



**FIRST MINING
GOLD**



APPENDIX U

VISUAL ASSESSMENT REPORT



Visual Aesthetics Baseline Study and Assessment

Springpole Gold Project
First Mining Gold Corp.

ONS2104

Prepared by:
WSP Canada Inc.

October 2024



Visual Aesthetics Baseline Study and Assessment Springpole Gold Project

Red Lake District, Northwest Ontario
Project #ONS2104

Prepared for:

First Mining Gold Corp.
Suite 2070, 1188 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, British Columbia, V6E 4A2

Prepared by:

WSP Canada Inc.
6925 Century Avenue, Suite 600
Mississauga, Ontario, L5N 7K2
Canada
T: (905) 567-4444

Copyright

The contents and layout of this report are subject to copyright owned by WSP Canada Inc.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

First Mining Gold Corp. proposes to develop an open pit gold and silver mine with supporting facilities known as the Springpole Gold Project (Project). The Project is located in a remote area of northwestern Ontario, approximately 110 kilometres (km) northeast of the Municipality of Red Lake and 145 km north of the Municipality of Sioux Lookout.

An environmental assessment pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (SC 2012, c. 19, s. 52) and the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* (RSO 1990, c. E.18) is required to be completed for the Project. This report is one of a series of Technical Support Documents prepared by WSP Canada Inc. on behalf of First Mining Gold Corp. to support the predicted environmental effects of the Project.

A mine development results in changes to the landscape that may alter the visual aesthetics for other land users and alter the way these users interact with the land. Visual quality takes into account factors such as the surrounding landscape, uniqueness of landscape features, observation points and colour. The visibility of a development can change depending on the time of year and day as well as the stage of development.

This study and assessment considered five Areas of Interest (Location B – Distal, Location C – East, Location D – West, Location E – North and Location F – South). The Areas of Interest are locations that have direct line-of-sight views of the Project infrastructure. The Areas of Interest were used either for travel or other uses such as having accommodation (i.e., seasonal cabins) where the view of the Project would be more revealing (Bureau of Land Management, 1984). The line-of-sight is the direct line of view between the Area of Interest and the mine infrastructure.

Baseline

This visual aesthetics baseline study and assessment found that the baseline scenic quality was medium overall. The scenic quality rating is calculated by totaling the scores from each of the following key factors: adjacent scenery, colour, cultural modifications, landform, scarcity, vegetation, and water. Generally, the more unique the view to the surrounding area, the higher the scenic quality score. The viewer sensitivity rating was low for all areas of interest generally, due to the low number of people using these areas and considering the acquisition of the majority of outfitter operations in the vicinity of the Project by FMG. The viewer sensitivity rating is informed by the type of user of the land, the amount of use, public interest, adjacent land uses, special areas and other factors. The landscape rating was low for all Areas of Interest because the views were not assessed as remarkable or unique; they were typical of the surroundings. Finally, the viewing distance was predominately background (greater than 5 km) with only one location (Location D) being within 5 kilometres (km) of the site (foreground), as informed by analysis to determine where proposed mine infrastructure would be visible within the surrounding area.

Operations, Closure and Post-Closure

For each Area of Interest, photo renderings were developed to present how the mine infrastructure would appear at its maximum extent and height. The photo renderings portray a change in visual aesthetics. The ultimate height for stockpiles and co-disposal facility embankments can be seen from all five locations as a flat hill or plateau just above the treeline (Attachment A).

To mitigate for potential impacts to the visual aesthetics, a tree line will be retained as a buffer between the mine and the Areas of Interest as practical, to diminish the amount of the mine site that can be seen.

Visibility of mine features following completion of closure activities will not change and will not degrade the visual aesthetics in the study area.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	1-1
1.1 Purpose and Objective of the Report	1-1
1.2 Project Overview.....	1-1
1.3 Setting	1-2
2.0 METHODS.....	2-1
2.1 Scope of Study	2-1
2.2 Study Area.....	2-1
2.3 Information Sources.....	2-1
2.4 Viewshed Analysis.....	2-2
2.5 Aspects Studied	2-3
2.6 Viewshed Identification	2-3
2.7 Scenic Quality	2-3
2.8 Viewer Sensitivity	2-3
2.9 Viewing Distance.....	2-4
2.10 Landscape Rating.....	2-4
2.11 Assumptions.....	2-4
3.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ANALYSIS OF OPERATIONS, CLOSURE AND POST-CLOSURE.....	3-1
3.1 Baseline Results	3-1
3.1.1 Existing Visual Quality and Landscape Rating	3-2
3.1.2 Scenic Quality.....	3-2
3.1.3 Viewer Sensitivity.....	3-3
3.1.4 Landscape Rating	3-3
3.2 Operations, Closure and Post-Closure Phases Results.....	3-4
4.0 REFERENCES.....	4-1

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2-1: Scenic Quality Ratings and Descriptions.....	2-6
Table 2-2: View Sensitivity Factors and Descriptions	2-7
Table 2-3: Landscape Rating Determination Matrix	2-7
Table 2-4: Landscape Rating Descriptions.....	2-7
Table 3-1: Identified Areas of Interest in Relations to Viewing Distance Zones and the Project	3-6
Table 3-2: Scenic Quality Factors Scoring.....	3-7
Table 3-3: Viewer Sensitivity Factors Scoring	3-7

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1-1: Project Location	1-3
Figure 2-1: Visual Effects Assessment Study Areas.....	2-1
Figure 2-2: Visual Assessment Renderings and Modelled Visible Area Results	2-2
Figure 2-3: Viewshed Analysis Results from Ultimate Heights of Modelled Mine Site Features.....	2-3

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A Baseline Photos and Operations Phase Renderings

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

3D	Three-Dimensional
BG	Background
CDF	Co-disposal facility
DSM	Digital Surface Model
EA	Environmental Assessment
FM	Foreground - Middle Ground
FRI	Forest Resource Inventory
km	Kilometre
km ²	square kilometre
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
PDEM	Provincial Digital Elevation Model
Project	Springpole Gold Project
SS	Seldom Seen
USDI BLM	United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management
WSP	WSP Canada Inc.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

First Mining Gold Corp. proposes to develop, operate and eventually decommission and close an open pit gold and silver mine and ore process plant with supporting facilities known as the Springpole Gold Project (Project). The Project is located in a remote area of northwestern Ontario, approximately 110 kilometres (km) northeast of the Municipality of Red Lake and 145 km north of the Municipality of Sioux Lookout (Figure 1-1).

An environmental assessment (EA) pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (SC 2012, c. 19, s. 52) and the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act* (RSO 1990, c. E.18) is required to be completed for the Project. This report is one of a series of Technical Support Documents prepared by WSP Canada Inc. on behalf of First Mining Gold Corp. to describe the predicted environmental effects of the Project.

The federal and provincial governments do not have standards, guidelines, or policies in place for visual aesthetics. Professional best practices, including approaches adopted from other jurisdictions have provided guidance to undertake this baseline study.

The United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management (USDI BLM) has a Visual Resource Management system that provides a process to inventory and assess visual quality relevant to resource developments (USDI BLM 1986). The details of USDI BLM are outlined in the Visual Resource Inventory BLM Manual and Handbook, H 8410-1 (USDI BLM 1986). This system was used to support the development of this assessment as it considers research regarding public perception and principles of landscape design.

Visual aesthetics or visual quality considers the state of the visual resources of a landscape as it relates to the scenic appeal it affords viewers. Visual quality is valued by individuals and groups that may be property owners and/or recreational enthusiasts. Visual quality also has an economic value that may be related to tourism and/or property value. Visual quality considers view sensitivity and viewing distance. Changes to the landscape, such as clearing vegetation or constructing elevated infrastructure can alter visual quality. The visibility of mine infrastructure is a change in the visual aesthetics of an area, which includes landform, color, and vegetation.

1.1 Purpose and Objective of the Report

This report has been prepared to describe the existing conditions and assess the potential effects on visual aesthetics by the construction, operation, and closure phases of the Project. Operations and closure are considered as having the same impact due to the consideration of maximum extent and height of infrastructure. To evaluate these effects, an assessment has been prepared to analyze the following:

- Viewscapes, including scenic quality; and
- Viewer sensitivity and viewing distance to identify Areas of Interest: Distal, East, West, North and South.

1.2 Project Overview

The Project is proposed to be mined as an open pit. To allow the development and safe operation of the open pit mine, dikes will be established to facilitate safe and controlled dewatering of the open bit basin. Ore from the open pit will be processed in an onsite process plant at approximately 30,000 tonnes per day. Mine rock and tailings resulting from the processing of ore will be stored in a co-disposal facility (CDF).

The main components of the Project include:

- Open pit;
- Dikes (west dike and east dike);

- CDF for mine rock and tailings (north cell and south cell);
- Surficial soils stockpile
- Ore stockpiles;
- Process plant or process plant complex;
- Buildings and supporting infrastructure;
- Water management and treatment facilities;
- Fish habitat development area;
- Accommodations complex;
- Aggregate operation(s);
- Transmission line; and
- Mine access road and co-located airstrip.

The Project is expected to be developed over a three-year period. The mine will be operated for a period of approximately 10 years. Decommissioning and closure of the site is expected to be five years in length and will be followed by a period of environmental monitoring. The different phases of the Project include:

Construction Phase

- Years -3 to -1, representing the construction period for the Project.

Operations Phase

- Years 1 to 10, with the first year potentially representing a partial year as the Project transitions from construction into operations. Mining of the ore from the open pit will end in Year 10, at which time the pit will begin refilling with water.

Decommissioning and Closure Phase

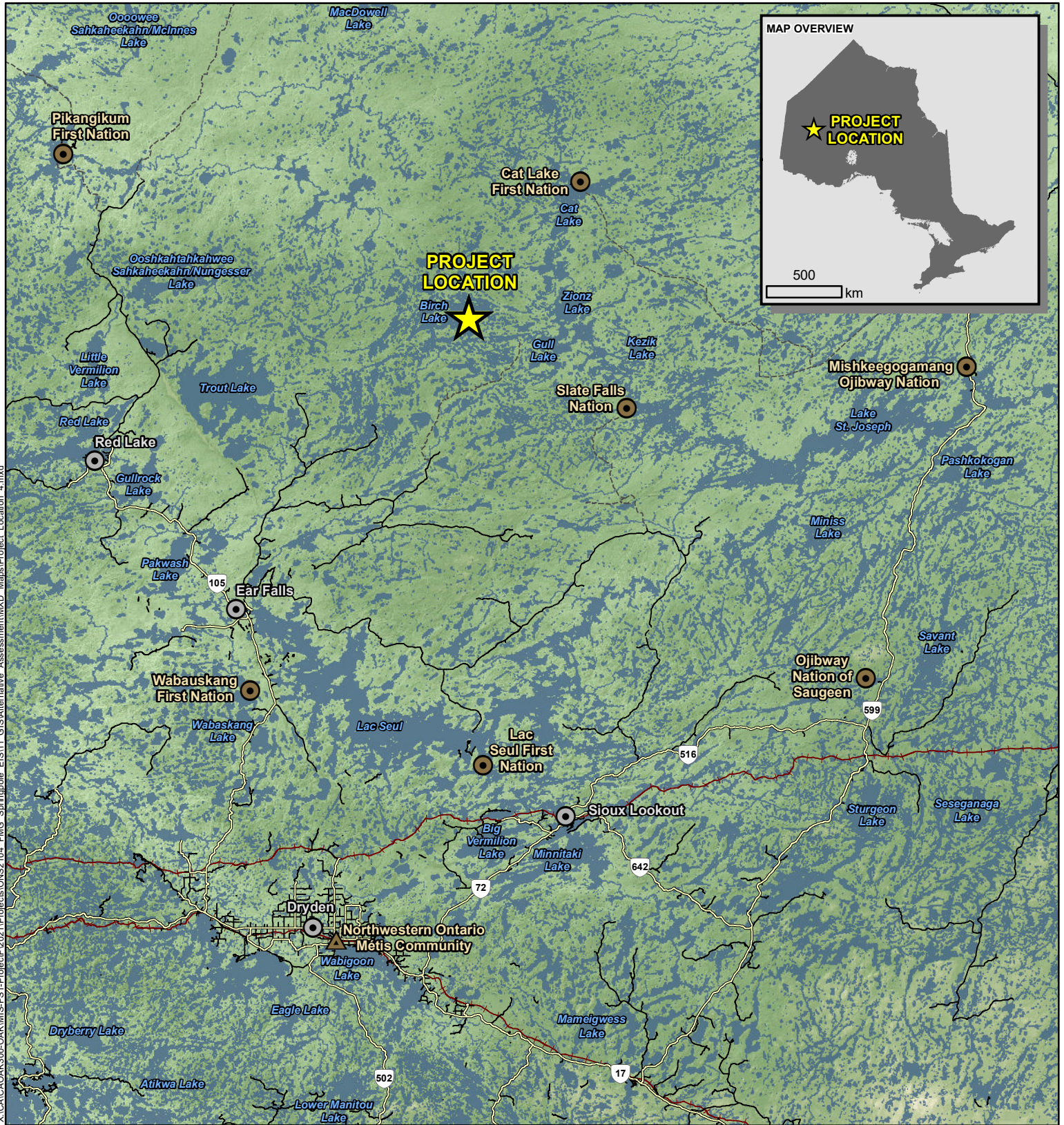
- Active Closure: Preliminary timing of Years 10 and 15, when final decommissioning and the majority of active reclamation activities are carried out.
- Post-Closure: Years 16+, corresponding to primarily the monitoring period for the Project but also when the filled open pit basin will be reconnected to Springpole Lake.

1.3 Setting

The Project is not located within any municipal planning area, and as such is not subject to any municipal policies or plans. The Project is within the Trout Lake Forest Management Area and is subject to the Trout Lake Forest Management Plan, as per the Crown Forest Sustainability Act. These Forest Management Plans cover areas of Crown land.

The region in which the Project is situated is underlain by glaciated terrain characteristic of a large part of the Canadian Shield. Land areas are generally of low relief with less than 30 metres (m) of local elevation, intersected by numerous lakes and watercourses. Tree cover generally consists of mature Spruce, Balsam, Birch and Poplar, with Black Spruce and muskeg swamps occupying low-lying areas. The use of the lands within and adjoining the site is generally wilderness.

The Project is located in a remote area of northwestern Ontario and there are no nearby industrial / commercial developments. There are also no nearby permanent residences, with only a small number of seasonal cabins present on Birch Lake and Springpole Lake.



X:\CAL\OAK\300-OAK\MIS-FS1-Project\2021\Projects\ONS2104_FMG_Springpole_EIS\11_GIS\Alternative_Assessment\MXD_Maps\Project_Location_4.mxd

LEGEND

- ★ Project Location
- Town
- First Nation Reserve
- ▲ Northwestern Ontario Métis Community
- Highway
- Secondary Road
- Resource / Winter Road
- +— Railway

NOTES:
 - Topographic information extracted from LIO, MNRF.



SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT

Project Location

Datum: NAD83
 Projection: UTM Zone 18N

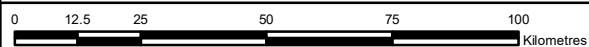


PROJECT N°: ONS2104

FIGURE: 1-1

SCALE: 1:1,500,000

DATE: September 2024



2.0 METHODS

The following sections describe the scope of this study, study area, information sources used as well as data limitations and assumptions. This section also introduces visual approaches used to determine the baseline and conduct the assessment, including:

- Viewshed analysis;
- Aspects studied;
- Visual aesthetics;
- Viewshed identification;
- Existing landscape character and analysis; and
- Existing visual quality and landscape rating.

2.1 Scope of Study

A desktop study and field survey investigation were initiated, which included an analysis to determine the current, or baseline aesthetics surrounding the Project area. This effort included:

- Reviewing and describing the existing landscape from ecological classification and field photography;
- Conducting an analysis of Areas of Interest, where there are direct lines of sight to current and future mine infrastructure; and
- Analyzing overall scenic evaluations for Project area.

2.2 Study Area

Two study area boundaries were defined for the visual effects assessment effort: the visual aesthetics study area (Local Study Area) and the viewshed analysis study area (Regional Study Area).

The visual aesthetics study area encompasses a space of approximately 165 square kilometres (km²) surrounding the proposed Project. This study area was defined by buffering the footprint area of the proposed Project main facilities by 5 km (Figure 2-1). The 5 km buffer area was selected as the overall visual aesthetics study area because it accounts for all areas considered to be part of the foreground and middle ground viewing distance zones (Figure 2-2, Map A). The foreground and middle ground zones are regions where visual aesthetic impacts are considered the most pronounced. As a result, most of the photo rendering locations are located within, or along the border of, the visual aesthetics study area. This excludes one proposed distal photo rendering location, located outside the visual aesthetics study area.

The viewshed analysis study area boundary is defined by the combination of the outer boundary of the non-traditional land and resource use Regional Study Area and the 20 km buffer from the footprint of the proposed Project main facilities area (Figure 2-3). This study area is approximately 1,214 km².

2.3 Information Sources

Information sources for the visual aesthetics baseline study included:

- Ontario Ecological Land Classification inventories that aid in identifying natural land features and cover;
- Land Information Ontario database information covering geographic, recreational resources, tourism resources;

- Relevant publicly available sources (e.g., community organization websites, business websites), including local and regional land and resource use planning documents;
- Management plans for relevant land and resource uses, such as Forest Management Units, parks, and municipalities; and
- Information from field surveys conducted by other disciplines (such as air quality, noise, and natural environment assessments).

2.4 Viewshed Analysis

A viewshed analysis (Figure 2-3) was conducted within the viewshed study areas using three-dimensional (3D) geospatial data of the maximum extent and height of the mine components to determine the most pronounced visual aesthetics impact on the local area. This included the proposed stockpiles (ore stockpiles and surficial soil stockpile), CDF and dike designs at their maximum height and extent to be conservative. The full-feature Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) raster data (2019 data) was combined with the provincial digital elevation model (PDEM) surface (NDMNRF 2021a). The PDEM was merged with supplemental forest resource inventory (FRI) tree stand heights by using its associated average canopy height attribute information to generate approximate tree heights for the areas outside of LiDAR coverage within the viewshed analysis study area. Historic and recent forest depletion information was also considered within the PDEM surface area, including fire damage areas and harvested areas to generate a realistic current landscape. The LiDAR data and the PDEM data were combined into a single 3D surface to provide a realistic digital surface model (DSM) within the viewshed analysis study area by considering line-of-sight impedances, such as canopy heights and other potential obstructions.

The site plan 3D design geospatial data and the DSM were then merged to produce a hypothetical 3D DSM with the main Project features embedded into the 3D landscape. This hypothetical 3D landscape provided a good estimate of the potential future landscape topography based on the Project component design specifications provided. Viewshed analysis was performed using this hypothetical 3D DSM from various observer location points along the high topographic positions on the proposed Project stockpiles and embankments (Figure 2-1). The observer point locations are a series of points along the tops of the modelled mine features that are used to model the landscape level viewsheds, then the viewsheds are combined to produce the viewshed analysis results (pink areas in Figure 2-1). Essentially these observer points are used to identify areas across the entire study area where at least one of the mine features would be visible when at their maximum height and extent. The resulting analysis assisted in identifying key visual receptor areas within the viewshed analysis study area to supplement specific receptor locations and helped to determine photo rendering locations and the Areas of Interest (Figure 2-3). Identifying specific Areas of Interest that were not tied to specific receptors better represents the general visual aesthetics in, and around, the visual aesthetics study area. This is the reason for having four cardinal direction locations and one distal location surrounding the study area.

Once the full viewshed analysis was completed across the viewshed analysis study area, photo rendering locations were chosen along the boundary of the visual aesthetics study area (middle ground / background boundary) from the four cardinal directions. One distal location was chosen approximately 10 km southwest of the Project development area to demonstrate the potential visual aesthetic impact within the background region of the viewshed analysis study area (Figure 2-2, Map A). Subsequently, each of the five photo rendering locations were used to perform a separate viewshed analysis to ensure that at least one Project component would be visible from the given location. The results of these viewshed processes are shown in Figure 2-2, Map B through Map F. Visible portions of the Project components are highlighted along the approximate line-of-sight from the photo rendering location to the proposed mine. The Areas of Interest

and photo renderings from these locations provide a conservative and objective identification of potential visual impact regions around the proposed mine site.

2.5 Aspects Studied

The baseline conditions presented in this report were informed through secondary research and analysis to determine the current conditions of the visual quality within the study area. The aspects studied included geographic analysis to:

- Identify line-of-sight and support determining viewscape Areas of Interest; and
- Determine ratings of overall scenic value from Areas of Interest within the study areas to support assessment of potential Project effects.

2.6 Viewshed Identification

A viewshed was modelled to determine areas where viewsheds may include Project infrastructure within their line-of-sight in accordance with the proposed Project site plan. The viewshed is the landscape area that can be viewed from one or more locations. The line-of-sight occurs between points within the viewshed, and from the viewpoint from which the viewshed was generated. Viewshed modeling was performed using ArcGIS 10.5 Desktop Advanced Spatial Analysis Extension and 3D Analyst Extension. The digital elevation model and digital surface model had a cell resolution of 5 m.

Using a 3D model of the topography within the study areas, modelling was generated to understand the effect on screening (visibility). Viewshed analysis provides a conservative estimation of the screening and therefore supports the identification of potential viewing locations or receptors for future assessment.

Receptor locations were identified using the viewshed model, identification of established viewpoints, proximity to other viewpoints (such as trails, rivers, lakes, etc.), usage, and accessibility and were refined through engagement with stakeholders, Indigenous communities and in coordination with other disciplines (such as air quality, noise, and lighting).

2.7 Scenic Quality

The potential appeal of a viewscape, formed by the characteristics of the physical features, defines the scenic quality. The USDI BLM classification of scenic quality is based on perceptual psychology research where greater importance is placed on landscapes that have diverse and unique qualities (USDM BLM 1986). Ratings of scenic quality are characterized as high, medium, and low depending on key factors. Using the information presented in Table 2-1 such as adjacent scenery, colour, cultural modifications, landform, scarcity or uniqueness, vegetation and water components bearing in mind the ecosystem classification unit and ecoregion as a baseline were evaluated for scenic quality using the rating system found in Table 2-1.

The scenic quality rating is calculated by totaling the scores from each key factor; the total of all scores is then classified as: A (19+) is the highest rating, followed by B (12 to 18) and then C (11 or less) which is the lowest rating.

2.8 Viewer Sensitivity

Viewer sensitivity considers the social environment through which a viewer experiences a viewscape. It considers aspects such as public awareness, values, and expectations of the scenic quality. Similar to scenic quality, viewer sensitivity is considered high, medium, or low, and is based on the factors presented in Table 2-2, type of users, amount of use, public interest, adjacent land uses, special area and other factors. The categories of high, medium, and low are described as the following:

- **High Viewer Sensitivity:** These are locations that have a high number of viewers for sustained periods of time. The visual quality is important and tied to commercial (tourist) or cultural use.

- **Medium Viewer Sensitivity:** These are locations that have a moderate number of viewers for specific time periods (viewing is temporary but regular).
- **Low Viewer Sensitivity:** These are locations that have an infrequent number of viewers for brief time periods. This is associated with travelers and/or workers passing through lands with minimal expectations for the visual quality.

2.9 Viewing Distance

The viewing distance is based on the distance from the Project and includes the following zones: foreground, middle ground, background and seldom seen. These three zones are sections of the viewshed that are visible from the observers' position. The descriptions for the zones are the following:

- **Foreground-Middle Ground (FM):** The area closest to the observer. For the baseline, this is defined by a distance of less than 1 km.
- **Background (BG):** The area past the foreground-middle ground that may be seen from higher elevation or open areas; for the baseline, this is defined as a distance greater than 5 km.
- **Seldom Seen (SS):** Includes areas that are rarely seen from the observers' position (USDI BLM 1986).

2.10 Landscape Rating

The landscape rating provides a sense of the relative value of the current visual quality; from this rating, an assessment of potential Project effects can be considered. The landscape rating considers the scenic quality (Section 2.7), viewer sensitivity (Section 2.8) and the viewing distance (Section 2.9). The matrix used to determine the landscape ratings is presented in Table 2-3: Landscape Rating Determination Matrix

and descriptions of the ratings are presented in Table 2-4. Table 2-3: Landscape Rating Determination Matrix

is a framework and the Example Areas (A, B and C) are hypothetical examples. For instance, since SS is a location that is rarely viewed, the viewer sensitivity rating is low and in combination with uniform scenery, a Low Landscape Rating would be determined.

2.11 Assumptions

Approximately 66% of the viewshed analysis study area is composed of PDEM data supplemented with FRI tree stand height information. Tree stand height information is from 2009 and 2014 and therefore vegetation and anthropogenic changes since 2014 may have influenced the viewshed analysis results in various regions throughout the study area. Vegetation loss, vegetation growth, new building structures and other such changes that occur over time may have affected the line-of-sight analysis. There does not, however, appear to be any substantial changes in the overall landscape and vegetation cover within the study areas since 2014 except for the 2021 forest fire near the Project site, which has been accounted for in the hypothetical 3D surface used in this analysis.

It is important to note that seasons can affect the view and scenic quality, for example autumn colours are not as prominent in a coniferous environment. In contrast, the lake would become a snow / ice field in the winter.

It is considered that Indigenous peoples use this land for fishing, hunting, berry picking, as well as other cultural activities.

Although the area is used for fishing, the amount of tourism is low, due to remote access and the acquisition of several outfitters by FMG since the draft EIS/EA. In the winter, snowmobiles and aircraft are used to access this area. An ice road across Birch Lake has been used annually in the past to support mineral exploration.

Table 2-1: Scenic Quality Ratings and Descriptions

Key Factor	High	Medium	Low
Adjacent Scenery	Adjacent scenery greatly enhances visual quality.	Adjacent scenery moderately enhances overall visual quality.	Adjacent scenery has little or no influence on overall visual quality.
	Score 5	Score 3	Score 0
Colour	Rich color combinations, variety, or vivid color; or pleasing contrasts in the soil, rock, vegetation, water, or snow fields.	Some intensity or variety in colors and contrast of the soil, rock, and vegetation, but not a dominant scenic element.	Subtle color variations, contrast, or interest; generally mute tones.
	Score 5	Score 3	Score 1
Cultural Modifications	Modifications add favourably to visual variety while promoting visual harmony.	Modifications add little or no visual variety to the area, and introduce no discordant elements.	Modifications add variety but are very discordant and promote strong disharmony.
	Score 2	Score 0	Score -4
Landform	High vertical relief as expressed in prominent cliffs, spires, or massive rock outcrops, or severe surface variation or highly eroded formations including major badlands or dune systems; or detail features dominant and exceptionally striking and intriguing such as glaciers.	Steep canyons, mesas, buttes, cinder cones, and drumlins; or interesting erosional patterns or variety in size and shape of landforms; or detail features which are interesting though not dominant or exceptional.	Low rolling hills, foothills, or flat valley bottoms; or few or no interesting landscape features.
	Score 5	Score 3	Score 2
Scarcity	One of a kind; or unusually memorable, or very rare within region. Consistent chance for exceptional wildlife or wildflower viewing, etc.	Distinctive, though somewhat similar to others within the region.	Interesting within its setting, but fairly common within the region.
	Score 5+	Score 3	Score 1
Vegetation	A variety of vegetative types as expressed in interesting forms, textures, and patterns.	Some variety of vegetation, but only one or two major types.	Little or no variety or contrast in vegetation.
	Score 5	Score 3	Score 1
Water	Clear and clean appearing, still, or cascading white water, any of which are a dominant factor in the landscape.	Flowing, or still, but not dominant in the landscape.	Absent, or present, but not noticeable.
	Score 5	Score 3	Score 0

Source:
 Adapted from USDI BLM (1986).

Table 2-2: View Sensitivity Factors and Descriptions

Factors	Description
Type of User	Visual sensitivity varies with user types. Recreational sightseers may be more sensitive to visual changes. Resource-based workers traveling through the area on a regular basis may not be as sensitive to change.
Amount of Use	Areas seen and used by more people have increased potential for sensitivity. As the number of viewers increases, the protection of visual values also increases.
Public Interest	The visual quality of an area may be of interest to specific groups, which are often expressed during meetings, through media and land use plans.
Adjacent Land Uses	Land uses in adjacent lands can affect the visual sensitivity of an area.
Special Areas	Consider management objectives of special areas, such as parks, conservation reserves, trails, and portage routes.
Other Factors	Consider any other information, research or plans that may inform the understanding.

Source:

Adapted from USDI BLM (1986).

Table 2-3: Landscape Rating Determination Matrix

Viewer Sensitivity		High			Medium			Low
Viewing Distance		FM	BG	SS	FM	BG	SS	SS
Scenic Quality	Example Area	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
	A	II	II	II	II	II	II	II
	B	II	III	III	III	IV	IV	IV
	C	III	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV

Source:

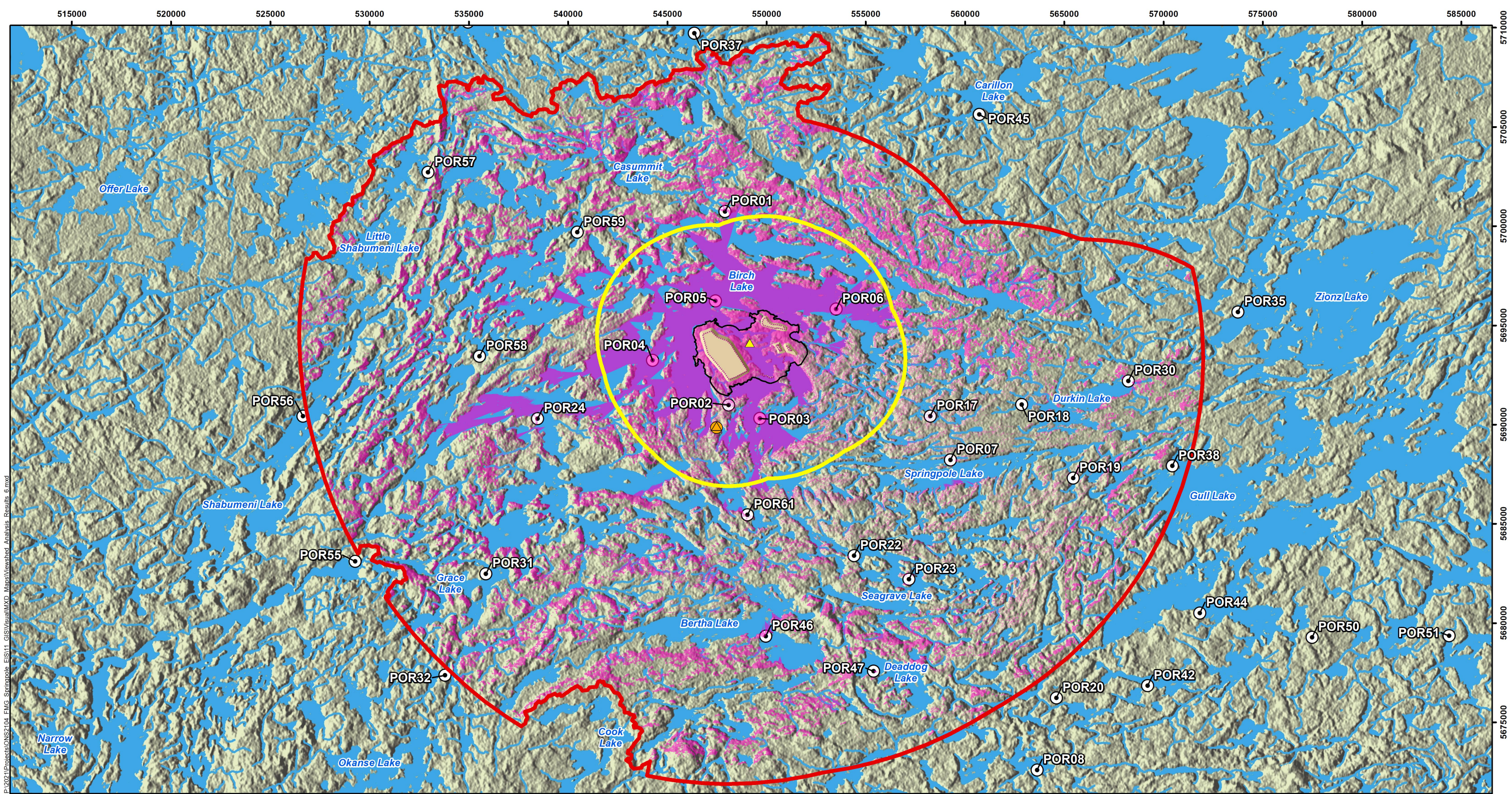
Adapted from USDI BLM (1986).

Table 2-4: Landscape Rating Descriptions

Rating	Description
High (Class IV)	Views that have a remarkable visual quality and would be susceptible to change. These views are typically visually diverse with prominent landscape feature(s). There is a high likelihood of interest from viewers should the view be altered.
Medium (Class III)	Views that have a visual quality and would be moderately susceptible to change. These views are typically visually somewhat diverse with some landscape feature(s). There is a moderate likelihood of interest from viewers should the view be altered.
Low (Class I and II)	Views that do not have a remarkable visual quality and would have limited susceptibility to change. These views are typically uniform and lack diversity or prominent landscape feature(s). There is a low likelihood of interest from viewers should the view be altered.

Source:

Adapted from USDI BLM (1986).



LEGEND

- Exploration Camp
- Proposed Relocated Portage Location
- Springpole Project Development Area (mine site area)
- Outward Looking Modelled Observer Points (top of mine site features)
- Modelled Mine Site Features (ultimate heights for stockpiles and dams)
- Receptors (labelled with ID)
- Visual Aesthetics Study Area
- Viewshed Analysis Study Area

Viewshed Analysis Interpretation Key:

- Solid pink areas indicate ground or water surface visual
- Speckled pink areas indicate forest canopy visual, not ground level visual

NOTES:
 - Topographic information extracted from LIO, MNRF.

Datum: NAD83
 Projection: UTM Zone 15N

SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT	
Viewshed Analysis Results from Ultimate Heights of Modelled Mine Site Features	
PROJECT N ^o : ONS2104	FIGURE: 2-3
SCALE: 1:180,000	DATE: May 2024

P:\2021\Projects\ONS2104_FMG_Springpole_EIS11_GIS\VisualMXD_Maps\Viewshed_Analysis_Results_6.mxd

3.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ANALYSIS OF OPERATIONS, CLOSURE AND POST-CLOSURE

3.1 Baseline Results

The character of the landscape refers to the patterns from natural features (such as topography, rivers, lakes, vegetation, etc.) and cultural features (such as land use structures, historic features, etc.) that create a sense of place.

Using the Ontario Ecological Land Classification system ecosystem classification units, the study areas were divided into distinct units of landscape character. The ecological classification units are defined based on common biotic (living) and abiotic (non-living) characteristics. The description of these units informs the understanding of the landscape character for the current visual aesthetics.

The Project is located in the northwestern region of Ontario in Ecoregion 3S, Lake St. Joseph Ecoregion, in the northern portion of the Canadian Shield and the Boreal Forest, adjacent to the Manitoba border. The Project is in the Trout Lake Forest Management Unit (FMG 2018) which is administered by the Red Lake District Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry office (Domtar 2020). Climate typical of this region is characterized by winters that are dry and cold, with mean annual temperatures ranging from -1.7 and 1.0°C and mean annual rainfall ranging between 613 and 787 mm (NDMNR 2021b). The dominant land cover consists of coniferous forest. Sparse forests, water, mixed forests, and treed bog are also located in this region; however, they are sparsely found throughout the ecoregion. Prominent vegetation found in this region includes Jack Pine and Black Spruce in the upland vegetation areas. Other vegetation includes White Spruce, Balsam Fir, Open Jack Pine lichen woodlands and Trembling Aspen. Some lowland areas are consumed by large open peatlands (fens / bogs) and richer, moist mineral areas tend to have Balsam Poplar and Black Ash. There is a history of forestry, mineral exploration and mining in the general Project area which has contributed to disturbed areas.

The visual aesthetic baseline results for scenic quality at the Areas of Interest are due to the following attributes:

- The adjacent scenery is similar in all areas;
- The surrounding colour is uniform;
- There is an existing exploration camp, that can support approximately 40 people, with heavy equipment used in the area;
- The landform is not varied, little scarcity or uniqueness to any aspect of the environment;
- The vegetation is typical for Boreal Forest Canadian Shield; and
- The lake was the consistent water feature.

Due to low population, viewer sensitivity was found to be low. Low is defined as having less than 2,000 visits per year (BLM VRI 8400-006). Since the landscape lacked prominent features, the landscape rating was low and less susceptible to change.

Photographs taken during the summer of 2022 from the five different Areas of Interest and provide a reference to the current conditions (Attachment A). Refer to the image on the left side of each photo for the baseline conditions.

- **Photo Location B-Distal:** The lake is in the foreground and the forested land is seen in the background.
- **Photo Location C-East:** The lake has treed islands in the forefront and forested land is seen in the background.

- **Photo Location D-West:** The lake has a treed island on the left forefront. The forested land is seen in the background.
- **Photo Location E-North:** The lake has treed islands in the forefront. The forested land is seen in the background.
- **Photo Location F-South:** The scenery in the photo has distant islands that are forested, which are indistinguishable from the land behind the islands.

Photographs taken during the winter of 2022 from the five different Areas of Interest and provide a reference to the current conditions (Attachment A). Refer to the image on the left side of each photo for the baseline conditions.

- **Photo Location B-Distal:** The lake is covered in snow. The forested land is seen in the background.
- **Photo Location C-East:** The lake is covered in snow with treed islands in the forefront. The forested land is seen in the background.
- **Photo Location D-West:** The lake is covered in snow with a treed island on the left forefront. The forested land is seen in the background.
- **Photo Location E-North:** The lake is covered in snow and treed islands in the forefront. The forested land is seen in the background.
- **Photo Location F-South:** The scenery in the photo has distant islands that are forested, which are indistinguishable from the land behind the islands.

3.1.1 Existing Visual Quality and Landscape Rating

Table 3-1: Identified Areas of Interest in Relations to Viewing Distance Zones and the Project

presents the ratings for the five Areas of Interest identified in Figure 2-3: Viewshed Analysis Results from Ultimate Heights of Modelled Mine Site Features.

3.1.2 Scenic Quality

Google Earth Pro was used to model the ground topography and distance to vegetation referring to photograph renderings that incorporated LiDAR data. Photographs from each Area of Interest confirmed the makeup of the visual landscape. The scoring for the scenic quality factors, per viewpoint is presented in Table 3-2: Scenic Quality Factors Scoring

Adjacent scenery, landform and water was fairly consistent across the five viewpoints, with jagged rocky outcrops and water visible in all areas. For the East (C) viewpoint, island / land masses can be seen in the background. Across viewpoints B to E, Birch Lake's influence on the scenic quality is the primary driver for the medium scenic quality and for the South (F) viewpoint, the Springpole Lake influence is the driver for medium scenic quality.

Regarding colour, all viewpoints contain views of blue lake water and green from the vegetation. All landscapes have a combination of soil, rock, vegetation, water, and in the winter, snow / ice fields. As such it is considered having some intensity and variety in colours. In some viewpoints, such as the East (C), West (D) and North (E) viewpoints, Trembling Aspen is present, which results in golden yellow leaves visible with more contrast in the autumn.

Cultural modification varies for each viewpoint based on the visibility of cabins, portage routes, Tourism Establishment Areas, or the Birch Lake Ice Road. The Distal viewpoint (B) and the North viewpoint (E) have

views of the Birch Lake Ice Road in the winter. Portage routes are visible from East (C), West (D) and South (F) viewpoint. Lastly, Tourism Establishment Areas are visible from the East viewpoint (C).

For all viewpoints, the scarcity rating is low as the view of the lake and vegetation is fairly common throughout the region.

Vegetation is rated as three out of five, across all viewpoints as some variety of vegetation is visible, however vegetation is limited to one or two major forest types. This area is primarily boreal forest, which means it is predominantly coniferous tree coverage with some mixed wood forest. For the Distal (B) viewpoint, within 2 km of the location is Black Spruce predominately, with Jack Pine. For the East (C), West (D) and North (E) viewpoints, within 2 km of the location is Black Spruce predominately with some Trembling Aspen. Lastly, the South (F) viewpoint contains Black Spruce predominately with some White Birch.

The scenic quality rating is calculated by totaling the scores from each key factor; the total of all scores is then classified as: A (19+) is the highest rating, followed by B (12 to 18) and then C (11 or less) which is the lowest rating (Section 2.7). Every Area of Interest had a medium rating of B as the total scenic quality score was 17.

3.1.3 Viewer Sensitivity

The viewer sensitivity was rated low due to the Areas of Interest located mainly on shorelines in low populated areas. There are eight receptors within the viewshed analysis study area (Figure 2-2), with four out of the eight receptors within the visual aesthetics study area. The visual aesthetics study area is primarily Crown land and is assumed to be actively used by trappers, hunters, anglers, and Indigenous peoples. These areas are not tourism areas and have not been identified as Areas of Interest and therefore there is likely a low level of public interest. Additionally, the adjacent land uses all share similar characteristics, and as such can be rated as low. Other factors included the presence of the Birch Lake Ice Road, which is currently within the view of the Distal (B) and North (E) viewpoint. Lastly, two portage routes from the south are located within the visual aesthetics study area and will be impacted by the Project.

The scoring for the viewer sensitivity factors, per viewpoint is represented in Table 3-3. Note that for all Areas of Interest, the type of user was scored at medium since the people using the land would be passing through to fish or hunt and depend upon a quiet, undisturbed location and the total score for all Areas of Interest was low. The Viewer Sensitivity was low for all Areas of Interest due to the low number of people using these areas.

3.1.4 Landscape Rating

The landscape rating (or visual resource class) are categories assigned as part of the analysis to provide the relative value of visual resources as described in Section 2.10. These classes take into consideration the scenic quality (as described in Section 2.7 and assessed in Section 3.1.2), viewer sensitivity (as described in Section 2.8 and assessed in Section 3.1.3) and viewing distance (as described in Section 2.9 and identified in Section 3.1.1).

The viewsapes are considered to have low viewer sensitivity, which means that these are locations that has an infrequent number of viewers for brief time periods with minimal expectations for the visual quality. The USDI BLM only considers a landscape rating for the viewing distance zone of SS where the visual sensitivity is low. The viewer sensitivity rating for all five locations is considered low with a viewing distance of either BG or FM. Therefore, the viewsapes have no definable landscape rating. The views are considered uniform and lack diversity, with no prominent landscape features visible. The landscape is dominated by water, boreal forest and shoreline components and sky that is mainly in view, with minimal, or no proportion of

human-built environment. To be conservative, a low (or Class I) landscape rating has been assigned to these views.

3.2 Operations, Closure and Post-Closure Phases Results

It is anticipated that the potential effects on visual aesthetics will be similar during the operations and closure phases because the maximum extent and height of mine infrastructure would be the same, which would give a conservative estimate of visual impact. Generally, the viewer sensitivity was found to be low due to low usage and limited variation in scenery. The following assumptions were made related to the operations and closure phases of the Project.

To be conservative it was assumed that during operations, the mine infrastructure, specifically the CDF would reach its maximum elevation (485 m above mean sea level). The Ambient Light Baseline Study and Predictive Light Assessment (WSP 2024) concluded that artificial lighting at the Project may be a source of light trespass or unwanted light at the receptor locations. Sky glow or the illumination of the night sky, light trespass, and glare effects of light much brighter than the surroundings will be mitigated by adhering to a lighting strategy that is being developed. In contrast, in the day, during the spring, summer and autumn, mists are common in the mornings, which results in reduced visibility of the mine site for part of the day. During operations in the winter, it is assumed that snow would cover most of the areas and would result in blending with natural surroundings. Additionally, some of the viewpoints, such as the North (E) viewpoint may have views blocked by islands or land masses. This will result in an impediment of direct line of sight to the mine site.

Operations assumptions were used for closure phase as the CDF will be at its maximum elevation. The objective of the closure phase is to establish a site that is physically, chemically, and biologically stable and rehabilitate the footprint to a productive and natural state as practicable. Preserving a tree line as a buffer between the mine and the Areas of Interest as practicable, will diminish the amount of the mine site that can be seen. This buffer around the Project will be maintained wide enough to withstand the loss of trees, such as toppled by wind.

At post-closure, it assumed that all buildings and facilities will be deconstructed and removed, and disturbed areas will be stabilized. As such, after completion of closure activities, the visual aesthetics will return to near baseline conditions. All locations will still have visibility of the mine features (i.e., CDF) after completion of closure activities. The remaining mine features are as follows: the co-disposal facility, high / mid grade ore stockpile, and the low grade ore stockpile. These features will be visible and will slightly degrade any visual resource classes due to the rehabilitation activities completed during closure.

For each Area of Interest, Attachment A provides photographs and renderings of the maximum extent / height of mine infrastructure:

Location B – Distal

- Summer Photograph: Lake with trees in the distance.
- Rendering: At maximum height and extent, the CDF is seen as a plateau on the left. The CDF appears above most of the trees.
- Winter Photograph: Frozen snow-covered lake.
- Rendering: At maximum height and extent, the CDF is seen as a plateau on the left. The snow cover highlights the feature as a white line above the trees.

Location C – East

- Summer Photograph: Lake with islands in the foreground-middle ground.

- Rendering: At maximum height and extent, the CDF and the stockpiles can be seen in the background as a plateau above the background trees.
- Winter Photograph: Frozen snow-covered lake, with islands in the foreground-middle ground.
- Rendering: At maximum height and extent, the CDF and the stockpiles can be seen in the background as a plateau with snow cover highlighting the feature.

Location D – West

- Summer Photograph: Lake in the foreground with an island appearing in left margin.
- Rendering: At maximum height and extent, the CDF is seen as a plateau on the left rising above the treeline.
- Winter Photograph: Frozen snow-covered lake with an island appearing in left margin.
- Rendering: At maximum height and extent, the CDF is seen as a plateau on the left rising above the treeline. The snow cover would highlight the feature as a white horizontal line.

Location F – South

- Summer Photograph: Lake with islands in the background.
- Rendering: At maximum height and extent, the CDF is seen as a plateau on the left rising above the treeline. The feature will appear as the feature as a horizontal line that dips to the lake and then continues past an island.
- Winter Photograph: Frozen snow-covered lake with islands in the background.
- Rendering: At maximum height and extent, the CDF is seen as a plateau on the left rising above the treeline. The snow cover would highlight the feature as a white horizontal line that dips to the lake and then continues past an island.

Location E – North

- Summer Photograph: Lake with islands in the foreground-middle ground.
- Rendering: At maximum height and extent, the CDF can be seen in the background as a plateau.
- Winter Photograph: Frozen snow-covered lake, with islands in the foreground-middle ground.
- Rendering: At maximum height and extent, the CDF can be seen in the background as a plateau with snow cover highlighting the feature.

In the study area, the locations have medium scenic quality with a low viewer sensitivity. As a result, none of the locations during any of the Project phases result in a change in the landscape rating. With the maintenance of a treed buffer along the shoreline, all the viewpoints analyzed would have potential visibility of the Project during the operations phase. After closure, no Areas of Interest would experience a change in landscape rating. Following the completion of revegetation activities during closure, the viewpoints will not return to their respective baseline visual aesthetics as the CDF will still be visible, however, the scenery will remain similar to the rest of the study area. Visibility of mine features following completion of closure activities will not degrade the visual aesthetics in the study area.

Table 3-1: Identified Areas of Interest in Relations to Viewing Distance Zones and the Project

Areas of Interest	Location	Description	Scenic Quality		Viewer Sensitivity		Viewing Distance Zone	Landscape Rating
			Rating	Rationale	Rating	Rationale		
B - Distal	Photo looking northward	On land, adjacent to Birch Lake (10 km southwest from the visual aesthetics study area)	B - Medium	Water is dominant in the landscape, with coniferous trees in the distance. No cabins or Tourism Establishment Areas within view.	Low	Area of interest is located in a floodplain on shore. Trappers, hunters, anglers, Indigenous peoples actively use this Crown land.	12.9 km BG	Low
C - East	Photo looking westward	On land, adjacent to Birch Lake	B - Medium	Water is dominant in the landscape, with islands of vegetation interspersed.	Low	Area of interest is located in a floodplain on shore. Trappers, hunters, anglers, Indigenous peoples actively use this Crown land with one tourism establishment / cabin in view.	5.1 km BG	Low
D - West	Photo looking eastward	On land, adjacent to Birch Lake	B - Medium	Water is dominant in the landscape, with islands of vegetation interspersed. No cabins or Tourism Establishment Areas within view.	Low	Area of interest is located on sandy shore. Trappers, hunters, anglers, Indigenous peoples actively use this Crown land.	4.9 km FM	Low
E - North	Photo looking southward	On land, adjacent to Birch Lake	B - Medium	Water is dominant in the landscape, with islands of vegetation interspersed.	Low	Area of interest is located on shore in a bay. Trappers, hunters, fishers, Indigenous peoples actively use this Crown land. Cabins were recently purchased by First Mining Gold, which could reduce the amount of use in the area.	6 km BG	Low
F - South	Photo looking northward	On land, adjacent to Springpole Lake	B - Medium	Water is dominant in the landscape, with islands of vegetation interspersed.	Low	Area of interest is located on shore. Trappers, hunters, anglers, Indigenous peoples actively use this Crown land. Three cabins located within line of sight. One cabin adjacent to line of sight. Cabins create visual variety.	5.8 km BG	Low

Table 3-2: Scenic Quality Factors Scoring

Scenic Quality Factor	Area of Interest				
	B - Distal	C - East	D - West	E - North	F - South
Adjacent Scenery	5	5	5	5	5
Colour	3	3	3	3	3
Cultural Modifications	0	0	0	0	0
Landform	1	1	1	1	1
Scarcity	1	1	1	1	1
Vegetation	3	3	3	3	3
Water	4	4	4	4	4
Totals	17	17	17	17	17

Table 3-3: Viewer Sensitivity Factors Scoring

Viewer Sensitivity Factor	Area of Interest				
	B - Distal	C - East	D - West	E - North	F - South
Type of User	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
Amount of Use	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Public Interest	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Adjacent Land Uses	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Special Areas	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Other Factors	Low	N/A	N/A	Low	N/A
Totals	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low

4.0 REFERENCES

Bureau of Land Management. 1984. Manual 8400 – Visual Resource Management. Accessed from: https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/uploads/mediacenter_blmpolicymanual8400.pdf

Domtar. 2020. 2019-2020 Annual Report Trout Lake Forest SFL # 542461. Accessed from: https://nrip.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/published-submission?language=en_US&recordId=a0z3g000000oWVSAA2

First Mining Gold Corp. (FMG). 2018. Springpole Gold Project, Project Description. Accessed from: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/documents/p80149/121859E.pdf>

Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNRF). 2019. Cat Lake and Slate Falls First Nations Community Based Land Use Plan. July 2011. Accessed from: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/cat-lake-and-slate-falls-first-nations-community-based-land-useplan>

Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNRF). 2021a. Provincial Digital Elevation Model Surface User Guide. Accessed from: <https://geohub.lio.gov.on.ca/maps/mnrf::provincial-digital-elevation-model-pdem/about>.

Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNRF). 2021b. The ecosystems of Ontario- Part 1: ecozones and ecoregions. Accessed from: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/ecosystems-ontario-part-1-ecozones-and-ecoregions>

United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management (USDI BLM). 1985. Manual H-8410-1 Visual Resource Inventory. Accessed from: [BLM 8400-6](#)

WSP Canada Inc. (WSP). 2024. Ambient Light Baseline Study and Predictive Light Assessment October 2024.

Attachment A
Baseline Photos and Operations Phase
Renderings

Photo Location B-Distal (Summer and Winter)

B-Distal View: Summer 2022



B-Distal View: Summer Rendering (max. extent and height of modelled mine features)



P:\2021\Projects\ONS2104_FMG_Springpole_EIS11_GIS\VisualMXD_Maps\PhotoLocation_B-Distal_SummerPhotoRendering_2.mxd

PHOTO LOCATION B-DISTAL (refer to Figure 2-2, Map C):
Description: Located west of the project area about mid-way between the boundaries of the visual aesthetics study area and viewshed analysis study area, within the background visual zone.

Location: Longitude -92.5048, Latitude 51.3628
Distance to mine site (approx.): 12.8 km
Angle of view: Northeast (azimuth 73°)

NOTES:
 - Photo taken on July 12, 2022



SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT

**Visual Effects Assessment
 Photo Location B-Distal
 Summer Rendering**

PROJECT N°: ONS2104	FIGURE:
SCALE: NA	DATE: August 2024

B-Distal View: Winter 2022



B-Distal View: Winter Rendering (max. extent and height of modelled mine features)

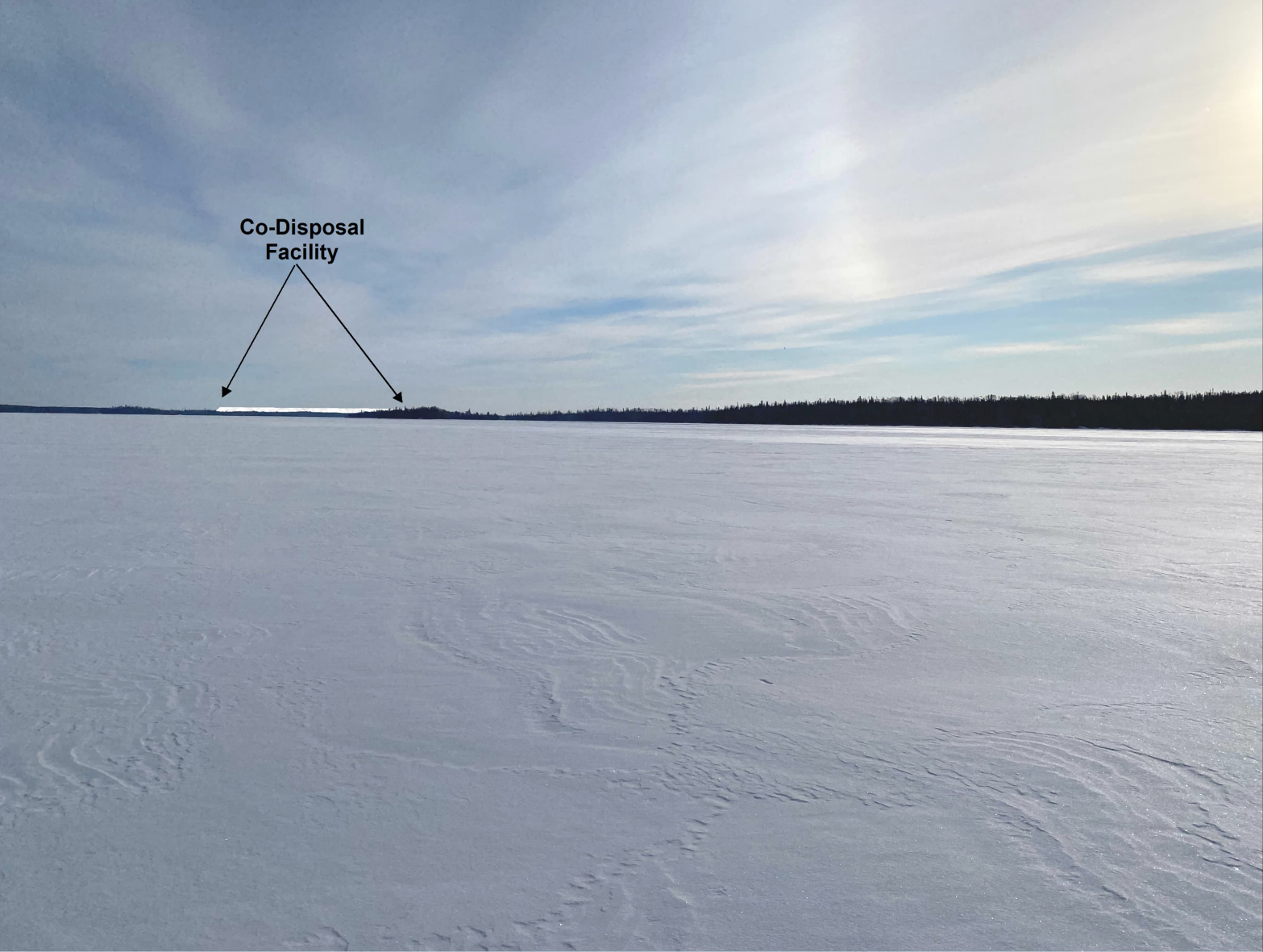


PHOTO LOCATION B-DISTAL (refer to Figure 2-2, Map C):
Description: Located west of the project area about mid-way between the boundaries of the visual aesthetics study area and viewshed analysis study area, within the background visual zone.

Location: Longitude -92.5048, Latitude 51.3628

Distance to mine site (approx.): 12.8 km

Angle of view: Northeast (azimuth 73°)

NOTES:
 - Photo taken on
 February 25, 2022



SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT

**Visual Effects Assessment
 Photo Location B-Distal
 Winter Rendering**

PROJECT N°: ONS2104	FIGURE:
SCALE: NA	DATE: November 2023

Photo Location C-East (Summer and Winter)

C-East View: Summer 2022



C-East View: Summer Rendering (max. extent and height of modelled mine features)

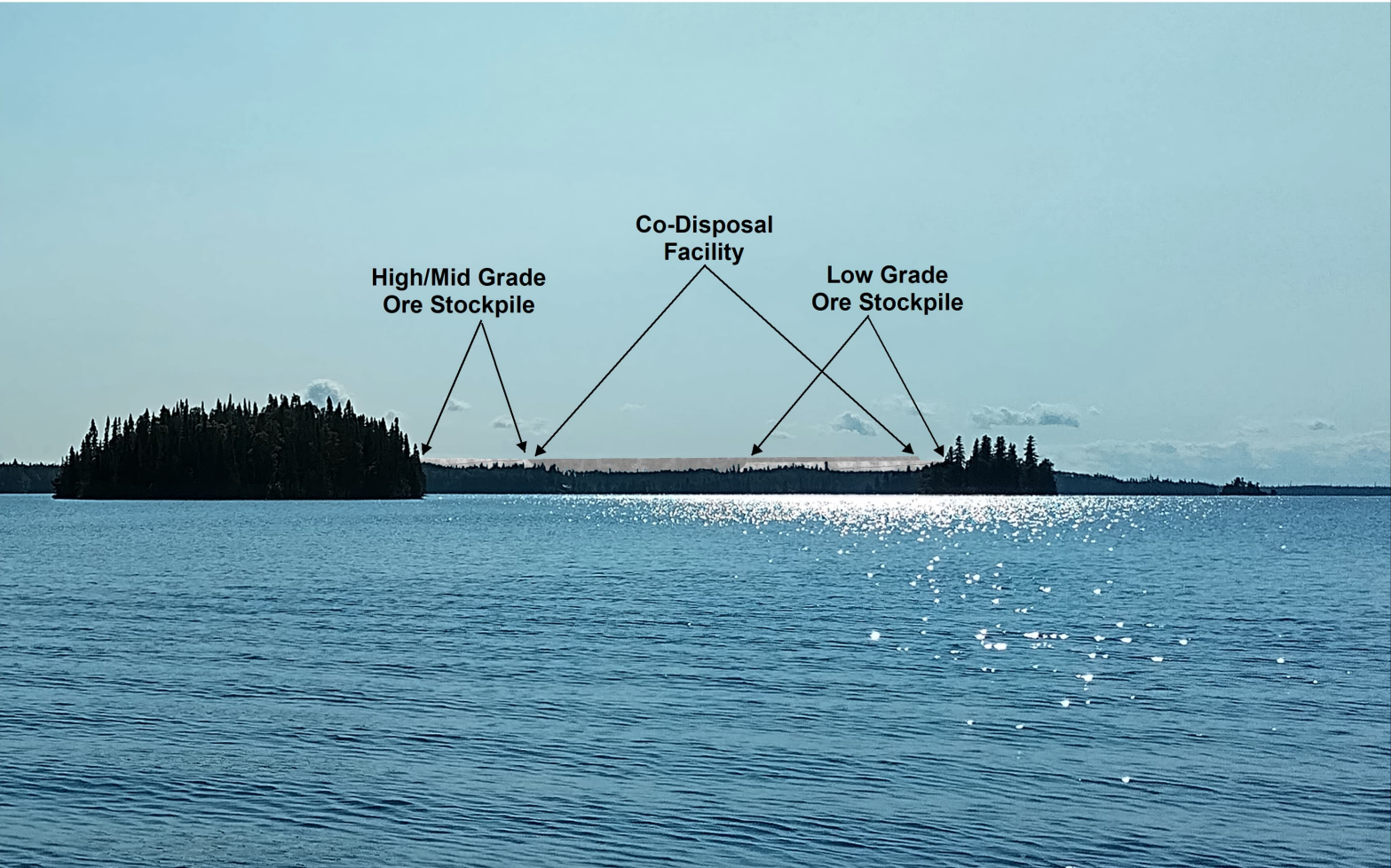


PHOTO LOCATION C-EAST (refer to Figure 2-2, Map C):

Description: Located at the east boundary of the of the visual aesthetics study area along the transition between the middle ground and background visual zones.

Location: Longitude -92.1921, Latitude 51.4091

Distance to mine site (approx.): 5.3 km

Angle of view: West (azimuth 264°)

NOTES:
- Photo taken on July 12, 2022



SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT

**Visual Effects Assessment
Photo Location C-East
Summer Rendering**

PROJECT N°: ONS2104

FIGURE:

SCALE: NA

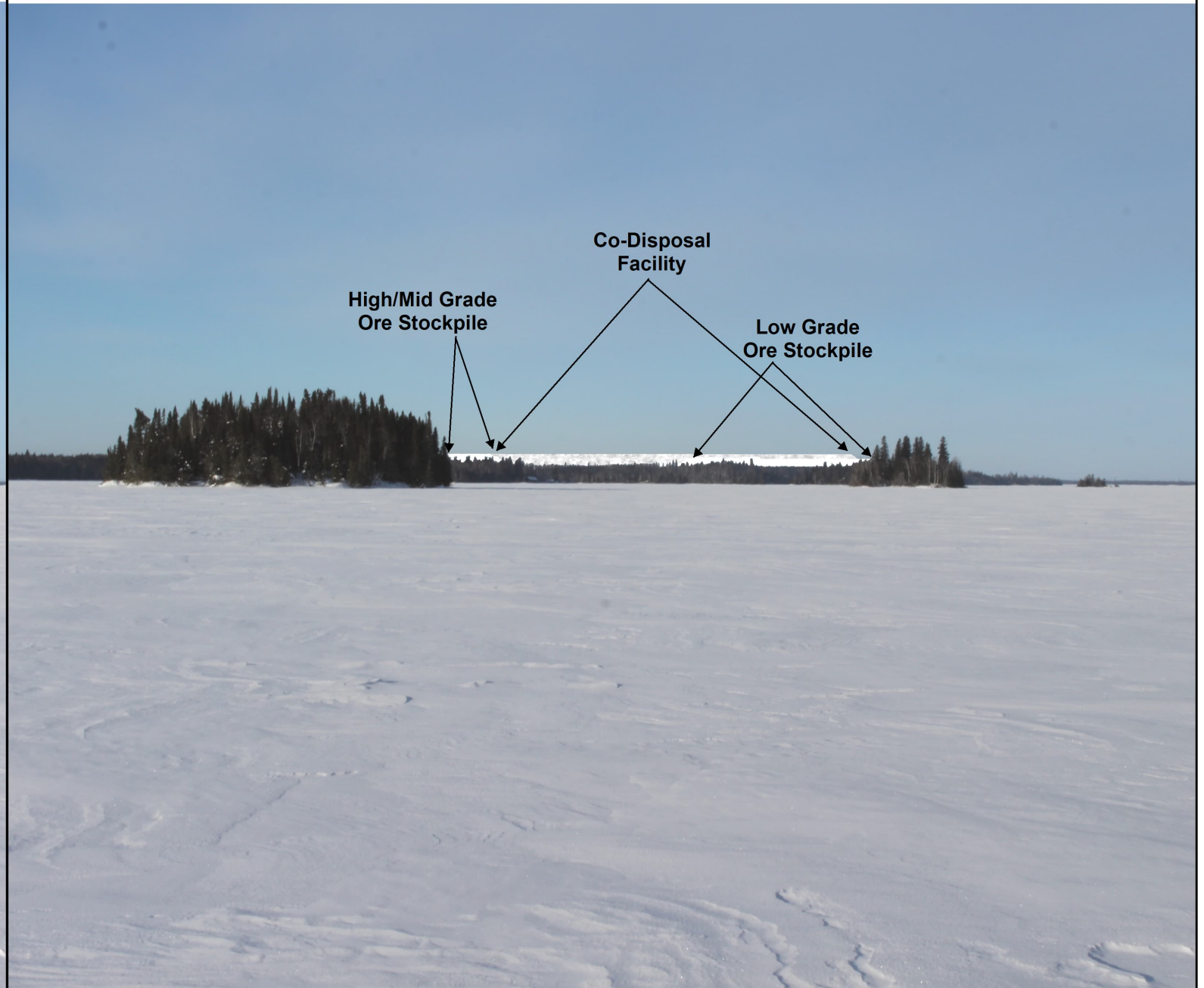
DATE: November 2023

P:\2021\Projects\ONS2104_FMG_Springpole_EIS\11_GIS\Visual\MXD_Maps\PhotoLocation_C-East_SummerPhotoRendering_1.mxd

C-East View: Winter 2022



C-East View: Winter Rendering (max. extent and height of modelled mine features)



P:\2021\Projects\ONS2104_FMG_Springpole_EIS11_GIS\VisualMXD_Maps\PhotoLocation_C-East_WinterPhotoRendering_2.mxd

PHOTO LOCATION C-EAST (refer to Figure 2-2, Map C):

Description: Located at the east boundary of the of the visual aesthetics study area along the transition between the middle ground and background visual zones.

Location: Longitude -92.1921, Latitude 51.4091

Distance to mine site (approx.): 5.3 km

Angle of view: West (azimuth 264°)

NOTES:
- Photo taken on
February 25, 2022



SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT

**Visual Effects Assessment
Photo Location C-East
Winter Rendering**

PROJECT N°: ONS2104

FIGURE:

SCALE: NA

DATE: November 2023

Photo Location D-West (Summer and Winter)

D-West View: Summer 2022



D-West View: Summer Rendering (max. extent and height of modelled mine features)



PHOTO LOCATION D-WEST (refer to Figure 2-2, Map C):

Description: Located at the west boundary of the of the visual aesthetics study area along the transition between the middle ground and background visual zones.

Location: Longitude -92.3941, Latitude 51.3955

Distance to mine site (approx.): 4.8 km

Angle of view: East (azimuth 87°)

NOTES:
- Photo taken on
July 12, 2022



SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT

**Visual Effects Assessment
Photo Location D-West
Summer Rendering**

PROJECT N°: ONS2104

FIGURE:

SCALE: NA

DATE: November 2023

D-West View: Winter 2022



D-West View: Winter Rendering (max. extent and height of modelled mine features)



P:\2021\Projects\ONS2104_FMG_Springpole_EIS11_GIS\VisualMXD_Maps\PhotoLocation_D-West_WinterPhotoRendering_2.mxd

PHOTO LOCATION D-WEST (refer to Figure 2-2, Map C):

Description: Located at the west boundary of the of the visual aesthetics study area along the transition between the middle ground and background visual zones.

Location: Longitude -92.3941, Latitude 51.3955

Distance to mine site (approx.): 4.8 km

Angle of view: East (azimuth 87°)

NOTES:
- Photo taken on
February 25, 2022



SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT

**Visual Effects Assessment
Photo Location D-West
Winter Rendering**

PROJECT N°: ONS2104

FIGURE:

SCALE: NA

DATE: November 2023

Photo Location E-North (Summer and Winter)

E-North View: Summer 2022



E-North View: Summer Rendering (max. extent and height if modelled mine features)

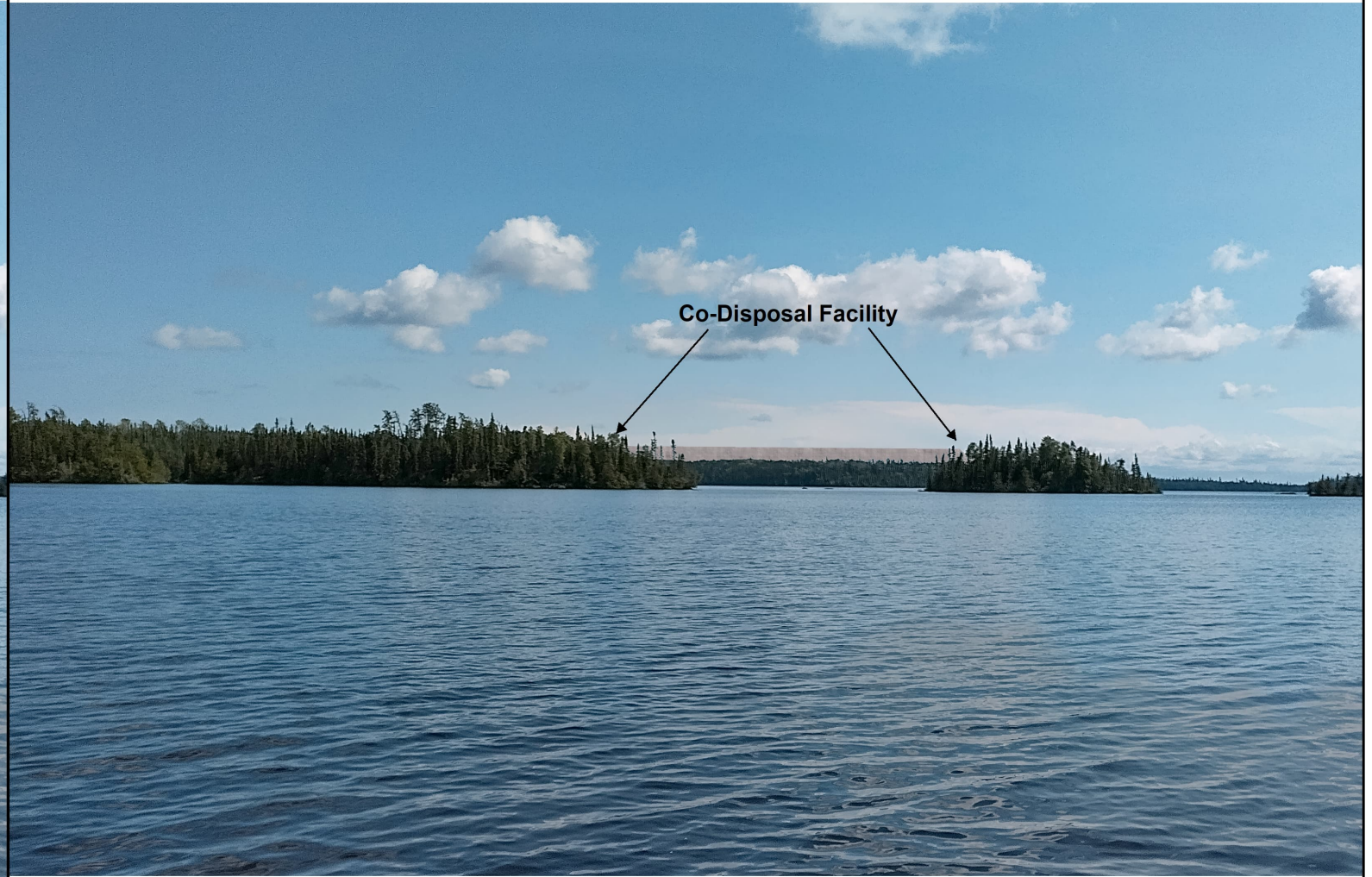


PHOTO LOCATION E-NORTH (refer to Figure 2-2, Map E):

Description: Located at the north boundary of the of the visual aesthetics study area along the transition between the middle ground and background visual zones.

Location: Longitude -92.3038, Latitude 51.4554

Distance to mine site (approx.): 6 km

Angle of view: Southwest (azimuth 195°)

NOTES:
- Photo taken on
July 12, 2022



SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT

**Visual Effects Assessment
Photo Location E-North
Summer Rendering**

PROJECT N°: ONS2104

FIGURE:

SCALE: NA

DATE: November 2023

E-North View: Winter 2022



E-North View: Winter Rendering (max. extent and height if modelled mine features)



PHOTO LOCATION E-NORTH (refer to Figure 2-2, Map E):

Description: Located at the north boundary of the of the visual aesthetics study area along the transition between the middle ground and background visual zones.

Location: Longitude -92.3038, Latitude 51.4554

Distance to mine site (approx.): 6 km

Angle of view: Southwest (azimuth 195°)

NOTES:
- Photo taken on
February 25, 2022



SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT

**Visual Effects Assessment
Photo Location E-North
Winter Rendering**

PROJECT N°: ONS2104	FIGURE:
SCALE: NA	DATE: November 2023

P:\2021\Projects\ONS2104_FMG_Springpole_EIS11_GIS\VisualMXD_Maps\PhotoLocation_E-North_WinterPhotoRendering_4.mxd

Photo Location F-South (Summer and Winter)

F-South View: Summer 2022



F-South View: Summer Rendering (max. extent and height if modelled mine features)

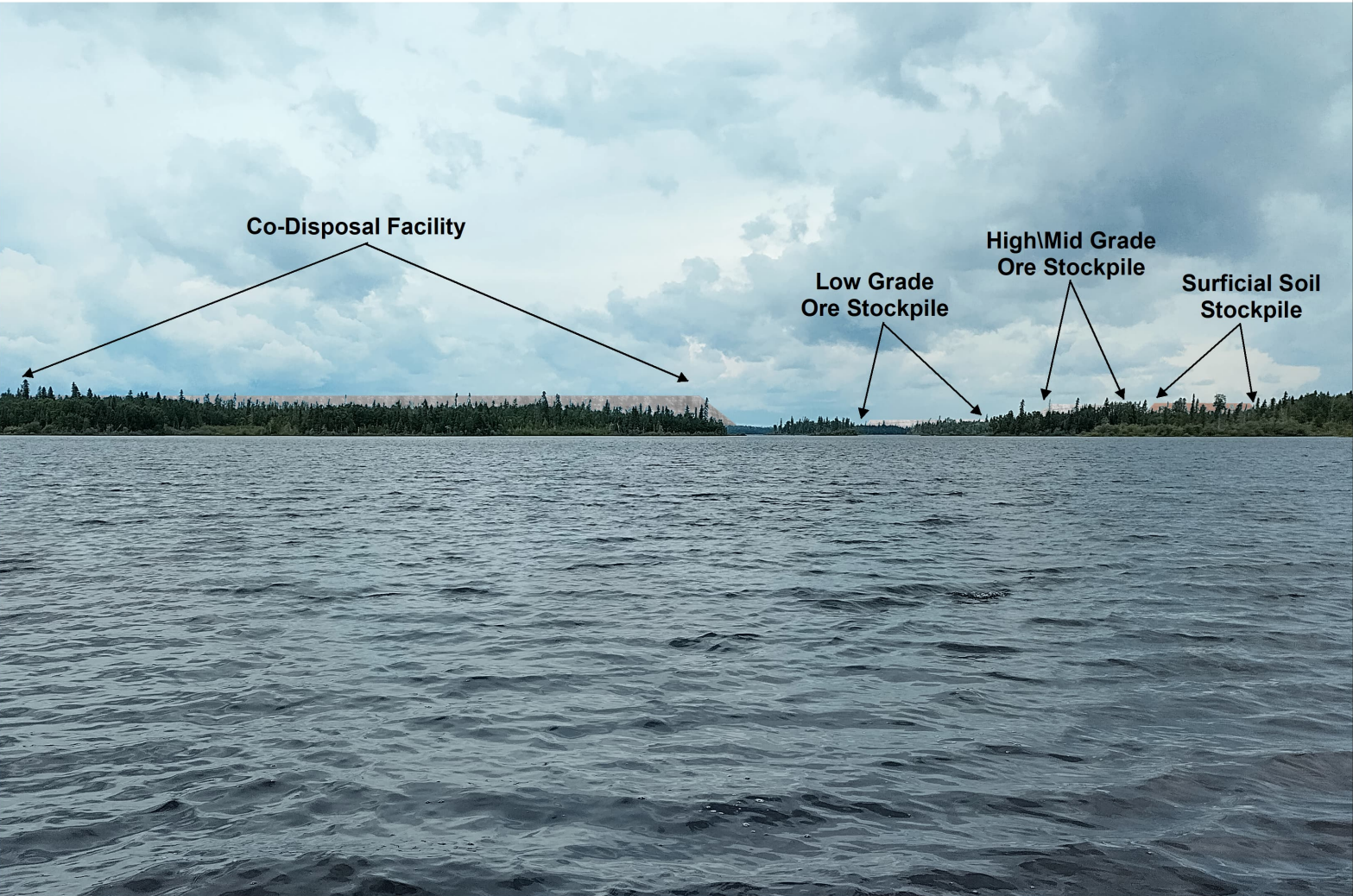


PHOTO LOCATION F-SOUTH (refer to Figure 2-2, Map F):

Description: Located at the south boundary of the of the visual aesthetics study area along the transition between the middle ground and background visual zones.

Location: Longitude -92.2902, Latitude 51.3308

Distance to mine site (approx.): 5.5 km

Angle of view: North (azimuth 355°)

NOTES:
- Photo taken on
July 11, 2022



SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT

**Visual Effects Assessment
Photo Location F-South
Summer Rendering**

PROJECT N°: ONS2104

FIGURE:

SCALE: NA

DATE: November 2023

P:\2021\Projects\ONS2104_FMG_Springpole_EIS\11_GIS\VisualMXD_Maps\PhotoLocation_F-South_SummerPhotoRendering_1.mxd

F-South View: Winter 2022



F-South View: Winter Rendering (max. extent and height if modelled mine features)

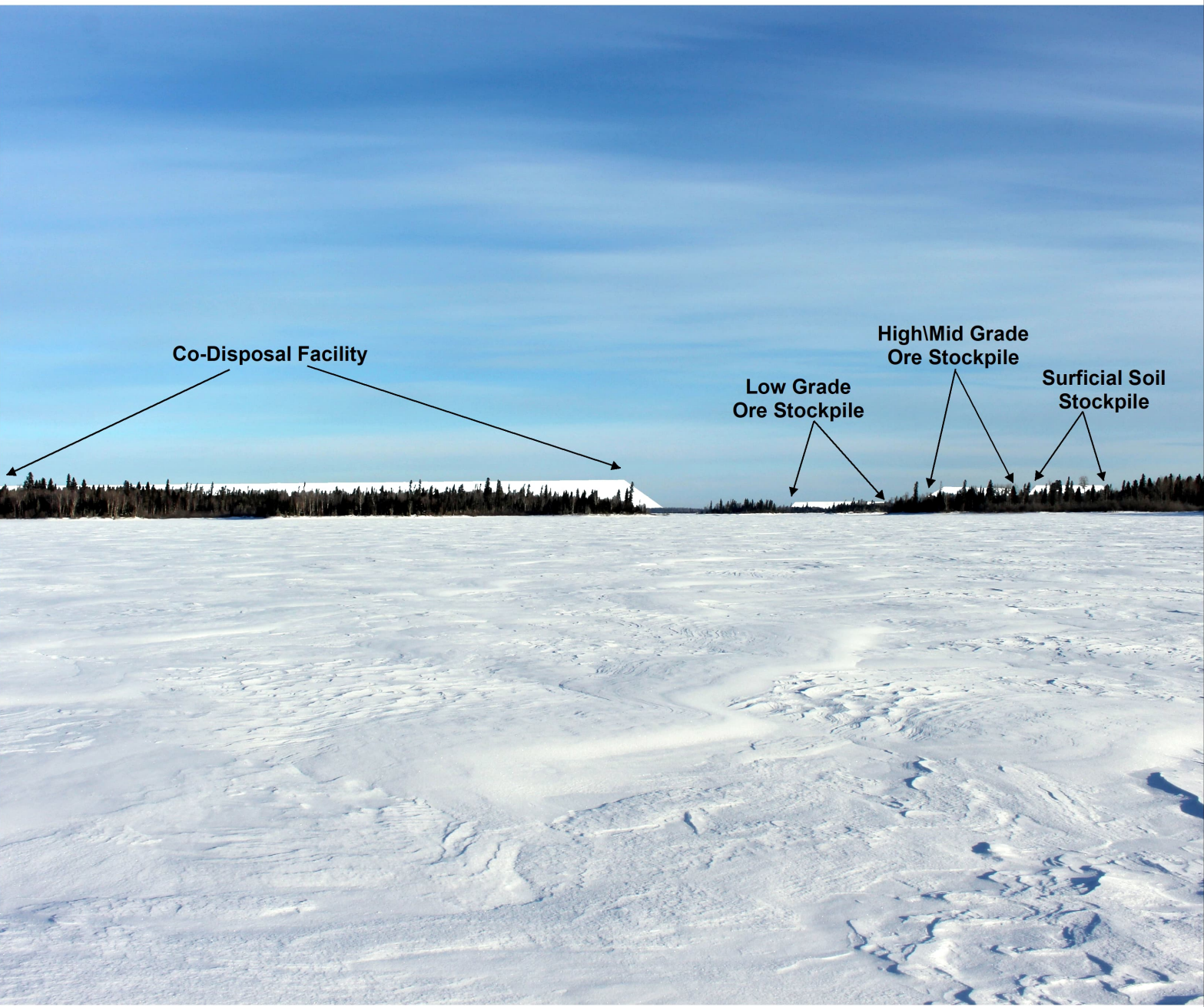


PHOTO LOCATION F-SOUTH (refer to Figure 2-2, Map F):

Description: Located at the south boundary of the of the visual aesthetics study area along the transition between the middle ground and background visual zones.

Location: Longitude -92.2902, Latitude 51.3308

Distance to mine site (approx.): 5.5 km

Angle of view: North (azimuth 355°)

NOTES:
- Photo taken on
February 25, 2022



SPRINGPOLE GOLD PROJECT

**Visual Effects Assessment
Photo Location F-South
Winter Rendering**

PROJECT N°: ONS2104 **FIGURE:**

SCALE: NA **DATE:** November 2023

P:\2021\Projects\ONS2104_FMG_Springpole_EIS11_GIS\VisualMxd_Maps\PhotoLocation_F_South_WinterPhotoRendering_3.mxd