

Appendix E – Fish Habitat Compensation Plan Workshop Presentations

Gahcho Kué Project- Fish Habitat Compensation Workshop

Thursday, September 20, 2012

The Explorer Hotel, Yellowknife, NT

Participants:

Name	Community/ Agency
Patrick Simon	Deninu Kué First Nation
Frank V. Lafferty	Deninu Kué First Nation
Robert Sayine	Deninu Kué First Nation
Angie Lantz	Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
Florence Catholique	Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
Sam Boucher	Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
George Marlow	Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
Chris Heron	NWT Métis Nation
Violet Mandeville	NWT Métis Nation
Earl Evans	NWT Métis Nation
Ed Jones	North Slave Métis Alliance
Susan Enge	North Slave Métis Alliance
Hugh McSwain	North Slave Métis Alliance
James Lafferty	Tlicho Government
Georgina Chocolate	Tlicho Government
Joe Champlain	Tlicho Government
Todd Slack	Yellowknives Dene First Nation
Shannon Gault	Yellowknives Dene First Nation
Margaret Mackenzie	Interpreter
Mary Rose Sundberg	Interpreter
Ann Biscaye	Interpreter
Sarazine Boucher	Interpreter
Maureen Van Overliw	Facilitator
Craig Blackie	De Beers Canada
Veronica Chisholm	De Beers Canada
Alex Hood	De Beers Canada
Bruce Hanna	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Pete Cott	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Sarah Olivier	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Kasey Clipperton	Golder Associates
Gary Ash	Golder Associates
Kristine Mason	Golder Associates

Gahcho Kué Project: Fish Habitat Compensation



Overview

- Re-introduction to the Gahcho Kué Project
- Fisheries Authorization: Harmful Alteration, Disruption or destruction (HADD) of fish habitat in Kennady Lake
- Calculating habitat losses and gains to achieve no net loss.
- Possible fish habitat compensation options.
- Potential research projects
- Input from Communities

Definitions:

Compensation is defined in the Habitat Policy as:

"The replacement of natural habitat, increase in the productivity of existing habitat, or maintenance of fish production by artificial means in circumstances dictated by social and economic conditions, where mitigation techniques and other measures are not adequate to maintain habitats for Canada's fisheries resources."

Northwest Territories

Gameti

Wekweeti

Ekati

Diavik

Gahcho Kué

Snap Lake

Whati

Behchokò

Ndilo/Dettah

Yellowknife

Lutsel K'e

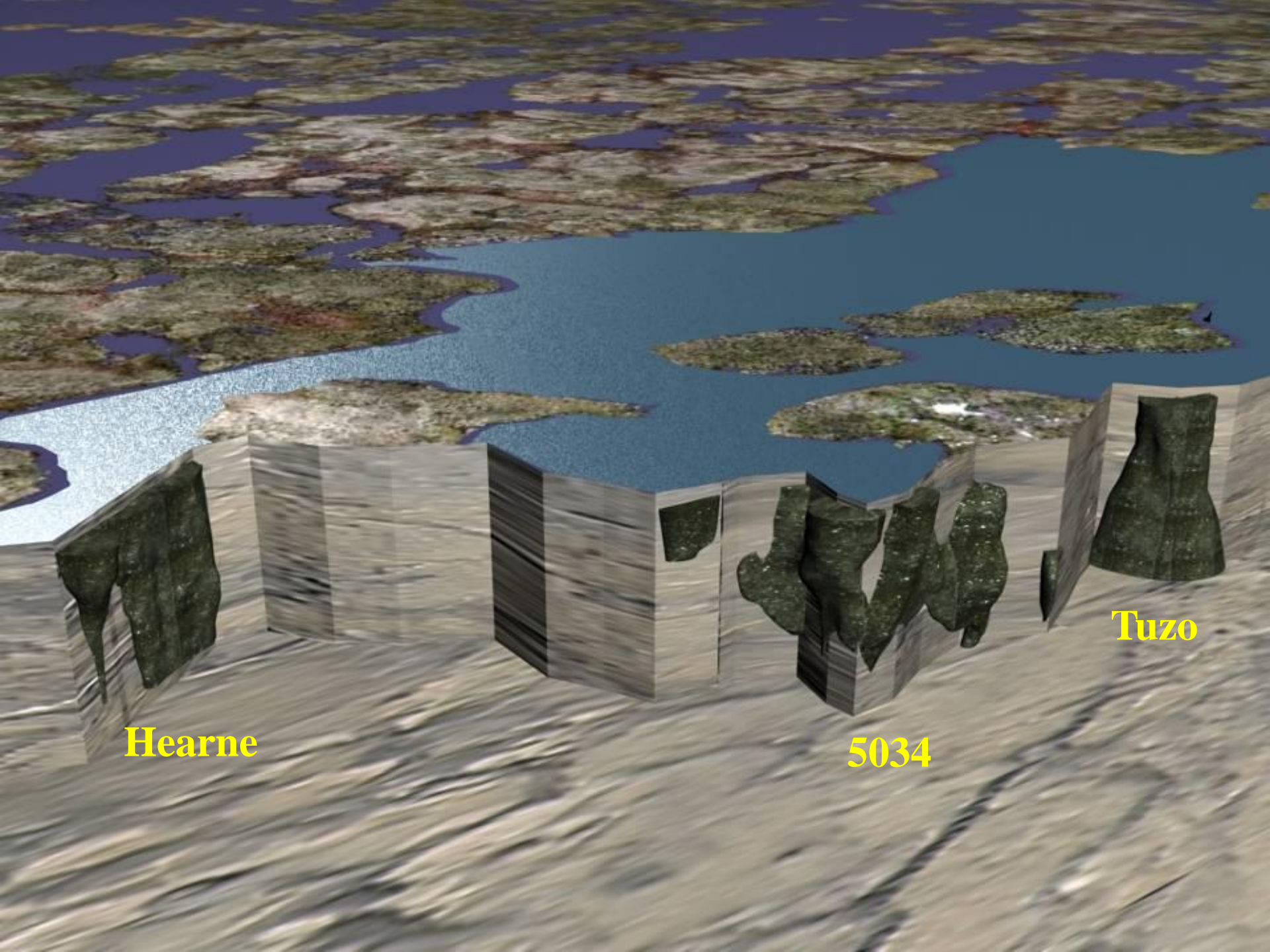
Ft. Providence

Ft. Resolution

Hay River







Hearne

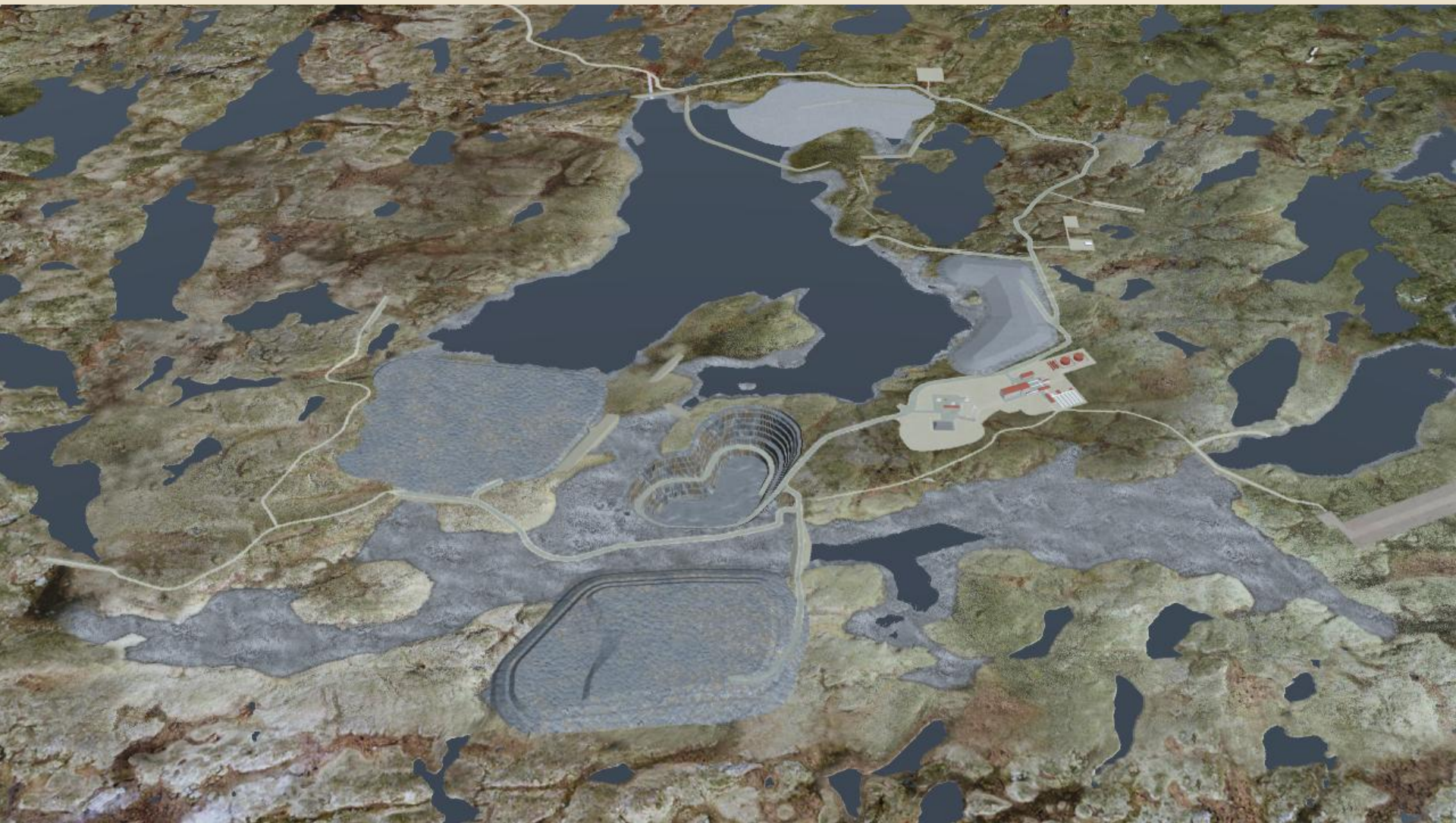
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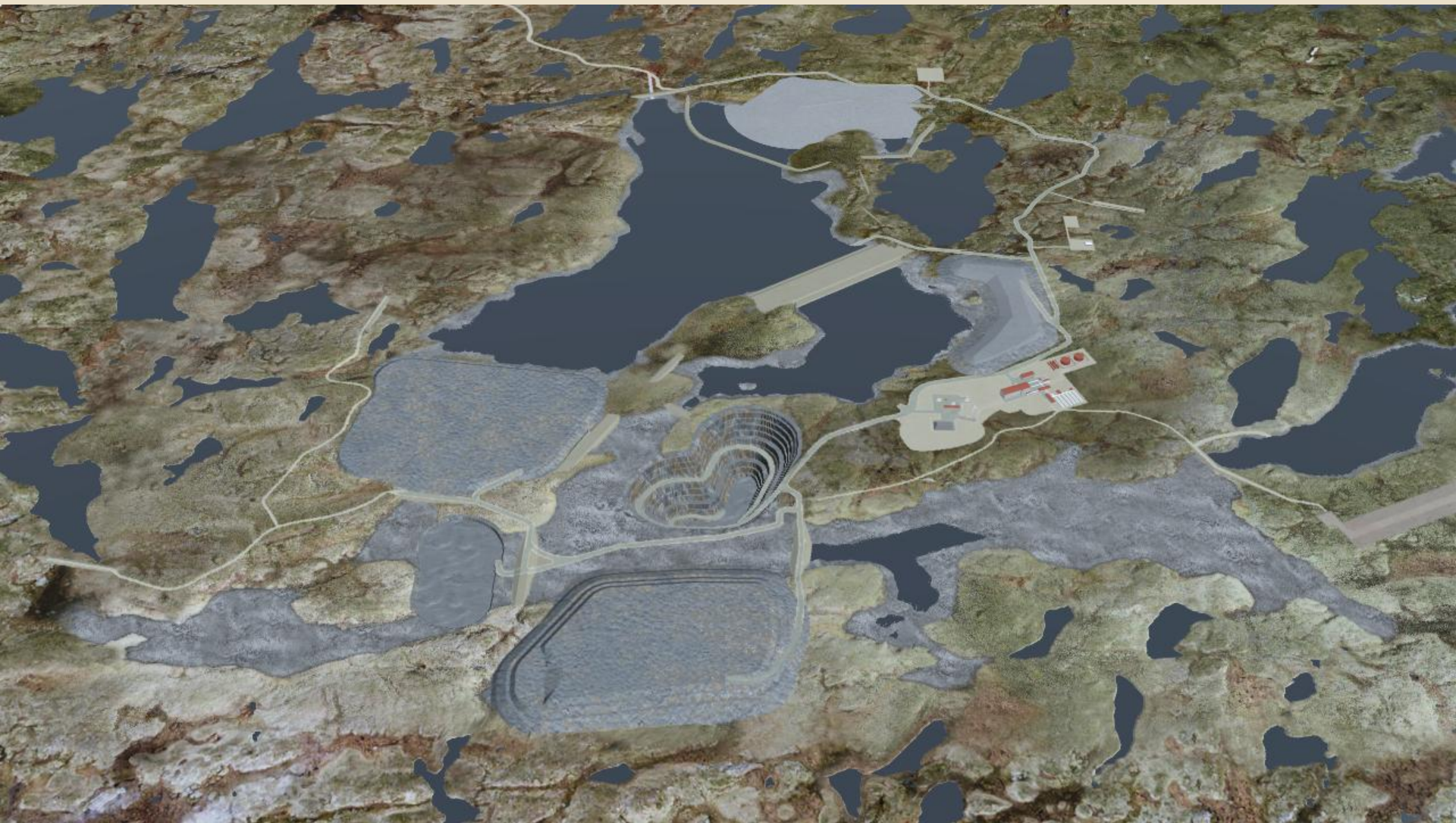
Tuzo

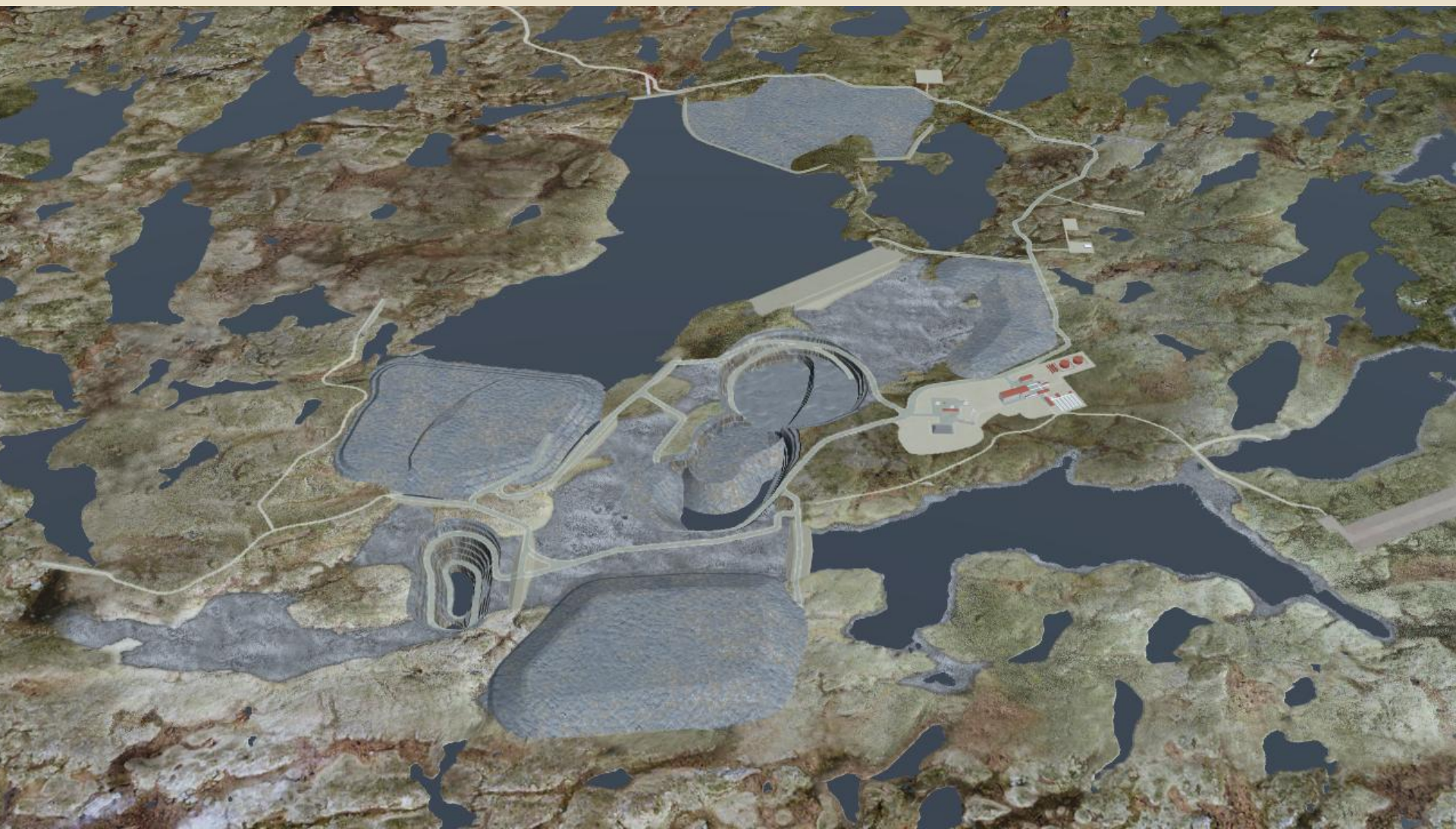


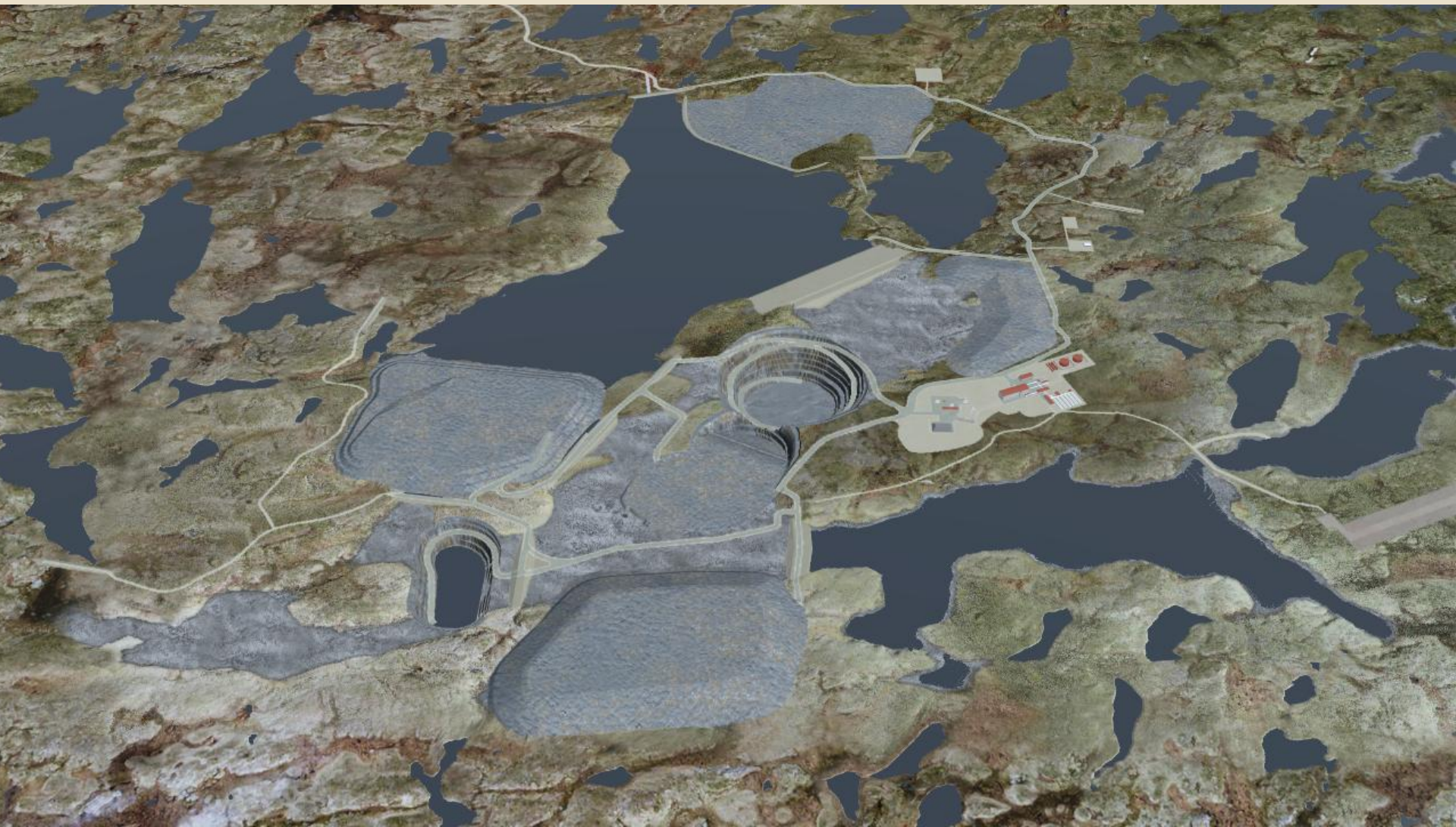


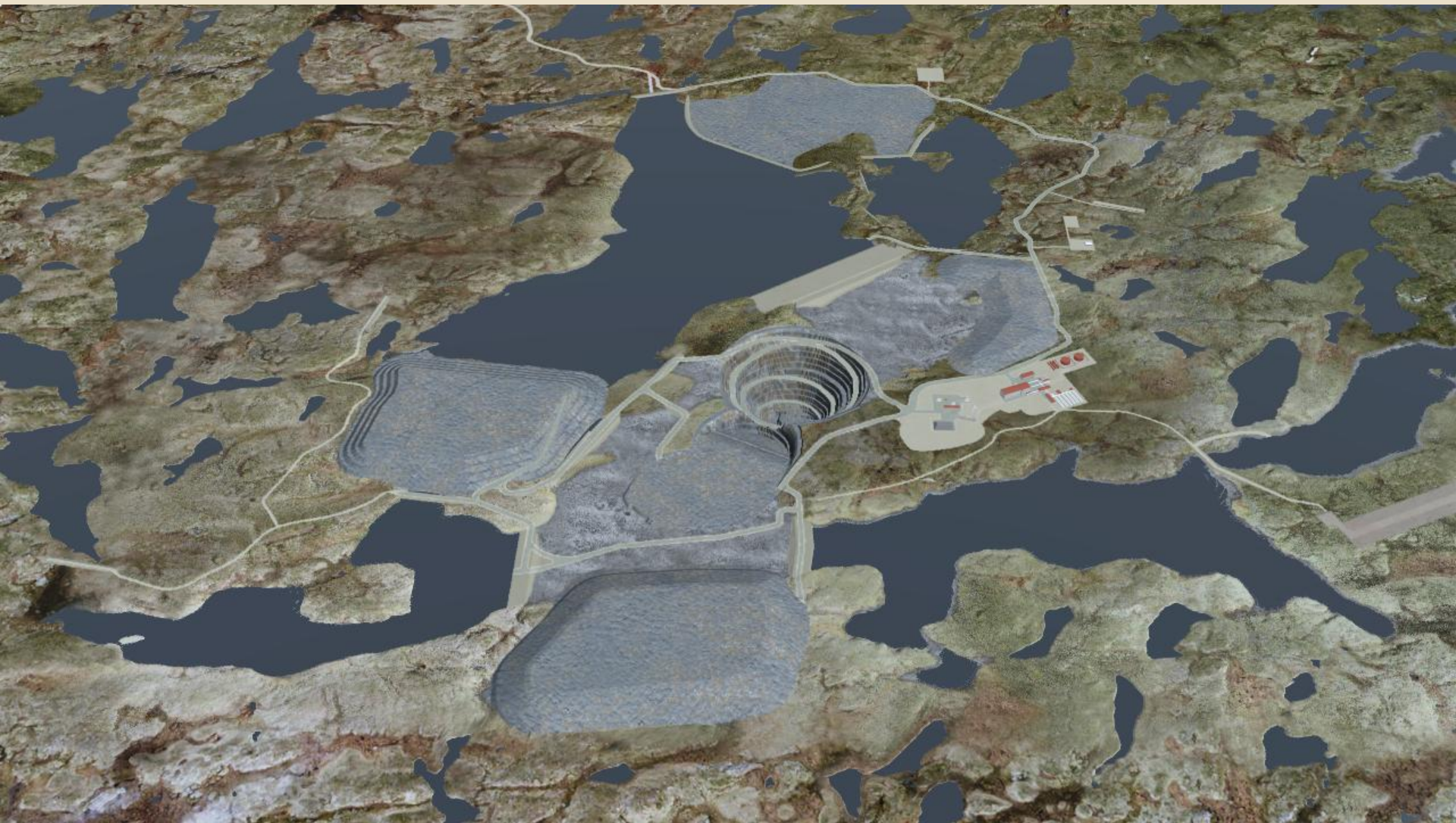


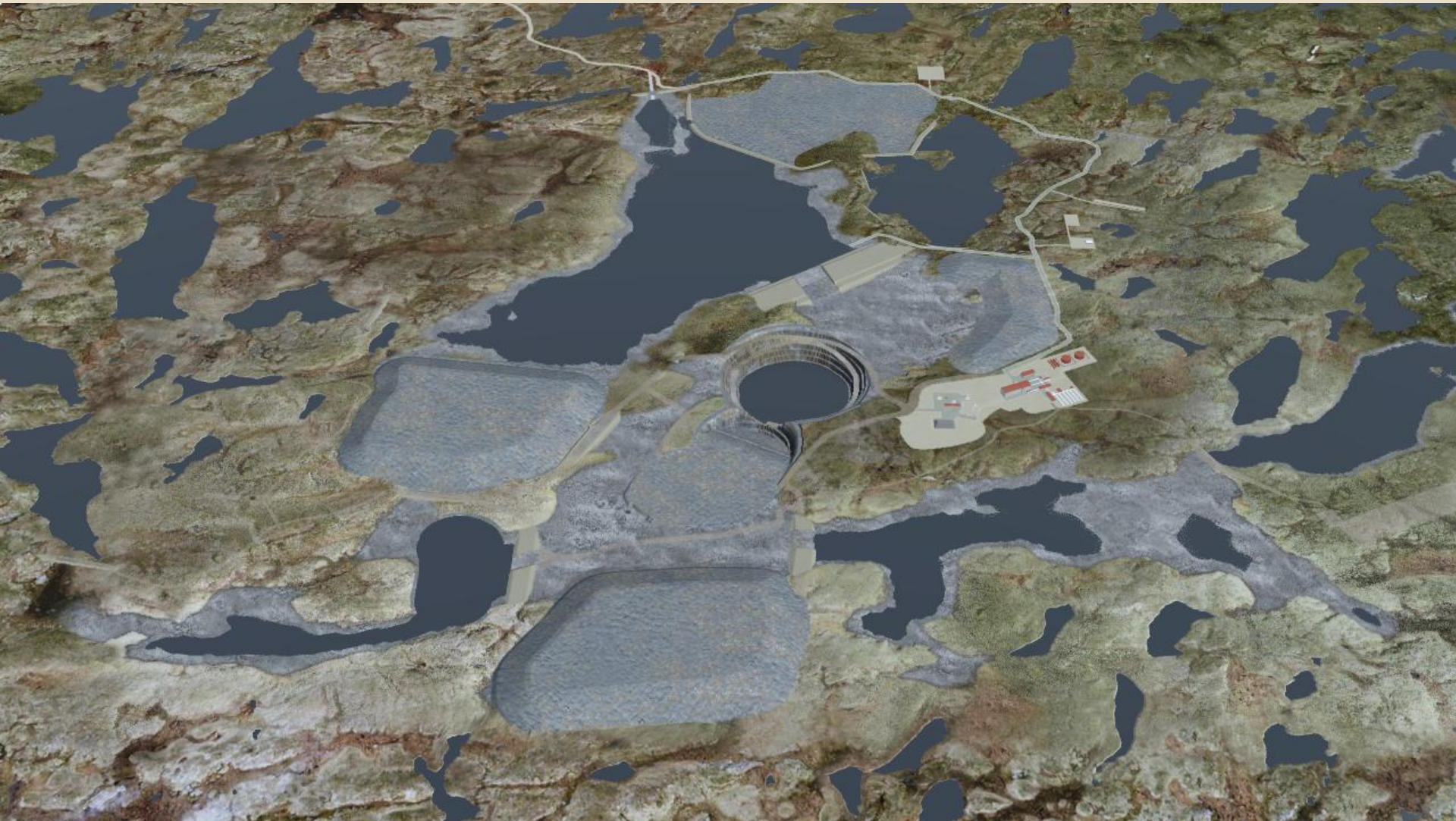


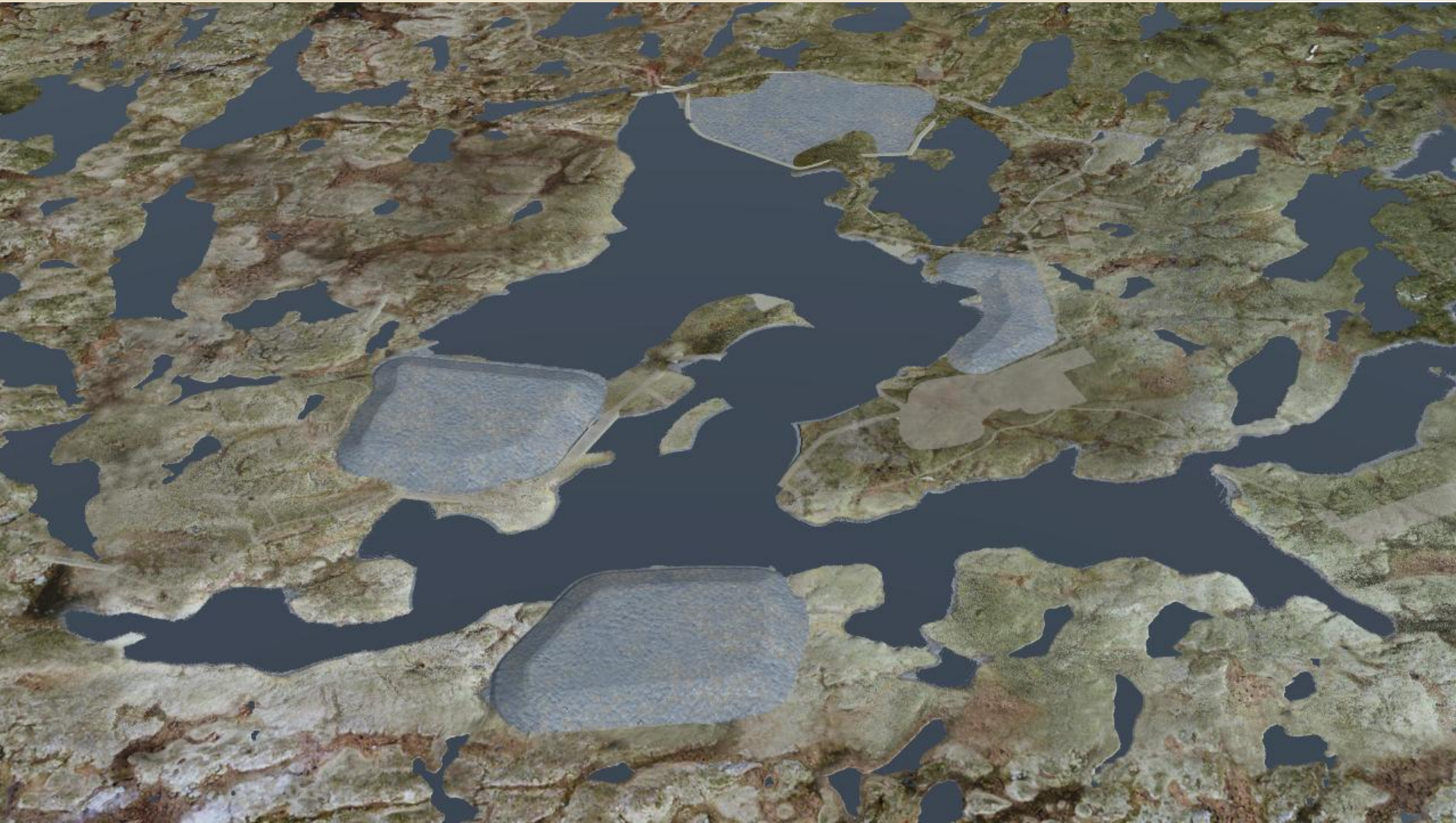






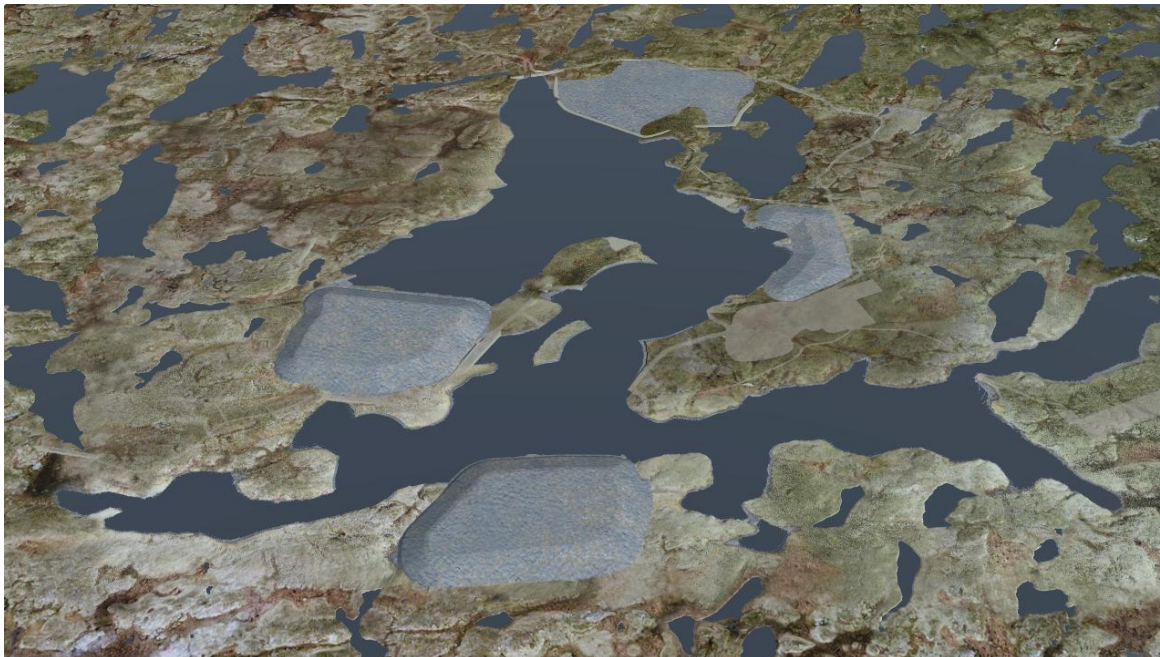






Fish Habitat Compensation Approach

- Establish how much habitat will be permanently lost and/or altered and how much will be temporarily disturbed during mine operation.
 - E.g. 158 ha permanent loss in Kennady Lake



2 Components of fish habitat compensation for Gahcho Kué

- Permanent loss of fish habitat
- Compensation for temporary disturbance to fish habitat during operations.



Fish Habitat Compensation Approach

- Consideration of fishes in Kennady Lake (and smaller nearby lakes)-
 - Arctic grayling
 - Burbot
 - Lake chub
 - Lake trout
 - Ninespine Stickleback
 - Northern pike
 - Round whitefish
 - Slimy sculpin
- Suitable habitat for each species is determined for key periods in fish's life (feeding, spawning, rearing etc.)

FIGURE 1: Hierarchy of Compensation Options

- 1** Create or increase the productive capacity of **like-for-like** habitat in the same ecological unit.
(e.g., adding or creating trout spawning habitat for the loss of trout spawning habitat)

- 2** Create or increase the productive capacity of **unlike** habitat in the same ecological unit
(e.g., the replacement of an area of lake littoral zone with boulder clusters and large woody debris)

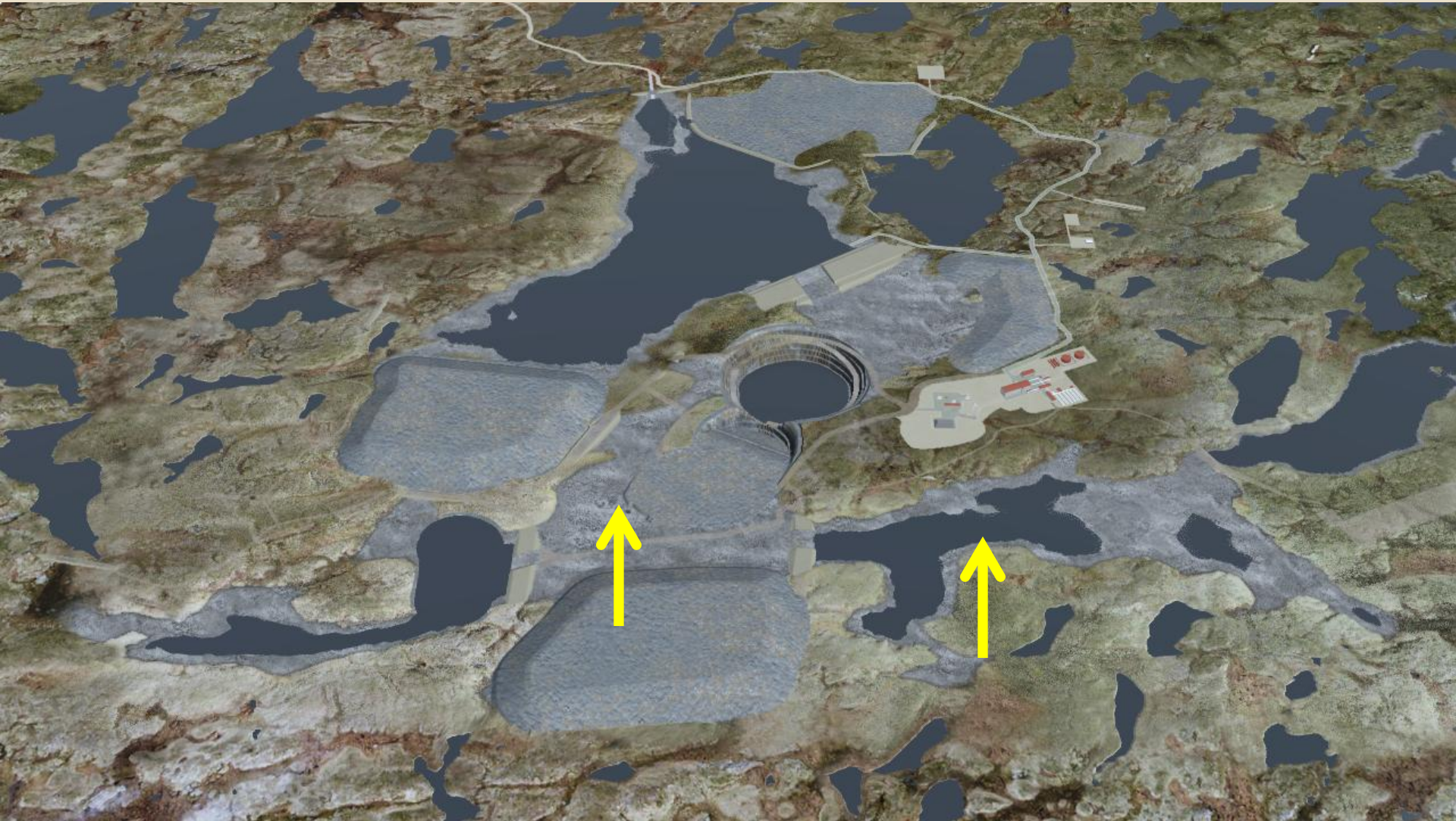
- 3** Create or increase productive capacity in a **different ecological unit**
(e.g., a rocky shoreline for bass and panfish may be replaced with a sloping vegetated shoreline to be used for pike spawning)

- 4** Measures of last resort

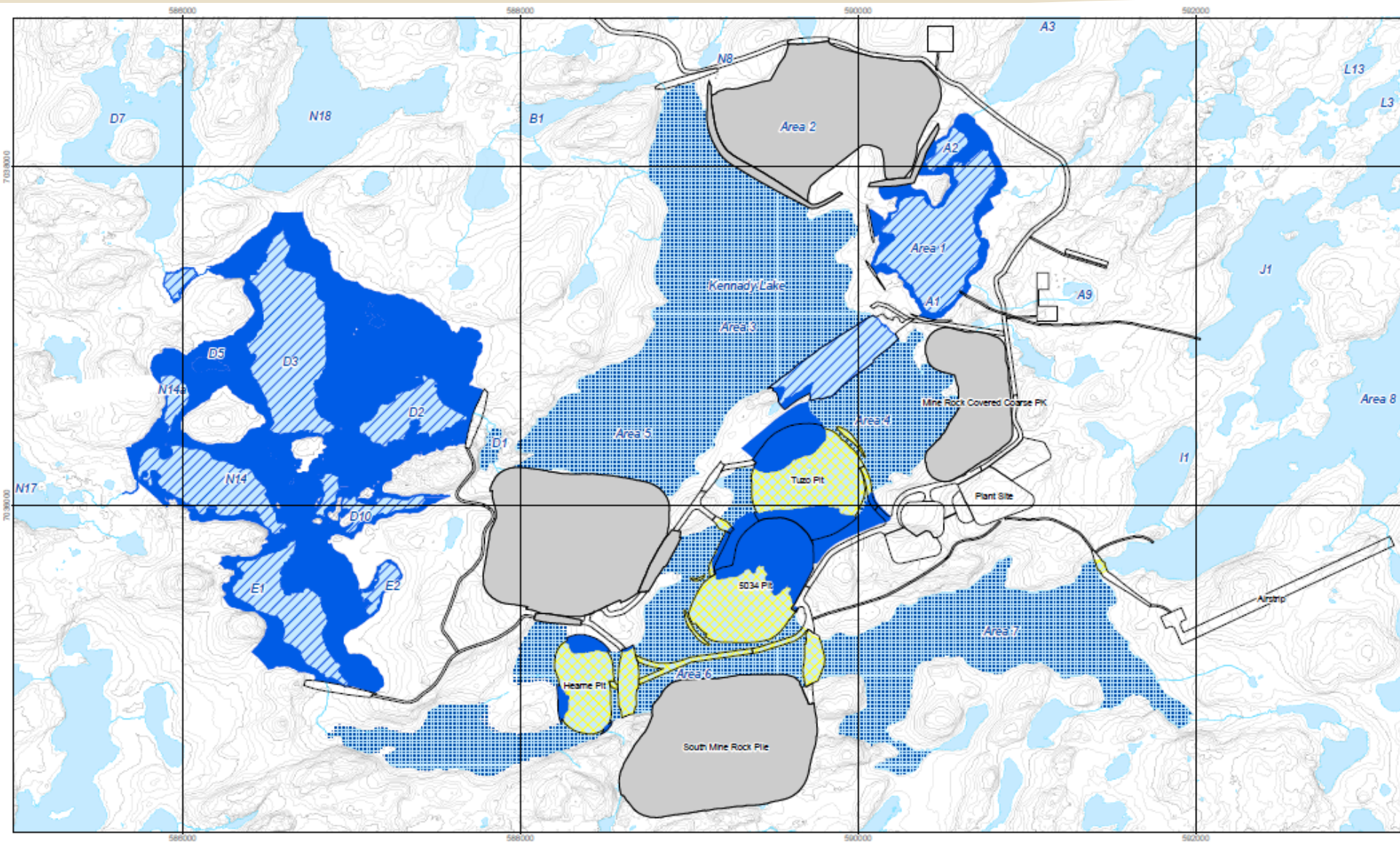
**Most
Preferred
Option**

**Least
Preferred
Option**

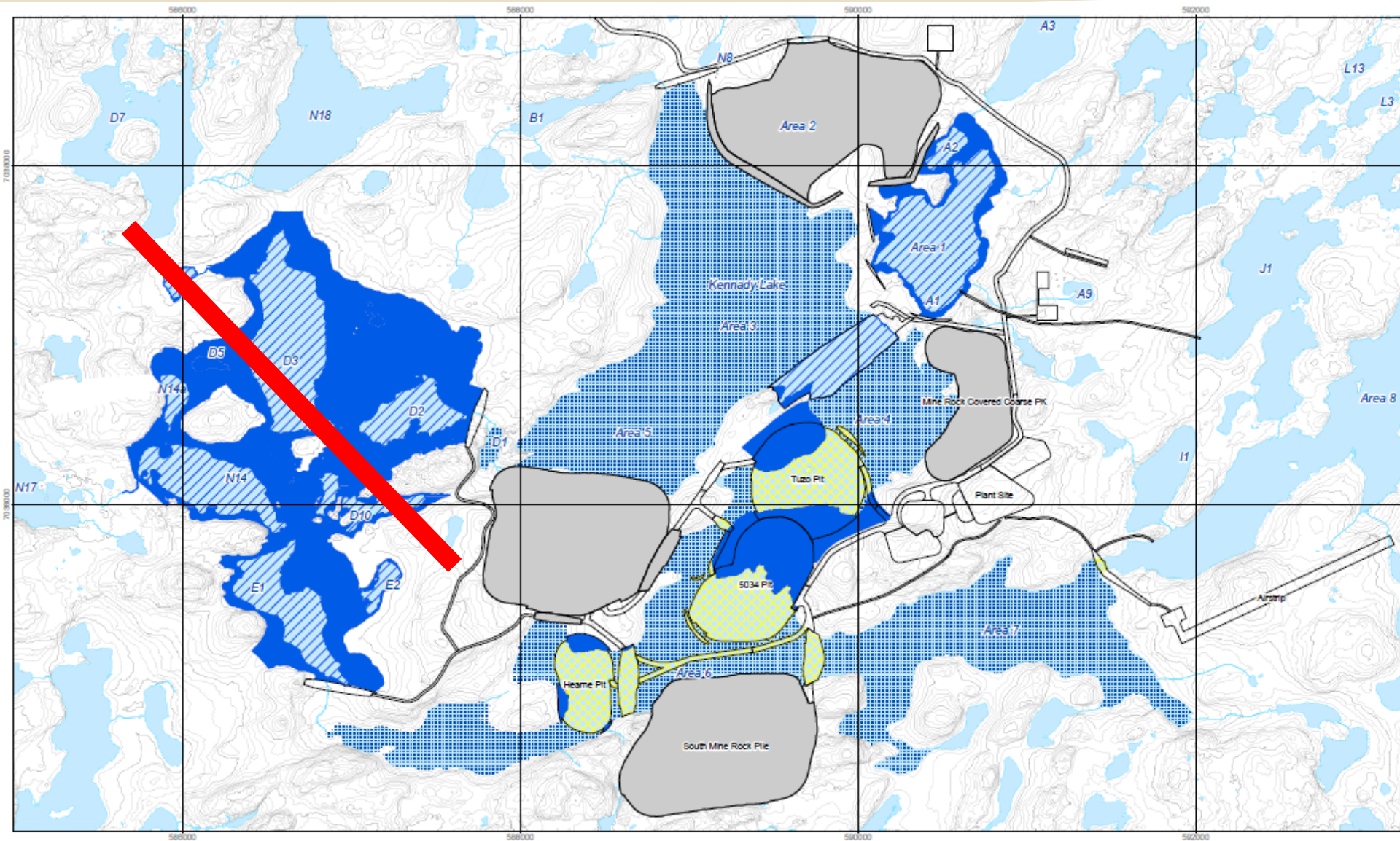
Habitat Enhancement within Kennady Lake



Habitat compensation for permanent losses in Kennady Lake- “Raised lake option”



Habitat compensation for permanent losses in Kennady Lake- “**Raised lake option**”



Off-site habitat compensation: **Redknife River fish passage**



Recommended research options

1. Food web and ecosystem structure in Kennady Lake
2. Potential for overwintering by fish in shallow lakes
3. Regional HSI models for northern fishes
4. Patterns of fish movement and habitat usage.
5. Regional genetic diversity
6. Biology, life history and habitat usage of NWT fishes of conservation concern
7. Accuracy in population estimates

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- 4. Patterns of fish movement and habitat usage.**
5. Regional genetic diversity
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- 7. Accuracy in population estimates**

4. Patterns in fish movement and habitat use

- Issue: Movements of fishes in small northern systems is poorly understood
- Using modern tagging techniques, examine movements within and among small lakes to determine habitat usage, spawning time (and location), feeding areas and overwintering sites.
- Direct application to operations phase of Gahcho Kué-
 - Downstream flow issues
- In conjunction with monitoring activities
- Potential MSc thesis and pairing with TK

7. Accuracy of population estimates

- Issue: There is uncertainty about how accurate mark-recapture and hydro-acoustic methods are.
- Baseline monitoring estimates compared to actual numbers obtained during fish salvage
 - Very unique situation to validate estimation methods for northern lakes
- Monitoring crews collect samples and Post-doctoral fellow analyzes and writes scientific papers

Input from Communities-

- Site workshops conducted from August 10-22, and September 13, 2012
- Habitat compensation options discussed
- Ideas for off-site fish habitat compensation



Fish related concerns close to communities

Examples:

- YKDFN- Continued research on Inconnu in Yellowknife area
- NSMA- Prosperous and Prelude Lake fish stock enhancement
- LKDFN- Stark Lake water quality concerns- contaminated fish
- DKFN- Concerns about contaminated fish from Slave River



Timeline of Gahcho Kué fish habitat compensation plan: Community involvement summary

- 2010 Conceptual Plan submitted as part of EIS
- February 2012- community visits
- June 29, 2012- Update of fish habitat compensation plan submitted to MVEIRB
- August/September, 2012- Community site workshops at Gahcho Kué
- July/August, 2012- Letters of concern submitted to MVEIRB regarding lack of government consultation on habitat compensation plan (Akaitcho & Tlicho)
- September 13, 2012- responses to IR round 2 submitted
- September 20, 2012- fish habitat compensation workshop
- October/ November, 2012- Follow-up community visits
- December 4-7, 2012- Public Hearings

However....

- Fish habitat compensation plan will not be finalized until ministerial approval is given from the EIS
- Then De Beers is in a position to obtain a Fisheries Authorization
- Part of an ongoing engagement process for which this is one step on the road.



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Fish Habitat Off-setting

Fish Compensation Community Workshop for DeBeers Gahcho Kué Project

P. Vecsei

*Explorer Hotel, Yellowknife
20 September 2012*

Canada



Department of Fisheries and Oceans

DFO is responsible for developing and implementing policies and programs in support of Canada's scientific, ecological, social and economic interests in oceans and fresh waters.





Fish Habitat Management

- Review development proposals for potential impacts on fish habitat

1 - Environmental assessment

2 - Regulatory





Types of projects we review...

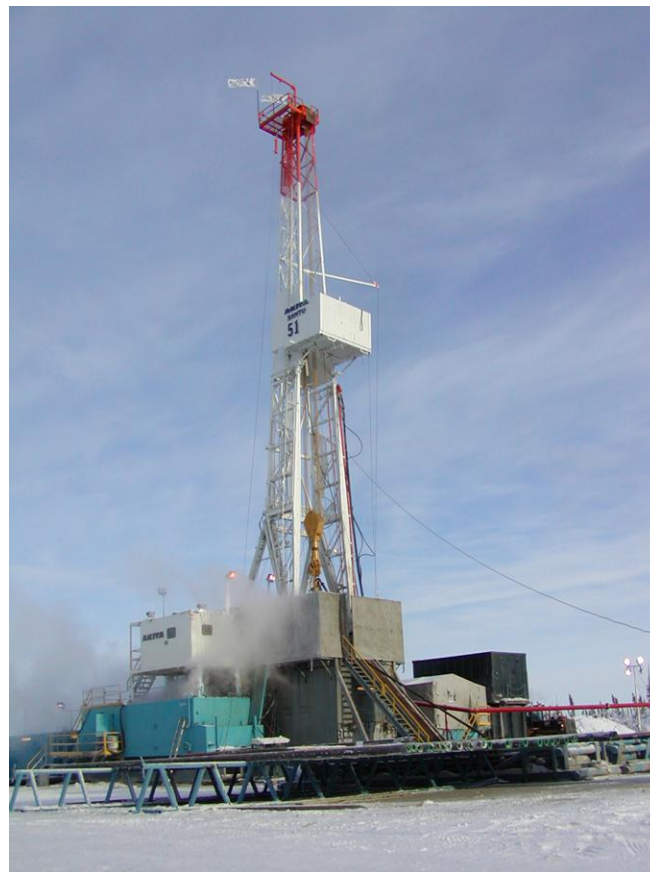


Hydro-electric





Oil and Gas Exploration and Development





Base metal mining and exploration





Transportation





Diamond Mining and Exploration





Fisheries Act

Habitat Protection Provisions

- *Section 35* – Prohibits the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat unless authorized by the Minister of DFO





What is a HADD under S.35?

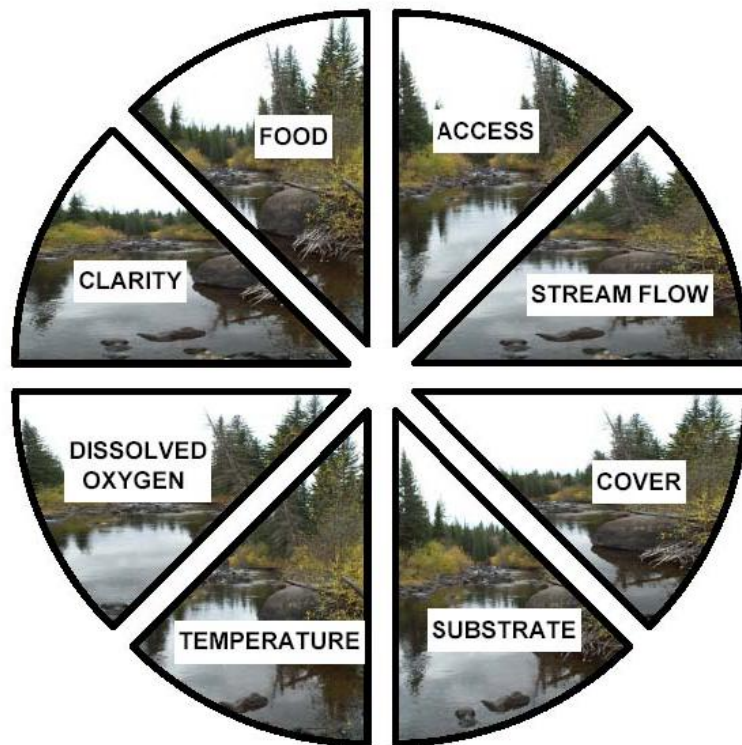
HADD = Harmful Alteration
Disruption or
Destruction of fish habitat

“any change in the physical, biological or chemical attributes of habitat that adversely affect their ability to provide the basic life requisites of food reproduction and cover to fish”





Fish Habitat



“spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, food supply and migration areas on which fish depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes”.



Fisheries Act

Habitat Protection Provisions

- *Section 35* – Prohibits the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat ***unless authorized by the Minister of DFO***

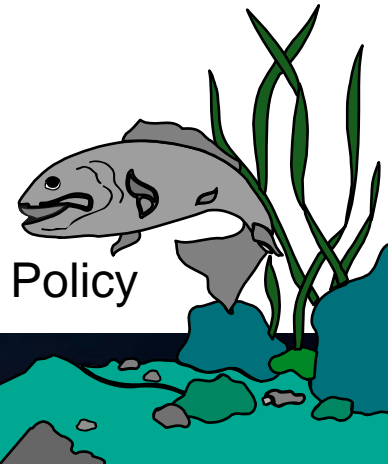




Fish Habitat Compensation (or Off-setting)

- Off-setting habitat losses is only considered once all reasonable options to redesign, relocate, or mitigate project related impacts to fish and fish habitat are fully considered

1986 DFO Policy



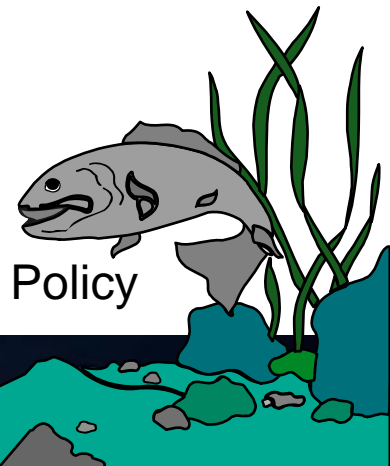


Fish Habitat Compensation (or Off-setting)

- This includes replacement, restoration, or enhancement of fish habitat
- Like-for-like options preferred
- Off-site options are often required

Options only relate to the HADD. This is different to benefits agreements between people affected by the development and the developer

1986 DFO Policy





Habitat Off-setting

Proponent provides plan to off-set habitat losses

Community input welcome

DFO's responsibility to determine if the plan is appropriate and acceptable

The plan normally gets revised many times as new information comes in and ideas are developed



Habitat Off-setting

Making new habitat

e.g. Panda Diversion Channel

Enhancing existing habitat

e.g. Connecting fishless lakes to lakes with fish

Rehabilitating disturbed habitat

e.g. Cleaning up streams or shorelines



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A diagram illustrating a river system. On the left, a large, light blue area represents a reservoir or lake. A black arrow points from this area towards a vertical dashed line labeled "Road". To the right of the road, the river continues and branches into several smaller channels. Five specific locations along these branches are circled in red, indicating spawning sites. The text "Spawning sites" is written in black at the bottom right of the diagram.

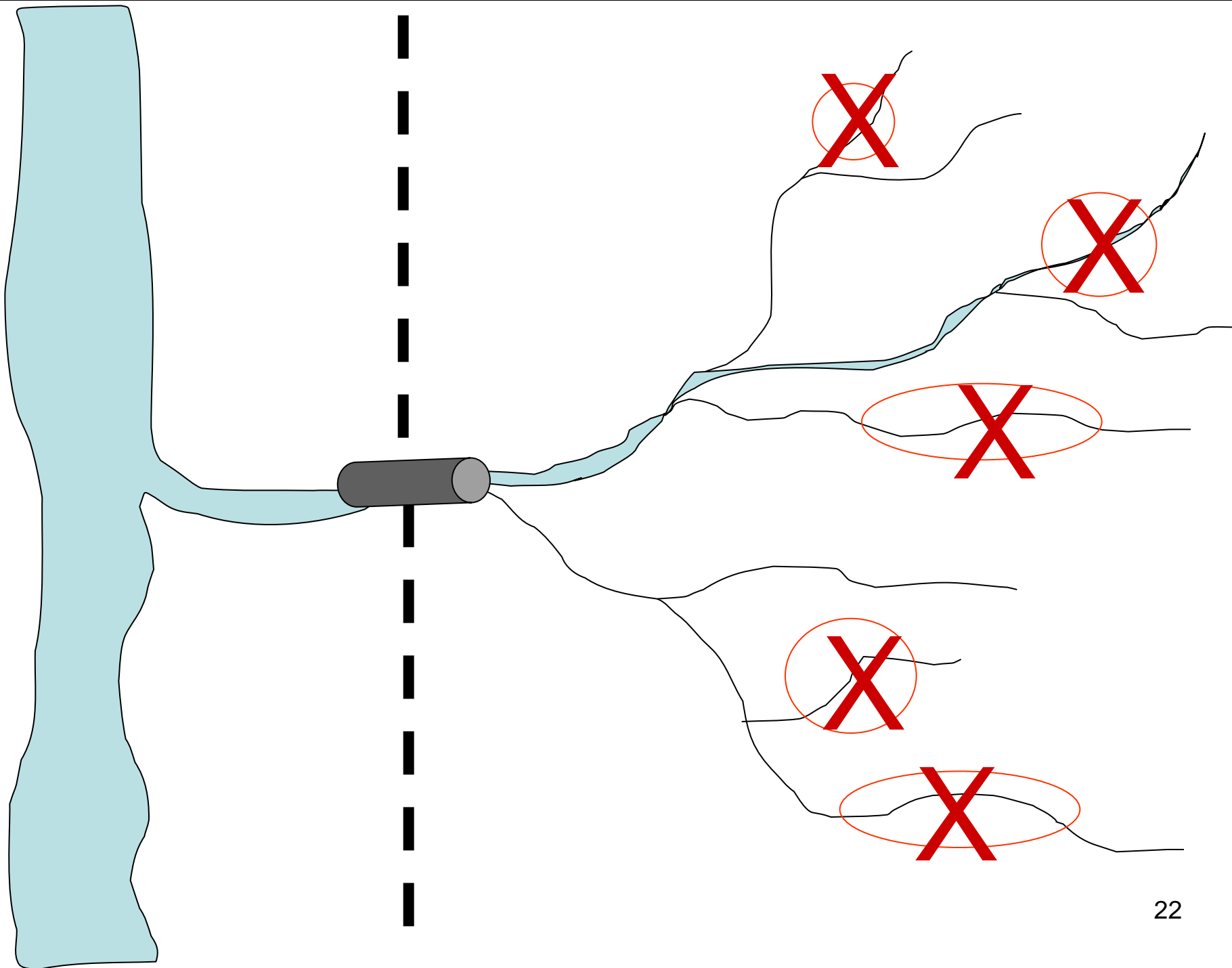
Road

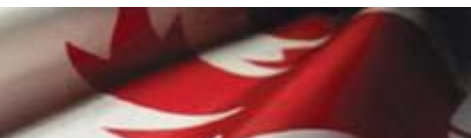
Spawning sites



P. Vecsei











Habitat Off-setting Concepts

- **General habitat off-set plans are finalized at the Environmental Assessment (EA) Phase**
- Community input and ideas welcome
- DFO needs to know that there are reasonable and effective options where habitat can be off-set
- Specific details on how the habitat is to be off-set is dealt with after the EA during the Regulatory Phase



Habitat Accounting

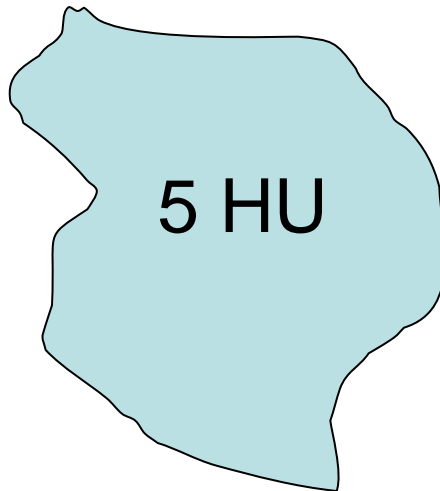
- To account for habitat losses and habitat off-sets
- a lost habitat unit traded for a off-set habitat unit
- $\text{Habitat size} \times \text{habitat quality} = \text{habitat unit (HU)}$

Details are finalized during the regulatory phase



Habitat Accounting

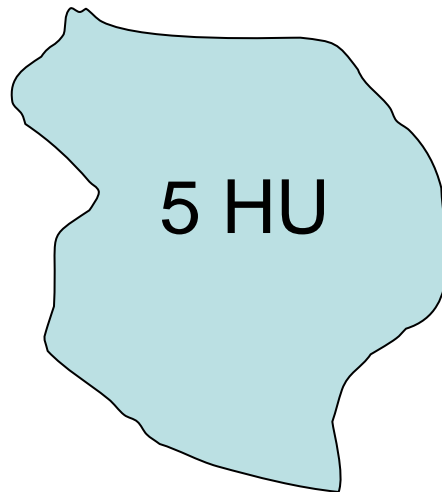
- Lost habitat
10 ha X 0.5 quality



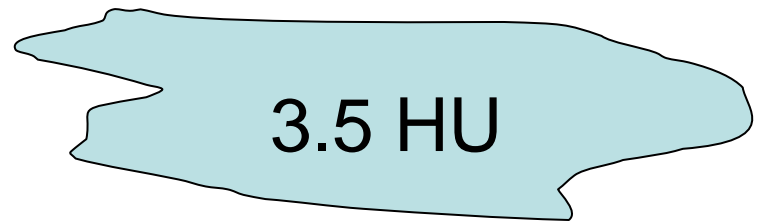


Habitat Accounting

- Lost habitat
10 ha X 0.5 quality



- Offset habitat
7 ha X 0.5 quality





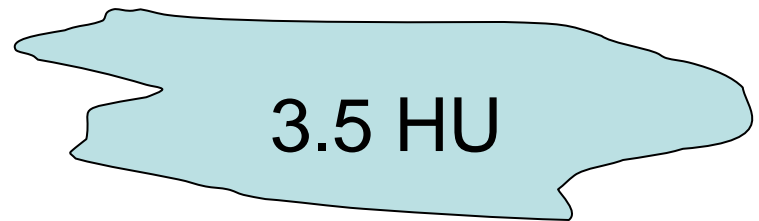
Habitat Accounting

- Lost habitat
10 ha X 0.5 quality



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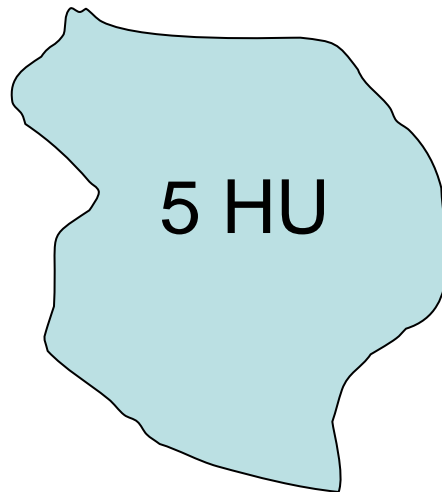
- Offset habitat
7 ha X 0.5 quality



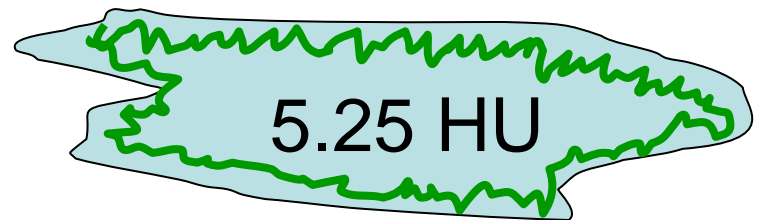


Habitat Accounting

- Lost habitat
10 ha X 0.5 quality



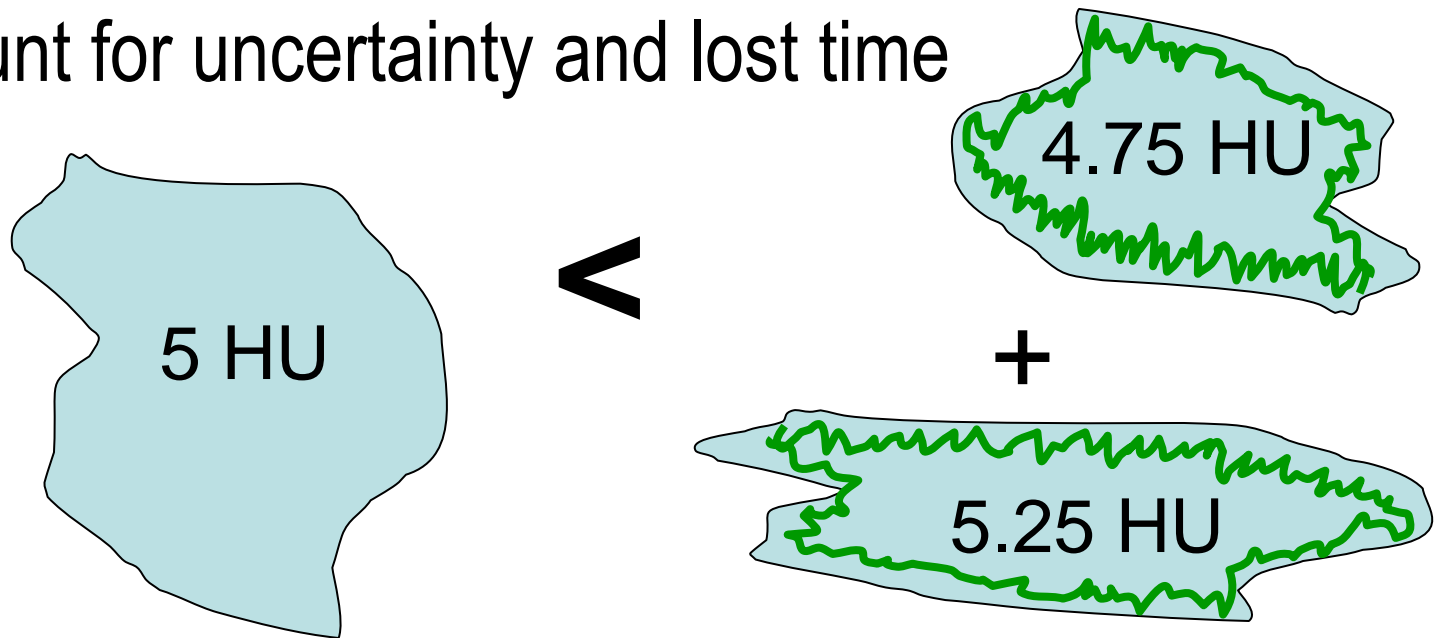
- Offset habitat
7 ha X 0.75 quality





Habitat Accounting

Ratio of off-set to lost habitat usually 2 to 1
To account for uncertainty and lost time





Habitat Accounting

This ratio can be reduced if uncertainty and lost time can be reduced

- Habitat related research
- Habitat off-set before end of project life



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10/4/2012

A set of four horizontal lines, with the second line from the top being a darker teal color than the others.

Workshop Summary

Fish Habitat Compensation Community Workshop – De Beers Gahcho Kué
Project, September 20, 2012



Summary of break out group discussions

Fish Habitat Compensation Community Workshop – De Beers Gahcho Kué Project, September 20, 2012

De Beers Canada hosted a Workshop at the Explorer Hotel in Yellowknife, NT with the intention to share information on how fish habitat compensation achieves no net loss and to discuss fish habitat compensation options for the Gahcho Kué Project with a key consideration of incorporating traditional knowledge.

Attendees included aboriginal community representatives from the Deninu Kué First Nation, Lutsel K'e First Nation, NWT Métis Nation and North Slave Métis Alliance, Tlicho Government, and Yellowknives Dene First Nation as well as representatives from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and Golder Associates Ltd.

Following fish habitat informational presentations shared from DFO and De Beers, Workshop participants were encouraged to form smaller, break out groups to discuss options to work towards achieving a no net loss fish plan for the Gahcho Kué Project.

Agenda

The Agenda addressed the following items:

1. Sharing participant expectations for the workshop
2. Presentation by a DFO representative (Pete Cott) on their policy of how fish habitat compensation can achieve no net loss and examples from previous projects
3. Presentation by a DeBeers representative (Craig Blackie) describing the Gahcho Kué Project and the proposed fish compensation plan
4. Opportunity for all participants to offer their input and feedback within small groups and then sharing their findings with all participants

Participant Expectations

Following the opening prayer and review of the agenda, all participants were given the opportunity to introduce themselves and state their overall expectations for the workshop.

Responses varied although the underlying themes included requiring greater clarity in the role of DFO with Gahcho Kué development, an awareness of the specific fisheries considerations surrounding the area in question, clarity around what ‘no net loss’ means, critical importance for collaboration and cooperation, communication to be brought back to respective communities for further follow-up, establish some options for community-based projects and a better understanding of fisheries habitat compensation concepts.

DFO Presentation

Pete Cott from DFO presented to all participants. The described role of the DFO for the purposes of this project were twofold; first, to provide environmental assessment services and second, to provide regulatory services. The presentation included further clarity that no-net-loss can be defined as off-setting any fish habitat damage. The presentation went further to describe specific ratios to be considered when calculating no-net-loss.

A key issue that was raised by the participants was the concern and confusion with the impending Fisheries Act changes and how those changes may affect current policies as well as potential future agreements. The response from the DFO representative was an acknowledgement of uncertainty regarding these changes as regulation and policies are still be defined. f. It was suggested however, that there may be a strong consideration to grandfather any key agreements or existing policies that were agreed upon prior to the Fisheries Acts revisions.

A request was made by the participants to the DFO to visit the communities throughout the development process of Gahcho Kué.

DeBeers Presentation

Craig Blackie from DeBeers presented to all participants on the specific details of the development of the Gahcho Kué mine including map illustrations and proposed development areas.

Key terms such as fish compensation were defined to include “the replacement of natural habitat, increase in the productivity of existing habitat, or maintenance of fish production by artificial means in circumstances dictated by social and economic conditions, where mitigation techniques and other measures are not adequate to maintain habitats for Canada’s fisheries resources.”

The presenter went on to describe the Fish Habitat Compensation Approach as establishing how much habitat will be permanently lost and/or altered and how much will be temporarily disturbed during mine operation. Specific considerations as to the fish species in Kennady Lake were discussed.

The presenter outlined Kennady Lake compensation strategies presented to date including the “raised lake option” as well as Redknife River fish passage off-site habitat compensation option. Past community consultation was addressed at site workshops from August to September, 2012 where further suggestions were put forth.

The presenter concluded with an emphasis that DeBeers is currently in the information-collecting stage from all proponents and that the Fish Habitat Compensation Plan will not be finalized until the regulatory phase of the project. Nevertheless, the raised lake on-site compensation option was no longer being pursued given community concerns.

Discussion Groups

Two ‘break out’ groups were formed. Each group included DFO, De Beers, Golder Associates, and Aboriginal Community representatives. Each group discussed no-net-loss strategies as well as other topics of relevance to fish compensation with the Gahcho Kué development. Not all invited participants chose to engage in the “break-out” group discussions and stated that they needed to consult with leadership and their communities prior to sharing any additional information.

Following about an hour of discussion, each group presented their main discussion points to be considered by all workshop participants. These topics included the following underlying themes such as allowing for more time to research and generate ideas, involving community people in monitoring on site and consulting local fishermen, and informing community groups regularly. The break-out groups also noted that past industry experience makes many participants uneasy and distrustful of this process, important to allow for community representatives to report back and share with their elders and community before making decisions and suggesting ideas – more time and community consultation is required and finally, what lessons can be learned from other industry-based models and past experiences?

Conclusion

At the conclusion of the Workshop, participants were asked to “check out” by stating if and how their expectations of the workshop were met.

Participant responses varied, however some of the key themes included, happy to have neighbours all together, a better understanding off no-net-loss and DFO’s role, opportunity to raise community concerns, further consultation & engagement is needed but this is a step in the right direction and that it is best when everyone is at the table, working together.

Next Steps

De Beers will be submitting an updated NNL plan to the MVEIRB in October. Additional community visits will undertaken to further discuss fish habitat compensation options. The final NNL plan will be submitted after the environmental impact review as part of the permitting phase of the Project.

Break Out Group Discussion

Two break out groups were formed. Each group included DFO, De Beers, Golder Associates, and Aboriginal Community representatives. Below is a summary of what was discussed in the groups:

General Themes

The following are general themes that were repeatedly addressed by several participants:

- Allow for more time to research and generate ideas
- Involve community people through monitoring on site and consulting local fishermen
- Community groups would like to be informed regularly
- Past industry experience makes many participants uneasy and distrustful of this process
- Important to allow for community representatives to report back and share with their elders and community before making decisions and suggesting ideas – more time and community consultation is required
- What lessons can be learned from other industry-based models and past experiences?

Specific Break Out Group Notes

- Work with local, community fishermen to come up with a plan

10/4/2012

Summary of break out group discussions

Fish Habitat Compensation Community Workshop – De Beers Gahcho Kué Project, September 20, 2012

- Give people time, concerns may come forward (trying to work with DFO for a long time)
- Time for research & ideas
- People may need to come to site to see what fish are in the streams
- NNLP conceptual for EA phase
- Authorization phase for details – can be phases of implementation and as new information comes to light, continued consultation should occur (rather than black holes in authorization)
- Continue to hold Workshops in Yellowknife with DFO throughout this process
- Spending \$ on research?
- Genetic testing on past remains from old fishing camp
- Research – scientific study, primary literature
- Truck in Dry Bones Bay
- Reduce uncertainty
- Saskatchewan Uranium mines, water clean?
- Aylmer Lake, clean water, fish to eat
- Level of ground & sloping/ Great Slave Lake flows
- Oppose project because it will affect the whole watershed
- Lakes to the west, no longer diverted?
- Water to Area 8, up in lake level, compensation?
- Kennady Lake – DFO & others go there and fly around in chopper, look at flow direction
- Look at Oil Sands, work together
- Holistic approach, trade-offs
- Community concerns with DFO (Regina Bay, Stark Lake)
- Bring in models to help with understanding (land & water, before and after, topographic)
- Engineers to work with aboriginal groups to come up with a plan
- Challenges with trade-offs, prefer to do something at the exact site or to do something within the watershed to maintain integrity
- Concern about permanently lost areas (size of lakes/streams, do they dry up?)
- Kennady Lake is 160 ha, what is a ha?
- Should be informed of changes rather than just being on a public registry/meetings
- List of options, example of last resort (more open to options)
- Compensation ratio for these options
- What options selected for ratio
- Elders hunting & trapping, hear from elders (rep has things in mind but has to discuss with elders first)
- Up north there is water everywhere. This is different to south.
- Lockhart Watershed is a special area
- Inconnu – small size in Slave River

- Building teams to do studies
- Consideration of culverts versus bridges
- Slave Delta – very important
- Concerns re: sewage lagoon & water treatment plant in Ft. Resolution Bay
- Cheese Creek – loche, sewage treatment affected it, ducks, fish and hunting – sewage lagoon killed
- Slave River – still get chum salmon, more showing up, lake trout being caught below rapids at Ft. Smith
- Fort Resolution – concerns regarding Pine Point Mine & reclamation with tailings ponds that are still there, studies going on but needs to be fixed, garbage went into pits, affects fish & water in Fort Resolution Bay
- Toxicity testing at Res re: d/s of Oil Sands
- Fort Resolution Creek (sewage) – beaver dams prevent fish from moving up
- Fish health concerns – lesions, tumors, due to habitat problems of effects of oils sands & pulp mills
- Cabin approach to monitoring
- GSL – stressed due to all upstream developments
- Trade off – bad term, prefer to use “balance”
- Industry bad examples (Pine Point) – makes everyone feel uneasy about industry
- Jobs – feeling not enough jobs for communities but both communities and industry need to do more (e.g. training)
- Stark Lake – studies
- Fish out – healthy enough to survive?
- Mine contaminants land, safe for drinking water? How to use the land?
- Need for direction from chief, take back and discuss with chief & community
- If de-fishing lake, give to community
- For areas not close to Kennady Lake, they should also receive the fish
- Support communities on the edge of the water with their fish & water concerns
- Encourage more community discussion

Conclusion

At the conclusion of the Workshop, participants were asked to “check out” by stating if and how their expectations of the Workshop were met. Here are the participants’ responses:

- Happy to have neighbours all together
- Good facility
- Better understanding off NNL and DFO’s role
- Open & honest – sharing concerns
- Community concerns raised
- Furthering relationship between the Communities, DFO & De Beers
- Further consultation & engagement is needed but this is a step in the right direction
- # of notes, handouts and coffee consumed indicates that this was a productive Workshop
- Best when everyone is at the table, working together
- Concerns about past and toxic material on land, treatment of animals in the past
- The only way to move forward is to work together
- Great to learn about all community concerns
- Makes changes based on feedback – working together

Appendix F – Gahcho Kué Now Newsletter, May and November 2012

Gahcho Kué Noze

AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE
PROPOSED GAHCHO KUÉ DIAMOND MINE

Adaptive Management Results in Project Improvements


This newsletter is the second in our 2012 series of updates regarding our proposed Gahcho Kué diamond mine. It focuses on the activities we have been undertaking in the past few months as we advance this project through the regulatory process, and it provides information about some of the changes we have made to the project.

Since plans for Gahcho Kué were proposed in 2005, the proposed Project has undergone a number of changes, most of which have been improvements in engineering design to address potential environmental impacts.

Adaptive management is a cornerstone of De Beers Canada's approach to protecting the environment. Simply put, when social, environmental, economic or technical data show a variation from predictions, the company adapts its management of the process to address the new reality.

One of the biggest changes between 2010 and 2012 in the proposed Gahcho Kué Project has been the reduction of the project footprint by 83 hectares. That reduction in size is equivalent to 10 Canadian Football League fields.

This came about when preliminary studies showed that the level of phosphorus, if not managed, could reach levels that would result in harm to fish.

By reducing the area of the fine PK facility and depositing additional fine PK originally destined for the engineered containment facility into mined-out pits, phosphorus levels are now predicted to be considerably reduced, thereby no longer a harm to fish. 



STILL WEARING ITS WINTER WHITE COAT, A RABBIT ENJOYS THE SPRING SUNSHINE BESIDE A SIGN AT THE ADVANCED EXPLORATION CAMP AT KENNADY LAKE. GAHCHO KUÉ IS CHIPEWYAN FOR "A PLACE WHERE THERE ARE BIG RABBITS OR HARES."



WORKERS UNLOAD CARGO FROM AN AIRCRAFT THAT LANDED ON A RUNWAY PLOWED ONTO THE ICE ON KENNADY LAKE IN EARLY 2012.

ABOUT DE BEERS CANADA INC.

De Beers has been mining and marketing diamonds for more than 100 years. We have a wealth of experience and expertise in both areas. We are building on that knowledge here in Canada, with our Canadian diamond projects.

Headquartered in Toronto, Ontario, De Beers Canada operates the Snap Lake Mine in the Northwest Territories and the Victor Mine in northern Ontario. The company's exploration division is based in our corporate headquarters, and our regional offices are located in Yellowknife, NT, Timmins, ON and Sudbury, ON.

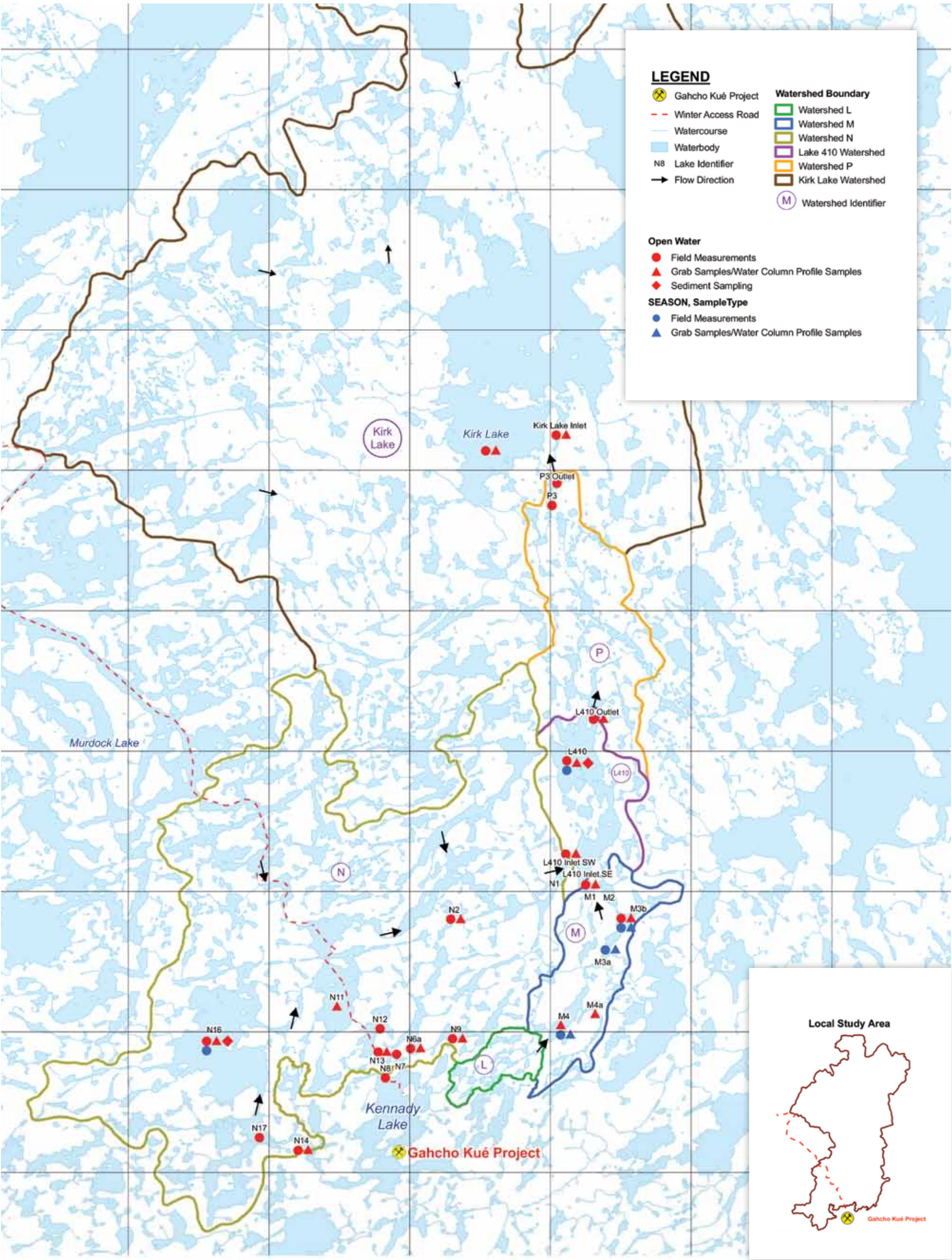
The company has about 1,000 employees across Canada, of whom more than 460 work in the Northwest Territories. De Beers Canada is a member of the De Beers Family of Companies.

ABOUT MOUNTAIN PROVINCE DIAMONDS

Mountain Province Diamonds Inc. is a Canadian diamond exploration and development company headquartered in Toronto, Ontario.

The Company's primary asset is its 49% interest in the Gahcho Kué Project, located at Kennady Lake. Mountain Province is a publicly traded company.

Mountain Province discovered the 5034 kimberlite in 1995. In 1997 Mountain Province entered into a joint venture with De Beers Canada. The joint venture between Mountain Province and De Beers Canada has appointed De Beers as the operator of the Gahcho Kué Project.



SINCE THE LATE 1990S, DE BEERS CANADA HAS BEEN MONITORING WATER QUALITY IN AND AROUND KENNADY LAKE, SOME SAMPLES TAKEN AS FAR AWAY AS KIRK LAKE, 70 KM AWAY. WE ARE DEVELOPING AN AQUATIC EFFECTS MANAGEMENT PLAN, WHICH WILL DETERMINE, IN PART, WHERE WATER SAMPLES WILL BE TAKEN AND THE FREQUENCY OF SAMPLING. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS ON WATER SAMPLING THAT CAN BE INCLUDED IN CREATING OUR MANAGEMENT PLAN, PLEASE CONTACT DE BEERS CANADA.

Dykes are Key to Managing Water

Since diamonds were discovered at Kennady Lake in the 1990’s, De Beers Canada has built a strong baseline of knowledge that will inform the development of a robust environmental monitoring and protection program.

The proposed Gahcho Kué diamond mine is located about 280 kilometres northeast of Yellowknife. Over an 11 year mine life, an average of three million tonnes of ore and 4.5 million carats will be mined annually.

Upon receipt of permits to build and operate the mine, construction will take about two years and between 360 and 380 workers will be needed during operations. Capital cost is estimated to be \$600-\$650 million.

Because the three kimberlite pipes to be mined are located under Kennady Lake, De Beers’ commitment to protecting the environment and the water management is central to the proposed Gahcho Kué mine.

Managing water starts with keeping clean water from entering the mine site and keeping all the water within the mine area contained within a closed system. This will be accomplished by constructing a series of small dykes around the lake and carefully monitoring throughout construction, operation and closure.

During construction, portions of Kennady Lake will either be fully or partially dewatered. Water that meets discharge criteria will be pumped north to Lake N11 and into the northeast arm of Kennady Lake.

During dewatering, the level of downstream lakes and streams will rise and by the time flows reach Kirk Lake, 70 km away, the increase in water level will not be detectable. All water will remain within the Lockhart watershed and continue to flow into the East Arm of Great Slave Lake. Flows will be carefully controlled, monitored and mitigations will be applied as required to protect against eroding stream banks downstream.

During operations, water on the mine site, including potential seepage from processed kimberlite storage, rock piles or pits will be pumped into the water management pond (WMP), mined-out pits or used in the process plant. Sediment in the water will be removed by adding flocculants, causing particles to sink to the bottom of Kennady Lake. Water stored in the WMP will

only be pumped to Lake N11 if it meets discharge criteria.

Water quality around Kennady Lake is expected to change during construction, operations and closure; however, changes after closure are predicted to remain below the level where fish and other aquatic life would be impacted.

An aquatic effects management plan is under development. Often referred to as an “AEMP”, this plan details the planned aquatic monitoring in and around Kennady Lake. It will set out the planned water sampling points, frequency of testing, and will outline how fish and aquatic plants and animals will be monitored. This is the “early warning system” that will allow us to adapt our water management system and operational practices should impacts differ from our predictions.

The incorporation of Traditional Knowledge into monitoring programs will be shaped with the inputs from the company’s community engagement and by considering recommendations made in TK Studies.

During closure and reclamation, mine water will be contained in the mined-out pits. Heavier mine water will remain deep in the pits and is not predicted to mix with clean water closer to the surface. This will be carefully monitored during operation as well as when the lake is re-filled at closure. ♦



A SERIES OF SMALL DYKES TO BE BUILT AROUND KENNADY LAKE WILL SERVE TWO VERY IMPORTANT PURPOSES. THE FIRST IS TO KEEP CLEAN WATER FROM ENTERING THE MINE SITE. THE SECOND IS TO CONTAIN WATER ON THE MINE SITE UNTIL IT MEETS WATER QUALITY CRITERIA FOR DISCHARGE. THE LAST DYKE - DYKE A - WILL ONLY BE REMOVED WHEN WATER QUALITY IN KENNADY LAKE MEETS WATER QUALITY CRITERIA. DYKES ON THE MAP ARE IDENTIFIED BY A LETTER DESIGNATION.

ABOUT KENNADY LAKE

- 8 km²
- 8 m - average depth
- 34M m³ - volume of water in Kennady Lake
- 27,000 m³ - average annual potable water use during operations

Going Deep on Tuzo Pipe

Exploration at Kennady Lake has identified three kimberlite pipes that are economical to mine. The first two – 5034 and Hearne – were well defined during exploration. Drilling on the Tuzo kimberlite showed the pipe to be “open at depth”. It measures 125 metres in diameter at the top and 225 metres in diameter at 300 metres depth.

Previous drilling on the Tuzo pipe had not defined the shape of the kimberlite pipe below a depth of 350 metres and this left questions regarding what the shape of the deposit was beneath that level. That’s where Tuzo Deep Drill program has come in.


This small drill program took place over the past winter, and involved drilling five holes at varying angles into the kimberlite pipe for a total of 3,725 metres. All five holes



PATRICK EVANS, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF MOUNTAIN PROVINCE DIAMONDS, TAKES A PHOTOGRAPH OF A CORE SAMPLE COLLECTED AS PART OF A SMALL DRILL PROGRAM FOCUSED ON DEFINING THE TUZO KIMBERLITE.

successfully confirmed the presence of kimberlite beyond the current resource depth, but there is more work in progress

The kimberlite sections of the core samples have been shipped to Sudbury, Ontario where they are being examined by employees from De Beers’ petrographic unit.

Detailed geological logging, petrography studies and microdiamond analyses of the drill core are underway and the results from this work will classify and correlate the kimberlite types intersected in the deep drilling program with the kimberlite types that comprise the current resource of the Tuzo pipe. The results will be integrated into a revised geological model for the pipe. 

Traditional Knowledge a Building Block of Understanding


Understanding traditional knowledge (TK) and traditional land use (TLU) is important for us to understand how Aboriginal communities used the area around Kennady Lake, site of the proposed Gahcho Kué diamond mine.

TK studies typically involve a review of historic documents, interviews and reports as well as conducting interviews with traditional knowledge holders about their unique knowledge in a particular area. In our case, it is TK and TLU related to the Gahcho Kué Project area that we are interested in learning more about. TK Study

Agreements have been signed with the Lutsel K’e Dene First Nation, the Tlicho Government, and more recently with the Deninu Kué First Nation. At the time of writing this newsletter, De Beers had also received confirmation from the Yellowknives Dene First Nation that a TK Study proposal was forthcoming, and the final Tlicho TK Study had just been received.

TK studies specific to the Gahcho Kué Project are being prepared in

accordance with the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board’s Guideline for Incorporating Traditional Knowledge in the Environmental Impact Assessment Process. De Beers will review the study reports to assess and validate impact predictions for the Project.

All traditional knowledge reports are expected to be completed in 2012 and will form part of the public record for the proposed Project. 

CATHIE BOLSTAD, DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL & CORPORATE AFFAIRS FOR DE BEERS CANADA, RIGHT, AND CHIEF LOUIS BALSILLIE, DENINU KUÉ FIRST NATION, SHAKE HANDS AFTER SIGNING A TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE STUDY AGREEMENT FOR THE GAHCHO KUÉ PROJECT ON MARCH 28, 2012. ALSO TAKING PART IN THE CEREMONY ARE, FROM LEFT: CAROL COLLINS, BAND COUNCIL; LINDA VANDEN BERG, VBA (VANDEN BERG & ASSOCIATES); DAVE PIERROT, BAND COUNCIL; RUDOLPH SWANEPOEL, DE BEERS CANADA; KRISTA ROBERTSON, JANES FREEDMAN KYLE LAW CORPORATION; AND, STEPHEN CUTHBERT, GENERAL MANAGER, DENINU KUÉ DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.



Engaging Communities

The first three months of 2012 were busy months for members of the Gahcho Kué Project permitting team.

During February and March, community workshops and meetings were held in all four Tlicho communities, with the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation, Deninu Kué First Nation, North Slave Métis Alliance and the NWT Métis Nation. Members of the permitting team enjoyed meeting and listening to

community members, as they provided comments, questions and suggestions regarding the proposed Project.


"It is good to travel into the communities to talk with elders, leaders, members of the lands and environment committees and community residents" said Cathie Bolstad, Director, External and Corporate Affairs for De Beers Canada. "We were able to answer many questions about our water

management plans, how we will minimize our impact on fish, land and wildlife, and we talked about the importance of culture to communities and of protecting archeological sites as we plan to build and operate the proposed mine."

As work to permit the proposed diamond mine moves ahead through 2012, we will continue to work with Aboriginal groups, regulators and the public to help build understanding about our plans for the mine and so that De Beers can understand and address their questions and concerns.

Ongoing community engagement has included an information display at the Yellowknife Spring Show in May this year and we have plans to attend the Home and Leisure Show in Hay River in September.

In addition, we have extended invitations to a number of Aboriginal groups to visit the Kennady Lake advanced exploration camp during the summer. Additional community meetings and workshops may be held in the fall.

If you want more information about the proposed project, please go to the De Beers Canada website to sign up to receive periodic updates – www.debeerscanada.com. 



VERONICA CHISHOLM, RIGHT, PERMITTING MANAGER FOR THE GAHCHO KUÉ PROJECT, REVIEWS INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED DIAMOND MINE WITH BEHCHOKO ELDERS LOUIS FLUNKIE, LEFT, AND ROBERT MACKENZIE. DE BEERS CANADA HELD A WORKSHOP IN BEHCHOKO IN FEBRUARY AS PART OF A SERIES OF EVENTS IN COMMUNITIES CLOSE TO THE PROJECT.

PROJECT FAST FACTS *

- Capital Cost **\$600-\$650 million**
- Mine Life **11 years**
- Mine Footprint **1,200 hectares**
- Recoverable grade (above 1mm) **1.57 c/t**
- Probable Reserve (tonnes) **31.1M (diluted)**
- Annual processing capacity (tonnes) **3M**
- Annual average production (carats) **4.5M**
- Production workforce **360-380 people**
- Construction workforce (peak) **690 people**

* From NI 43-101 report issued in 2010





AN ASSORTMENT OF DIAMONDS RECOVERED DURING EXPLORATION AT KENNADY LAKE.

Permitting Update


The Environmental Impact Review for the proposed Gahcho Kué diamond mine is moving ahead on schedule, with the first round of Information Requests (IR's) complete in early April and technical workshops held May 22-25 in Yellowknife.

De Beers Canada responded to 347 IR's from government agencies, First Nations and Aboriginal groups, and other parties.

"We appreciate the chance to provide additional information and answer questions," said Veronica Chisholm, Permitting Manager. "It is important

that people fully understand our plans for the proposed Gahcho Kué Project as well as know that we are committed to operating the mine safely, without harm to people or the environment."

If necessary, there will be a second round of IR's in July, and then public hearings will be scheduled in December.

Based on the current work plan, the Gahcho Kué Project Environmental Impact Review Panel is scheduled to file its decision report for Federal Ministerial Approval by July 2013. 



THE GAHCHO KUÉ PROJECT ADVANCED EXPLORATION CAMP AT KENNADY LAKE IS A SPLASH OF COLOUR ON A SNOWY LANDSCAPE. THE CAMP WAS OPEN ALL WINTER TO ACCOMMODATE A SMALL DRILL PROGRAM.

Questions or Comments?

De Beers Canada welcomes comments and questions about the proposed Gahcho Kué diamond mine. If you are looking for more information or have a suggestion about how we can improve our plans for the mine, please contact us.

 **DE BEERS**
CANADA
GAHCHO KUÉ PROJECT

For more information:

De Beers Canada
Suite 300, 5102-50th Avenue
Yellowknife, NT X1A 3Y1

Tel. **867.766.7300**
Fax. **867.766.7347**

E-mail **info@debeerscanada.com**
Website **www.debeerscanada.com**

Gahcho Kué Now

AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE
PROPOSED GAHCHO KUÉ DIAMOND MINE

Gahcho Kué Project Heads into Public Hearing



GLEN KOROPCHUK
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Welcome to the final 2012 edition of Gahcho Kué Now, De Beers' newsletter about the proposed Gahcho Kué diamond mine in the Northwest Territories.

This is an exciting time for De Beers in Canada. During the first week of December, the Environmental Impact Review (EIR) for the proposed Gahcho Kué Project will draw to a close with public hearings in Lutsel K'e, Yellowknife and Dettah. This public hearing is an important stage in the EIR process that enables northerners to have a voice in the future of this project.

The Gahcho Kué Project will bring important employment and business opportunities to the Northwest Territories and these opportunities will come at a time when other diamond mining operations are beginning to wind down. NWT resident workers will be looking for new job opportunities and we want to keep these skilled NWT workers here at home - working for us. This will be a challenge given the competition from other mining and resource employment opportunities in the rest of Canada.

We also remain committed to training and development programs aligned with our goal to develop NWT residents in professional and management positions in the mining industry. In August this year, De Beers confirmed close to \$5 million dollars in monetary and in-kind support for the continued training of NWT residents over the next three years. This commitment was made to support the NWT Mine Training Society's (MTS) Mining the Future project proposal and


it builds on our training success with the MTS to date. In September we increased our commitment to post-secondary education through our NWT scholarship fund which will provide financial support for NWT students entering mining and resource industry related programs. Our aim is to increase the number of future professionals, managers and leaders with roots in the north who will be able to make long term sustainable contributions to the economy and the communities of northern Canada.

Throughout the EIR, we have worked with communities: answering questions, hearing and addressing concerns, responding to suggestions for improvements and involving them in the development of our various monitoring plans. We appreciate the contribution made by elders, youth, leadership, community residents and community lands and environment staff during the many meetings, workshops and visits they have participated in this year. We value the relationships we have established through this ongoing engagement and we look forward to continued collaboration.

Developing Canada's next diamond mine takes time, commitment, a thorough understanding of the environment, respect for communities and lots of hard work. We wouldn't be where we are today without the significant contribution of the Gahcho

Kué team, who have travelled a lot this year to work with communities, regulators and other stakeholders to ensure multiple opportunities for input into the Project. The team will continue to work with the various stakeholders in the years ahead, but I would be remiss if I didn't pause to thank them for their hard work this year.

Finally, you may be aware that in August, the purchase by Anglo American plc of the Oppenheimer family's stake in De Beers, which includes our Canadian subsidiary, was finalized. Through this transaction, Anglo American plc has increased its share in De Beers to 85 per cent. The Government of Botswana holds the balance. Ownership of De Beers' Canadian operations remains unchanged as we are a wholly owned subsidiary of De Beers.

Integrating the two companies will take time and one of the visible changes may be how we communicate with NWT residents. Rest assured, what will not change is our commitment to keeping you informed about our activities in the Northwest Territories and across Canada. 



NORTHERN LIGHTS FILL THE SKY ABOVE THE GAHCHO KUÉ PROJECT ADVANCED EXPLORATION CAMP AT KENNADY LAKE IN AUGUST.

Site Workshops Build Understanding

Workshops held at Kennady Lake this summer gave Aboriginal groups interested in the proposed Gahcho Kué Project an opportunity to visit the project site and see firsthand where infrastructure is proposed.

The suggestion to hold workshops on the site of the proposed mine came out of community visits held in February of this year and was just one of the engagement activities undertaken during 2012.

Between August 10 and September 13, six Aboriginal groups took part. Each day-long workshop involved a boat tour to see where the pits would be in Kennady Lake, an aerial overview of the area by helicopter, a demonstration of how the archaeology surveys were carried out, and a demonstration of the proposed grizzly bear and wolverine monitoring program. Workshop groups consisted of elders, youth, leadership, representatives from community land and wildlife committees and other community members.

Taking part in the workshops were the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation, Yellowknives Dene First Nation, Tlicho Government, Deninu Kué First Nation, North Slave Métis Alliance, and NWT Métis Nation.



STEPHEN CUTHBERT, WITH THE DENINU KUÉ DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, AND CRAIG BLACKIE, DE BEERS' SUPERINTENDENT, PERMITTING - AQUATICS, DISCUSS THE PROPOSED MINE AND HOW THE FISH WILL BE REMOVED. PILOTING THE BOAT IS SITE MANAGER ROB COOLEN.



VERONICA CHISHOLM, LEFT, DE BEERS' MANAGER, PERMITTING FOR THE GAHCHO KUÉ PROJECT, AND NWT MÉTIS NATION MEMBERS WARREN DELORME, ANN LOBB AND CHUCK HERON FINISH AN AERIAL TOUR OF THE AREA.



CHIPEWYAN INTERPRETER DENNIS DRYGEESE, LEFT, EXAMINES AN ARTIFACT RECOVERED DURING THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE KENNADY LAKE AREA. TO HIS LEFT IS DORA ENZOE, CHIEF OF THE LUTSEL K'E DENE FIRST NATION.

“Having these conversations at Kennady Lake was extremely valuable,” said Veronica Chisholm, permitting manager. “Because people were specifically able to see for themselves where we propose to build the pits, buildings and other mine infrastructure, and the current state of the land and water, participants were able to offer ideas and provide detailed feedback on our proposed mine and monitoring plans.”

At the site workshops, discussions and suggestions about possible fish habitat compensation options led to the need

for a September follow-up workshop. At this workshop, representatives of De Beers, communities and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans were able to meet to further examine opportunities for fish habitat compensation.

With feedback from communities during the site workshops, De Beers has also been able to table the first draft of the proposed fish-out plan for Kennady Lake. This is a working document, intended to be the foundation for conversation in the months ahead. 💎



YELLOWKNIVES DENE FIRST NATION ELDER PETER LISKE TAKES PART IN A BOAT TOUR OF KENNADY LAKE DURING ONE OF THE SUMMER SITE WORKSHOPS.



TLICHO INTERPRETER VIOLET MACKENZIE, LEFT, AND WHATI ELDER JOE CHAMPLAIN LISTEN TO A SAFETY BRIEFING AS THEY PREPARE TO BOARD A HELICOPTER DURING AN AERIAL TOUR OF THE KENNADY LAKE AREA, ONE OF THE WORKSHOPS HELD AT THE SITE OF THE PROPOSED GAHCHO KUÉ PROJECT DURING THE SUMMER.



ARCHAEOLOGIST JEAN BUSSEY, RIGHT, DISCUSSES AN ARTIFACT RECOVERED DURING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEYS AROUND KENNADY LAKE WITH BILL ENGE, PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH SLAVE MÉTIS ALLIANCE.

Wildlife Monitoring Plan Built Through Collaboration

A wildlife monitoring plan for the proposed Gahcho Kué Project submitted to the Environmental Impact Review Panel shows the benefits of working together.

It’s unusual for a plan like this to be submitted during an Environmental Impact Review (EIR), and it is normally developed during the licensing phase. With the support and collaboration of Aboriginal groups and government agencies, the plan was developed over the past several months.

“We have learned from past assessments that people want more detail on wildlife monitoring earlier in the planning process and we have delivered,” said Stephen Lines, superintendent of environmental assessment and permitting. “This will be a living document and it is expected to evolve over the life of the Project.”

The plan provides the details of wildlife monitoring for the Project. It focuses on the three key species identified during the EIR: caribou, grizzly bear and wolverine. Data will also be collected on raptors and upland breeding birds to support regional and national wildlife monitoring programs. Observations of other wildlife species, such as muskox, moose and wolf, will also be recorded and provided in the annual reports.

Wildlife monitoring around Kennady Lake – location of the proposed mine – has been ongoing throughout exploration and the EIR. We are also working with Ekati and Diavik diamond mines on a regional study of grizzly bear with data collection to begin in 2013.

Results of monitoring will be reported to regulatory agencies as required.

De Beers developed the plan with help from a wildlife monitoring working group. Joining us at the working group were the the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, Lutsel K’e Dene First Nation, Tlicho Government, Deninu Kué First Nation, NWT Métis Nation, North Slave Métis Alliance, the territorial department of Environment and Natural Resources, the federal departments of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development and Environment Canada, and the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board.

As a final step prior to submitting the plan, a wildlife monitoring workshop, with additional community and government representatives, was held in Yellowknife in September where additional feedback was provided. 💎



WOLVES ARE AMONG THE SPECIES WHICH WILL BE MONITORED AROUND THE PROPOSED GAHCHO KUÉ PROJECT.



A SMALL GROUP OF MUSKOX CAN BE SEEN ON THE HILLSIDE NEAR KENNADY LAKE.

PROJECT FAST FACTS *

- Capital Cost **\$600-\$650 million**
- Mine Life **11 years**
- Mine Footprint **1,200 hectares**
- Recoverable Grade (above 1mm) **1.57 c/t**
- Probable Reserve (tonnes) **31.1M (diluted)**
- Annual Processing Capacity (tonnes) **3M**
- Annual Average Production (carats) **4.5M**
- Production Workforce **360-380 people**
- Construction Workforce (peak) **690 people**

* From NI 43-101 report in 2010

Fish Habitat Replacement Planning

The three diamond-bearing kimberlites that De Beers proposes to mine for the Gahcho Kué Project are located under Kennady Lake, one of thousands of small lakes on the barrens.

Under federal regulations, companies are required to balance any loss of fish habitat by enhancing or creating new habitat. The goal with fish habitat

compensation is to achieve no net loss of fish habitat due to mining.

During February workshops in communities, at Kennady Lake this summer, and again at a special workshop in September, De Beers worked closely with Aboriginal communities and regulators to examine fish habitat compensation options. Participants

shared ideas on the current plan and offered input on additional options that could be considered.

“We have listened to what elders and other community members have said and are acting on their suggestions,” explained Craig Blackie, aquatic superintendent of permitting for De Beers. “Some of De Beers’ initial ideas to provide fish habitat compensation have been adapted due to feedback from communities.”

The current “No Net Loss Plan” for Gahcho Kué includes development of new trout spawning and nursery habitat in Kennady Lake while mining is underway so that high quality fish habitat is in place when Kennady Lake is refilled at closure. Other options include projects farther away from the Kennady Lake area. For example, De Beers is investigating the possibility of providing access to former spawning sites for species such as Arctic grayling. This would involve working with the NWT Department of Transportation as the current highway system in the NWT blocks fish passage in some instances.

“We are also considering support for fisheries research in the Northwest Territories,” said Blackie. “Research needs to be done to better understand northern fish species and answer key scientific questions.”



GARY ASH, WITH DE BEERS’ CONSULTANT GOLDER ASSOCIATES, TAKES NOTES DURING A BREAKOUT SESSION HELD AS PART OF THE FISH HABITAT COMPENSATION WORKSHOP HELD IN SEPTEMBER.

Study Builds Better Understanding of Dust Emissions from Mine Roads

De Beers has a better understanding of dust emissions at our mine sites thanks to a study conducted at the Snap Lake Mine in the Northwest Territories and the Victor Mine in Northern Ontario.

The possible effect of dust generated by mining operations at the proposed Gahcho Kué Project has been raised by Aboriginal groups.

To address this question, a study was undertaken during the summer/winter of 2011/2012 to help us understand and quantify dust emissions at the Snap Lake and Victor mines. The study involved our Victor Mine because it, like the proposed Gahcho Kué mine, is an open-pit

operation. The study was also undertaken at Snap Lake because it is located just 80 km from Kennady Lake, location of the proposed Gahcho Kué Project, with similar weather conditions.

In the study, vehicles traveling on surface roads were followed by a vehicle carrying dust-monitoring equipment. Through this monitoring, we were able to measure the effectiveness of spraying water on roads during the warm months and how long until the roads dried out before the dust was once again being created.

A key component of the study, to investigate dust emissions from snow covered roads, took place in the winter.

The winter study results show that dust suppression isn’t a necessity as the roads freeze and up to 96 per cent of dust emissions is naturally controlled. These results were used to refine our assessment of dust for the proposed Gahcho Kué Project.

“Controlling dust is important to protecting the environment around our operations,” explained Stephen Lines, De Beers’ superintendent and environmental assessment and permitting. “This study provides a clearer picture of the issue and is something we can build on for the Gahcho Kué Project.”

ABOUT DE BEERS IN CANADA

De Beers Group is a member of the Anglo American plc group. Established in 1888, De Beers is the world's leading diamond company with unrivalled expertise in the exploration, mining and marketing of diamonds. Together with its joint venture partners, De Beers employs approximately 16,000 people across the diamond pipeline, and is the world's largest diamond producer by value, with mining operations in Botswana, Canada, Namibia and South Africa.

As part of the company's operating philosophy, the people of De Beers are committed to *Living up to Diamonds* by making a lasting contribution to the communities in which they live and work, and transforming natural resources into shared national wealth. For further information about De Beers visit www.debeersgroup.com.

De Beers operates the Snap Lake Mine in the Northwest Territories and the Victor Mine in northern Ontario and is a joint venture partner in the Gahcho Kué Project. The company's exploration division is based in our corporate headquarters in Toronto, ON, and our regional offices are located in Yellowknife, NT, Timmins, ON and Sudbury, ON.

The company has about 1,000 employees across Canada, of whom more than 460 work in the NWT.

ABOUT MOUNTAIN PROVINCE DIAMONDS

Mountain Province Diamonds Inc. is a Canadian diamond exploration and development company headquartered in Toronto, ON.

The Company's primary asset is its 49% interest in the Gahcho Kué Project, located at Kennady Lake.

Mountain Province discovered the 5034 kimberlite in 1995 and after going into partnership with De Beers in 1997, the Tuzo and Hearne kimberlites were discovered.


Permitting Update

The Environmental Impact Review (EIR) process is on track for public hearings on the Gahcho Kué Project during the first week of December.

Technical workshops were held May 22-25 in Yellowknife and two rounds of Information Requests have been completed during 2012, with De Beers answering 383 Information Requests, including 347 in April and 36 in September.

To provide clear details on monitoring, De Beers also took the proactive step of developing, and submitting on the public registry in October, a Wildlife Monitoring Plan, Air Quality and Emissions Monitoring and Management Plan, and Incineration Management Plan.

Leading up to the Public Hearings, technical reports were submitted October 22nd and De Beers is now reviewing those submissions.

Since the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board EIR Panel published the EIR schedule, additional public hearing dates have been added, including an opening session on November 30 in Dettah and a one-day hearing in Lutsel K'e on December 3 this year. 

Public Hearing Schedule

- November 30 Dettah, Chief Drygeese Centre
- December 3 Lutsel K'e, Zah Lockhart Community Hall
- December 5-7 Yellowknife, Tree of Peace
- December 8 Yellowknife, Tree of Peace (contingency day)



GAHCHO KUÉ PROJECT PERMITTING MANAGER VERONICA CHISHOLM, LEFT, CONFERS WITH JOHN FAITHFUL, FROM GOLDER ASSOCIATES, DURING TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS HELD BY THE MACKENZIE VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD IN MAY.

Questions or Comments?

De Beers welcomes comments and questions about the proposed Gahcho Kué diamond mine. If you are looking for more information or have a suggestion about how we can improve our plans for the mine, please contact us.

For more information:

De Beers
Suite 300, 5102-50th Avenue
Yellowknife, NT X1A 3S8

Tel. **867.766.7300**
Fax. **867.766.7347**

E-mail **info@debeerscanada.com**
Website **www.debeerscanada.com**

DE BEERS
GROUP OF COMPANIES



Mountain Province
DIAMONDS