 First Nation; ○ Red Sky Independent Métis Nation; and ○ Métis Nation of Ontario, Region 2. *(District boundaries include water, mainland, island.)	■ The area capturing the regional context for energy and linear infrastructure developments including cumulative effects to the sector.	■ 115,950,560 ha

Figure 4-1: Land and Resource Use Discipline Local and Regional Study Area



As currently defined, the Land and Resource Use study areas are intended to capture potential changes as a result of the Project to natural environment, health, social / cultural, and / or economic conditions that could directly or indirectly impact land, land users and resource use / management. It is noted that the extent of effects considered are varied and based on the type of land use. For example, industrial operators are not likely to be influenced by changing environmental conditions, while recreation and tourism experiences can be influenced by these conditions.

As previously noted, Indigenous communities and interested persons / stakeholders were consulted on their interest, concern, and perceptions regarding the potential for Project impacts. Although, additional feedback on impacts from other land users was sought, the feedback received from Remote Outfitters that reached out for commenting is believed to be representative of the general opinion of the Project. Further, the Proponent remains open to receiving information from communities and other land-users on their activities within the Construction Disturbance Area and how interlinkages between the Project and those communities may result in land and resource use effects.

The Valued Components for Land and Resource Use discipline have been determined through consideration of the following factors listed in the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines as well as additional considerations as the preliminary design of the Project has progressed. The following land and resource use effects were determined:

- Valued Component presence in the study area;
- The extent to which the Valued Component is linked to the interests or exercise of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of Indigenous peoples, and whether an Indigenous group has requested the Valued Component;
- The extent to which the effects (real or perceived) of the Project and related activities have the potential to interact with the Valued Component;
- The extent to which the Valued Component may be under cumulative stress from other past, existing, or future undertakings in combination with other human activities and natural processes;
- The extent to which the Valued Component(s) are linked to federal, provincial, territorial, or municipal government priorities (e.g., legislation, programs, policies);
- The possibility that adverse or positive effects on the Valued Component(s) would be of particular concern to Indigenous groups, the public, or federal, provincial, territorial, municipal, or Indigenous governments; and
- Whether the potential effects of the Project on the Valued Component can be measured and / or monitored or would be better ascertained through the analysis of a proxy Valued Component.

Inputs received to date from Indigenous communities, agencies, and interested persons through the Consultation and Engagement Program, including inputs received on the Provincial Environmental Assessment Terms of Reference, was used to inform the selection of the Valued Components and indicators for the Land and Resource Use discipline. The Land and Resource Use discipline focuses on non-Indigenous and non-traditional land and resource uses, and therefore has only considered input on spatial boundaries from Indigenous groups within the Trapping Valued Component.

The Land and Resource Use Assessment draws on information from other study Valued Components / disciplines to understand potential effects to existing environmental conditions, which can be a proxy for perceived quality, with respect to the nature of the activity and the expectations for that activity when utilizing the land and / or resource. Not all disciplines will have direct influence on activities, in the instance of the Forest Industry, the road will not ultimately allow for harvest of merchantable timber. There is a requirement for review of possible creation of a Forest Management Unit which is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Specific to the Parks and Protected Areas Valued Component, effects were evaluated against the preservation of natural, cultural, and recreational values which aligns with the value for which these areas are regulated (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). This approach aligns with other recent Environmental Assessments undertaken for corridor projects in northwest Ontario.

The study areas considered cover the extent to which readily available information suggests the Project may have noticeable effects on the environment, land and resource use. The size, nature, and location of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects were taken into consideration in the cumulative effects assessment as discussed in **Section 8**.

4.2.4 Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines Requirements Mitigation and Enhancement Measures and Terms of Reference Requirements

The *Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines* (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, 2020) Section 20 requirements and Terms of Reference Requirements (AECOM, 2020) for the Land and Resource Use Discipline are provided below in **Table 4-4**. The applicability of these requirements was evaluated and, in some cases, adapted to the needs of the site, environment, and Project activities.

It is important to note that that the *Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines* Section 20 requirements may change with the anticipated amendments to be made to the *Impact Assessment Act* which have not been released during the preparation of this draft Report.

Table 4-4: Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines Section 20 Requirements and Terms of Reference Requirements

TISG Requirement Section 20 Requirement	Section Addressed In
– Describe mitigation measures that are specific to each environmental, health, social, or economic effect identified. Mitigation measures are to be written as specific commitments that clearly describe when and how the proponent intends to implement them, what decision-making criteria will be used, and the outcome these mitigation measures are designed to address.	■ **Section 7**
– Describe mitigation measures that are specific to identified effects to Indigenous peoples.	■ **Section 7**
– Describe mitigation measures proposed by Indigenous peoples and the consideration of those in the Project.	■ **Section 7**
– Propose differentiated mitigation measures for all potential adverse effects identified, if applicable, so that adverse effects do not fall disproportionately on vulnerable populations, certain Indigenous groups, or certain communities, and they are not disadvantaged in sharing any development benefits and opportunities resulting from the Project. These mitigation measures should be developed in collaboration with those who are vulnerable and / or disadvantaged.	■ **Section 7**
– Describe how disproportionate effects that were identified in the Gender-Based Analysis Plus results were used to inform mitigation and enhancement measures.	■ **Section 7**
Terms of Reference Requirement	**Section Addressed In**
Potential effects on recreation and tourism, remote outfitting, provincial parks, trapping, forestry and extraction industry due to increased access to the area.	■ **Section 5** ■ **Section 7**

4.3 Existing Conditions Study Design and Methods

Land and Resource Use existing conditions were established to inform the impact assessment and support route selection. Overall, data collection was completed in support of the following objectives:

- Provide an understanding of the current use of land and resources in the applicable study areas;
- Describe Land and Resource Use conditions including information relevant to identity, as applicable and as volunteered during the primary data program;
- Define access and types of land tenures including those for forestry, biophysical resource harvesting, mining, and aggregate,
- Provide relevant historical background on Land and Resource Use for the applicable study area; and,
- Complete a literature review of regulations, policies, procedures, use of feature data (public and Ontario Geospatial Data Exchange), and archival materials.

Regulatory (including policies) requirements on land use is explained in greater detail in **Section 5** of this Report.

The Land and Resource Use Assessment also considered potential Indigenous land use for non-traditional purposes. Use of land by Indigenous people for traditional purposes is described in the *Marten Falls Community Access Road: Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Draft Report* (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2024).

The following sections detail primary and secondary Land and Resource Use data collection methods.

4.3.1 Desktop Assessment Methodology

A desktop review of existing information sources was completed to identify information gaps that were addressed through further study including primary data collection activities. A preliminary list of applicable information sources was included in Appendix A of the *Final Land and Resource Use Study Plan* (**Attachment A**) and reflected federal and provincial guidance received.

Secondary source data was collected on relevant Land and Resource Use activities within the defined study areas. The secondary data was collected from:

- Spatial databases:
  - CanVec; and
  - Land Information Ontario.
- Municipal, provincial, and Indigenous government websites:
  - Ontario Parks and Protected Areas (Government of Ontario, 2020);
  - Marten Falls Community Access Road Project (Government of Ontario, 2018);
  - Crown Land Use Policy Atlas (Government of Ontario);
  - Far North: Land Use Strategy (archived) (Government of Ontario, 2016).
- Applicable plans and reports:
  - *Official Plan for Greenstone* (Municipality of Greenstone, 2022); and
  - *Ogoki Forest Management Plan* (Natural Resources Information Portal, 2021).
- Provincial plans and reports:
  - *Albany River Provincial Park Management Statement (Government of Ontario, 1985).*

- Local service providers:
  - Local service providers such as those listed in *Greenstone Resorts, Outfitters & Charters* (Municipality of Greenstone, 2021).
- Regional reports:
  - *Remoteness Sells: A Report on Resource-Based Tourism in Northwestern Ontario* (Ontario Nature, 2005).
- Industry reports:
  - *North American Hunters in Northern Ontario* (Research Resolution & Consulting Ltd., 2014).
- Academic research:
  - *Enabling community forestry in Northern Ontario* (Palmer, 2018);
  - *Long-term effects of peatland black spruce regeneration treatments in northeastern Ontario* (Groot & Adams, 2005);
  - *Threats and protection for peatlands in Eastern Canada* (Poulin, Rochefort, Pellerin, & Thibault, 2004);
  - *Physical effects of site disturbance on peatlands* (Groot A. , 1997);
  - *Conserving Wetlands in Managed Forests (North American Wetland Conservation Council* (Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, 1993)*; and*
  - *Peatland Forestry: Ecology and Principles* (Paavilainen & Paivanen, 1995).
- Web-based sources such as firm websites and news reports:
  - '*Actions speak louder than words,' says Wyloo Metals CEO on their Ring of Fire plans* (Northern Ontario Business, 2022); and
  - *Agoke Development Corporation* (2023).
- Previous relevant Environmental Assessments:
  - Previous Environmental Assessments such as the Hardrock Project *Environmental Assessment* (Greenstone Gold, 2017).

Other secondary data sources publicly and readily available were also considered and utilized as applicable for background information. The Land and Resource Use Assessment is also informed by direct experience in administration of Public Lands Act authorizations, permits, tenure, and crown land management, as well as academic literature, best practices in environmental impact assessment, and previous similar Environmental Assessments. It also included gathering local and agency knowledge and utilising inputs from consultation activities to analyze the concerns of interested and affected persons and communities related to the Valued Components and indicators. Multiple sources of data, including primary, secondary, engagement, and Indigenous Knowledge, are utilized for the purposes of Land and Resource Use data collection.

Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members in the Land and Resource Use Local Study Areas and Regional Study Areas were engaged regarding the assessment of land and resources use impacts, the analysis of alternatives and the preparation of mitigation and monitoring plans. A full list of references is available in **Section 11**.

4.3.2 Primary Data Collection

Primary data collection involved the collection of qualitative data on Land and Resource Uses within the Local and Regional Study Areas, as defined in **Section 4.2.3**. Primary data collection was also undertaken to fill gaps or enhance the available secondary source data. Telephone and email interviews were undertaken (see **Attachment B** for contact details) with relevant land users including applicable Indigenous communities and those who operate businesses, clubs / associations, or have other interests related to Land and Resource Use within the relevant Study Areas.

The primary data collection undertaken as part of the Socio-community, Economic, and Indigenous Knowledge collection programs have also informed components of the Land and Resource Use Assessment. This targeted data collection approach differs from the general consultation and engagement activities undertaken for the Project as outlined in the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Consultation and Engagement Plan and documented in the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report and in the Record of Consultation.

Methodology

The Land and Resource Use primary data collection program selected key individuals to participate in the data collection program including local business owners, representatives from recreational organizations, private businesses, and municipal and provincial government agencies. The selection of participants was informed by secondary data collection, lists of geospatial features in relevant study areas, and information obtained through general engagement activities. Participants were emailed directly with relevant mapping and questions lists when soliciting information. Information was also gathered through online sources (including an agreement with the Ministry of Natural Resources for LIO data) and the Ministry of Mines MLAS mapping application to determine location of values such as commercial outpost camps, mining claims, trapline boundaries and fishing access points.

If emails to potential participants were not answered, follow-up phone calls to the potential participants and addressed any questions / concerns were conducted. Some potential participants were unresponsive to outreach or did not have up-to-date contact information listed on websites or directories, and some potential participants declined to interview. The following is an initial list of participants that were engaged with for the purposes of data collection.

Interviews were conducted with various non-traditional land users (local businesses, remote tourism operators, and community / tourism organizations) to collect information and establish existing conditions. Land use information sought included for example, the location and size of tourism outfitter camps, fishing and hunting operations, community interest groups, and forestry and extractive industries. Interviews were conducted between March 2022 and June 2025, over video conference, phone call, and, in a few cases in lieu of an interview, a questionnaire was sent to the respondent.

The following tourism outfitter, fishing, and hunting operators were interviewed:

- 7 Lakes Wilderness Camps;
- Boreal Forest Outfitters;
- Dusey River Adventures;
- Gray Wood Outfitters (Eddie N'rth's Adventures);
- Leuenberger Air Service Limited;
- O'Sullivan Rainbow Lodge;
- Twin Lakes Outfitters and Wilderness Camps;
- Tom's Outpost Camps Ltd.;
- Wilderness North;
- Wilderness Outfitters;
- Nakina North Outfitters;
- Ogoki River Outpost Camp / Andomoozwe Outfitters; and
- Hearst Air Service Ltd.
- The following community interest groups were engaged with:
- Nature and Outdoor Tourism Ontario;
- Ontario Federation of Snowmobiling Clubs; and
- Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee.

The following forestry and extractive industries organizations were engaged with / interviewed:

- Ne-Daa-Kii-Me-Naan Inc.;
- Wabassi Resources Inc.; and
- KWG Resources Inc.

The following governmental agencies were engaged with:

- Ministry of Northern Development and Mines Northwest Regional Resources Section – Land Use Planning;
- Ministry of Natural Resources, Ring of Fire Unit;
- Ministry of Tourism, Sport, and Gaming, Tourism Policy Unit;

- Ministry of Tourism, Sport and Gaming, Heritage Planning Unit; and
- Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Ontario Parks.

The following key contacts were contacted but did not engage or declined to interview:

- Albany-Ogoki Outposts;
- Call of the North;
- Ogoki Lake Outfitters;
- Ogoki Frontier;
- Longlac Lodge;
- Brace Lake Outfitters;
- Canoe Kayak Ontario;
- Destination Northern Ontario; and
- Ogwiidachiwaning Sustainable Forest Management Inc.

Trapline holders within the Construction Disturbance Area were contacted via letter (sent by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources on behalf of the Marten Falls First Nation) to request consultation regarding existing conditions. Trappers were interviewed as part of the Marten Falls First Nation Indigenous Knowledge collection activities, as well as have received feedback from both Aroland First Nation and Ginoogaming First Nation.

A number of interviews were conducted with tourism outfitter (fishing, and hunting operators), forestry and extractive industries organizations, and governmental agencies, providing a well-rounded understanding of potential concerns and interests, including for above organizations that did not respond.

A complete list of contacts and the attempts to interview can be found in **Attachment B**.

4.4 Effects Assessment Methodology

The following is a high-level overview of the approach for the identification, assessment, and evaluation of the potential effects:

- Review construction and operations activities to identify potential interaction(s) that could result in environmental effects;
- Characterize the existing environment for both route alternatives;
- Identify potential environmental effects of the Preferred Route and recommend mitigation measures to avoid or minimize identified effects, as well as identify opportunities to enhance benefits to the environment;
- Predict and assess potential environmental effects remaining after taking into consideration the recommended mitigation measures (i.e., residual effects)

using direction, magnitude, geographic extent, duration, frequency, reversibility, and likelihood;

- Compare the Preferred Route against the no-action (null) alternative;
- Predict cumulative effects that may result from a combination of the residual effects of the Preferred Route with the effects of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects; and
- Identify a follow-up program for the Preferred Route that includes monitoring to verify the prediction of the effects assessment and effectiveness of the mitigation measures, and a requirement for monitoring of the commitments made in the Terms of Reference and Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report.

The following sections provide discipline-specific input and considerations as they pertain to the methodology for effects assessment. For detailed descriptions of the methodology used to inform this study refer to the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report. Refer to **Section 6** for details related to the Preferred Route, including revised Study Areas which have been used in the Effects Assessment.

4.4.1 Project-Environment-Interactions

The Project activities that may result in changes to the environment are described within the identified temporal and spatial boundaries (**Section 4.2**). This includes identification of both direct and indirect changes to the environment by comparing the existing condition to the effects anticipated to occur as a result of the Project. The likely Project-environment interactions were identified based on professional judgment, activities planned to occur, and as described in the *Marten Falls Community Access Road Project Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines* (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, 2020) as well as projects of similar magnitude and / or location.

An analysis of Project-environment interactions for the Land and Resource Use Discipline that are likely to have a potential effect is provided in **Table 4-5**.

Table 4-5: Project – Environment Interactions

Project Phases	Project Activities	Land and Resource Use
Construction Phase	*Mobilization of Equipment and Supplies*	**X**
	Temporary Construction Staging Areas[1]	**X**
	Temporary Access Roads and Trails[1]	**X**
	Temporary Construction Camps[1]	**X**
	Right-of-way Clearing and Grubbing	**X**
	Brush and Timber Disposal	**X**
	Pits and Quarries[1]	**X**
	Temporary Concrete Batch Plants	**X**
	Drilling / Blasting / Aggregate Production	**X**

Project Phases	Project Activities	Land and Resource Use
	Road Construction (stripping, subgrade excavation, embankment fill placement, grading, ditching)	**X**
	Bridge and Culvert Installation (approach embankments, foundations, substructures, superstructures, traffic protection, erosion controls)	**X**
	Construction Site Restoration	**X**
Construction Phase: Decommissioning	*Pits and Quarries*	**X**
	Temporary Camps, Roads / Trails and Staging Areas	**X**
Operations Phase	*Road Usage*	**X**
	Maintenance[2]	**X**

Notes: 1. Includes construction and use of.
2. Includes General Maintenance (e.g., grading, erosion control, quarrying, pits), Seasonal Maintenance (e.g., snow clearing, bridge and culvert maintenance), and Special Maintenance (e.g., slope failures, road settlement / break-up).

4.4.2 Potential Effects

Following the identification of the Project-Environment Interactions noted in **Table 4-5** above, a comparative analysis of the existing conditions for the preferred route has been conducted to determine the potential effects of the Project. The potential effects are described as either direct or indirect. Following the identification of direct and indirect effects, residual effects are described. Residual effects were then carried forward into the Cumulative Effects Assessment, which is described in **Section 7.3**.

A **direct effect** is an immediate change to an environmental component caused by a project activity at the same time and place as the activity. The potential direct effects resulting from the Project-environment interactions has been based on input received through gathering of Indigenous Knowledge and Consultation and Engagement Program, regulatory agency guidance, and professional judgement.

An **indirect effect** occurs when a change resulting from a project activity leads to subsequent changes in other environmental component, which may occur later in time or at a different location but are reasonably foreseeable. **Table 4-7** provides a preliminary identification of how changes to other valued components may result in indirect effects to the Land and Resource Use.

Residual effects are the effects that remain after the application of mitigation measures. These effects are described in **Section 7** and include descriptions in detail of the potential adverse and positive residual effects in relation to each temporal phase of the Project as outlined in **Section 4.2.3**.

A direct effect occurs through the direct interaction of an activity with an environmental discipline. The Project-environment interactions currently anticipated, based upon preliminary analysis, to result in direct effects to the Land and Resource Use discipline have been identified in **Table 4-1**. The potential direct effects resulting from the Project-

environment interactions will be confirmed during the Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment process and will be based on input received through the gathering of Indigenous Knowledge and Consultation and Engagement Program, regulatory agency guidance, and professional judgement.

An indirect effect occurs when a change to one environmental discipline resulting from a project activity causes a change to another environmental discipline (e.g., changes in environmental quality could indirectly affect use of recreation areas / features). **Table 4-7** provides a preliminary identification of how the Land and Resource Use discipline Valued Components may be affected by changes to other environmental disciplines.

4.4.3 Residual Effects Characteristics

The characteristics used to complete the effects assessment are described in detail in the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report. The section that follows outlines how these characteristics were applied and provides discipline specific definitions where applicable. The effects assessment characteristics have been described in **Table 4-6**.

Table 4-6: Residual Effects Characteristics

Effects Characteristic	Definition	Description
Context	■ Social context ■ Ecological context ■ Timing of effect in relation to sensitive activities	■ See Description in **Section 4.4.4**.
Direction	■ Direction of change from existing conditions	■ Positive: net gain or positive effect. ■ Neutral: no change to existing condition. ■ Negative: net loss or adverse effect.
Magnitude	■ Magnitude is the expected change from existing conditions	■ Negligible, low, medium, high. ■ See description in **Section 4.4.4**.
Geographic Extent	■ The spatial area that the effect is expected to occur	■ Construction Disturbance Area: effect is confined within the direct physical disturbance of the Project. ■ Local: effect extends into the Local Study Area. ■ Regional: effect extends into the Regional Study Area. ■ Beyond Regional: effect extends beyond the Regional Study Area.
Duration	■ The period of time that the effect is expected to occur	■ Short-term: effect ends before the end of construction. ■ Medium-term: the effect occurs during construction and ends soon after operation begins and / or maintenance ends soon after the activity causing the effect ends. ■ Long-term: the effect occurs during construction and persists into operation and / or the effect is considered permanent or the likelihood of reversibility is low or uncertain.
Frequency	■ How often the effect is expected to occur	■ Infrequent: The effect is expected to occur rarely. ■ Frequent: The effect is expected to occur intermittently. ■ Continuous: the effect is expected to occur continuously.
Reversibility	■ The ability to return to existing conditions	■ Reversible: the effect is not permanent. ■ Irreversible: the effect is permanent.
Likelihood	■ Probability that the effect will occur	■ Unlikely: the effect is not likely to occur. ■ Possible: the effect may occur, but is not likely. ■ Probable: the effect is likely to occur. ■ Certain: the effect will occur.
Uncertainty	■ The potential for observed results to deviate from predictions made	■ See description in **Section 4.4.4**.
Direct / Indirect	■ Nature of the pathway through which the effect occurs.	■ Direct effects are typically immediate and spatially aligned with the activity. Indirect effects may be delayed or spatially removed but are causally linked and predictable.

Table 4-7: Potential Discipline In-Direct Interactions

Valued Component – Effect	Aboriginal Treaty Rights and Interests	Atmospheric Environment	Climate Change Adaptation	Acoustic Environment	Physiology, Terrain and Soils	Surface Water	Groundwater	Vegetation	Wildlife	Fish and Fish Habitat	Social	Economy	Land and Resource Use	Human Health and Community Safety	Visual Aesthetics	Archaeological and Cultural Heritage
Land and Resource Use ■ **Land Use Compatibility** ■ **Parks and Protected Areas** ■ **Extractive Industries** ■ **Forest Industries** ■ **Energy and Linear Infrastructure** ■ **Recreation and Tourism**	X	X	-	X	-	X	-	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X

4.4.4 Discipline Specific Characteristics

In addition to the residual effects characteristics described in **Table 4-6** above, characterization of the following discipline specific characteristics are required to characterize residual effects to determine the significance of those effects from the Project on Land and Resource Use.

Ecological and Social Context

The social context within which a project's potential effects may occur has been taken into account when considering the effects criteria. Context is considered one of the most critical factors when evaluating effects, and the effects assessment has considered potential or existing effects or pressures on social, economic, and health conditions affecting the sensitivity or resilience of a valued component.

The social context of the effect includes a discussion of the social and cultural consequences of the predicted effect. The current and future sensitivity and resilience of the valued component to change caused by the Project has also been considered. The assessment includes the level of sensitivity and / or resilience.

The ecological context within which potential environmental, health, social, and economic effects may occur has been taken into account when considering the effects criteria, such as impacts to industry and businesses, access for trapping, hunting and fishing, species sensitivity and resilience, and includes Indigenous Knowledge where it was available.

Consideration of Context includes timing windows, when it is important in the evaluation of the effect, such as when the effect could occur during a species lifecycle window, or culturally significant period of time such as seasonal hunting and trapping.

Magnitude

Magnitude refers to the amount of change in a measurable parameter relative to the baseline conditions of a valued component, with and without the project in place, or to other standards or guidelines. When evaluating the magnitude of effects this study considers both the proportion of the Valued Component affected within identified spatial boundaries and the relative effect.

For magnitude, environmental discipline-specific definitions are required and are provided below in **Table 4-8**.

Table 4-8: Land and Resource Use Magnitude Definition

Magnitude Level	Definition	Rationale
Negligible	■ An effect that may or may not be discernible but is within the historical variability as defined by baseline conditions. The effect is within the capacity of the Land and Resource Use system to respond and / or will not alter the current Land and Resource Use structures.	■ Negligible effects are small and may not be noticeable. These effects do not represent a change in day-to-day Land and Resource Use.
Low	■ An effect that is small but discernable and within historical variability as defined by baseline conditions. The effect is within the capacity of the Land and Resource Use system to respond and / or will not alter the current Land and Resource Use structures.	■ Low effects are noticeable to some land and resource users. These effects do not represent a change in day-to-day activities.
Medium	■ An effect that is clearly discernable and beyond the historical variability as defined by baseline conditions. The effect is within the capacity of the Land and Resource Use system to respond and / or will not alter the current Land and Resource Use structures.	■ Medium effects are noticeable to some land users. These effects may or may not represent a change to day-to-day activities but can be adjusted to within the current Land and Resource Use system.
High	■ An effect that is clearly discernable and beyond the historical variability as defined by baseline conditions. The effect is beyond the capacity of the Land and Resource Use system to respond and / or will alter the current Land and Resource Use structures.	■ High effects are noticeable to land and resource users. These effects represent a change to day-to-day land use. In the case of adverse effects, these changes cannot be responded to within the current land and resource system resulting in systemic change.

Uncertainty

All impact assessments involve some level of uncertainty, often over many geographic, biophysical, and social dimensions, and observed results may deviate, to some degree, from predictions made in the assessment. Uncertainty could be related to a number of factors, such as project design and components, existing conditions, spatial and temporal scope, valued component response, effectiveness of mitigation measures, overall scope of factors considered, cumulative effects, and natural and human causes of accidental events. Note that all uncertainties related to the effectiveness of mitigation measures must be considered when determining residual effects. Transparency in describing sources of uncertainty is critical to understanding the confidence that can be attributed to the analysis of effects and is important to decision-making. Efforts to address uncertainties has been focused on those uncertainties that are most meaningful to decision-making, such as how the biophysical and human environment will respond to changes and the efficacy of mitigation measures.

4.4.5 Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

Following the identification of potential effects, the effects assessment has explored technically and economically feasible mitigation measures to avoid or minimize the identified negative effects. In addition, enhancement measures to increase positive effects beyond those that are already inherent to the design have been considered where appropriate. These measures consist of industry-standard practices, federal and provincial standard specifications, regulator-mandated measures, best management practices, Indigenous and community recommendations, and recommendations from environmental professionals based on expertise, scientific publications, experience, and judgement. Many land use mitigation measures draw on mitigation measures for other disciplines, such as for noise and air quality as these effects could influence the use of land and waterways.

Environmental monitoring that may be recommended is to verify the potential environmental effects predicted, evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation and enhancement measures, and identify the process the Proponent will follow if mitigation and enhancement measures are not effective.

Following the residual and cumulative effects assessments, effects monitoring programs are recommended to verify the prediction of the effects assessment and the effectiveness of the mitigation and enhancement measures presented in this Report. Commitments made in this Report may also include those to support compliance monitoring to evaluate whether the Project has been constructed, implemented, and operated in accordance with the commitments made.

4.4.6 Determination of Significance

A conclusion on significance was made for identified adverse residual effects using the characteristics described in **Section 4.4.4** as well as taking into consideration professional judgement.

4.5 Data Management and Analysis Methodology

Data management including quality assurance / quality control has been employed to minimize potential for data entry and analysis errors, prepare data sets for analysis and limit sensitive data distribution in accordance to established agreements.

4.5.1 Geographic Information Systems

Where existing conditions data is available in Geographic Information Systems format, this information will be provided to the Agency as electronic geospatial data file(s) compliant with the International Organization for Standardization 19115 standard. This will support the Government of Canada’s commitment to Open Science and Data and will facilitate the

sharing of information with the public through the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet Site and the Government's Open Science and Data Platform. The Agency intends to make the geospatial data files available to the public under the terms of the Open Government License – Canada as applicable with exclusion of sensitive species at risk and Indigenous Knowledge.

Databases and Geographic Information Systems files will be accompanied by detailed metadata that meets International Organization for Standardization 19115 standards. Documentation and digital files will be provided for all results of analyses that allow for a clear understanding of the methods and a replication of the results.

4.5.2 Data Analysis

Data analysis involved collecting, assessing for accuracy, processing, and interpreting the Land and Resource Use data collected using Geographic Information Systems and other open-sourced and private authoritative data. Spatial data was used to determine the extent of spatial displacement on the Land and Resource Use values caused by the Project. In addition, primary and secondary data collected informed the qualitative and quantitative descriptions of Land and Resource Use Valued Components.

4.6 Deviations from Study Plan

Deviations from the *Draft All Season Community Access Road: Land and Resource Use Study Plan* (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2021) in **Attachment A** were anticipated to be required as the Project evolved due to challenges encountered in the field, alternative methodologies being developed, comments from regulators, and as updated guidance became available.

Table 4-9 below outlines these deviations. General administrative changes such as changes to section headings, organization of sections and subsections, and changes to phrasing and tense have not been documented in **Table 4-9**.

Table 4-9: Deviations from Study Plan

Section Reference	Description of Change	Rationale
4.2.3 Spatial Boundaries	The Study Plan previously used the term *'Local Study Area'* to define the 5 km corridor which is being studied in the Existing Conditions section, and within which the footprint of the Project will be further refined. This area has been retitled as *the 'Project Study Area'*.	This change eliminates confusion between the Project Study Area and the Discipline Specific Local Study Area.
6.2 Spatial Boundaries	The Study Plan previously used the term Project Development Area which encompassed 100-metre-wide right-of-way for the proposed route options. This area has been updated to the Construction Disturbance Area.	This change incorporates comments received from MNR received in 2022 to encompass Pits and Quarries.
7.2.1 Secondary Data Collection	The Study Plan previously outlined sources for secondary data collection. This has been updated to reflect more reports and the Draft Community Base Land Use Plan.	This change incorporates comments received from MNR in 2022 and integrates additional secondary data sources identified through the author's professional judgment and experience.
9.2 Land and Resource Indicators	The Study Plan previously identified the Terms of Reference for the Draft Community Base Land Use Plan. This has been updated to reflect withdrawn lands as part of (W-TB-39/18 identified in the Draft Community Base Land Use Plan)	This change incorporates comments received from MNR regarding the use of the Draft Community Base Land Use Plan and incorporating information from MLAS.
9.2 Land and Resource Indicators	The Study Plan omitted information about Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI). This has been updated to reflect this information was used.	This updated incorporates information received by MNR in 2022 to reflect that no ANSIs were identified within the Project Study Area.
9.2 Land and Resource Indicators	Use of Ogoki Forest Management Plan for recreational values	The Forest Management Plan only covers part of the road which compasses around Painter Lake Road, this is not applicable to the remaining portions of the road that fall outside the Ogoki Forest Management Unit.
4.4.3 Residual Effects Characteristics	Added 'Atmospheric Environment' column to **Table** 4-7.	This change incorporates the Atmospheric Environment Discipline to the table.
4.5 Data Management	The Study Plan previously identified that data would be backed up on a 'daily basis'. This wording has been revised to state that data would be backed up on a 'regular basis'.	This change brings alignment with the proponent's various data backup policies.
4.5 Data Management	Wording was updated to note that data sets from all survey sites will be provided upon report finalization. No timeline had been previously identified.	The revision provides added clarity around when the data would be provided.
5 Existing Environment Description	New information on provincial acts and regulations was added based on research and relevance to Project areas and Valued Components. Information can be found in **Section 5**.	This revision updates the relevant sections with up-to-date information pertaining to provincial acts and regulations for the Valued Components.
5 Existing Environment Description	New information on business interests and operations in the Regional Study Area was added based on research, recommendations from primary data interviewees, and relevance to Project areas and Valued Components. Information can be found in **Section 5**.	This revision updates the relevant sections with up-to-date information pertaining to business interests and operations based on further research and recommendations from primary data interviewees for the Valued Components.
4.2.2 Valued Components and Indicators	"Extractive Industry" Valued Component updated name to "Extractive Resource Industry" to be more descriptive.	This Valued Component was updated in the Land and Resource Use Work Plan but is a deviation from the final Study Plan.
4.2.2 Valued Components and Indicators	Indicator for "Extractive Resource Industry" Valued Component updated from 'land use disruption' to 'Removal of lands with potential for mineral extraction' and 'Proximity to and access to lands with future potential for mining development'. Sub-indicator for "Extractive Resource Industry" Valued Component updated from 'Change to use of extractive lands' to 'Area of land under mineral claim that the road segments pass through'.	This Valued Component was updated in the Land and Resource Use Work Plan but is a deviation from the final Study Plan.
4.2.2 Valued Components and Indicators	"Remote Outfitters" Valued Component added to capture the remote tourism outfitter locations and localized impacts of the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project more accurately. Indicators and Sub-Indicators were provided to clarify the measures of change and provide more definitive assessments.	This Valued Component was updated in the Land and Resource Use Work Plan but is a deviation from the final Study Plan.
4.2.2 Valued Components and Indicators	Indicator for "Energy and Linear Infrastructure" Valued Component updated from 'land use disruption' to 'opportunity for development of energy facilities and linear infrastructure'. Sub-indicator for "Energy and Linear Infrastructure" Valued Component updated from 'Change to access to lands for energy or linear infrastructure' to 'change in access or opportunity for new energy development and / or linear facilities'.	The revision provides added clarity.

Section Reference	Description of Change	Rationale
4.2.2 Valued Components and Indicators	“Trapping” Valued Component added to capture non-traditional / non-Indigenous trapping activities surrounding the Project (and removed from Recreation and Tourism). Indicators and Sub-Indicators were provided to clarify the measures of change and provide more definitive assessments.	This Valued Component was updated in the Land and Resource Use Work Plan but is a deviation from the final Study Plan.
4.2.2 Valued Components and Indicators	“Parks and Protected Areas” Valued Component Construction Disturbance Area to include Little Current River Provincial Park as it is within 5 km of the Construction Disturbance Area.	Construction Disturbance Area description updated because of change from Project Development Area to Construction Disturbance Area, to include aggregate sites. Little Current River Provincial Park intersects with a portion of one of the aggregate sites.
4.2.2 Valued Components and Indicators	Indicator for “Forestry Industry” Valued Component updated from ‘land use disruption’ and ‘indirect disruption to forestry activities’ to ‘removal of commercial forestry lands’ and ‘proximity to and access to lands with potential for forest harvesting’. Sub-indicators for “Forestry Industry” Valued Component updated from ‘change to access of forestry lands’ to ‘area of commercial forestry land that the road segments pass through’ and ‘change to access of forestry area due to habitat (e.g., caribou fragmentation)’.	The revision provides added clarity.
4.2.2 Valued Components and Indicators	Indicator for “Parks and Protected Areas” Valued Component updated from ‘natural, cultural, and recreational values’ to ‘area of park and protected areas impacted’ and ‘accessibility to parks and protected areas’. Sub-indicator for “Parks and Protected Areas” Valued Component updated from ‘Change to features and environmental conditions supporting natural, cultural, and recreational values’ to ‘Area of Park and Protected area with natural, cultural or recreational values impacted’ and ‘Change in access to lands within Parks and protected areas used for recreation purposes’.	This Valued Component was updated in the Land and Resource Use Work Plan but is a deviation from the final Study Plan.
4.2.2 Valued Components and Indicators	“Trapping” Valued Component Regional Study Area in Final Existing Conditions Report now includes Wolverine Regional Study Area and Wildlife Regional Study Area.	Wildlife discipline confirmed area of impact for furbearing species.
4.2.2 Valued Components and Indicators	Local Study Area and Regional Study Area descriptions for all Valued Components changed from Project Development Area to Construction Disturbance Area.	To maintain consistency in terminology.
4.2.2 Valued Components and Indicators	Indicator for “Recreation and Tourism” Valued Component updated from ‘resource availability’ to 'Availability of species harvested for recreation purposes’	The revision provides added clarity.

5. Existing Conditions

The existing conditions are described based on a combination of information obtained through engagement and consultation, desktop assessment, and field investigation of the preferred route within the Local and Regional Study Areas.

This Report does not go into detail describing traditional and Indigenous land use activities within the Local and Regional Study Areas but generalizes uses by Indigenous Communities and its members. Individual reports for Indigenous communities have been prepared regarding the Indigenous use of land and resources for traditional purposes (*Marten Falls First Nation Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests: Preliminary Existing Conditions Report*).

Data for the Land and Resource Use existing conditions Report was collected from October 2021 to June 2025. The existing conditions, including areas of features encountered was for all route alternatives and therefore some of the measurements provided may not match data presented in **Section 7** which provides an assessment of Project impacts which is focused on the preferred route.

Information presented in this existing conditions section was used to:

- Evaluate the Project alternatives including alternative routes;
- Identify potential effects of Project construction and operations on the current land and resource use conditions;
- Determine suitable mitigation measures;
- Identify residual adverse effects after mitigation; and
- Evaluate the significance of residual adverse effects once mitigations have been taken into account.

The regulatory context and a regional overview describing the Regional Study Area is presented for each land and resource use criteria, followed by a description of existing conditions of the land use features and activities in the land and resource use Local Study Areas (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025).

The area surrounding the Project is largely natural consisting of boreal forest and muskeg. There are no all-season roads near the proposed Project and the only permanent settlement is Marten Falls First Nation. The main land uses near the Project location, not including traditional land uses, include mineral exploration, forestry (at the south end), and recreation (e.g., hunting, fishing, canoe tripping).

5.1 Desktop Assessment

5.1.1 Land Use Compatibility

This Valued Component considered the compatibility of the proposed Project with existing land uses including federal, provincial, and Indigenous planned and present land uses.

Regulatory Context

Land uses were identified through a variety of online tools such as Mining Land Administration System and *Crown Land Use Policy Atlas*, provincial legislation, policies and procedures as well as documents such as the Ogoki Forest Management Plan (2020-2030). The *Crown Land Use Policy Atlas* identified permitted or authorized public land use for the areas that fall outside of the Far North (Painter Lake Road) and the 'Draft' Marten Falls First Nation Community Based Land Use Plan assisted in identifying current and future land uses in the Area identified within the Far North. Mining Land Administration System was used to identify current mining claims and withdrawals within the Project Study Area and preferred route. In addition to these tools, review of the Albany River Provincial Park Management Statement was also considered as part of this evaluation. This section identifies the existing land uses, guiding legislation, policies and procedures within the Project footprint and their compatibility with Community Access Road development. In addition, Constance Lake First Nation currently has a Terms of Reference issued for development of its Community Based Land Use Plan; the Terms of Reference identifies areas of interest that overlap with portions of the broader planning context for the Project.

The legislation that governs the use of land and resources on Public lands managed by the Ontario government in the Far North also includes; *Public Lands Act*, *Mining Act*, *Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Act*, *Ontario Energy Board Act, Crown Forest Sustainability Act*, and *Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act*. Management of Provincial Public lands does not include Federal lands or private (fee simple) lands (as there are limited private or fee simple lands in this part of the province). The *Far North Act* and *Public Lands Act* are governed by the Minister of Natural Resources. The *Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Act* is governed by the Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth. The *Mining Act* is governed by the Minister of Mines. Although the Far North Act aids in land use planning for the area as defined as the Far North, pre-existing legislation and policies governed land and resource use prior to the enactment.

These legislations overlap and compliment each other. For example, mining leases are issued under the *Public Lands Act* but there are requirements under the *Mining Act* which would authorize the lease or exploration for a particular mining claim. The complexity of the overlapping jurisdiction will only be discussed as it relates to this Project and will not be discussed in detail throughout the report. Although mining is just one example, the focus of

land use within the Study Area will be based on the Draft Marten Falls First Nation Community Based Land Use Plan and the *Public Lands Act* associated policies that govern the existing use of these Public lands.

Provincial Crown Land is managed through a framework of policies, procedures and land use designations that permit or restrict specific activities. The *Crown Land Use Policy Atlas* identifies permitted uses and provides direction for future development in Crown land in areas (enhanced management or general use areas) within the Ministry of Natural Resources Districts, Community Based Land Use Plans and lands registered under the *Mining Act*. Although the Far North is not covered by this policy atlas now, it was used to govern uses on lands previously, which is why there are existing land uses such as Commercial Outpost Camps within the Far North.

Regional Study Area

The land use compatibility Regional Study Area falls under several governing jurisdictions, with the majority of the land in this area being managed under the *Far North Act*, which was enacted in 2010. This provides a joint planning process between First Nations and the Province through the development of a Community Based Land Use Plan. The purpose of the joint planning process is to identify and protect culturally significant areas within First Nations traditional territories, this includes protection for lands that are traditionally use for hunting, fishing and harvesting. Individual communities can work with the Ministry of Natural Resources to develop a Community Based Land Use Plan which would identify lands used for planning. Examples of this would be routes used for transportation such as waterways, which hold a significance historically for moving from seasonal harvesting areas. These areas or lands are generally identified for protection or planning as part of Community Based Land Use Plans. This is discussed in more detail in the Local Study Area.

In the Regional Study Area, existing Crown Land Policy and the direction provided in a Final Community-Based Land Use Plans form the primary framework for understating current and future land use. These planning tools identify permitted and restricted activities, areas designated for protection and lands intended for potential development and therefore provide essential context for evaluating how the Community Access Road may influence land management. By outlining the intended land use direction, these policies will help guide the assessment of potential Project impacts on how Crown land is managed now and how it may be managed in the future.

There are several Provincial Parks throughout the Regional Study Area, these lands are protected and managed under the *Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserve Act*. This is further discussed in **Section 5.1.3**.

Within the Regional Study Area, the *Official Plan for the Municipality of Greenstone* applies to a portion of the area (Municipality of Greenstone, 2022). The Municipality of Greenstone

contains the communities of Beardmore, Geraldton, and Nakina, which are approximately 50 km or more away from the southernmost point of the Construction Disturbance Area, and 230 km away from the Marten Falls First Nation Reserve. The *Official Plan* contains policies to guide residential, commercial, industrial, parks and open space, natural resource, hazard land, and utilities development (Municipality of Greenstone, 2022).

Local Study Area

The legislative and policy framework described for the Regional Study Area, including the *Public Lands Act*, *Far North Act*, *Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act,* and the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas, also applies to the Local Study Area. Areas managed under the *Public Lands Act* include the existing Painter Lake Road and Ogoki Forest Boundary which also represents the Ministry of Natural Resources District Boundary. The *Far North Act* which encompasses the remaining portions of the proposed road with the exception of the portion that crosses through the Albany River Provincial Park which is managed under the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act.

Public Land use considerations for most of this area are identified with the *Crown Land Use Policy Atlas.* The area around the Painter Lake Road fall within Geraldton General Use Area (G2697) which identifies permitted land uses such as aggregate extraction, bait fishing, commercial fishing, fur harvesting, road development and maintenance.

The portion of the proposed road that falls within the Far North is subject to the land use direction established under the *Far North Act.* Land use in this area will ultimately be guided by Community Based Land Use Plans that are jointly prepared by the Province and a First Nation; however currently this area only contains one (1) Draft Community Based Land Use Plan for Marten Falls First Nation. Constance Lake First Nation currently has a Terms of Reference that is available for a Draft Community Based Land Use Plan with identified lands overlapping with the boundaries for Marten Falls Draft Community Based Land Use Plan. Until the final plan is approved, land use in these areas remains under the authority of the Ministry of Natural Resources. Draft Dedicated Protected Areas identified by Marten Falls First Nation may require coordination with the Province, and some of these areas have already been withdrawn from mining claims to support their intended protection. Further details are provide in the **Section 5.1.2.**

The Municipality of Greenstone has its own land use planning structure under its *Official Plan* and designates: Settlement Areas, residential commercial and industrial districts, environmental protection areas, agriculture, peat extraction, forestry, public service facilities, communication facilities, airport district, cemeteries, and energy systems. The Project is not located within the *Official Plan* boundaries. As such, there is no anticipated conflict between the Municipality of Greenstone *Official Plan* land use designations and the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025).

5.1.2 Indigenous Land Use Planning

The *Far North Act's* purpose was to establish joint planning between the Province and Indigenous Communities within the area known as the Far North. Community Based Land Use Plans establish areas where lands can be protected and other areas where lands can be developed. There is one (1) Draft Marten Falls First Nation Community Based Land Use Plan for the area encompassing the Project Study Area. Given that this is still in Draft format, planning between the communities and Ministry of Natural Resources is ongoing. In addition, Constance Lake First Nation currently has a Terms of Reference issued for development of its Community Based Land Use Plan; the Terms of Reference identifies areas of interest that overlap with portions of the broader planning context for the Project. The purpose of a Community Base Land Use Plan is for:

- Supporting long-term benefits to the First Nation communities within and beyond the planning area as well as enabling economic development opportunities; and
- Support multiple access interests while minimizing the number and spatial extent of roads and other infrastructure corridors (Ontario, 2015).

Marten Falls Draft Community Based Land Use Plan

The majority of the Project area falls within the planning area identified in the Draft *Marten Falls First Nation Community Based Land Use Plan*. To support the Land and Resource Use assessment, the draft plan and its associated mapping were reviewed including the following:

- Resource Based Tourism (camps);
- Planning Area of Interest;
- Areas of Provincial Interest;
- Land Values;
- Forest Land Cover; and
- Proposed Development Protection Area.

Marten Falls First Nation has conveyed that alterations to the proposed Development Protection Area can still occur to address the preferred routing of the Project, given that there is overlap between the Project and the Draft Development Protection Areas. Given that the Community Based Land Use Plan is in draft format, these lands have not been finalized as Development Protection Areas. For the purposes of the alternatives development and preliminary design, the underlying features and values intended for protection through Draft Development Protection Areas were considered to inform avoidance and minimize impacts where feasible.

Other Indigenous Community Land Use Plans

At the time of writing this Report, no additional finalized Community Based Land Use Plans within the Construction Disturbance Area were identified or available for review. Constance Lake First Nation currently has a Terms of Reference issued for development of its Community Based Land Use Plan, which identifies an area of interest and overlap (including the "Shared planning area #2"). It is also understood that Aroland First Nation previously initiated work toward a Community Based Land Use Plan; however, no current draft or finalized plan was identified for review at the time of writing and therefore were not assessed.

5.1.3 Parks and Protected Areas

Parks and protected areas that fall within the Local and Regional Study Area are regulated due to their natural, cultural, and recreational values. These areas include provincial parks, conservation reserves, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest, and / or protected areas as determined by regional or local land use planning documents such as a Community Based Land Use Plan. This section discusses the parks and protected areas within the Regional Study Area and Local Study Area which may be affected by the Project. Parks and Protected Areas are identified in **Figure 5-1**.

Regulatory Context

Provincial parks and protected areas are established under provincial jurisdiction of the *Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act*, 2006 and their corresponding management statements. In addition, Dedicated Protected Areas can be established jointly by Indigenous communities and the Ontario government. Provincial parks fulfill a variety of objectives and are regulated for their natural, cultural, and recreational values. Within the Project area, there are provincially regulated parks and protected areas.

The *Act* provides the legislative framework for the management of provincial parks and conservation reserves including the creation, removal, and alteration of lands included within these areas (Government of Ontario, 2006). The *Act* was established "to permanently protect a system of provincial parks and conservation reserves that includes ecosystems that are representative of all of Ontario's natural regions, protects provincially significant elements of Ontario's natural and cultural heritage, maintains biodiversity and provides opportunities for compatible, ecologically sustainable recreation" (Government of Ontario, 2006). Section 2 of the *Act* outlines the objectives for the management of provincial parks and conservation reserves. For provincial parks, these objectives include:

- Permanently protecting representative ecosystems, biodiversity, and provincially significant elements of Ontario's natural and cultural heritage and managing these areas to confirm that ecological integrity is maintained;

- Providing opportunities for ecologically sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities and encouraging associated economic benefits;
- Providing opportunities for residents of Ontario and visitors to increase their knowledge and appreciation of Ontario's natural and cultural heritage; and
- Facilitating scientific research and providing points of reference to support monitoring of ecological change on the broader landscape (Government of Ontario, 2006).

The management of conservation reserves is similar to the management of provincial parks though outdoor recreation is not explicitly included nor is the provision for enhancing knowledge and appreciation of Ontario's natural and cultural heritage (Government of Ontario, 2006).

Each Provincial Park has its own Management Statement or Plan that authorizes and permits specific activities while also acknowledging future proposed disposition, development or infrastructure upgrades. If a Provincial Park has a statement, this provides Ontario Parks with management direction in the interim of the development of a Park Management Plan. The *Ontario Parks: Planning and Management Policies* (1992 Update) aims to protect "provincially significant" natural, cultural, and recreational environments through protection, recreation, heritage appreciation, and tourism. The 1992 Update also outlines a provincial park classification system – parks are divided into six classes (Wilderness, Nature Reserve, Historical, Natural Environment, Waterway, and Recreation). Each class has a defined purpose and characteristics, with separate planning, management, and visitor services policies (Government of Ontario, 1992).

While development is generally not permitted in parks and protected areas, utility corridors are permitted subject to the policies and approval of the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks. These utility corridors may be for electrical transmission lines or other utility corridors as decided by the ministry, within provincial parks (Government of Ontario, 1992).

Areas of Natural or Scientific Interest are also protected in Ontario. These lands may contain "provincially significant" geological and biological features, including but not limited to distinctive rocks, fossils, landforms, landscapes, and communities of plants and / or animals.

In 2020, the *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves* was replaced by an exemption regulation under the Environmental Assessment Act. In 2023, a Project Evaluation Policy was issued to formalize the process to assess proposed works within Ontario Park lands which aligns with existing Environmental Assessment processes. This Policy acts similar to Environmental Assessment through implementation of the duty to consult, following applicable provincial and federal legislation

and regulations as well as identifying potential negative impacts and requiring a proponent to minimize those impacts through mitigation measures.

Regional Study Area

The Parks and Protected Areas Regional Study Area overlaps five (5) provincial parks, and one (1) Areas of Natural or Scientific Interest which are outlined below in Table 5-1. Other features such as Significant Ecological Areas and Old Growth Forests are also located within some parks and protected areas within the Regional Study Area. Activities such as camping, hiking, fishing, hunting, canoeing/boating, swimming, and wildlife viewing take place in these provincial parks. Most Protected Areas have varying levels of permitted activities depending on the purpose of protection of the park, conservation reserves, and Areas of Natural or Scientific Interest.

There are no national parks, municipal parks, federal or provincial conservation reserves, Non-Government Organization nature reserves, or Crown game preserves within the Regional Study Area.

Local Study Area

There is only one (1) provincial park and protected area within the Local Study Area, the Albany River Provincial Park. The preferred route was selected to impact less parks and protected areas. Other features such as Significant Ecological Areas, and Designated Old Growth Forests are also located within the Parks and protected areas Regional Study Area.

Wildlife and ecological studies had been conducted of the following parks when determining the existing conditions for the route alternatives. These include the Ogoki River, Albany River, and Little Current River Provincial Parks. Ontario Parks provided written comments in response to a request for interview regarding the Ogoki and Albany River parks, and provided recreation reports and natural sciences reports for both parks (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). The full list of provided reports is as follows:

- Ogoki River:
  - *Earth Science Detailed Report;*
  - *Life Science Detailed Inventory 2008*; and
  - *Recreation Assessment 2003* with *2007 addendum*.
- Albany:
  - *1979 Earth Science Checksheet*;
  - *Life Sciences Checksheet 1991*;
  - *Life Sciences Checksheet 1992*;
  - *Life Sciences Inventory 2007*;

- *National Forest Inventory data 2011*;
- *2012 Albany River Expedition*;
- *Recreation Report 2004 – Osnaburgh to Patte Lake, Triangle Lake to Washi Lake (draft)*; and
- *Recreation Inventory 1980*.

Albany River is a remote waterway class park that is 91,500 hectares in size that was protected based on it's cultural and geological significance. Within the Local Study Area, the boundary of the park is defined as a 200-metre buffer on the north and south sides of the Albany River.

The Albany River Provincial Park is available for remote backcountry wilderness experiences and also contains 11 Commercial Outpost Camps. Due to its remote nature, operational maintenance is minimal for the backcountry sites and portages. This park is recognised for it's 'wilderness and remote character' and are valued in that state.

Within the Albany River Provincial Park, there is a history of commercial fishing by Indigenous harvesters from Mishkeegogamang, Eabametoong, and Marten Falls First Nations. Two traplines cross into the park in proximity to the proposed route. The management and jurisdiction of these traplines rests with the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Within the Ogoki River Provincial Park, recreation activities include camping, fishing, canoeing, swimming, and wildlife viewing. Since the initial writing of the *Land and Resource Use Existing Conditions Report*, updates have been made to the Local and Regional Study Areas for the Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment which now accounts for the inclusion of aggregate sites. As such, Little Current River Provincial Park is within the Construction Disturbance Area boundary due to the 5 km buffer.

Little Current River Provincial Park was established in 1989 and is classified as a waterway park, protecting 9,930 ha of northern boreal forest on either side of the Little Current River. Though no facilities exist, visitors can experience backcountry canoeing and camping .

Given the proposed route only transects the Albany River Provincial Park, impacts to the park will be considered as part of this assessment. **Table 5-1** details the parks and protected areas Local Study Area and Regional Study Area. These areas can be seen in **Figure 5-1**.

Table 5-1: Parks and Protected Area Features

Categories of Parks and Protected Area Feature	Feature	Area (ha) transected by Construction Disturbance Area
Provincial Parks	Albany River Provincial Park	5.7 ha
	Little Current River Provincial Park	0 ha
	Otoskwin-Attawapiskat River Provincial Park	0 ha
	Nakina Moraine Provincial Park	0 ha
	Ogoki River Provincial Park	0 ha
Area of Natural and Scientific Interest	Jobes Creek	0 ha

5.1.4 Recreation and Tourism

There are numerous opportunities in Northern Ontario for recreation and tourism, especially the remote wilderness experiences offered in the Far North. Similar to what was discussed in Section 5.1.3, this section will focus on impacts of the proposed road as it relates to hunting, fishing and canoeing outside of parks and remote outfitting which is discussed in Sections 5.1.3 and 5.1.5. The Project may remove or disrupt lands used for recreation and / or tourism purposes and may provide additional access to these lands. The Project may also alter environmental conditions of these areas which could lead to disruptions to local hunting and fishing during construction. Since the area is currently only accessible by air or waterways, this would introduce a different experience for the recreation and tourism in the area.

Regulatory Context

In northern Ontario, hunting and fishing are key components of the recreation and tourism economies. Regulated through the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997*, the *Act* regulates hunting and fishing, outlines licensing and safety requirements, and permits specific harvesting methods for hunters and anglers (Government of Ontario, 1997).

The recreation, tourism, and trapping within the Local and Regional Study Areas are subject to the policies of the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997* and the Ministry of Natural Resources regulates these activities through the wildlife management units, fisheries management zones, traplines, bear management areas and bait harvest areas.

Hunting

The Ministry of Natural Resources manages hunting activities through 58 Wildlife Management Units. Six (6) wildlife management units (1C, 1D, 17, 18A, 18B, and 25) fall within the Regional Study Area and two (2) wildlife management units fall within the Local Study Area (wildlife management units 1D and 17). For non-Indigenous hunters, each wildlife management unit requires licences and / or tags for the types of game that can be harvested, along with geographic and species based open season, and regulated hunting

methods. The regulated hunting methods help to sustain wildlife populations. Wildlife management unit restrictions may change as determined by the Ministry of Natural Resources as wildlife populations change, vulnerable species require greater protection, or a species population is re-established. Authorized hunters (non-indigenous) must have appropriate firearms licencing and an outdoors card with appropriate tags and licences to legally harvest.

Fishing

Similar to hunting, fisheries are managed within 20 fisheries management zones which is also regulated by the Ministry of Natural Resources. Three (3) fisheries management zones (2, 3, and 7) fall within the Regional Study Area and two (2) fall within the Local Study Area (2 and 3). The fisheries management zones contain established regulations similar to the wildlife management units, limiting fishing seasons to manage and protect species populations and adjusted after consistent population studies have shown sustainability of fisheries populations. Northwestern Ontario offers some of the best fishing in North America and attracts local, regional, and international tourists. Drive-in, boat-in, and fly-in fishing opportunities are provided by tourism operators in the region and walleye (*Sander vitreus*, okaas), bass (*Micropterus*), northern pike (ginozhe), brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*, masamekos), and muskellunge (*Esox masquinongy*) are the predominant sport species sought by anglers (Research Resolution and Consulting Ltd., 2015). For non-indigenous anglers, fishing licenses are required to legally harvest fish in the province.

In 2009, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport established 13 Regional Tourism Organizations across Ontario. These Regional Tourism Organizations monitor tourist activities across areas to create comparable tourism profiles (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). The Project falls within Regional Tourism Organizations 13c Northwest Ontario. This District falls under the jurisdiction of non-profit organization Destination Northern Ontario. Destination Northern Ontario help to create and support tourism routes as opposed to helping individuals build businesses in these Regional Tourism Organizations.

Regional Study Area

The Recreation and Tourism Regional Study Area consists of the 5 km buffer around the proposed route. This is a relatively remote area with limited road access which requires other methods of transportation such as boating or fly-in access to hunting and fishing opportunities. Apart from hunting and fishing, tourism and recreation activities in the Regional Study Area are largely outdoor related, including canoeing / kayaking, boating, snowmobiling, camping, hiking, and wildlife viewing (Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee, personal communication, February 9, 2022). The area also includes recreational properties known as commercial outpost camps (fly-in remote and secondary road accessible) (Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee, personal communication, February 9, 2022).

The Local Study Area consists of the 100 metre Right-of-Way of the proposed route. Given that this area will introduce a new potential access point, the impacts to fish and hunting activities within and in close proximity to the Right-of-Way. Fishing and hunting activities that may be undertaken by Indigenous people is discussed in the *Marten Falls Community Access Road: Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Final Report* (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2024) as well as the *Community and Well-Being Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment* (AECOM, 2025) which can be found in Appendix T of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement.

Fishing

With regards to fish populations that may be fished recreationally, the following conditions were observed within the species' Local Study Areas (further information available in the *Final Fish & Fish Habitat Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment* (WSP, 2026b)).

The Fish and Fish Habitat existing conditions Local Study Area contains many waterbodies that provide fish habitat and have potential to support many different fish species. The larger waterbodies (i.e., greater than 5 m bank-full width) in the Local Study Area provide fish habitat year-round, including spawning, rearing, feeding, and overwintering habitat. The smaller waterbodies in the Local Study Area may not provide overwintering habitat, as oxygen levels in shallow lakes and wetlands can drop to hypoxic conditions and the watercourses may freeze to bottom. However, these smaller waterbodies can provide suitable habitat for spawning, rearing, and feeding for portions of the year, typically in early spring and after freshet. Spring and fall spawning habitat are available in the Fish and Fish Habitat Existing Conditions Local Study Area for a variety of species. For example, the smaller watercourses with slow moving water and instream vegetation would provide spring spawning habitat for Northern Pike (*Esox lucius,* najwabe) or forage species such as minnows. The watercourses with faster moving water and coarse substrates (i.e., gravel or cobble) would provide fall spawning habitat for Brook Trout (S*alvelinus fontinalis,* masamekos) or spring spawning habitat for sucker species (Oji-Cree name *namebin; Catostomidae*). Some of the larger watercourses may provide spawning habitat for Lake Sturgeon (*Acipenser fluvescens*, nameh). The lakes (e.g., Patience Lake) in the Local Study Area may also provide spawning habitat for species including Walleye (*Sander vitreus,* okaas). In discussions with tourism outfitters, Northern Pike, Walleye and Brook Trout are the dominant sport fish that are sought by visitors and were highlighted as part of the Existing Conditions Report.

The Albany and Ogoki rivers and the unnamed watercourse at crossing RA4-WC-22 are assumed to provide spawning, rearing, and / or overwintering habitat for Lake Sturgeon. For additional information, please see *Fish & Fish Habitat Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment* (WSP, 2026b) in Appendix G of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement.

Walleye are considered widely distributed in the Fish and Fish Habitat Existing Conditions Local Study Area and are likely to be abundant in cool water lakes and watercourses where habitat is appropriate. Brook Trout are considered common in the Local Study Area and they are likely to be abundant in small, cold water watercourses with gravel substrates. Northern Pike are considered widely distributed in the Local Study Area and they are likely to be abundant in small, cool water lakes and watercourses with instream vegetation. Not mentioned by the Tourism outfitters for targeted sport fishing species, but identified in the Fish and Fish Habitat Existing Conditions Report were also Lake Whitefish (*Coregonus clupeaformis*, atikameg) and Burbot (*Lota lota,* mihzhash which are considered widely distributed in the Local Study Area and likely to be abundant in cold water lakes and larger watercourses.

Hunting

Hunting is a common practice in Northern Ontario and certain species are sought by licenced hunters and Indigenous Peoples for this area. Species that are generally hunted within the Local Study Area include Moose (*Alces alces*, mooz) Bear (*Ursus americanus*, makwa), Grouse (Ruffed (*Bonasa,* papashki), Spruce (*Canachites canadensis*, mijikozhe) and Sharp-tailed (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*, ahgusk), waterfowl (geese (nikah) and ducks (shesheed)), and snowshoe hare (*Lepus americanus*, abooze). Seasons for hunting varies depending on which Wildlife Management Unit the game is being harvested from. Indigenous Communities are able to harvest year-round and are not restricted to the seasons specified for each species. The descriptions for each wild game hunting season has been modified from the Ontario Hunting Regulation Summar. These descriptions are based on the resident and non-resident timing windows and typical understanding of how hunting regulations are managed in Ontario. Given that the majority of the resident and non-resident hunters are utilizing the remote tourism outfitters (Commercial Outpost Camps) for this area, these descriptions indicate the dates and tag allocations that are for these Wildlife Management Units and are not specific for each Remote Tourism Outfitter, nor is it representative of the number of animals harvested within the Local Study Area.

Moose

The resident hunting rifle season for moose in the Local Study Area, Wildlife Management Units 1D and 17, runs from September 20th – December 15th, while the non-resident hunting season is from September 22nd – November 15th. There is no ‘bow only’ seasons for Wildlife Management Units 1D or 17. Moose tags are allocated to resident hunters through a points-based system, and a set number are provided to remote outfitters for their guests. The distribution of Moose tags to outfitters is done through a share-based model where each outfitter owns a portion of the 1000 shares per Wildlife Management Unit. Depending on the health of moose population which is generally surveyed every 1-3 years for each Wildlife Management Unit (Ministry of Natural Resources, 2025), the number of tags allocated for each unit is based on population findings. From the moose surveys, the

total number of tags are determined for each Wildlife Management Unit and a percentage of the overall tag allocations for resident hunters is provided to the remote outfitters based on the number of shares they have for that particular Wildlife Management Unit.

Given the location of these two Wildlife Management Units being considered remote (WMU 1D) and relatively remote (WMU 17), the minimum points needed for resident hunters is relatively low since there is limited access for this area. Indigenous Peoples are not restricted by these hunting seasons, therefore could harvest these species at anytime.

Black Bear

Some Indigenous communities within the Local and Regional Study Area harvest black bear as part of their traditional practices. It is assumed that most black bear (Ursus americanus) are harvested in areas with road or trail access. Given that black bears hibernate during the winter months, it is assumed the black bear can be harvested by Indigenous peoples during spring, summer and fall.

There are two bear hunting seasons for Black Bear in Ontario for resident and non-resident hunters; the spring hunting season runs from May 1 – June 15 and fall hunting season from August 15 – October 31. In Ontario, a licenced trapper is allowed to harvest black bear under the authority of the trapping licence (Ministry of Natural Resources, 2025) however, given that the traplines in the Local Study Area are managed by Indigenous trappers, it is assumed that no other trappers aside from community members are harvesting black bears in the Area. Given the lack of access in the area, it is assumed that resident hunters who possess a bear licence could harvest in the existing Painter Lake Road area in Wildlife Management Unit 17. Remote outfitters in Ontario can provide bear hunting opportunities to guests if they have a Bear Management Area. Since there are no Bear Management Areas within the Local Study Area, the hunting that takes place for Wildlife Management Unit 17 would assume to occur in the Painter Lake Road area by resident hunters.

Grouse

Resident and non-resident hunting season for Ruffed, Spruce and Sharp-tailed Grouse (Bonasa umbellus, Canachites canadensis and Tympanuchus phasianellus) is September 15 to March 31 under the authority of a small game licence (MNR, 2025a). Bag and possession limits are dependant upon the wildlife management unit. It could be assumed that tourism hunters seek these species while hunting for other large game such as moose or bear while visiting remote outfitters. Indigenous Peoples are not restricted by these hunting seasons, therefore could harvest these species at anytime.

Geese

Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*), Snow Geese (*Anser caerulescens*) and ducks (waterfowl) migrate to the Local Study Area through the Mississippi Flyway during the

spring and fall months (Ducks Unlimited Canada, n.d.). Goose hunting is a tradition for Indigenous people and typically each family have a traditional hunting area that they visit each spring for a week or two as the Geese migrate back north to the Hudson's Bay lowlands. Due to the remote nature of this area and that remote outfitters did not specify these hunting opportunities when interviewed, it is assumed the majority of hunting for waterfowl in this area occur by Indigenous community members.

Snowshoe Hare

Resident and non-resident hunting season for snowshoe hare (Lepus americanus) in the Local Study Area Wildlife Management Units is from September 15 – March 31st (Ministry of Natural Resources, 2025). It is assumed that majority of hunters in this area are Indigenous Peoples due to the lack of access, therefore, there is no restrictions on dates for harvesting these species. This species is also considered a furbearing mammal, so it can also be harvested through trapping which is discussed in Section 5.1.6: Trapping.

Winter and Water Recreation

Currently, there are no recognized or maintained snowmobiling trails in the Local Study Area, but a representative of the Ontario Federation of Snowmobiling Clubs indicated (Ontario Federation of Snowmobiling Clubs, 2022) that there has been discussion about opening up trails in the Local Study Area. Aroland First Nation has previously expressed concerns with regards to the use, access, and maintenance of snowmobile trails in the Kenogamisis Lake / River and Goldfield Lake areas, as gathered through the Indigenous Knowledge literature review, and such concerns should be considered if future snowmobile trails are to be opened and maintained within the Project Local Study Area (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). There are also no formal hiking or snowshoe trails in the Local Study Area.

Recreational canoeing and kayaking activities occur in the Local Study Area, in particular on the Albany River which are also Provincial Parks (Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee, 2022)The Albany River Provincial Park contains backcountry camping opportunities that would involve canoe camping at the various campsites located along the route as well as portage trails which occur around rapids along the Albany River. It should be noted that there are no campsites within the construction limits and portages are anticipated to be preserved if encountered.

5.1.5 Remote Outfitters

As part of the northern economy, remote outfitters/operators for commercial outpost camps provide tourism opportunities in the remote wilderness by attracting clients through fishing and hunting exclusive packages which also provide lodging and guiding. Although this could be considered a subsection to the Recreation and Tourism Value Component, it has been identified as its own Value Component since this is a group of individual business

owners whose feedback on this proposed road would The Project runs parallel to numerous commercial outpost camps and could impact the remote experience for operators and clients. The Project may impact the enjoyment through disruption to remote experience for guests for one of the commercial outpost camps which will be discussed in more detail below.

Regulatory Context

Commercial outpost camps are managed on Crown land by the Ministry of Natural Resources through Crown land management policy PL 4.06.01. These facilities are generally tenured by a Land Use Permit or Crown Lease. In this particular area, there are only Land Use Permit commercial outpost camps that are classified as 'Type A' Land Use Permits which are fixed structures that are only accessible by air, water or forest trails/ restricted access roads (Ministry of Natural Resources, 2022). Land Use Permits grant the rights of the permit holder to use Crown land for the specified purpose and authorizes the permit holder to have structures on the property. If changes or additions to the site are required, the permit holder must request an authorization from the Ministry of Natural Resources to make upgrades and it must remain in the 0.5 hectare site (as outlined through a site sketch) assigned to that Land Use Permit.

Activities that remote outfitters offer are regulated through the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997* and associated Hunting and Fishing Regulation Summaries (Guide) for that specific year. As discussion in Section 5.1.4, the *Act* and regulation summaries outline hunting and fishing guidelines, identify licensing and safety requirements and permit specific hunting methods for hunters and anglers (Government of Ontario, 1997). The province also provides the Management Guidelines for Forestry and Resource-based Tourism (Government of Ontario, 2001) to give assistance to resource-based tourism interests when they are involved in forest management planning or a resource stewardship agreement (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025).

Similar to what was discussed in Section 5.1.4, the tourism provided by remote outfitters provides socio-economic benefits to Region 13c: Northwest Ontario.

During a 2022 interview, a representative of Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Gaming indicated that people who run remote businesses want to maintain the remoteness and are hesitant to switch to more directly accessible forms of business (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). Remote tourism commands a certain price point and increased access to the areas they operate in reduces the value of their product and threatens the marketability of their (Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Gaming , 2022).

Regional Study Area

The Regional Study Area contains 13 remote outfitters that operate commercial outpost camps for hunting and fishing excursions. These establishments each employ minimal

staff to guide and accommodate guests. These camps are often supported by small air transportation firms within the region which provide access to remote areas where hunting and fishing can occur in a private/remote experience. Some of these remote locations contain boat caches which allow the outfitter to fly in guests for day fishing excursions. As part of the Marten Falls First Nation Draft Community Based Land Use Plan, resource-based tourism is an expressed interest for the community to provide economic growth and development in the area. Other communities have also expressed interest in recreation and tourism values.

As part of the consultation, remote outfitters were contacted previously when the four alternative routes were being investigated. The remote outfitters who were originally contacted were located in a larger area of the Far North. This included 7 Lakes Wilderness Camps; Boreal Forest Outfitters; Andomooze Outfitters/Ogoki River Outpost Camp; Albany-Ogoki Outposts; Dusey River Adventures; Gray Wood Outfitters; Leuenberger Air Service Limited, O'Sullivan Rainbow Lodge; Twin Lakes Outfitters and Wilderness Camps; Meta Lake Lodge Outpost and Camps; Wilderness North; Nakina North Outfitters; Northland Outfitters; and Hearst Air Service Ltd.

Local Study Area

Within the Local Study Area, the most popular type of recreation and tourism activities are offered by remote tourism outfitters for fly-in / fly-out hunting and fishing expeditions at lodges and outpost camps.

There are six (6) remote tourism outfitter operations that were identified within closer proximity to the proposed route, with one camp being roughly 1.7 km from a proposed bridge crossing along the Albany River. Engagement with 12 tourism outfitter operators occurred to determine the type of services provided, the location of lodges and outpost camps, and the concerns of tourism outfitter business owners (Andomoozwe Outfitters; Boreal Outfitters; Dusey River Outfitters; Gray Wood Outfitters; Tom's Outpost Camps; O'Sullivans Rainbow; Wilderness North; Nakina North Outfitters; Hearst Air; and Leuenberger Air Service). Tourism outfitters were identified and selected for interviews based on proximity to the Construction Disturbance Area and potential for effects from Project development and operation. Tourism outfitters were contacted initially via e-mail, and if required, followed by a phone call (if listed and active). A select few were also contacted via a letter package if no active e-mail addresses or phone numbers were available (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). Tourism outfitters were contacted five (5) times with requests for interviews and were provided with a list of questions with regards to Land and Resource Use and a map of the Project with the Local Study Area and Regional Study Area. Additional tourism outfitters that were identified through interviews received invitations for interview via e-mail and / or phone call. Of the contacted tourism outfitters, seven were unresponsive to contact methods. A detailed list of those contacted can be found in **Attachment B**.

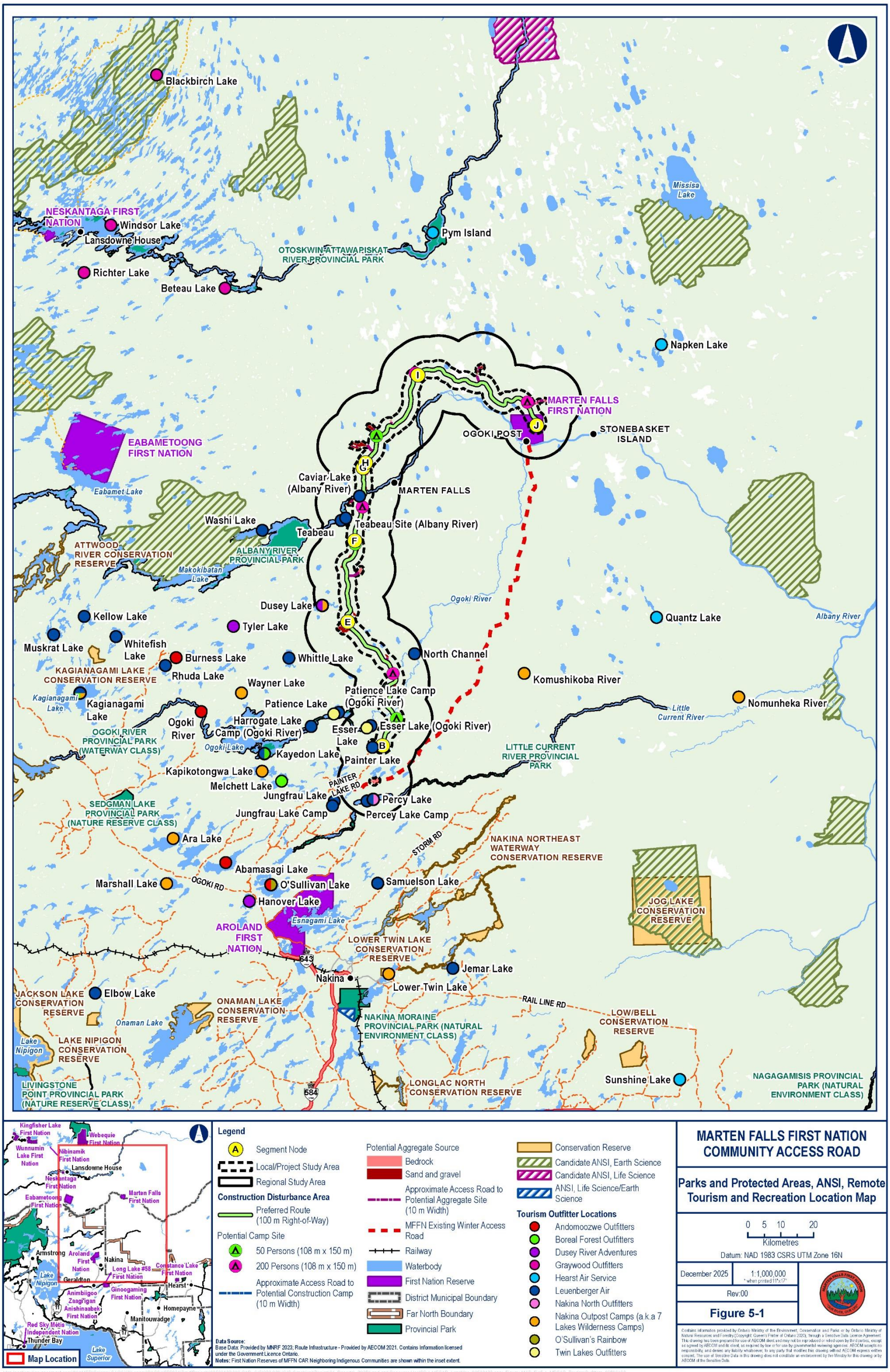
Prior to the sixth Public Information Centre in 2025, all remote outfitters previously contacted were provided with a notice of the upcoming Public Information Centre, an offer for a virtual meeting or phone conversation as well as a map of the 2 alternative routes. One tourism outfitter reached out prior to receiving the notice and provided their perspective. Based on this discussion, a series of questions for remote outfitters situated near the proposed route was developed. Only one remote outfitter provided feedback to these questions. No additional communication was established with the remaining three remote outfitters.

Figure 5-1 shows the location of tourism operators' main base lodges and outpost camps within the Construction Disturbance Area, as self-reported through interviews and on business websites (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025).

The tourism outfitters interviewed described major species hunted as bear and moose, and major species fished as walleye and pike (Andomoozwe Outfitters; Boreal Outfitters; Dusey River Outfitters; Gray Wood Outfitters; Tom's Outpost Camps; O'Sullivans Rainbow; Wilderness North; Nakina North Outfitters; Hearst Air; Leuenberger Air Service, personal communication, 2022) (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). Overall, it was noted that populations of these species have remained stable in the last ten years, though outfitters did express concerns that the Marten Falls Community Access Road would allow greater access to their camp locations and therefore have a potential effect on wildlife populations as individuals gain access to the area (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). As described by outfitters, and in *Remoteness Sells – A Report on Resource-Based Tourism in Northwestern Ontario* (2005), much of the economic value of the outpost camps is the lure for the remote fly-in access and guided excursions. Generally, tourism outfitters were concerned that the Marten Falls Community Access Road would negatively affect their business and could reduce the value of their services, or drive customers to seek services at other providers who maintain their remoteness (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). Access to hunting and fishing sites was the top concern among those interviewed. A representative of Hearst Air indicated that there is a need for a greater number of conservation officers within the area, to confirm that all hunting and fishing is being conducted (Hearst Air, 2022)

Tourism outfitters described business trends as recovering post-COVID-19 pandemic restrictions lifting (Andomoozwe Outfitters; Boreal Outfitters; Dusey River Outfitters; Gray Wood Outfitters; Tom's Outpost Camps; O'Sullivans Rainbow; Wilderness North; Nakina North Outfitters; Hearst Air; Leuenberger Air Service, personal communication, 2022) (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). Approximately 60% of customers for tourism outfitters are from the United States of America, and border crossing restrictions limited the number of customers able to keep their expedition bookings (Andomoozwe Outfitters; Boreal Outfitters; Dusey River Outfitters; Gray Wood Outfitters; Tom's Outpost Camps; O'Sullivans Rainbow; Wilderness North; Nakina North Outfitters; Hearst Air; Leuenberger Air Service, personal communication, 2022). Tourism outfitters reported a gradual increase back to levels seen before the pandemic, though some outfitters noted that they have seen a shift to more Canadian customers in the last two years (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025).

Figure 5-1: Provincial Parks, Recreation and Tourism Study Areas



Tourism outfitters operate between mid to late May and late October, shifting their service offerings throughout the season to align with the number of tags for game that are available and open season for fish species during that time.

Aside from customers who use the services of remote outfitters, areas in the southern limits of the road (Painter Lake Road) are used by local hunters in the Greenstone area. It is also assumed that some of the lakes are accessed by individuals with access to float planes. Some members of Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee expressed interest in the Marten Falls Community Access Road providing access to new lands to provide additional hunting and fishing opportunities for the local community (Greenstone) (Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee, 2022). The decision regarding ownership of the Community Access Road has yet to be made. It is currently unknown who will own, maintain and operate the Community Access Road.

5.1.6 Trapping

The majority of traplines in the Regional Study Area and Local Study Area are held and used by members of Indigenous Communities.

Regulatory Context

Trapping in Ontario is subjected to the policies, guidelines (regulations) and rules under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997*. The province is divided into traplines or areas that are managed by a head trapper. There are requirements for licencing that allow them harvest within the limits of their trapline. They also have the right to hire helper trappers that also require a trapping licence and permission to harvest within the head trappers trapline. Trapping of species occurs at different times of the year but generally occurs from late fall to late winter. Detailed information on traditional trapping regulation and activities can be found in the *Draft Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Technical Support Document* (Dillon, 2025) and Appendix O of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement.

Regional Study Area

In the Far North, trapping is described as a way of life for many Indigenous communities, with families trapping for approximately three months at a time. Historically, trapping was a family endeavor and was used as a food source, for furs to line clothes / blankets, and for healing. Trapping is largely recognized as an Aboriginal and treaty right and a way to preserve Indigenous culture. The fall in fur prices and the lack of access to market has impacted trapping throughout the province of Ontario for non-Indigenous trappers as well. In 2025, fur prices have increased, potentially indicating a viable future economic development for this area (Fur Harvesters Auction Inc., 2025).

Two responses were received related to traplines from Aroland First Nation and Ginoogaming First Nation. Aroland First Nation indicated that five of their traplines intersect with the Regional Study Area.

Local Study Area

There are seven traplines that intersect the centreline of the preferred route for the Marten Falls Community Access Road, while ten traplines intersects the Local Study Area that is identified in **Figure 5.2**. All the head trappers in the Local Study Area are understood to be Indigenous. The Ministry of Natural Resources data base of trappers for this area is not up to date due to the traplines being managed by families rather than individuals. As an example, some of the head trappers are now deceased. In an attempt to gain clarity on trapline activity, letters were sent to the Ministry of Natural Resources for distribution to the registered trapline holders.

Aroland First Nation provided information through their Indigenous Knowledge and Land Use Study for the Marten Falls Community Access Road and indicated that their commercial trapping areas intersect with 47.4 km of the Preferred Route (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). Aroland First Nation's commercial trapping areas overlap 1,650.6 ha of the Local Study Area.

Ginoogaming First Nation identified four traplines within the Regional Study Area of importance to members of Ginoogaming First Nation: GE210, GE138, GE150, and GE153. GE 138 and GE 153 overlap with the Local Study Area. Additional information has been requested to determine the types of species trapped in this area, the frequency of trapline use, and any other relevant information. This information has not been received from trappers as part of the outreach that has occurred over the course of the engagement efforts. It will be assumed that information gathered during the existing conditions review from the Final Wildlife Technical Support Document (WSP, 2026) will be used to discuss species. The Final Wildlife Technical Support Document can also be found in Appendix K of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement.

Additionally, per the *Marten Falls First Nation Indigenous Knowledge, Land Use and Occupancy Study for the Northern Access Roads* (2023), 13 commercial harvesting areas, were noted by 9 participants, which cover a large geographic area and extend approximately 30 km on either side of the Albany River. Participants also noted that their traplines have been underutilized in the past ten years for commercial use due to the decline in prices and demand for furs.

With regards to furbearing populations, the following conditions were observed within the species' Local Study Areas (further information available in the *Final Wildlife Technical Support Document* (WSP, 2026) in Appendix K of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement).

Wolverines

- Wolverine were observed at 39 of 54 wolverine hair snag stations in total, including 28 during the 2022 survey, and 30 during the 2023 survey. Wolverines were observed at 19 stations both years;
- A total of 17 unique individuals were identified, of which 4 were confirmed to be female, and 2 were confirmed to be male. Sex was not determined for the remaining 11 individuals. Due to the difficulty of obtaining diagnostic photographs and hair samples, the true number of individuals photographed at the wolverine hair snag stations is very likely higher than the 17 identified individuals;
- Based on the mark-recapture modelling completed, the estimated density of wolverine for the Wolverine Local Study Area was 1.2 individuals per 1,000 km^2 in 2022. A lower density of 0.6 individuals per 1,000 km^2 was detected in 2023. The model predicts that 43 individuals reside within the Wolverine Local Study Area;
- Wolverine habitat availability and distribution is abundant and widespread throughout the Wolverine Local Study Area;
- Wolverine and wolverine sign were identified throughout the Wolverine Local Study Area on various surveys;
- No confirmed maternity den sites were identified in the Wolverine Local Study Area; and
- Two suspected wolverine denning areas were identified in the Wolverine Local Study Area but were not confirmed due to the presence of caribou.

American Marten

- The marten habitat suitability model predicts suitable habitat to be distributed throughout the Wildlife existing conditions Local Study Area and Regional Study Area;
- According to the marten habitat model, suitable marten habitat is widespread and abundant throughout the Wildlife existing conditions Local Study Area and Regional Study Area. A total of approximately 128,657 ha (51.9%) and 305,363 ha (46.1%) of moderate to high suitable habitat is estimated to be present in the Wildlife existing conditions Local Study Area and Regional Study Area, respectively, under existing conditions;
- In addition to the marten general habitat model, winter habitat use modelling was completed using winter tracking data collected from 30 4.5 km triangular transects completed during the winter of 2022;
- There was no strong association of American marten presence with any habitat type found in the winter habitat use dataset; and

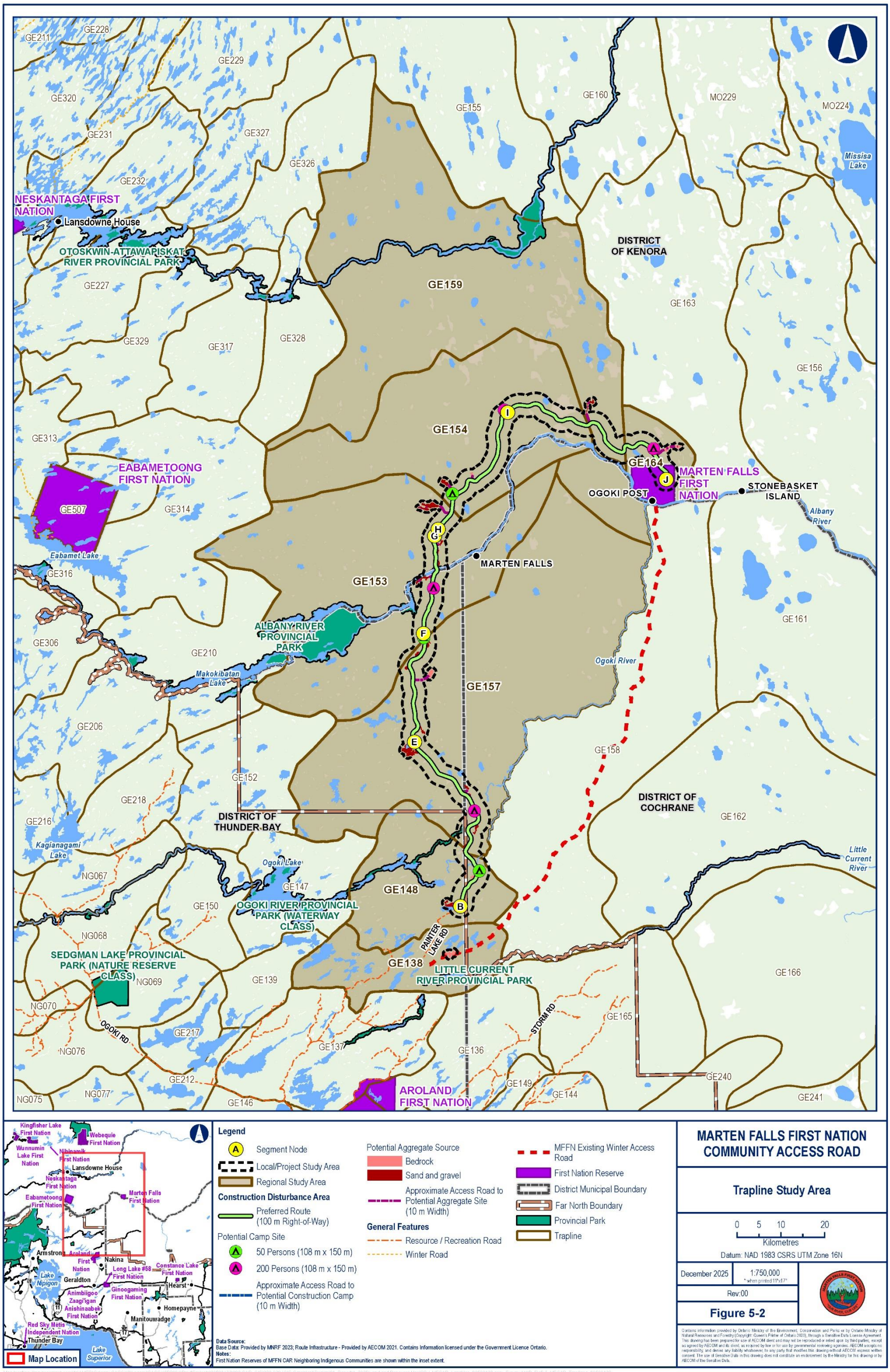
- Prey abundance and habitat conditions are two factors that contribute to marten abundance, indicating that these conditions exist within the Wildlife existing conditions Local Study Area and Regional Study Area.

Beaver

- A higher density of beaver observations (e.g., lodges, dams, and sign) were concentrated in the southern portion of the existing conditions Local Study Area and a lower density of observations around the Marten Falls area;
- The beaver habitat model predicts available beaver lodge locations, forage, and cover and shows a total of 88,939 ha of moderate and high suitability habitat in the Wildlife existing conditions Local Study Area, representing 35.9% of the Wildlife existing conditions Local Study Area; and
- The beaver habitat model indicates that beaver habitat is abundant and widespread in the Wildlife existing conditions Local Study Area. The main limiting factors or threats affecting beaver survival, abundance, and distribution are trapping and the availability of suitable habitat.

Figure 5-2 shows the location of traplines intersecting the Local Study Area.

Figure 5-2: Traplines in the Local Study Area



5.1.7 Extractive Resource Industry

This section addresses extractive industry in the Regional and Local Study Area and the compatibility of Project development on those uses. For the purposes of this Report, "extractive industry" refers to mining and aggregate processes but does not refer to the extraction of natural gas or oil. This section identifies the existing and planned extractive industry sites and infrastructure within the Regional Study Area and how they may be affected by Project development.

Regulatory Context

The *Mining Act* regulates mining, prospecting, mineral exploration, mine development, and rehabilitation in the province. The Ministry of Mines is responsible for the administration of the Mining Act. The *Act* encourages prospecting, staking, and exploration for the development of mineral resources, particularly in a manner consistent with the recognition and affirmation of existing Aboriginal and Treaty Rights. This includes the duty to consult and alignment with other legislation (and regulations) under the *Environmental Protection Act, Environmental Assessment Act* and *Ontario Water Resources Act* to minimize the effects of these activities on public health and safety and the environment (Government of Ontario, 1990).

At the time of writing this Report, there are 36 active mining operations in the province that cover a diverse set of metals and minerals, including precious and base metals, and non-metallic minerals. Ten of these mines produce critical minerals, including cobalt, copper, indium, nickel, platinum group elements, selenium, tellurium, and zinc (Ministry of Energy and Mines, 2025).

Aggregate extraction is considered one of the most economically beneficial natural resource in Ontario. The use of aggregates for development of roads and infrastructure for communities is crucial for the economic growth of the province. The *Aggregate Resources Act, 1990* (2021 update) regulates aggregate operations on Crown and private land within the province and requires operations to follow site specific plans for the extraction of aggregate resources within a specified boundary. The pits must be maintained in a safe condition and have areas rehabilitated to minimize adverse effects on the surrounding environment. The *Act* provides guidelines for the management of aggregate areas and requires a license to be obtained from the Ministry of Natural Resources before undertaking aggregate extraction processes. The Minister reserves the right to determine whether appropriate consultation with Indigenous communities was undertaken prior to issuing licenses or permits (Government of Ontario, 2021).

Regional Study Area

In 2021, Ontario's mining sector produced $11.1 billion worth of minerals, which accounted for 20% of Canada's total production value, and contributed an estimated annual total of

$8.0 billion to gross domestic product, $2.9 billion in wages and salaries, and approximately 75,000 jobs in the province via direct, indirect, and induced channels (Ontario Mining Association, 2023). There are a number of mining projects currently underway in Northwest Ontario (see **Figure 5-3**). This area is known for its variety and great quantity of mineral resources including gold, silver, diamond, nickel, palladium, and chromite (Mining, 2018).There is 1 operating mine in the Regional Study Area located in Geraldton, the Greenstone Gold Mine that is closest to the proposed route. The Community Access Road will provide access for future mining operations, such as Eagle's Nest Mine (within the Ring of Fire) which is proposed to extract nickel, copper, platinum and palladium minerals (Ontario, 2025).

There is one mine that has begun commercial production – the Greenstone Gold Mine. The Greenstone Gold Mine is located in the southern extent of the Regional Study Area, and is a owned by Equinox Gold (Ministry of Energy and Mines, 2026). Located in the Geraldton-Beardmore Greenstone Belt in Ontario, Canada, the properties are made up of several claim groups having a cumulative strike length of more than 105 km along the district's most prospective geological structures. The properties have excellent access to infrastructure, including the Trans-Canada Highway (Canada's national highway) and the TC Energy's natural gas pipeline, which extends along its length.

The Greenstone mine property is located approximately 275 km northeast of the City of Thunder Bay, Ontario and approximately 4 km south of the Town of Geraldton, Ontario, at the intersection of Provincial Highway 584 and Trans-Canada Highway 11's current location (see **Figure 5-4**). Highway 11 is being realigned to support the Marten Falls Community Access Road development and operation.

The Greenstone mine encompasses the former Hardrock, MacLeod-Cockshutt, and Mosher underground mines which operated from the late 1930s until about 1970 and together produced more than two million ounces of gold. Site rehabilitation work was undertaken during the 1990s. Greenstone Gold Mines proposes to mine the Hardrock deposit as an open pit over a Life of Mine of approximately 15 years (Ministry of Energy and Mines, 2026). The Greenstone Gold Mines project website describes the mine timeline as follows:

- Construction: Years 1 to 3, with ore stockpiling commencing after the first year of construction;
- Operation: Years 1 to 15, with Year 1 representing a transition from construction to operation;
- Closure: Years 16 to 20 for Active Closure and Years 21 to 36 for Post-Closure; and,
- Project infrastructure will include a process plant operating 365 days per year and a mill with throughput averaging 27,000 tonnes per day (Ministry of Energy and Mines, 2026).

Figure 5-3: Mineral Exploration Projects in Regional Study Area

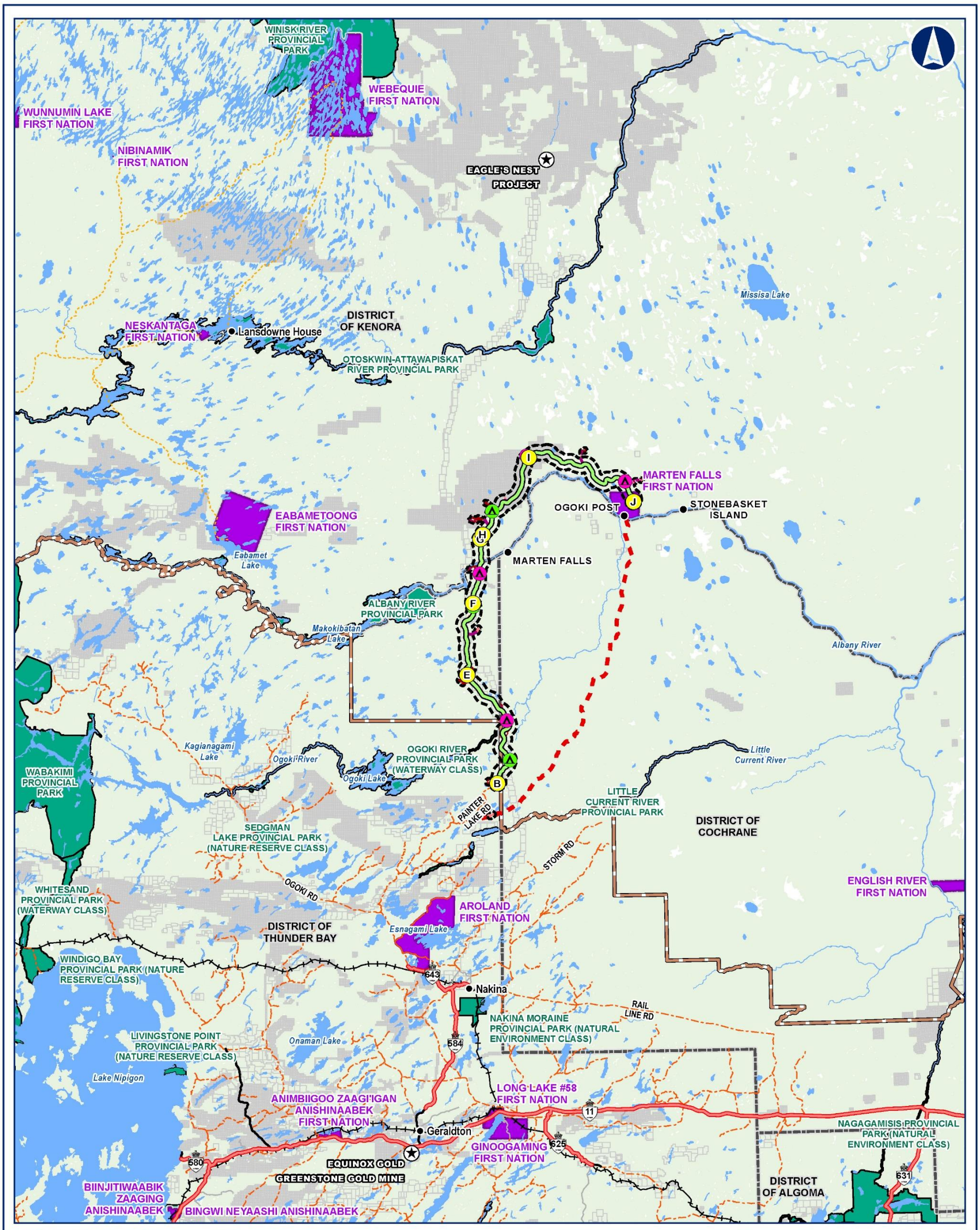
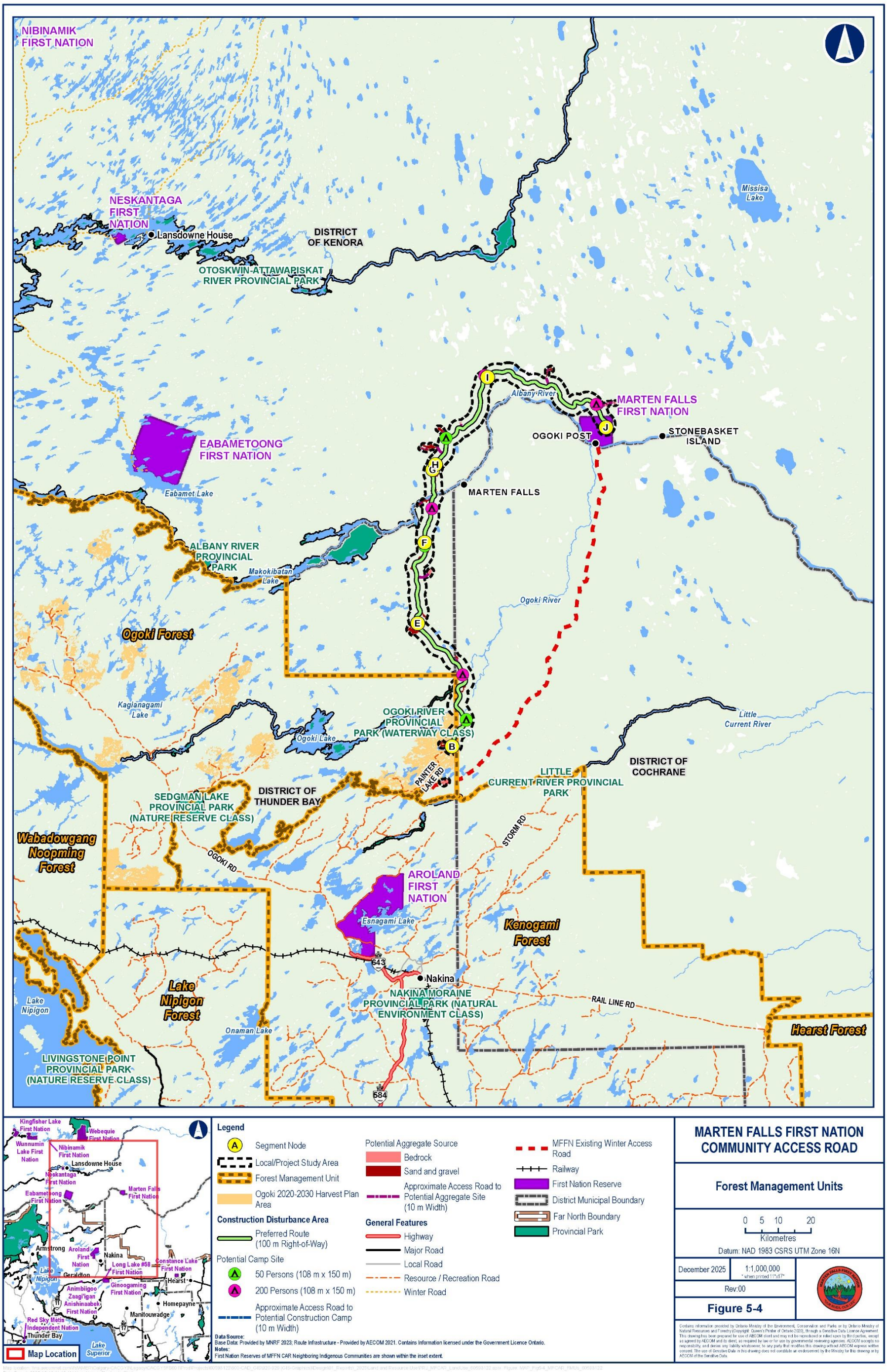


Figure 5-4: All-Seasons Road Studies in the Ring of Fire Area



Of particular interest is the Ring of Fire – a mining development north of Thunder Bay said to hold some of the richest minerals in Canada including the largest chromite deposit in North America (movetonwontario.ca, 2018). Exploration activity is underway in the Ring of Fire. As of November 2022, there are about 26,167 active mining claims held by 15 companies and individuals, covering approximately 4,972 square kilometres (Government of Ontario, 2022). Minerals found in the Ring of Fire to date include chromite, copper, zinc, gold, diamond, nickel, and platinum group elements (Government of Ontario, 2022). Kristan Straub, CEO of Ring of Fire Metals, a subsidiary of Wyloo Metals and owner of Eagle's Nest mining claims, has stated that the company's latest estimation about the valuation of minerals in the region comes in at around $90 billion (Turner, 2023).

The Ring of Fire will require all-season road access to transport equipment, staff, and ore. The primary purpose of the Community Access Road is to improve access, foster economic development and improve the overall quality of life for Marten Falls First Nation members, it is expected that part of the Marten Falls Community Access Road may be used to transport ore from the Ring of Fire mining operations to processing facilities elsewhere in Ontario. Although the Community Access Road is frequently linked to larger regional efforts such as the Ring of Fire, Marten Falls First Nation underscores that this Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement process is focused solely on the advancement of the Community Access Road itself. This is an infrastructure project the Marten Falls community has been advocating for almost four decades.

Additional mining activity in the Regional Study Area (and Local Study Area) is being conducted by KWG Resources. A representative of KWG indicated that the company has staked a line of claims (minus some minor gaps) along the esker, sand ridges, and sand bars that run up toward the Ring of Fire. KWG Resources has spent $20 to $30 million to collect baseline information and to create a database on the claims (geological, geophysical, and geochemical), flew LIDAR, and contracted a rail group for a construction design engineering feasibility study. While KWG's claims are not within the Marten Falls Community Access Road Local Study Area, the representative indicated that the development of the Marten Falls Community Access Road will support their mining activity by providing greater road access to their site to the north of the Project (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025).

Local Study Area

Within the Local Study Area, there are no operating mines but are several extraction exploration activities in the Local Study Area include exploration of claims held by Wabassi Resources approximately 700 km^2 in area and, outside of the Ring of Fire, may be one of the biggest claims in the area. The Wabassi claims are sandwiched between the two route alternatives north of the Albany River crossing, and a representative of Wabassi indicated that the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project location is well-suited to support the company's access to their claims (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). The representative indicated that, from an exploration perspective, the Marten Falls Community Access Road

would make exploration much more efficient, likely providing up to 50% cost saving and providing significant safety considerations (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). The representative of Wabassi Resources indicated through email discussions that Wabassi Resources recently acquired an additional 300 claims on the north side of their block and that the claims are prospective for potential nickel deposits (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). At this time, the claims have had drilling campaigns completed and contains zinc / copper / silver / gold mineralization and has a NI (national instrument) 43-101 resource defined which is a form that is filed for the purpose as the reporting standard for disclosure of mineral projects in Canada (Thomson Reuters, 2026).

5.1.8 Forestry Industry

This section describes existing and planned forestry lands, management plans, and current uses within both the Regional and Local Study Areas.

Regulatory Context

The *Crown Forest Sustainability Act, 1994* (Government of Ontario, 1994) governs forest management and associated activities for the Province of Ontario and is managed by the Ministry of Natural Resources. The *Forest Management Planning Manual*, a manual regulated under the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act*, provides guidance on how to develop forest management plans for Sustainable Forest Licence holders in Ontario (Government of Ontario, 1994). Under Forest Management Plans, Environmental Assessment requirements are met under *Declaration Order MNR-75 – Environmental Assessment Requirements for Forest Management on Crown Lands in Ontario*. The Declaration Order establishes the geographic area of Environmental Assessment coverage, the “Area of the Undertaking” – this represents 44% of Ontario’s Crown forests, divided in Forest Management Units. The Forest Management Units are managed under licensing agreements and plans for Forest Management Units are approved and administrated on a ten-year basis by the Ministry of Natural Resources. The plans outline the location of harvesting, types of species, amounts and where proposed roads will be built. Other factors that are considered are identified such as distance from waterbodies, leaving residual stands for natural reforestation and areas of concern. Other factors considered are silvicultural practices such as scarification of the land for future tree planting operations.

The Environmental Registry of Ontario gathered feedback on the *2020 to 2030 Forest Management Plan for the Ogoki Forest* with the feedback window closing on January 4, 2021. As of March 15, 2021, the *2020 to 2030 Forest Management Plan for the Ogoki Forest* has been approved by the Ministry’s Regional Director and is available for inspection.

Regional Study Area

Ontario’s Crown forests cover almost two-thirds of the province. The Ministry of Natural Resources manages the health of these forests through inspections and verifying that

sustainable forest licence holders are following mandates. The health of these forests is important so they can continue to provide ecological, economic, and social benefits. However, forestry as an industry within Northern Ontario has "undergone an especially deep cyclical decline, coupled with structural changes in world markets" (Natural Resources Canada, 2013). The rise of on-line media has resulted in deep decline for paper-based communications products – including several products (such as newsprint) that have traditionally been critical to the Canadian pulp and paper subsector (Natural Resources Canada, 2013).

Both the *Kenogami* and *Ogoki Forest Management Plans* fall within the Regional Study Area. The Kenogami Forest is due for an updated Forest Management Plan in 2031, and the Ogoki Forest is due for an updated Forest Management Plan in 2030. At this time, both forests have active harvesting and silvicultural operations, though representatives for the forestry companies have noted that the forests have followed provincial trends of decline in productivity (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025).

Local Study Area

The Ogoki Forest Management Unit falls within a portion of the Local Study Area. The Ogoki Forest is bordered to the north and east by the northern boundary of the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project and to the west by Wabakimi Provincial Park. (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025) The south-west portion of the Forest is bordered by the Lake Nipigon Forest and the southern portion of the forest is bordered by the Kenogami Forest. The Ogoki Forest is located north of the Municipality of Greenstone and covers the southernmost portion of the Local Study Area. Painter Lake Road, which is to be used to access the Marten Falls Community Access Road, is considered a primary forest road that is used by forestry companies to access harvest blocks. At the time of producing this Report, there isn't information regarding expressed interest in a Forest Management Unit for the Far North Area that encompasses the Local Study Area of the proposed route. It is up to the discretion of the Ministry of Natural Resources to open future Forest Management Units.

The Ogoki Forest has rugged uplands and lowlands, and has many different types of trees like spruce, pine, fir, and poplar (Agoke Development Corporation, n.d.). The Ogoki forest is managed by the Agoke Development Corporation, a First Nations-led resource development business led by Aroland First Nation, Eabametoong First Nation, and Marten Falls First Nation. Agoke seeks out community input from land users, trappers, and community members to identify areas of concern, cultural values, and other sensitive areas to be protected (Agoke Development Corporation, n.d.). Since 2015, under provincial license, Agoke Development Corporation has been harvesting fibre currently moving to the Longlac Lumber Inc. sawmill.

The *Ogoki Forest Management Plan* is currently active, with a planning and management horizon to 2030.

Given that the Far North contains mainly peatlands, it is assumed that a future Forest Management Unit would not be considered sustainable as defined under the Crown Forest Sustainability Act. Unless the Forest Management Unit is created or if there is an extension onto the existing units, there will be no prescribed annual harvesting for this area. Extensive forestry operations is not anticipated within the project area with the exception of minimal firewood harvesting. The feasibility of commercial operations due to the smaller trees and high cost of transport to a mill would not be worthwhile. It should also be noted that the sustainability of regenerated forests or silvicultural practices on peatlands after harvesting may not meet the qualifications under the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act*.

5.1.9 Energy and Linear Infrastructure

This section considers the compatibility of the Project with energy and linear infrastructure servicing the province. For this Report, energy and linear infrastructure refers to electricity infrastructure (such as generation stations, hydro-electric infrastructure, and transmission lines) and natural gas infrastructure (such as pipelines and extraction sites) (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025). This section will identify the existing and planned energy and linear infrastructure within the Local Study Area and how they may be affected by Project development. For the purpose of this report, it has been assumed that with the development and extension of electricity infrastructure, such as installation of transmission lines, other utilities such as telephone or internet would utilize the linear infrastructure once it has been established.

Regulatory Context

Electricity projects in Ontario are regulated under the Province's *Electricity Act, 1998* (Government of Ontario, 1998). The *Act* regulates independent electricity system operators in the planning, procurement, and pricing of electricity. Transmissions and distribution systems through electricity markets are also regulated. Additionally, reliability standards, emergency planning, and property interests specifically around electricity infrastructure are addressed by the *Act* (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025).

The *Oil, Gas, and Salt Resource Act* regulates natural gas pipelines and the *Technical Standards and Safety Act, 2000* regulates the licensing and use of oil and gas pipelines, license applications, and the use of oil and gas pipelines (Government of Ontario, 1990); (Government of Ontario, 2000).

The Ontario Energy Board is an independent energy regulator that regulates, licenses, and oversees the province's electricity and natural gas sectors (Ontario Energy Board, 2008). The Independent Electricity System Operator is the Crown Corporation responsible for operating the electricity market of Ontario (Independent Electricity System Operator, 2014). Both organizations receive their powers from the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* and work to confirm current and future electricity needs of the province are met.

Chapter 7 of the *2017 Long-Term Energy Plan: Delivering fairness and choice* includes a goal of supporting off-grid First Nation communities, as 25 remote First Nation communities in the province's northwest rely on diesel fuel to power their communities, including Marten Falls First Nation (Government of Ontario, 2017). Marten Falls has been listed in the Plan as a remote community that could be connected to the provincial power gird through future proposals (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025).

Regional Study Area

The Independent Electricity System Operator has developed the *2014 Remote Community Connection Plan* to connect 21 remote communities to the provincial electric network. Currently, Wataynikaneyap Power is the transmitter for power to 16 of the communities and development work and approvals are underway to provide a service date of 2023 (Independent Electricity System Operator, 2021). Work to source a provider and transmitter for the remaining five communities is also ongoing, although there is currently no plan to connect to Marten Falls First Nation as part of this work. However, the Wataynikaneyap Power project shows an increase in interest to extend energy infrastructure to the north to connect remote Indigenous communities and to provide the required servicing for future mining extraction operations in the Far North (i.e., the Ring of Fire) (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025).

Local Study Area

At this time, there are no energy and linear infrastructure facilities or projects in development in the Local Study Area.

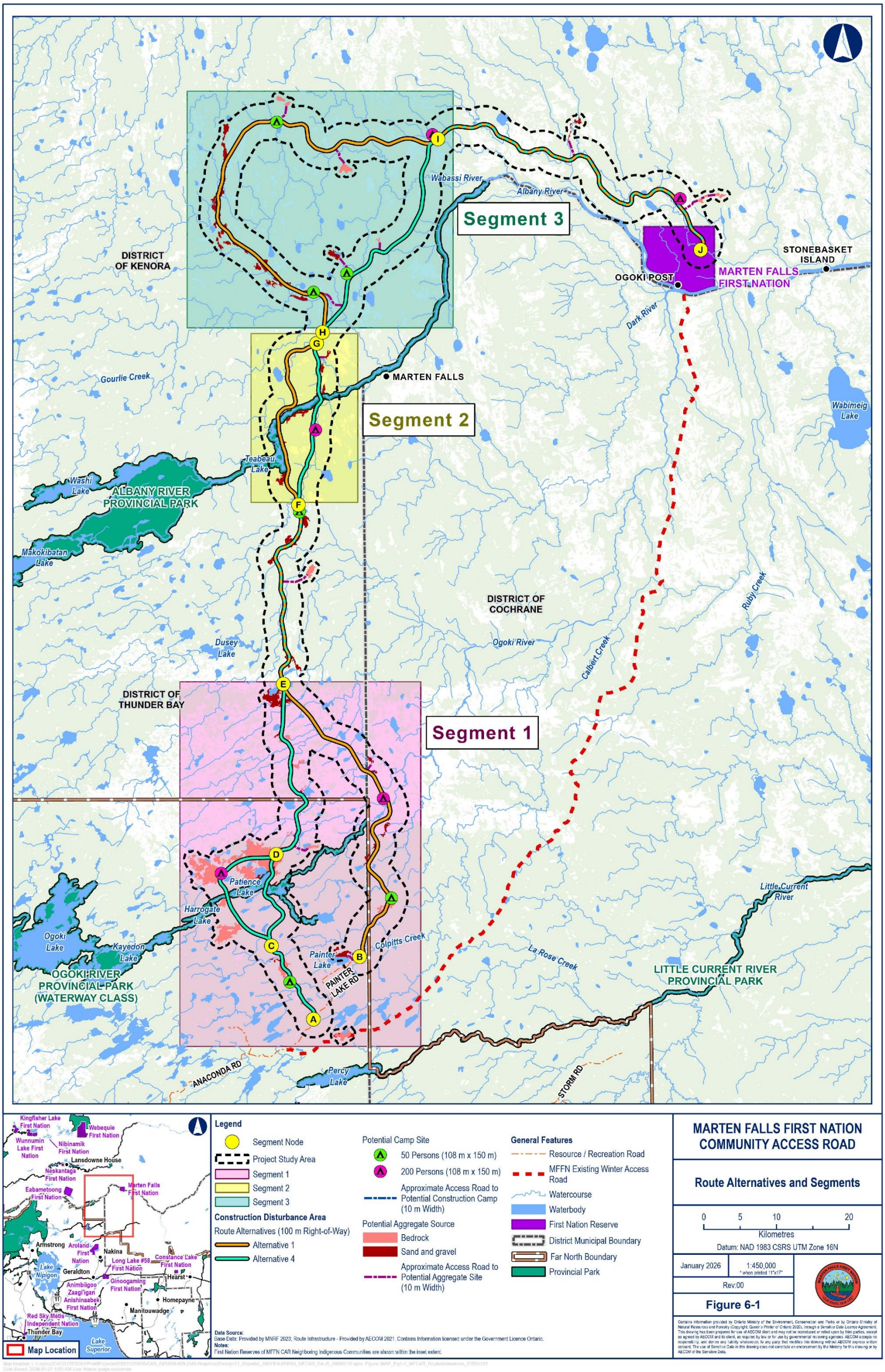
6. Selection of the Preferred Route

Following the collection of existing condition information on the two alternative route alignments described in **Section 4**, the Project undertook an exercise to select a Preferred Route. The methodology and detailed results of this exercise are described in the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement Report and are summarized at a high level below. The Preferred Route includes the footprint of any ancillary features such as pits and quarries, temporary access roads, and worker camps associated with the construction of that route. The Effects Assessment will be completed using the identified preferred route.

6.1 Alternative Segments and Routes Within Each Segment

To facilitate the evaluation of the alternatives, the alternatives were divided into three separate segments based on their geographical locations. The segments were also determined so that any alternative route in one segment could connect with any alternative route in the next segment, allowing for decisions to be made based on the environment in each segment, and not based overall. This approach considers the variable environmental conditions within the Project area, allowing for flexibility to avoid sensitive natural features encountered within the Construction Disturbance Area for each segment instead of requiring decision makers to balance trade-offs of one long route versus the other.

Figure 6-1: Route Alternatives and Segments



6.2 Preferred Route

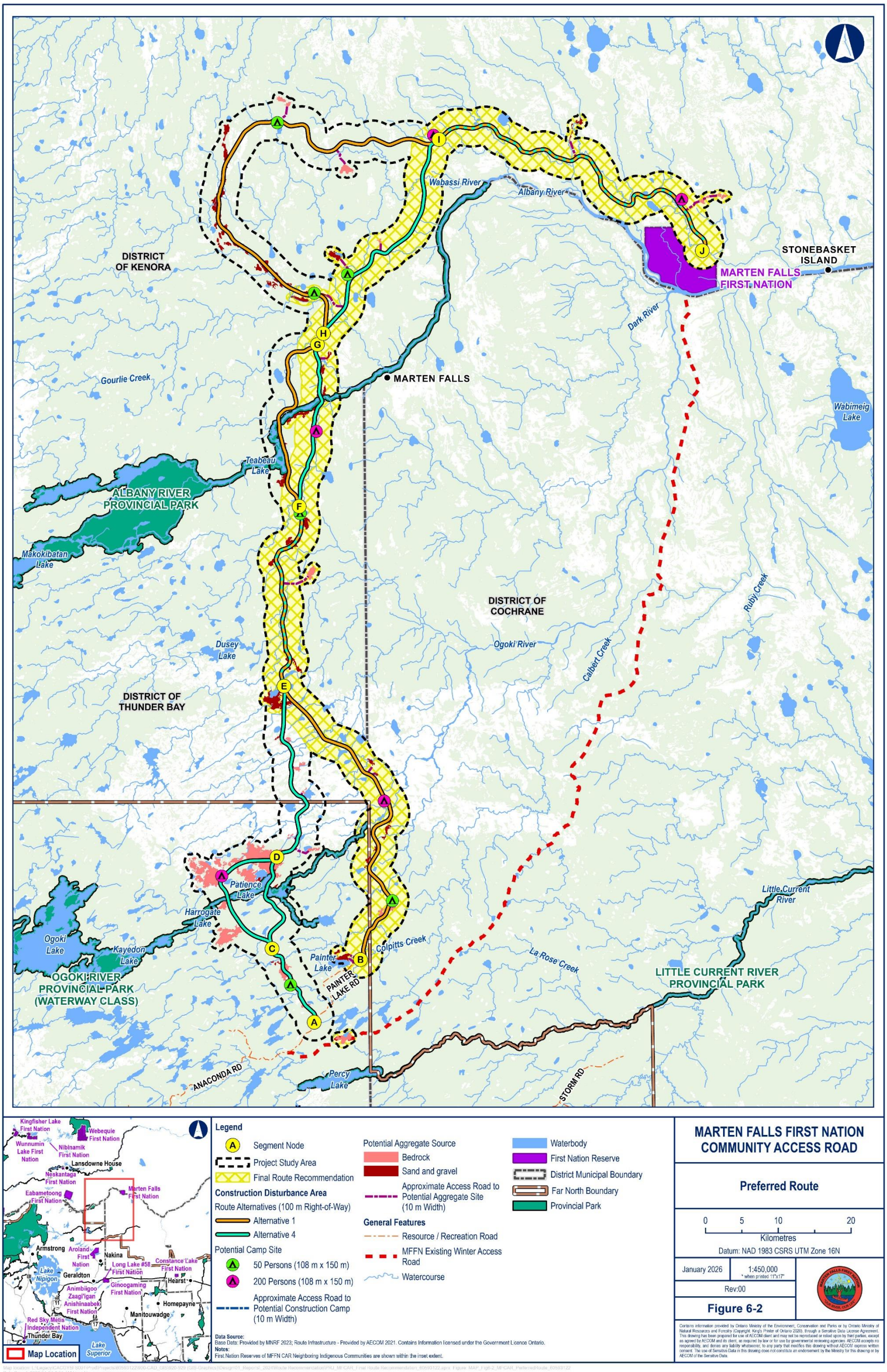
The selection of the preferred route within each segment involved a thorough analysis of technical, economic, natural, social, and cultural factors. The route alternative evaluation took into account the potential impacts and standard or known mitigation approaches to determine the net positive or negative effects of each alternative and was completed using the reasoned argument (trade-off) method. The reasoned argument method qualitatively compares the advantages and disadvantages of each alternative including the relative significance of the potential net effects.

Following the completion of the steps outlined above, and direction from the community of Marten Falls First Nation, Aroland First Nation, and input from the public and regulators, the Proponent identified a preferred route alignment for each segment.

- Segment 1 – Ogoki Crossing: Alternative 1;
- Segment 2 – Albany Crossing: Alternative 4; and
- Segment 3 – North of the Albany: Alternative 4.

The combination of Segments 1, 2, and 3 create the final Preferred Route.

Figure 6-2: Preferred Route



7. Effects Assessment of the Project

Effects assessment results are provided for the proposed Project including the preferred route and associated facilities such as aggregate pits and worker camps by each temporal phase of the Project as described in **Section 4.2**. This includes the potential effects (direct, indirect, positive, and negative), mitigation measures, and residual effects. Where applicable Gender-Based Analysis Plus has been considered within the assessment for each Valued Component. See **Section 3.5** for more information.

7.1 Summary of the Existing Environment Within the Effects Study Areas

The following table (**Table 7-1**) provides a summary of existing environment conditions for the preferred route for each Land and Resource Use valued component.

Table 7-1: Summary of the Existing Environment for Land and Resource Use Valued Components

Valued Component	Indicator	Local Study Area	Regional Study Area
Land Use Compatibility	Policies and Land Use Plans	Lands are managed under the Public Lands Act near Painter Lake Road, the Far North Act for the remainder, and the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act within Albany River Provincial Park. A Draft Marten Falls First Nation Community-Based Land Use Plan applies to most of the planning area; until finalized, land use remains under Ministry of Natural Resources authority.	Lands are predominantly Crown lands managed under the Public Lands Act and Far North Act. No municipal land use planning frameworks apply within the Regional Study Area.
Parks and Protected Areas	Area of Park and Protected Areas Impacted	Albany River Provincial Park is defined by a 200-metre buffer along the river occurs within the Local Study Area; the Construction Disturbance Area intersects approximately 5.7 hectares at the Albany River crossing.	The Regional Study Area includes Albany River, Little Current River, Ogoki River, Otoskwin–Attawapiskat River, and Nakina Moraine Provincial Parks, as well as the Jobes Creek Area of Natural and Scientific Interest.
	Accessibility to Parks and Protected Areas	Parks are remote and accessed primarily by canoe, kayak, or float plane. Portage routes occur within the Albany River Provincial Park. No campsites occur within the Construction Disturbance Area.	Parks within the Regional Study Area are remote, with access primarily by water or air, consistent with backcountry park use.
Recreation and Tourism	Land and Waterway Disruption and Access	Recreational use is limited and consists primarily of occasional canoeing, fishing, and hunting. There are no designated recreational trails or facilities within the Local Study Area.	Recreation is largely fly-in or water-based, with activities including canoeing, boating, camping, and fishing. Painter Lake Road provides limited access at the southern extent of the Regional Study Area.
	Environmental Conditions	The Local Study Area is largely undeveloped and characterized by wilderness environmental conditions, including intact vegetation, wildlife habitat, surface waters, and low ambient noise. No active logging or mining occurs, and human presence is limited to scattered outfitter and exploration camps.	Environmental conditions remain predominantly natural and wilderness-based, though localized forestry activity and mineral exploration occur near the southern extent of the Regional Study Area. Major river corridors retain a largely natural character.
	Availability of Species Harvested for Recreation Purposes	Game and sport fish species are present. Limited access results in low recreational harvesting pressure.	Game and sport species are broadly distributed throughout the Regional Study Area. Access limitations generally constrain harvesting pressure.
Extractive Resource Industry	Removal of Lands with Potential for Mineral Extraction	No operating mines occur within the Local Study Area. Approximately 2,234 ha of operational mining claims intersect the Construction Disturbance Area. One exploration camp operated by Wabassi Resources is present.	The Regional Study Area provides the broader context for mineral development in northern Ontario. Only one mine is operational in this area, the Greenstone Gold Mind, which is located 116.1 km south of the Proposed Route. No operating mines are located within the road corridor; mineral exploration activity occurs elsewhere in the region.
Forestry Industry	Removal of Commercial Forestry Lands	No commercial forestry lands fall within the Local Study Area, with the exception of areas around Painter Lake Road which is anticipated to be utilized for harvesting as part of the Ogoki Forest Management Plan (2020-2030).	The *Ogoki Forest Management Plans* fall within the Regional Study Area along the Painter Lake Road boundary.
	Proximity to and Access to Lands with Potential for Forest Harvesting	This route runs through an area to the west of the *Ogoki Forest Management Plan* but the remainder of the Proposed route is not currently associated with any Forestry Management Unit.	At the time of writing this Report, Ogoki Forest has active harvesting operations, though representatives for the forestry company have noted that the forests have followed provincial trends of decline in activity.
Remote Outfitters	Change to Operations of Remote Outfitters in Vicinity of the Marten Falls Community Access Road	One remote outfitter is located 1.7 kilometres from the proposed Albany River water crossing within the Local Study Area.	The Regional Study Area consists of nine remote tourism outfitter operations. These locations are Type A - Land Use Permits for commercial outpost camps that are accessed through Fly-in services.
Trapping	Change to Trapping Activity in Vicinity of Marten Falls Community Access Road	There are seven traplines within the Local Study Area which are intersected by the Marten Falls Community Access Road centreline. All the trapline holders in the Local Study Area are understood to be Indigenous. Traplines are subject to the policies of the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997* administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources. In previous years across all of Ontario, commercial trapping activity is has been limited due to a decline in the market and the low price for pelts. In 2025, the price of fur has increased substantially, introducing a potential market for this area.	Within the Regional Study Area there are numerous traplines which are subject to the policies of the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997* administer by the Ministry of Natural Resources. In previous years across all of Ontario, commercial trapping activity has been limited due to a decline in the market and the low price for pelts. Considering the increase in the price of fur, their could be a potential new market in this area.
Energy and Linear Infrastructure	Opportunity for Development of Energy Facilities and Linear Infrastructure	Energy infrastructure (power lines) extends up to the community of Aroland. North of the community there is no existing energy infrastructure. At this time, there are no energy and linear infrastructure facilities in development in the Local Study Area.	The Independent Electricity System Operator developed the *2014 Remote Community Connection Plan* to connect 21 remote communities to the provincial electric network. Currently, Wataynikaneyap Power is the transmitter for power, although there is currently no plan to connect to Marten Falls First Nation as part of this work.

7.2 Potential Effects, Mitigation, and Residual Effects

The potential effects of the Project on Land and Resource Use are presented below for each Valued Component.

7.2.1 Land Use Compatibility

Description of Potential Effects

Indicator #1: Land use compatibility assessed on binary alignment with established planning policy requirements.

The Construction Disturbance Area is located on lands under jurisdiction of the *Far North Act* and the *Public Lands Act*. The *Marten Falls First Nation Draft Community Based Land Use Plan* was considered as part of the effects assessment. Constance Lake First Nation has a Terms of Reference issued for development of its Community Based Land Use Plan; no finalized land use direction from that process was available for review at the time of this assessment and has therefore not been assessed.

The Construction Disturbance Area overlaps with 1,257.1 ha of lands identified as Dedicated Protected Area land use designation within the *Draft Marten Falls First Nation's Community Based Land Use Plan*. The Draft of the Community Based Land Use Plan has not been finalized or approved and continues to be developed. The land use designations and permitting land use activities within the *Community Based Land Use Plan,* including the Dedicated Protected Area, are being developed in a manner that considers the proposed Community Access Road, associated aggregate sites, and supporting infrastructure. At the time of writing this report, the proposed route has not been withdrawn from mining claims.

Portions of the preferred route fall within lands that are managed by the Ministry of Natural Resources under Crown land management direction for Geraldton Area (general use area) through the *Crown Land Use Policy Atlas*. The Crown Land Use Policy Atlas provides policy direction for Crown Land use and in this area identifies permitted uses, including road development and aggregate extraction, subject to applicable approvals and permitting requirements. Existing land uses such as commercial outpost camps are administered under the *Public Lands Act*. As such, the types of infrastructure associated with the Community Access Road are consistent with existing Crown land use policy direction applicable to the area.

The majority of the preferred route fall within the Far North. In accordance with Section 14 of the *Far North Act*, existing rights for the acquisition, disposition, use or occupancy of public lands and activities associated with these uses (i.e. commercial outpost camps) remain valid where they were established prior to the finalization of a community-based

land use plan. As such, no land use compatibility associated with the Far North or Public Lands Act will have potential effects.

Given the absence of finalized land use planning policies applicable to the Construction Disturbance Area, and because the *Marten Falls First Nation Draft Community Based Land Use Plan* has not been finalized and approved by the Ontario government, no adverse effects to Land Use Compatibility Valued Component are expected, with high confidence. Potential effects related to Parks and Protected Areas, remote outfitters, extractive resources, forestry, and other land uses are assessed in their respective sections.

The Municipality of Greenstone has its own land use planning structure under its Official Plan. The Project is not located within the Official Plan boundaries, as a result, no effects on municipal land use planning are identified.

There are no indirect effects identified for this Valued Component for the construction, maintenance and operation phases.

There are no anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups related to Land Use Compatibility during construction or operation and maintenance of the Community Access Road. Improved year-round access to the community may provide social benefits, including improved access to services.

Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

The Marten Falls First Nation Draft Community Based Land Use Plan remains under development and has not been finalized or approved. Land use designations and permitted land use activities, including those associated with Dedicated Protected Areas, continue to be developed in a manner that contemplates the Community Access Road, associated aggregate sites, and supporting infrastructure.

In the interim, Crown land use decisions will continue to be guided by applicable provincial legislation and policy, including the Far North Act, the Public Lands Act, and direction provided through the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas. Once finalized, the Marten Falls First Nation Community Based Land Use Plan will provide additional land use direction consistent with established planning processes.

Given the potential for changes in land use pressures associated with improved access, Project planning should continue to be coordinated through engagement with Marten Falls First Nation, Aroland First Nation and, where relevant, Constance Lake First Nation (including consideration of any Community Based Land Use Plan planning information that becomes available).

Input received through ongoing engagement with Aroland First Nation and Constance Lake First Nation has been considered in this assessment and is addressed under relevant Valued Components, including Trapping.

Characterization of Residual Effects

No adverse residual effects on land use legislation, policies, or plans are anticipated.

In considering ecological and social context, the Project is located within a remote setting where land use is governed by established provincial legislation and policy, including the Far North Act, the Public Lands Act, and Crown land use direction provided through the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas. The land use system in the Project area is characterized by a high capacity to respond to change through existing planning and regulatory mechanisms. The Marten Falls First Nation Draft Community Based Land Use Plan remains under development and continues to provide an evolving planning framework for future land use considerations.

The magnitude of residual effects related to land use compatibility is assessed as negligible, as the Project does not conflict with applicable land use legislation or policy, does not restrict existing lawful land uses, and does not alter current land use structures within the Local or Regional Study Areas.

Taking into account the ecological and social context, magnitude, and the sensitivity and resilience of the land use system, residual effects on Land Use Compatibility are assessed as **not significant**.

7.2.2 Parks and Protected Areas

Description of Potential Effects

Indicator #1: Area of Park and Protected area with natural, cultural, or recreational values impacted during construction phase.

The Project Construction Disturbance Area transects the Albany River Provincial Park. Approximately 5.7 ha of Park land would be affected during construction, with a road length of approximately 0.6 km through the Park. A new bridge would also be constructed to cross the Albany River.

These activities represent a direct adverse effect related to vegetation removal and localized disturbance within the Park. From a geographic perspective, the are affected represents a very small proportion of the overall Park area. The Albany River will remain navigable for the types of watercraft typically used in the area.

Recreational activities within the Albany River Provincial Park include occasional canoeing, kayaking and sport fishing (see **Section 7.2.3** for more information on fish species). Due to the remote nature of the park, recreational use is limited and difficult to quantify. During construction, users in proximity to the bridge crossing may experience temporary noise effects. Construction noise levels at the bridge crossing location may reach up to 70 dBA, decreasing to approximately 30 dBA at a distance of 5 km, over a period of up to two

years. No campsites are located within the Construction Disturbance Area; however, there is a 40 m portage used to bypass Snake Rapids located in the proposed crossing construction area. Park users may also experience noise from aggregate extraction at pits located on the south side of the Park just west of the proposed crossing location. Continued engagement with Ontario Parks will be completed through the Detail Design Phase so ample notification to Park users can be provided.

The sequence of construction will be completed in a phased in approach. Construction will occur in phases, and localized construction-related effects will decrease as work progresses beyond the Park. Temporary effects on air quality (e.g., dust) may occur during construction. Further detail on air quality effects is provided in the *Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Technical Support Document* found in Appendix S1 of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement. The preferred route is located near, but does not intersect the Ogoki River Provincial Park. No direct land removal will occur within the Park. A limited amount of the most eastern end of the Park (about 500 m in) would experience noise effects greater than 45 dBA which is considered to be a noticeable change to the existing conditions

The Ogoki River Provincial Park may experience temporary changes in air quality (dust) given the distance of the eastern park boundary to the Construction Disturbance Area (0.8 km).

Little Current River Provincial Park, Otoskwin–Attawapiskat River Provincial Park, Nakina Moraine Provincial Park, and the Jobes Creek Area of Natural and Scientific Interest are located at distances sufficient to preclude direct or indirect construction-related effects. Little Current River Provincial Park is located approximately 14.7 km from the proposed road route and 3.7 km from the southernmost aggregate pit site. Otoskwin–Attawapiskat River Provincial Park is located approximately 33.6 km from the proposed road route and 37.1 km from the northernmost aggregate pit site. Nakina Moraine Provincial Park is located approximately 61.3 km from the proposed road route and 62.8 km from the southernmost aggregate pit site. Jobes Creek Area of Natural and Scientific Interest is located 27.5 km from the proposed road and aggregate sites that precludes construction-related noise or air quality effects. Further details are available in *Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Technical Support Document* in Appendix S1 of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement.

No indirect effects related to this indicator were identified. Operational effects are assessed under Indicator #2.

Indicator #2: Area of Park and Protected area with natural, cultural, or recreational values impacted during operation and maintenance phase.

The Albany River Provincial Park is recognized for its ‘wilderness and remote character’ and is valued for remote backcountry wilderness experiences. The road crossing through

the Albany River Provincial Park (approximately 0.6 km in length) and the presence of a bridge will introduce a localized visual feature, with the bridge visible approximately 900 m upstream and 700 m downstream as identified in the Visual Environment Existing Conditions and Effects Assessment Report (AECOM, 2025).

Park users in proximity to the bridge may experience intermittent noise from vehicle traffic during operations. Noise levels may exceed 35 dBA within 1 km of the Albany River bridge location. Noise levels would be higher closer to the bridge crossing location. Baseline noise levels are about 35 to 40 dBA and levels over 5 dBA are noticeable. Noise effects will be intermittent and dependent on vehicle presence.

It is expected that there will be some impacts of fugitive dust from the unpaved road to areas close to the right-of-way due to vehicular traffic (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2026); the level of traffic is not anticipated to be maximum but was used to provide an uppermost limit for the impacts being considered. Given the remote setting and anticipated low traffic volumes, these effects are expected to be infrequent and short in duration.

Ogoki River Provincial Park, Little Current River Provincial Park, Otoskwin–Attawapiskat River Provincial Park, Nakina Moraine Provincial Park, and Jobes Creek ANSI are not expected to experience operational noise or air quality effects due to distance from the road. A possible indirect effect related to this indicator is the potential for reduced Park users because of disturbance effects from road operations (e.g., noise) and change in the wilderness character of the area from visibility of the bridge crossing (for the Albany River Park). The disturbance effects to the three parks noted above will be limited in area / localized and as a result, adverse impacts to park user volumes are not expected to be materially affected.

Indicator #3: Change in access to lands within Parks and protected areas used for recreation purposes.

Once operational and if open for public use, the new road would provide a new access point to Albany River Provincial Park. Improved access could increase recreational use and support new canoe trip options. Any changes to access would be subject to Ontario Parks review and may require updates to the Albany River Provincial Park Management Statement. Public access would not be available during the construction phase.

Improved access to the Ogoki River may also increase use of Ogoki River Provincial Park. Given the continued remoteness of the area, increases in user volumes are anticipated to be limited. No changes in access are expected for Little Current River Provincial Park or other more distant protected areas.

There would be **indirect effects** as it relates to operation of the road, with improved access to the Albany River and Ogoki River Provincial Parks and possible increase in user volumes, this could detract from the wilderness character of these parks. Given the long

driving distance still required to reach these parks, it is anticipated that user volumes would increase slightly as a result of introduced access.

Though no information or data is available related to the vulnerable groups for the Land and Resource Use Discipline, women / girls may feel unsafe or at-risk during construction of the Community Access Road should they be accessing the Albany River Provincial Park during that time. It is highly unlikely that youth will be accessing such a remote area unsupervised. There are no anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups related to Parks and Protected Areas during operation and maintenance of the Community Access Road.

Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

In additional to standard mitigation practices to be implemented during the construction and operation phases of the Project, Parks related mitigation and enhancement measures to be implemented during the construction phase of the Project include:

- Refer to mitigations as outlined in the Final Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2026);
- Limit clearing and use of land within the Parks as much as possible. Temporary work areas such as staging areas should be located outside of parks;
- Monitor and limit the development of any side trails / roads that might extend into the parks. Marten Falls First Nation and the Owner of the road will engage with Ontario Parks to determine any measures to control access into parks and protected areas where applicable and refer to the amended Albany River Provincial Park Management Statement; and,
- Continued engagement between Ontario Parks, Marten Falls First Nation and the owner/operator of road should continue into the detail design phase to encourage bridge designs that could commemorate the significance and history of the Albany River waterway.

Mitigation and enhancement measures to be implemented during the operations and maintenance phase of the Project include:

- Any potential access considerations will be explored further through ongoing consultation with Ontario Parks so that future decisions align with park management objectives and protection priorities.
- Refer to mitigations as outlined in the Final Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2026);
- Monitor and limit the development of any side trails / roads that might extend into parks;

- The Owner of the road to continue to monitor and enforce (if deemed necessary) restricted access to Albany River Provincial Park at the bridge crossing to address access issues and user impacts; and
- During maintenance works, the owner of the road should notify Ontario Parks of upcoming rehabilitation associated with the bridge to allow Ontario Parks to notify future Parks users.

Characterization of Residual Effects

Residual effects considered include vegetation removal, noise, air quality, visual effects, and changes in access.

Albany River Provincial Park will experience minor adverse residual effects, including localized vegetation removal (5.7 ha), temporary construction-related noise and air quality effects, and a localized reduction in wilderness character due to bridge visibility. These effects are limited in geographic extent, largely reversible, and affect a small proportion of the Park.

Noise and air quality effects during construction are short-term and localized. Operational noise effects are intermittent, low in magnitude, and dependent on the presence of passing vehicles. No designated campsites occur within the affected area. Effects on other provincial parks and protected areas are not anticipated due to distance from the Project.

Improved access to Albany River and Ogoki River Provincial Parks represents a potential positive effect by increasing opportunities for recreational access in remote areas.

While increased access to Albany River Provincial Park could result in higher user volumes, the realization and magnitude of such effects would depend on road access controls, traffic volumes, and Ontario Parks' management decisions. Given the continued remoteness of the area and existing Ontario Parks management authorities, a substantial increase in recreational use is not considered reasonably foreseeable at this time.

Considering the ecological and social context, magnitude, geographic extent, duration, and reversibility of effects, adverse residual effects on Parks and Protected Areas are assessed as **not significant.**

7.2.3 Recreation and Tourism

Description of Potential Effects

Indicator #1: Land and waterway disruption and access

The road, which will be approximately 184 km, has the potential to improve access to remote Crown land and water resources if opened for public use. Improved access could provide new recreation and tourism opportunities, including camping, snowmobiling,

hunting, fishing, and canoeing/kayaking, representing a potential beneficial effect on recreation and tourism.

In contrast to these benefits, increased access could adversely affect some remote outfitter operations– see **Section 7.2.6** for a description of these effects.

Aroland First Nation and other community members have indicated their preference for controlled access along the road, which if implemented, would limit access to the public. At this stage, access arrangements have not been finalized and will depend on future decisions by the road owner and applicable authorities.

Considering the road will not have many secondary roads or trails at the time of construction, recreational access is expected to occur primarily via waterways during the spring, summer and fall months, while winter months could attract snowmobiling.

The development of bridges and culverts over watercourses could potentially affect navigation (for safety purposes) during the construction phase of the Project. Clear span bridges will be required at water crossings with bank full widths greater than 5 m and less than 30 m, and bridges with piers and abutments will be required at water crossings greater than 30 m. Bridges will be designed to meet the 1 in 100-year flood scenario design, fish passage requirements, and navigable requirements, based on federal and provincial regulations. Water crossings that require either a clear span bridge or multi-span bridge can be found in Table 72 of the Final *Surface Water Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment* and Appendix F in the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement. Net effects to navigation are expected to be temporary during construction as navigation will be maintained on waterways determined to be navigable during the operations phase. Required permits under the *Canadian Navigable Waters Act* will be obtained prior to construction.

No other **indirect effects** related to this indicator were identified.

Indicator #2: Environmental Conditions

The construction and operation of the Project could result in disruption effects and enjoyment to recreation and tourism activities (e.g., disturbances from changes in noise, vibration, air quality, and viewscapes).

There are no formal campgrounds in the Construction Disturbance Area, however, there is a portage located close to the proposed Albany River Bridge crossing which would be maintained during construction (navigability). Recreation features in the Local Study Area include water access recreation such as canoeing and boating.

Due to the remote nature of the Project area and limited existing access, recreational use outside provincial parks and remote outfitter areas is understood to be limited. While noise and air quality changes will occur in close proximity to the road and ancillary facilities

(aggregate pits) during the construction and operation phases, effects on recreational use are assessed as localized, intermittent, and low in magnitude for both construction and operation due to the low number of visitors.

No other **indirect effects** related to this indicator were identified.

The sequence of construction will be completed in a phased in approach. Once construction of a given road length is complete, construction will move along the Construction Disturbance Area, and the magnitude of the impact will decrease over time. These localized periods of construction will have potential for effects on air quality, due to Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulfur Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide, Total Suspended Particulates and Particulate Matter 2.5 and 10 emissions. Further detail on air quality effects is provided in the *Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Technical Support Document* and Appendix S1 in the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement.

Air quality effects during operations were assessed using conservative upper-bound traffic scenarios; given the remote setting and anticipated low traffic volumes, effects on recreational users are expected to be infrequent and short in duration.

Indicator #3: Availability of species harvested for recreational purposes.

The development and operation of the Project could influence the availability of species harvested for recreational purposes through localized habitat removal and changes in access to lands and waterways used for hunting and fishing. Habitat removal associated with the Project is expected to be limited in extent and localized to the Construction Disturbance Area.

Improved access resulting from the Project could increase recreational hunting and fishing opportunities in the vicinity of the road. From a recreation and tourism perspective, effects are expected to be related primarily to changes in access and user distribution rather than Project-related changes in overall species abundance.

Potential effects related to wildlife habitat, species abundance, population dynamics, and sustainability are assessed under the Wildlife, Ungulates, and Fish Valued Components. Wildlife and fish populations are managed through existing provincial programs administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Though no information or data is available related to vulnerable groups for the Land and Resource Use Discipline, women / girls may feel unsafe or at-risk during construction of the Community Access Road should they be accessing the land for recreational purposes during that time. It is highly unlikely that youth will be recreationally accessing such a remote area unsupervised. There are no anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups related to Recreation and Tourism during operation and maintenance of the Community Access Road.

Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

Typical mitigation and avoidance measures such as standard practices for camp construction, road and water crossing construction and maintenance will be applied during both the construction and operation phases of the Project. Such measures include:

- Design and installation of water crossing structures to accommodate flow, drainage, fish passage (where applicable), and navigability requirements in accordance with federal and provincial regulations;
- Minimization of vegetation clearing to areas required for construction, staging, and operations;
- Progressive reclamation and revegetation of disturbed areas no longer required following construction (e.g., temporary access roads, construction camps, and laydown areas);
- Restriction of public access during construction for safety reasons;
- Provision of signage along the Preferred Route to support safe interaction between road users and recreational users; and
- Coordination with Ontario Parks and relevant authorities where recreational features (e.g., portages, waterways) may be affected.

Rehabilitation and revegetation of areas disturbed during construction but are no longer deemed necessary for operations and maintenance will promote wildlife species to return to the area.

Mitigation measures related to fish and fish habitat and wildlife originate from the Fish and Fish Habitat and Ungulates Technical Support Documents and are addressed under those Valued Components including monitoring. Additional mitigation and monitoring related to wildlife populations, hunting pressure, and fish harvest will continue to be managed through existing provincial programs. As noted in the Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests: Draft Impact Assessment Report, proposed mitigation measures include the collaboration with local existing environmental advisory committees to support the development and implementation of all environmental monitoring programs. The objective is to include Indigenous interests and perspectives, particularly concerning resources utilized for rights-based purposes. In the absence of an existing advisory committee with an aligned mandate to Marten Falls First Nation, a Terms of Reference between relevant agencies and Indigenous communities will be established.

Vegetation clearing limits, buffer zones, and erosion and sediment control measures associated with waterbodies will be implemented in accordance with Project design requirements and applicable regulatory approvals.

Characterization of Residual Effects

The amount of recreation activity that occurs on crown land within the Construction Disturbance Area is limited due to the remote nature of the area and the lack of access.

Potential construction noise effects on crown land potentially used for recreation were assessed to be local in geographic extent and short-term / reversible. No recreation receptor locations were identified. These effects are considered to be not significant.

Noise effects during the operations phase is low in magnitude and localized in nature (close to the road and the few aggregate pits that would remain open). No recreation receptor locations were identified. These effects are considered not to be significant. For more details on noise, see *Final Acoustic & Vibration Environment Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment* (WSP, 2026a).

Improved access may provide new recreational opportunities; however, the magnitude of change in recreational use will depend on future access controls and management decisions. Given the continued remoteness of the area and existing regulatory oversight, substantial changes to recreation and tourism patterns are not considered reasonably foreseeable.

As a result, adverse residual effects on Recreation and Tourism are assessed as **not significant**.

7.2.4 Extractive Resource Industry

Description of Potential Effects

Indicator #1: Removal of lands with potential for mineral extraction, as measured through area of land under mining claims that the road segments pass through.

Within the Construction Disturbance Area there are 2,234 ha of existing mining claims, which could be affected by the road and associated Project components. Two mining companies will be affected by the development of the road: Wabassi Resources and Canada Chrome Corporation.

Based on interviews with claim holders including Wabassi Resources and KWG Resources, no specific preferences were provided during the route selection phase. Claim holders were advised of the Preferred Route in Fall 2024 with a request for comments. Additional letters were sent in spring 2025 requesting feedback on the Preferred Route, no comments were received from these letters, neither company commented on *the Draft Environmental Assessment and Impact Statement*. As such, it is assumed that the deposits in the affected claims are large enough to provide flexibility in the development of future mines. Therefore, negligible adverse effects to mineral development are anticipated from the Project.

It is noted that an aggregate pit is located on the site of an existing Wabassi Resources exploration camp that is under a lease from the Ministry of Natural Resources. It is not known how long this exploration camp is set to operate. Further consultation is required with Wabassi Resources to better understand this camp and potential impacts to it because of the project.

Indicator #2: Proximity to and access to lands with future potential for mining.

The operation of the road could have an **indirect effect** of improving access to mineral resource areas and facilitate the development of mines that would provide jobs and economic benefit to the region and local communities. Mining claim holders spoken to indicate support for the Project for this reason. As such, the Project is anticipated to result in a moderate to high benefit to mine development in the Local Study Area and Regional Study Area, specifically as it relates to a deposit in the Ring of Fire area.

There are positive beneficial effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups related to the Extractive Resource Industry as this could create future employment and other infrastructure opportunities for the surrounding Indigenous Communities for the operation of the Community Access Road that will lead to a future Mine.

Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

Mining companies have indicated their support of the Project due to the increased accessibility that would result allow for development of future mines from these mining claims.

Mitigation and enhancement measures for the extractive resource industry include engaging with mining claim holders in the road design stage to determine how impacts to any mineral deposits can be minimized and / or how the Project can help to support their activities.

Characterization of Residual Effects

The Construction Disturbance Area intersects approximately 2,234 ha of active mining claims, resulting in a localized adverse residual effect related to land occupation and potential constraints on mineral development.

Engagement with affected claim holders did not identify specific concerns regarding the Preferred Route or indicate that the Project would preclude future mineral exploration or development. The road occupies a limited portion of the affected claims, and mining activities could continue to be planned and permitted following construction, subject to applicable regulatory approvals.

Improved access resulting from the Project represents a beneficial effect for the extractive resource industry by facilitating future exploration and development opportunities;

however, the realization of these benefits would depend on separate project proposals, regulatory approvals, and market conditions.

Considering the limited spatial extent of overlap, the absence of identified constraints on mineral development, and the increased accessibility to claim areas, adverse residual effects on the Extractive Resource Industry are assessed as **not significant**.

7.2.5 Forestry Industry

Description of Potential Effects

This Valued Component considered two indicators which are: removal of commercial forestry lands and proximity and access to lands with potential for forest values for harvesting.

Effects under this indicator are measured through:

- Area of the Forest Management Unit that the road segments pass through;
- Change of access to forestry lands; and
- Change to access of forestry area due to habitat (e.g., caribou) fragmentation.

The Ogoki Forest is approximately 1,087,986 ha in size. The Construction Disturbance Area overlaps 384.4 ha of the Ogoki Forest (bog, forest, marsh, swamp, water, rock, fen, and anthropogenic). Of that, 195.4 ha of forest (coniferous, deciduous, early successional / sparse treed, and mixed) would be removed through construction of the road and potential development of 2 aggregate pits. There is the potential for **direct effects** on the Ogoki Forest via removal of commercial forestry land during construction and operation, however, given the percentage of the area affected (roughly 0.04% of the total area of the Ogoki Forest), this effect is expected to be negligible. The Project has the potential to increase access to lands northeast of the Ogoki Forest that could contain merchantable timber stands resulting in a positive Project effect.

Due to the lack of actively harvested forestry lands within the Construction Disturbance Area outside of the Ogoki Forest, the Project will have minimal adverse direct or indirect effects to this Valued Component. Forestry companies were advised of the Preferred Route in Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 with a request for comments. No comments were received regarding the Preferred Route or comments from review of the Draft Environmental Assessment and Impact Statement.

There are no anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups related to Forestry Industry during construction or operation and maintenance of the Community Access Road.

Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

While not anticipated, should any commercial forest trees be felled within the Ogoki Forest Management area for the construction of the Project, the value of the timber will be determined and be the responsibility of the Sustainable Forest Licence holder to dispose of.

Areas outside of the Ogoki Forest that are to be cleared for construction will require to be scaled for its value and the Proponent should consult with the Ministry of Natural Resources to determine options for the harvested timber. Any timber that is deemed merchantable (anything greater than 10 cm diameter outside the bark) must be valued. Given the area doesn't have a Forest Management Unit, a permit must be granted to the Proponent to harvest the trees and to properly sell or dispose of.

Characterization of Residual Effects

Adverse residual effects on the Forestry Industry are not expected, as the Construction Disturbance Area overlaps approximately 0.24% of the Ogoki Forest, representing a negligible to low magnitude effect relative to the overall forest management unit. Any merchantable timber removed for the Project will be managed and compensated in accordance with applicable Crown forest management requirements.

Given the limited spatial extent of overlap, the short duration of clearing activities, and the capacity of existing forest management and compensation frameworks to address localized timber removal, adverse residual effects on the Forestry Industry are assessed as **not significant**.

7.2.6 Remote Outfitters

Description of Potential Effects

This Valued Component considered one indicator which is change to operations and guest enjoyment of remote outfitters in vicinity of the Marten Falls Community Access Road.

Effects under this indicator are measured through:

- Change to the remoteness of the area as a result of new road access and change to guest experience / attractiveness of the outfitters camp;
- Disruption (noise, air quality, visual) to the outfitters area of operations and resulting change in enjoyment by guests and attractiveness of the outfitter;
- Socio-economic impacts to remote outfitters due to additional access to restricted areas; and,
- Change on wildlife and fish populations and / or water quality.

Information regarding commercial outpost camp land use permits potentially affected by the Project was collected from the companies (remote outfitters) operating these sites. Coordinates, screen shots, or descriptions were provided and then digitized. The descriptions of distances from the Construction Disturbance Area should be considered as being from the lake where the camp is located and not the actual location of the camp and are therefore approximate until outreach can be completed. Remote outfitters were advised of the Preferred Route in Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 with a request for comments.

Outfitters expressed concerns that the Project, if opened to the public, would allow greater access to their camp locations / areas of operations, potentially affect wildlife and fish populations, and result in their camps being less attractive to their customers (Andomoozwe Outfitters; Boreal Outfitters; Dusey River Outfitters; Gray Wood Outfitters; Tom's Outpost Camps; O'Sullivans Rainbow; Wilderness North; Nakina North Outfitters; Hearst Air; Leuenberger Air Service, personal communication, 2022). The remote outfitters indicated that users with a specific interest in visiting remote outfitting camps may no longer be interested if a road providing access replaces flights.

Six remote tourism outfitter camps were identified closest to the Project location, within 5 km of the Construction Disturbance Area (see **Figure 5-1**):

- Esser Lake (Twin Lake Outfitters): 4.3 km
- Painter Lake (Leuenberger Air Service): 0.5 km
- Percy Lake (Leuenberger Air Service; Nakina North Outfitters): 4.8 km
- Painter Lake (Leuenberger Air Service): 4 km
- Caviar Lake (Leuenberger Air Service): 0.9 km
- Leuenberger's Teabeau Site: 4.4 km

There are two types of Land Use Permits issued by the Government of Ontario: those for restricted (Type B) outpost camps (i.e., short term seasonal use; limited infrastructure) and Type A commercial outpost camps (i.e., long term use year after year; permanent infrastructure). Though the Construction Disturbance Area does not directly overlap any remote outfitter camps, changes to the land resulting from both construction and operation/ maintenance of the Project may result in less people using these services. There were no restricted (type B) Land Use Permits identified in the Construction Disturbance Area, given that these types of Land Use Permits are set up in the same areas annually, it is not anticipated that these would be impacted. Unless explicitly noted in the Land Use Permit's Standard Conditions, restricted Land Use Permits expire after hunting seasons close for that year. Remote outfitters are then responsible for reapplication. Given that there were none identified, there would be no impact to these types of Land Use Permits.

Changes in environmental conditions, including air quality, noise, visual, surface water, fish abundance / distribution, wildlife abundance distribution, as well as a change in access may cause indirect effects to remote outfitters. Changes related to environmental

conditions may change the attractiveness of these camps to their client base. The following describes changes in environmental conditions in the vicinity of the noted camps.

Air Quality

Once construction of a given road length is complete, construction will move along the Construction Disturbance Area, and the magnitude of the impact will decrease over time. These localized periods of construction will have potential for effects on air quality, which can be found in the Appendix S1 of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement.

It is expected that a high magnitude of particulate matter concentrations are predicted to impact recreational users within 3 km from the road due to fugitive road dust generated from vehicular travel on the unpaved road during operations and maintenance phase. However, this is based on the maximum vehicular traffic volume on the road occurring in 2046 (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2026); this level of traffic is not anticipated but was used to provide an uppermost limit for the impacts being considered. Painter Lake (if upgrades to the Painter Lake Road) and Caviar Lake camps are expected to be impacted by air quality given the results outlined above.

Noise

Commercial outpost camp locations could also experience noise effects from road construction and during operations which could detract from the user experience and make these camps less attractive to the outfitter and potentially their clients. **Table** 7-2 outlines the noise levels for the six camps closest to the Construction Disturbance Area and others that will be affected by noise during construction and operations of the Project.

Table 7-2: Noise Results for Remote Outfitter Camps, within 5 km of Construction Disturbance Area

Camp	Construction Phase	Operations and Maintenance Phase
Esser Lake (Twin Lake Outfitters)	■ Not applicable; outside impact area	■ Outside impact area
Painter Lake (two camps) (Leuenberger Air Service)	■ <45 dBA for road construction and 45 to 60 dBA from aggregate pit construction	■ Outside impact area; aggregate pit (ID14) north of Painter Lake to be used during construction phase only
Percy Lake (Leuenberger Air Service; Nakina North Outfitters)	■ Not applicable; outside impact area	■ Outside impact area
Caviar Lake (Leuenberger Air Service)	■ 50 to 55 dBA from road and bridge construction	■ 30 dBA approximately 1.5 km from bridge location (exact location to be determined through outreach)
Teabeau (Leuenberger Air Service)	■ 30 to 35 dBA for a small eastern section of the lake / river	■ Outside impact area

The Painter Lake camp and the Caviar Lake camp are likely to experience the highest impact from noise during construction and operation phases; however, noise levels are below or equal to the Health Canada Limit Guide of 55 dBA.

Visual

With regards to visual effects as discussed in Appendix V of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement, Painter Lake and Caviar Lake are likely to experience the highest visual impact during construction and operation of the Project. Painter Lake is approximately 970 m from the nearest aggregate site, if this site is utilized in the upgrades to the existing road infrastructure of Painter Lake Road. Caviar Lake's distance from the nearest aggregate site is 1.7 km from the bridge crossing at the Albany River. It is not expected to be seen from the commercial outpost camp location but could potentially be seen while fishing along the river. The Caviar Lake site is also located 880 m from an aggregate site. The kind of extraction activities at that aggregate site location will be determined during detail design.

Surface Water

As some remote outfitters offer fishing opportunities via boating, effects on surface water (for navigational purposes) are not anticipated to result in an adverse change beyond a manageable level. Some short-term effects may result in temporary impacts to navigation during construction to maintain public safety. Appropriate mitigation is discussed below.

Fish Abundance / Distribution

Northern pike, brook trout, and walleye may experience effects from the Project, particularly during the construction phase from loss of habitat (bridge construction) and saltation effects. Due to increased access to the area and to remote outfitting camps, there could be increased fishing pressure on the waterways in proximity to the road which could also adversely impact species abundance. Spills during the construction and operation and maintenance phases in high enough concentrations may also negatively affect fish and fish habitat. However, fish populations are expected to be self-sustaining and ecologically effective and do not represent a substantial management concern (WSP, 2026b). Appropriate mitigation will be required during construction and maintenance to reduce or avoid impacts to these species.

Wildlife Abundance Distribution

With regards to wildlife, small game, waterfowl, bear and moose have been described as the species hunted (**Section 5.1.5**). The Project is expected to result in an increase in public access and with potential for hunting opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous hunters in the vicinity of the road during the operation and maintenance phase, which may lead to decreased moose abundance. Moose mortality risk from hunter harvest may increase, particularly for moose in Wildlife Management Unit 17 with home ranges

near the Community Access Road (i.e., local to regional effect). It is expected that hunting pressure will be monitored by the Ministry of Natural Resources and controlled through the issuance of hunting tags. It is also expected that there will be potential impacts from increase vehicular travel on the road which could impact wildlife populations.

As identified in the Final Ungulates Technical Support Document and Appendix M of the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement, operation of the Community Access Road may result in increase predatory pressures on moose as wolves will use the corridor for ease of hunting. An additional concern that the operation of the Community Access Road will introduce vehicle-wildlife collisions, which could impact the population.

Moose health may be impacted from the introduction of roads with concerns that increased access to the area resulting from the operation of the Community Access Road there could be an increase in illegal hunting / poaching. This could adversely affect moose populations over time, which could result in impacts to the number of tag allocations a remote outfitter would receive for potential clients.

Change in Access

The construction and operation of the road would mean that lands and waterbodies are more accessible to the public (if the road is not restricted) and decrease the attractiveness of the area for remote tourism operations. Aroland First Nation has indicated their preference for controlled access along the road and have expressed they do not wish to have any new commercial outpost camps in the area.

Considering the above, construction of the Project is expected to contribute to a change in the remote / wilderness character of the area where some of the commercial outpost camps are located and could potentially reduce their attractiveness for clients, resulting in a decrease in business. The commercial outpost camps at most risk to this include: Painter Lake, due to a proposed aggregate pit on the north side of the lake; Caviar Lake, due to the crossing of the Albany River just to the east of the camp location (<1 km and proposed pits to the south); and to a lesser extent Teabeau Lake, due to improved access to the Albany River and the potential for more boats / fishing in the area. Although the ownership of the road and the public vs restricted access of the road is unknown, there are potential noise impacts from vehicular traffic or aggregate operations. These commercial outpost camps may become less attractive, and the outfitters may decide to sell their camps and their moose tag shares. This is considered to be a direct adverse effect to these camps. Given the possibility of new access opportunities to the Caviar Lake and Teabeau Lake camps (accessible by boat via the Community Access Road) it may be possible to create boat in opportunities for these sites as they would no longer require fly-in access and be more economical for use. This would however require a boat launch for the area. At the time of writing this report, there are currently no design considerations for constructed access points for the Albany River.

There are no anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups related to Remote Outfitters during construction or operation and maintenance of the Community Access Road.

Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

Proposed mitigation to minimize effects are as follows:

- Engage further with the impacted outfitters / camp owners (during detail design);
- Engage with the Province (Ministry of Natural Resources) to develop signage for hunting restrictions and to report poaching;
- Review options for access points at the Albany River Bridge Crossing;
- Marten Falls First Nation and the owner of the road should engage with Ministry of Natural Resources regarding how fish populations may be monitored;
- Provide at least one year notice to the remote outfitters in advance of construction start; and
- Implement mitigation measures for air quality, noise, visual, surface water, fish, wildlife, and ungulates as outlined in the appropriate technical support documents.

Proposed mitigation to minimize effects as outlined in the *Final Wildlife Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment* (WSP, 2024e), are as follows:

- The possession and use of firearms will not be permitted for construction personnel;
- The owner of the road may provide compensation for business losses to remote outfitters who are impacted by the construction, operation and maintenance of the Community Access Road;
- Restrict public access to the Community Access Road corridor during construction. Gate temporary access roads and block and restore as soon as possible after they are no longer needed. Permanent access roads used for maintenance activities and aggregate pits will be gated while not in use;
- Develop and implement an Environmental Protection Plan that includes the following measures to control, and / or restrict public use of access roads during construction and operation: speed limits, gates / manned gates, signage, reduced road standard, natural berms across temporary access roads after reclaimed / rehabilitated, removal of temporary watercourse crossings, reduce traffic by locating camps near construction sites. Posting of restricted access and speed signage will follow the Construction Specification for Temporary Traffic Control Devices (Construction Specification for Temporary Traffic Control Devices, 2016); and

- During operations and maintenance, if the Community Access Road will be considered public, access roads for aggregate areas and other infrastructure required for maintenance activities will be gated to limit public access. Employees will be prohibited from hunting or carrying firearms while working on the Project maintenance.

Characterization of Residual Effects

Adverse residual effects are anticipated for remote outfitting operations at Painter Lake, Caviar Lake, and Teabeau Lake as a result of increased access to the area, development of aggregate pits, and Project-related noise, particularly during the construction phase. These effects are associated primarily with changes in access conditions and a localized reduction in wilderness character, which may influence the user experience for clients seeking fly-in, remote outfitting opportunities.

The magnitude of these effects on remote outfitting operations is assessed as low as effects are localized to areas in proximity to the road and aggregate sites and do not result in the physical removal of outfitting infrastructure. Noise and activity-related effects during construction are short-term, while changes in access conditions represent a long-term effect associated with the operational phase of the Project. The geographic extent of these effects is localized, and effects are partially reversible through operational controls, access management, and potential changes to outfitting business models over time.

Changes in access may result in increased presence of other land users in the area, which could further influence wilderness character and outfitter client experience. However, these effects are dependent on future access management decisions and user behaviour and are not expected to result in the displacement or closure of outfitting operations.

Effects related to the availability of species harvested for recreational hunting and fishing are not anticipated to be severe. Residual effects on fish and fish habitat were assessed as negligible to medium in magnitude and not significant in the Fish and Fish Habitat Valued Component. Residual effects on moose and moose habitat were assessed as low to medium in magnitude, ranging from localized to regional in geographic extent, with populations expected to remain self-sustaining and ecologically effective. As such, effects on wildlife and fish availability relevant to outfitting operations are not expected to represent a substantial management concern.

Remote outfitting camps operate under Land Use Permits, which represent a limited tenure on Crown land. While this does not diminish the importance of outfitting operations, it indicates an existing level of exposure to changes in land use conditions. Camp operators will be provided with advance notice of construction activities (minimum one year), allowing for operational planning and adaptation. In addition, improved access may create opportunities for some operators to adjust service models (e.g., drive-in or boat-access camps), partially offsetting adverse effects related to remoteness.

Considering the magnitude, duration, geographic extent, reversibility, and the capacity of outfitting operations to adapt, adverse residual effects on the Remote Outfitters Valued Component are assessed as **not significant**.

7.2.7 Trapping

Description of Potential Effects

This Valued Component considered one indicator which is: change to trapping activity in vicinity of Marten Falls Community Access Road.

Effects under this indicator are measured through:

- Change in populations of harvested furbearing species;
- Disruption effects to habitat of furbearing species in the vicinity of the Project;
- Change in access to lands for trapping; and,
- Change in access to market of harvested furs.

The Project footprint (including the road, aggregate pits, construction staging areas, and work camps) overlaps with seven trapline areas: GE138, GE148, GE153, GE154, GE157, GE159, and GE164. This section describes the changes to land that may be used for trapping activities within the above seven trapline tenures as a result of Project development, road operation and maintenance. Following this, a description of how the Project could impact furbearing wildlife species populations, which could also have an impact on trapping activity, is presented.

Multiple attempts were made to contact trappers registered to each of these traplines through the Ministry of Natural Resources contact information. Letters were prepared and sent to the Ministry of Natural Resources for distribution to the trapline holders on record. No responses were received. Trapping related information was also acquired through the Indigenous Knowledge information that was requested from the communities to form the foundation for existing conditions including potential impacts to Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests. At the time of this assessment, Indigenous Knowledge was submitted by Marten Falls First Nation, Weenusk First Nation, Fort Albany First Nation, Aroland First Nation and Kashechewan First Nation which has been considered in this assessment, meaning that this information has been included into the scientific data collected. It is understood that the holders of these traplines are all Indigenous people that live in either Marten Falls First Nation, Aroland First Nation, and / or other communities. Feedback from both Marten Falls First Nation and Aroland First Nation during the Community Information Centres was also utilized in this effects assessment.

In June 2024, a Marten Falls First Nation member requested more information about the Project because the route may go through their family's trapline. No specific information

regarding their trapline has been provided at the time of writing this Report. Most feedback gathered from the Indigenous Knowledge expressed concern over the impacts to furbearing populations and how that could impact trapping in that area. From speaking with communities during information sessions, it was also acknowledged that the amount of trapping has declined in recent years in this area.

As is the case for northern Ontario and much of Canada, trapping activity as a commercial activity has been greatly diminished over the last 20 years or so because of the low price of fur pelts. The prices narrowly covers the costs to undertake trapping (i.e., snowmobiling, fuel, etc.). Trapping does however, to some extent, still occur as a cultural activity for Indigenous people. Trapping impacts have also been assessed regarding potential impacts on Indigenous rights. Anecdotal information provided by community representatives at Project engagement events suggests that very limited trapping activity occurs now.

Below describes the loss of area from the Project for each affected trapline. In addition to the direct loss of lands that support furbearing species, disturbance effects from construction activities including the presence of humans and construction noise may result in some species moving from the adjacent lands. This disturbance would be a temporary effect but could still last up to ten years although the length of period for any one area of the Project would be much less given the sequencing of the construction.

Commercial trapping and snaring activities covered large geographic areas that extend approximately 30 km on either side of the Albany River and through the proposed Marten Falls Community Access Road route. Marten Falls First Nation identified 13 commercial harvesting sites which are used for trapping and snaring for commercial purposes.

GE138

GE138 covers an area of approximately 58,720 ha. This trapline is transected by the following Project components: aggregate sites. More specifically, the Construction Disturbance Area overlaps 148.6 ha of GE138, which is about 0.25% of the total trapline area. At the time of preparing this assessment no specific information from the trapline holder was available. It is not known whether trapping activity continues in this trapline or in the vicinity of the Project.

GE148

GE148 covers an area of approximately 858,208 ha. This trapline is transected by the following Project components: access road, aggregate sites, camp, camp access road, and preferred route. More specifically, the Construction Disturbance Area overlaps 507.7 ha of GE148, which is about 0.06% of the total trapline area. At the time of preparing this assessment no specific information from the trapline holder was available. It is not known whether trapping activity continues in this trapline or in the vicinity of the Project.

GE153

GE153 covers an area of approximately 8,460,190 ha. This trapline is transected by the following Project components: access road, aggregate sites, camp, camp access road, and preferred route. More specifically, the Construction Disturbance Area overlaps 1,036.1 ha of GE153, which is about 0.01% of the total trapline area. At the time of preparing this assessment no specific information from the trapline holder was available. It is not known whether trapping activity continues in this trapline or in the vicinity of the Project.

GE154

GE154 covers an area of approximately 1,545,374 ha. This trapline is transected by the following Project components: access road, aggregate sites, camp, camp access road, and preferred route. More specifically, the Construction Disturbance Area overlaps 630.4 ha of GE154, which is about 0.04% of the total trapline area. At the time of preparing this assessment no specific information from the trapline holder was available. It is not known whether trapping activity continues in this trapline or in the vicinity of the Project.

GE157

GE157 covers an area of approximately 13,531,800 ha. This trapline is transected by the following Project components: access road, aggregate sites, camp, camp access road, and preferred route. More specifically, the Construction Disturbance Area overlaps 1,921.3 ha of GE157, which is about 0.01% of the total trapline area. At the time of preparing this assessment no specific information from the trapline holder was available. It is not known whether trapping activity continues in this trapline or in the vicinity of the Project.

GE159

GE159 covers an area of approximately 2,413,206 ha. This trapline is transected by the following Project components: access road, aggregate sites, and preferred route. More specifically, the Construction Disturbance Area overlaps 203.8 ha of GE159, which is about 0.008% of the total trapline area. At the time of preparing this assessment no specific information from the trapline holder was available. It is not known whether trapping activity continues in this trapline or in the vicinity of the Project.

GE164

GE164 covers an area of approximately 579,021 ha. This trapline is transected by the following Project components: access road, aggregate sites, camp, camp access road, and preferred route. More specifically, the Construction Disturbance Area overlaps 252.3 ha of GE164, which is about 0.044% of the total trapline area. At the time of preparing this assessment no specific information from the trapline holder was available. It is not known whether trapping activity continues in this trapline or in the vicinity of the Project.

Change in Environmental Conditions

Changes in environmental conditions, including noise and wildlife abundance distribution may cause indirect effects to trapping. Though trapping as a commercial activity has diminished in this area, changes to these conditions as outlined below could impact trapping activity that remains.

Noise

Noise could disturb trappers operating in the vicinity of the Project as well as furbearers resulting in less abundance close to the Project location. As documented in the *Final Acoustic & Vibration Environment Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment* (WSP, 2026a), the magnitude of the noise residual effects during construction were assessed to have the potential to range from low to high, depending on the distance between the points of reception and the construction activities. Daytime noise levels in proximity of the road from various aspects of construction are predicted to range from 38 to 84 dBA. However, not all construction activities are expected to occur at the same time as modelled and thus, in reality, noise levels should be lower. During operations, noise levels are to range from 38 to 53 dBA. Note that with a background noise level of about 38 dBA, noise levels of 45 dBA or greater are considered to be noticeable.

Noise during construction is characterized as being local in nature, infrequent and temporary for any specific receptor point along the road. Noise in the vicinity of the aggregate pits may last longer depending on the size and life of the pit. All seven traplines intersecting the Construction Disturbance Area will experience short-term noise effects at infrequent levels during both construction and operations of the Project. The impact this noise might have on trapping is unknown. Trappers operating in the area may choose to conduct their activities further from the road because of increased noise levels.

Wolverine Abundance

Wolverine is a species that has been trapped in the Local and Regional Study Areas. As reported in the *Final Wildlife Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment* (WSP, 2026e), the magnitude of the predicted residual effects on wolverine are of moderate magnitude, permanent (irreversible) and vary from being confined to the effects assessment Construction Disturbance Area to the Wolverine effects assessment Local Study Area in geographic extent. It is expected that 4,700 ha of wolverine habitat will be directly lost in the Construction Disturbance Area. Due to the high level of uncertainty related to how wolverines will respond once the Project is constructed, and the ability to avoid or mitigate effects on the regional population, effects to wolverine were assessed as significant. Considering the uncertainty of the assessment on the regional population impact on this species, the minimal commercial trapping currently occurring, the project's location on the edge of wolverine habitat, and anecdotal evidence suggesting that

wolverines were not a major species trapped in the past, the resulting impacts on this valued component are considered to be low to moderate.

American Marten

American marten is a species that has been trapped in the Project area. As reported in the *Final Wildlife Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment* (WSP, 2026e), predicted residual effects on American martens are of negligible to low magnitude and are considered to be short-term to irreversible in duration. Most effects are considered to be limited to the Construction Disturbance Area, with increased access and sensory disturbance expected to extend into the Local Study Area. Overall, American marten populations are expected to remain ecologically functional and self-sustaining. The anticipated changes to American marten habitat availability, distribution, and survival and reproduction from the Project are expected to remain within the resilience and adaptability limits of the regional populations. As such, there is not expected to be a decrease in American marten populations to impact trapping activities.

Beaver

Beaver is the furbearer that has been historically trapped in the Project area. As reported in the *Final Wildlife Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment* (WSP, 2026e), overall, beaver populations are expected to remain ecologically functional and self-sustaining. The anticipated changes to beaver habitat availability, distribution, and survival and reproduction from the Project are expected to remain within the resilience and adaptability limits of the regional populations. As such, there is not expected to be a decrease in beaver populations to impact trapping activities.

As for all the furbearer species, increased trapping mortality may correspond to an increase in access to the lands along the corridor. This effect may be particularly strong in areas adjacent to good habitat. It is not possible to predict the impact that the increased access to the area might have on the populations of these species. Given that similar development in Northern Ontario has occurred as it relates to forestry operations and construction of roads, animal populations have been known to rebound once construction activities have been completed.

There are no anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups related to Trapping during construction or operation and maintenance of the Community Access Road.

Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

Mitigation measures include providing notice to trapline tenure holders on the timeline and periods of construction and allow access through the Construction Disturbance Area (when it is safe to do so) as required for trapping activities throughout the construction phase of the Project.

Proposed mitigation to minimize effects are outlined in the *Final Wildlife Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment* (WSP, 2026e), are as follows:

- The possession and use of firearms will not be permitted for construction personnel;
- Access to the Community Access Road corridor will be restricted during construction to workers only. Temporary access roads should be gated during use and blocked and restored as soon as possible after they are no longer needed. Permanent access roads used for maintenance activities will be blocked while not in use;
- Temporary access roads and other temporary construction infrastructure will be reclaimed as quickly as possible following construction. As part of the reclamation of temporary access roads, access to these roads will be physically blocked to decrease public use. Access roads used for permanent maintenance activities will be blocked while not in use;
- Beaver lodges will be marked as sensitive sites and protected. A figure illustrating that location where beaver lodges were observed during existing conditions field surveys will be included in the Environmental Protection Plan. The Environmental Protection Plan will outline appropriate setbacks and procedures to be followed when beaver lodges are encountered during construction;
- An Environmental Protection Plan will be implemented that includes the following measures to control, and / or restrict public use of access roads during construction and operation: speed limits, gates / manned gates, signage, reduced road standard, felling of timber across temporary access roads after reclaimed, removal of temporary watercourse crossings, reduce traffic by locating camps near construction sites. Posting of restricted access and speed signage will follow the *Construction Specification for Temporary Traffic Control Devices* (Construction Specification for Temporary Traffic Control Devices, 2016);
- During operation and maintenance of the road, if trappers have set up traps close to the corridor, signage will be in place to warn the travelling public and road maintenance staff of set traps in the area; and,
- During operations and maintenance, if the Community Access Road will be public, access roads for aggregate areas and other infrastructure required for maintenance activities will be gated to limit public access. Employees will be prohibited from hunting or carrying firearms while working on the Project maintenance.

Notices were sent in Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 to known trappers via the Ministry of Natural Resources to advise them of the Preferred Route. No comments were received from these letters.

Characterization of Residual Effects

The Construction Disturbance Area intersects a very small proportion of each affected trapline area (less than 0.5%), resulting in a low magnitude adverse residual effect related to direct land occupation. The geographic extent of direct effects is localized to the road corridor, aggregate pits, and associated Project components, with the majority of each trapline remaining available for trapping activities.

Changes to access conditions represent a long-term effect associated with the operational phase of the Project and may influence trapping practices by increasing the presence of other land users along the corridor. While improved access may reduce travel time for trapline holders, it may also increase competition or disturbance in areas adjacent to the road. The magnitude of these access-related effects is assessed as low given the limited width of the corridor and the continued availability of extensive undisturbed areas within each trapline. The extent to which access-related effects materialize is dependent on future access management, enforcement, and user behaviour, introducing a degree of uncertainty in effect prediction.

Construction-related noise and activity may temporarily displace furbearing species and disrupt trapping activities in proximity to active work areas. These effects are assessed as low to moderate in magnitude, localized in extent, and short-term and reversible, as construction progresses sequentially along the corridor. Noise effects during operations are expected to be intermittent and low in magnitude, occurring primarily during vehicle passage.

Potential effects on furbearer populations relevant to trapping vary by species. Residual effects on American marten and beaver populations are assessed as low in magnitude, with populations expected to remain self-sustaining and ecologically functional. In contrast, residual effects on wolverine were assessed as moderate in magnitude, permanent, and significant in the Wildlife Valued Component due to habitat loss and uncertainty in population response. While wolverine trapping is understood to be limited in the Project area, uncertainty regarding population-level responses introduces a moderate level of risk to trapping opportunities associated with this species.

Cumulatively, the combination of localized habitat loss, sensory disturbance, and increased access may contribute to incremental pressure on trapping activities within portions of the affected traplines. However, considering the small proportion of trapline areas directly affected, the localized nature of effects, the continued availability of extensive trapping lands, and the limited current level of commercial trapping activity, the overall magnitude of cumulative adverse effects on trapping is assessed as moderate.

Recognizing the absence of trapper-specific information for several intersected traplines and the uncertainty associated with access-related effects and furbearer population responses, residual effects on trapping are characterized with moderate uncertainty. Continued engagement with trapline holders and follow-up monitoring would assist in refining the understanding of long-term effects.

Taking into account the magnitude, geographic extent, duration, reversibility, and uncertainty of effects, adverse residual effects on the Trapping Valued Component are assessed as **not significant** at the local and regional scale. Also please refer to the *Marten Falls Community Access Road: Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights and Interests Final Report* (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2025) regarding the impact of the Project on trapping in relation to Aboriginal rights.

7.2.8 Energy and Linear Infrastructure

Description of Potential Effects

This Valued Component considered one indicator which is: opportunity for development of energy facilities and linear infrastructure.

Effects under this indicator are measured through a change in access of opportunity for new energy development and / or linear facilities.

Energy and linear infrastructure refer to electricity infrastructure (such as generation stations, hydro-electric infrastructure, and transmission lines) and natural gas infrastructure (such as pipelines and extraction sites). At the time of writing this Report, there are no existing energy or linear infrastructure facilities or projects in development in the Construction Disturbance Area.

The Project will not result in the direct removal, relocation, or modification of existing energy or linear infrastructure. However, during the operations and maintenance phase, the establishment of a permanent road corridor may create increased opportunity for future energy and linear infrastructure development by improving access to a previously remote area. In Ontario, linear infrastructure such as transmission lines commonly follows existing transportation corridors for construction, access, and maintenance efficiency.

Any future energy or linear infrastructure development that may be facilitated by the Project would be separate and independent undertakings, subject to their own regulatory approvals, environmental assessment requirements, and engagement processes. The timing, location, and nature of such future developments are not known at this time.

There are no anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups related to Energy and Linear Infrastructure during construction or operation and maintenance of the Community Access Road..

Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

No project-specific mitigation measures are required for this Valued Component, as the Project does not directly involve the construction or modification of energy or linear infrastructure.

Coordination and information sharing between the province, the road owner, and relevant utility proponents may occur as part of future planning initiatives. Any proposed energy or linear infrastructure projects that utilize the Community Access Road corridor would be required to undergo separate environmental assessment and permitting processes, including the identification of project-specific mitigation and enhancement measures..

Characterization of Residual Effects

The Project will not result in adverse residual effects on existing energy or linear infrastructure, as none currently occur within the Construction Disturbance Area. The establishment of the Community Access Road may create a long-term, indirect beneficial effect by increasing access and opportunity for future energy and linear infrastructure development.

These opportunity-based effects are indirect, contingent, and speculative, as they depend on future project proposals, regulatory approvals, and broader system-level planning decisions beyond the scope of this Project. As such, while the Project may contribute to improved conditions for future infrastructure development, it does not itself result in measurable changes to this Valued Component.

Considering the absence of direct interaction with energy or linear infrastructure, and the indirect and uncertain nature of future development opportunities, residual effects on Energy and Linear Infrastructure are assessed as **not significant.**

7.3 Decommissioning Phase

There are currently no plans to decommission the Project as there is no expected / known end date for its need. There will be minor decommissioning of construction camps and rehabilitation and surrendering of aggregate pits (in accordance with *the Aggregate Resources Act*) that will occur at a later phase during Operation of the Community Access Road and when these facilities are no longer required. Therefore, future suspension, decommissioning, and eventual abandonment will not be considered in this Report. Should a future need to decommission or abandon the road arise, a separate study will be required to assess those effects due to the change in environment over time around the roadway.

7.4 Summary of the Assessment of Effects

Table 7-3 provides a summary of the Project activities, potential effects, mitigation, and enhancement measures and predicted residual effects.

Table 7-3: Potential Land and Resource Use Effects, Mitigation, and Enhancement Measures and Predicted Residual Effects

Valued Component	Project Phase	Description of Potential Effect	Mitigation and Enhancement Measures	Predicted Residual Effect	Significance (Significant, Not Significant)	Confidence (High, Moderate, Low)
Land Use Compatibility	Construction	■ The Draft Marten Falls First Nation Community Based Land Use Plan provides planning context but is not finalized or approved. Based on alignment with applicable provincial legislation and current Crown land policy direction, no adverse effects on Land Use Compatibility are anticipated during construction. In addition, as detail design progresses the Draft Dedicated Protected Areas presented in the Draft Community Based Land Use Plan will be removed from the revised Draft. ■ There are no indirect effects identified for this Valued Component for the Construction phase. ■ There are no anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups related to Land Use Compatibility during construction or operation and maintenance of the Community Access Road.	■ It is understood that Marten Falls First Nation will continue to work through the *Draft Community Based Land Use Plan* to identify Dedicated Protected Areas. It is anticipated that some of the lands adjacent to the Project will be included as part of the Dedicated Protected Area to control development. The Dedicated Protected Area provides protection of watercourses, areas of significance, and other values including remote tourism camps, canoe routes, and trap cabins. ■ Lands for the proposed route require to be withdrawn from mining rights to secure the development of the road. ■ Engagement will continue with Marten Falls First Nation and Aroland First Nation regarding land and resource use planning context and any measures relevant to Land Use Compatibility as information becomes available through ongoing discussions. ■ Constance Lake First Nation currently has a TOR issued for development of its Community Based Land Use Plan; any relevant planning information that becomes available will be considered in the land use planning context. Aroland First Nation may advise on additional measures related to this Valued Component which is subject to ongoing engagement with them.	No. The Project is following land use intent and management direction with existing *Public Lands Act* and *Far North Act* requirements. Through discussion with Ontario Parks, it is understood that the crossing of the Albany River Provincial Park may require an amendment to the Park management plan which Ontario Parks will oversee if deemed required.	Not Significant	High
	Operation and Maintenance	■ Future owner/operator would be responsible for the continued operation and maintenance of the Community Access Road. The jurisdiction of the road will be considered during Detail Design.	■ All maintenance and operation works performed on the Community Access Road must follow provincial standards and specifications for road and water crossing rehabilitation. ■ All maintenance and operation works must also comply with all environmental legislation.	**Context:** Owner/Operator means continued environmental studies (terrestrial, fisheries and archaeology) completed prior to construction activities for rehabilitation during the lifetime of the road. **Direction:** Positive for continued environmental studies. **Magnitude:** Low, temporary disturbances during construction activities. **Geographic Extent:** Local **Duration:** Operation effects (primarily traffic noise) are for the life of the Project subject to use of the road. **Frequency:** Regular rehabilitation every 5-10 years with minor maintenance required sporadically. **Reversibility:** No. **Likelihood:** Certain. **Direct / Indirect:** Indirect	Not significant	High
Parks and Protected Areas	Construction	■ The Project Construction Disturbance Area crosses through the Albany River Provincial Park. The Construction Disturbance Area transects with 5.7 ha of Park land, which would require vegetation removal during the construction phase. A new bridge would be constructed in the Park to cross the river for 0.6 km. While this will be a direct adverse effect, it represents a very small portion of the Park which is about 0.006% of the total area of Albany River Provincial Park of the total size of 95,100 ha. This effect is considered to be minor in magnitude.	■ Refer to mitigations as outlined in the Final Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2026). ■ Limit clearing and use of land within the Parks as much as possible. Temporary work areas such as staging areas should be located outside of park boundaries. ■ Monitor and limit the development of any side trails / roads that might extend into the park boundaries. Marten Falls First Nation to discuss with Ontario Parks the need for measures to control access into parks and protected areas where applicable.	**Context:** The Project will cross the Albany River Provincial Park and will be near the eastern boundary of the Ogoki River Provincial Park. Both parks are remote non-operating waterway parks with limited access and facilities. No designated user sites (e.g., campgrounds) with the exception of a portage near the proposed Albany River crossing in the Construction Disturbance Area and adjacent areas. **Direction:** Adverse **Magnitude:** Low from land loss. Albany River Provincial Park transects the Construction Disturbance Area and will experience minor adverse effects resulting from removal of 5.7 ha of Park land. Additional impacts include noise from	Not Significant	High

Valued Component	Project Phase	Description of Potential Effect	Mitigation and Enhancement Measures	Predicted Residual Effect	Significance (Significant, Not Significant)	Confidence (High, Moderate, Low)
		■ During bridge construction, Albany River Provincial Park may experience up to 70 dBA at the bridge crossing location, dropping to 30 dBA 5 km away for a minimum of two years. Albany River Provincial Park users may also experience noise from aggregate extraction at pits located on the south side of the Park just west of the proposed crossing location. ■ Only a very limited amount of the most eastern end of the Ogoki River Park (about 500 m in) would experience noise effects greater than 45 dBA which is considered to be a noticeable change over existing conditions.		construction and reduction of remote character due to visibility of bridge construction. The Ogoki River Provincial Park will not be directly affected but may experience some noise effects during construction. **Geographic Extent:** Local and primarily in the vicinity of the river crossing location. **Duration:** Construction effects at each major water crossing are to last around two years. **Frequency:** Continuous during the two-year construction period. **Reversibility:** Project footprint effects are not reversible. Construction disturbance effects such as noise would cease when construction stops. **Likelihood:** High certainty. **Direct/ Indirect: D**irect		
	Operations and Maintenance	■ Albany River Provincial Park is recognized for its 'wilderness and remote character' and is valued for remote backcountry wilderness experiences. The road crossing of the Albany River Provincial Park, a distance of 0.6 km, could contribute to a reduction of the remote character of the Park and impact park user enjoyment levels. The presence of a new bridge across the river would result in a visual impact with the bridge being visible about 900 m upstream and 700 m downstream. ■ There is also potential for some noise and air quality effects on park users from passing vehicles. These effects would be directly related to traffic volume on the road. During the operations phase, users of Albany River Provincial Park may experience >35 dBA within 1 km of the bridge location. Noise levels would be higher closer to the bridge crossing location. Baseline noise levels are about 35 to 40 dBA and levels over 5 dBA are considered to be noticeable. As noise levels are tied to road use, Park users detecting increased noise would depend on whether a vehicle is traveling along the road when a Park user is in the vicinity of the bridge (e.g., travelling down the river by canoe). ■ Once operational and open to public use, the new road could provide a new access point to the Parks it intersects with. Subject to Ontario Parks support, new access opportunities could be created for the Albany River Provincial Park. This would be beneficial potentially leading to more park users and by providing a new end point or start point for river trips. ■ While the road does not cross Ogoki River Provincial Park, the road will cross the Ogoki River just to the east of the Park and could also improve access to the river and provide new access to this park (by boat / canoe). Again, this is subject to Ontario parks support. ■ As with the Albany River Provincial Park, the improved access from the road might result in more use of the Ogoki River Provincial Park.	■ Refer to mitigations as outlined in the Final Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment (Dillon Consulting Limited, 2026). ■ Monitor and limit the development of any side trails / roads that might extend into parks. ■ Continued engagement with Ontario Parks on the progress of the road design and advance notice of construction should be provided to give park users ample notice of proposed construction or maintenance occurring near the parks. ■ Marten Falls First Nation and the owner of the road to have further discussions with Ontario Parks regarding the Albany River crossing (bridge design), access issues, and user impacts as well as need for updates to the Ogoki and Albany River Provincial Parks. ■ Any potential access considerations will be explored further through ongoing consultation with Ontario Parks so that future decisions align with park management objectives and protection priorities.	**Context:** Same as for Construction effects. **Direction:** Adverse and potentially positive from new Parks access opportunities. **Magnitude:** Low for Albany River Park including noise from operations phase traffic and reduction of remote character due to visibility of a new bridge. Both effects will be limited to the area in the vicinity of the crossing location. The road could result in new access points to the Albany River and Ogoki River Provincial Parks which is generally considered to be a positive effect offering users a new opportunity to experience the parks (subject to Ontario Parks support for new access points). **Geographic Extent:** Local **Duration:** Operation effects (primarily traffic noise) are for the life of the Project subject to use of the road. **Frequency:** Noise effects will range from infrequent to frequent depending on road traffic volume. **Reversibility:** Yes (for traffic noise). Potential Park access restrictions if put in place would limit or reduce impacts from potentially higher user volumes. **Likelihood:** Certain. **Direct / Indirect:** Direct	Not Significant	High

Valued Component	Project Phase	Description of Potential Effect	Mitigation and Enhancement Measures	Predicted Residual Effect	Significance (Significant, Not Significant)	Confidence (High, Moderate, Low)
Recreation and Tourism	Construction	■ While limited recreation occurs in the area due to its remote / inaccessible nature, the construction of the Project could result in disruption effects to recreation and tourism activities (e.g., disturbances from changes in noise, vibration, air quality, and viewscapes). ■ The new watercourse crossings could potentially affect navigation (for safety purposes) during the construction phase of the Project. Structures will be designed to permit navigation on waterways deemed to be navigable. ■ Overall moose health and population abundance is not expected to decrease as a result of habitat loss. ■ Northern pike, brook trout, walleye, and lake whitefish / burbot populations may all experience effects in the local area, particularly during the construction phase from loss of habitat (bridge construction) and saltation effects. Overall long-term population abundance effects are not expected.	■ Design and install proper water crossing structures to accommodate flow, drainage, fish passage, and navigation. ■ Minimize vegetation clearing to only what is required for construction and staging. ■ Provide signage along the Preferred Route to inform road users about possible interaction with recreation users, wildlife and restrictions. ■ The Proponent will discuss possible restrictions for hunting in the Project Area with the Ministry of Natural Resources. ■ Assess need for parking control along roadway for safety reasons.	**Context**: The Project affected lands are remote and generally accessible by float plane only or possibly snowmobile in winter. Current use outside of the commercial outpost camps is understood to be minimal. Some guided fishing and hunting activity is understood to occur along the Albany River. **Direction:** Adverse **Magnitude**: Noise effects during the construction phase are considered to be low and localized in nature (close to the road and the aggregate pits). It is assumed the rivers and lakes near the Proposed route would be receptors for recreation but are not considered to be a permanent receptor since users would not stay in one location for a duration of time. Effects from Project development (e.g., habitat loss) to the abundance or availability of species for recreational hunting and fishing are not anticipated to be severe and mitigation measures can help reduce impacts to wildlife and fish populations. Residual effects on the fish Valued Component (Final *Fish and Fish Habitat Impact Assessment Report by WSP)* were assessed low in magnitude and they do not represent a substantial management concern and were considered not significant. The magnitude of the predicted residual effects on moose and moose habitat are of low to medium magnitude. Overall, moose populations are expected to remain to be self sustaining and ecologically effective, and therefore, the predicted residual effects on moose and moose habitat are assessed as not significant. **Geographic Extent**: Local **Duration:** While Project construction may take up to ten years, the period of construction effects for any specific location along the road would be much less. **Frequency:** Continuous during the construction period. **Reversibility:** Project footprint effects are not reversible. Construction disturbance effects such as noise would cease which construction stops. **Likelihood:** High certainty. **Direct / Indirect:** Direct	Not Significant	High
	Operations and Maintenance	■ The operation of the Project could result in disruption effects to recreation and tourism activities (e.g., disturbances from changes in noise, vibration, air quality, and viewscapes). ■ The future road, which will be approximately 184 km in length, is anticipated to improve access levels to remote crown lands and water resources (assumed that the road would be open to the public during the operations phase). This could provide new recreation and tourism opportunities including: camping, snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and canoe / kayaking. This would be a beneficial effect of the Project. Note that some of these recreation benefits would not occur if access restrictions to the public (e.g., no hunting) are imposed because of law and local Indigenous community concerns.	■ Design and install proper water crossing structures to accommodate flow, drainage, fish passage and navigation. ■ Minimize vegetation clearing to only what is required for construction and staging. ■ Implement progressive reclamation and revegetation of disturbed areas no longer required following construction (laydown areas and construction camps). ■ Consider provide signage along the Preferred Route to inform road users about possible interaction with recreation users and wildlife. ■ Consider installation of Crimestoppers signage that discourages poaching and provides the public with a number to call if witnessing poaching or illegal hunting. ■ Assess need for parking control along right-of-way shoulder for safety reasons.	**Context:** Same as for Construction effects. **Direction:** Adverse to positive. **Magnitude:** Noise effects during the operations phase is considered to be low in magnitude. No recreation receptor locations (e.g., campsites) were identified. Potential for low to moderate effects on fish and wild game populations from increase user activity. Road will provide new public access to the area for recreation activities. **Geographic Extent:** Local. **Duration:** Operation effects (primarily traffic noise) are for the life of the Project subject to use of the road. Access related effects on wild game and fish populations would be for the life of the project. **Frequency:** Noise effects will range from infrequent to frequent depending on road traffic volume.	Not Significant	High

Valued Component	Project Phase	Description of Potential Effect	Mitigation and Enhancement Measures	Predicted Residual Effect	Significance (Significant, Not Significant)	Confidence (High, Moderate, Low)
		■ Though moose health is not expected to be affected and population is not expected to decrease in abundance, there are concerns that with increased access to the area that there could be an increase in illegal hunting / poaching, which could adversely affect moose populations over time. It is also considered that the road could cause wildlife mortality. ■ Further, from increased access, there could be increased fishing pressure on the waterways in proximity to the road which could also adversely impact species abundance. However, fish populations are expected to be self-sustaining and ecologically effective.	■ A cleared width of 60 m will be maintained, buffer zones of 30 m will be maintained around waterbodies, and vegetation clearing activities will be limited. ■ Consider engagement with Ministry of Natural Resources to discuss data collection related to fish through broadscale monitoring or creel surveys to monitor populations.	**Reversibility:** Yes, for traffic noise and for access related impacts through road safety requirements and resource management activities (aggregate extraction). **Likelihood:** Certain (noise). Access related impacts are uncertain and depend on user volumes. **Direct / Indirect:** Direct		
Extractive Resource Industry	Construction Operations and Maintenance	■ Within the Construction Disturbance Area there are 2,234 ha of active mining claims, which could be affected by the road and associated Project components. Two mining claim holders will be affected by the development of the road: Wabassi Resources and Canada Chrome Corporation. ■ It is noted that an aggregate pit is located on the site of an existing Wabassi exploration camp. It is not known how long this exploration camp is to operate. Further consultation are required with Wabassi to better understand this camp and potential impacts to it as a result of the Project. ■ The development of the road could have an indirect effect of improving access to mineral resource areas and facilitate the development of mines that would provide jobs and economic benefit to the region and local communities.	■ Mining companies have indicated their support of the Project due to the increased accessibility that would result to the existing mining claims. ■ Mitigation and enhancement measures for the extractive resource industry include engaging with mine claim holders in the road detail design stage to determine how impacts to any mineral deposits can be minimized and / or how the Project can help to support their activities. ■ The owner of the road will consider future mining equipment vehicles use of the road during detail design and maintain to a specific standard to accommodate heavy machinery or the number of vehicles.	**Context:** Within the Construction Disturbance Area there are 2,234 ha of active mining claims. Mining claim holders have not expressed concern with the Project routes to date and the Project will provide positive access improvements to the area to possibly facilitate mining development. Potential for impact to Wabassi exploration camp to be confirmed subject to further consultation between them and the owner of the road. **Direction:** Positive with potential for minor adverse effect at camp location. **Magnitude:** Moderate **Geographic Extent:** Local / Regional **Duration:** Life of the Project. **Frequency:** Continuous **Reversibility:** Yes (access-related) **Likelihood:** Moderate **Direct / Indirect:** Direct	Not Significant	High
Forestry Industry	Construction Operation and Maintenance	■ The Ogoki Forest is approximately 1,087,986 ha in size. The Construction Disturbance Area intersects 384.4 ha of the Ogoki Forest (bog, forest, marsh, swamp, water, rock, fen, and anthropogenic). Of that, 195.4 ha of forest (coniferous, deciduous, early successional / sparse treed, and mixed) would be removed. There is the potential for direct effects on the Ogoki Forest via removal of commercial forestry land, however, given the percentage of total area of the area affected (0.24% of the total area of the Ogoki Forest) this effect is expected to be negligible. There are anticipated harvesting activities as part of the Forest Management Plan (2020-2030). Continuous engagement with the Sustain Forest Licence holder is suggested to determine future harvesting activities that are occurring in the Construction Disturbance Area.	■ Should any merchantable timber be felled within the Ogoki Forest Management area for the construction of the Project, the value of the timber will be determined. ■ Review of the Ogoki Annual Work Schedule for harvesting and silvicultural operations should continue throughout detail design if trees are required to be harvested for the construction of the road. ■ Continued consultation with the Forestry Company regarding road upgrades or planned construction should occur in order to not disrupt harvesting or silvicultural activities.	**Context:** Adverse residual effects are not expected as the Construction Disturbance Area overlaps only 0.24% of the Ogoki Forest and should any merchantable timber be removed for the Project, applicable compensation will be provided for the loss of those trees. **Direction:** Adverse (localized) with offsetting Benefit. **Magnitude:** Low **Geography Extent:** Local (Painter Lake Road and aggregate site SG-20) **Duration:** Life of Project **Frequency:** Continuous **Reversibility:** No **Likelihood:** Certain **Direct / Indirect:** Direct	Not significant	High

Valued Component	Project Phase	Description of Potential Effect	Mitigation and Enhancement Measures	Predicted Residual Effect	Significance (Significant, Not Significant)	Confidence (High, Moderate, Low)
Remote Outfitters	Construction	■ Painter Lake commercial outpost camps and the Caviar Lake commercial outpost camp are likely to experience the highest impact from noise during construction phases. ■ Painter Lake and Caviar Lake are likely to experience the highest visual impact during construction. ■ Northern pike, brook trout, and walleye may all experience effects, particularly during the construction phase from loss of habitat (bridge construction) and saltation effects. Fish populations are expected to be self-sustaining and ecologically effective. ■ Moose health is not expected to be affected and population is not expected to decrease in abundance as a result of project development. If moose populations do change through monitoring by the Ministry of Natural Resources, tag allocations to outfitters could be impacted.	■ Engage further with the impacted outfitters / camp owners. A letter was sent in Fall 2024 to known trappers via the Ministry of Natural Resources to advise them of the Preferred Route. Mitigation measures will be updated should input be received by trappers. ■ Provide at least one year notice to the remote outfitters in advance of construction start. ■ Implement mitigation measures for air quality, noise, visual, surface water, fish, wildlife, and ungulates as outlined in the appropriate technical support documents. ■ The possession and use of firearms will not be permitted for construction personnel. ■ Restrict public access to the Community Access Road corridor during construction. Gate temporary access roads and block and restore as soon as possible after they are no longer needed. Permanent access roads used for maintenance activities will be gated while not in use. ■ Develop and implement an Environmental Protection Plan that includes the following measures to control, and / or restrict public use of access roads during construction: speed limits, gates / manned gates, signage, reduced road standard, felling of timber across temporary access roads after reclaimed, removal of temporary watercourse crossings, reduce traffic by locating camps near construction sites. Posting of restricted access and speed signage will follow the *Construction Specification for Temporary Traffic Control Devices* (Construction Specification for Temporary Traffic Control Devices, 2016).	**Context:** The Project is located in an area that has a number of remote outfitter commercial outpost camps on sites that are permitted through Land Use Permits from the Ministry of Natural Resources. Two camps would be directly impacted. **Direction:** Adverse **Magnitude:** Adverse residual effects remain for Painter Lake, and Caviar Lake commercial outpost camps due to increased access and noise effects from the Project. Users interested in visiting remote outfitting camps do so because of remoteness. The construction of the road will alter the remote character of the area and interfere with user experience and possibly impact the number visitors to remote outfitting camps. Residual effects on the fish Valued Component were assessed low in magnitude and they do not represent a substantial management concern and were considered not significant. The magnitude of the predicted residual effects on moose and moose habitat are considered moderate. Overall, moose populations are not expected to be impacted from the increase access to hunting. Given the tag allocations associated with the commercial outpost camp Land Use Permits for the identified impacted remote outfitters and the type of land use authority, remote outfitters assume a reasonable level of risk in operating commercial outpost camps in the long term. **Geographic Extent:** Local **Duration:** Life of the project. **Frequency:** Continuous **Reversibility:** No **Likelihood:** Certain **Direct / Indirect:** Direct	Not Significant	Low
	Operations and Maintenance	■ Painter Lake camps and the Caviar Lake camp are likely to experience the highest impact from noise during construction and operation phases; however, noise levels are below or equal to the Health Canada Limit Guide of 55 dBA. ■ Due to increased access to the area and to the commercial outpost camps, there could be increased fishing pressure on the waterways in proximity to the road which could also adversely impact species abundance. However, fish populations are expected to be self-sustaining and ecologically effective. ■ Though moose health is not expected to be affected and population is not expected to decrease in abundance because of the Project, there are concerns that with increased access to the area resulting from the construction and ongoing operations of the road that there could be an increase in illegal hunting / poaching and vehicle-wildlife collisions, which could adversely affect moose populations over time, adversely affecting remote outfitters number of tags if the Ministry of Natural Resources deems these	■ During operations and maintenance, this assessment has been assumed that the Community Access Road will be accessible to the public but access roads for aggregate areas and other infrastructure required for maintenance activities will be gated to limit public access. Road maintenance staff will be prohibited from hunting or carrying firearms while working on the Project maintenance. ■ Consider provide signage along the Preferred Route to inform road users about possible interaction with recreation users and wildlife. ■ Consider installation of Crimestoppers signage that discourages poaching and provides the public with a number to call if witnessing poaching or illegal hunting. ■ Consider monitoring for vehicle-wildlife collisions and provide annual reports to the Ministry of Natural Resources to analyze impacts to populations due to vehicular collisions.	**Context:** Similar effect characterization as for the Construction period. **Direction:** Adverse **Magnitude:** Medium. Adverse residual effects remain for Painter Lake and Caviar Lake, camps due to potential new access from the road and possible associated reduced populations of fish and wild game species from additional fishing and hunting pressures as well as increased vehicle-wildlife collisions. Some traffic noise may also be possible at the commercial outpost camps and in their vicinity. Users interested in visiting remote outfitting commercial outpost camps do so because of remoteness. The construction of the road will limit the remote character of the area and interfere with user experience and possibly limit visitors to remote outfitting camps. Given the tag allocations associated with the commercial outpost camp Land Use Permits for the identified impacted remote outfitters and the type of land use authority, remote outfitters assume a reasonable level of risk in operating commercial outpost camps in the long term. **Geographic Extent:** Local	Not Significant	Low

Valued Component	Project Phase	Description of Potential Effect	Mitigation and Enhancement Measures	Predicted Residual Effect	Significance (Significant, Not Significant)	Confidence (High, Moderate, Low)
		impacts through Moose Aerial Inventory and hunter surveys. ■ Considering the construction of the Project is expected to contribute to a change in the remote / wilderness character of the area where some of the commercial outpost camps are located and could reduce their attractiveness to clients. The commercial outpost camps at most risk to this include: Painter Lake, due to a proposed aggregate pit on the north side of the lake; Caviar Lake, due to the crossing of the Albany River just to the east of the camp location (<1 km and proposed pits to the south); and to a lesser extent Teabeau Lake, due to improved access to the Albany River and the potential for more boats / fishing in the area of that camp. Because of the assumed public access changes, and potential noise impacts, these commercial outpost camps may become less attractive, and the remote outfitters may decide to sell their shares the structures on their Land Use Permit. This is considered to be a direct adverse effect to these business owners. Given new access opportunities to the Caviar Lake and Teabeau Lake commercial outpost camps (potentially accessible by boat via the Community Access Road) it may be possible to repurpose these commercial outpost camps as an option for boating in and be more economical for use.		**Duration:** Life of the Project. **Frequency:** Continuous **Reversibility:** No **Likelihood:** Uncertain **Direct / Indirect:** Indirect		
Trapping	Construction	■ The Construction Disturbance Area intersects with seven traplines: – GE 138: 148.6 ha – GE 148: 507.7 ha – GE 153: 1,036.1 ha – GE 154: 630.4 ha – GE 157: 1,921.3 ha – GE 159: 203.8 ha – GE 164: 252.3 ha ■ All seven traplines intersecting the Construction Disturbance Area will experience short-term noise effects at infrequent levels during both construction and operations of the Project. ■ Given the little response from consultation with trappers, it may be justifiable to use Indigenous Knowledge locations of the traplines and trap locations in order to provide options for notification of future construction and disturbance expected in that area.	■ Mitigation measures include providing notice to trapline holders of timeline and periods of construction and permitting access to Construction Disturbance Area as required for trapping activities throughout the construction phase of the Project. ■ Signage placed on known areas of trapping access points will notify trappers of future construction activities. ■ Refer to mitigation measures for noise and wildlife outlined in the appropriate technical support documents. ■ The possession and use of firearms will not be permitted for construction personnel. ■ Access to the Community Access Road corridor will be restricted during Construction to workers. ■ Temporary access roads and other temporary construction infrastructure will be reclaimed as quickly as possible following construction. ■ Beaver lodges will be marked as sensitive sites and protected. ■ Consider continued engagement with trappers throughout detail design phase. ■ An Environmental Protection Plan will be implemented that includes the following measures to control, and / or restrict public use of access roads during construction and operation: speed limits, gates / manned gates, signage, reduced road standard, felling of timber across temporary access roads after reclaimed, removal of	**Context:** The Construction Disturbance Area intersects with seven traplines. Indigenous Knowledge provided by Marten Falls First Nation and Aroland First Nation indicates that the route passes through lands that have been used for trapping in the past but that very little trapping activity has occurred in the area in the last ten years due to continued low prices for furs. Continued engagement with trappers may provide additional information as detail design phase progresses. **Direction:** Neutral to Adverse **Magnitude:** Construction Disturbance Area overlap with the traplines amounts to less than 0.5%. The regional population of furbearer species is not expected to be affected due to habitat loss because of the Project. Construction disturbance effects could reduce the populations in the immediate vicinity of the Project due to noise and human presence during construction. Construction activity could temporarily restrict movement across the corridor for public safety reasons. This would be a short-term effect. **Geographic Extent:** Local. **Duration:** While Project construction may take up to ten years, the period of construction effects for any specific location along the road would be much less. **Frequency:** Continuous during the construction period. **Reversibility:** Project footprint effects are not reversible. Construction disturbance effects such as noise would cease when construction stops.	Not Significant	Moderate

Valued Component	Project Phase	Description of Potential Effect	Mitigation and Enhancement Measures	Predicted Residual Effect	Significance (Significant, Not Significant)	Confidence (High, Moderate, Low)
			temporary watercourse crossings, reduce traffic by locating camps near construction sites. Posting of restricted access and speed signage will follow the *Construction Specification for Temporary Traffic Control Devices* (Construction Specification for Temporary Traffic Control Devices, 2016).	**Likelihood:** Moderate certainty. **Direct / Indirect:** Direct		
	Operations and Maintenance	■ Increased mortality of furbearers from road traffic is possible. Increased human presence and road traffic noise could reduce furbearer populations in the immediate vicinity of the Project. Changes to regional populations are not predicted. It is also not possible to predict the impact of increased access to the area might have on the populations of these species. ■ Road is expected to improve access to the area for trapping and to allow additional methods of transporting furs to market.	■ During operations and maintenance, the Community Access Road will be accessible to the public but access roads for aggregate areas and other infrastructure required for maintenance activities will be gated to limit public access. Employees will be prohibited from hunting or carrying firearms while working on the Project maintenance.	**Context:** See construction. **Direction:** Neutral and positive. **Magnitude:** Low. No regional change in furbearer populations and road expected to improve access to the area for trapping. **Geographic Extent:** Local **Duration:** Life of project. **Frequency:** Continuous **Reversibility:** No **Likelihood:** Uncertain **Direct / Indirect:** Direct	Not Significant	Low
Energy and Linear Infrastructure	Operations and Maintenance	■ Introduction of the right-of-way corridor for the Community Access Road will introduce the possibility of energy and linear infrastructure projects. The Project is expected to have indirect positive impacts to this Valued Component.	■ Any potential projects must undergo their own Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment process to determine impacts and mitigation and enhancement measures.	**Context:** Given the expansion of linear infrastructure along the Anaconda Road corridor to the west of the Proposed Marten Falls Community Access Road, it is assumed that once the roadway is built, that accompanying infrastructure corridors will follow. **Direction:** Positive **Magnitude:** Low. **Geographic Extent:** Local/ Regional **Duration:** Life of project. **Frequency:** Continuous **Reversibility:** No **Likelihood:** Uncertain **Direct / Indirect:** Indirect	Not significant	Moderate

8. Cumulative Effects Assessment

The *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act,* 2012 (Government of Canada, 2019) requires that each environmental assessment of a project take into account any cumulative environmental effects that are likely to result from the project in combination with the environmental effects of other physical activities that have been or will be carried out.

This section presents the assessment of potential cumulative effects completed as part of the Project. The effects of past and present activities on the Study Area and Valued Components identified for the Project were assessed and results are described in the following sections.

The cumulative effects assessment builds on the results of the effects assessment described in **Section 7** and will consider the incremental changes that are predicted to have a likely residual adverse effect on a Valued Component.

8.1 Cumulative Effects Methodology

8.1.1 Definitions

The Agency defines Cumulative effects as ‘changes to the environment, health, social, and economic conditions, as a result of the Project’s residual environmental, health, social, and economic effects combined with the existence of other past, present and reasonably foreseeable physical activities, as well as within activities of the Project itself from multiple emissions and discharges (e.g., simultaneous operations) to understand synergistic or additive effects’ (the Agency, 2020). Cumulative effects may result if:

- The implementation of the Project may cause direct residual adverse effects to the valued components, taking into account the application of technically and economically feasible mitigation measures; and
- The same valued component may be affected by other past, present, and future physical activities.

A cumulative effect on an environmental, health, social, or economic component may be important even if the Project’s effects to this component by themselves are minor.

Temporal boundaries for the cumulative effects assessment as described in **Section 4.2**, correspond to the duration that the likely residual adverse effects of the Project are predicted to occur. The *Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines* (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, 2020) indicates the cumulative effects assessment should look at potential effects throughout the lifecycle of the Project, including decommissioning and abandonment; however, there are currently no plans to decommission the Project.

Therefore, **Section 8.2.2** is limited to identifying and assessing cumulative effects during the Project construction, and operations and maintenance phases.

Spatial boundaries, which are the study area(s) within which the geographic extent of cumulative effects will be studied, may vary by each Valued Component selected (e.g., caribou). Finalization of the boundaries were informed through consultation with Indigenous communities, agencies, and interested persons. The spatial boundaries used to assess cumulative effect are described in **Section 8.2.2**.

The Characteristics described in **Section 4.4** for the residual effects assessment have also been used for the cumulative effects assessment, a summary of these is described in **Table 4-6**.

8.2 Cumulative Effects Scoping

8.2.1 Valued Components with Residual Effects

The results of the Effects Assessment completed in **Section 7** that identified residual effects (adverse and / or beneficial, including indirect or opportunity-based effects) and are therefore carried forward for assessment of cumulative effect are described in **Table 8-1** below.

Table 8-1: Valued Components and Residual Effects

Valued Component	Residual Effect
Land Use Compatibility	No adverse residual effects
Parks and Protected Areas	Yes
Recreation and Tourism	Yes
Extractive Resource Industry	Yes
Forestry Industry	No adverse residual effects
Remote Outfitters	Yes
Trapping	Yes
Energy and Linear Facilities	Yes

8.2.2 Spatial and Temporal Boundaries

Spatial and temporal boundaries for the Project can be found in **Section 4.2**. Most of the effects and residual effects for the Land and Resource Use discipline occur within the Construction Disturbance Area footprint; as a result, spatial and temporal boundaries for cumulative effects are defined by the same boundaries for effects of the Project. Further, the boundaries for cumulative effects are likely to be smaller than the boundaries of the effects area because only an assessment of adverse residual effects is required. It is possible that effects from nearby projects may result in similar effects to those described in

this Report, however they would be occurring in different spatial and temporal location and would thus not overlap with the effects from this Project and no cumulative effects would occur.

8.2.3 Physical Activities Inclusion List

A long list of potential projects was provided for consideration in the cumulative effects assessment. This list was thoroughly reviewed, focusing on projects with a reasonable potential to impact Land and Resource Use. Key factors considered included the location of each proposed project, the nature of potential effects, and the likelihood that these projects would affect the same Valued Components as the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project. The results of this review / screening are presented in **Table 8-2**. Projects included in the table are identified for cumulative effects scoping purposes. Inclusion does not imply that a project contributes to cumulative effects unless spatial, temporal, and Valued Component interaction occurs.

Table 8-2: Project and Physical Activity Inclusion List

*Please note that the information and projects presented in this table represent the information publicly available at the time this Cumulative Effects Assessment was completed.

Project	Identified in TISG (yes/no)	Location	Status	Distance (km) and direction from MFFN CAR Study Area	Developer / Company	Project Start Date	Project Duration	Project Completion Date	Project Description	Assumed Project Effects on Land and Resource Use	Valued Component Temporal Overlap with Project (yes/no)	Overlap with Valued Component RSA (yes/no)	Overlap with Valued Component Local Study Area (yes/no)
Northern Road Link	Yes	Between Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road and Webequie Supply Road (Webequie Supply Road), northwestern Ontario	Impact Assessment ongoing	0 (adjacent)	Webequie First Nation Marten Falls First Nation	Environmental Assessment started October 2020	5+ year construction. 50+ year operations	Unknown	■ Marten Falls First Nation and Webequie First Nation are proposing to build, operate and maintain an all-season multi-use road and associated infrastructure between the Marten Falls community access road and the supply road that has been proposed by Webequie First Nation. ■ Terms of Reference for the preparation of an Environmental Assessment approved March 3, 2023. The Environmental Assessment is not completed / available at the time of this assessment.	■ Project to result in a new cleared right-of-way for a new road similar to the Marten Falls Community Access Road. It is noted that industrial traffic that would continue to use the Northern Road Link was already accounted for in the base assessment of Marten Falls Community Access Road. Considering the Valued Components to be adversely impacted by the Marten Falls Community Access Road and their locations, this project would not result in an overlap of effects to the same area identified in the Parks and Protected Areas, Recreation Areas, Extractive Resource Industry areas, or Remote Outfitters. **There is potential for overlap of impact on traplines GE153 and GE154**.	■ Yes – assumed that Northern Road Link to begin construction during Marten Falls Community Access Road construction period. Both roads will be operational for the same time period.	Yes	Yes
Anaconda and Painter Lake Road Upgrades	Yes	James Bay Lowlands	Unknown	0 (adjacent)	In discussions: Ontario Ministry of Transportation and Aroland First Nation	Not Started	2 to 5 years construction. 50+ years operational	Unknown	■ Upgrades to existing road will be required for heavy vehicles accessing the Marten Falls Community Access Road route during construction and operations. ■ Currently discussions with proponents and scope of work are underway. ■ Potential scope of work is expected to include roadway widening, culvert and bridge replacements / rehabilitations to accommodate higher weight vehicles, and road base improvements. ■ This project will be completed prior to the start of the construction of the Community Access Road and therefore the upgrades to these roads are not expected to overlap in time or space with the construction or operation of the Community Access Road. ■ The upgrades to Anaconda and Painter Lake forestry roads will not be included in the Community Access Road cumulative effects assessment.	■ Project to include upgrades to existing roads to facilitate passage of Marten Falls Community Access Road construction vehicles / industrial traffic. Considering the Valued Components to be adversely impacted by the Marten Falls Community Access Road and their locations, this project would not result in an overlap of effects to the same areas in the Parks and Protected Areas, Recreation Areas, Extractive Resource Industry areas, trapline areas or Remote Outfitters that were identified as part of the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project.	■ No – construction assumed to occur before construction on Marten Falls Community Access Road commences.	Yes	Yes

Project	Identified in TISG (yes/no)	Location	Status	Distance (km) and direction from MFFN CAR Study Area	Developer / Company	Project Start Date	Project Duration	Project Completion Date	Project Description	Assumed Project Effects on Land and Resource Use	Valued Component Temporal Overlap with Project (yes/no)	Overlap with Valued Component RSA (yes/no)	Overlap with Valued Component Local Study Area (yes/no)
Rapid Lynx Broadband	Yes	Matawa First Nation Communities	Phase 2 – ongoing	Phase 2 – 57.69 km	Rapid Lynx	February 2020	Unknown	unknown	■ Approximately 810 kilometers of fibre optic cables, providing reliable high-speed internet service to 5 Matawa First Nation communities: Eabametoong, Marten Falls, Neskantage, Nibinamik and W ebequie with an interconnection at Aroland.		■ Yes – operations of Phase 1 and construction of Phase 2 expected to overlap with Community Access Road construction and maintenance.	Yes	No
Esnagami Road Bypass Upgrade	Yes	Aroland First Nation	Unknown	51.96 km	In discussions: Municipality of Greenstone, Ontario Ministry of Transportation and Aroland First Nation	Not Started	2 to 5 years construction. 50+ years operational	Unknown	■ Upgrades to existing road to use as a bypass route around Aroland First Nation settlement area by heavy vehicles accessing the Marten Falls Community Access Road route towards the Ring of Fire. ■ Potential scope of work is expected to include roadway widening, bridge and culvert rehabilitation / replacement, and road base improvements. ■ Environmental Assessment for this project has not commenced.	■ Project to include upgrades to an existing forestry road to facilitate passage of construction vehicles / industrial traffic. Considering the Valued Components to be impacted by the Marten Falls Community Access Road and their locations, this project would not result in an overlap of effects to the same areas in the Parks and Protected Areas, Recreation Areas, Extractive Resource Industry areas, trapline areas or Remote Outfitters.	■ Yes construction is expected to overlap with Community Access Road Construction. It is also possible that construction occurs after the Marten Falls Community Access Road is constructed as the bypass road is not expected to be required until well into the future (not until the future Ring of Fire mines are operational).	Yes	No
Transload Facility	Yes	Aroland, Ontario	Ongoing	59.53 km	Wyloo	Unknown	Unknown	unknown	■ Rail transload facility to Aroland First Nation.	■ There is potential for the construction to impact operations of the Community Access Road near Painter Lake Road.	■ Yes – construction and operations expected to overlap with Community Access Road construction and operations.	Yes	Yes
Eagles Nest Project	Yes	James Bay Lowlands	Permitting ongoing	97.85 km	Wyloo	2023	Construction unknown. Operations assumed to be future. 11 years, with possible extension of 9 years.	Unknown	■ Multi-metal underground mine located near McFaulds Lake. ■ Mine will produce and supply nickel, copper, platinum, and palladium. ■ Deposit contains approximately 11 million tonnes of resources and is estimated to have an initial mine life of 11 years with possibility for a 9-year extension. ■ Terms of Reference amendment for the project approved June 18, 2015.	■ Project is to involve development of a new mine that is expected to have construction (land clearing) and operations related effects (e.g., noise). It is noted that the potential future traffic associated with the Eagles Nest Mine was accounted for in the base assessment of the Community Access Road for the operations phase. Considering the Valued Components to be impacted by the Community Access Road and their locations, this project would not result in an overlap of effects to the same areas in the Parks and Protected Areas, Recreation Areas, Extractive Resource Industry areas, Trapline areas or Remote Outfitters.	■ Yes – construction expected to overlap with Community Access Road construction period. ■ Mine operations assumed to overlap with Community Access Road operations.	Yes	No

Project	Identified in TISG (yes/no)	Location	Status	Distance (km) and direction from MFFN CAR Study Area	Developer / Company	Project Start Date	Project Duration	Project Completion Date	Project Description	Assumed Project Effects on Land and Resource Use	Valued Component Temporal Overlap with Project (yes/no)	Overlap with Valued Component RSA (yes/no)	Overlap with Valued Component Local Study Area (yes/no)
Webequie Supply Road	Yes	McFaulds Lake (eastern limit) Webequie First Nation (western limit)	Impact Assessment ongoing	98.57 km	Webequie First Nation	August 28, 2019	unknown	Unknown	■ New all-season road approximately 107 km in length from Webequie First Nation to the mineral deposit near McFaulds Lake for mineral exploration and future mining development activities. ■ 17 km of the corridor is within Webequie First Nation Reserve Lands.	■ Project to result in a new cleared right-of-way for a new road similar to the Community Access Road. Considering the Valued Components to be impacted by the Marten Falls Community Access Road and their locations, this project would not result in an overlap of effects to the same areas in the Parks and Protected Areas, Recreation Areas, Extractive Resource Industry areas, trapline areas or Remote Outfitters.	■ Yes – assumed that Webequie Supply Road to begin construction during Community Access Road construction period. Both roads will be operational for the same time period.	Yes	No
Ogoki Forest Activity	Yes	Ogoki Forest, Ontario	Operating	Various	Green Forest Management Inc. and Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Historical	Ongoing	Ongoing	■ Forest Management Plans for the Ogoki Forest. ■ Ogoki Forest is approximately 10,900 km^2 in size and includes approximately 9,798 km^2 of forested area. ■ Majority of the forest is Crown land and is subject to forest management planning and forest management operations.	■ Forestry activities could occur in this Forest Management Plan in the future and are not anticipated to be impacted by the Community Access Road.	■ Yes – future forestry activity could overlap with Marten Falls Community Access Road construction and operations phase	Yes	Yes
Greenstone Gold's Hardrock Mine	Yes	Geraldton, Ontario	Construction	118 km	Equinox Gold	October 2021	36 years	2044	■ Construction, operation, decommissioning, and abandonment of an open-pit gold mine and on-site metal mill located near Geraldton, Ontario. ■ Production estimated at 30,000 tonnes per day. ■ Amended Decision Statement issued February 10, 2021. ■ First gold pour is anticipated in early 2024.	■ Project is constructed but operations could result in disturbances to surrounding lands and effect recreation and tourism and trapping activities in the project vicinity. Considering the Valued Components to be adversely impacted by the Marten Falls Community Access Road and their locations, this project would not result in an overlap of effects to the same areas in the Parks and Protected Areas, Recreation Areas, Extractive Resource Industry areas, trapline areas or Remote Outfitters.	■ Yes – operations of the mine assumed to overlap with Marten Falls Community Access Road construction and operations periods.	Yes	No

Assumptions

- Information and projects presented in this table represent the information publicly available at the time the Cumulative Effects Assessment was completed.
- Construction of the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road is anticipated to start within two to five years of Environmental Assessment approval, depending on funding and permit acquisition.
- Construction of the Marten Falls First Nation Community Access Road duration is anticipated to be ten years.

Definitions

- *Project Start Date:* Date that the Environmental Assessment or other permitting processes for the project started. Where information was available on the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada website, start date and Notice of Determination date and recommendations is included.
- *Project Duration:* Amount of time (years) project activities will take place. Where information was available and applicable, duration of each project phase is noted.
- *Project Completion Date:* Date all activities for the project will be completed. Completion date varies depending on type of project, i.e., bridge or highway updates completion date reflects when construction of the project is complete, and mining projects completion date reflects when the decommissioning and rehabilitation activities are complete / mine is abandoned.
- *Assumed Temporal Overlap with Community Access Road Activities:* The phases each project is anticipated to overlap with the Community Access Road. Overlap is assumed based on the information provided in the Project Start Date, Project Duration, and Project Completion Date columns.
- *Ongoing:* Active project work is taking place; project is active at the time of preparation of this table. Where available, information on specific work that is ongoing for the project has been included.
- *Unknown:* Information or project details were not publicly available, or it was not possible to determine the required details based on the information available at the time of preparation of this table.
- *On Hold:* Project has been put on pause for various reasons, currently no active project work.
- *Not Active / N/A:* Applies to mineral deposits. These are not active projects and are not included as part of the cumulative effects assessment.
- *Operation:* Construction is complete on the project and project is currently in use / active.
- *Decommissioning / Rehabilitation:* Applies to mining projects only. Refers to activities following operations phase to rehabilitate the land.

8.2.4 Summary of Outcome

Table 8-3 provides a result of the Cumulative Effects Assessment project scoping previously presented in **Table 8-2** summarizing the projects being carried into the cumulative effects assessment for Land and Resource Use.

Table 8-3: Summary of Outcome

Past, Existing and Future Physical Activities / Projects	Valued Component Carried Forward	Results of Scoping (i.e., Screening)
Northern Road Link	Trapping	There is potential for overlap of impact on trapline areas GE153 and GE154 from both the Marten Falls Community Access Road and the Northern Road Link projects.

8.3 Cumulative Effects Assessment

8.3.1 Trapping

There is potential for cumulative effects on trapping within three trapline areas (GE148, GE153, and GE154) due to the combined presence of the Marten Falls Community Access Road and the Northern Road Link. For GE153 and GE154, the Northern Road Link is anticipated to result in effects similar in nature to those associated with the Community Access Road, including localized loss of furbearer habitat and disturbance effects in the vicinity of the road during construction and operations. In combination, these projects could increase the area of land that is temporarily or permanently less suitable for trapping in proximity to the road corridors.

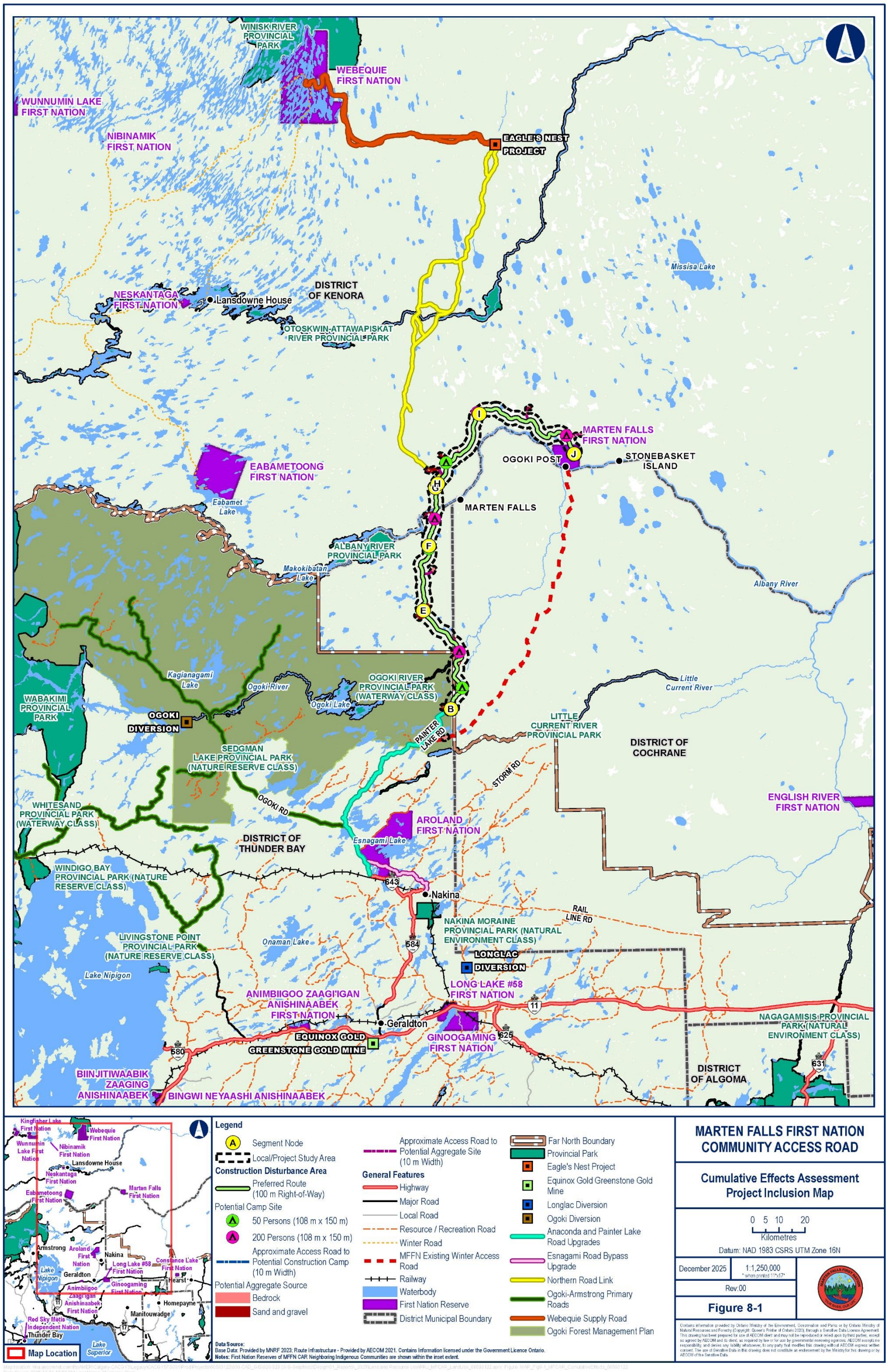
Conversely, the Northern Road Link would also improve access to trapline areas, which may provide a benefit to trapping activities by reducing travel time and effort. As no feedback was received from registered trapline holders or helpers, the extent to which increased access or disturbance may influence trapping activities remains uncertain. However, the combined area of habitat removal and disturbance associated with both projects represents a small proportion of the overall trapline areas. Considering the limited spatial overlap, the localized nature of effects, and the uncertainty regarding actual trapping activity levels, cumulative effects on trapping are assessed as low to moderate in magnitude and **not significant.**

Proposed mitigation is presented in **Table 8-4**.

Table 8-4: Proposed Mitigation Measures for Cumulative Effects

Valued Component	Potential Impact	Proposed Mitigation Measure / Commitment	Proposed Follow Up Measure
Trapping	■ Reduced areas available for trapping activity while introducing additional access through introduction of the Community Access Road ■ Disturbances to project adjacent lands during construction and operations (e.g., from noise)	■ Communicate with trapline holder in advance of, and during construction through multiple efforts such as letters, signage around the future Construction Disturbance Area. ■ Permit travel through the project corridor by the trapper during construction. ■ Same mitigation measures previously outlined for the Trapping Valued Component.	■ Continued engagement with trappers, where contact information is available, to identify concerns and adjust mitigation approaches if required

Figure 8-1: Cumulative Effects Assessment Project Inclusion Map



9. Monitoring Programs and Future Commitments

A monitoring program verifies the accuracy of the effects assessment and evaluates the effectiveness of mitigation measures. Monitoring programs also include future commitments related to mitigating residual effects.

9.1 Pre-Construction Monitoring Program

The owner of the road should be in negotiations with land users for the area that have expressed concerns with impacts associated with socio-economic losses as a result of the Marten Falls Community Access Road. Continued consultation during the Detail Design phase of the Project will be required to address these concerns and comments. Future discussions and engagement with Ontario Parks will be completed during the Detail Design phase to implement a communication to provide ample notice for recreation users in the areas of construction.

9.2 Construction Monitoring Program

The Contract Administrator of this Project should work with the Service Provider and Proponent to provide consultation efforts to communicate with all land users in order to address potential safety concerns for access to the site during construction. Implement monitoring measures as outlined in the air quality, noise, visual, surface water, fish, wildlife, and ungulates technical reports to manage potential impacts related to remote outfitters.

9.3 Operations Monitoring Program

Conduct monitoring measures as outlined in the air quality, noise, visual, surface water, fish, wildlife, and ungulates technical reports to manage impacts related to remote outfitters and recreation (fish and game harvesting) activities.

As identified in the Wildlife Technical Support Document (WSP, 2025), monitoring programs should be established to monitor use of the land once the road is operational with respect to collisions and recreation activities (i.e., boating, fishing and hunting) so that wildlife and fish populations impacts are monitored and noted during maintenance and rehabilitation. A public reporting systems should be developed to report vehicle-wildlife collisions.

Monitoring and surveying of harvested species could also continued to long-term monitoring as public access could also introduce more hunting and fishing pressures from non-Indigenous hunters and anglers as well, therefore this could impact Indigenous land use.

For future land development activities that might be facilitated by the Marten Falls Community Access Road, confirmation that both Marten Falls First Nation and Aroland First Nation are involved in the monitoring process.

9.4 Future Commitments

Table 9-1: Summary of Future Commitments

Valued Component	Commitment	Phase	Section Reference
Extractive Resource Industry	Marten Falls First Nation and Aroland First Nation are included in the monitoring of other future land development activities that might be facilitated by the road.	Operations and Maintenance	Sections 7.2.4 and 7.4
Energy and Linear Infrastructure	Marten Falls First Nation and Aroland First Nation are included in the monitoring of other future land development activities that might be facilitated by the road.	Operations and Maintenance	Sections 7.2.8 and 7.4

9.5 Future Permits and Approvals

To facilitate the construction of the Community Access Road, including construction activities and temporary infrastructure, permits and approvals from provincial, federal government and other jurisdictional agencies will need to be acquired. A preliminary list of permits and approvals anticipated to be applicable or potentially applicable to the Project for Land use and other environmental disciplines are detailed in **Table 9-2**. This list is based on a conceptual level of design, and the final determination of permits and approvals that will be required will occur as the design is further.

Table 9-2: Summary of Potential Permits and Approvals List

Permit / Approval	Issuing Authority	Purpose / Scope	Considerations / Next Steps
Environmental Compliance Approval	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	Required for discharges to air, land, or water	To be confirmed in detail design.
Permit to Take Water	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	Authorizes water withdrawals exceeding 50,000 L/day	Applicable if dewatering or water supply is required, to be determined in detail design.
Mining Rights Withdrawal	Ministry of Energy and Mines	To remove mining claims and exploration of the lands for the preferred route	Application to be submitted by Right-of-Way owner.
Project Evaluation Policy	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	Required for deregulation of Albany River Provincial Park	To be confirmed in detail design.
Crown Land Plan	Ministry of Natural Resources	Required for acquisition and survey of lands for Road ownership	To be confirmed in detail design.
Navigation Protection Plan	Transport Canada	Required to confirm navigability of existing waterbodies	To be confirmed in detail design.

10. Summary and Recommendations

Table 10-1: Potential Effects Summary and Recommendations

Valued Component	Environmental Concern and Potential Effect	Project Phase	Concerned Agencies	Mitigation, Protection, Monitoring, and Study Commitments to be carried forward to Detail Design	Mitigation, Protection, Monitoring, and Study Commitments to be carried forward to Construction / Operation
Land Use Compatibility	■ The preferred route overlaps with approximately 1,257.1 ha of lands identified as Draft Dedicated Protected Area within the Draft Marten Falls First Nation Community Based Land Use Plan. The Plan remains in draft form and continues to be developed. Draft Dedicated Protected Areas have been considered and this information will be identified to Marten Falls First Nation so it can be revised the draft to remove these locations. ■ Constance Lake First Nation currently has a Terms of Reference issued for development of its Community Based Land Use Plan; the Terms of Reference identifies an area of interest (including "Shared planning area #2") that overlaps with the Project Study Area. ■ The Project is not located within any land use designations under the Municipality of Greenstone Official Plan. ■ Crown land management policies could support future construction of this road under the *Public Lands Act* (Crown Land Use Policy Atlas) and *Far North Act* jurisdiction. ■ The Proposed Route must be withdrawn from mining rights. ■ Potential for future development proposals during operations and maintenance phase due to new access provided by the road. ■ No anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups.	■ Construction	■ Ministry of Natural Resources ■ Ministry of Mines ■ Owner of Road	■ Involve Marten Falls First Nation in land and resource use planning activities to manage new development. ■ Engage with Aroland First Nation for additional measures. ■ Where relevant, consider any additional Community Based Land Use Plan planning information that becomes available from Constance Lake First Nation through Community Based Land Use Plan Terms of Reference process.	■ Not applicable
Parks and Protected Areas	■ Direct removal of 5.7 ha of Albany River Provincial Park land, representing 0.006% of the park's total area. ■ Potential noise and air quality effects on park users including canoeing and kayaking activities during construction, with noise levels up to 70 dBA at the bridge crossing in Albany River Provincial Park and 45 dBA at the most eastern end of Ogoki River Provincial Park. ■ Visual impact from new bridge in Albany River Provincial Park. ■ Improved access to Albany River and Ogoki River Provincial Parks, potentially increasing user volumes and changing the wilderness character of these parks. ■ No anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups.	■ Construction ■ Operations and Maintenance	■ Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks ■ Owner of Road	■ Continued consultation between Ontario Parks and the owner of the road to develop an aesthetically pleasing bridge structure and to determine appropriate access or restrictions at the Albany River.	■ Refer to mitigations as outlined in the *Final Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Technical Support Document: Existing Conditions & Effects Assessment.* ■ Limit clearing and use of land within Parks to the minimum necessary for construction; locate temporary work areas outside of parks. ■ Marten Falls First Nation to have further discussions with Ontario Parks regarding the Albany and Ogoki river crossings, access issues, and user impacts as well as identification of requirements for updates to Ogoki and Albany River Provincial Parks Management Statements and / or future Management Plans.
Recreation and Tourism	■ Improved access to remote crown lands and water resources, potentially increasing recreation and tourism opportunities and negative impacts on remote outfitter operations. ■ Potential negative effects on navigation during construction due to bridge construction over watercourses. ■ Changes in environmental conditions (i.e., noise, air quality, viewscapes) affecting recreation and tourism activities. ■ Potential increase in hunting pressure of key species which could affect their populations. Any restrictions on public access for hunting and / or fishing in the local area due to Indigenous community concerns would reduce the recreation benefits of the project. ■ No anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups	■ Construction ■ Operations and Maintenance	■ Ministry of Natural Resources ■ Ministry of Tourism Culture and Gaming	■ Continued consultation with Ministry of Natural Resources and Ministry of Tourism Culture and Gaming to seek feedback related to potential introduction of access. ■ Collaborate on appropriate signage related to messaging on poaching, legal hunting, fishing or potential portage crossing (at Ogoki River).	■ Design and install proper water crossing structures to accommodate flow, drainage, and fish passage. ■ Navigable crossings to be installed in areas identified as navigable. ■ Minimize vegetation clearing to only what is required for construction and staging. ■ Implement progressive reclamation and revegetation of disturbed areas no longer required following construction. ■ Provide signage along the Preferred Route to inform road users about possible interaction with recreation users and wildlife. ■ Assess need for parking control along roadway for safety reasons. ■ A cleared width of 60 m will be maintained, buffer zones of 30 m will be maintained around waterbodies, and vegetation clearing activities will be limited. ■ The Proponent will discuss possible restrictions for hunting in the Project Area with the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Valued Component	Environmental Concern and Potential Effect	Project Phase	Concerned Agencies	Mitigation, Protection, Monitoring, and Study Commitments to be carried forward to Detail Design	Mitigation, Protection, Monitoring, and Study Commitments to be carried forward to Construction / Operation
Extractive Resource Industry	■ 2,234 ha of operational mining claims affected by the road and associated Project components. ■ Improved access to mineral resource areas, facilitating the development of mines and providing economic benefits. ■ There are future beneficial effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups.	■ Construction ■ Operations and Maintenance	■ Ministry of Mines	■ Engage with Wabassi Resources Inc. regarding their exploratory mining lease on lands of aggregate site SG-20.	■ Engage with mining claim holders during the road design stage to minimize impacts on known mineral deposit areas and / or proposed mining activities including exploration activities. ■ Mining companies to be advised of any access needs to the roadway including location of any planned roadway entrances.
Forest Industry	■ Removal of 283 ha of forest within the Ogoki Forest, representing 0.04% of the forest's total area. ■ Potential increase in access to lands northeast of the Ogoki Forest containing merchantable timber stands. ■ No anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups.	■ Construction	■ Ministry of Natural Resources	■ Engage with GreenForest Management Inc. to discuss the Annual Work Schedules as part of the Ogoki Forest Management Plan (2020-2030, and future plans) to learn of future vegetation clearing which could align with future construction as well as potential access through Painter Lake Road required for forestry operations.	■ Should any merchantable timber be felled within the Ogoki Forest Management area for the construction of the Project, the value of the timber will be determined.
Remote Outfitters	■ Six remote tourism outfitter camps were identified within 5 km of the Construction Disturbance Area. ■ Change in remoteness and attractiveness of outfitter camps due to new road access. ■ Potential noise, air quality (construction), and visual impacts on outfitter operations and guest experience. ■ Potential changes in wildlife affecting outfitter activities. ■ No anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups.	■ Construction ■ Operations and Maintenance	■ Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks ■ Ministry of Natural Resources ■ Owner of the Road	■ The owner of the road should continue to consult and negotiate with remote outfitters as Detail Design phase progresses.	■ Engage further with the impacted outfitters / commercial outpost camp owners. ■ Provide at least one year notice to the remote outfitters in advance of construction start. ■ Implement mitigation measures for air quality, noise, visual, surface water, fish, wildlife, and ungulates as outlined in the appropriate technical support documents. ■ The possession and use of firearms will not be permitted for construction personnel. ■ Restrict public access to the Marten Falls Community Access Road corridor during construction. Gate temporary access roads and block and restore as soon as possible after they are no longer needed. Permanent access roads used for maintenance activities will be gated while not in use. ■ Develop and implement an Environmental Protection Plan that includes the following measures to control, and / or restrict public use of access roads during construction and operation: speed limits, gates / manned gates, signage, reduced road standard, felling of timber across temporary access roads after reclaimed, removal of temporary watercourse crossings, reduce traffic by locating camps near construction sites. Posting of restricted access and speed signage will follow the *Construction Specification for Temporary Traffic Control Devices* (Construction Specification for Temporary Traffic Control Devices, 2016). ■ During operations and maintenance, the Marten Falls Community Access Road will be accessible to the public but access roads for aggregate areas and other infrastructure required for maintenance activities will be gated to limit public access. Employees will be prohibited from hunting or carrying firearms while working on the Project maintenance.
Trapping	■ Overlap with seven traplines. ■ Potential disturbance to furbearing species (i.e., wolverine, American marten, beaver) due to noise and human presence. ■ Improved access to 13 identified trapping areas. ■ No anticipated effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups.	■ Construction ■ Operations and Maintenance	■ Ministry of Natural Resources ■ Owner of the Road	■ Continued engagement with trapline holders through communication protocols and development of signage and appropriate posting locations that is determined through the detail design phase (in sequence areas of future road construction).	■ Provide notice to trapline holders about construction timelines and allow access through the Construction Disturbance Area when safe. ■ Permit travel through the Project corridor by trappers during construction with appropriate safety measures. ■ An Environmental Protection Plan will be implemented that includes the following measures to control, and / or restrict public use of access roads during construction and operation: speed limits, gates / manned gates, signage, reduced road standard, berming or felling of timber across temporary access roads after reclaimed, removal of temporary watercourse crossings, reduce traffic by locating camps near construction sites. Posting of restricted access and speed signage will follow the *Construction Specification for Temporary Traffic Control Devices* (Construction Specification for Temporary Traffic Control Devices, 2016); ■ Implement Environmental Protection Plan measures to protect sensitive sites like beaver lodges.
Energy and Linear Infrastructure	■ Marten Falls Community Access Road would promote linear infrastructure parallel to the road corridor. ■ Potential for increased opportunity for new energy facilities and linear infrastructure along the Project's route during operations and maintenance. ■ There are future beneficial effects on Gender-Based Analysis Plus sub-groups.	■ Operations and Maintenance	■ Ministry of Energy ■ Owner of the road	■ Not applicable	■ No specific mitigation recommended, but any potential energy projects must undergo their own Environmental Assessment / Impact Assessment process.

Table 10-2: Cumulative Effect Summary and Recommendations

Valued Component	Environmental Concern and Potential Effect	Project Phase	Concerned Agencies	Mitigation, Protection, Monitoring, and Study Commitments to be carried forward to Detail Design	Mitigation, Protection, Monitoring, and Study Commitments to be carried forward to Construction / Operation
Trapping	■ Reduced areas available for trapping activity. ■ Disturbances to Project adjacent lands during construction and operations (e.g., from noise)	■ Construction ■ Operations and Maintenance	■ Ministry of Natural Resources	■ Not applicable.	■ Communicate with trapline tenure holder in advance of, and during construction. ■ Permit travel through the project corridor by the trapper during construction. ■ Same mitigation measures previously outlined for the Valued Component #7 Trapping.

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Attachment A

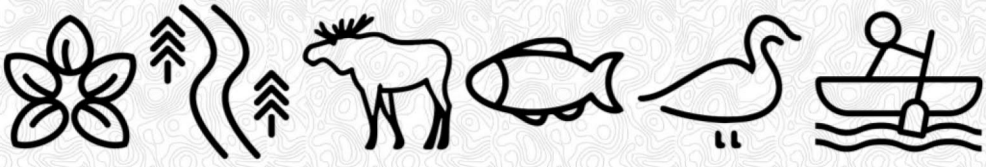
Final Study Plan, Workplan and Regulator Comments

MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION
ALL SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

FINAL

Land and Resource Use Study Plan

May 2021



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Revision History

Rev #	Date	Revision Description
Draft	May 2020	Submitted “Land and Resource Use Study Plan” to the Agency.
Final	May 2021	Revised to address federal and provincial agency comments.

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- must be read as a whole and sections thereof should not be read out of such context;
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AECOM: 2015-04-13

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Appendix A. Preliminary List of Data Sources

Appendix B. Agency Comments on the Draft Study Plan

Acronyms

Agency, the ... Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
CAR ..... Community Access Road
EA..... Environmental Assessment
GBA+..... Gender-Based Analysis Plus
IA ..... Impact Assessment
IAA..... *Impact Assessment Act*
IS ..... Impact Statement
km..... kilometre
LSA..... Local Study Area
MECP ..... Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
MFFN ..... Marten Falls First Nation
PDA ..... Project Development Area
RSA ..... Regional Study Area
SAR ..... Species at Risk
TISG ..... Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines
ToR..... Terms of Reference
VC ..... Valued Component

1. Introduction

The Proponent of the Community Access Road (CAR or the Project) is Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN), a remote First Nation community in northern Ontario located at the junction of the Albany and Ogoki rivers, approximately 430 kilometres (km) from Thunder Bay, Ontario. The MFFN community is proposing an all-season Community Access Road that will connect the MFFN community to Ontario's provincial highway network (Highway 643) to the south via the existing Painter Lake Road. MFFN, as the Proponent of the Project, has formed a MFFN CAR Project Team that includes MFFN CAR Community Member Advisors and MFFN CAR Project Consultants who act with input, guidance and direction from the MFFN Chief and Council.

This document outlines the Study Plan for Land and Resource Use to support a coordinated Impact Assessment (IA) required for Project review by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) under the federal *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA) and Environmental Assessment (EA) required for Project review by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*.

1.1 Federal and Provincial Terminology

The study plans have been prepared using federal terminology, however, the respective provincial terminology has been provided in **Table 1-1** for reference. The terms can be used interchangeably.

Table 1-1: Equivalent Federal and Provincial Terms

Provincial Term	Federal Term
Criteria	Valued Component
Impact Management Measure	Mitigation Measure
Net Effects	Residual Effects
Record of Consultation	Record of Engagement

1.2 Project Study Plans

This Study Plan is one of a group of study plans created for the Project. **Table 1-2** includes the study plans for each environmental[1] discipline currently planned for the Project and the valued components (VCs) covered by the study plans where applicable.

Table 1-2: Project Study Plans and Valued Components

Environmental Discipline	Study Plan Name	Valued Component(s)
Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests	■ Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Study Plan	■ Indigenous Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes ■ Cultural Continuity (ability to practice and transmit cultural traditions
Atmospheric Environment	■ Atmospheric Environment and Greenhouse Gases Study Plan	■ Air Quality ■ Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Climate Change	■ Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Study Plan	■ Climate Change
Acoustic and Vibration Environment	■ Acoustic and Vibration Environment Study Plan	■ Noise ■ Vibration
Physiography, Geology, Terrain and Soils	■ Physiography, Terrain and Soils Study Plan	■ Physiography, Terrain and Soils
Surface Water	■ Surface Water Study Plan	■ Surface Water
Groundwater and Geochemistry	■ Groundwater and Geochemistry Study Plan	■ Groundwater
Vegetation	■ Vegetation Study Plan	■ Wetland and Riparian Ecosystems ■ Upland Ecosystems ■ Designated Areas (Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest, Environmentally Significant Areas, Significant Woodlands, Critical Landform / Vegetation Associations) ■ Traditional Use Plants and SAR Plant Populations (including species with special conservation status or rarity in the province)
	■ Peatlands Study Plan	■ Peatland Ecosystems (bogs and fens)

1. *The use of the term environment in this document is inclusive of the components of the environment that are included in the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act definition, which includes a general description of the social, cultural, built and natural environments.*

Environmental Discipline	Study Plan Name	Valued Component(s)
Wildlife	■ Wildlife Study Plan	■ Bats (including SAR-bats such as: Little Brown Myotis [*Myotis lucifugus*], Northern Myotis [*Myotis septentrionalis*] and Tricolored bat [*Perimyotis subflavus*]) ■ Fur Bearers (proxy VC[2] American Marten [*Martes americana*], Beaver [*Castor canadensis*] and Wolverine [*Gulo gulo*]) ■ Amphibians and Reptiles ■ Pollinating Insects
	■ Ungulates (Moose and Caribou) Study Plan	■ Moose (Alces alces) ■ Caribou, boreal population (*Rangifer tarandus*)
	■ Bird Study Plan	■ Forest Birds (proxy VC of Red-eyed Vireo [Vireo olivaceus] for deciduous forest, Ovenbird [Seirus aurocapilla] for mixedwood forest, Dark-eyed Junco [Junco hyemalis] for coniferous forest and disturbed forest ■ Raptors (proxy VC of Osprey [Pandion haliaetus] for diurnal raptors and Boreal Owl [Aegolius funereus] for nocturnal raptors ■ Shorebirds (proxy VC of Wilson's Snipe [Gallingo delicata]) ■ Waterfowl (proxy VC of Mallard [Anas platyrhynchos]) ■ Bog / Fen Birds and Other Wetland Birds (proxy VC of Palm Warbler [Setophaga palmarum] for bogs, Common Yellowthroat [Geothlypis trichas] for fens; and Northern Waterthrush [Parkesia noveboracensis] for swamps. ■ SAR birds: Canada Warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*), Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*), Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*), Eastern Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferous*), Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*), Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*), Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*), Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus)*, Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus)*, Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*), Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), Black Tern (*Childonias niger*), Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*), Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*)
Fish and Fish Habitat	■ Fish and Fish Habitat Study Plan	■ Lake Sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*) ■ Walleye (*Sander vitreus*) ■ Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) ■ Northern Pike (Esox *lucius*)

[2] *A proxy VC is used when looking at the effects of one species that represents many others.*

Environmental Discipline	Study Plan Name	Valued Component(s)
		■ Lake Whitefish (*Coregonus clupeaformis*) ■ Chain Pickerel (*Esox niger*) ■ Yellow Perch (*Perca flavescens*) ■ Cisco (*Coregonus artedii*) ■ Burbot (*Lota lota*) ■ Longnose Sucker (*Catostomus catostomus*) ■ White Sucker (*Catostomus commersonii*) ■ Forage / Prey Species (including species such as Lake Chub [*Couesius plumbeus*]) ■ Lower Trophic Organisms (e.g., benthic invertebrates)
Social	■ Social Study Plan	■ Housing and Accommodation ■ Community Service and Infrastructure ■ Transportation ■ Community Well-being ■ Populations and Demographics
Economy	■ Economic Study Plan	■ Regional Economy ■ Labour Force and Employment ■ Government Finances
Land and Resource Use	■ Land and Resource Use Study Plan	■ Land Use Compatibility ■ Parks and Protected Areas ■ Recreation and Tourism ■ Extractive Industry ■ Forestry Industry ■ Energy and Linear Infrastructure
Human Health and Community Safety	■ Human Health and Community Safety Study Plan	■ Public Safety ■ Public Health ■ Diet ■ Environmental Factors Influencing Health
Visual Aesthetics	■ Visual Aesthetics Study Plan	■ Visual Contrast / Character ■ Visibility ■ Visual Sensitivity
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage	■ Cultural Heritage Study Plan	■ Archaeological Sites and Resources ■ Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes

It should be noted that while there is not a consultation study plan, the Project has developed the *Consultation and Engagement Plan to Support the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement* (AECOM 2020) (referred to as the Impact Statement [IS] / EA Consultation Plan).

2. Purpose and Objectives

The key objectives of conducting an IA / EA are to describe the existing environment, gather sufficient information to predict Project-related effects (positive and negative, direct and indirect) of the Project and alternatives on the environment, determine measures needed to avoid or minimize adverse Project effects, and enhance beneficial Project effects where feasible, and undertake consultation and engagement throughout. The purpose of this Study Plan is to explain:

- A baseline[3] study methodology that will result in a comprehensive description of the existing environment potentially impacted by the Project;
- How efficient and transparent data management and analysis will be undertaken;
- Effects assessment scoping inputs specific to Land and Resource Use that will allow for potential effects of the Project on the existing environment to be appropriately assessed in the IS / EA Report; and
- How the Study Plan aligns with federal and provincial requirements and guidance, including the Agency's Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines (TISG), dated February 24, 2020 (the Agency 2020c), for this Project and applicable provincial agency comments on the Draft Terms of Reference (ToR)[4].

As required by the IAA and referenced in TISG Section 7.3, work plans will also be developed for disciplines as required. It is anticipated the work plans will include further details on how to action the study plans; for example they would contain a schedule for the key work tasks. The Land Use and Resource Use Assessment will consider how land use and resource use may be affected by the Project. This includes an examination of compatibility with land use designations and changes to Parks and Protected Areas, Recreation and Tourism, the Extractive Industry, the Forestry Industry, and Energy and Linear Infrastructure.

Related items not included in this Study Plan are covered under separate study plans, including the Economic Study Plan. Items not included explicitly within this study plan may be referenced and considered in the assessment of effects to relevant components of the Land and Resource Use environment such as overall economic impact of the Project, in particular, how changes in the regional economy may influence land use.

3. *Baseline refers to the current conditions of the environment potentially impacted by the Project. Baseline conditions serve as a reference against which changes due the Project are measured.*
4. *If necessary, the Study Plan will be updated to reflect the approved ToR if approval is obtained.*

Further, the Land and Resource Use Study Plan is focused on use of land and resources for Indigenous non-traditional purposes and non-Indigenous uses of the land. A separate study plan has been prepared regarding the Indigenous use of land and resources for traditional purposes (Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Study Plan). A separate report will be prepared that documents the results of the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Assessment. Information from that assessment / report will be considered as appropriate in this assessment as well.

In conducting the Land and Resource Use Assessment, information from the following other disciplines[5] will be considered:

- **Air Quality –** The extent of potential changes to air quality will be one factor used to define the study area for provincial parks and protected areas, and recreation and tourism. In addition, changes to air quality will be considered in changes to environmental conditions within provincial parks (e.g., Albany River Provincial Park) and protected areas, and recreation and tourism. It is important to note that there are no National Parks in the identified study areas.
- **Noise –** The extent of potential changes to noise will be one factor used to define the study area for provincial parks and protected areas, and recreation and tourism. In addition, changes to noise will be considered in changes to environmental conditions within provincial parks and protected areas, and recreation and tourism.
- **Surface Water –** The extent of potential changes to surface water will be one factor used to define the study area for provincial parks and protected areas, and recreation and tourism. In addition, changes to surface water will be considered in changes to environmental conditions within provincial parks and protected areas, and recreation and tourism.
- **Vegetation –** The extent of potential changes to vegetation, including wetlands, will be one factor used to define the study area for provincial parks and protected areas, and recreation and tourism. In addition, changes to vegetation and wetlands will be considered in changes to environmental conditions within provincial parks and protected areas, and recreation and tourism.
- **Fish and Fish Habitat –** The extent of potential changes to fish and fish habitat will be one factor used to define the study area for provincial parks and protected areas, and recreation and tourism. In addition, changes to fish and fish habitat will be considered in changes to environmental conditions within provincial parks and protected areas, and recreation and tourism.

5. *It is expected each discipline will produce their own technical report supporting the assessment of key factors within that area.*

- **Wildlife –** The extent of potential changes to wildlife will be one factor used to define the study area for provincial parks and protected areas, and recreation and tourism. In addition, changes to wildlife will be considered in changes to environmental conditions within provincial parks and protected areas, and recreation and tourism.
- **Visual Aesthetics –** Changes to the visual aesthetics of the environment will be considered in changes to environmental conditions within provincial parks and protected areas, and recreation and tourism.

Other relevant disciplines may also be considered depending on the nature of the information received including the Social, Economic, and Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Assessments. Further, information relevant to the Land and Resource Use Assessment may be collected through general engagement and consultation activities and the Indigenous Knowledge Program.

For the purposes of establishing appropriate context, the Study Plan begins with background and relevant information on:

- Study Plan related discussions with the Agency, the MECP and applicable agencies to date (**Section 3**);
- The approach to Project consultation and engagement (**Section 4**);
- How Indigenous Knowledge will be collected and used in the IA / EA (**Section 5**); and
- The spatial and temporal boundaries that will be used for the IA / EA (**Section 6**).

2.1 Approach to Handling Confidential Information

2.1.1 Indigenous Knowledge

Available and applicable Indigenous Knowledge will be considered in the assessment of Land Use and Resource Use impacts. Permission from the Indigenous community will be sought before including Indigenous Knowledge in the IS / EA Report, regardless of the source of the Indigenous Knowledge. Sensitive and / or confidential information will be specifically collected through the Indigenous Knowledge Program to inform the IS / EA Report and its use and publication will be governed by Indigenous community-specific Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreements. Sensitive and / or confidential information collected through Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreements will be protected from public or third-party disclosure and will be established between the Proponent and Indigenous communities participating in the

Indigenous Knowledge Program prior to the sharing and use of any sensitive information. Instances where Indigenous Knowledge sharing has taken place during consultation activities (e.g., meetings) will be recorded in the Record of Consultation and Engagement, including where Indigenous Knowledge was incorporated into Project decisions and into the IS / EA Report (i.e., specifics will not be included in the Record of Consultation and Engagement given the potential sensitivity and / or confidentiality of the information shared).

2.1.2 Land and Resource Use Primary Data

Collected primary land and resource use data that is considered to be confidential will not be documented in the IS / EA Report. The content and findings obtained that are not considered as confidential will be included in baseline documentation irrespective of source (Indigenous or non-Indigenous knowledge holder). Information obtained through other primary data programs (such as Indigenous Knowledge) will adhere to the confidentiality provisions of the respective data sharing agreements that have been established.

Land and resource use primary data will be presented in a generic manner and referenced appropriately. It is anticipated that confidential primary data will relate to individuals rather than groups. Confidentiality will be granted upon request to those individuals and information related to the individual, including information which may support Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+), will be redacted from the Land and Resource Use Assessment report.

3. Study Plan Technical Discussions

To facilitate the development of satisfactory study plans and eventually a satisfactory IS / EA Report, MFFN previously submitted draft study plans in an effort to hold technical discussions with the Agency, the MECP and applicable agencies. A summary of technical discussions and correspondence held to date on this Study Plan has been provided in **Table 3-1**.

Table 3-1: Summary of Study Plan Technical Discussions

Attendees / Responsible Party	Correspondence	Discussion Point	Solution
■ **The Agency**	■ Preliminary comments received following submission and review of draft Study Plan.	■ **05-August-20:** Comments and clarification questions received, including editorial comments, additional information requirements regarding Study Plan, and clarification requests related to study areas, data collection, assessment, criteria and indicators, and concordance with federal and provincial requirements.	■ Additional details and clarification provided within this Study Plan and responses to these comments are in **Appendix B.**
■ **The Agency** ■ **MECP** ■ **Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines** ■ **MFFN CAR Project Team**	■ Technical discussion of comments received following agency review of draft Study Plan.	■ **07-October-2020:** Discussion on the role of the general consultation and engagement program to confirm the interests of Indigenous communities and other persons in economic impacts and subsequent target information gathering sessions.	■ Additional details and clarification on the consultation and engagement program are provided in **Section 4** of the Study Plan.
		■ **07-October-2020:** Discussion on data validation. The Agency indicated that it is not necessary to validate raw data with Chiefs and Councils, rather, community leadership can review / validate data that is to be documented in the IS / EA Report and supporting reports to ensure accurate representation.	■ This approach to data verification will be followed. See **Section 8.**

4. IS / EA Report Consultation and Engagement Process

4.1 Interested Persons and Government Agencies

The Proponent will provide Project notices and advise of opportunities for consultation and engagement with interested persons[6] which includes, at a minimum, members of the public outlined in the *Public Participation Plan for the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project Impact Assessment* (the Agency 2020) (referred to as the Public Participation Plan). This will include the opportunity to provide input on the existing environment, VCs, effects assessment methods, effects assessment results, and mitigation and follow-up program measures as applicable. A variety of activities will be offered so that members of the public are informed of the IS / EA Report as it progresses and are aware of the opportunities and means to provide their input. The study plans have recognized public and agency input received on the Project to date. Government agencies and interested persons will have the opportunity to comment on components of the study plans throughout the IS / EA Report consultation and engagement process. The Project's approach to handling confidential and sensitive information is outlined in **Section 2.1**.

4.2 Indigenous Communities

The Proponent will provide Project notices and opportunities for consultation and engagement with Indigenous communities identified in **Table 4-1**, which is inclusive of all Indigenous communities identified in the *Indigenous Partnership and Engagement Plan for the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project Impact Assessment* (the Agency 2020a) (referred to as the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan). Indigenous communities will be provided the opportunity to be involved at critical decision-making points throughout the IS / EA Report so that the Proponent can consider and incorporate, where appropriate, Indigenous Knowledge and Indigenous land and resource use information into the Project as it pertains to the existing environment, VCs, effects assessment methods, effects assessment results, and mitigation and follow-up program measures. A variety of activities will be offered so that Indigenous communities are informed of the IS / EA Report as it progresses and are aware of the opportunities, means and timelines to

6. *Interested persons, as defined in the IS / EA Consultation Plan, are individuals and groups (e.g., associations, non-governmental organizations, industry and academia) who could have an interest in the Project, including but not limited to communities in the region, those with commercial interests (e.g., forestry, trappers, outfitters, other mineral tenure holders in the area) and recreational users or those with recreational interest (e.g., campers, hunters and environmental groups).*

provide their input. The study plans have recognized Indigenous community input received on the Project to date. Indigenous communities will have the opportunity to comment on components of the study plans throughout the IS / EA Report consultation and engagement process.

Table 4-1: Identified Neighbouring Indigenous Communities, Including their Provincial Territorial Organizations and / or Tribal Council Affiliations

Tribal Council Affiliation	Indigenous Community or Organization
Matawa First Nations Management *(Nishnawbe Aski Nation)*	■ Marten Falls First Nation (Proponent and potentially affected Indigenous community) ■ Aroland First Nation ■ Constance Lake First Nation ■ Eabametoong First Nation ■ Ginoogaming First Nation ■ Neskantaga First Nation ■ Nibinamik First Nation ■ Webequie First Nation
Matawa First Nations Management and the Union of Ontario Indians / Nishnawbe Aski Nation	■ Long Lake #58 First Nation**
Mushkegowuk Council *(Nishnawbe Aski Nation)*	■ Attawapiskat First Nation ■ Fort Albany First Nation ■ Kashechewan First Nation
Shibogama First Nations Council *(Nishnawbe Aski Nation)*	■ Kasabonika Lake First Nation ■ Kingfisher Lake First Nation ■ Wapekeka First Nation ■ Wawakapewin First Nation ■ Wunnumin Lake First Nation
Independent First Nations Alliance *(Nishnawbe Aski Nation)*	■ Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation
Independent First Nations (Nishnawbe Aski Nation)	■ Mishkeegogamang First Nation ■ Weenusk First Nation
Nokiiwin Tribal Council	■ Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nation*
Métis Nation of Ontario	■ Métis Nation of Ontario; Region 2*
Independent Métis Nation	■ Red Sky Independent Métis Nation*

*Notes: * Indigenous communities or organizations identified by the MECP who should be consulted on the basis that they may be interested in the Community Access Road.*
*** The MECP indicated in a letter to MFFN that Long Lake #58 First Nation was moved from interest-based to rights-based.*

4.3 Consideration of Identity and Gender-Based Analysis Plus in Engagement

To fulfill requirements of the IAA, the Consultation and Engagement Program will consider a diverse range of perspectives from interested persons and interested Indigenous communities and their members identified in the Agency's Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan and the Public Participation Plan. This will include at a minimum providing ongoing opportunities for engagement to:

- **Neighbouring Indigenous communities, including relevant subpopulations:**
  - Women;
  - Youth; and
  - Elders.
- **Non-Indigenous communities including:**
  - Women;
  - Youth; and
  - Activity-based subgroups (e.g., recreationalists, snowmobilers, tourism establishment operators).

The Proponent will also consult and engage with other subpopulations identified by communities during consultation and engagement.

The Land and Resource Use Study Plan focuses on features of the environment such as parks, harvesting jurisdictions, trails, access points and industry tenure rights. As these features are agender and non-human, GBA+ principles will be integrated into the Land and Resource Use Assessment when information on land user groups is available, including demographics of typical users. The interviews undertaken as part of the Social and Economic disciplines primary data collection program will be a key information source in gathering applicable data (e.g., related to recreation and tourism) supporting GBA+ for Land and Resource Use. The information from these activities and any additional identity groups identified by communities through consultation and engagement will be considered for the purposes of considering disproportionate effects.

During consultation and engagement, these aforementioned groups will be consulted and engaged with on targeted input**.** Specialized knowledge will be gathered through other disciplines such as Social, Economic and Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests. The Social and Economic disciplines primary data collection programs are expected to include targeted interviews, focus groups, questionnaires and other niche tools to

gather information from diverse populations to resolve gaps in social and economic secondary data. These diverse populations include the aforementioned identity groups, which are also referenced in the IS / EA Consultation Plan and those identified by communities during consultation and engagement. The importance of soliciting inputs and perspectives from diverse subgroups has also been factored into the Indigenous Knowledge Program and associated materials (see **Section 5**).

When feedback is received from interested persons and Indigenous communities, issues, comments and questions will be tracked consistent with the process described in the IS / EA Consultation Plan. Specific to GBA+ objectives, this will include efforts to engage with diverse populations. It is expected this will include activities specific to subgroups and tabulation of consultation and engagement participation with respect to identity factors. This will provide summary statistics to demonstrate the diversity achieved in consultation and engagement.

4.4 Consultation on Land and Resource Use Concerns and Impacts

As part of the IS / EA Consultation activities and Indigenous Knowledge collection program, Indigenous communities identified in Table 4.1 will be contacted to determine their level of interest in the Project and their concerns related to the potential land and resource use impacts (as related to non-traditional use of land). Indigenous communities that identify specific land and resource use concerns may be contacted for land and resource use primary data collection. In addition, interested persons identified through the general engagement program and listed in the Public Participation Plan will also be engaged on potential concerns and impacts related to land and resource use. **Section 7.2** provides additional details on the targeted Land and Resource Use Assessment data collection approach.

5. Consideration of Indigenous Knowledge in the IS / EA Report

The following provides a general description of how Indigenous Knowledge will be considered in the IA / EA process. The extent to which Indigenous Knowledge is considered by each specific VC will vary depending on the nature of the VC, the potential for Project effects on the VC and whether Indigenous Knowledge that relates to a VC is provided / obtained. As such, not all aspects of the general approach described below may apply to all VCs / study plans.

There are two concurrent and complementary avenues for Indigenous communities and groups to be engaged with and provide input on the Project: the Indigenous Knowledge Program and the Consultation and Engagement Program. Both programs serve to support the collection of Indigenous perspectives, values, and input on the Project, including Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and how they may be impacted by the Project, to be integrated throughout the IA / EA process. However, the Indigenous Knowledge Program specifically aims to solicit and incorporate information that is considered sensitive and may have confidentiality requirements, including Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use. Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreements will be established between the Proponent and Indigenous communities participating in the Indigenous Knowledge Program prior to the sharing and use of any sensitive information.

All Indigenous communities and groups identified by the MECP and the Agency through the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan have the opportunity to participate in the Indigenous Knowledge Program. The Indigenous Knowledge Program provides interested Indigenous communities an opportunity to: share existing Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values that may be relevant to the Project, and / or complete Project-specific studies to collect and share Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values. The Indigenous Knowledge Program includes opportunities for Indigenous communities and groups to meet with the Proponent to discuss the program, ask questions and share concerns and interests. In support of this, the Proponent has created an Indigenous Knowledge Program Guidance Document (the Guidance Document) that provides:

- An overview of the Indigenous Knowledge Program and information on how Indigenous Knowledge, Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values and practices can be collected and / or shared;

- Information on how Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values and practices may be used in the planning and design processes; and
- A suite of guidance materials that were developed based on the information requirements of both the federal and provincial assessment processes, including: question guides to support the collection of information on historical and current community context; Indigenous Knowledge that may be relevant to the various technical disciplines; information on Indigenous land and resource use, cultural values and practices and associated spatial data; and perspective on potential Project-related effects and associated mitigation and / or enhancement measures.

The Guidance Document will also support participating Indigenous communities in providing Project-specific information in a manner that facilitates meaningful incorporation into the IS / EA Report.

The IS / EA Consultation Plan outlines the process for obtaining information and feedback about the Project from Indigenous communities (i.e., the Consultation and Engagement Program). All Indigenous communities identified by the MECP and the Agency have the opportunity to participate in the Consultation and Engagement Program through community-specific meetings, Public Information Centres, web conferences and other formats. All Indigenous communities identified by the MECP and the Agency will be provided information related to the Project and invited to participate at various points throughout the IA / EA process.

There are also opportunities for technical teams to engage with Indigenous communities to solicit perspectives and information relevant to the Project, including information related to collection of existing information and the development of the IS / EA Report. The Proponent also invites feedback and inputs throughout the Project via the Project website and ongoing communications with the Proponent.

The Indigenous Knowledge and Consultation and Engagement programs are designed to be complementary and provide multiple opportunities for communities to offer feedback and information, including perspectives on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and interests and how these may be impacted by the proposed Project. Relevant information collected through both the Indigenous Knowledge and Consultation and Engagement programs, including potential effect pathways on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and interests, will be shared with each of the relevant disciplines throughout the IA / EA to: guide and inform VCs; support characterization of the existing environment; identify the potential effects of the Project on VCs; help identify mitigation measures and potential monitoring programs; and ultimately guide Project planning. The nature of how the Indigenous Knowledge becomes integrated into the IS / EA Report will be dictated by the specific information provided by each Indigenous community and the parameters set out in

the Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreements. A description of how Indigenous Knowledge was considered in the IA / EA and in each of the technical discipline areas will be included in the IS / EA Report.

It is also important to note that information collected through the various activities (e.g., field studies and programs, effects assessments) of each discipline area (e.g., wildlife, vegetation, cultural heritage) will be shared with the Indigenous Knowledge Program leads. This will support the establishment of the existing environment and the effects assessment for the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests environmental discipline, as well as the identification of potential mitigation measures and monitoring programs, given the interrelated nature of Indigenous peoples and other environmental disciplines.

The Proponent will strive to respectfully collaborate with Indigenous communities on how Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values will become part of the IS / EA Report and how potential effects to Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and interests will be assessed. It is expected that measures to support this may include but are not limited to: engaging Indigenous communities to solicit information on Indigenous Knowledge and Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values to inform baseline conditions, providing Indigenous communities with draft sections of the IS / EA Report to illustrate how Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values has been integrated and to confirm it has been presented appropriately, and completing collaborative working sessions with Indigenous communities for the effects assessment on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests. Further information on how potential effects on Indigenous rights will be assessed is provided in the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Study Plan.

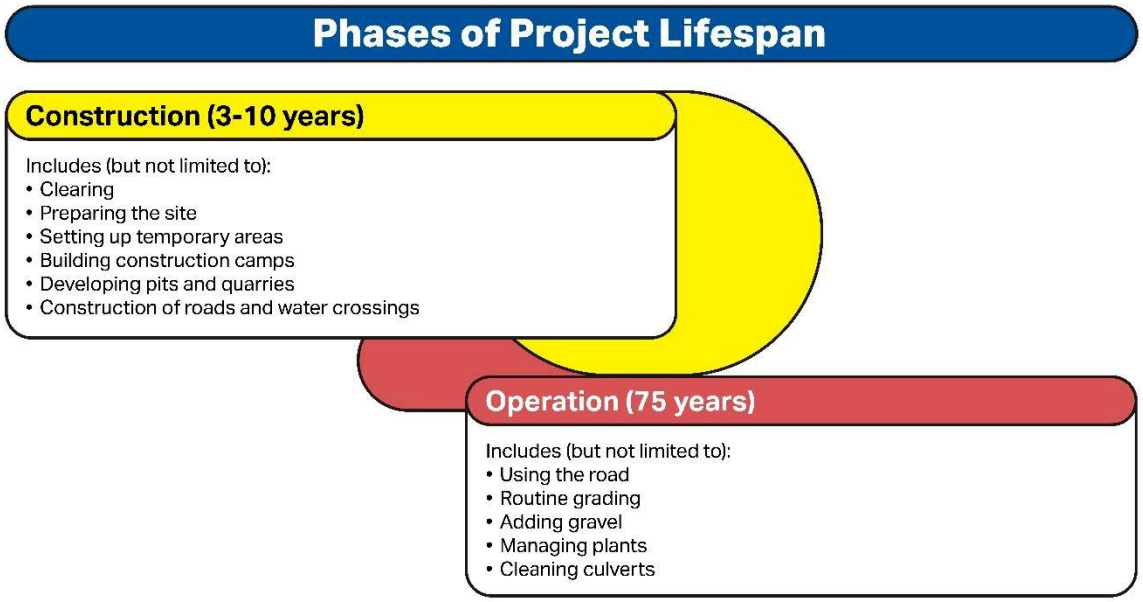
6. Assessment Boundaries

6.1 Temporal Boundaries: Project Phases

Project phases, which are temporal boundaries, are developed to establish the timeframes within which potential effects of the Project will be considered in the IS / EA Report. The Project is planned to occur in two phases, which are briefly described below and shown in **Figure 6-1**.

- **Construction Phase:**
  The time from start of construction, including site preparation activities, to the start of operations and maintenance of the CAR. Decommissioning of construction works is included in the construction phase. The construction phase is anticipated to take approximately 3 to 10 years to complete.
- **Operations and Maintenance Phase:**
  The operations and maintenance phase starts once construction activities are complete and lasts for the life of the Project. The operations and maintenance phase of the Project is considered to be 75 years based on the expected timeline for when major refurbishment of road components (e.g., bridges), is anticipated.

Figure 6-1: Project Schedule



There are currently no plans to decommission the CAR as there is no expected / known end date for its need. Therefore, future suspension, decommissioning and eventual abandonment of the CAR will not be considered in the IS / EA Report. It will be considered if and when a decommissioning or abandonment application is made for the road.

In determining the temporal boundaries, in particular the long operations and maintenance phase, consideration was given to the long-term effects on the well-being of present and future generations (Sustainability Principle #2[7]). The final temporal boundaries to be used in the IS / EA Report will be based on regulatory agency guidance, professional judgement and input received through the Project consultation process.

6.2 Spatial Boundaries: Study Areas

6.2.1 General Information

Study areas identify the geographic extents within which potential effects of the Project are likely to occur and will be considered in the IS / EA Report. The existing conditions and potential effects are documented for three study areas selected for the Project:

- **Project Development Area (PDA):** area of direct disturbance;
- **Local Study Area (LSA):** the area where most of the direct effects of the Project are likely to occur; and
- **Regional Study Area (RSA):** the area where indirect effects of the Project are likely to occur.

Project Development Area

The PDA encompasses the 100 metre wide CAR right-of-way (ROW), temporary construction access roads, work areas, worker camps, and pits, quarries and associated access roads. The preliminary LSA currently being considered within the scope of the ongoing provincial regulatory review process generally includes the area within 2.5 km of the centreline of Alternative 1 and Alternative 4. The preliminary study area generally allows for the documentation of existing conditions and prediction of potential environmental effects for the Project. A 5 km wide study area also allows for route refinements during development of Project design (e.g., adjustment of the alignment to avoid sensitive features).

The specific location of Project components, including the roadway, quarries, pits and temporary infrastructure, are not yet known and will be included in the IS / EA Report. While most of the Project

7. *Sustainability Principles #2 is one of four sustainability principles included in Section 25 of the Project's TISG as further elaborated on Section 9.7.*

components are expected to be located within the preliminary 5 km wide study area, benefits (e.g., reduced environmental disturbance, avoidance of sensitive features, technical considerations, concerns received through consultation) for locating Project components on lands outside of the 5 km wide study area may become known during the IA / EA process. If the need to locate Project components outside the 5 km wide study area is determined to be required or of benefit to the Project, the study area would be adjusted.

Local Study Area and Regional Study Area

The study area for each environmental discipline may vary from the above-described general study area based on the potential for the Project to directly or indirectly affect each environmental discipline; therefore, discipline-specific LSAs and RSAs have been defined for the Project. In defining the final Land and Resource Use LSAs and RSAs, the MFFN CAR Project Team has and will consider the following, subject to available information:

- Location and other characteristics of the environmental discipline relative to the Project;
- The anticipated extent of the potential Project effects;
- Federal, provincial, regional and local government administrative boundaries;
- Indigenous groups listed in **Table 4-1**;
- Community knowledge and Indigenous Knowledge;
- Current or traditional land and resource use by Indigenous communities;
- Exercise of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of Indigenous peoples, including cultural and spiritual practices;
- Physical, ecological, technical, social, health, economic and cultural considerations; and
- Environmental study areas for physical and bio-physical factors that impact the use of the land.

The study areas included in this document are preliminary, covering the extent to which readily available information suggests the Project may have noticeable effects on the environment. The size, nature and location of past, present and reasonably foreseeable projects will be taken into consideration in the development of the cumulative effects assessment study area(s). The appropriate study area(s) to assess cumulative effects are dependent on the VCs predicted to have direct residual adverse effects as a result of the Project, and therefore, cannot be defined until the IS / EA Report has sufficiently advanced.

As further detailed in **Section 4**, the Proponent will continue to provide opportunities for neighbouring Indigenous communities and interested persons to provide input and inform the effects assessment, including the LSAs and RSAs.

6.2.2 Land and Resource Use Study Areas

The proposed Land and Resource Use LSA and RSA boundaries are detailed in **Table 6-1** and shown on **Figure 6-2**.

As currently defined, the Land and Resource Use study areas are intended to capture potential changes to natural environment, health, social and economic conditions that could directly or indirectly impact land and resource use considerations. It is noted that the extent of effects considered are varied and based on the type of land use. For example, industrial operators are not likely to be influenced by changing environmental conditions, while recreation and tourism experiences can be influenced by these conditions.

Projected changes to the environmental, health, social and economic conditions may alter study area boundaries and could result in corresponding non-negligible land and resource use impacts.

Indigenous communities and interested persons will be consulted on their interest, concern and perceptions regarding the potential for land and resource use impacts. Further, the Proponent remains open to receiving information from communities on their activities within the PDA and how interlinkages between the Project and those communities may result in land and resource use effects.

If there is rationale to alter study areas, the extents of the applicable study areas will be revised accordingly (i.e., if additional information is provided that warrants a community or land user groups inclusion in one of the Land and Resource Use LSAs, the specific Land and Resource Use LSA may be adjusted). Alternatively, if requested, a community may be removed from the study area should the Project effects not be relevant to the community.

Study Areas and Effects Assessment

Considering the above description of study areas, a pathway analysis of potential land and resource use impacts will be completed. Land and Resource Use effects can be defined as changes to the indicators (**Section 9.2**) that can reasonably be expected to potentially exceed a negligible magnitude (**Section 9.6**). A negligible effect can be defined as an effect that may or may not be discernable but is within the expected natural variability of a community or land user group as defined by baseline conditions.

The Land and Resource Use RSAs will be the primary focus of cumulative effects. Considerations related to future mining activity or access to potential mining opportunities beyond the Extractive Industry LSA will be reflected in the Extractive Industry RSA.

Table 6-1: Land and Resource Use Study Areas

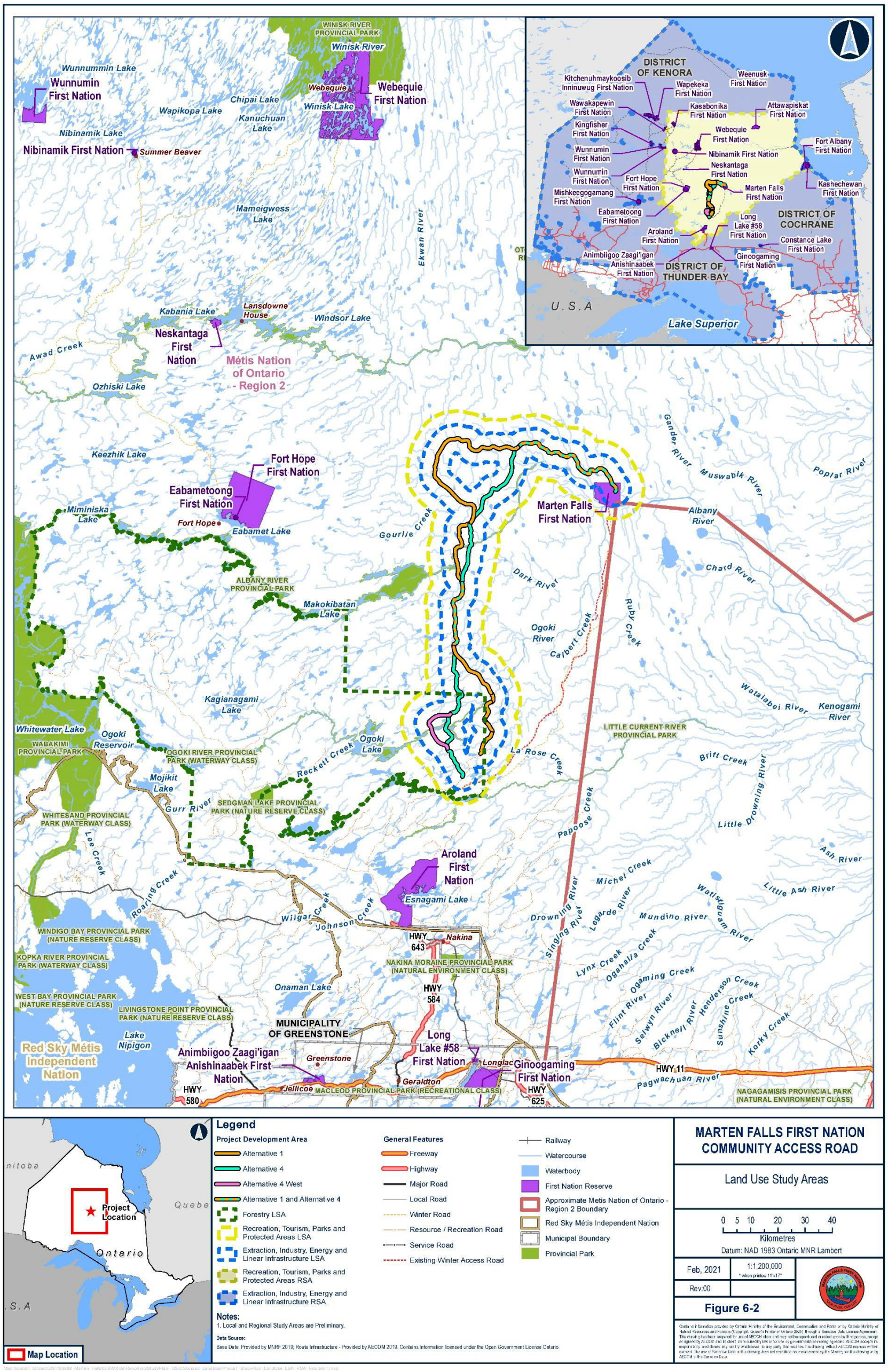
Valued Component	Study Area	Geographic Extent	Rationale
Land Use Compatibility	PDA	■ The extent of the PDA.	■ Land use designations are only anticipated to be affected in cases where the direct Project footprint does not conform to the current land use designation. Therefore, there are no applicable LSA and RSAs for the land use compatibility VC.
Parks and Protected Areas	LSA	■ The maximum boundary of the Atmospheric Environment, Acoustic and Vibration Environment, Surface Water, Vegetation, Fish and Fish Habitat and Wildlife LSAs.	■ The Project may affect the natural, cultural and recreational features within provincial parks and protected areas. This includes the extent to which physical and biophysical components of the environment may be affected.
	RSA	■ The maximum boundary of the Atmospheric Environment, Acoustic and Vibration Environment, Surface Water, Vegetation, Fish and Fish Habitat and Wildlife RSAs.	
Recreation and Tourism	LSA	■ The maximum boundary of the Atmospheric Environment, Acoustic and Vibration Environment, Surface Water, Vegetation, Fish and Fish Habitat and Wildlife LSAs.	■ The Project may alter recreation and tourism opportunities including access and use of land. Changes to the environmental conditions in the Project area may also impact other land uses near the Project site.
	RSA	■ The maximum boundary of the Atmospheric Environment, Acoustic and Vibration Environment, Surface Water, Vegetation, Fish and Fish Habitat and Wildlife RSAs.	
Extraction Industry	LSA	■ Includes the PDA and a 5 km buffer from the PDA boundary.	■ The Project may alter the land available and access to lands for extractive purposes.
	RSA	■ The Economic RSA with the exception of the Province of Ontario, which includes the unorganized regional districts of: – Cochrane, including the following Indigenous communities: • Constance Lake First Nation • Fort Albany First Nation – Kenora, including the following Indigenous communities: • Attawapiskat First Nation • Eabametoong First Nation • Kasabonika First Nation	■ The area capturing the regional context for extractive developments including cumulative effects to the sector.

Valued Component	Study Area	Geographic Extent	Rationale
		• Kashechewan First Nation • Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug • Kingfisher Lake Fist Nation • MFFN • Mishkeegogamang First Nation • Neskantaga First Nation • Nibinamik First Nation • Wapekeka First Nation • Wawakapewin First Nation • Webequie First Nation • Weenusk First Nation • Wunnumin Lake First Nation – Thunder Bay, including the following Indigenous communities: • Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nation • Aroland First Nation • Ginoogaming First Nation • Long Lake #58 First Nation • Red Sky Independent Métis Nation • Métis Nation of Ontario, Region 2	
Forestry Industry	LSA RSA	■ Considers any Forestry Management Unit transected by the PDA or Forestry Management Unit intersected by a Caribou range transected by the Project.	■ The Project may alter the land available and access to lands for forestry purposes. The study area will also inform the cumulative context for forestry resource development and availability including access influencing forestry area activities.
Energy and Linear Infrastructure	LSA	■ Includes the PDA and a 5 km buffer from the PDA boundary.	■ The Project may alter the land available and access to lands for energy and linear infrastructure purposes.
	RSA	■ The Economic RSA with the exception of the Province of Ontario, which includes the unorganized regional districts of: – Cochrane, including the following Indigenous communities: • Constance Lake First Nation • Fort Albany First Nation	■ The area capturing the regional context for energy and linear infrastructure developments including cumulative effects to the sector.

Valued Component	Study Area	Geographic Extent	Rationale
		– Kenora, including the following Indigenous communities: • Attawapiskat First Nation • Eabametoong First Nation • Kasabonika First Nation • Kashechewan First Nation • Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug • Kingfisher Lake Fist Nation • MFFN • Mishkeegogamang First Nation • Neskantaga First Nation • Nibinamik First Nation • Wapekeka First Nation • Wawakapewin First Nation • Webequie First Nation • Weenusk First Nation • Wunnumin Lake First Nation – Thunder Bay, including the following Indigenous communities: • Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nation • Aroland First Nation • Ginoogaming First Nation • Long Lake #58 First Nation • Red Sky Independent Métis Nation • Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO), Region 2	

*Notes: The Extraction Industry RSA and the Energy and Linear Infrastructure RSA is inclusive of all Indigenous communities identified in **Table 4-1**.*

Figure 6-2: Land and Resource Use Local and Regional Study Areas



7. Baseline Study Design

7.1 Desktop Assessment

A desktop review of existing information sources will be completed to identify information gaps that will need to be addressed through further study possibly including primary data collection activities. A preliminary list of applicable information sources has been included in **Appendix A** and reflects federal and provincial guidance received to date. This Study Plan focuses on the additional studies that are anticipated to be required to gather information beyond what is currently available through existing information sources, including those as described in **Section 7.2** 'Sources of baseline information' in the Agency's TISG for this Project.

7.2 Baseline Data Collection

Data collected for the Land and Resource Use Assessment will be used to inform the impact assessment. Overall, data collection will be completed in support of the following objectives:

- Provide an understanding of the current state of each VC including relevant trends;
- Describe Land and Resource Use conditions including information relevant to identity, as applicable and as volunteered during the primary data program;
- Define access and ownership of land tenures including those for forestry, biophysical resource harvesting, mining and aggregate; and,
- Provide relevant historical background on Land and Resource Use for the applicable study area.

As previously noted, the Land and Resource Use Study Plan focuses on features of the environment such as parks, harvesting jurisdictions, trails, access points and industry tenure rights. As these features are agender and non-human, GBA+ principles will be integrated into the Land and Resource Use Assessment when information on land user groups is available, including demographics of typical users. Where applicable, efforts will be made to consider identity in reporting Land and Resource Use data. This may include defining gendered access and control for public entities.

These objectives will be reflected in the data collection processes and which data are included in the IS / EA Report. The purpose of the data collection will be to assess the impacts of the Project on Land and Resource Use and define mitigation measures which improve the Project and its impacts on Land and Resource Use.

The Land and Resource Use Assessment will examine Indigenous land use for non-traditional purposes, as it is anticipated that Indigenous communities will be the major land users in the study area. Indigenous communities identified in the **Table 4-1** may be engaged for the purposes of data collection related to Indigenous land use for non-traditional purposes. If required, the following potentially impacted groups and stakeholders identified in the Public Participation Plan may be engaged for the purposes of Land and Resource Use data collection:

- Canada Chrome Corporation;
- Greenstone District Trappers Council;
- KWG Resources Inc.;
- Leuenberger Air Service;
- Noront Resources Ltd.;
- Northern Ontario Tourist Outfitters;
- Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters;
- Ontario Forest Industries Association;
- Wabassi Resources; and
- Wilderness North.

The following sections detail secondary and primary Land and Resource Use data collection methods.

7.2.1 Secondary Data Collection

Secondary source data will be collected on relevant Land and Resource Use activities within the Project area. The information will be collected for the purposes of assessing the effects of the Project on Land and Resource Use. The secondary data will be collected from (including example sources):

- Spatial databases
  - CANVEC, LIO
- Municipal, provincial and Indigenous government websites;
  - Provincial websites such as Ontario Parks and Protected Areas (Government of Ontario 2020);
- Municipal plans and reports;
  - Municipal plans such as Official Plans for Beardmore, Geraldton, Longlac and Nakina (Municipality of Greenstone n.d.);

- Provincial plans and reports;
  - Provincial plans such as the Provincial Policy Statement 2020 (Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing 2020);
- Local service providers;
  - Local service providers such as those listed in Greenstone Resorts, Outfitters & Charters (Municipality of Greenstone 2014);
- Regional reports;
  - Regional Reports such as Remoteness Sells: A Report on Resource-Based Tourism in Northwestern Ontario (CPAWS Wildlands League & Ontario Nature 2005);
- Industry reports;
  - Industry reports such as North American Hunters in Northern Ontario (Research Resolution and Consulting Ltd. 2014);
- Academic research;
  - Academic research such as journal articles, dissertations and other relevant academic publications.
- Web-based sources such as firm websites; and,
- Previous relevant EAs.
  - Previous EAs such as the Hardrock Project Environmental Assessment (Greenstone Gold 2017).

Other secondary data sources publicly and readily available will also be considered and utilized as applicable. This will include sources identified in Appendix 1 of the TISG. With respect to GBA+, Land and Resource Use data collection will focus on features of the environment (e.g., parks, harvesting jurisdictions, trails, access points and industry tenure rights). As these features are agender and non-human, GBA+ data will not be considered. However, when data on land user groups is available, these data will be discussed with respect to GBA+, including demographics of typical users. When information on Land and Resource Use is obtained through general engagement or the Indigenous Knowledge Program, these data will be presented and analyzed considering GBA+ principles (**Section 4.3**).

7.2.2 Primary Data Collection

Primary data collection will involve the collection of qualitative data on Land and Resource Uses within the Land and Resource Use study areas, as defined in **Section 6.2**. The MFFN CAR Project Team will

undertake telephone and email interviews with relevant land users including applicable Indigenous communities and those who operate businesses, clubs / associations or have other interests related to Land and Resource Use within the relevant Land and Resource Use study areas. Questionnaires with land users will be designed to directly support the Land and Resource Use Baseline Study and will relate specifically to the stakeholders Land and Resource Use activities within the Land and Resource Use study areas.

The Land and Resource Use primary data collection program will be informed by the same objectives as the overall baseline data collection. However, the primary data collection program will have the added focuses of filling gaps identified in secondary data and informing further secondary data collection based on issue-specific items raised through primary data collection. It is also anticipated that the primary data collection undertaken as part of the Social and Economic disciplines and Indigenous Knowledge collection program may also inform components of the Land and Resource Use Assessment. This targeted data collection approach differs from the engagement activities outlined in the IS / EA Consultation Plan and Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Study Plan.

The Land and Resource Use primary data collection program will select key knowledge holders to participate in the data collection program. The selection of participants will be informed by secondary data collection, lists of geospatial features in relevant study areas as well as information obtained through general engagement activities and the Indigenous Knowledge collection program. To attract participants, the MFFN CAR Project Team will email participants directly with relevant mapping and questions lists when soliciting their interest. If required, the MFFN CAR Project Team will conduct follow-up phone calls to the potential participants and answer any questions they may have.

7.3 Study Methods

The study methods that will be employed to characterize the Land and Resource Use baseline conditions include data collection, data analysis and qualitative and quantitative descriptions. The Land and Resource Use Assessment will be is informed by academic literature, best practices in impact assessment and previous similar EAs and will include gathering local and agency knowledge and utilising inputs from consultation activities to analyze the concerns of interested and affected persons and communities related to the VCs and indicators.

Multiple sources of data, including primary, secondary, engagement and Indigenous Knowledge, will be utilized for the purposes of Land and Resource Use data collection. Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members in the Land and Resource Use LSAs and RSAs may be engaged regarding the

assessment of land and resources use impacts, the analysis of alternatives and the preparation of mitigation and monitoring plans.

Data collection methods are detailed in **Section 7.2**. The data collection process can be conceptualized as a matrix. For each indicator listed in **Section 9.2**, data collection attempts will be made targeting land users groups of interests (e.g., communities, subgroups within the community). The data collected will be tracked and assessed using this approach.

Data analysis will involve translating, processing and interpreting the Land and Resource Use data collected. Spatial data will be used to determine the extent of spatial displacement on the Land and Resource Use features caused by the Project. In addition, primary and secondary data collected will inform the qualitative and quantitative descriptions of Land and Resource Use VCs. The data analysis will be summarized and presented in the Land and Resource Use Assessment.

The qualitative and quantitative descriptions and spatial displacement calculations will provide the baseline information to characterize and inform the Land and Resource Use Assessment. To support GBA+ objectives, data used in the Land and Resource Use Assessment will include identity considerations (age, sex and other relevant factors), subject to data availability, and analyzed to understand differences in norms, roles and relations for diverse subgroups; the different level of power they hold; their differing needs, constraints and opportunities, and the effects of these differences in their lives related to the Land and Resource Use criteria and indicators. This approach provides a comprehensive and holistic background to consider and assess changes in a dynamic environment. These study methods are standard practices for Land and Resource Use impact assessments.

The scope of the Land and Resource Use baseline study will be tailored to the Project context and consider Indigenous community inputs and priorities. The scope of this study will be inclusive of the temporal and spatial boundaries identified in **Section 6.1** and **Section 6.2**. The Project phases and the Land and Resource Use LSAs and RSAs will inform data collection and data analysis.

The Land and Resource Use primary data collection is anticipated to be conducted in Q2-Q3 2021, however this timing is subject to change and dependent on the larger Project schedule, the timing of consultation and engagement activities and possible restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Other Land and Resource Use baseline study methods will occur throughout the IA / EA process.

8. Data Management and Analysis

Data management including quality assurance / quality control (QA / QC) will be employed to minimize potential for data entry and analysis errors, prepare data sets for analysis and limit sensitive data distribution in accordance to established agreements.

It is expected that there will be a multitude of data issues and limitations based on the Project area. This may include:

- Incomplete data sets for spatial features;
- Secondary data available on land use features including lack of sources and non-public / dated information sources; and,
- Lack of spatial usage data.

The above list is not comprehensive. It is anticipated that the MFFN CAR Project Team may encounter additional data issues and limitations. Data issues and limitations will be tracked for the duration of the Project and, when possible, addressed with supplementary sources of information. To address these issues, the MFFN CAR Project Team intends to reach out to government sources such as the provincial ministries to provide additional data on features such as parks and protected areas. Previous experience suggests these ministries retain newer, more detailed data on features such as parks and protected areas than published sources. The MFFN CAR Project Team will also address usage data issues by conducting targeted primary data collection.

The Land and Resource Use data collection program will involve a data verification component. Those that participate in Land and Resource Use data collection activities, including Indigenous community members, will have the opportunity to review, comment and discuss possible changes to the information presented in the Land and Resource Use baseline study report. When appropriate, Community Consultation Coordinators will also support and inform the data verification process. The data verification process will be clearly documented.

9. Effects Assessment

The following sections provide discipline-specific input and considerations as they pertain to the methodology for effects assessment. The Project is in the early stage of the IS / EA Report preparation and it is expected that the effects assessment methodology will be refined iteratively based on regulatory agency guidance, professional judgment and input received through the Project consultation and engagement process.

9.1 Project-Environment Interactions

The Project activities that may result in changes to the environment are described within the identified temporal and spatial boundaries. This includes identification of both direct and indirect changes by comparing the existing setting to the conditions anticipated to occur as a result of the Project. For each environmental discipline, the likely Project-environment interactions will be identified based on professional judgment, activities listed in TISG Section 3.2 as well as projects of similar magnitude and / or location.

A preliminary analysis of Project-environment interactions for the Land and Resource Use Assessment is provided in **Table 9-1** and will be confirmed during the IA / EA process to identify the Project-environment interactions that are likely to have a potential effect, and to identify measures to avoid or minimize potential negative effects and enhance benefits.

Table 9-1: Project – Environment Interactions

Project Phases	Project Activities	Land and Resource Use
Construction Phase	*Mobilization of Equipment and Supplies*	**X**
	Temporary Construction Staging Areas[1]	**X**
	Temporary Access Roads and Trails[1]	**X**
	Temporary Construction Camps[1]	**X**
	ROW Clearing and Grubbing	**X**
	Brush and Timber Disposal	**X**
	Pits and Quarries[1]	**X**
	Drilling / Blasting / Aggregate Production	**X**
	Road Construction (stripping, subgrade excavation, embankment fill placement, grading, ditching)	**X**
	Bridge and Culvert Installation (approach embankments, foundations, substructures, superstructures, traffic protection, erosion controls)	**X**
	Construction Site Restoration	**X**

Project Phases	Project Activities	Land and Resource Use
Construction Phase: Decommissioning	*Pits and Quarries*	**X**
	Temporary Camps, Roads / Trails and Staging Areas	**X**
Operations Phase	*Road Usage*	**X**
	Maintenance[2]	**X**

Notes: 1. Includes construction and use of.
2. Includes General Maintenance (e.g., grading, erosion control, quarrying, borrow pits), Seasonal Maintenance (e.g., snow clearing, bridge and culvert maintenance), and Special Maintenance (e.g., slope failures, road settlement / break-up.).

9.2 Valued Components and Indicators

VCs are the environmental, health, social, economic or additional elements or conditions of the natural and human environment that may be impacted by a proposed project and are of concern or value to the public, Indigenous peoples, federal authorities and interested parties (the Agency 2020b). Indicators represent the resource, feature, or issue related to the VC that, if changed, may demonstrate an effect on the environment. The indicators and rationale for selection and measurement of potential effects, to be used to assess and evaluate the alternative routes and assess the overall effects of the Project in the IS / EA Report are provided in **Table 9-2**. The table includes both quantitative and qualitative indicators. The final list of VCs and indicators to be used in the IS / EA Report will be based on regulatory agency guidance, professional judgement and input received through the Project consultation and engagement processes.

The VCs for Land and Resource Use discipline have been determined through consideration of the following factors listed in the TISG[8]:

- VC presence in the study area;
- The extent to which the VC is linked to the interests or exercise of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of Indigenous peoples, and whether an Indigenous group has requested the VC;
- The extent to which the effects (real or perceived) of the Project and related activities have the potential to interact with the VC;
- The extent to which the VC may be under cumulative stress from other past, existing or future undertakings in combination with other human activities and natural processes;

8. The TISG also states that information from ongoing and completed regional assessments in the proposed area of the Project should be used to inform VCs for the Project. In February 2020 a regional assessment of the Ring of Fire region commenced; however, it is not sufficiently advanced at this time to inform the Project VCs. The VCs will be consulted and engaged on early in the IA/ EA process and finalized taking into consideration the input received. Therefore, only information relevant to the Project that arises from the regional assessment of the Ring of Fire within an appropriate timeline will inform the VCs for the Project.

- The extent to which the VC is linked to federal, provincial, territorial or municipal government priorities (e.g., legislation, programs, policies);
- The possibility that adverse or positive effects on the VC would be of particular concern to Indigenous groups, the public, or federal, provincial, territorial, municipal or Indigenous governments; and,
- Whether the potential effects of the Project on the VC can be measured and / or monitored or would be better ascertained through the analysis of a proxy VC.

Inputs received to date from Indigenous communities, agencies and interested persons through the Consultation and Engagement Program, including inputs received on the Draft ToR, have also been used to inform the selection of the VCs and indicators for the Land and Resource Use discipline.

The Land and Resource Use Assessment will draw on other impact assessments completed for this Project to ascertain effects to environmental conditions, which is a proxy for perceived quality, with respect to the nature of the activity and the expectations for that activity when utilizing the land.

Specific to parks and protected areas, effects are evaluated against the preservation of natural, cultural and recreational values which aligns with the value for which these areas are regulated. This approach aligns with other recent EAs undertaken for linear projects in northwest Ontario.

Table 9-2: Land and Resource Use Indicators

Valued Component	Indicator	Sub-Indicator	Rationale for Selection	Information Sources
Land Use Compatibility	■ Land use compatibility	■ Binary alignment with established planning policy requirements	■ The Project should be compatible with existing land use designations within the PDA as much as possible. Alternatively, amendment processes will be noted and addressed.	■ Spatial data; – Land Information Ontario Database (MNRF 2020b); ■ Land use plans (municipal, regional, provincial and federal); and, – Provincial Policy Statement 2020 (Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing 2020); – Growth Plan for Northern Ontario (Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry 2011); – Official Plans for Beardmore, Geraldton, Nakina and Longlac (Municipality of Greenstone n.d.). ■ Community-based land use planning; – Marten Falls Community Based Land Use Plan Terms of Reference (MNRF 2019b);
Parks and Protected Areas	■ Natural, Cultural and recreational Values	■ Change to features and environmental conditions supporting natural values ■ Change to features and environmental conditions supporting cultural values ■ Change to features and environmental conditions supporting recreational values	■ Provincial parks, Dedicated Protected Areas and protected areas are regulated in Ontario for their preservation of these values. Consideration of potentially effected values will include physical, social and natural science considerations in relation to these values.	■ Subject to secondary data gap analysis, primary data may be collected, including questionnaires; ■ Indigenous government information; ■ Spatial Data; – Land Information Ontario Database (MNRF 2020b); ■ Provincial reports and plans; – Ontario Parks and Protected Areas (MECP 2020); ■ Community-based land use planning; and, – Marten Falls Community Based Land Use Plan Terms of Reference (MNRF 2019b). ■ Atmospheric Environment Study Plan, Acoustic and Vibration Environment Study Plan, Surface Water Study Plan, Vegetation Study Plan, Fish and Fish Habitat Study Plan, Wildlife Study Plan, Visual Environment Study Plan.

Valued Component	Indicator	Sub-Indicator	Rationale for Selection	Information Sources
Recreation and Tourism	■ Land and waterway disruption and access	■ Change to access to land utilized for tourism and / or recreation ■ Disruption (temporary or permanent) of lands used for recreation	■ Recreation and tourism are important for community well-being and economic opportunity within the Project area. The Project has the potential to disrupt existing recreation and tourism land and waterway uses and generate new access opportunities within the Project area.	■ Subject to secondary data gap analysis, primary data may be collected, including questionnaires; ■ Spatial data; – Land Information Ontario Database (MNRF 2020b); ■ Indigenous and Municipal government plans, reports and web-based data; – Marten Falls First Nation Community Profile (Matawa 2014); ■ Industry and regional reports; – Management Guidelines for Forestry and Resource-based Tourism (MNRF 2019); – Remoteness Sells: A Report on Resource-Based Tourism in Northwestern Ontario (CPAWS Wildlands League & Ontario Nature 2005); ■ Interest group information; – Greenstone Resorts, Outfitters and Charters (Municipality of Greenstone 2014); ■ Web-based data; ■ Academic research; – The Effects of Road Quality and Other Factors on Water-Based Recreation Demand in Northern Ontario (Hunt and Dyck 2011); ■ Atmospheric Environment Study Plan, Acoustic and Vibration Environment Study Plan, Surface Water Study Plan, Vegetation Study Plan, Fish and Fish Habitat Study Plan, Wildlife Study Plan, Visual Environment Study Plan; and, ■ Indigenous Knowledge Program.
	■ Environmental Conditions	■ Change to environmental conditions including Atmospheric Environment, Acoustic Environment, Surface	■ Recreation and tourism relies on a distinct environmental setting including a remote and wilderness character. The Project may change the	■ Subject to secondary data gap analysis, primary data may be collected, including questionnaires; • Spatial data; – Land Information Ontario Database (MNRF 2020b);

Valued Component	Indicator	Sub-Indicator	Rationale for Selection	Information Sources
		Water, Vegetation, Fish and Fish Habitat, Wildlife and Visual Aesthetics	environmental conditions in recreation and tourism areas.	■ Indigenous and Municipal government plans, reports and web-based data; – Marten Falls First Nation Community Profile (Matawa 2014); ■ Industry and regional reports; – Management Guidelines for Forestry and Resource-based Tourism (MNRF 2019); – Remoteness Sells: A Report on Resource-Based Tourism in Northwestern Ontario (CPAWS Wildlands League & Ontario Nature 2005); ■ Interest group information; ■ Web-based data; ■ Academic research; and, ■ Atmospheric Environment Study Plan, Acoustic and Vibration Environment Study Plan, Surface Water Study Plan, Vegetation Study Plan, Fish and Fish Habitat Study Plan, Wildlife Study Plan, Visual Environment Study Plan.
	■ Resource availability	■ Change to target species, including species identified in the Fish and Fish Habitat and Wildlife Study Plans ■ Change to the habitat for those species	■ Many recreation and tourism activities involve resource harvesting such as fishing, trapping and hunting. Changes to the availability of target species may impact the recreation and tourism environment.	■ Subject to secondary data gap analysis, primary data may be collected, including questionnaires; ■ Spatial data; – Land Information Ontario Database (MNRF 2020b); ■ Indigenous and Municipal government plans, reports and web-based data; ■ Industry and regional reports; – North American Hunters in Northern Ontario (Research Resolution and Consulting Ltd. 2014); ■ Interest group information; – Anglers in Northern Ontario (RTO13): A Situation Analysis (Research Resolution and Consulting Ltd. 2015); ■ Web-based data; ■ Academic research; and,

Valued Component	Indicator	Sub-Indicator	Rationale for Selection	Information Sources
				■ Atmospheric Environment Study Plan, Acoustic and Vibration Environment Study Plan, Surface Water Study Plan, Vegetation Study Plan, Fish and Fish Habitat Study Plan, Wildlife Study Plan, Visual Environment Study Plan.
Extractive Industry	■ Land use disruption	■ Change to access to extractive land features ■ Change to use of extractive lands	■ The Project has the potential to physically remove land areas with the potential for extraction activities. In addition, changes to land use near the Project may alter access to existing extractive features.	■ Subject to secondary data gap analysis, primary data may be collected, including questionnaires; ■ Spatial data; – Land Information Ontario Database (MNRF 2020b); ■ Provincial and federal reports; ■ Industry and regional reports; – Mining Readiness Strategy: An Integrated Regional Economic Development Plan (Advantage Northwest 2013); – Mining in Northwestern Ontario – Opportunities and Challenges (Ambassador's Northwest 2012); ■ Interest group information; ■ Web-based data; and, ■ Academic research.
Forestry Industry	■ Land use disruption	■ Change to access to forestry lands ■ Change to use of forestry lands	■ Forestry has an important role in the northern Ontario economy and requires the use of large areas of land with planning considerations. The Project has the potential to physically remove land areas with the potential for forestry. In addition, changes to land use near the Project may alter access to existing forestry features.	■ Subject to secondary data gap analysis, primary data may be collected, including questionnaires; ■ Spatial data; – Land Information Ontario Database (MNRF 2020b); ■ Indigenous and Municipal government plans, reports and web-based data; – Forest Management – The Ogoki Forest (Agoke Development Corporation n.d.); ■ Industry and regional reports and plans; – Forestry Management Planning (MNRF 2020c); ■ Web-based data; and ■ Academic research.

Valued Component	Indicator	Sub-Indicator	Rationale for Selection	Information Sources
	■ Indirect disruption to forestry activities	■ Change to access of forestry area due to caribou habitat fragmentation ■ Change to use of forestry area due to habitat fragmentation.	■ Disruptions to caribou habitat may change forest harvesting opportunities within FMUs as caribou habitat continuity is a key consideration in forest harvest planning.	■ Subject to secondary data gap analysis, primary data may be collected, including questionnaires; ■ Spatial data; – Land Information Ontario Database (MNRF 2020b); ■ Indigenous and Municipal government plans, reports and web-based data; – Forestry Management Planning (MNRF 2020c); – Forest Management – The Ogoki Forest (Agoke Development Corporation n.d.); ■ Industry and regional reports and plans; ■ Web-based data; ■ Academic research; and, ■ Other impact assessments such as the Wildlife IA.
Energy and Linear Infrastructure	■ Land use disruption	■ Change to access to lands for energy or linear infrastructure	■ The Project has the potential to physically remove land areas with the potential for energy infrastructure or existing linear infrastructure activities. In addition, changes to land use near the Project may alter access to existing features.	■ Subject to secondary data gap analysis, primary data may be collected, including questionnaires; ■ Spatial data; – Land Information Ontario Database (MNRF 2020b); ■ Indigenous and Municipal government plans, reports and web-based data; – Five Nations Energy Inc. Fort Albany and Kashechewan (Five Nations 2012) ■ Industry and regional reports; ■ Provincial and federal plans and reports; – Long-term Energy Plan, 2017 (Energy Ontario 2017); ■ Local service providers; – Remote Community Connection Plan (IESO 2020); ■ Web-based data; and ■ Academic research.

9.3 Potential Effects

A direct effect occurs through the direct interaction of an activity with an environmental discipline. The Project-environment interactions currently anticipated, based upon preliminary analysis, to result in direct effects to the Land and Resource Use discipline have been identified in **Table 9-1**. The potential direct effects resulting from the Project-environment interactions will be confirmed during the IA / EA process and will be based on input received through the Indigenous Knowledge Program and Consultation and Engagement Program, regulatory agency guidance and professional judgement.

An indirect effect occurs when a change to one environmental discipline resulting from a Project activity causes a change to another environmental discipline (e.g., changes in environmental quality could indirectly affect use of recreation areas / features). **Table 9-3** provides a preliminary identification of how the Land and Resource Use discipline VCs may be affected by changes to other environmental disciplines.

Table 9-3: Potential Discipline Interactions

Discipline and Associated Valued Components	Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests	Atmospheric Environment	Acoustic and Vibration Environment	Physiography, Geology, Terrain and Soils	Surface Water	Groundwater and Geochemistry	Vegetation	Wildlife	Fish and Fish Habitat	Social	Economy	Land and Resource Use	Human Health and Community Safety	Visual Aesthetics	Archaeological and Cultural Heritage
Land and Resource Use ■ **Land Use Compatibility** ■ **Parks and Protected Areas** ■ **Extractive Industries** ■ **Forest Industries** ■ **Energy and Linear Infrastructure** ■ **Recreation and Tourism**	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X

Notes: X = Potential pathway for indirect effect as a result of the Project.
- = No pathway for indirect effect is anticipated as a result of the Project.

9.4 Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

Once potential effects have been identified, the effects assessment will explore technically and economically feasible mitigation measures to avoid or minimize the identified negative effects and enhancement measures to increase positive effects beyond those that are already inherent to the design. These measures will consist of industry-standard practices, federal and provincial standard specifications, regulator-mandated measures, best management practices, Indigenous and community recommendations and recommendations from industry and environmental professionals based on expertise, scientific publications, experience and judgement.

It is important that mitigation and enhancement measures are achievable, measurable and verifiable and monitored for compliance and effectiveness during all temporal phases as part of the Project follow-up monitoring plan. Required environmental monitoring will verify the potential environmental effects predicted in the IS / EA Report, evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation and enhancement measures, and identify the process the Proponent will follow if mitigation and enhancement measures are not effective.

It should be noted that many land use mitigation measures will draw on mitigation measures for other disciplines, such as for noise and air quality as they will influence the use of land and waterways.

9.4.1 TISG Section 20 Requirements

The following provides a response to the fulfillment of TISG Section 20 requirements.

Item #	TISG Section 20 Requirement	Response
1	■ Describe mitigation measures that are specific to each environmental, health, social or economic effect identified. Mitigation measures are to be written as specific commitments that clearly describe when and how the proponent intends to implement them, what decision-making criteria will be used, and the outcome these mitigation measure are designed to address;	■ The Land and Resource Use Assessment will include a description of applicable mitigation measures deemed to be required subject to the results of the IA / EA.
2	■ Describe mitigation measures that are specific to identified effects to Indigenous peoples;	■ The Land and Resource Use Assessment will include a description of applicable mitigation measures deemed to be required subject to the results of the IA / EA, including measures that may be specific to Indigenous people.

Item #	TISG Section 20 Requirement	Response
3	■ Describe mitigation measures proposed by Indigenous peoples and the consideration of those in the Project;	■ The Land and Resource Use Assessment will include a description of applicable mitigation measures deemed to be required subject to the results of the IA / EA, including measures that may be specific to Indigenous people including measures that may have been suggested by Indigenous people.
4	■ Propose differentiated mitigation measures for all potential adverse effects identified, if applicable, so that adverse effects do not fall disproportionately on vulnerable populations, certain Indigenous groups, or certain communities, and they are not disadvantaged in sharing any development benefits and opportunities resulting from the Project. These mitigation measures should be developed in collaboration with those who are vulnerable and / or disadvantaged;	■ The development of applicable mitigation measures will take into account identified potential impacts on vulnerable populations and developed with the input of interested persons from those vulnerable populations.
5	■ Describe how disproportionate effects that were identified in the GBA+ results were used to inform mitigation and enhancement measures.	■ The Land and Resource Use Assessment will describe identified disproportionate effects to sub-populations.

9.5 Residual Effects

Residual effects are the effects remaining after the application of mitigation measures. The IS / EA Report will describe in detail the potential adverse and positive residual effects in relation to each temporal phase of the Project (e.g., construction, operation). Residual effects will be described using criteria to quantify or qualify adverse and positive effects, taking into account any important contextual factors. The residual effects will therefore be described in terms of the direction, magnitude, geographic extent, duration, frequency, likelihood, and whether effects are reversible or irreversible[9]. Ecological and socio-economic context may also be relevant when describing a residual effect. Context relates to the existing setting, its level of disturbance and resilience to adverse effects. Context can also relate to timing as it applies to assessing the worst-case scenario (e.g., effect during migratory or calving season for wildlife). Where appropriate, information regarding residual effects will be disaggregated by sex, gender, age and other community relevant identifying factors to identify disproportionate residual effects for diverse subgroups.

For magnitude, Land and Resource Use-specific definitions are required and are proposed below in **Table 9-4**.

9. *TISG Section 13.1 identifies additional effects characteristics for certain disciplines (e.g., wetlands, birds, terrestrial wildlife, species at risk). These additional effects characteristics are described in the respective discipline-specific study plans.*

Table 9-4: Land and Resource Use Magnitude Definition

Magnitude Level	Definition	Rationale
Negligible	■ An effect that may or may not be discernible but is within the historical variability as defined by baseline conditions. The effect is within the capacity of the Land and Resource Use system to respond and / or will not alter the current Land and Resource Use structures.	■ Negligible effects are small and may not be noticeable. These effects do not represent a change in day-to-day Land and Resource Use.
Low	■ An effect that is small but discernable and within historical variability as defined by baseline conditions. The effect is within the capacity of the Land and Resource Use system to respond and / or will not alter the current Land and Resource Use structures.	■ Low effects are noticeable to some land and resource users. These effects do not represent a change in day-to-day activities.
Medium	■ An effect that is clearly discernable and beyond the historical variability as defined by baseline conditions. The effect is within the capacity of the Land and Resource Use system to respond and / or will not alter the current Land and Resource Use structures.	■ Medium effects are noticeable to some land users. These effects may or may not represent a change to day-to-day activities but can be adjusted to within the current Land and Resource Use system.
High	■ An effect that is clearly discernable and beyond the historical variability as defined by baseline conditions. The effect is beyond the capacity of the Land and Resource Use system to respond and / or will alter the current Land and Resource Use structures.	■ High effects are noticeable to land and resource users. These effects represent a change to day-to-day land use. In the case of adverse effects, these changes cannot be responded to within the current land and resource system resulting in systemic change.

9.6 Consideration of Sustainability Principles

The following provides a generic description of how sustainability principles will be considered in the effects assessment. The extent to which sustainability principles apply to a specific VC will vary depending on the nature of the VC and the potential for Project effects on the VC. The effects assessment approach for the Project has included the consideration of the sustainability principles outlined in the Project TISG and the Agency's guidance on sustainability. The sustainability principles that have been considered include:

1. Consider the interconnectedness and interdependence of human-ecological systems;
2. Consider the well-being of present and future generations;
3. Consider positive effects and reduce adverse effects of the Project; and
4. Apply the precautionary principle by considering uncertainty and risk of irreversible harm.

The interconnectedness and interdependence of human-ecological systems will be considered through the assessment of potential indirect effects of each alternative. An indirect effect occurs when a change to one environmental discipline resulting from a Project activity causes a change to another environmental discipline (e.g., changes in vegetation could indirectly affect wildlife). A preliminary assessment of indirect effects has been included in **Section 9.3**.

The well-being of present and future generations will be considered in the effects assessment through the application of the long-term operations phase temporal boundary of 75 years (**Section 6.1**) and through the effects characteristics description of duration and reversibility for each residual effect predicted.

The consideration of positive effects and reducing adverse effects of the Project is fundamental to the effects assessment methodology through the identification of mitigation measures to reduce potential adverse effects and the identification of the preferred alternative through the evaluation of advantages (e.g., positive effects) and disadvantages (e.g., adverse effects).

The effects assessment will apply the precautionary principle by clearly describing and documenting all uncertainties and assumptions underpinning the analysis and identifying information sources. The effects assessment will consider risk of irreversible harm through the effects characteristics description of reversibility for each residual effect predicted and will describe any uncertainty associated with the assessment of residual effects.

The scope of the sustainability assessment will be defined by issues of importance identified by Indigenous communities and interested persons through consultation and engagement activities, while also ensuring to be inclusive of the diversity of views expressed. The selection of VCs that will be the focus of the sustainability assessment will be aligned with the issues of importance identified by Indigenous communities and interested persons, as well as residual effects identified through the effects assessment process. The sustainability assessment will describe how the planning and design of the Project, in all phases including follow-up monitoring, considered the sustainability principles.

9.7 Consideration of Identity and Gender-Based Analysis Plus in Effects Assessment

The Proponent recognizes that communities and sub-populations within those communities may be impacted differently by the Project with respect to VCs and indicators. As such, the Project aims to collect baseline information for the purpose of assessing differential effects and establishing relevant mitigation measures, as further elaborated on in **Section 4.3**. GBA+ will not be limited to community feedback, when

offered or discussed in secondary texts, additional sub-population information as is applicable to the relevant assessment will be incorporated.

As noted in **Sections 7.2** and **7.3**, GBA+ will be integrated throughout the Land and Resource Use Assessment. This analysis will be derived from our matrix-based approach for baseline data collection, which will be foundational to understanding and assessing the differential effects to sub-populations.

9.8 Follow-up Programs

A follow-up program verifies the accuracy of the effects assessment and evaluates the effectiveness of mitigation measures. Section 26 of the TISGs do not specifically outline required Land and Resource Use related monitoring activities that are to be included, other than the tracking of issues that would be the responsibility of overall Project engagement and consultation activities. The identification of follow-up programs for the Project are not described in this Study Plan as the information needed to determine monitoring requirements is dependent on the outcome of the impact assessment and on the results of consultation and engagement with Indigenous communities, agencies and interested persons. Therefore, the Proponent will include information on follow-up programs, that address the requirements outlined in Section 26 of the TISG, in the IS / EA Report and will identify the compliance and effects monitoring activities to be undertaken during all phases of the Project, as required.

Based on the results of the Land and Resource Use Assessment work, follow-up program recommendations will be made subject to their applicability and necessity. These programs may be targeted to specific land and resource users and / or specific adverse effects and / or potential positive effects of the Project.

10. Assumptions

The MFFN CAR Project Team is not aware at this time of key assumptions that will be recognized in the Land and Resource Use Assessment. These will be determined during the IA / EA process. Key assumptions made and used in the assessment of Land and Resource Use impacts will be documented in the IS / EA Report.

11. Concordance with Federal and Provincial Guidance

This section provides the best information currently available on how federal and provincial requirements identified for the Project to date will be addressed. **Table 11-1** outlines how the Land and Resource Use Assessment will confirm with the TISG. Presented in **Table 11-2** are the comments received on the draft Provincial Terms of Reference that relate to the Land and Resource Use Assessment.

The final concordance with federal and provincial requirements will be included in the IS / EA Report, and will be based on regulatory agency guidance, professional judgement and input received through the Project consultation and engagement process.

At this time, the Proponent has not identified any TISG requirements applicable to the Land and Resource Use Assessment that it requests a deviation from.

Table 11-1: Study Plan Federal Concordance – Conformance with Requirements

ID #	Federal TISG Reference[10]	Requirement / Comment / Concern	Response	Study Plan Reference
1	Section 10 of the TISG	■ Baseline information is required on existing social conditions and must include social well-being and social activities for all potentially impacted local communities, including municipalities, and Indigenous groups. The scope and content of the social baseline conditions should be tailored to the specific project context, take into account community and Indigenous input and priorities, and should include indicators and information that are useful and meaningful for the effects analysis.	■ Baseline information will be provided within the Land and Resource Use Assessment as it relates to land and resource uses.	■ Section 7.0
2	Section 10 of the TISG	■ Describe any relevant indicators and how Indigenous knowledge and engagement contributed to defining them;	■ Criteria and indicators have been developed and will be refined based on Indigenous Knowledge and engagement.	■ Section 5.2
3	Section 10 of the TISG	■ Be sufficient to provide a comprehensive understanding of the current state of each valued component, including relevant trends; ■ Describe how community and Indigenous knowledge was used in establishing social baseline conditions, including input from diverse subgroups;	■ A current state including relevant trends will be prepared as part of existing conditions with respect to the Land and Resource Use Study Areas. These existing conditions will consider engagement and Indigenous Knowledge.	■ Section 4.2 ■ Section 5.0 ■ Section 7.0
4	Section 10 of the TISG	■ Access, ownership and use of resources (e.g., land tenure, forestry, minerals, aggregate, food, water, social infrastructure, current road systems and seasonal roads), including ownership of land surrounding water crossings;	■ Access and ownership of land tenure, forestry, minerals and aggregate will be provided with respect to the Land and Resource Use Study Areas. Road infrastructure will be described similarly.	■ Section 7.0
5	Section 10 of the TISG	■ access to and control over resources from a gender perspective (e.g., information, knowledge and services);	■ When applicable and available, resource control and access will be described from a gendered perspective.	■ Section 7.0
6	Section 10 of the TISG	■ Relevant historical community background and applicable history with previous developers, including historical and recent proponents of mineral and other natural resource exploration and development projects and aspirations for future social and economic development.	■ Relevant historical information will be included as part of existing conditions and considered in the assessment. Goals will also be described as indicated through written documents and engagement.	■ Section 7.0
7	Section 10 of the TISG	■ Recreation: – Describe the current use of land and water bodies in the study area for outdoor recreational and teaching purposes, including youth recreation, recreational hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering.	■ Information on recreation activities will be provided as part of existing conditions consistent with the criteria and indicators. This will include information on recreational hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering such as traplines, seasons, designations and other information.	■ Section 7.0 ■ Section 9.2
8	Section 10 of the TISG	■ Navigation: – existing navigable waterways and navigation use including type, volume, seasonality, manoeuvrability, and physical characteristics (e.g., width, depth, etc.), bank/bottom features, biological components, flow/tides, etc.; – describe past, current, and anticipated future use of all waterways and waterbodies, including recreational uses by Indigenous groups and the public (including special events, fishing, cottagers, etc.); – describe the use of water-ways with Indigenous cultural importance (e.g., Albany River, Ogoki River and Attawapiskat Rivers); and – potential of obstructions, restrictions, or expansions of access to navigable waterways (e.g., portage routes and access roads).	■ Information on the biophysical nature of waterways will be included in relevant biophysical reports such as the Surface Water Assessment. ■ Descriptions on the current, planned future and historical use of waterways, including land ownership at crossings will be described in the Land and Resource Use Assessment. This will include recreational events, uses by Indigenous persons and cultural importance. ■ Project-related or existing obstructions, restrictions and expansions of navigable waterways will be described consistent with information available. This will include portage routes.	■ Surface Water Study Plan ■ Section 7.0 ■ Section 9.2
9	Section 17.2 of the TISG	■ The Impact Statement must: – describe predicted effects to recreation (e.g., hunting, fishing, hiking, wildlife viewing, aesthetic enjoyment) by the community and Indigenous groups, and youth within these communities, including effects to: • access to the resources; • quantity and quality of the resources; and • overall experience when undertaking recreational activities, including noise, odours/air quality, and effects on visual landscapes. – describe effects to community well-being due to changes to viewscapes and soundscapes resulting from the Project;	■ The Land and Resource Use Assessment will consider potential effects to all listed items with the following exceptions: – Changes to community well-being due to changes in Land and Resource Use will be addressed in the Social Assessment. – Changes to environmental conditions will be considered as a proxy for quality with the assumption that changes in the environmental conditions may impact the quality of the experience for some users based on their expectations for the experience.	■ Section 9.2 ■ Social Study Plan

10. Federal TISG Reference should be the Section or subsection, page etc. that clearly identifies where comment/issue we are addressing can be found (ex. Section 8.1 of TISG)

ID #	Federal TISG Reference[10]	Requirement / Comment / Concern	Response	Study Plan Reference
		– describe the potential interactions of the Project with local and regional land use and resource activities, including adverse and positive effects to: • transportation, utilities and communication corridors (including community airports • and winter roads); • residential land use; • forestry and logging operations; • mining operations; • mineral exploration activities; • commercial outfitters; • land use for traditional purposes; and • agriculture and other land uses. ■ Identify predicted effects of the Project on the quality and quantity of ground or surface water and implications for recreational uses.		
10	Section 17.3 of the TISG	■ The Impact Statement must: – describe effects to navigable waterways, including to physical characteristics (e.g., width, depth, etc.), bank/bottom features, biological components, flow/tides, etc.; – describe ancillary project components that will be constructed in, on, under, over, through or across navigable waterways to support the Project; – describe potentially affected waterway users and describe consultation with waterway users and Indigenous groups regarding navigational use, issues raised and how issues were addressed; and – describe project effects to navigation and navigation safety, including potential obstructions to navigation (natural/man-made, other works, navigation aids, etc.).	■ The Land and Resource Use Assessment will consider potential effects to all listed items with the following exceptions: – Changes to physical characteristics will be considered in the Surface Water Assessment. The effects of these changes on use will be considered within the Land and Resource Use Assessment. – The use of waterways for traditional purposes will be covered under the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Assessment.	■ Section 5.0 ■ Section 7.0 ■ Section 9.0 ■ Surface Water Study Plan ■ Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Study Plan

Table 11-2: Study Plan Draft ToR Provincial Concordance – Conformance with Requirements

ID #	Comment from Regulatory Agency	Requirement / Comment / Concern	Response	Study Plan Reference
1	Draft ToR Comment MECP (ID# 163)	■ Land Use Planning: The Municipality of Greenstone is the closest organized municipal area to the proposed undertaking. The City of Thunder Bay is the closest major centre. The TOR indicates that both municipalities will be consulted during the process. This is appropriate, however, the distance between the location of the undertaking and the boarders of these municipal areas is substantial, making it unlikely that the undertaking would negatively impact policies and direction as outline in their Official Plans. Northern Region EA/Planning is not aware of any conflicts between the direction in the Official Plans for these municipalities and the proposed undertaking that correspond with MECP's mandated areas of concern.	■ Existing land use designations will be considered within the IA/EA as they are not limited to municipal land designations but also include Indigenous community, provincial and federal designations.	■ Section 9.2
2	Draft ToR Comment Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and Culture Industries (ID# 302)	■ Potential Effects on Recreation and Tourism Changes to recreational and commercial lands used for trapping hunting, fishing and other activities. ■ The project could also result in a loss of economic activity due to access related impacts for those businesses that rely on remoteness for their product. That loss should also be highlighted as a potential effect. The interview process will identify whether tourism operators are concerned in this regard. ■ There is also a potential for noise impacts, particularly at the construction stage, if accommodations (sensitive uses) are within the area of influence. The CAR will provide year-round access to the Far North, which is likely to increase access for recreational use. "	■ Changes to economic activity will be considered in the IA/EA under the regional economy VC/criterion, which will include tourism. Changes to access will be considered in the assessment of effects to land and resource use activities. MFFN acknowledge and will consider that negative effects to commercial operators may include loss of economic activity. Changes to noise levels will be considered as will potential effects on air quality, fish and fish habitat, and wildlife.	■ Section 9.2 ■ Economic Study Plan
3	Draft ToR Comment Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and Culture Industries (ID# 303)	■ The CAR will provide year-round access to the Far North, which is likely to increase access for recreational use. ■ As noted earlier, potential impacts on remoteness are noted in Section 2.1.8.4 of the Draft Alternatives Development supporting document. This acknowledgement should be reflected in the final ToR as well.	■ Considerations of remoteness are reflective of how changes to environmental conditions are perceived by land users. The Land and Resource Use Assessment in the IA/EA will consider changes to environmental conditions and will describe how these changes may influence land use and the character of the region within the IA/EA study areas.	■ Section 9.2
4	Draft ToR Comment Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (ID# 454)	■ "Sec. 7.1.4.12 pg.42 "Approximately ten tourism operators have been identified as potentially having overlapping operating areas within 2.5km of the centreline of each alternative route". The EA will need to evaluate the impacts of the proposed CAR related to these businesses. "	■ Effects to tourism establishments will be considered in the IA/EA.	■ Section 9.2
5	Draft ToR Comment Long Lake First Nation (ID# 554)	■ Tourism opportunities: LL58 understands that increased traffic in LL58's homelands in the future will result in increased tourism opportunities for LL58 businesses.	■ New tourism opportunities will be considered with respect to the appropriate study areas (Economic or Land and Resource Use).	■ Section 9.2

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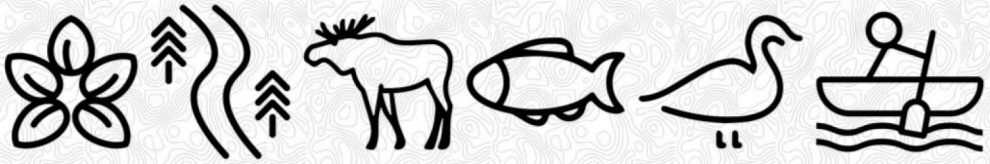
Appendix A

Preliminary List of Data Sources



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Appendix B

Agency Comments on the Draft Study Plan

Comment # / Ref #	DRAFT Study Plan Section	TISG Section	Comment / Context	Action Item	Final Response	Study Plan Reference
General Comment	General Comment	■ N/A	■ In addition to the required actions detailed below, other required actions to be addressed in the update to this study plan are detailed in a separate table titled "2020-07-02 – IAAC to MFFN - General Comments on MFCAR Draft Study Plans". The Agency has provided these other required actions to highlight common sections of the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines (the Guidelines) where requirements were not met in the draft study plans submitted to the Agency. These additional actions must be addressed in the updated study plans.		■ We have reviewed the relevant comments and incorporated where appropriate. Please refer to the General Comments Table Response submitted separately to the Agency for specific responses.	■ Various Sections
1	Section 2	■ Sections 10 and 17 of the Guidelines	■ Section 2 of the study plan states that the plan focuses on the use of land and resources for Indigenous non-traditional purposes. ■ According to Sections 10 and 17 of the Guidelines, social baseline data should not limit data collection to Indigenous people but should also engage with potentially impacted community groups and municipalities. The Agency expects the proponent to engage the stakeholders identified in the Public Participation Plan (PPP). ■ It is unclear whether, and how, the study plan will meet the requirements of Sections 10 and 17 of the Guidelines with regard to non-Indigenous land and resource use.	■ Update the study plan to reflect the requirements of Sections 10 and 17 of the Guidelines regarding non-Indigenous land and resources use.	■ Section 4 of the study plan outlines consultation and engagement activities to support the Land and Resource Use Assessment. Section 7.2 provides a list of public interest groups that are expected to be engaged with for data collection purposes related to Land and Resource Use.	■ Section 4 ■ Section 7.2
2	Section 3	■ Section 6.2 of the Guidelines; Refer to the comment for changes according to this section	■ Section 3 of the study plan states that "Due to sensitivities regarding these data, it is not expected a table similar to Table 1 will be provided. Instead, Indigenous Knowledge collected through means other than engagement (Indigenous Knowledge program and Socio-economic Primary Data Collection program) will be integrated into the reporting with relevant contextual information provided at a level of detail consistent with the confidentiality requested by participants." ■ Section 6.2 of the Guidelines states that the proponent is required to describe the type of confidential information provided by each Indigenous group without compromising stipulations in the confidentiality agreements and state how that information impacted the project design, baseline data, effects assessment or mitigation measures. The proponent is required to provide evidence to the Agency in the form of a letter from the Indigenous group that provided confidential information confirming that: – the Indigenous group that provided confidential information is satisfied with the way the Impact Statement was informed; – the Indigenous group that provided confidential information is satisfied with the way the issue was solved or addressed. ■ It is unclear how the approach proposed in the study plan will meet the requirements of Section 6.2 of the Guidelines.	■ Update the study plan to reflect how the requirements of Section 6.2 of the Guidelines will be met.	■ Section 5 of the Study Plan describes how Indigenous Knowledge will be collected and considered in the IS / EA for the Project. Section 2.1 has additional information on the Project's approach to handling confidential information.	■ Section 2.1 ■ Section 5

Comment # / Ref #	DRAFT Study Plan Section	TISG Section	Comment / Context	Action Item	Final Response	Study Plan Reference
3	Sections 3 and 4.1	■ Section 6.2 of the Guidelines	■ More detail is required on the methodology of baseline information collection for the Agency and federal experts to understand the work that the proponent is planning to undertake. Sections 3 and 4.1 identify Indigenous knowledge as a source of information for baseline data, where provided by an Indigenous group. It is unclear how Indigenous groups will be provided opportunities to provide Indigenous knowledge and validate the collected baseline data. (According to Section 6.2 of the Guidelines, permission from Indigenous groups should be sought before including any confidential information, such as Indigenous knowledge, in the Impact Statement.) Comment with regard to Action #4.	■ Action #1: Provide detail on what baseline information will be sourced from primary information sources, and what will be sourced from secondary information sources so that it is clear where information is being sourced for the criteria and indicators listed in the study plan. ■ Action #2: Regarding primary information collection, the study plan requires additional detail on how the collection methodology would meet the expectations of the Guidelines, including: – Identify other types of engagement activities (surveys, community sessions, chief and council sessions, workshops, etc.), additional to questionnaires that are indicated in Section 4.1 of the study plan. – Describe how Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) has been applied to the consideration of engagement activities. Identify any specific methods targeted to specific subgroups. – Specify participants in engagement activities (reflecting the Indigenous groups listed in the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan and members of the public listed in the PPP) including rationale for how the selection of participants meets the objectives of the study and demonstrates accessibility considerations (e.g., language requirements) and GBA+. – Describe the approach the proponent intends to take to encourage or attract participation, including how opportunities to participate will be planned and advertised. – Describe how Indigenous knowledge will be used to inform types of engagement activities and participant selection, including the identification of community consultation co-ordinators. – If sample surveys, interview questions, or other data collection tools exist, identify them in an appendix to the study plan, and provide clear links to how they relate to the social criteria. – Identify past public or Indigenous engagement activities that have taken place and are being used to inform this study plan. ■ Action #3: For secondary information collection, provide specific information sources to be used, and for which criteria and indicators they apply. The study plan should provide a clear outline of which criteria and indicator data will come from existing secondary sources and what those sources are. Provide more detail on how the proponent has considered GBA+ requirements in the identification of secondary information sources.	■ Section 4.2 outlines how Indigenous communities will be engaged with including for the purposes of data verification. Section 5 of the Study Plan describes how Indigenous Knowledge will be collected and considered in the IS / EA for the Project.	■ Section 4.2 ■ Section 5

Comment # / Ref #	DRAFT Study Plan Section	TISG Section	Comment / Context	Action Item	Final Response	Study Plan Reference
				■ Action #4: Provide a clear description in your study plan how Indigenous groups will have opportunities to provide Indigenous knowledge, including the validation of the baseline collected. The description should include the proposed methods for data collection, management of confidentiality, and information storage. This should also include a methodology for tracking information that has been approved by the group, to demonstrate that guidance outlined in Section 6.2 of the Guidelines has been incorporated into this study plan.		
4	Section 4	■ Sections 5.2, 6.3 and 10 of the Guidelines	■ The study plan indicates in Section 4 that disaggregated data may not be required for land and resource use and will be incorporated where possible. The study plan does not provide any further information on how the GBA+ analytical framework will be applied to data collection methodology and analysis. Refer to Agency guidance for more information on the GBA+ approach: https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/services/policy-guidance/practitioners-guide-impact-assessment-act/gender-based-analysis.html Section 5.2 of the Guidelines state that the Impact Statement must include, at a minimum, a description of efforts made by the proponent to engage diverse populations, including groups identified by gender, age or other community relevant factors (e.g., recreational hunters) to support the collection of information needed to complete the GBA+;The proponent should seek to solicit information necessary to support the GBA+, and if unsuccessful, efforts made should be described in the Impact Statement. Section 6.3 of the Guidelines state that the Impact Statement must include, at a minimum, a description of efforts to engage diverse populations of each Indigenous group in culturally appropriate ways, including groups identified by gender, age or other community relevant factors (e.g., hunters, trappers, and other harvesters) to support the collection of information needed to complete the GBA+;Section 10 of the Guidelines states that baseline information must be sufficiently disaggregated and analyzed to understand the differences in norms, roles and relations for diverse subgroups; the different level of power they hold; their differing needs, constraints and opportunities; and the impact of these differences in their lives, including consideration of disproportionate effects to surrounding communities.	■ Update the study plan to demonstrate how GBA+ has been integrated into all aspects of data collection methodology and the assessment of effects and impacts.This should include a description of how the proponent will engage diverse populations to collect information necessary to support the GBA+ analysis and how the information will be tracked, considered and reported in the Impact Statement.	■ Section 4.3 speaks to how GBA+ requirements will be accommodated as part of the Land and Resource Use Assessment.	■ Section 4.3

Comment # / Ref #	DRAFT Study Plan Section	TISG Section	Comment / Context	Action Item	Final Response	Study Plan Reference
5	Section 5.1.2	■ Sections 5, 6, and 7.4 of the Guidelines	■ The study plan does not reflect if the public and Indigenous groups informed the study areas for each indicators in Table 2: Land and Resource Use Study Areas. ■ Sections 5 and 6 of the Guidelines provide direction on the Agency's expectations for meaningful engagement with members of the public and public groups (at a minimum those listed in the PPP), as well as Indigenous groups (at a minimum those listed in the IEPP) during the impact assessment process. The Agency expects the proponent to engage equitably with the members of the public and public groups listed in the PPP and all Indigenous groups listed in the IEPP to gather baseline data and to assess the Project's effects. ■ Additionally, Section 7.4 of the Guidelines states that the spatial and temporal boundaries to be used in the impact assessment are outlined and discussed through the tailoring process, and include comments and input from federal and provincial government departments and agencies, local government, Indigenous groups, the public and other interested parties. The proponent should engage with Indigenous groups when defining spatial and temporal boundaries for valued components, especially for those that are identified by Indigenous groups. ■ It is unclear how the approach proposed in the study plan will meet the requirements of Sections 5, 6 and 7.4 of the Guidelines.	■ Update the study plan to demonstrate whether the public and Indigenous groups were engaged to define the spatial boundaries for valued components, especially for valued components that are identified by Indigenous groups. Alternatively, provide clarity regarding when Indigenous groups and public groups will be able to contribute to the definition of the spatial and temporal boundaries of valued components.	■ Section 6 of the Study Plan describes the rationale for the temporal and spatial boundaries for the Project. Section 6.2 of the Study Plan identifies how the PDA (formerly PSA), LSA and RSA have been defined for the Project, including for the Land and Resource Use Environment. This section also identifies that the study areas can be further refined based on input from neighbouring Indigenous communities and interested persons.	■ Section 6
6	Section 5.1.2	■ Section 1.1 of the Guidelines	■ Section 5.1.2 of the study plan states "The land use and resource study areas are defined to capture the potential effects of the Project on the surrounding environment. For each criteria, a local study area (LSA) and regional study area (RSA) are defined to reflect the extent to which the Project has the potential to affect the environment. The extent of the potential effects includes both direct and indirect effects." Section 1.1 of the Guidelines states that "the factors [to be considered in an impact assessment] are listed in subsection 22(1) of IAA and prescribe that the impact assessment of a designated project must take into account:a) the changes to the environment or to health, social or economic conditions and the positive and negative consequences of these changes that are likely to be caused by the carrying out of the designated project, including:…" The assessment of effects on the land and resource use should not only consider the extent to which the Project has the potential to affect the environment, but also consider potential changes to health, social and economic conditions. The land and resources use study area should be defined to capture the land and resource use area of influence of the Project, including effects not directly linked to adverse effects to the environment.	■ Update the study plan to define study areas that capture the Project's effects on land and resources use due to potential changes to environment, health, social and economic conditions.	■ Table 6-1, which explains each of the study areas, includes references to how the extent of impact areas of other study disciplines is to be considered in the Land and Resource Use Assessment.	■ Table 6-1

Comment # / Ref #	DRAFT Study Plan Section	TISG Section	Comment / Context	Action Item	Final Response	Study Plan Reference
7	Section 5.2	■ Sections 7 and 17 of the Guidelines	■ More detail is required in the description of indicators listed in Table 3 to understand the work that the proponent is planning to undertake. The criteria provided do not align with the specifics from the Guidelines outlined in the concordance table in Section 7 of the study plan. The criteria should refer to the wording used in the Guidelines to provide clarity to the reviewer. ■ Section 17 of the Guidelines states that "Indicators should be developed by the proponent using best practice, Agency guidance, and through engagement with Indigenous groups and the public. Rationale for the indicators chosen should be provided". ■ Criteria should be included in the study plan as laid out in the concordance table, but with additional details on the indicators that will be used to describe each criterion. Indicators must provide data (either quantitative or qualitative) that can be measured and used to identify changes due to the Project. The two examples below are a representative sample of indicators from the study plan that require more detail, not a complete list of the indicators that require more detail: – Example 1 – In Table 3 of the study plan, the use of the indicator "Natural Cultural and Recreational Values" for the criterion of "Parks and Protected Areas" does not provide adequate detail on what will be evaluated or measured (for change) by the proponent in relation to the criterion of "Parks and Protected Areas". – Example 2 - In Table 3 of the study plan, the "Recreation and Tourism" criterion specifies "Land and waterway disruption and access" as an indicator. This does not provide detail on what indicators will be used to describe the baseline for land and waterways or how the indicator will be used to measure the potential changes to land and waterways (including any change in access).	■ Update Table 3 of the study plan to include detailed criteria, detailed and measurable indicators, and rationale for the indicators selected to demonstrate how the requirements in Section 17 of the Guidelines would be met.	■ The Study Plan has been updated to include a list of the VCs, indicators, sub-indicators and their rationale for inclusion.	■ Table 9-2

Attachment B

Contact List

Category	Salutation	Surname	First Name	Organization	Department	Title	Contact Notes
Tourism Operators							
Tourism Operators	Sir / Madam	Slagel	Brad and Helen	7 Lakes Wilderness Camps		Owners	Same as Tom's Outpost Camps
Tourism Operators	Sir / Madam	Wiktowy	Mike	Albany-Ogoki Outposts			Letter package mailed 6/9/22
Tourism Operators	Sir / Madam	Booth	Jason and Sue	Boreal Forest Outfitters		Sir / Madam	Emailed 3/10/22, email follow-up 4/4/22, interviewed 5/17/22
Tourism Operators	Sir / Madam	McPhail	Thomas	Call of the North			Emailed 3/10/22, email follow-up 4/4/22 and 5/13/22, letter package mailed 6/9/22
Tourism Operators	Sir / Madam	Prine	(Richard) Dick & Jody	Dusey River Adventures		Sir / Madam	Emailed 3/10/22, interviewed 3/23/22, minutes sent 3/23/22
Tourism Operators	Sir / Madam	Gray Wood	Andrew and Monica Adam and Caroline	Gray Wood Outfitters (Eddie North's Adventures)		Owners	Emailed 3/10/22, interviewed 3/16/22, minutes sent 3/18/22
Tourism Operators	Mr.	Sofonoff	Jamie	Leuenberger Air Service Limited		Mr.	Emailed 3/10/22, interviewed 3/15/22, minutes sent 3/17/22
Tourism Operators	Mr.	Richards	Bob	O'Sullivan Rainbow Lodge		Mr.	Emailed 3/10/22, interviewed 3/16/22, minutes sent 3/18/22
Tourism Operators	Mr.	Haakenson	Chad	Twin Lakes Outfitters and Wilderness Camps		Mr.	Emailed 3/10, email follow-up 4/4/22, interviewed 5/4/22, minutes sent 5/4/22
Tourism Operators	Sir / Madam	Slagel	Brad	Tom's Outpost Camps Ltd.			Emailed 3/10/22, email follow-up 4/4/22, interviewed 4/20/22, minutes sent 4/26/22
Tourism Operators	Mr.	Cheesman	Alan	Wilderness North		Mr.	Emailed 3/10/22, email follow-up 4/4/22 and 5/13/22, letter package mailed 6/9/22, interviewed 7/20/22, minutes sent 7/22/22
Tourism Operators	Mr.	Sofonoff	Jamie	Wilderness Outfitters	Wilderness Outfitters / Leuenberger's Fly-In Lodge and Wilderness Outposts	Sir / Madam	Same business as above
Tourism Operators	Mr.	Cassidy	Mark	Nakina North Outfitters		Mr.	Emailed 3/10/22, interviewed 3/14/22, minutes sent 3/17/22

Category	Salutation	Surname	First Name	Organization	Department	Title	Contact Notes
Tourism Operators	Mr.		Patrick and Dave	Ogoki River Outpost Camp/Andomoozwe Outfitters			Emailed 5/13/22, interviewed Patrick, received letter
Tourism Operators	Sir / Madam	Ritch	John and Gloria	Ogoki Lake Outfitters	Wilderness Outfitters	Sir / Madam	Emailed 3/10/22, email follow-up 4/4/22 and 5/13/22, letter package mailed 6/9/22
Tourism Operators	Sir / Madam	Boucher	Judy and Paul	Ogoki Frontier	Wilderness Outfitters	Sir / Madam	Emailed 3/10/22, email follow-up 4/4/22 and 5/13/22, letter package mailed 6/9/22
Tourism Operators				Longlac Lodge			Emailed 3/10/22, email follow-up 4/4/22 and 5/13/22, letter package mailed 6/9/22
Tourism Operators	Mr.	Meshake	Howard and Elsie	O'Sullivan Lake Outfitters		Owners	Emailed 3/10/22, email follow-up 4/4/22 and 5/13/22
Tourism Operators	Sir / Madam			Hearst Air Service Ltd		Owners	Emailed 3/10/22, interviewed 3/16/22, minutes sent 3/18/22
Tourism Operators	Sir / Madam			Brace Lake Outfitters		Owners	Emailed 12/19/22
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs							
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs				Canoe Kayak Ontario			Emailed 3/21/22 via whitewaterontario, follow-up 4/4/22
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs	Mr.	MacLachlan	David	Destination Northern Ontario			Contacted through website form on 3/21/22
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs				Geraldton Chamber of Commerce			Contact as part of Economic discipline
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs				Longlac Chamber of Commerce			Contact as part of Economic discipline
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs				Nature and Outdoor Tourism Ontario			Emailed Kate 3/21/22, received reply same day with note of no comments

Category	Salutation	Surname	First Name	Organization	Department	Title	Contact Notes
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Marcil	Laurie	Nature and Outdoor Tourism Ontario		Executive Director	Emailed Kate 3/21/22, received reply same day with note of no comments
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Racicot	Kate	Nature and Outdoor Tourism Ontario		Research and Stakeholder Relations	Emailed Kate 3/21/22, received reply same day with note of no comments
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs				Northern Ontario Tourist Outfitters Association/Nature and Outdoor			Emailed Kate 3/21/22, received reply same day with note of no comments
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs				Ontario Federation of Snowmobiling Clubs			Contacted through form 4/26/22, received call 4/27/22, interviewed 4/16/22
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Connor	Patrick	Ontario Trails		Executive Director	Emailed 4/26/22, email follow-up 5/13/22
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Baycroft	Bob	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Fishing/Hunting Interest		Emailed 4/26/22, email follow-up 5/13/22
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Brown	Clarke	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Fishing/Hunting Interest		Emailed 4/26/22, email follow-up 5/13/22
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Espinola	John	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Road Accessed Tourism		Emailed 4/26/22, email follow-up 5/13/22
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Baillargeon	Bernie	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Bear Management & Baitfish		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Desrochers	Brian	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Trapping		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Antonson	Sean	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Trapping		Presented to at February ’22 meeting

Category	Salutation	Surname	First Name	Organization	Department	Title	Contact Notes
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Stevens	Ken	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Crown Land Recreation		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Couture	Tanya	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Crown Land Recreation		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Booth	Jason	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Remote Tourism		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Henley	Brent	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Remote Tourism	Greenstone Tourism Coordinator	Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		House	Ken	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Cottaging		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Metansinine	Yvette	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Aboriginal		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Hoffman	Ed	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Forest Industry (Kenogami)		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Chippett	Kellie	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Forest Industry (Kenogami)		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Hoffman	Deanna	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Forest Management		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Koski	Scott	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Forest Management		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Johnson	Eileen	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Local Business		Presented to at February ’22 meeting

Category	Salutation	Surname	First Name	Organization	Department	Title	Contact Notes
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		McPherson	James	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Municipality of Greenstone	Councillor	Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Arsenault	Vaughn	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Longlac Chamber of Commerce		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Gordon	Allan	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Metis	Council Member	Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Armstrong	Evan	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	General Public		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Nephin	Amelie	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	MNRF	MNRF Contact	Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Gross	Nicole	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	MNRF	Recording Secretary/Logistics	Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Therig	Steve	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Naturalist		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Community and Interest Groups and NGOs		Haslam	Rob	Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee	Naturalist		Presented to at February ’22 meeting
Forest Management Companies							
Forest Management Companies		Hoffman	Deanna	Ne-Daa Kii-Me Naan Inc.		General Manager	Emailed 3/10/22, email follow-up 4/26/22, interviewed 4/28/22, minutes sent 5/2/22
Forest Management Companies	Mr.	Bell	Mark	Agoke Development Corporation		President	To be phoned - on hold
Forest Management Companies	Chief	Nelson	Theresa	Ogwiidachiwaning Sustainable Forest Management Inc. (Forest Management Company on Kenogami Forest)			Emailed 3/10/22 - deferred to colleagues

Category	Salutation	Surname	First Name	Organization	Department	Title	Contact Notes
Forest Management Companies	Mr.	O'Blenis	Michael	Ogwiidachiwaning Sustainable Forest Management Inc. (Forest Management Company on Kenogami Forest)			Emailed 3/10/22,replied to say to contact Scott Boone, email follow-up with Scott 4/4/22, followed up again 4/26/22
Mining Claim Holders	Mr.	Richard	Sutcliffe	Wabassi Resources Inc.		Director	Emailed 3/21/22, 3/22/22, and 3/23/22, interviewed 3/24/22 and minutes sent 3/24/22, minutes edited 3/24/22 and confirmed 3/28/22
Mining Claim Holders	Mr.	Smeenk	Frank	KWG Resources Inc.		President & CEO	Contacted as part of Economic discipline
Trap Lines							
Trap Lines intersecting Marten Falls Community Access Road Centreline		Baxter	Walter	OGF_ID: 67693979 / Trapline_A: GE154			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Lines intersecting Marten Falls Community Access Road Centreline		unknown	unknown, was held by Harry Baxter	OGF_ID: 67699447 / Trapline_A: GE159			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Lines intersecting Marten Falls Community Access Road Centreline		Yapput	Perry	OGF_ID: 750714784 / Trapline_A: GE148			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Lines intersecting Marten Falls Community Access Road Centreline		Baxter	John C.	OGF_ID: 67693977 / Trapline_A: GE153			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF

Category	Salutation	Surname	First Name	Organization	Department	Title	Contact Notes
Trap Lines intersecting Marten Falls Community Access Road Centreline		Kwandibens	Dorothy	OGF_ID: 67682110 / Trapline_A: GE157			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Lines intersecting Marten Falls Community Access Road Centreline		Mendowegan Sr.	Bruce	OGF_ID: 750714792 / Trapline_A: GE138			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Lines intersecting Marten Falls Community Access Road Centreline		Moonias	Thomas	OGF_ID: 67699450 / Trapline_A: GE164			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		Baxter		GE153			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		TBD	TBD	GE154			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		TBD	TBD	GE155			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		TBD	TBD	GE156			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		TBD	TBD	GE157			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		TBD	TBD	GE158			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		TBD	TBD	GE161			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		TBD	TBD	GE162			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF

Category	Salutation	Surname	First Name	Organization	Department	Title	Contact Notes
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		TBD	TBD	GE163			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		TBD	TBD	GE164			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		TBD	TBD	GE210			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		TBD	TBD	GE160			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		Yapput	TBD	GE148			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trap Line Holder (TBD)		TBD	TBD	GE159			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trapping Council or Organization		Payeur	Fern	Hearst Trapping Council			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Trapping Council or Organization				Northwestern Fur Trapper Association			Letter packages mailed out by MNRF
Government Review Team							
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Mohammed	Shireen	Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade	Strategic and Corporate Policy Branch, Corporate Policy Unit		Contacted as part of Economic discipline
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Berglund	Nancy	Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry	Northwest Regional Resources Section - Land Use Planning	Regional Planner	Same request to all cc'd - emailed 4/5/22, deferred to Jessica M
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Malone-Daniher	Jessica (Jessy)	Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry	Northwest Regional Resources Section - Land Use Planning	Regional Planner	Same request to all cc'd - emailed 4/5/22, Jessica confirmed leading 4/5/22, replied back 5/6/22
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Mauro	Melissa	Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry	Northwest Regional Resources Section - Land Use Planning	Supervisor	Same request to all cc'd - emailed 4/5/22, deferred to Jessica M
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Jennifer	Chikoski	Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry	Program and Planning Support Officer, Far North Branch		Same request to all 3 cc'd - emailed 4/5/22, deferred to Jessica M

Category	Salutation	Surname	First Name	Organization	Department	Title	Contact Notes
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Dyczko	Jessica	Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry	Far North Senior Planning Coordinator, Far North Branch		Same request to all 3 cc'd - emailed 4/5/22, deferred to Jessica M
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Mr.	Antler	James (Jim)	Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and Culture Industries	Tourism Policy Unit Tourism Policy and Research Branch	Policy Advisor	Emailed 4/5/22, interviewed 4/28/22, minutes sent 5/2/22
Municipal Representatives and Agencies	Mayor	Beaulieu	Renald	Municipality of Greenstone	-	Mayor	Emailed 4/5/22
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Leader	Janet	Minister of Transportation		Senior Advisor	Emailed 4/5/22, checked in on throughout spring/summer, checked in on throughout fall, 11/23/22 confirmed they need to loop back with MND
Provincial Representatives and Agencies				Ontario Parks Northwest Zone	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks	Various	Meeting on 8/15/24 to understand Ontario's mitigation measures for Parks and Protected Areas
(Non-GRT) Government Representatives and Agencies							
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Nephin	Amelie	Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry		Resource Liason Specialist	Emailed 4/5/22, deferred to Jessica
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Bourdignon	Charlotte	Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry		Management Forester	Emailed 4/5/22, recommended we reach out to Tara Rooney (emailed 4/5/22), Tara deferred to Jessica M
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Lawr	Shannon	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	Ontario Parks	Park Superintendent	Emailed 4/1/22
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Onyshkewych	Katherine	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	Northwest Zone - Ontario Parks	A/ Senior Park Planner	Emailed 4/1/22, replied 4/5/22 to express interest and note that they will schedule an interview later
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Mr.	Qiu	Guowang	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	Northern Region	Air Quality Analyst	Emailed 4/1/22

Category	Salutation	Surname	First Name	Organization	Department	Title	Contact Notes
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Mr.	Travers	Jason	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	Ontario Parks	Director (Acting)	Emailed 4/1/22
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Golets	Susan	Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and Culture Industries	Sport, Recreation, and Community Program Division	Director	Emailed 4/1/22, requested to be removed, not at listed organization
Provincial Representatives and Agencies	Ms.	Keith	Darja	Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and Culture Industries	Sport, Recreation, and Community Program Division	Manager	Emailed 4/1/22, declined 4/1/22

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