

**The Mackenzie Timber Supply Area
Archaeological Overview Assessment Final Report**

Archaeological Field Reconnaissance

B.C. Permit 1996-191

December, 1997

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by

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Saskatoon and Prince George

submitted to

Mackenzie AOA Steering Committee

and

B.C. Archaeology Branch

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Executive Summary

TimberWest Forest Ltd., in conjunction with Finlay Forest Industries and the BC Ministry of Forests requested an archaeological overview assessment of the Mackenzie Timber Supply Area, located in northeastern British Columbia. The primary goal of the overview was to develop a GIS-based predictive model of archaeological heritage potential for the region. Only a few archaeological sites had been previously recorded within the timber supply area, which encompasses more than 6 million hectares of mountainous terrain. This work was undertaken by Western Heritage Services Inc.

Background literature surveys demonstrated that there had been very little previous archaeological study in the vast region. Since the heritage potential model required some archaeological data to calibrate and ascertain its effectiveness, and archaeological field assessment program involving drive-through surveys of roads and forestry cut blocks was implemented. The field techniques included pedestrian surface surveys, spot checks and subsurface testing on a wide variety of landforms. Determination of archaeological potential for landforms was based on discussions with band members, terrain associations with currently known sites from a background literature review, and general boreal forest site location knowledge.

During the relatively short field assessment program, approximately 5,000 square km of land were observed through drive-through and pedestrian inspection of over 1800 km of road and trail. Nevertheless, the inspected areas comprise less than 0.1 percent of the entire Mackenzie TSA. Twenty-nine new precontact archaeological sites were found during the survey, many of them in interior locations away from major rivers. Most of the sites were surface lithic finds, often associated with contemporary trails or evidence of contemporary habitation.

The heritage potential model developed for the TSA is a raster based model with a cell resolution of 100 m. The principal variables used in defining the model were derived from TRIM data, and included distance from water, slope, aspect, elevation, and distance from a landform edge. Some use was made of Landsat satellite imagery to derive vegetation and wetlands, although this data source was not available for the entire TSA.

The heritage potential modeling appears to be moderately successful in predicting the location of heritage-sensitive localities, based on an analysis of the limited site data that were collected, and by direct testing through interim modeling field verification. It also compares favourably with heritage potential models developed elsewhere in B.C., Saskatchewan and Ontario.

Overall, the model provides the first comprehensive heritage management tool for the Mackenzie TSA. While the model is an important tool, particularly because of its regional scale, it is still requires significant improvement because of the limited data that were available to develop it. The iterative design of the model ensures that it can be relatively easily improved with the addition of new data.

Project Credits

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There are many people who supported the undertaking of this project. The project was initiated two years ago by Alan Simcoe from TimberWest Forest Ltd, who began assembling the funding to undertake this work. Forest Renewal B.C. ultimately provided this support, enabling the project to proceed. A committee was formulated including Al Balisky from TimberWest Forest Ltd., Joan Thomas of Finlay Forest Industries, and Lyle Bonthoux and Eric Forget from the Mackenzie District Ministry of Forests. Much gratitude is extended to the First Nations involved in the project, including the Fort Ware Indian Band, Tsay Keh Dene Band, McLeod Lake Indian Band, Takla Lake Indian Band, and Noostel Keho.

Chief Emil McCook from the Fort Ware Indian Band discussed some of his heritage concerns in the area near Fort Ware. In previous projects in the Buffalo Head area Melvin and Doreen McCook discussed heritage resources and Doreen undertook a drive-over of this area with Terry Gibson.

Chief Johnny Pierre from the Tsay Keh Dene Band discussed archaeological issues with the archaeological survey teams. Michael Metcalf arranged for band members to provide consultation for different areas of the Tsay Keh Dene homeland. Discussions with several band members were very informative. Pat and Maureen Pierre and Vera Poole discussed archaeological concerns that they were familiar with in the Davis-Ospika areas. They undertook field surveys in previous studies undertaken by the Tsay Keh Dene Band. Elder Jean Isaac discussed general land use information as well as expressing concerns about the Ingenika area.

Chief Harry Chingee from the McLeod Lake Indian Band provided information on heritage and archaeological concerns and arranged accommodations for part of the survey crew at McLeod Lake. Vern Solonas and Harley Chingee discussed concerns that they knew of and provided references to people who possessed specific knowledge of various areas. Elders Theresa Alexander and A. Solonas Sr. provided information about their specific knowledge areas.

The authors are also grateful for the discussions and help from many people at the McLeod Lake Indian Band office. They would also like to thank Jim and Janet Bresheres for their hospitality and discussions. They outlined land use, heritage, and archaeological concerns for the Noostel Keho in the homeland claim area around Germansen Landing. Scott Müller from Germansen landing also discussed the industrial mining history of the area, and provided information on this historic period.

Al Balisky of TimberWest acted as project administrator, and provided invaluable assistance in field expedition and committee meeting arrangements. Doug Glaum from the BC Archaeology Branch provided comments throughout the project, and served as government liaison to the project. Daryl Roberts of TimberWest provided considerable support by supplying critical GIS information for the modeling program, and advice on data management requirements.

1.0 Introduction

The Mackenzie Archaeological Overview Assessment Project was initiated in July, 1996. Preliminary work included literature searches for documents relevant to the study area, which included historical, ethnographic, government and consultant reports and academic publications. The AOA steering committee meeting identified a number forestry operating areas in which to focus the field-based overview assessment. Satellite imagery of the Mackenzie TSA supplemented the most recent forestry maps in the preparation for the field assessment.

Fieldwork for the archaeological overview assessment began on August 22, 1996. Preliminary field work included discussions with the McLeod Lake Indian Band, Takla Lake Indian Band, Tsay Keh Dene Band, and Fort Ware Indian Band. Archaeological field surveys of the Mackenzie TSA began on August 28 and proceeded to September 29, 1996. This work involved two crews of three field personnel each. In addition, a number of interviews, discussions, and some field excursions were carried out with band members. Unfortunately, the later-than-anticipated fall scheduling of the field work meant that several aboriginal assistants who were to accompany the crews had other commitments by that time and were unable to take part in the assessment work.

The archaeological field work involved drive-through surveys of Forestry Service Roads (FSR's), forestry haul road Main Lines (M/Ls) and forestry cut blocks. The detailed archaeological assessment work included pedestrian surface surveys, spot checks, subsurface tests, and excavation tests. Drive-through surveys involved frequent pedestrian linear or spot survey checks at locations determined to have high archaeological potential and/or good ground exposure. Determination of archaeological potential for landforms was based on discussions with band members, terrain associations with currently known sites from the background review, and general boreal forest site location knowledge.

2.0 Project Location

The Mackenzie Timber Supply Area (TSA) is located in northcentral British Columbia (Figure 1). Six forestry Operating Areas (OA's) were selected as target areas for detailed archaeological survey at the first steering committee meeting in July. These target areas included Buffalo Head, Davis-Ospika, Finlay River West, Mesilinka River/Chunamon, Blackwater, and the Philip Operating Areas (Figure 1). The preliminary review of satellite imagery and initial field survey work provided some basis for re-evaluation of these target areas. It was decided that it would be worthwhile to undertake further general overviews of additional forestry OA's, particularly if they were adjacent to the original target areas. This approach provided a larger sample and included more extensive survey data from a greater range of topographical areas within the Mackenzie TSA.

3.0 Archaeological Resource Inspection Approach

The modeling approach taken for the Mackenzie AOA project incorporated a field-based overview survey in order to provide ground truth data for development of an archaeological predictive model for the Mackenzie TSA. The survey strategy was focused on conducting archaeological inspections of terrain with good exposure characteristics so that archaeological remains could be readily detected if they were present in an area. The general survey approach involved "drive-through's" of

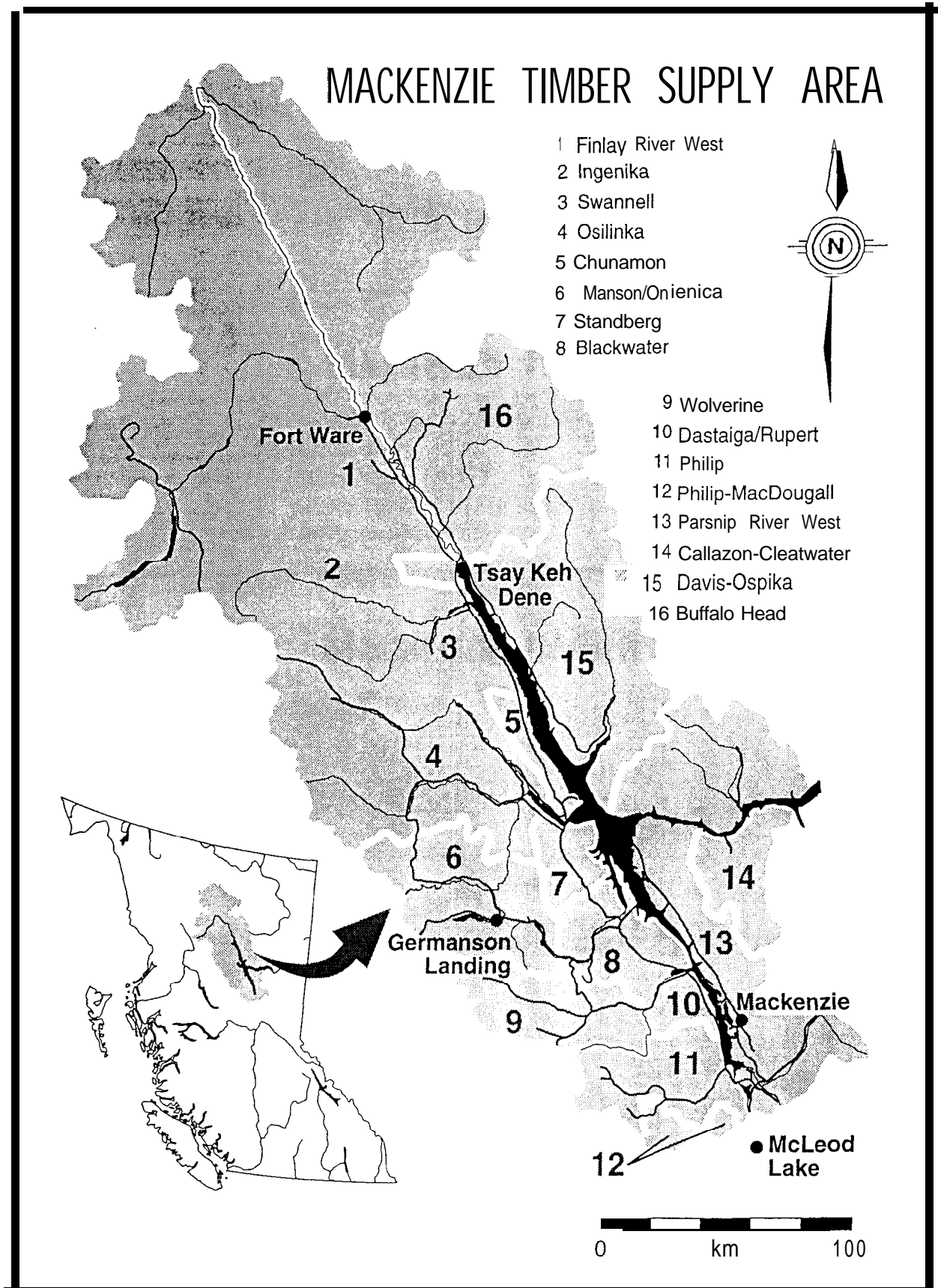


Figure 1. Mackenzie Timber Supply Area location anti Forestry Operating Areas.

target areas to assess their general exposure and overall archaeological resource potential for the target areas. Suitable localities were then given more detailed inspection, as described below. Ground truth survey data and discussions with First Nations provided additional information which modified and supplemented the preliminary target approach.

After a drive-through inspection, pedestrian spot checks and detailed linear surface surveys were undertaken in localities with good exposure and/or with high archaeological potential. Detailed survey approaches varied depending upon the extent and type of exposure, soil type, and the overall topographic locale. Exposed areas were surveyed using pedestrian transects spaced between 10 m and 20 m apart. If an archaeological resource was identified, survey transects were refined to between 1 m to 5 m apart. It was observed that archaeological lithic materials in the region were dominated by black and grey basalts, siltstones, and obsidian. The basalt and siltstone materials blended in with the ground surface making their observation difficult.

Portions of forestry cut blocks and secondary roads were pedestrian-surveyed because these impacted areas often contained good exposures of the local terrain. Stockpile and wood loading areas afforded some of the best exposures within the cut blocks and provided good areal exposures with minimum overburden disturbance. The narrower linear exposures provided by ditches of graded roads provided less good exposure because of the heavy subsurface impact they usually sustained. Sometimes drag trails and cleanup activities in cutblocks exposed topographic features with higher archaeological potential. These features accordingly received more intensive pedestrian survey. On the shoreline of Williston Lake, forestry installations such as log dumps and barge loading points provided substantial areal exposures for pedestrian surveys (Figure 3). In addition, permanent and temporary camp grounds, bridge crossings, exposed beaches associated with creeks or rivers, and natural/construction cut profiles were investigated with walkover inspections.



Figure 2. Pedestrian survey of the exposed beach at Cot-less Bay, Chunamon Forestry SA.

Infield determination of high archaeological potential was based on the experience of the field personnel in associating topographic relief using archaeological site location concepts derived from similar locations. High heritage potential locations were identified for terraces and ridges adjacent to lakes, rivers and creeks, and at confluences of creeks and rivers. The inlets and outlets of tributaries associated with lakes were considered to have high archaeological potential as well. Localities which provided visual overviews of open swamps, valleys or lakes were also considered to have high heritage potential because these locations may have been used as hunting stands or routes for trails. Evidence of previous habitation or human passage in an area also represented high heritage potential. In many localities, traditional use sites were encountered, and these were inspected, photographed and their locations recorded using a Global Positioning System receiver

(GPS), with an estimated accuracy of between 50 and 100 m. Also, existing trails were often followed from the edges of roads into forest, sometimes for several km. While surface exposure in traditional use camps was usually good, along the trails exposure was often poor, and only spot locations provided natural subsurface soil visibility. Some trowel testing was made along a few trails, but this kind of slow testing was rarely undertaken. Trail location recording was somewhat problematic, especially in forested conditions where GPS accuracy was seriously degraded under tree canopy. Trail locations were usually sketched on maps, but their locational accuracy remains somewhat general.

Several discussions with First Nation peoples provided specific information on old camp areas, historic cabins, trails, burials and cemeteries. These contemporary-use and traditional-use heritage sites were also visited, surface inspected, photographed and their locations recorded, where they could be relocated. However, no subsurface testing was undertaken out of respect for First Nation people's contemporary-use areas. In several cases it was ascertained that these contemporary or historical trails and camp areas did have some antiquity. For example, it was often noted that remnant cabin outlines or depressions were in the vicinity of more recent cabins, and in other situations precontact archaeological surface finds or features were associated with old historic trails. Unfortunately, the short field time involved in this archaeological overview assessment did not provide ample time for detailed mapping of many contemporary-use heritage resources, such as cabins and trails.

In some localities subsurface tests (40 x 40 cm in size) were employed to assess areas with good heritage potential but limited exposure. These tests were conducted along terraces, ridges, a few sandy pine covered localities, at moss covered hearth outlines, and at some surface artifact find spots. These tests were made based on a judgmental or a systematic approach using a shovel or trowel. Also, an uncontrolled subsurface sampling approach involved routine checks of tree falls, rodent burrows, and cut banks by trowelling through the loose soil or exposed mineral soil horizons. When variable exposure existed at a high potential locality, judgmental subsurface testing was employed in areas of poor exposure. If a locality had high archaeological resource potential and poor overall exposure a systematic subsurface testing approach was employed. Systematic testing usually involved tests being placed approximately 50 m apart, and oriented parallel with a terrace or road. Some systematic testing would consist of two or three linear rows test pits of varying lengths, depending upon the size and potential of the local ground topography. The details of judgmental and systematic assessment approaches were documented in field notes for each locality. When possible, a 6 mm mesh screen was used for sifting the excavated soil. If wet or organic soil conditions would not allow screening of the soil, careful observations were made while trowelling through the loose soil matrix.

As previously mentioned, any identified sites were located using a GPS. Information for each heritage or archaeological site was systematically recorded in field notes and then placed on B.C. Archaeological Site Inventory Forms. The general catalogue and analyses of collected archaeological materials employed standard methods that are used by Western Heritage Services Inc. and which conforms to standards set by B.C. Archaeology Branch.

During the relatively short field assessment program, it is estimated that approximately 5,000 square km of land were observed by drive-throughs of 16 forestry supply areas in the Mackenzie TSA

(Figure 1). This included an estimated 1733 km of road and trail transect surveys, and 1269 ha of ground inspected (Appendix C/1 and C/2; Appendix D, Figure D-10). Nevertheless, the visited supply areas comprise less than 0.1 percent of the entire Mackenzie TSA. During the drive-throughs, spot checks and detailed surveys were made of areas of varying habitation potential, where accessibility was available from the access routes. As such, these archaeologically assessed areas are effectively a fraction of a percentage of the visited supply areas. Therefore, the assessment program did not come anywhere near demonstrating the archaeological potential of the region, and could not be expected to even if the same level of archaeological survey were maintained for many years. Nevertheless, the field program did provide valuable ground truth data which served as the basis for defining and calibrating the variables used for designing the heritage potential model for the TSA.

4.0. Background Environmental and Historical Research Review

4.1 Environmental Overview

The study locality is situated within a geographic feature known as the Rocky Mountain Trench, located in north central British Columbia. The trench was formed by the near-convergence of the Rocky Mountains on the east, and the Omineca and Cassiar Mountain ranges on the west. Several principal rivers flow through this narrow, elongated lowland. The Parsnip River enters from the south. The Finlay River flows from the north, intersecting the Parsnip at Finlay Forks. The intersecting rivers create the Peace River, which exits to the east through the Rocky Mountain range onto the northern plains of northwestern Alberta. North of the Finlay are the Fox River, and north again the Kechika River, whose source is less than 50 km from the Yukon border. The construction of W.A.C. Bennett Dam on the Peace River northwest of Hudson's Hope in the mid 1970's, caused the Parsnip, Finlay, and Peace Rivers to crest their banks and create an enormous reservoir called Williston Lake. This artificial lake extends from a few km north of McLeod Lake in the south to the Tsay Keh Dene Band's village on the Finlay River, occupying over one third of the trench area.

The Parsnip and Finlay River valleys in the Williston Lake area are between 8 and 25 km wide. Before inundation, the valley floors were flat or slightly rolling, broken by the meandering river systems. Back from the valleys, the mountains rise steeply, especially along the tributary rivers, which are characterized by swift flowing, relatively narrow channels, forming occasional canyons. A few have well-defined terraces which may have provided good areas for camp sites or trails. The soils of the region are predominantly silty clay (derived from mountain shales), which tend to retain moisture, and in general offer less than ideal drainage. Only a few terrace locations exhibit sandy soil characteristics and these are considered to be areas of higher archaeological potential.

White spruce, poplar and birch dominate the lower portions of most of the valleys. The forest vegetation in the lower valleys maintains a fairly dense understory, with numerous tree-throws. Foot travel in these areas is difficult. The easiest travel routes appear to be along the terrace edges of major rivers and streams, and nearly all such waterways with developed terraces are bordered by existing trapping and game trails. The higher slopes are more open, with less undergrowth. They are dominated by black pine and subalpine fir (see MacKinnon et al. 1992).

Moose, black and grizzly bears, wolves, wolverines, beaver, otter, muskrat, fishers, ermine, lynx,

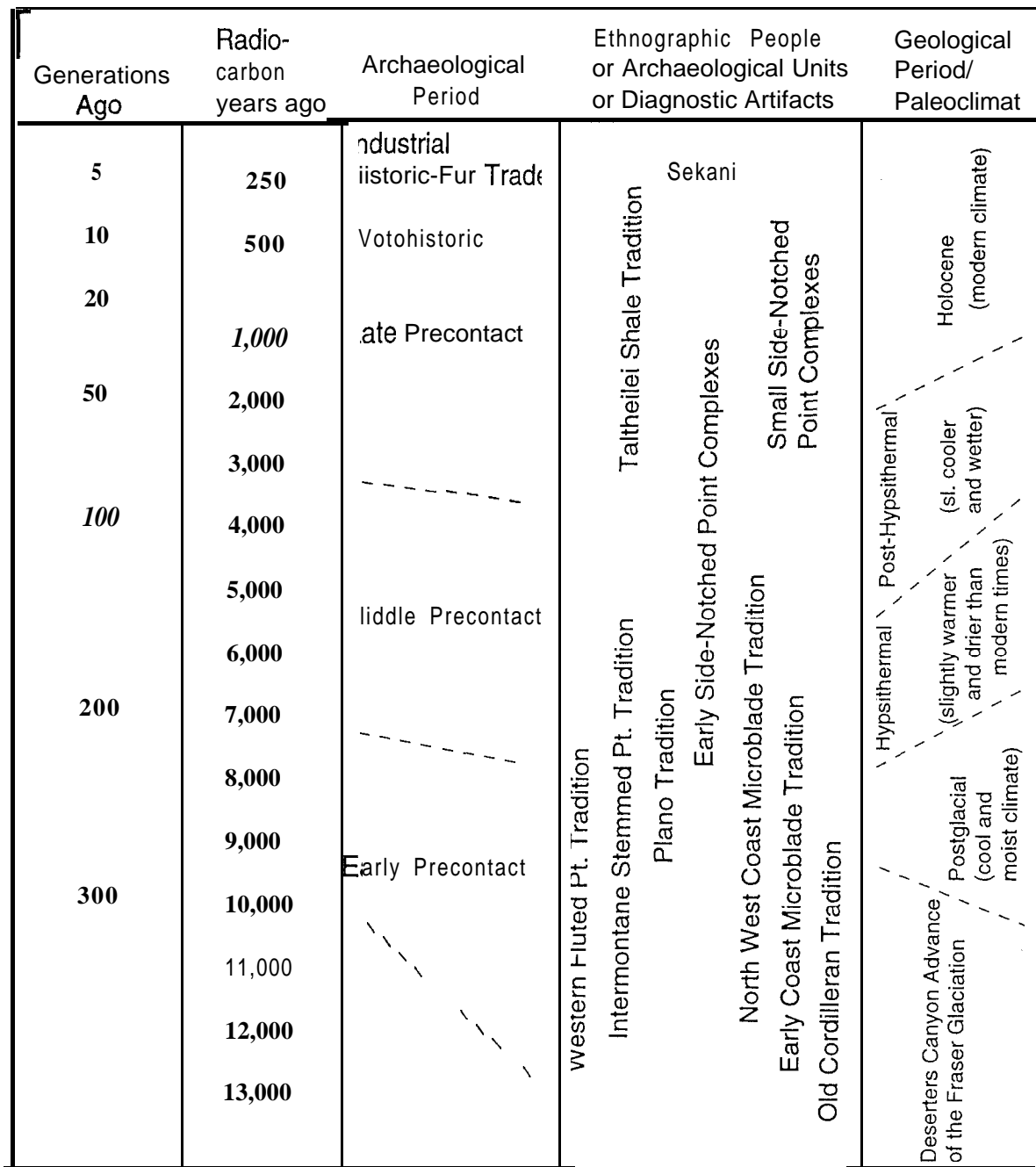
mink, rabbit and squirrels inhabit the valleys. Higher altitudes harbour caribou, goats, sheep, marten, and deer, Blue grouse are also found in higher elevations. Rivers contain whitefish, trout, arctic grayling and ling. In 1793, Alexander Mackenzie reported herds of bison and elk in the region as well, however, these were soon extinct from the area (see McGhee 1963:9; Morice 1978:39).

4.2 Precontact Historical Overview

The geologic-climatic episodes of the late Quaternary for the Rocky Mountain Trench region begin with the Olympia Nonglacial Interval which occurred from 60,000 to 26,000 years ago. The Fraser Glaciation in this region is divided into the Early Portage Mountain Advance, Late Portage Mountain Advance, and Deserter Canyon Advance. These episodes range between 26,000 and 9,000 years ago. A postglacial period follows soon after 9,000 years ago. This postglacial time is the presumed period of earliest aboriginal occupation in the region. However, interpretation of the Quaternary geological history for the region is far from complete, and recent refinement of dating techniques may revise and update theories on glaciations, interglacials, and nonglacial intervals (Clague 1981). The original inhabitants of the Rocky Mountain Trench at the time of Euro-Canadian contact were the Sekani, who arrived in the area in the middle of the 18th century (Lanou 1992: 1). Despite being relatively recent newcomers to the region, there is ample evidence of their occupation in the form of existing settlements, old trails, camping areas, and a fairly rich oral history which has been passed down from grandparent to grandchild. This oral tradition includes descriptions of historic meeting places, personal trapping localities, and family settlement localities which suggest the area was well-used, despite evidence which suggests that the Sekani population was never very large (Denniston 1981).

There is some evidence of pre-Sekani habitation of the trench, but there has been very little actual archaeological survey of this area. Surveys of the Williston Basin Reservoir impoundment area (principally at or below the 2200 foot contour interval) found few sites, even though historic trails followed at this elevation along the Finlay and Parsnip River valleys. McGhee's (1963: 12) survey of the Finlay and Parsnip Rivers prior to inundation revealed only 17 sites, 16 which are considered to be precontact. He attributed the remains to be early Sekani, even though no historic trade materials were found on the sites (McGhee 1963:20). He suggested that there would be a greater chance of finding sites away from the rivers, in the uplands, especially around lakes. Near the rivers, habitation would be most likely found on well-defined terraces situated above the planned reservoir full-supply zone, where foot travel was easier.

The precontact cultural history of the region is virtually unknown. A very generalized cultural historic outline of the region has been derived from ethnohistorical accounts, cultural chronologies of neighbouring regions, and educated speculations (Figure 3; also, see Fladmark 1986). The earliest people in the area were part of the PaleoIndian Period, entering the area during postglacial times. These peoples maintained a fairly distinctive material culture. For example, Fladmark (1981) identified stemmed and lanceolate shaped spear heads from the Peace River headwaters of the Ft. St. John area. Some of these early materials are part of the Cody-Alberta complex that are associated with the northern Great Plains between 6,000 and 9,000 years ago. Other early material cultures from the neighbouring Cassiar district include unifacial and blade tool assemblages which are associated with excavated contexts that may predate 9,000 years ago (Smith and Harrison 1978: 116420).



generation=25 years

Some data obtained from Clark (1981) and Stryd and Rousseau (1996)

Figure 3. Provisional cultural-historical sequence for north central British Columbia. (adapted from Ramsay (1996).

The Archaic Period for the region has been identified after 6,000 years ago. It was typified by a greater variation in material culture. This included a broad range of projectile point styles, part of a generally diverse tool kit. Spear head styles included large side-notched projectile points, as well as lanceolate shaped, stemmed, and corner-notched styles. The dominant boreal forest cultural complex during this period is called the Shield Archaic (Wright 1981). Other archaeological cultures identified further north and west reflect arctic adapted stone tool technologies, such as the manufacture of blades, microblades, and specialized blade cores, indicating that neighbouring cultures influenced the boreal cultures of the north central BC interior, where such artifacts are found in lesser abundance. The Parsnip-Finlay-Peace drainage system is part of the Arctic Ocean watershed. Consequently, there never was a seasonally abundant salmon supply which provided such a major influence on interior BC First Peoples who lived on Pacific drainages.

Late precontact cultures in the Finlay-Parsnip-Peace region, like earlier ones, continued to be influenced by precontact cultures from the southern interior of BC, the northwest coast, the Arctic, and from the northern Plains. During the Proto-European contact period, territorial movements of the Beaver-Sarcee-Sekani groups of Athapaskan peoples within the region were common (Denniston 1981). Ethnohistoric and historic records provide some documentation of the Sekani bands and their territories during historic times (see Black 1955; Harmon 1957; Ingram and Harris 1972; Innis 1970; Mackenzie 1970; McDonald 1872; McLean 1849; McLeod 1971; Morice 1906).

4.3 Discussion of Precontact Archaeological Site Data

A review of the BC Archaeological Site Inventory identifies a number of archaeological sites that have been recorded in the region (Table 1; Appendix D). However, the majority consist of late historic cabins, recorded as part of a general inventory of local land use several decades ago. As well, local people have reported obvious precontact artifacts from the Williston Lake (including the north Finlay River) region, some from areas that have not been officially recorded in the provincial inventory.

As previously discussed, very little archaeological work has been undertaken in the Mackenzie TSA region and archaeologists have yet to adequately document the culture history of the area. However, from the data that are known, general comparisons can be made with studies from adjacent regions and possible artifact assemblage relationships can be made between Mackenzie TSA region and elsewhere in British Columbia.

A recent article by Ian Wilson (1996: 29-34) briefly addressed the recoveries from several PaleoIndian sites in the vicinity of Pink Mountain, located 150 km east and northeast of the study area. In general, materials from these sites are similar to materials recently recovered by Ramsay from the Davis River, Ospika Point and Tsay Keh Dene village localities in the Williston Lake region of the TSA. Pink Mountain locality materials included a microblade core, side-notched projectile points, lanceolate leaf-shaped points, large stemmed points, and laterally retouched macroblades.

Rouseau et al. (1993) recently undertook archaeological work in the Kemess area, about 120 km west of the Tsay Keh Locality, outside of the Mackenzie TSA. The study identified three archaeological sites, HfSq-1, HgSg-1, and HgSq-2. Forty-nine pieces of stone material were collected from HgSq-2, most made of obsidian. HgSq-1 contained 70 pieces of chipped stone material, including 27 pieces of obsidian, 31 pieces of basalt, and 11 pieces of a sandstone material. HfSq-

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<u>Borden</u>	<u>UTM</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>	<u>Map Ref.</u>	<u>Culture</u>	<u>Site Type</u>
GfRs-1	10UDR	497512	6093865	93J/14	Precontact	Surface;
GfRs-2	10UDR	497512	6093865	93J/14	Postcontact;	Trading Post;
GgRr-1		506997	5992181	93O/2	Postcontact;	Trail;
GgRs-1		492578	6180553	93O/3	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GhRs-1		491862	6114242	93O/3	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GhRt-1		488782	6120771	93O/3	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GiRt-1				93O/6	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GgSb-1		417188	6114109	93N/1	Precontact	Cache;
HaRp-1	1 OVET	526921	622292 1	94B/2	Precontact	Surface; Lithics; Detritus;
HaRp-2	10VET	52783 1	6223638	94B/2	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HaRs-1	10VET	557700	6212155	94B/3	Natural	Palaeontological
HeSc-1		4 12602	6253355	94C/8	Postcontact;	Trading Post; Cabin;
HdSd-1		3998 10	6277764	94C/10	Precontact; Postcontact;	Surface; Lithics; Historic
HeSe-1		397856	6281523	94C/15	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HeSf-1		381903	6295708	94C/15	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HeSf-2		382421	6296003	94C/15	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HeSf-3		382366	6297087	94C/15	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HeSg-1		369376	6286025	94C/11	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HeSg-2		369376	6286025	94C/11	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HeSg-3		372577	6290568	94C/11	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HeSh-1		366255	6284267	94C/11	Postcontact;	Trail;
HeSh-2		366255	6284267	94C/11	Precontact	Surface; Lithics
HeSh-3		366255	6284267	94C/11	Precontact	Surface; Lithics
HeSi-1		349170	6292274	94C/14	Precontact	Surface; Lithics
HfSf-1		381128	6304238	94C/15	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HjSs-1		257146	6393317	94E/11	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HeSf-4	10VCT	412602	6253355	94C/15	Precontact	Surface; Lithics
HgSg-1	10VCU	371183	6327740	94F/3	Postcontact;	Log Cabin; Cache;
HgSg-2	10VCU	371621	6325561	94F/3	Postcontact;	Cabin; Cache;
HgSg-3	10VCU	372023	6324929	94F/3	Postcontact;	Surface; Refuse;
HgSg-4	10VCU	373277	6321827	94F/3	Postcontact;	First Nations; Grave House
HhSi-1	10VCU	358770	6341762	94F/3	Postcontact;	Cabin; Depression
HhSi-2	10VCU	357376	6342739	94F/3	Postcontact;	Cabin;
HhSi-3	10VCU	352688	6347856	94F/3	Postcontact;	Cabin; Surface; Refuse;
HhSi-4	10VCU	354765	6349639	94F/6	Postcontact;	Cabin;
HhSi-5	10VCU	352871	6352956	94F/6	Postcontact;	Surface; Refuse;
HhSi-6	10VCU	351834	6351136	94F/6	Postcontact;	Cabin;
HhSi-7	10VCU	35 1773	6355007	94F/6	Postcontact;	Log Cabin;
HhSi-8	10VCU	353302	6350929	94F/6	Postcontact;	Log Cabin;
HhSj-1	10VCU	347411	6348049	94F/5	Postcontact;	Log Cabin;
HhSi-9	10VCU	341463	635694 1	94F/5	Postcontact;	Log Cabin; Surface; Arborglyph;
HiSj-1	10VCU	341882	6367759	94F/5	Postcontact;	FORT;
HiSt-1	10	240359	6370139	94E/6	Postcontact;	Surface; Lithics; Historic; Trail;
HiSu-1	10	23 1752	6376217	94E/6	Postcontact;	Historic; Trail;
HiSu-2	10	232145	6376098	94E/6	Postcontact;	Subsurface; Surface; Refuse;

Table 1. Summary of major previously recorded archaeological sites in the Mackenzie TSA.

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<u>Borden</u>	<u>UTM</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>	<u>Map Ref.</u>	<u>Culture</u>	<u>S i t e</u>
HiSu-3	1 0	232343	6376054	94E/6	Postcontact;	Surface; Lithics; Historic; Trail;
HiSu-4	1 0	232580	6375853	94E/6	Postcontact;	Pole;
HiSu-5	10	233983	6375047	94E/6	Postcontact;	Campsite; Surface; Refuse;
HiSu-6	1 0	2343 10	6374685	94E/6	Postcontact;	Surface; Lithics; Historic; Trail;
HiSu-7	10	234846	6374185	94E/6	Postcontact;	Historic; Log Cabin; Cache
HiSu-8	1 0	23 6029	6373332	94E/6	Postcontact;	Historic; First Nations; Village;
HiSu-9	10	235627	6373328	94E/6	Precontact	Subsurface; Surface; Lithics;
HiSu-10	1 0	235636	6373203	94E/6	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HiSu-11	1 0	2359 17	6373154	94E/6	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HiSu-12	10	237559	6372148	94E/6	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HiSu-13	1 0	234284	6374283	94E/6	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HiSu-14	1 0	236359	6373001	94E/6	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HiSu-15	10	236117	6373141	94E/6	Postcontact;	Surface; Refuse;
HiSu-16	1 0	235795	6373596	94E/6	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HiSu-17	1 0	234949	6373713	94E/6	Precontact	Subsurface; Surface; Lithics
HiSv-1	1 0	227518	6377429	94E/5	Postcontact;	Cabin
HiSv-2	1 0	228894	6376500	94E/5	Postcontact;	Cabin;
HiSv-3	1 0	227717	6378905	94E/5	Postcontact;	Surface; Refuse
HiSv-4	1 0	226480	6380384	94E/5	Precontact	Subsurface; Surface; Lithics
HiSv-5	1 0	22765 1	6377917	94E/5	Precontact	Subsurface; Surface; Lithics;
HiSv-6	1 0	228719	6376387	94E/5	Postcontact;	Cabin;
HiSv-7	1 0	227535	6377428	94E/5	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HiSv-8	1 0	227569	6376185	94E/5	Postcontact;	Burial;
HiSv-9	1 0	221553	6375537	94E/5	Postcontact;	Surface; Hearth;
HhSj-2	10VCU	348267	6346253	94F/5	Postcontact;	Log Cabin;
HbRf-63	10VFT	630901	6229879	94B/2	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
GkRq-1		511382	6179847	93O/15	Postcontact;	Log Cabin; Surface; Refuse;
GIRp-1		522213	6198686	93O/15	Natural	Palaeontological; Dinosaur footprints
GIRp-2		521358	6199640	93O/15	Postcontact;	Cabin; Surface; Refuse; Trail;
GIRp-3		521186	6199485	93O/15	Postcontact;	Industrial; Mining
HaRs-2	10VDT	495329	6212142	94B/3	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HhSs-1	1 0	255199	6345630	94E/3	Precontact	Surface; Lithics;
HiSu-19	1 0	235372	6374554	94E/6	Precontact	Tent; Cache
HiSu-20	1 0	235695	6374378	94E/6	Precontact	Hide Frame
HiSu-21	1 0	237827	6378396	94E/6	Precontact	Surface; Lithics
HiSu-22	10	239139	6379304	94E/6	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GjRq-1	10UES	518416	6156655	93O/10	Postcontact;	Log Cabin;
GkRp-2	10UES	526899	6184677	93O/15	Precontact; Postcontact;	Subsurface; Surface; Lithics; Hearth;
HfSq-1	1 0	271837	6323601	94D/15	Precontact;	Subsurface; Lithics;
HgSq-2	10	272958	6324934	94E/2	Precontact;	Subsurface; Lithics;
GkRp-3	10UES			93O/15	Precontact;	Petroform; Cairn;
HdSc-1	10VDT	407792	6266497	94 C/9	Precontact;	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HdSd-2	10VDT	407617	6267073	94 C/10	Precontact;	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HdSd-3	10VDT	407103	6268270	94 C/10	Precontact;	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HdSd-4	10VDT	406866	6268932	94 C/10	Precontact;	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;

Table 1 (cont.). Summary of major previously recorded archaeological sites in the Mackenzie TSA.

1 contained 18 pieces of chipped stone material, of which 10 pieces were identified as obsidian. Ten tools from the three sites were made from obsidian. These included eight microblades, one utilized flake, and a biface tool fragment. The archaeological impact assessment on the Kemess south copper-gold mine development also entailed an X-ray fluorescence (XRF) analyses of fourteen pieces of obsidian. The XRF study concluded that these obsidian materials came from Mt. Edziza, and possibly Flow #3 (Rousseau et al. 1993:3 1-40).

In general, the Kemess locality sites have stone material types similar to the Williston lake area localities. However, the Kemess locality sites found by Rousseau contained more microblades and a higher percentage of obsidian. The greater use of obsidian may simply reflect the closer proximity of Kemess to Mt. Edziza, the dominant source of the obsidian material for both areas. The abundance of microblades may be indicative of a microblade industry centered further west of the Williston Lake area.

The Mid Fraser-Thompson River area of south central British Columbia has been studied more extensively than the Mackenzie TSA region. It provides some interesting comparisons of precontact cultural traditions. Stryd and Rousseau (1996:177-204) have recently revised the cultural sequence for this area. The Plano Tradition is present in the south central interior as indicated from collections which contain Cody complex stemmed projectile points. These materials probably reflect influences of early Plains cultures (ca. 7,000 and 9,000 years ago) which extended west of the Rocky Mountains through the Columbia Plateau, or through travel corridors via the Peace River/upper Fraser River, the Yellowhead Pass, Kickinghorse-Sinclair Passes, and the Crowsnest Pass-East Kootenays.

The Early Coast Microblade complex is represented in the Mid Fraser-Thompson River area by a plateau Microblade tradition which exhibits archaeological assemblages radiocarbon dated between ca. 9,000 and 7,000 years ago. The Early Coast Microblade complex is identified from Alaska and the northwest coast of British Columbia. In these regions the complex appears to be older, dating between ca. 9,000 and 11,000 years ago (Ackerman et al. 1979, Carlson 1983, Fladmark 1979). There seems to be a connection of the earlier northwest coastal microblade material culture complex and the southern interior BC complex. The actual corridors of connection for these complexes is via the Skeena River and Chilcotin region (see Stryd and Rousseau 1996: 178- 183).

The Old Cordilleran Tradition is found in the Columbia Plateau and along the central Northwest Coast (Carlson 1983; Fladmark 1982). In the Mid Fraser-Thompson area the Lochnore phase has been identified as a Middle Period archaeological manifestation of this earlier coastal tradition. This tradition includes large and medium foliated bifaces and cobble choppers/cores. Since these materials are not exclusive to the tradition and those found in the southern interior have only been recovered from undated surface contexts, no definite correlations can be made. The foliate bifaces in Stryd and Rousseau (1996: Figure 6) are reminiscent of several artifacts recovered from sites around Williston Lake (Ramsay 1996).

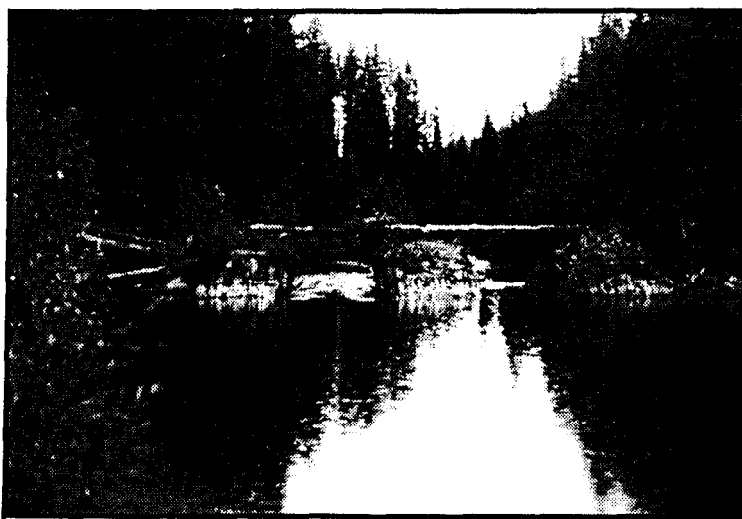
A review of known site data distributions sheds little light on the human habitation characteristics of the Rocky Mountain trench in this region, or in areas beyond (Appendix D, Figure D-2 to D-10). Site clusters are evidently related to the intensity of archaeological survey; in the absence of regional study, there are simply no data. For example, intensive survey on the far west reaches of the Finlay River resulted in the identification of several dozen sites (at least half with precontact re-

mains, Appendix D, Figure D-3). Elsewhere, intensive survey along the Finlay River identified at least a dozen sites, but all were postcontact in age, a function of the apparent ethnographic survey that was conducted there. The first precontact sites were discovered during this AOA project. McGhee discovered a cluster of sites at Ingenika Point during his pre-flood survey, and a few along the reservoir boundary, but it is apparent from the present project that many more were missed because they were located on terraces well back and above the river, which now represent the fluctuating shoreline of Williston Lake.

As a consequence there is such a paucity of precontact archaeological information from the Mackenzie TSA region that it is in fact difficult to compare the local archaeological recoveries to regions that have received more intensive study. Any detailed interpretation awaits discovery of many more sites, especially sites used for longer term habitation or which contain sufficiently diverse artifact assemblages to enable comparisons with more complex sites found elsewhere in the British Columbia interior.

4.4 Postcontact Archaeological Overview

Postcontact historical records provide fairly good documentation of Euro-Canadian entry into and settle of the region. Alexander Mackenzie passed through the Peace River valley on his way toward the Pacific in 1793 and met the bands that were living along the Parsnip River and at McLeod Lake (MacKenzie 1970: 286). Simon Fraser undertook a journey through the region in 1805-1 806. He established a post at the Rocky Mountain Portage in 1805. He also aided La Malice and James McDougall in founding the McLeod Lake Post in 1805 and the Stuart's Lake Post in 1806 (Morice 1906 [1978]:53-60). Daniel Harmon managed the Stuart's Lake Post and chronicled his experiences between 1800 to 1816. Samuel Black explored the upper reaches of the Finlay River in



**Figure 4. Old bridge across the outlet of Germansen River
from Germansen Lake.**

1823-24. Archibald McDonald and George Simpson travelled through the area in 1828 on their trip to the west coast. The McLeod Lake Post was maintained through the remainder of the 1800s to present day. Grahame Post was occupied between 1891 to 1922, and the Liard Post between 1904-19 11 (see the Hudson Bay Company Archives, Winnipeg). Diamond Jenness (1937) carried out

ethnographic studies of the Sekani people over 4 weeks in 1924.

Gold discoveries reported in the Omenica area in 1860 initiated a goldrush which peaked in the early 1870s. Placer mining continued with sporadic and poorly reported discoveries, until larger companies moved in and began controlling the mining developments. In 1898 the new Klondike and Yukon goldrush drew some prospectors and miners away from the region. However, placer and hardrock mining continued in the Omenica area during the early 1900s in spite of difficulties transporting materials and equipment into the region. Mining activities resurged with the introduction of new technologies and economic changes in the early to late 1930s. Some of this work resulted in large projects such as flume construction in the Germansen and Manson Creek localities (see Hall 1978, 1994). Some of these latter constructions are still extant (Figure 4).

Current industrial development in the region is dominated by the forest industry as well as hard rock mining. Traditional lifeways of hunting and trapping still persist, but are greatly reduced due to poor fur market prices and reduced game numbers caused primarily by increased vehicle access with the development of roads in the area.

4.5 Ethnography Overview

In the west the Subarctic culture area extends from the northern MacKenzie lowlands south to the Rocky Mountain chain, which in turn gives way to the Yukon Plateau and the British Columbia Plateau (Waldman 1985: 41). Within this region subarctic people are divided into two primary linguistic groups: in the west are the Athapascans, with the Algonquians in the east (ibid: 42). Culturally, Athapaskan tribal groups are categorized by their range of traditional land use. The Athapaskan groups within the MacKenzie TSA are the Sekani and Carrier since their traditional territory encompasses the majority of this region. However, the Beaver, located to the east, would have had a substantial influence within this area.

The aboriginal people of the Subarctic had to cope with long, harsh snow laden winters, as well as short summers that were plagued with clouds of mosquitoes and black flies (Waldman 1985: 42). Sparse Subarctic resources dictated that only a low level of political or individual control could be maintained over food harvesting and stored supplies (Clark 1991: 69). Since all First Nations exploited a succession of animal and supplementary plant foods, nowhere could they live year round in one place (McClellan and Denniston 198 1: 375).

Athapascans were nomadic, hunting, fishing, and foraging in small bands united by dialect and kinship (Waldman 1985: 42). Survival in the Subarctic required a well established seasonal round and firm understanding of the cycle of subsistence activities and related travel. People had to be at the right place at the right time to find migrating game or intercept a run of fish (Clark 1991: 69). Life literally revolved around the seasonal migration of game that included caribou, moose, musk oxen, deer, beaver, mink, hare, otter and porcupine. Fish and wildfowl also helped provide the necessary nutrition to live in a relatively severe environment (Waldman 1985: 42). At every opportunity, groups of Sekani moved into salmon country and exploited this relatively rich resource. However, streams in Sekani lands within the Mackenzie TSA were part of the Arctic drainage and thus devoid of salmon. Fish available to the Sekani were largely whitefish, trout, and suckers (Denniston 198 I : 436).

Within the Subarctic environment, it was the subsistence lifeway of the Athapascans that most

influenced their settlement patterns, although the presence of hostile or friendly neighbours could also be important (Clark 1991: 69). Athapascan's shared the same basic cultural forms and way of life (Helm 1965: 363), which partly reflected the rugged environments to which they had adapted over the centuries (McClellan and Denniston 1981: 372). Patterns and techniques of subsistence used in marginal areas tended to persist through time and to be shared between peoples (Clark 1991: 69). The concept of individual ownership of land was not developed and the group monopolized hunting territories and fishing sites only during their period of seasonal use (Tobey 1981: 418).

What justified the Subarctic social structure adopted by the Athapascans was the unity of the physiographic block in which the people lived, and their distinctive subsistence and deployment patterns, which combined big and small game hunting with fishing and some gathering into an annual round of high mobility. Because of the constant fission and fusion, the sizes of local groups at any particular time varied greatly (McClellan and Denniston 1981: 373, 374) depending on the resources of their areas (Denniston 1981: 434). Although a local group might consist of a single extended family (Goldman 1940: 334-335; McClellan and Denniston 1981: 374), more often two or three families camped and traveled together. All households usually met during some part of the year even though they did not always stay together. Others who joined the group for hunting, fishing, or trading had to validate their presence either through primary kin ties or by setting up a formal partnership with someone in the band (McClellan 1975: 13-16; McClellan and Denniston 1981: 374).

Helm and Damas (1963: 11) note that the factors in the increasing sedentation and stabilization of the base community in the Subarctic have been primarily technological and economic in nature. The prime force was the introduction of the fur trade and access to new technology. However, although the exact aboriginal subsistence patterns of the subarctic cannot be known before the effects of the Euro-American fur trade were being felt, it is known that well into the nineteenth century seasonal movements appear to have continued to be dictated more by the availability of food and traditional social interests of the First Nations than by the goal of trapping furs (McClellan and Denniston 1981: 375). As long as the area remained in relative isolation the annual round continued to be followed despite the increased trapping of fur animals. But the 1858 gold rush upset this pattern, with the most serious consequences occurring among the Southern Carrier whose easternmost lands contained the Caribou gold fields.

There is strong historical evidence to indicate that the Carrier and Sekani Athapascan groups occupied the Mackenzie TSA region for a considerable period of time prior to the contact period. For example, in May 1793 Alexander McKay ascended the Parsnip River, noting several herds of elk and bison, which have since disappeared from this area, and on the 9th of June met his first party of Sekani's. The Sekani's had heard of Europeans, but having never seen any, immediately took to flight. Morice (1978: 38) notes that when McKay sent men to "parlay" they were received with the brandishing of spears, the display of bows and arrows, and loud outcries. Once their fears were dispelled McKay inquired into their possession of iron work. He was told they got it from people (the Carriers) who lived up a large river (the Fraser), who in turn got it from the Coast Indians. This reference places the Sekanai in their traditional territory in a historical context and it is one of the first references to the Fraser and the Carrier Indians. In fact, there are numerous references to the Sekani and Carrier in this region historically. Of particular note is a reference by Simon Fraser, who in 1805 left the Rocky Mountain Portage Post and led an expedition as far the Pack River, a tributary of the Parsnip Rivier. He entered this stream and ascended until he came in view of a

narrow lake, seventeen miles long, which he named McLeod Lake. There on a peninsula formed by a tributary, Long Lake River, and its outlet, by latitude 55° 0' 2" north, he founded the first permanent post ever erected within British Columbia, that of Fort McLeod (Morice 1978: 54). Morice (ibid.) notes that Fraser established this post to accommodate the trade with the Sekani Indians, and for a short time it even served as a supply house for the forts later established among the Carriers.

In terms of archaeological correlation to the Sekani and Carrier within the MacKenzie TSA, the absence of pre-contact research within this region is marked and any direct correlation between the recovered archaeological materials and First Nations groups known to occupy and use the area historically is tenuous. Undoubtedly, the material remains of the historic Sekani and Carrier are scattered throughout their traditional territory. Whether or not cultural continuity can be declared for these groups and earlier precontact sites remains to be proven. However, it is not surprising that the archaeological sites located to date tend to correspond with the numerous drainage systems, in particular the Parsnip River drainage, as these routes would have been used extensively as travel corridors and during seasonal movements by both the Sekani and Carrier.

5.0 Mackenzie TSA 1996 Field Survey Results

During July and August 1996 discussions were initiated with the First Nations in the Mackenzie TSA. This discussion process reviewed aboriginal peoples' concerns and perspectives of heritage resources within their homelands. Discussions with people often resulted in field surveys with knowledgeable people or investigating specific areas of concern. All people were very helpful. In some cases, areas of concern were considered sacred or private and it was agreed that details about these sites would not be made public. It was also agreed that a general reference would help to protect these secret areas without revealing specific information. It became obvious that the fall season was most difficult to conduct in-depth consultation with First Nations. This was primarily due to the hunting season but also related to the ongoing rush to complete the summer forestry work. In addition, a few band members had some family obligations which made them unavailable at this time.

This report presents a general overview of the archaeological survey for each visited area, and of the discoveries found. In fact, a comprehensive record was made of every survey, which included detailed mapping of drive-through routes, areas where spot checks and area1 surveys were made, locations of archaeological sites found, and traditional and contemporary use sites observed. This information was recorded by taking numerous GPS waypoints of routes travelled, and correlating the locations with satellite imagery (LandSat TM data, 30 m resolution). The mapping information, including fairly comprehensive text attribute data, are available as a GIS data product which can be overlaid on UTM (NAD83) TRIM-based maps. An example of one survey area is shown in Appendix A (Lower Finlay River region), where survey locations and transects are overlaid on satellite imagery. The text attributes are reproduced in this report as Appendix B, with statistical summaries shown in Appendix C. An thumbnail overview of the survey extent is shown in Appendix D, Figure D- 1.

In the main body of this report, the Operating Areas which were visited are reproduced on scans of NTS 1:250,000 maps (NAD27 UTM grid). Survey localities within the visited areas are marked as

<u>Borden</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>UTM</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>	<u>Mao Ref.</u>	<u>Culture</u>	<u>S i t e</u>
GgRv-1	Robinson Creek Find Spot	10V	462433	6102040		Prehistoric.	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GkRv-1	Scott Creek Find Spot #1	10VDG	461462	6174995	93 O/12	Precontact	Subsurface-Surface; Lithics
GkRv-2	Scott Creek Find Spot #2	10V	461480	6175140	93 O/12	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GkRv-3	Scott Creek Find Spot #3	10VDG	461078	6175521	93 O/12	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GkRv-4	Scott Creek Find Spot #4	10V	460767	6175710	93 O/12	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GkRv-5	Scott Creek Find Spot #5	10VDC	462047	6 174655	93 O/12	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GkRv-6	Scott Creek Findspot #6	10V	46 1577	6 174960	93 0112	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GiSa-1	Thudate/Finlay-Nation FSR Intersection	10V	434100	6136100		Prehistoric	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GiSa-2	Skunk Lake Campground Site	10V	43 1660	6140220		Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GIRw-1	Finlay Bay 1	10V	450077	6205153	93 0113	Precontact	Surface; Lithics
GIRw-2	Finlay Bay 2	10V	450013	6205095	93 O/13	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GIRw-3	Finlay Point Find #1	10V	449100	6204800	93 O/13	Prehistoric	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GIRw-4	Finlay Point Find #2	10V	449180	6203800	93 O/13	Prehistoric	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
GIRw-5	Finlay Point Find #3	10V	449370	6203500	93 O/13	Prehistoric	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HbSa-1	Ospika 3	10V	429143	6230855	94 C/1	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HbSa-2	Ospika 4	10V	429674	623 1286	94 C/1	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HbSa-3	Ospika 5	10V	431005	623253 1	94 C/1	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HbSa-4	Ospika I	10V	433576	6235X84	94 c	Precontact	Subsurface; Surface; Lithics
HbSa-5	Ospika 2	10V	433144	6235632	94 c	Precontact	Surface; Lithics
HbSd-1	Findlay FSR/Mesilinka FSR Triangle	10V	403047	6228070		Prehistoric	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HbSg-1	Finlay East 1	10 V	3740 12	6320745	94 F/3	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HbSi-1	Tutizika River Find Spot	10V	352438	6242820		Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HcSc-2	Lafferty Bay	10 V	417324	6244854	94 C/8	Precontact	Surface; Lithics
HdSc-2	Davis South 1	10V	408445	6265403	94 c	Precontact	Surface; Lithics
HeSe-2	Chowika Bay Rapids	10V	393907	6290273	94 c	Precontact	Surface; Lithics
HhSh-1	Finlay East 2	10 V	359998	6354987	94 F/6	Precontact	Surface; Lithics
HiSj-2	Succour Lake 1	10 V	343400	6362993	94 F/5	Precontact	Surface; Lithics
HiSj-3	Succour Lake 2	10 V	3456X8	6361119	94 F/5	Precontact	Surface; Isolated; Lithics;
HhSi-10	Foot Lake 1	10 V	350077	6352652	94 F/6	Precontact	Surface; Subsurface; Lithics

Table 2. Summary of archaeological sites discovered during 1996 AOA Field Survey.

<u>Borden</u>	<u>Artifacts</u>	<u>Features</u>
GgRv-1	Well-defined red quartzite flake	None
GkRv-1	Over 50 peices of quartzite debitage on the surface, with additional debitage found below surface.	Hearth feature with quartzite debitage
GkRv-2	One tine basalt flake and one large quartzite flake with cortex.	none
GkRv-3	Four medium grained basalt flakes, 1 very fine grained basalt flake. and 1 quartzite flake.	None
GkRv-4	Quartz cobble scraper/planer and a possible serrated tool	none
GkRv-5	One fragment of a quartzite cobble and one large retouched flake tool made from a grey quartzite.	NONE
GkRv-6	Two quartzite flakes	NONE
GiSa-1	One piece of white-rose quartz debitage.	NONE
GiSa-2	A marginal retouched flake and debitage.	NONE
GiRw-1	A quantity of coloured quartz sand quartzite shatter and flakes was evident.	Lithic Scatter
GiRw-2	One obsidian flake and one fine-grained black basalt flake, as well as several pieces of quartz and quartzite shater.	NONE
GiRw-3	Large flaked cobble.	NONE
GiRw-4	One quartzite flake.	NONE
GiRw-5	Quartzite flakes and cores.	NONE
HbSa-1	Isolated find of an endscraper.	N O N E
HbSa-2	Isolated find of a large bifacial tool.	NONE
HbSa-3	Isolated find of a largellake, possibly retouched.	NONE
HbSa-4	A number of flakes were found, as well as a large uniface tool.	Lithic Scatter
HbSa-5	Site consists of quartzite and chert debitage.	Lithic Scatter
HbSd-1	One white quartzite retouched flake.	NONE
HbSg-1	Quartzite Chopper	NONE
HbSi-1	One red-white quartz core fragment weighing 197.3g.	NONE
HcSc-2	A number of flakes and a scraper tool.	Lithic scatter
HdSc-2	Site consists of a cluster of quartz debitage.	Lithic Scatter
HeSe-2	Site consists of quartzite reduction areas, some apparently recent but some arc prehistoric.	Lithic Scatter
HhSh-1	Five Flakes of a slate like material	small lithic scatter
HiSj-2	Several clusters of debitage, with one culster containing an endscraper.	Lithic scatter
HiSj-3	A cluster of flakes.	Small lithic scatter
HhSi-10	Two flake clusters and two tools.	Lithic scatter

Table 2 (continued). Summary of archaeological sites discovered during 1996 AOA Field Survey.

<u>Borden</u>	<u>Condition</u>	<u>Recommendations</u>
GgRv-1	Within forestry cut block	No further concerns
GkRv-1	Located on exposed beach- subject to erosion	Partially intact • avoid subsurface impact
GkRv-2	Located on beach- subject to erosion	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
GkRv-3	Exposed beach- subject to erosion	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
GkRv-4	Exposed beach- subject to erosion	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
GkRv-5	Exposed beach- subject to erosion	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
GkRv-6	Located on exposed beach- subject to erosion	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
GiSa-1	Site is disturbed by forestry development, and is very small	No further concerns
GiSa-2	90 percent disturbed	Avoid further subsurface impact
GiRw-1	Located on campground edge and on beach • badly disturbed	Avoid further subsurface impact in campground area
GiRw-2	Located on beach- subject to erosion	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
GiRw-3	Located on beach- subject to erosion	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
GiRw-4	Located on beach- subject to erosion	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
GiRw-5	Located on beach- subject to erosion	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
HbSa-1	On exposed beach	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
HbSa-2	On exposed beach	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
HbSa-3	On exposed beach	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
HbSa-4	Disturbed by cut, cultural materials found in cut bank.	Partially intact • avoid subsurface impact
HbSa-5	Site is located on haul road, with more cultural materials possibly existing further to the west.	Partially intact • widening road will require assessment
HbSd-1	Stable with potential for impact from further road construction.	Avoid subsurface impact
HbSg-1	On trail, fairly stable	Avoid subsurface impact
HbSi-1	Disturbed; in clearcut	No further concerns
HcSc-2	On exposed beach	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
HdSc-2	Site on exposed beach, below high water mark of lake.	Subsurface condition probably disturbed
HeSe-2	Site on mud flats, also along a vehicle trail	Partially intact • avoid subsurface impact
HhSh-1	Eroding out of gravel road cut	Avoid further subsurface impact
HiSj-2	Site is not disturbed.	Avoid subsurface impact
HiSj-3	Site is not disturbed.	Avoid subsurface impact
HhSi-10	Lower portion of site disturbed by bulldozer, portion of site the knoll is undisturbed	Avoid subsurface impact on knoll

Table 2 (continued). Summary of archaeological sites discovered during 1996 AOA Field Survey.

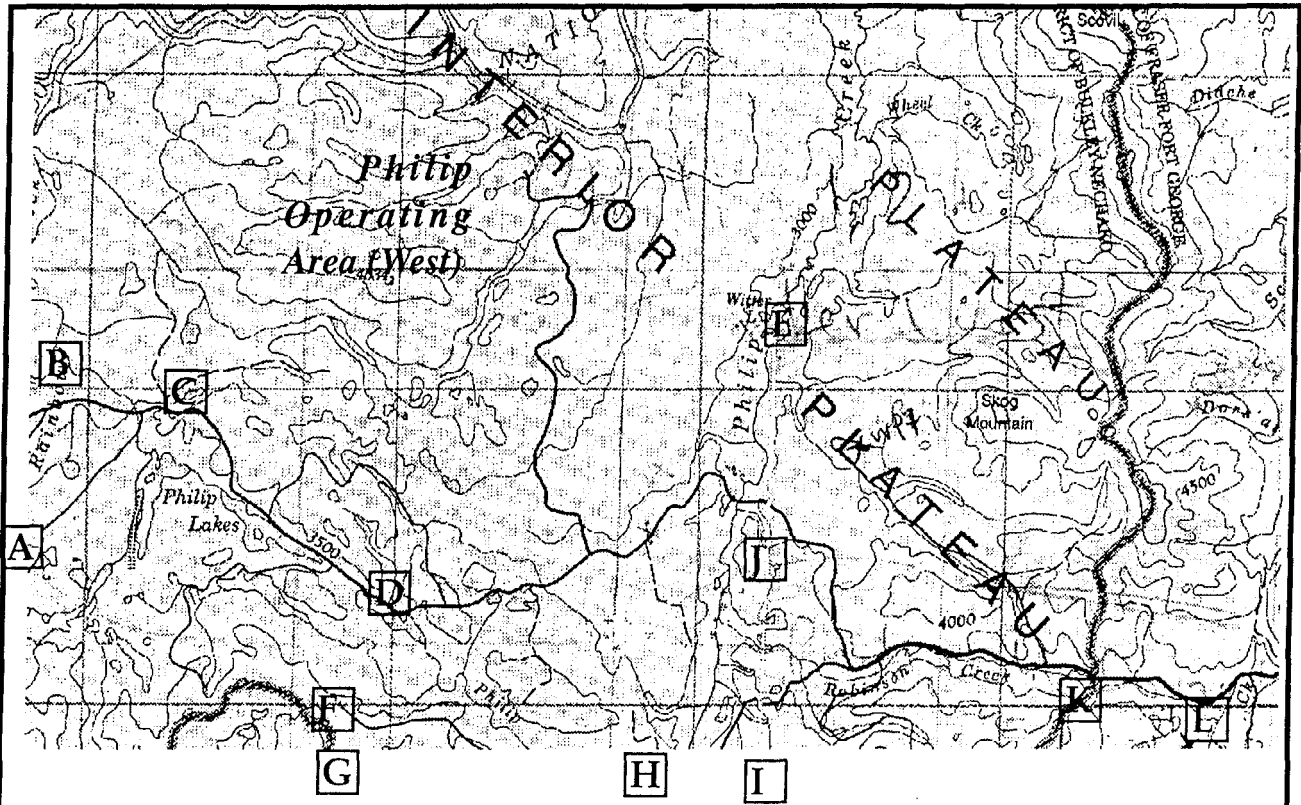


Figure 5. Philip Forestry Operating Area Archaeological Overview Assessments (AOA's), west side (from NTS 930 edition 3).

alphabetic letters and referenced to the text. A summary of the 29 archaeological sites found during the 1996 survey program is shown in separate sections in Table 2.

5.1 Philip Forestry Operating Area Assessment Results

The initial archaeological overview assessment began with discussions with the McLeod Lake Indian Bands and a general drive-through of the Philip OA (Figure 5). Discussions with McLeod Lake Indian Band informants indicated a few areas of concern. These concerns were located in the Scoville Creek locality, Mt. Milligan locality, and the Carp Lake trail which passes just south of the Mackenzie AOA. The first two of these areas were investigated, while the last area was outside of the Mackenzie TSA study area. A general drive-over assessment of the Philip Forestry Operating Area outlined some specific localities to sample for heritage resource potential. The results of these more detailed drive-through and pedestrian survey inspections are presented below).

5.1.1 Mt. Milligan Locality Inspections, Areas A and B:

The Mt. Milligan locality is located between 65 km and 80 km west along the Finlay-Philip FSR (Figure 5). After driving through this area three field workers undertook several pedestrian surveys. These included walkovers of exposed roads, loading areas, and natural ridges within cut-blocks 176-236, 176-234, and drive-throughs of 177-250, 177-232, 170-230, and 167-226 (Figure 5). Block 176-236 had moderate potential and moderate visibility. No archaeological resources were observed. Block 176-234 appeared to have high potential as it had ridges overlooking lower

terrain with ponds. It also had moderate to good visibility. No heritage resources were noted.

Area B included a drive-through inspection of cut blocks 175-1, 167-219, 162-217, 162-198, 170-200, 177-204, in the Mt. Milligan Mine area. It also included a brief pedestrian survey of a high potential area located along the creek valley and road just west of the Mt. Milligan mine area. Moderate exposure was observed but nothing of heritage value was noted. Due to the extreme disturbance of the general surface of the mine area further pedestrian surveys were not considered useful.

5.1.2 North Philip M/L Locality Inspections, Areas C and D:

Area C, the Rainbow Creek bridge crossing, provided excellent exposure at a high potential location (Figure 5). It was inspected with a walkover survey, and the road cuts along either side of the bridge were examined. No archaeological resources were observed.

Area D, Philip Creek campground and blocks 53-47 and 53-49 near the Philip Creek crossing of the North Philip M/L, were investigated with walkover surveys. A ridge along the south edge of the campground exhibited animal trails which were followed westward toward the creek. Three tree-throws on the ridges were carefully inspected using a trowel to scrape through the loose soil and A horizon. Surface visibility was poor. No archaeological resources were noted.

Blocks 53-47 and 53-49 were inspected with a drive-through and spot checks of the loading areas, which provided good visibility. Visibility was poor in other areas of these blocks and both blocks had only moderate heritage potential. No archaeological resources were observed in either block.

5.1.3 Witter Lakes Locality Inspection, Area E:

Area E, Witter Lakes locality, was inspected with a general drive-through and pedestrian inspections (Figure 5). Block 59-3 1 and 59-32 were decommissioned and overgrown. This limited access and visibility was very poor. However, in block 59-3 1 a pedestrian spot check was made, near the creek. No heritage resources were observed.

A recently cut block, 182-3 16, provided good to excellent exposure. The block had high archaeological potential as it was located adjacent to the confluence of two minor creeks. Minor haul roads within the block were pedestrian surveyed and adjacent cuts were carefully observed. A few pieces of crushed quartz were noted and interpreted to be remnants of recent forestry impacts.

5.1.4 S1,000 Locality Inspection, Area F:

A drive-through assessment of the S 1,000 M/L was made through blocks 154-6 1, 154-63, and 154-64. These blocks had moderate to high archaeological potential due to their location just southwest of Philip Creek (Figure 5). However, surface visibility was poor. Some walkover checks of approximately 1 km of road and three loading area exposures in Block 154-64 did not reveal any archaeological resources.

5.1.5 S3,000 Locality Inspection, Area G:

A drive-through assessment of the S3,000 M/L (Figure 5) was made through blocks 154-62, 155-

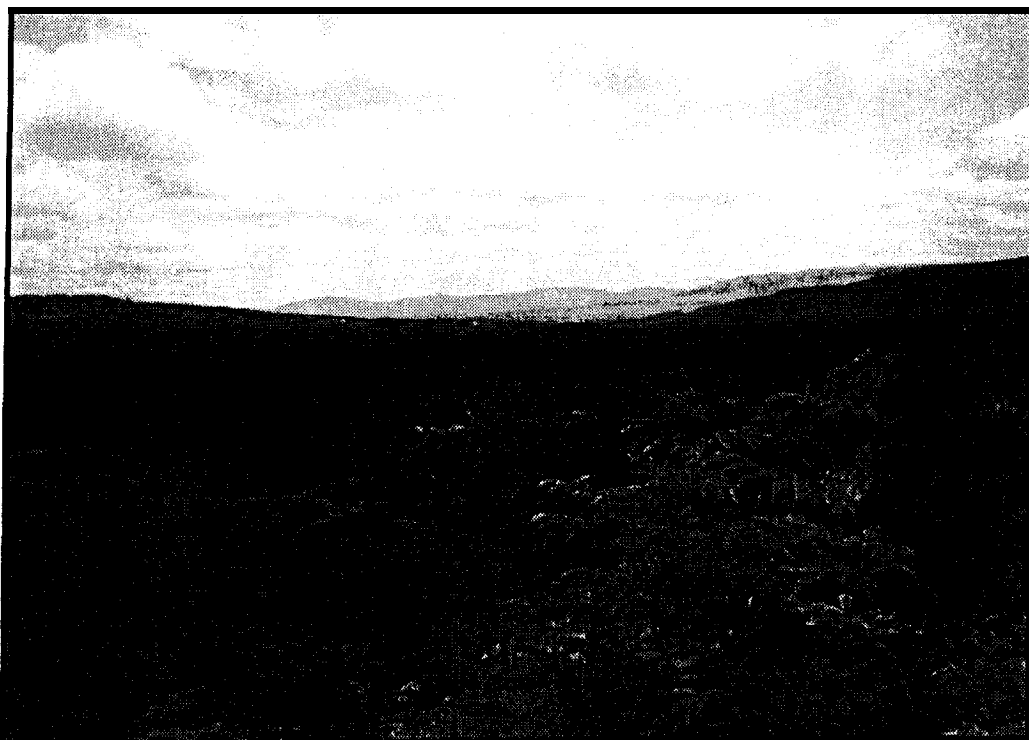


Figure 6. Overview of the Philip Creek valley with a recent cabin.

68, 155-72, 183-261, 184-247, and 157-83. Pedestrian surveys were undertaken in the last four blocks. These blocks all appeared to have high heritage potential. Surface visibility was poor to moderate, but was good in several loading areas and road cuts adjacent to the creek in blocks 155-72, 184-247, and 157-83.

A contemporary-use or hunter's camp was observed in block 157-83, near Philip Creek. A cleared area was examined within 50 m of the creek. A pedestrian survey of this area did not reveal any heritage resources.

Two other pedestrian surveys were carried out in clearings that had excellent exposures located between 1 and 1.3 km east of the contemporary camp. Both of these inspection areas provided excellent exposures adjacent to Philip Creek. The latter location also includes some good exposures up to the edges of Philip Creek in the northwestern extension of block 155-72. These were assessed. Additional pedestrian survey and a drive-through of roads in block 155-72 did not reveal any archaeological resources. However, a recent cabin was noted in the north central part of the block (Figure 6). On the east edge of the block a walkover survey of a bridge impact across the small creek was made. Large berms and the removal of the bridge did not allow adequate access to several other blocks located further southeast.

51.6 Badger M/L Locality Inspection, Area H:

This inspection included a drive-over of 7.5 km of road exhibiting generally poor visibility (Figure 5). Two locations were spot checked with pedestrian survey. The drive-through traversed blocks 229-2, 232-1, and 232-2. In block 232-2 a pedestrian survey spot check covered road exposure and cleared loading areas for 1 km of linear inspection and two loading areas approximately 30 m by 50 m in size. This included portions of the road at the southern extent of the block nearest to the creek.

Block 232-1 was similarly pedestrian inspected along 1 km of road and three loading areas. No archaeological resources were observed in this survey.

5.1.7 McDougall West M/L Locality Inspection, Area I:

This involved an 8 km drive-through inspection of blocks 23 1-1, 23 1-2, and 206-1. In block 206-1, 1 km of road was surveyed, including one loading area at the southwest extension of the block. This provided good exposure in a high potential area adjacent to a creek. Block 23 1-1 was also pedestrian checked along 1 km of road. This inspection had good exposure and included one loading area. No archaeological resources were observed in this survey.

5.1.8 Robinson Creek Locality Inspection, Area J:

Drive-over surveys included the Philip camp road and the block haul roads immediately west of the intersection for the North Philip M/L and South Philip M/L. Pedestrian inspection included the crossing of the Robinson Creek across the South Philip M/L. Bridge construction exposures and cutbanks provided excellent visibility of a high potential location. A contemporary-use or hunter's camp was noted northwest of the bridge.

Block 168-100 was considered to have very high potential for heritage resources because it was adjacent to Robinson Creek, which ran south of the block. It also had a small lake to the north of the block. Ridges within the block provided excellent overviews of the creek valley and the lake. All roads within block were pedestrian surveyed. In addition, pedestrian surveys traversed some poorly exposed areas of the block to walk over areas adjacent to the lake and the creek valley edges. Animal trails provided some good exposures in these high archaeological potential locations. An artifact find was made on the ridge in the centre of block 168-100 (Figure 7, 8). This artifact find (Site GgRv-1) was a well-defined red quartzite flake. Other quartz and quartzite materials were also noted in this block but they were considered to be either naturally broken or fractured by recent heavy equipment activity.

A drive-through survey was also made westward along the P5,000 M/L. This drive-through survey traversed blocks 50-44, 50-45, and 168-102. A detailed pedestrian survey of block 168-102 was undertaken along road and loading areas that provided good to excellent exposures. The block overlooked a small lake to the south and a ravine to the southeast. No archaeological resources were observed in this survey.

5.1.9 Robinson Lake Locality Inspection, Area K:

A drive in to the campground revealed some exposures (Figure 5). Campsite exposures were examined, including walking trails, cleared camp areas, and the road. No archaeological resources were found.

5.1.10 Reed Creek Locality Inspection, Area L:

A drive-through of the P17,000 (Figure 5) included passage through blocks 187-300, 180-301, 184-3 13, and 186-306. Block 186-306 was pedestrian surveyed along road exposures and impacted areas adjacent to the bridge crossing at the northeast extent of the block. This area overlooked the nearby open swampy area to the north. Additional road survey for another 1 km was

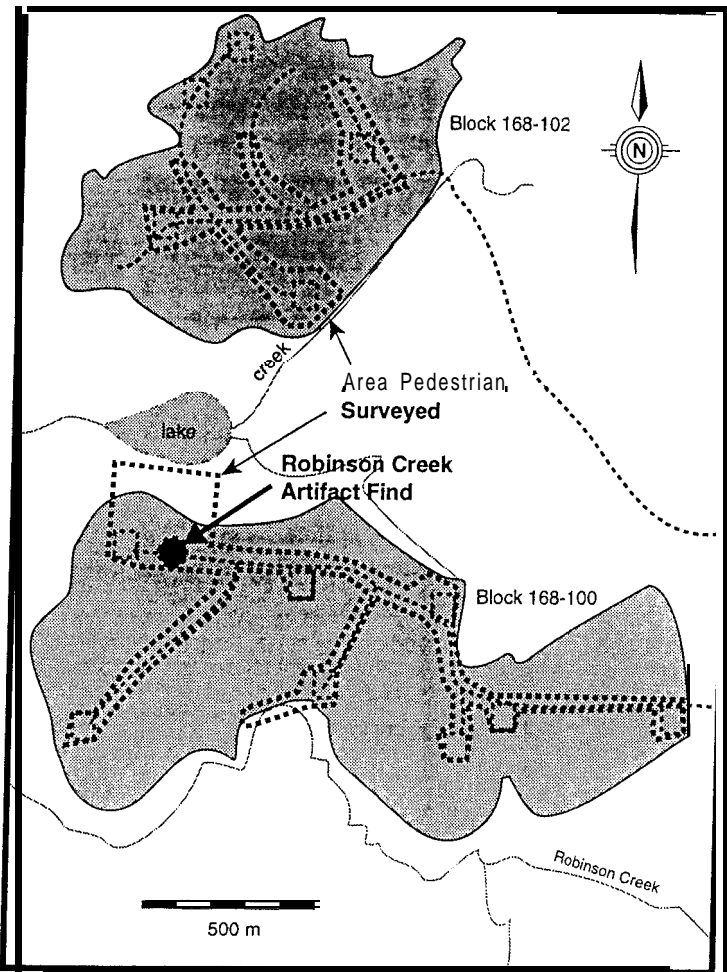


Figure 7. Sketch map of the isolated artifact find and pedestrian surveys near Robinson Creek.

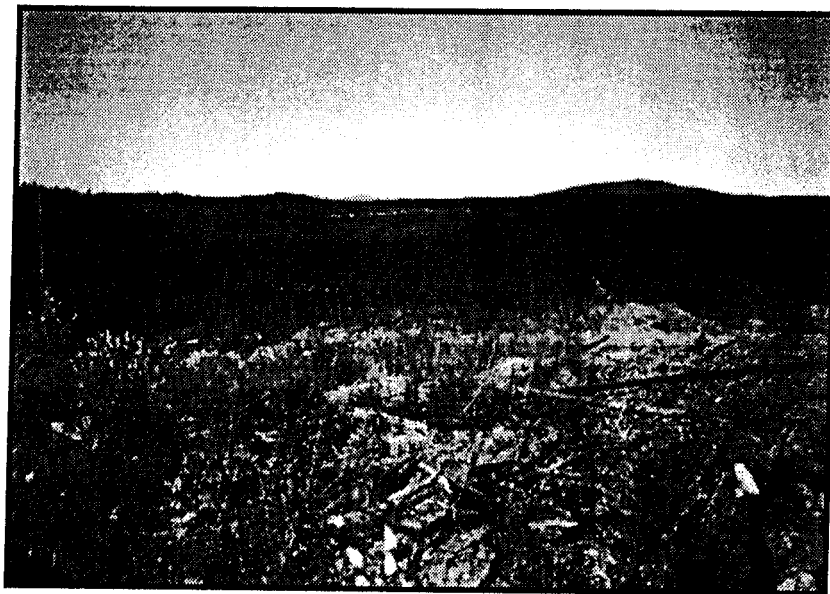


Figure 8. Overview of the isolated artifact find near Robinson Creek.

undertaken east of the block along the creek and at the bridge exposures. Nothing of heritage significance was revealed.

Block 184-3 13 was inspected by pedestrian survey along its road exposures in the northeastern part of the block, nearest to a creek. Nothing of archaeological significance was found.

Block 180-301 was pedestrian spot checked at an exposure along the road overlooking a drainage to the northwest. This included an area approximately 30 m by 200 m in size.

5.1.11 Grayling Lake Locality Inspection, Area M:

This involved a drive-over and pedestrian checks in blocks 17 1-35 1 and 17 1-352 (Figure 9). Block 171-352 had fair visibility and 200 m of road exposure and a loading area exposure were examined. No artifacts were observed. Block 171-352 involved a pedestrian check of a loading area. Visibility was poor and no artifacts were noted.

5.1.12 Philip Log Dump Locality Inspection, Area N:

This inspection involved a drive-through of the access road and a walkover survey of the exposed beach areas (Figure 9). The survey covered 1 km of beach, 150 m in width. Exposure and visibility were excellent and potential was moderate. No heritage resources were observed.

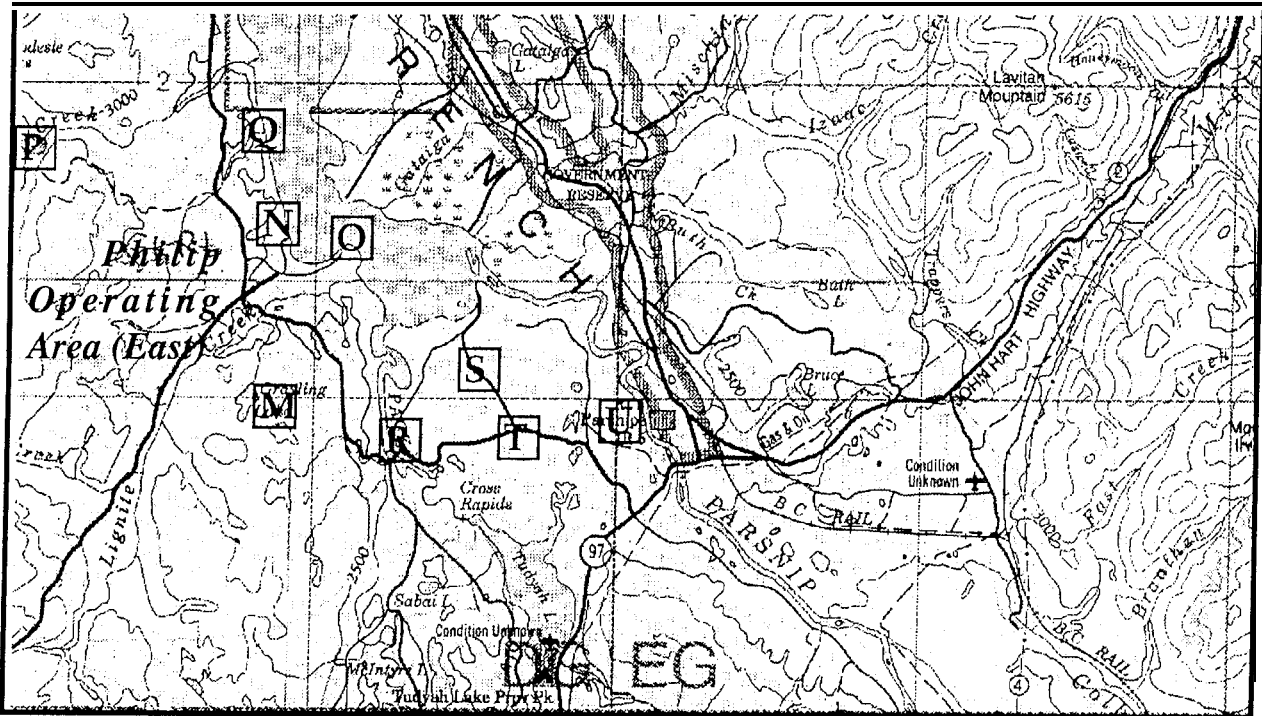


Figure 9. Philip Forestry Operating Area AOA's, east side (from NTS 930 edition 3).

51.13 Philip-Williston Lake Ice Bridge Crossing Inspection, Area O:

This inspection included a drive-through of the access road and a walkover survey of the exposed beaches (Figure 9). The beach was surveyed along 3 km of shoreline, with excellent exposures averaging 200 m in width. No heritage resources were identified.

51.14 Scovii Creek Locality Inspection, Area P:

The Scovil Creek locality was investigated with a drive-through survey and several pedestrian checks (Figure 9). Cut block 208-10, located adjacent to Modeste Lake, was surveyed, including a ridge overlooking it. The lake shoreline was very steep and a buffer of uncut trees had been left along this slope. The block had recently been brushed, leaving some exposure, although surface visibility was generally poor. A few larger tree throws provided some subsurface exposure which was sampled with a trowel. No archaeological resources were noted.

Block 208-9 was investigated with walk over surveys of all road exposures. This block was considered high potential because it had an overview of the Didche Creek valley to the immediate south and southwest. A contemporary-use hunter's stand was discovered on a ridge overlooking the valley. Good exposure was available throughout most of the block. Although no archaeological site was recorded there were a few pieces of quartz shatter noted in a couple locations. These were considered to be recently broken rock fragments resulting from road construction.

Block 208-11 was very rugged and displayed some prominent ridges with steep drainage cuts between them. A pedestrian survey of the ridges and cuts along the channels provided a survey sample of this type of terrain. Exposure was poor and no archaeological resources were observed.

Scovil Creek crossing was inspected by pedestrian surveys along the ridges, shorelines, and at the bridge construction disturbance. A narrow clearing or trail was noted on the north side along the edge of the creek. This trail had been mentioned previously during interviews with informants, as was an old camp at the Scovil Creek and Didche Creek confluence.

It was planned that this camp area would be visited with Elder Theresa Alexander, who could point out locations of burials and cabins. However, bad weather and decommissioning of the road did not allow a full investigation of the old camp with her. Some trails in the immediate area were inspected, however, and some general discussions of site locations were made with her as well.

5.1.15 Mackenzie Barge Crossing Inspection, Area Q:

The Mackenzie barge crossing was briefly inspected with a walkover survey (Figure 9). Exposure was good and archaeological potential was moderate. No heritage resources were noted.

51.16 Pack River Bridge Inspection, Area R:

Bridge construction in this area impacted both sides of the river crossing. Both river banks provided excellent exposures and had very high archaeological potential (Figure 9). Pedestrian survey of these areas traversed approximately 300 m of bank area on either side of the river and extended an average of 50 m from the river edges. No heritage resources were observed.

5.1.17 Wilkie M/L Locality Inspection, Area S:

A drive-through was undertaken of the Wilkie M/L via the detour from the Finlay FSR through blocks A26479-1, A26488, and A33899-1 (Figure 9). The latter two blocks were also pedestrian surveyed. The sandy stabilized dune terrain provided a distinctive local geography and excellent visibility. This type of terrain, within a few km of the Pack River and Parsnip River confluence provided moderate to high heritage potential. No heritage resources were observed during this assessment.

A drive-over inspection was made over the extension of the Wilkie M/L. A brief pedestrian inspection was undertaken at the exposed beach of Williston Lake in this locality. No heritage resources were observed.

5.1.18 Finlay FSR Construction Inspection, Area T:

Drive-throughs of the entire length and a sample walkover survey were conducted of the excellent exposures caused by the road rerouting and construction of the Finlay FSR in this area (Figure 9). The construction covered the first 9 km of the road. A detailed pedestrian survey was made with three personnel walking transects spaced 5 and 10 m apart along the road for the last two km. This portion of the road was located near smaller lakes and had moderate to high heritage potential. No archaeological resources were noted in the survey. However, a charcoal and ash horizon was noted in several exposed road cut profiles. Trowel tests were undertaken into a dozen such exposures at intervals along the road. No cultural remains were noted in these subsurface exposures and judgemental tests.

5.1.19 Windy Point Lake Campground Inspection, Area U:

A drive-over of the access road and the general camp area revealed several exposures exhibiting moderate to good visibility (Figure 9). A walkover survey along walking trails and the camp site development disturbances was made. Trails were present near the lake edge and afforded moderate visibility. No heritage resources were observed in this assessment.

5.1.20 Sabai -Hodder-Tudyah Localities' Inspections, Area V:

A drive-over survey of the Sabai M/L extended through blocks 2 1 I- 1 and 2 1 I-2 (Figure 9). These blocks had low visibility and were in a low and swampy area considered to have low heritage potential. Therefore, these blocks were not pedestrian surveyed. The Sabai Lake camp ground was inspected with a walkover inspection of roads and the camp development disturbances. Visibility was poor to moderate, impeded by high water levels along the lake shore. No heritage resources were observed.

The Hodder M/L was also driven over. Most areas consisted of rough or steep terrain which was considered low potential. Butternut Lake camp ground was inspected with a walkover survey. However, since the water level was high and little beach was exposed, visibility was considered poor. Most of the camp area disturbances and roads were inspected without any heritage resources being observed.

The Tudyah Lake M/L was inspected with a drive-over survey and a pedestrian spot check of the rocky shoreline on the west central shoreline of the lake. A cut block, 192-384, located at the intersection of the Tudyah M/L and Sabai M/L was surface surveyed. This block had a fairly level sandy gravel terrain which provided fair exposure. No heritage resources were noted in these surveys.

In addition, the large campground at the southern end of Tudyah Lake was inspected with a walkover survey. Some excellent exposures were present and this location is near the outlet of the Pack River. This was considered to be a very high potential heritage location, but no heritage resources were noted.

5.2 Mackenzie Area Investigations

These areas were investigated with general drive-throughs and some pedestrian surveys. Members of the McLeod Lake Indian Band expressed concerns about a couple of locales in this area during interviews. Two locales of concern included the Carp Lake trail (road) and Kennedy-Sidding Road. Part of the Kennedy-Sidding Road is located in the Mackenzie TSA study area. The Carp Lake trail was apparently impacted by the building of the Carp Lake road.

5.2.1 Kennedy-Sidding Road, Area A:

Kennedy-Siding road was an area of concern based on discussions with Vern Solonas. He had been informed by Eldon Yellowhorn that some depressions were noted in the ditch several years ago when driving along the road. A drive-through inspection and pedestrian surveys along the road were made to relocate and identify these features (Figure 10). This survey approach identified depressions of some recent cabins and camp activities (Figure 11). It is assumed that these must be the features observed previously from the road. Discussions with BC rail employees indicated that these camps may be from earlier BC Rail crews. In addition, the Fast Creek and Misinchinka River crossings were inspected. The latter was associated with a recent historic shack and dump area (Figures 12, 13). The Kennedy Lake campground provided good exposures in a high heritage potential locale. It was inspected, but no archaeological resources were noted.

Chief Harry Chingee expressed some concerns about trails and camp areas associated with the Parsnip River and the Misinchinka River (Figure 10). These localities were located outside the Mackenzie TSA.

5.3 Parsnip West FSR Investigations:

The Parsnip FSR was investigated with a general drive-over inspection (Figure 14). Interviews with McLeod Lake Band members indicated some concerns about the Cut Thumb Creek locality. Many of the forestry cut blocks associated with the FSR were older and did not provide good visibility. This area was not one of the initial targeted supply areas so inspections were limited to a drive-through and occasional spot check of high potential areas. Shoreline and campground exposures provided better visibility and high archaeological potential and a few of these localities were selected for detailed inspection.

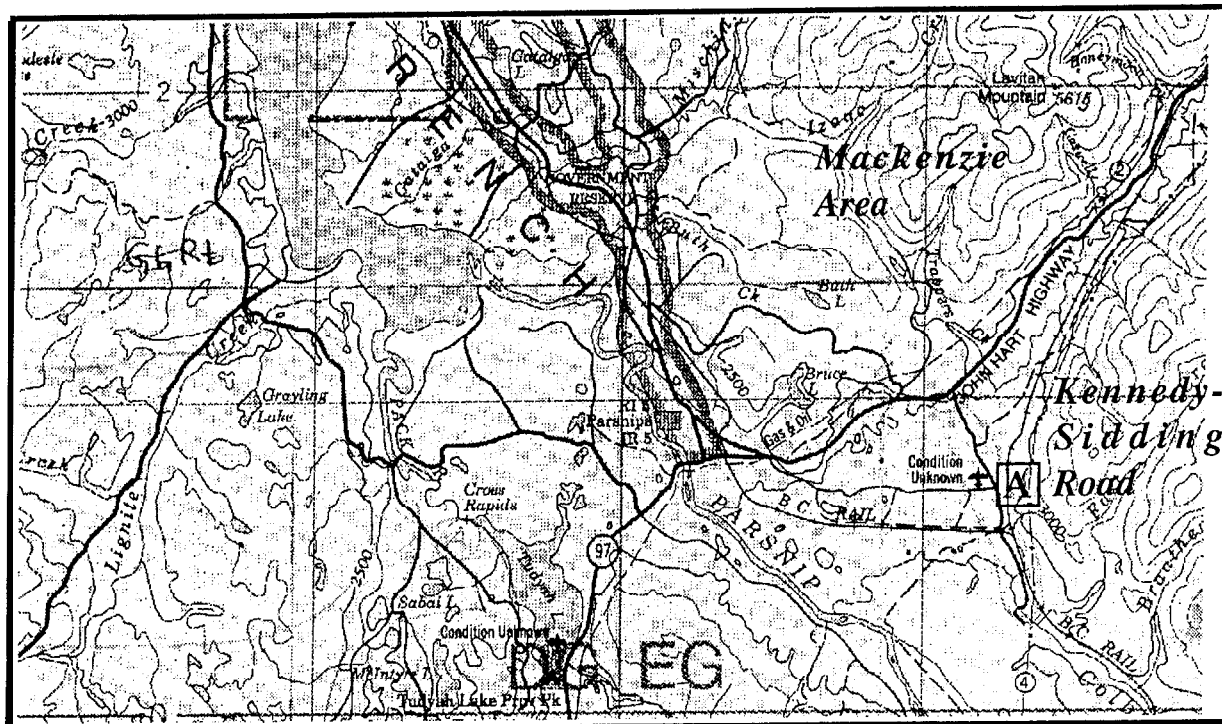


Figure 10. Philip Forestry Operating Area AOA's, east side, and Mackenzie area AOA's (from NTS 930 edition 3).

5.3.1 Cut Thumb Creek Locality, Area A:

Andrew Sr. and Vern Solonas indicated that old cabins and trails associated with the trapping activities were present in this area. The Cut Thumb Creek and the neighbouring localities were traversed by trap-lines run by Andrew Solonas Sr. and Harry Chingee (Andrew Solonas Sr., personal communication to C. Ramsay, 1996). A full investigation of this area was not possible due to time constraints. A pedestrian surface survey of the exposed beach at the Cut Thumb Creek outlet into the Williston Lake Reservoir did not reveal any archaeological resources. Neither did a brief inspection of the Cut Thumb Creek crossing of the Parsnip FSR. However, further investigations should be made of the cabins and old trails associated with the Cut Thumb Creek and Dina Lakes localities when opportunity permits.

5.3.2 Scott Creek Locality, Area B:

A drive-over survey of the Scott Creek access roads, and additional roads that proceeded through blocks adjacent to Scott Creek, was made (Figure 13). Walkover surveys were undertaken of the Williston Lake shoreline, which had exposed beaches in and adjacent to the Scott Creek inlet. These beach surveys identified six precontact artifact find spots (Figure 14).

Find spot #1 (Figure 15) consisted of nearly 50 pieces of quartzite, located in a discrete concentration on the beach surface (Site GkRv-1). Most of these materials were clustered in an area of one meter radius, and several specimens were dispersed up to three m away. The chipped stone materials were collected from the ground surface. A one meter square excavation test was placed over the concentration and excavated in 5 cm arbitrary intervals, with 50 cm horizontal provenience. A

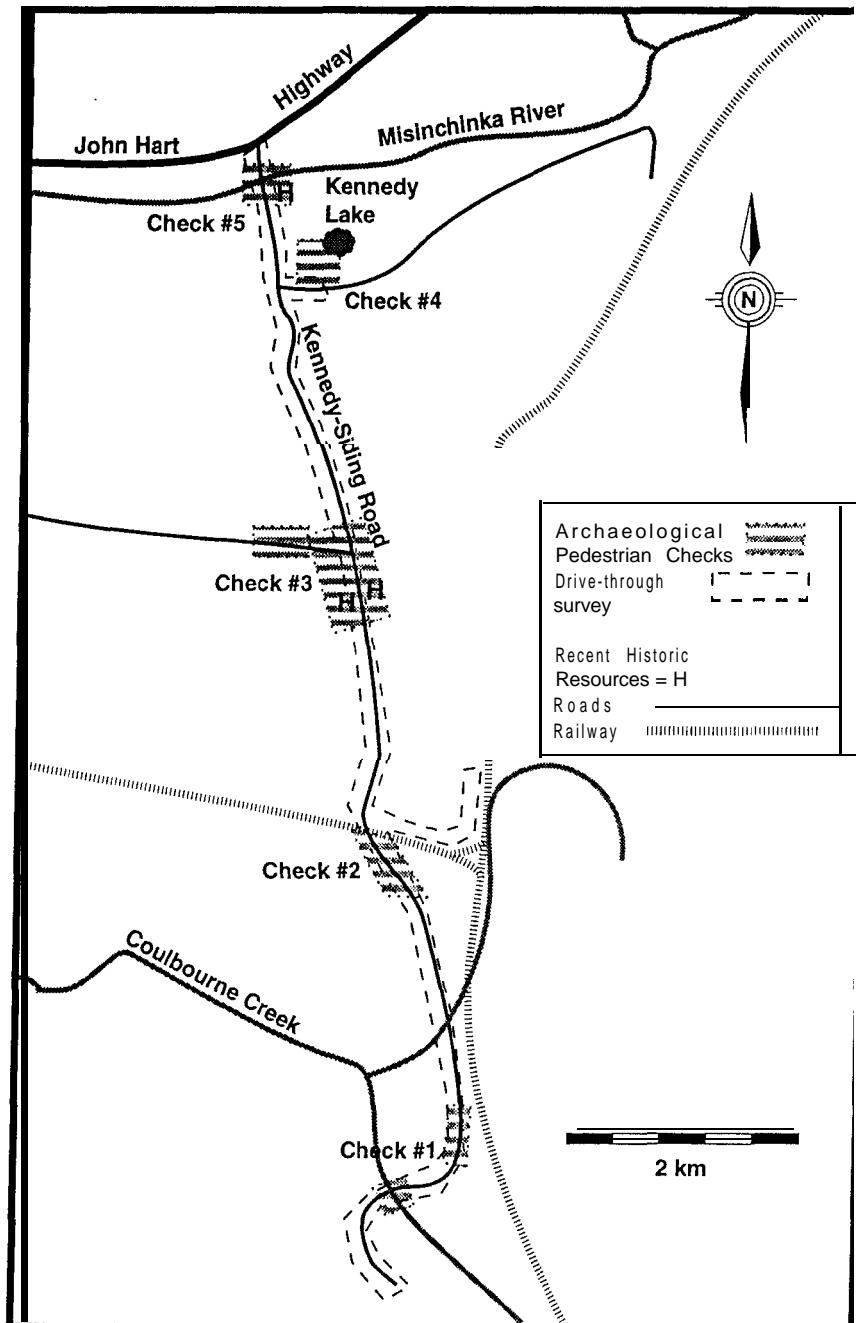


Figure 11. Sketch of Kennedy-Siding Road archaeological survey.



Figure 12. Overview photo of old shack near the Misinchinka River.



Figure 13. Overview of midden near the Mesinchinka River.

substantial amount of chipped quartzite debitage was recovered in this test in two 5 cm levels to 10 cm depth. A white ash and red oxidation stain was observed in the excavation, suggesting that the test location may have been placed over the remnants of a hearth. However, further subsurface tests in the immediate area and examination of the surrounding Williston Lake beach indicated that such oxidation and ash may be derived from recent burning of beached logs along the reservoir. These logs are piled up and burned regularly in order to remove them from the reservoir. Nevertheless, it was observed that none of the quartzite materials appeared to be discoloured or fractured by heat, and that the ash layer was unusually thick in the excavation unit. Also, the lithic material appeared to be embedded in the ash layer, which included pieces of charcoal. It is difficult to see how these obvious precontact lithic materials could have been redeposited in such a way as to form a well-defined cluster in apparent association with localized burning. Therefore, it is believed that the lithic concentration may well have been associated with a precontact hearth at this location.

Scott Creek find spot #2 (Site GkRv-2) was located about 150 m northeast of the Findspot #1 (Figure 14). It was located adjacent to a small creek and included a very fine basalt flake and a large quartzite flake with cortex.

Find spot #3 (Site GkRv-3) was located north of the above two finds by a few hundred meters. This find spot was located next to a small creek and included 4 medium grained basalt flakes, 1 very fine grained basalt flake, and 1 quartzite flake.

Find spot #4 (Site GkRv-4) was located approximately 350 m north of findspot #3. It included a quartz cobble scraper/planer and a possible serrated tool.

Find spot #5 (Site GkRv-5) was located near the northern point of the Scott Creek inlet. The find included a fragment of a large piece of quartzite cobble and one large retouched flake tool made from a grey quartzite. These items were found about 20 m apart.

Find spot #6 (Site GkRv-6) was located about 150 m south of find spot #1. It included two flakes of quartzite.

5.3.3 Weston Creek Locality, Area C:

A drive-through survey was made of the access road in this locality (Figure 14), and a pedestrian survey was conducted of the exposed beach areas. The beaches exhibited high steep cut terraces overlooking a small rocky beach that dropped off quickly. This type of situation provided poor visibility and had moderate heritage potential, although some specific areas may be considered high. No heritage resources were identified in this assessment.

5.3.4 Finlay Bay Locality, Area D:

This locality was independently inspected by two separate survey crews (Figure 14). Both crews identified the same site. A beach area and campground exposures were inspected, which provided good visibility at a high potential locality.

The Finlay Bay sites are located on the northwestern edge of the bay just east of the camp ground area (Figure 16). Several pieces of shattered quartz and quartzite were noted along the beach

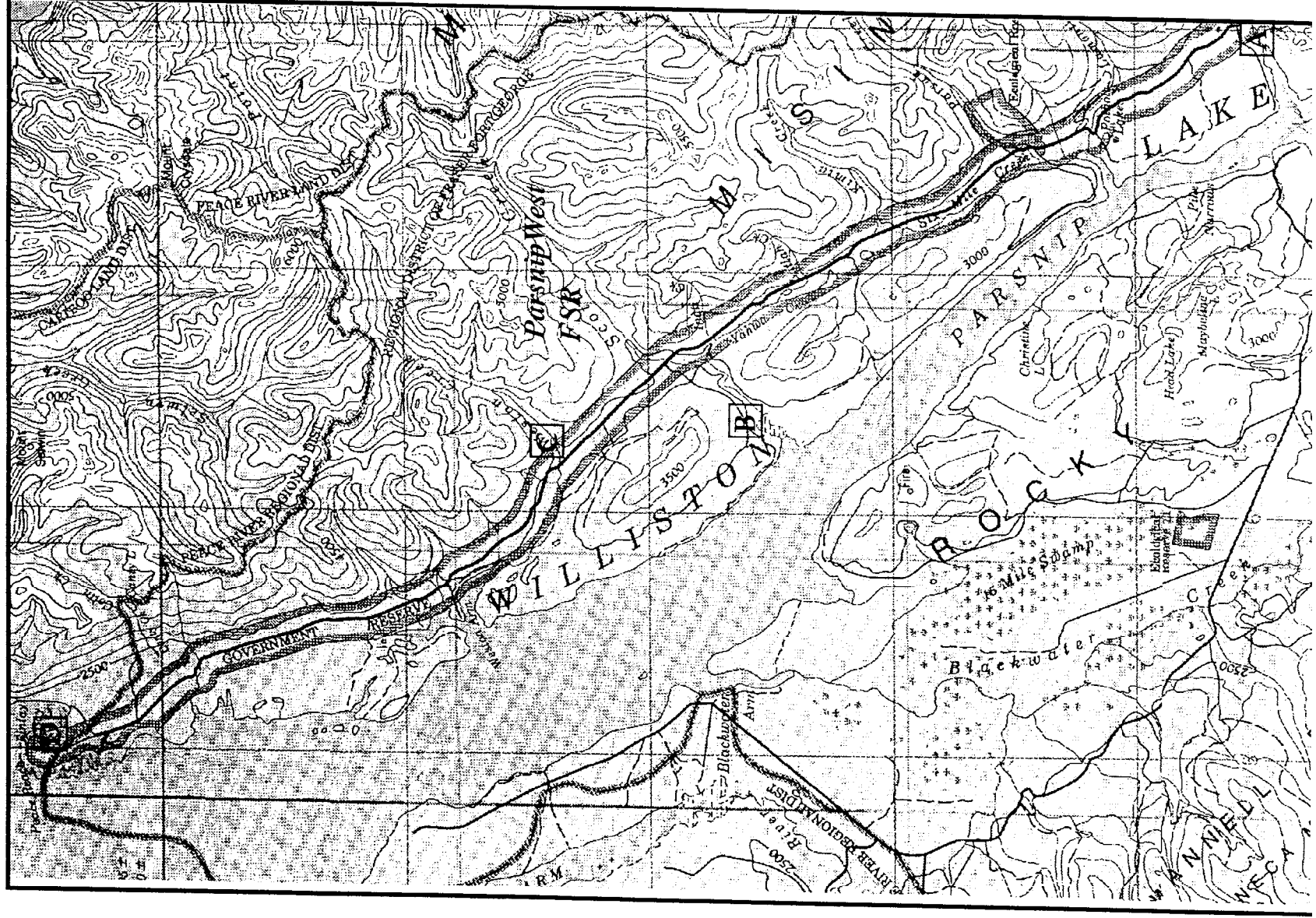


Figure 14. Parsnip West FSR AOA's (from NTS 930 edition 3).

(Figure 17) and on a raised terrace above the beach. A number of these rock specimens were considered to be culturally modified. A couple well-defined chipped stone specimens included an obsidian flake and a fine-grained black basalt flake. Although the finds are located relatively close to one another, their situation on separate landforms prompted their separation into separate sites GIRw-1 and GIRw-2.

A pedestrian survey was also undertaken along the western beach exposures of Williston Lake. Three artifact find spots were noted in this survey (Sites GIRw-3, 4, 5; Figure 16).

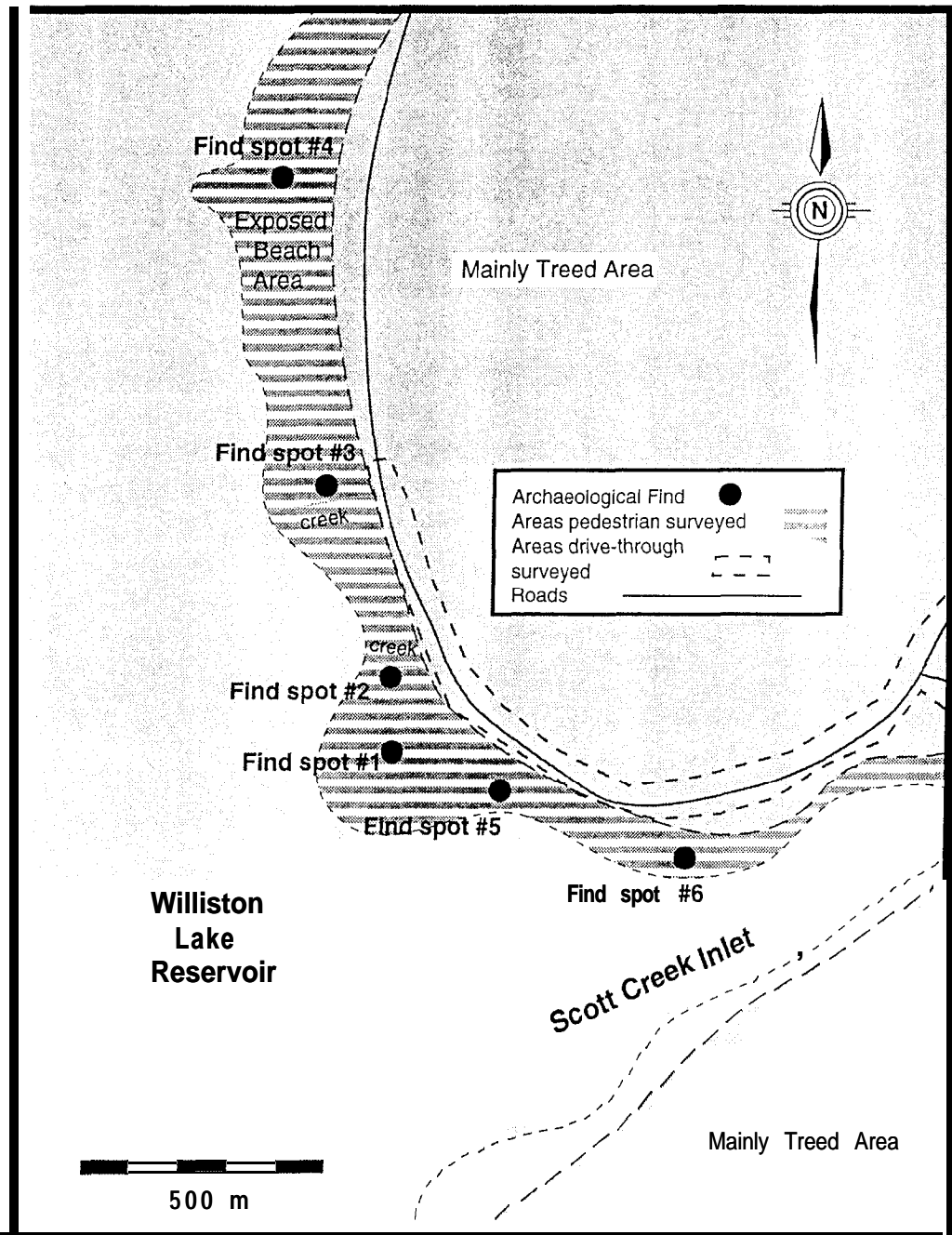


Figure 15. Planview sketch of Scott Creek #1 surface collection and excavation tests.

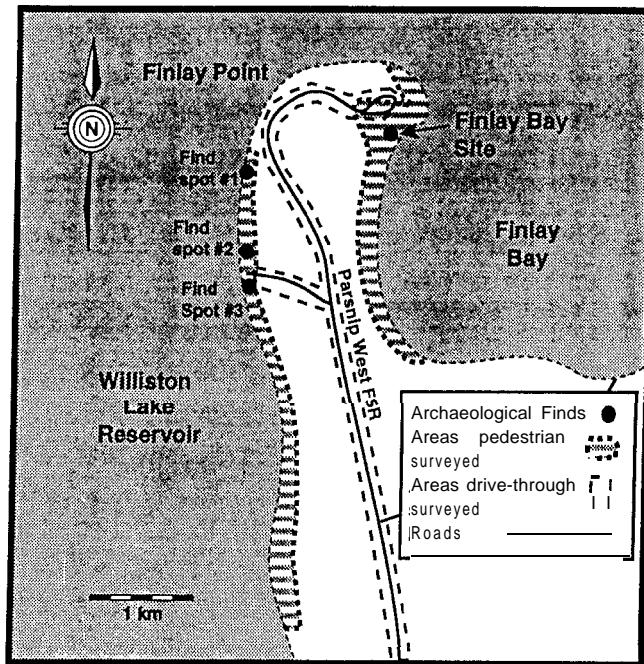


Figure 16. Finlay Bay and Finlay Point localities survey and artifact finds.

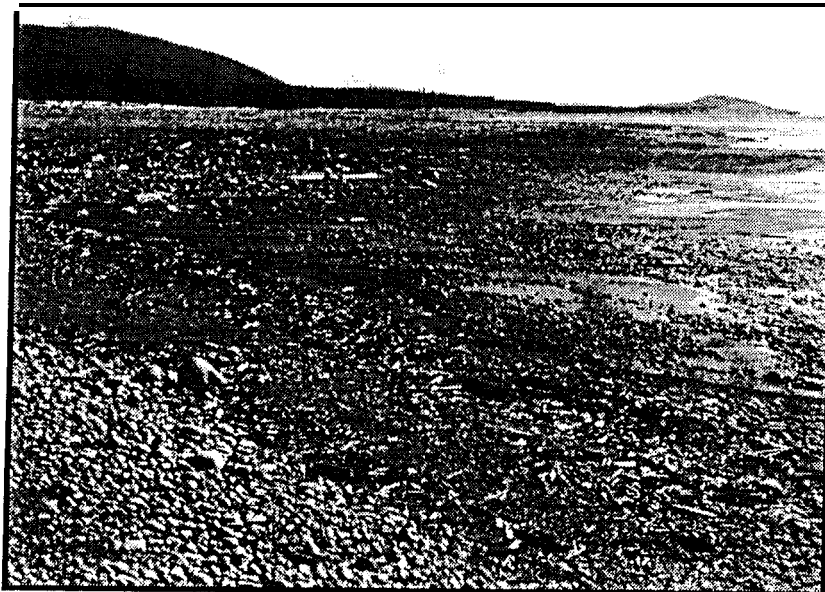


Figure 17. Finlay Point beach find spot locale overview.

5.4 Finlay FSR Investigations:

The Finlay FSR is a haul road which passes through the Philip, Blackwater, Dastaiga, Omineca, and Mesilinka areas. Most of the cut blocks along this route did not provide good exposure and pedestrian inspections focused only on high heritage potential areas exhibited at such locations as creek and river crossings, and at lakes.

The Finlay-Nation FSR swings westward through the Dastaiga/Rupert and Wolverine areas. Creek crossings, lakes, and areas of high heritage potential such as Nation Falls were pedestrian surveyed (Figure 18).

5.4.1 Finlay FSR – Finlay Nation FSR Turnoff, Area A:

The turnoff for the Finlay Nation FSR is located 62 km north on the Finlay FSR (Figure 18). A spot check pedestrian survey was undertaken at the triangle intersection area. The location had excellent surface visibility although it had only moderate heritage potential. No heritage resources were observed.

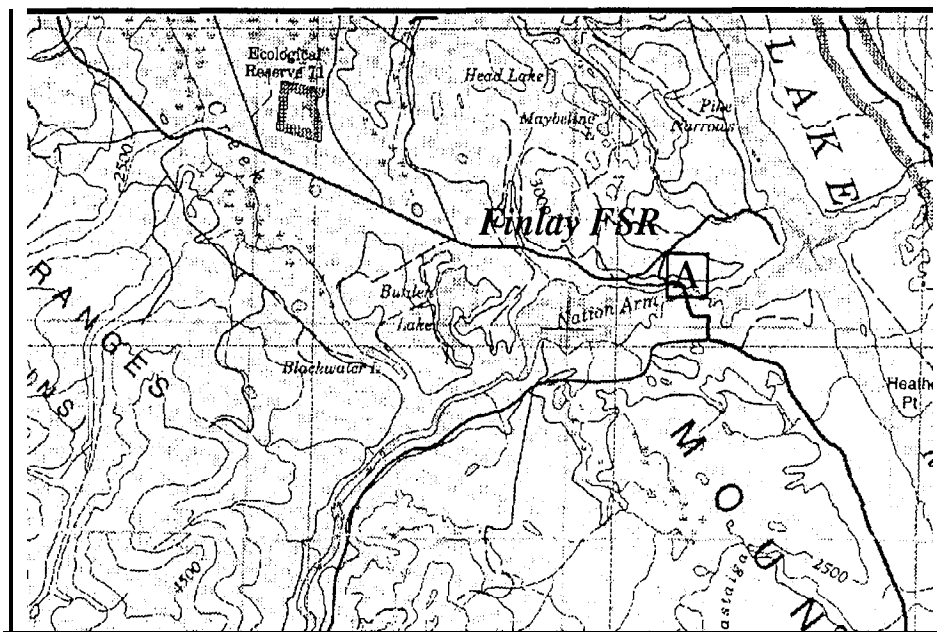


Figure 18. Finlay FSR AOA's (from NTS 930 edition 3).

5.4.2 Nation Falls campground, Area B:

A small camp area and walking trails leading to the falls were pedestrian surveyed (Figure 19). This locale appeared to have very high heritage potential and showed moderate to good visibility along the trails. However, no archaeological remains were found in this area.

5.4.3 Thudate FSR – Finlay Nation FSR Intersection, Area C:

This intersection locality (Figure 19) was pedestrian surveyed along the ridge northwest of the main intersection. The surveyed area overlooked a low area to the east, and appeared to have high archaeological potential, coupled with good to moderate surface visibility. A few pieces of quartz

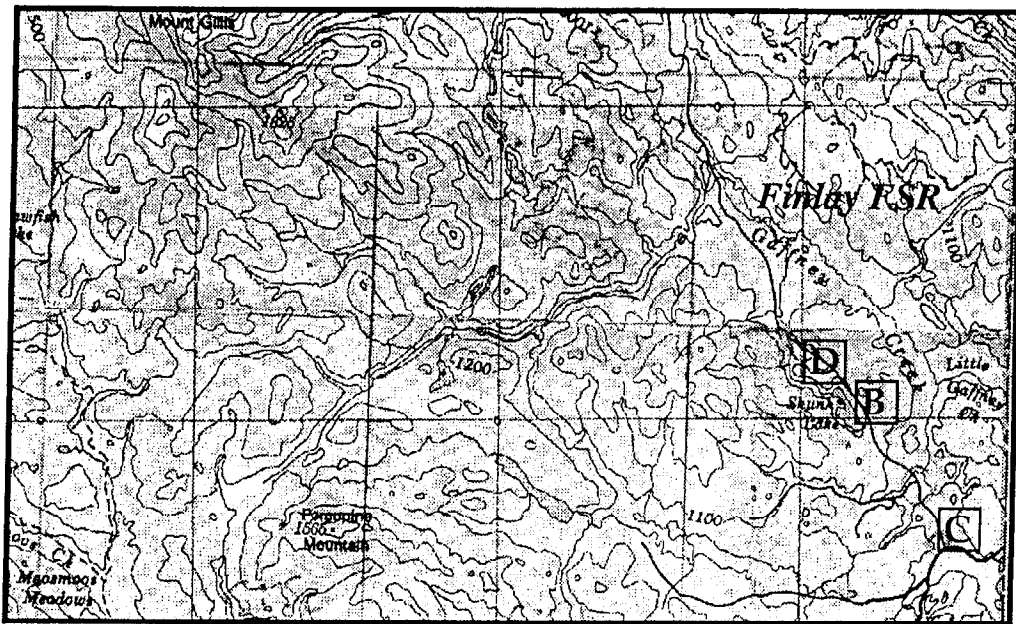


Figure 19. Finlay FSR AOA's (from NTS 93N edition 4).

and quartzite were observed in the area, most appearing to be shatter related to construction. However, one piece of apparently modified rose quartz was collected as a findspot (Site GiSa-1).

5.4.4 Skunk Lake campground, Area D:

This campground area provided moderate to good visibility of a locality considered to have high heritage potential (Figure 19, 20). A marginally retouched flake and some debitage were collected from the road exposures (Site GiSa-2). A subsurface test was conducted 5 m south of where the retouched flakes was recovered. No precontact artifacts were observed in the test. However, recent campground garbage was noted, including black garbage bags, recent animal bones and recent food tins. The area had obviously been badly disturbed and the condition of the site is suspected to be poor.

5.4.5 Curve Lake campground, Area E:

Moderate visibility was provided in this area, in a locality considered to have high archaeological potential (Figure 2 1). However, despite being assessed in two separate occasions, this camp

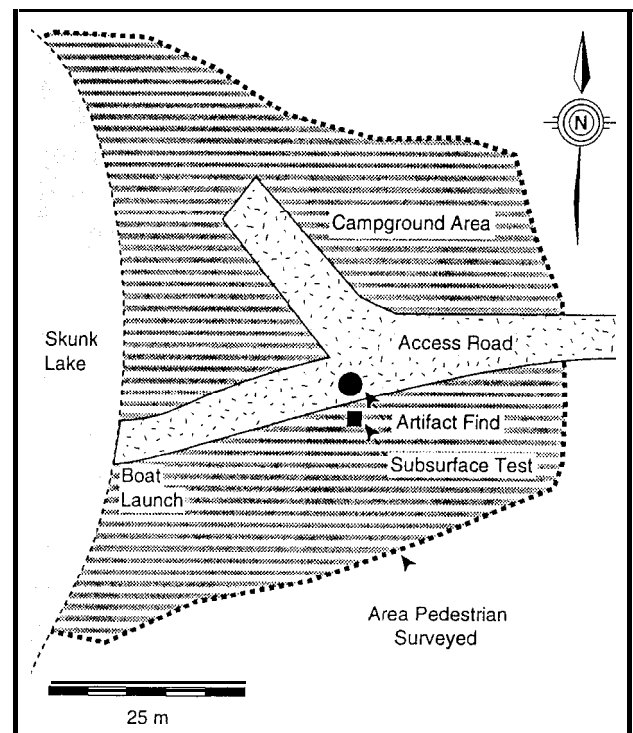


Figure 20. Sketch map of the Skunk Lake Campground assessment and archaeological find.

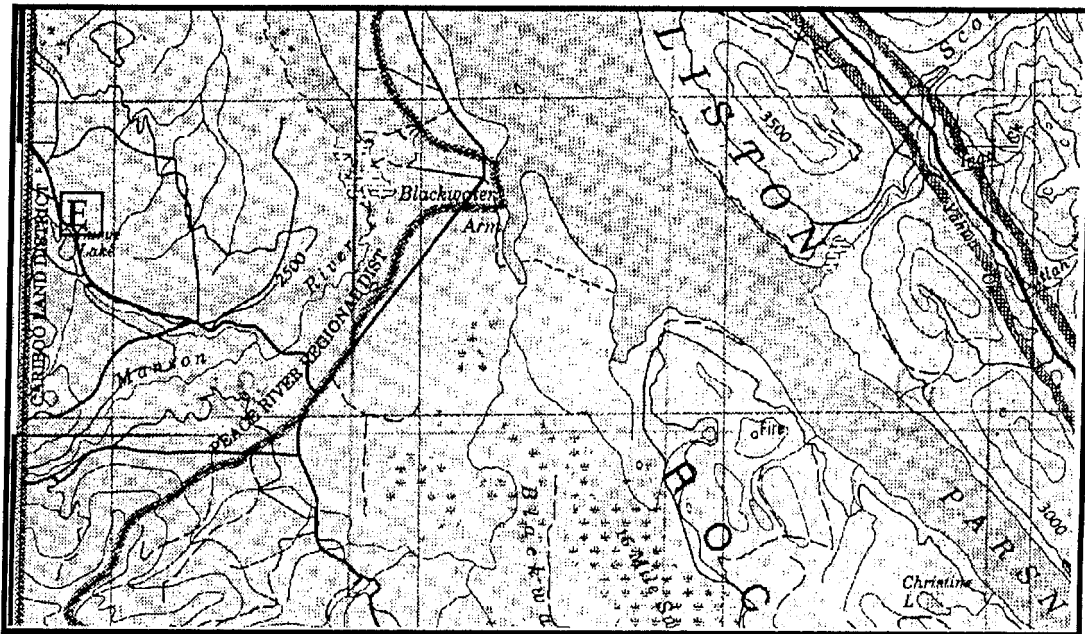


Figure 21. Finlay FSR AOA's (from NTS 930 edition 3).

area yielded no archaeological remains.

5.5 Germansen Landing-Manson River Area

The Finlay-Manson FSR passes westward through the Blackwater and Manson/Omineca to Germansen Landing (Figure 22). Several Creek crossings were inspected, as well as the Wolverine Lakes camp ground. The survey team conducted interviews with Janet and Jim Bresheres about the Noostel Keho First Nation land claim area and their heritage concerns. They discussed traditional land-use concerns in several areas, and also provided information about burials, ceremonial and sacred/private areas and hunting and trapping areas. They have accumulated much of this information for the purpose of developing a Land and Resource Use Management Plan. Much of their claim area covers the Manson/Omineca and Wolverine forestry zones.

At Germansen Landing, Scott Müller and other local people provided information about the industrial and placer mining history of the area. These sites include the townsite of Germansen landing itself, as well as the Germansen Flumes, old cabins, historic burials, and the Old Baldy Trail which follows a traditional aboriginal trail. There are a number of historical records of the mining developments in the area, including personal letters of the Germansen Store owner prior to Mr. Müller.

5.5.1 Wolverine Lakes campground, Area A:

A walkover inspection of the campgrounds at the southwest corner of the southernmost of Wolverine Lakes (Figure 22) was undertaken. The water was high at the time of survey, and inundated the trees along the shore. Within the camp area there was good to moderate exposures, however. This was considered a high heritage potential locale. Although no archaeological materials were noted,

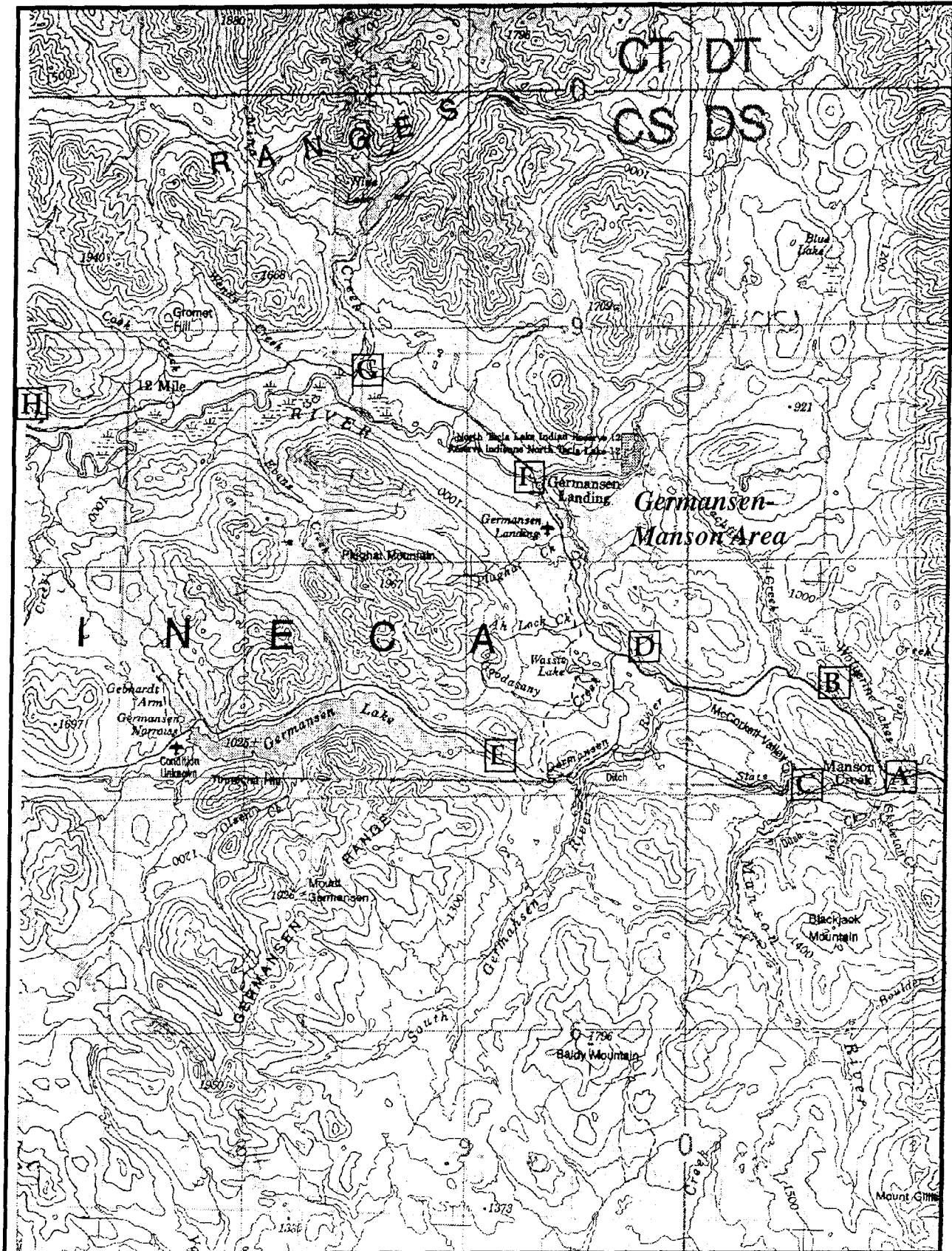


Figure 22. Germansen Landing-Manson River area AOA's (from NTS 93N edition 3).

a cabin was observed across the lake to the east (Figure 23). This locality and much of the Wolverine Lakes area contains several contemporary-use, traditional-use and spiritual-use sites used by the Noostel Keho (Jim and Janet Bresheres, personal communication to C. Ramsay 1996).

5.5.2 Wolverine Lakes overview, Area B:

This locality was inspected during a general drive-through of the haul road as well as pedestrian inspections of a truck loading area. The location provided moderate potential and moderate visibility. No heritage resources were observed.

5.5.3 Manson Creek, Area C:

This hamlet was investigated with a drive-through survey, discussions with the store clerk, and a brief walkover of some good exposures. The clerk knew of no precontact sites, and the surveys revealed none. However, remains of historical mining equipment were evident in the areas surveyed.

5.5.4 Germansen River Crossing Finlay Manson FSR, Area D:

This location was drive-through inspected, where a cabin was observed near the river (Figure 24). This cabin was being undercut by river erosion at the time of assessment, and will soon be washed away. Pedestrian inspection of the area did not reveal any precontact heritage resources despite high heritage potential and good visibility.

5.5.5 Germansen Lake Outlet, Area E:

A vehicular drive-through survey of the Germansen Flumes was conducted between Germansen Lake and Germansen Landing (Figure 22). Two pedestrian surveys were carried out along the Germansen River and Germansen River outlet from Germansen Lake. These included a spot inspection of an overview of the deep valley which had high heritage potential but only moderate exposure. No heritage resources were identified.

Another pedestrian survey was conducted at the campgrounds located northeast of the Germansen River's outlet from Germansen Lake. Some quartz and quartzite shatter were observed but none

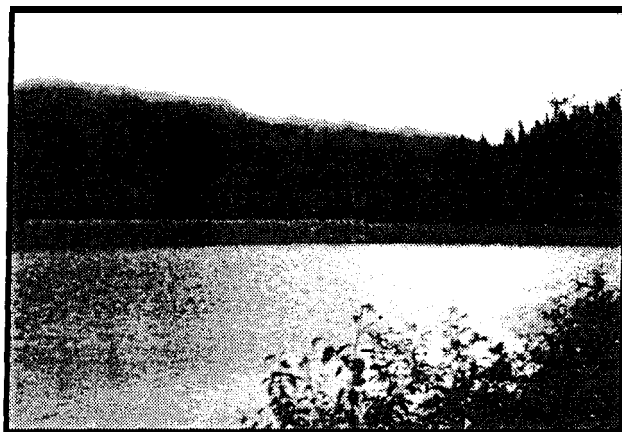


Figure 23. Overview of traditional -use cabin across Wolverine Lake No. 1, facing east from campground.

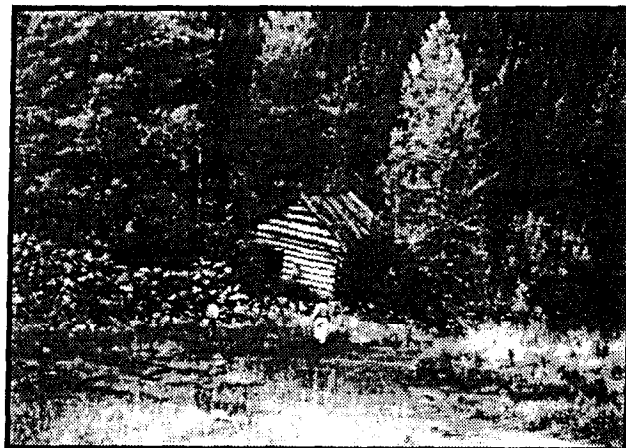


Figure 24. Cabin eroding into Germansen River off of Finlay Manson FSR.

were considered culturally modified. However, some historic remains were observed, including the remnants of an old bridge (Figure 25).

5.5.6 Germansen Landing, Area F:

This location was inspected with a drive-through and two walkover inspections (Figure 22). Scott Müller who owns the store at the hamlet of Germansen Landing provided information on several historical sites in the area. A pedestrian survey was carried out at the crossing of the Omenica River and in the vicinity of the general store. Both areas had high heritage potential with moderate visibility. No archaeological materials were found.



Figure 25. Old bridge across Germansen River at outlet from Germansen Lake.

5.5.7 Nina Creek Crossing Thudate FSR, Area G:

This locality provided good exposure at the bridge crossing in an area of high heritage potential (Figure 22). No artifacts were noted in the pedestrian survey of the area, however. A trail in poor repair was observed to strike northward on the northeast side of the crossing. Some larger ground disturbances in this area seemed to represent locations that had once been placer mined. Discussions with Jim and Janet Bresheres revealed that there are special ceremonies carried out at this bridge crossing. They also provided some information on traditional knowledge pertaining to Nina Lake, where the above trail heads passes by.

5.5.8 Discovery Creek Crossing Thudate FSR, Area H:

The Discovery Creek crossing provided moderate exposure at a high potential locality. Discussions with Jim and Jane Bresheres (personal communication to C. Ramsay, 1996) indicated that some palaeontological fossils had been found in this area.

5.6 Osilinka West Forestry Operating Area:

A general drive-through of the Osilinka River west area appeared to reflect generally good exposures and archaeological potential (Figure 26). Therefore, more extensive drive-throughs were followed up with several pedestrian surveys and spot checks. The main Finlay-Osilinka FSR included some block surveys, as well as spot checks at creek and river crossings.

North of Osilinka Camp the Tenakihi M/L, Aiken M/L, and Tutizika M/L were investigated. Fair to good exposures revealed a precontact find and spot checks at high heritage potential locations revealed contemporary-use cabin clusters.

5.6.1 Wasi M/L Locality, Area A Investigations:

After a general drive-through survey, the Wasi M/L was investigated with more detailed pedestrian survey in several areas of high heritage potential (Figure 26). One of these locations was on the edge of Wasi Creek where cutblock 493-448 abuts the creek. This location had remains of a

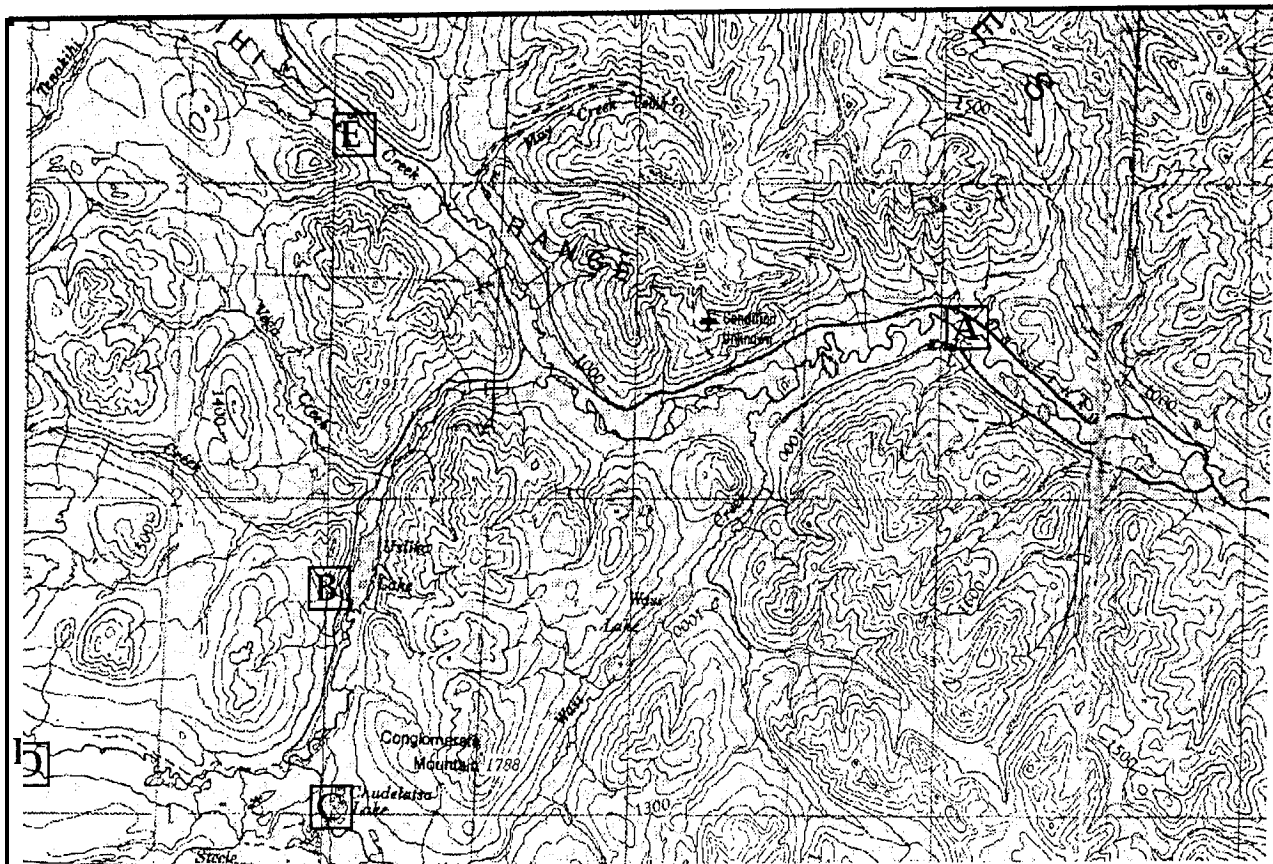


Figure 26. Osilinka West Forestry Operating Area AOA's (from NTS 94C edition 4).

mining camp nearby. Exposures along the roads and the creek provided moderate visibility. However, no archaeological resources were observed.

Another large block, 474-437, was located southwest of the Osilinka River and Wasi Creek confluence. This block was located on rolling sandy topography with old river/creek channels cutting through the block. It provided excellent exposure and high heritage potential. However, a detailed 15-20 m wide pedestrian transect survey covering approximately 800 m by 600 m in the northern half of the block did not reveal any archaeological materials.

5.6.2 Uslika Lake Locality, Area B Investigations:

A general drive-through survey revealed a few localities with high heritage potential in this area. Two pedestrian survey investigations were made in the vicinity of Uslika Lake (Figure 26). Attempts were made to meet with William George, an knowledgeable local resident in the region, but he could not be contacted.

The campground at the southwest edge of Uslika Lake was pedestrian surveyed. This location provided good exposures and was considered to exhibit high heritage potential because it was located near the inlet of the Osilinka River into Uslika Lake. However, no archaeological resources were observed.

A ridge was observed across the main road, with a trail passing along it, southwest of Uslika Lake (Figure 27). Several rock-outlined hearth features were noted in the vicinity of the trail and were inspected with trowel tests. No artifacts were observed in this inspection, though the trail

and hearths do indicate past human occupations.

5.6.3 Chudelatsa Lake Locality, Area C Investigations:

This locality was investigated with a drive-through inspection along the trail between Germansen Landing and Osilinka Camp. Three cut blocks in this Chudelatsa Lake locality provided a few exposures for further pedestrian survey inspections. These included block 432-1 where a brief (150 m by 200 m) pedestrian survey was made at the southwestern part of the block. The area had



Figure 27. Uslika Lake inlet trail survey area.

moderate to good exposure and moderate heritage potential. A brief pedestrian inspection was made at the creek crossing the access road to this block. This creek had moderate exposure and high heritage potential, where it drained Chudelatsa Lake into the Osilinka River.

Block 434-7 was inspected with a pedestrian survey of the northern end of the block. This area provided moderate exposure and moderate heritage potential. No heritage resources were identified.

Block 434-5 was briefly inspected with a pedestrian spot inspection. This area had moderate to good exposure and high heritage potential, as it was next to a drainage area. No heritage resources were observed.

5.6.4 Haha Creek Locality, Area D Investigations:

The Haha M/L was assessed by a drive-over and two spot checks. Information from the Noostel Keho indicated that this general area was used for hunting.

The drive-through passed through blocks 424-1, 424-3, 424-4, 424-8, 425-2, and 426-413. A pedestrian survey was conducted at the split of the Haha West M/L and Haha East M/L. This intersection provided excellent exposures



Figure 28. Haha Creek locality, overview of Osilinka River to northwest from Block 425-2.

of the high heritage potential location along the Haha Creek. No archaeological resources were identified in this inspection.

Another brief pedestrian check was made in block 425-2 along its east side. This area was adjacent to Haha Creek and overlooked the Osilinka River valley to the north (Figure 28). No archaeological resources were noted.

5.6.5 Tenakihi Creek Locality, Area E Investigations:

A drive-through was made of blocks 408-1 and 408-2 (Figure 26). Block 408-2 provided some moderate to good exposures in areas overlooking the Tenakihi Creek. Pedestrian survey of these linear exposures along the main haul road through the block did not reveal any heritage resources.

5.6.6 Matetlo Creek Locality, Area F Investigations:

This area was accessed via the Tutizika M/L and a vehicle-based survey traversed blocks 413-1, 413-2, and 413-3 (Figure 29). A brief spot pedestrian survey was conducted in the northwest extension of block 413-2. This area had good exposure and moderate heritage potential. It sampled portions of the higher elevations with overviews of the nearby Matetlo Creek and Tutizika River valleys. However, no heritage resources were observed.

A more detailed pedestrian survey was conducted in block 413-3 along good exposures adjacent to Matetlo Creek and its confluence with the Tutizika River. This survey included an area approxi-

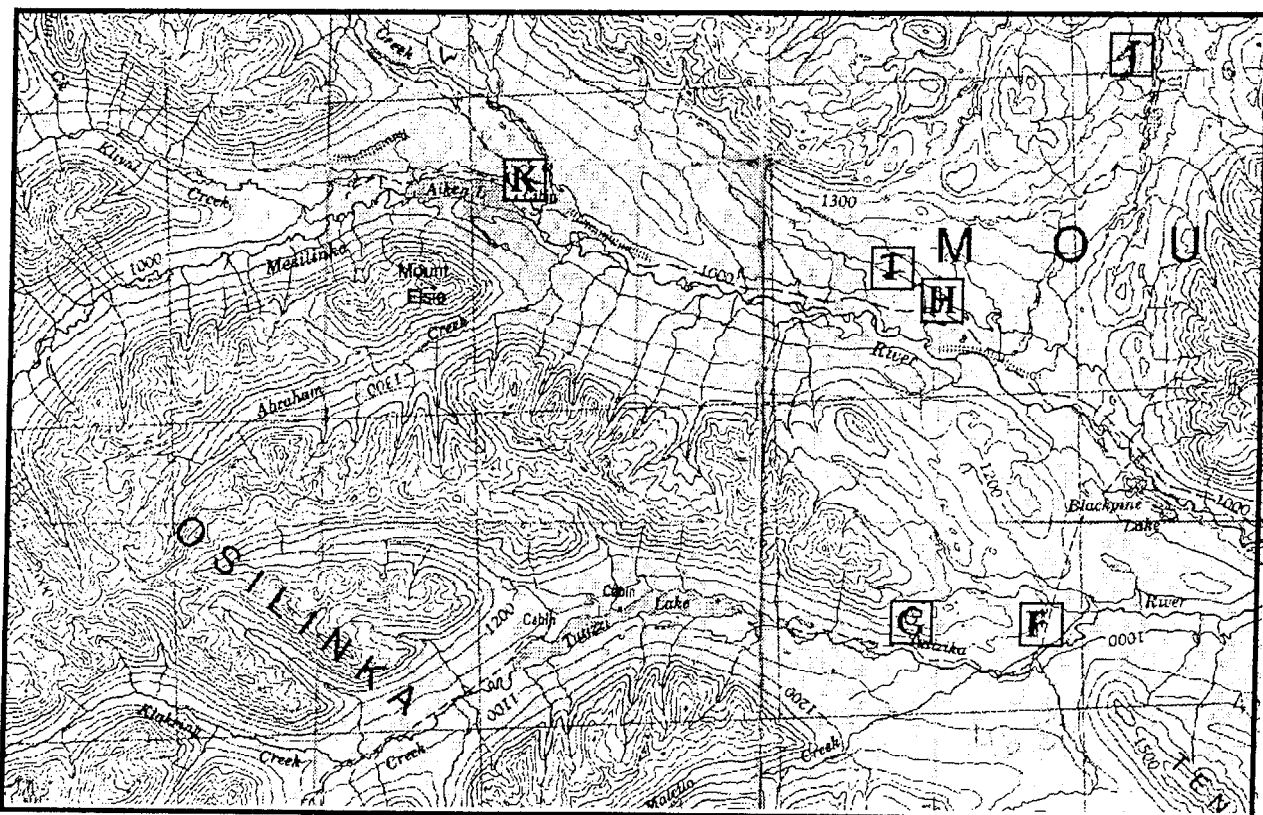


Figure 29. Osilinka West Forestry Operating Area AOA's (from NTS 94C edition 4).

mately 1.5 km long and 100 m wide. No archaeological resources were observed, despite its location at a very high heritage potential location.

5.6.7 Tutizika River Locality, Area G Investigations:

This inspection included a drive-through survey of blocks 502-1, 503-1, 503-4, 503-7, and TSL A26467 (Figure 29). Some pedestrian surveys were conducted in this area. This included a survey of part of the northwestern extension of block 503-7 along road exposures which overlooked a low swampy area to the north. Thus, it was considered to have high heritage potential. Unfortunately, it was an overgrown cut block with only moderate visibility. No heritage resources were observed.

A pedestrian spot check was made of cutblock 503-4 which overlooked a creek valley to the west. No heritage resources were noted, although visibility was only poor to moderate.

A spot check was conducted in the north central area of block 503- 1, which overlooked Blackpine Lake to the east and the confluence of the Tutizika River and Mesilinka River valleys to the south-east. Visibility was moderate. No archaeological materials were identified.

Block TSL A 26467 was located adjacent to the Tutizika River. This was an older cut block but haul road exposures provided moderate visibility. This location was considered to have high herit-

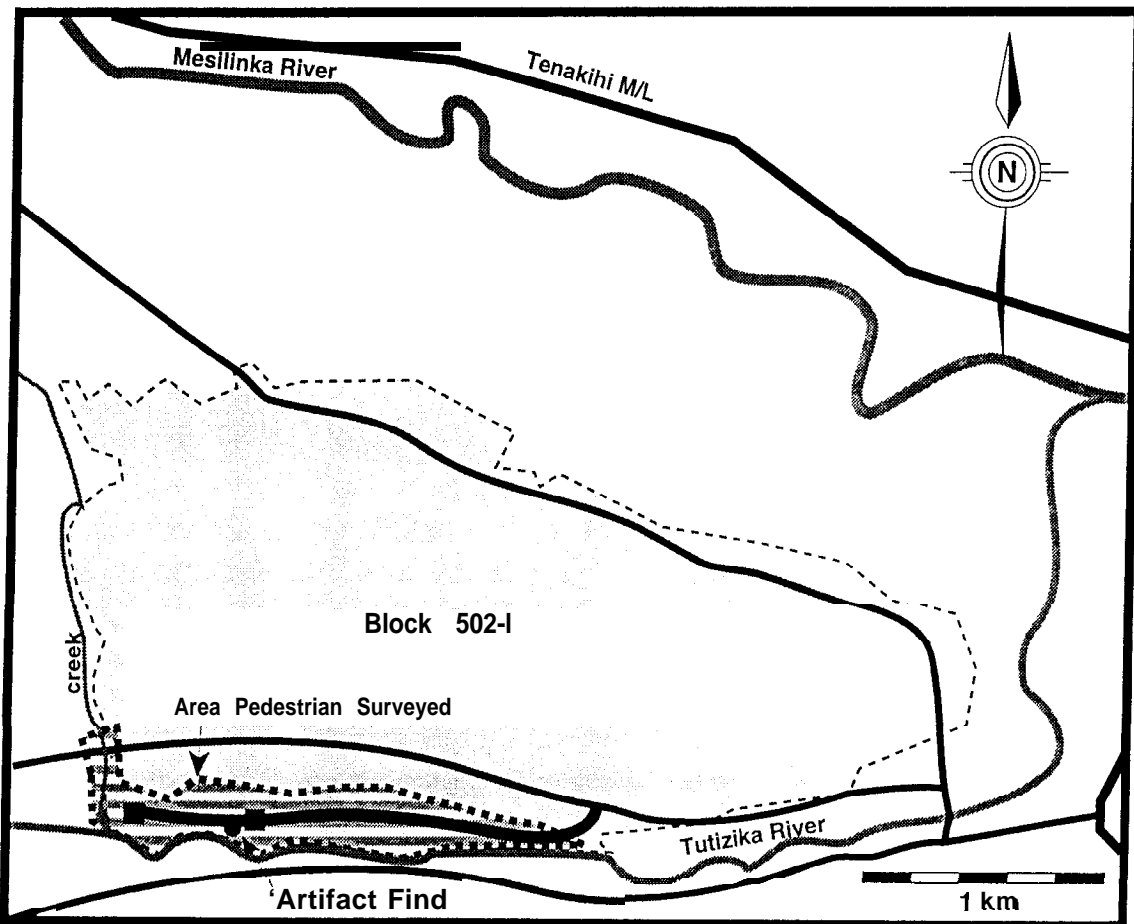


Figure 30. Artifact find and pedestrian survey area along the Tutizika River.

age potential. The survey traversed over 1 km of road in the east half of the cut block. No archaeological remains were observed.

Block 502-1 was very large and had no buffer zones adjacent to the Tutizika River. Approximately two km of this block provided excellent exposures along the north side of the drainage (Figure 29). The pedestrian survey revealed several pieces of chipped stone but only one was considered to be culturally modified (Site HbSi-1, Figure 30, 31). This artifact is a red-white quartz core fragment.



Figure 31. Artifact find at the Tutizika River.

5.6.9 Aiken M/L, Inspection Area H:

A drive-through survey of the Aiken M/L was made to inspect cutblocks 511-1, 508-2, 508-3, 508-4, 510-5100, 510-5101, 512-5103, and 510-5104 (Figure 29). Two parts of block 510-5101 provided excellent visibility on a terrace and an esker associated with the nearby Mesilinka River valley: The northwestern extension of the block had many recent drag exposures along terraces and ridges. This high potential locality was located next to a small creek which enters the nearby Mesilinka River. An area approximately 500 m by 250 m was transect surveyed. No heritage resources were revealed. A prominent esker was located at the northeastern extent of the block. This location provided a distinctive terrain feature considered to have high heritage potential. Its exposure was poor to moderate, however, and no heritage resources were observed.

Block 508-2 was pedestrian inspected at a loading area located in the centre of the block. This location had good exposure and moderate heritage potential. The survey covered approximately 200 m by 100 m. No heritage resources were observed.

5.6.9 Mesilinka River-Thudate FSR, Area I Investigations:

Several of the side routes of the Thudate FSR were examined (Figure 29). In addition, some main-line areas were investigated along the Thudate FSR. This included a walkover inspection of the bridge crossing at the Mesilinka River. The latter location provided excellent exposure in an area of presumed high heritage potential. Approximately 200 m on either side of the bridge was surveyed. No heritage resources were noted.

Cutblock 514-1 was located very close to the Mesilinka River and provided good exposures of the river's terraces. This high potential area was surveyed with transect surveys over an area approximately 200 m by 600 m. No heritage resources were observed.

A brief spot check was made at the Eagle Nest Cafe. This area provided good exposures near the Mesilinka River. No heritage resources were observed.

5.6.10 Blackpine FSR Locality, Area J Investigations:

This investigation area sampled higher elevation rugged terrain that was associated with a small tributary of the Mesilinka River. A drive-through survey traversed blocks TSLA26492-6, A26492-7, A26492-8, and A26492-9. Detailed pedestrian surveys were conducted in the latter two blocks, which provided overviews of small lakes, swamps, and the adjacent creek valley.

A26492-9 was pedestrian survey sampled in the southern half of the block including a creek crossing. No heritage resources were observed. A26492-8 was pedestrian survey sampled along the northern half of the block and along a road exposure extending through the south central part of the block. No heritage resources were observed despite moderate to good exposure.

5.6.11 Aiken Lake Locality, Area K Investigations:

The investigations in this area consisted of a drive-through survey and pedestrian examination of areas around the east side of Aiken Lake. This area is also the outlet of the Mesilinka River and an odd occurrence of the inlet for Lay Creek. This area was believed to exhibit very high heritage

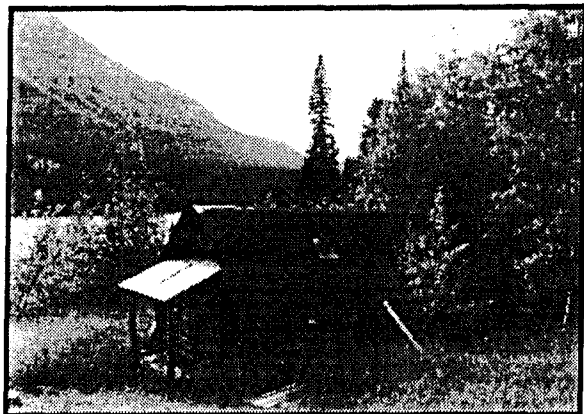


Figure 32. Contemporary-use cabin at outlet of Aiken Lake.

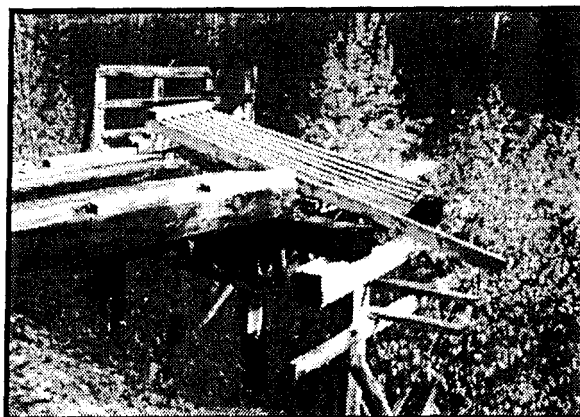


Figure 33. Placer mining operation at Lay Creek, east of Aiken Lake.

potential. However, its surface visibility ranged from poor to moderate.

Two spot inspections were made at Lay Creek, immediately east of Aiken Lake. These inspections covered approximately 100 m by 30 m areas each. Visibility was poor to moderate and no heritage resources were observed. A second pedestrian survey was conducted at the east end of Aiken Lake. No precontact archaeological resources were found. However, some recent historic remains were observed, including cabins, cabin outlines and a placer mining rig near Lay Creek (Figure 32, 33).

5.6.12 Lay Creek Locality, Area L Investigations:

A drive-through survey was conducted through cut blocks 520-1, 520-2, and 532 1. A brief spot pedestrian inspection was carried out at block 520-I. This area had moderate heritage potential. Visibility was poor to moderate. No heritage resources were identified.

A high altitude survey was conducted in block 5 14-5, which is located north of the Mesilinka River about 1.5 km, 2.5 km east of Lay Creek, and about 3.5 km directly east of Aiken Lake. A small lake

was observed on the 1:50,000 map in the centre of this block and this was believed to give this area high heritage potential. A drive-through of the block indicated that it had good exposures in most areas as it had been silviculture ploughed already. Roads and loading areas provided excellent exposures. The north central part of the block was transect surveyed around the location of the small lake, which had apparently disappeared after cutting of the forest. This pedestrian survey covered about 600 m by 750 m. Two other smaller spot inspections were made at the eastern edge of the block, overlooking a creek valley, and on the west side at a "Y"-intersection. Both locations provided excellent visibility. No heritage resources were observed in any of the surveys in this block.

5.7 Chunamon-Mesilinka East Forestry Operating Area

One of the original target areas was the Mesilinka locality (Figure 34). The western part of the Mesilinka River was investigated in the survey of the area north of the Osilinka Camp. However, drive-throughs were also undertaken of the west and east sides of the Mesilinka River northwest of Mesilinka Camp. Pedestrian surveys in this area revealed only one precontact isolated find spot and some recent use cabin areas. Many of the cut blocks were older, and did not provide the newer and clearer exposures for better surface observation.

The Chunamon area was regarded as a subsidiary target area of the Mesilinka River. Satellite imagery indicated that there were considerable cutblock exposures. However, many of these blocks were situated on steep slopes and appeared to be overgrown. These conditions did not provide adequate survey exposure, so drive-throughs with spot checks were employed in the examination of those areas. Discussions with band members from the Tsay Keh Dene Band indicated areas of concern around several creeks. Therefore, creek crossings at roads were examined when exposure and local landforms provided an enhanced opportunity to find archaeological remains. In addition, some extensive surface surveys were undertaken along the Williston Reservoir beaches at the Mica Creek Dump, Corless Bay, Emily/Teare Creek, Chunamon Dump, and at the Raspberry Harbour/Dump area. Discussions with Tsay Keh Dene Band members identified archaeological finds in the Bob Fry Creek and Mica Creek areas.

5.7.1 Raspberry Harbour Locality, Inspection Area A:

The Raspberry Harbour locality was investigated with a drive-through inspection (Figure 34). Pedestrian survey was conducted on the extensive beach exposures offered by the lowered water levels of Williston Lake reservoir. The beach survey included approximately 6 km of shoreline in a strip up to 200 m wide. An old road and cut block area were also inspected. No heritage resources were recovered from this survey.

Block 503-45 was spot inspected at the bridge crossing. The bridge was washed out and the associated ground disturbance provided good exposure.

5.7.2 Chunamon Dump Locality, Inspection Area B:

A drive-through of the access road to the dump furnished access to blocks 8-1 and 13-24A (Figure 34). Block 8-1 was pedestrian surveyed at the creek crossing along its southern extension. The bridge was out and provided excellent exposure. An area approximately 200 m by 30 m was investigated at this crossing. No heritage resources were observed.

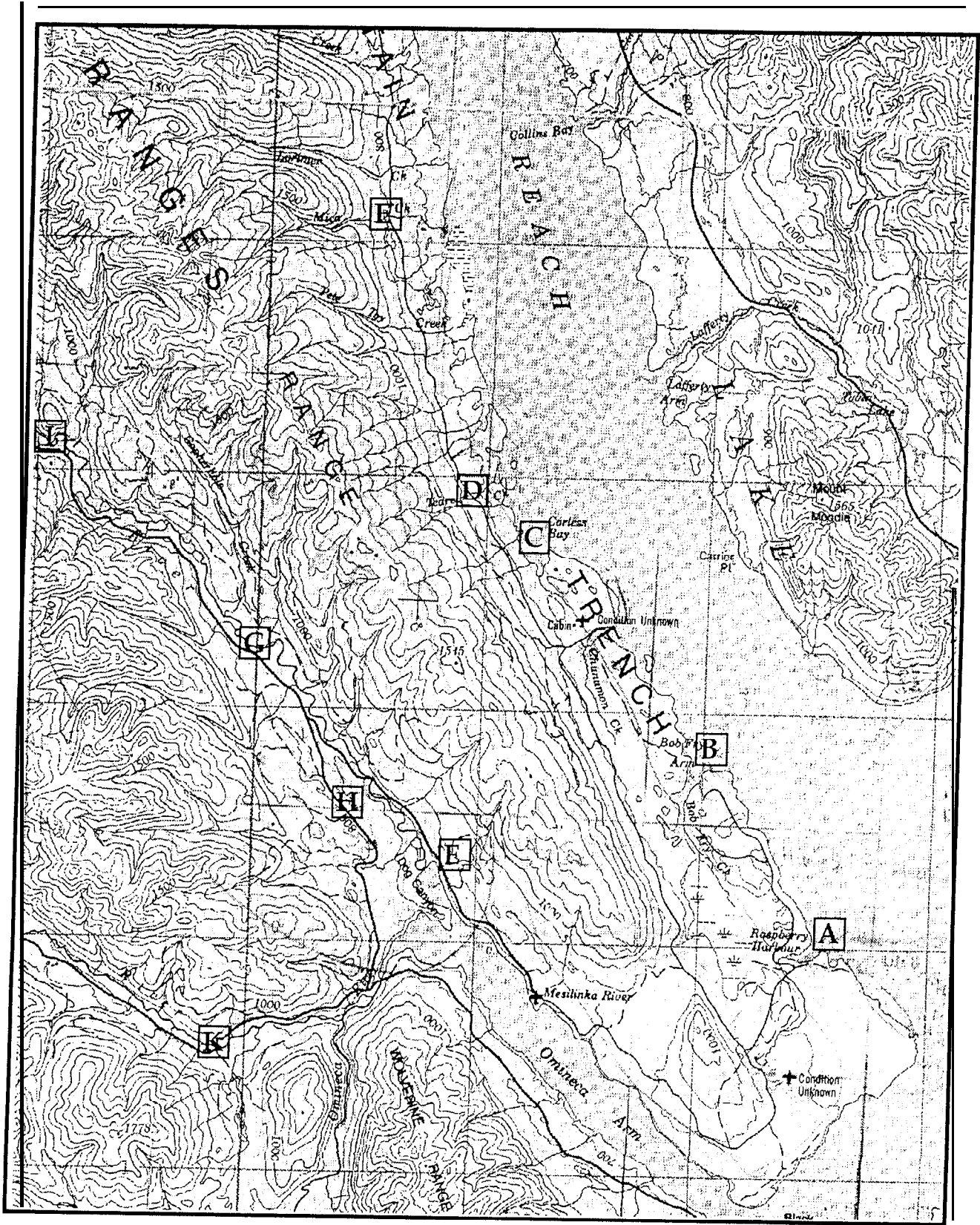


Figure 34. Chunamon-Mesilinka River East Forestry Operating Areas.

Block 13-24A and associated beach exposures were investigated with a pedestrian survey. This locality provided excellent exposure and appeared to have high heritage potential. No heritage resources were observed.

5.7.3 Corless Bay Locality, Inspection Area C:

A drive-through survey traversed the old Chunamon airstrip exposure and part of Block 13-25. Corless Bay was inspected with a pedestrian survey of the beach exposure (Figure 34). This covered approximately 1.5 km by 300 m of area. This locality provided excellent exposure and had high heritage potential. No heritage resources were observed.

5.7.4 Teare Creek Locality, Inspection Area D:

A drive-through of this area provided access to blocks 37-24 and 37-25 (Figure 34). The Emily Creek area provided good beach exposures and these were inspected with a survey extending south toward Teare Creek. The locality provided excellent exposure and had high heritage potential, but no heritage resources were observed.

Block 14-15 was investigated with a partial drive-through and pedestrian survey. The block is located immediately south of Teare Creek and was considered to have high heritage potential. However, exposures were poor to moderate and no archaeological resources were observed.



Figure 35. Mica Creek pedestrian beach survey.

5.7.5 Mica Creek Locality, Inspection Area E:

A drive-through of the access road in the Mica Creek area provided access to two areas exhibiting excellent exposure and high heritage potential (Figure 34, 3.5). These areas were both inspected by pedestrian transect surveys. Mica Creek Dump, Sup. 163370, was walkover inspected, as was the Mica Reload Yard, Block A Sup. 14450. No heritage resources were collected from either inspection survey.

5.7.6 Chunamon West Locality, Inspection Area F:

This locality was inspected during a general drive-through which traversed blocks 4-1, 102-41, 4-3, 102-43, 4-7, 102-448, 4-48, 602-1, and 602-3 (Figure 34). A pedestrian inspection was conducted along the western part of block 4-7. This area was sandy and provided an overview of the creek valley to the west. The overview suggested high heritage potential and the sandy soils provided good exposures. No heritage resources were observed, however.

5.7.7 Gopherhole Creek Locality, Inspection Area G:

This area was inspected with a drive-through survey of several forestry blocks (Figure 34). These blocks included 102-71, 7-1, 10-10, 103-101, 10-2, 103-107, 10-7, 11-2, 11-3, 637-1, 637-2 and 637-3. The latter five blocks were located adjacent to Gopherhole Creek.

A spot check was made in an area 3.5 km north along the Gopherhole M/L. This area was vegetated in pine on sandy soil and was considered to have high heritage potential combined with good exposure. Several animal tracks were observed in the area, including those of rabbits, moose, bear and possibly lynx. However, no archaeological remains were identified.

A spot check was conducted at 5 km north along the Gopherhole M/L. This was a sandy area with good exposure near the Mesilinka River. A contemporary-use camp was noted to the west of the road. No archaeological resources were observed.

A few pedestrian inspections were conducted at high potential locations located along the main access road. These included a survey of a pit exposure and a sandy pine ridge east of the main haul road. No archaeological materials were found.

At 13 km north along the Gopherhole M/L and adjacent to Gopherhole Creek valley a sand/gravel pit provided excellent exposures. Some quartz and quartzite lithic materials were observed in the pit area but none appeared to be culturally modified. A ridge was located to the immediate south of this pit. An animal trail was observed to run along the flat uppermost parts of the ridge and provided some additional exposure. However, no archaeological resources were found.

5.7.8 Bonnie Lake Locality, Inspection Area H:

This area received a drive-through inspection of block 14-1 (Figure 34). The block ground surface provided poor visibility but a brief pedestrian check was undertaken at a creek crossing. This road through the cutblock went on to Bonnie Lake where a recent historic camp and midden area was observed. No precontact materials were noted.

A drive-through was also undertaken on a side road near the west side of the Mesilinka River. This area, Sup. 163 12, had several cabins associated with a Trappers Reserve. As there were no people around the cabins, the area was not inspected, despite its obvious high heritage potential.

Another side road west of Bonnie Lake was surveyed by vehicle, traversing blocks 14-12, 14-1.5, 14-11, and 631-1. At cutblock 631-1, a spotcheck of a loading area approximately 100 m radius was surface inspected.



Figure 36. Mesilinka FSR Sandy inspection area.

The triangular intersection between the Finlay FSR, Mesilinka FSR and the Mesilinka Camp road provided good exposures in a sandy area considered to have high potential (Figure 36). Considerable pedestrian assessment was conducted in this locality and one lithic item was considered to be a possible retouched tool (Site HbSd-1). Subsequent systematic subsurface tests were conducted on a 50 m grid on either side of the western edge of this triangular intersection (Figure 37) revealed no other potential cultural materials.

5.7.9 Prospector Creek-Mesilinka River Locality, Inspection Area I:

This area appeared to exhibit high potential around the creek crossing (Figure 34). Exposure at the crossing was generally good, but no heritage resources were observed. A pedestrian survey westward identified a contemporary-use camp approximately 200 m west of the road on the south side of Prospector Creek.

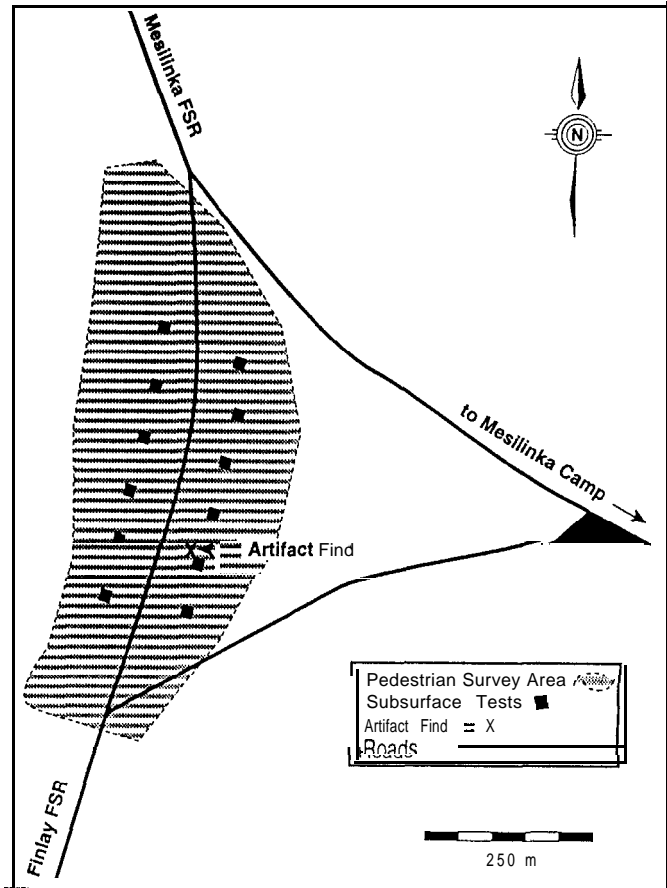


Figure 37. Survey, tests, and find at Mesilinka FSR.

5.7.10 Headache Creek Locality, Inspection Area J:

In addition to a drive-through of the main line haul road and some additional roads in the immedi-

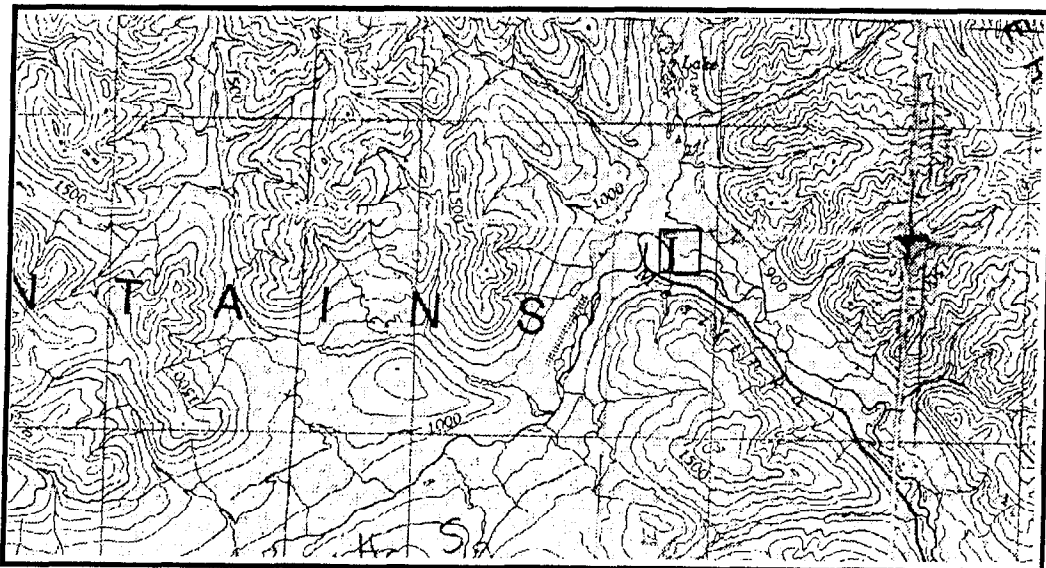


Figure 38. Chunamon-Mesilinka River East Forestry Operating Areas, showing Area J.



Figure 39. Overview of the Mesilinka River, facing north from block 639-615.

ate area of Headache Creek, a few pedestrian surveys were conducted as well (Figure 38). At Km 42 along the Mesilinka FSR, a road proceeded east up to the edge of the Mesilinka River. The old bridge crossing was washed out but it did provide moderate to good exposure of a high heritage potential location. No archaeological remains were observed, although a contemporary-use camp site was discovered at this location.

The Headache M/L extends westward off the Mesilinka FSR. Access was blocked part way along the route, but pedestrian survey was undertaken along the accessible portions to block 639-615, which provided an excellent overview of the Mesilinka River and nearby creeks (Figure 39). No heritage resources were observed.

A drive-through survey was also undertaken along the Headache Creek M/L. This survey traversed blocks 640-613 and 640-614. These blocks had been recently brushed by a cat for burning providing good surface visibility in a few areas. The heritage potential of this generally steep and rugged terrain was considered to be relatively low. No heritage resources were observed.

5.7.11 Osilinka River Bridge #1 Crossing, Inspection Area K:

This area was inspected with a drive-through survey of the Osilinka FSR. The primary bridge crossing across the Osilinka River provided some excellent exposures and had some wickedly narrow river constrictions that would have induced at least a few river travellers to portage around the treacherous rapids. No obvious portage was apparent on the south side of the river but there was a prominent rock outcrop on the southeast side of the river crossing with a flat-



Figure 40. Osilinka River Bridge Crossing #1, facing east with rock outcrop to right.

tened top. This outcrop provided an overview of the river (Figure 40). Upon inspecting this outcrop a moss covered hearth was observed. Trowel testing of the hearth did not reveal any precontact archaeological remains. However, it did indicate that this location was used for camping in the past.

5.8 Buffalo Head/Paul River Region

This region is located immediately west and south of Ft. Ware, on the east side of the Finlay river, north of Finbow Camp (Figure 41). The Paul River is the major drainage emptying into the Finlay in this region. The area is considered the home locality of people from Ft. Ware. The Buffalo Head area had undergone previous archaeological inspections during road developments. Discussions and guided investigations with Doreen McCook outlined several historic and traditional land-use sites during at least one of these assessments. Unfortunately, Doreen was not available to accompany the fall, 1996 crew during their detailed inspection of this locality.

5.8.1 Buffalo Head Road/95 HRIA, Inspection Area A

This was an HRIA conducted by T. Gibson in the fall of 1995. Construction of a new road was complete to 10V CU 479 614 by the fall of 1995, pending placement of a bridge across the small drainage. The area had been burned in summer, 1995 and there was some mineral soil exposure. Since snowfall was anticipated at any time, an HRIA post impact inspection of the constructed RoW was undertaken, and inspections of other parts of older road were made to determine the general heritage potential of the locality. As well, a local informant (Doreen McCook) was consulted about traditional use of the area. She assisted in the identification of a number of significant locations between Finbow camp and the end of the road. Although ample evidence of postcontact use of the region was observed, no precontact cultural remains were found.

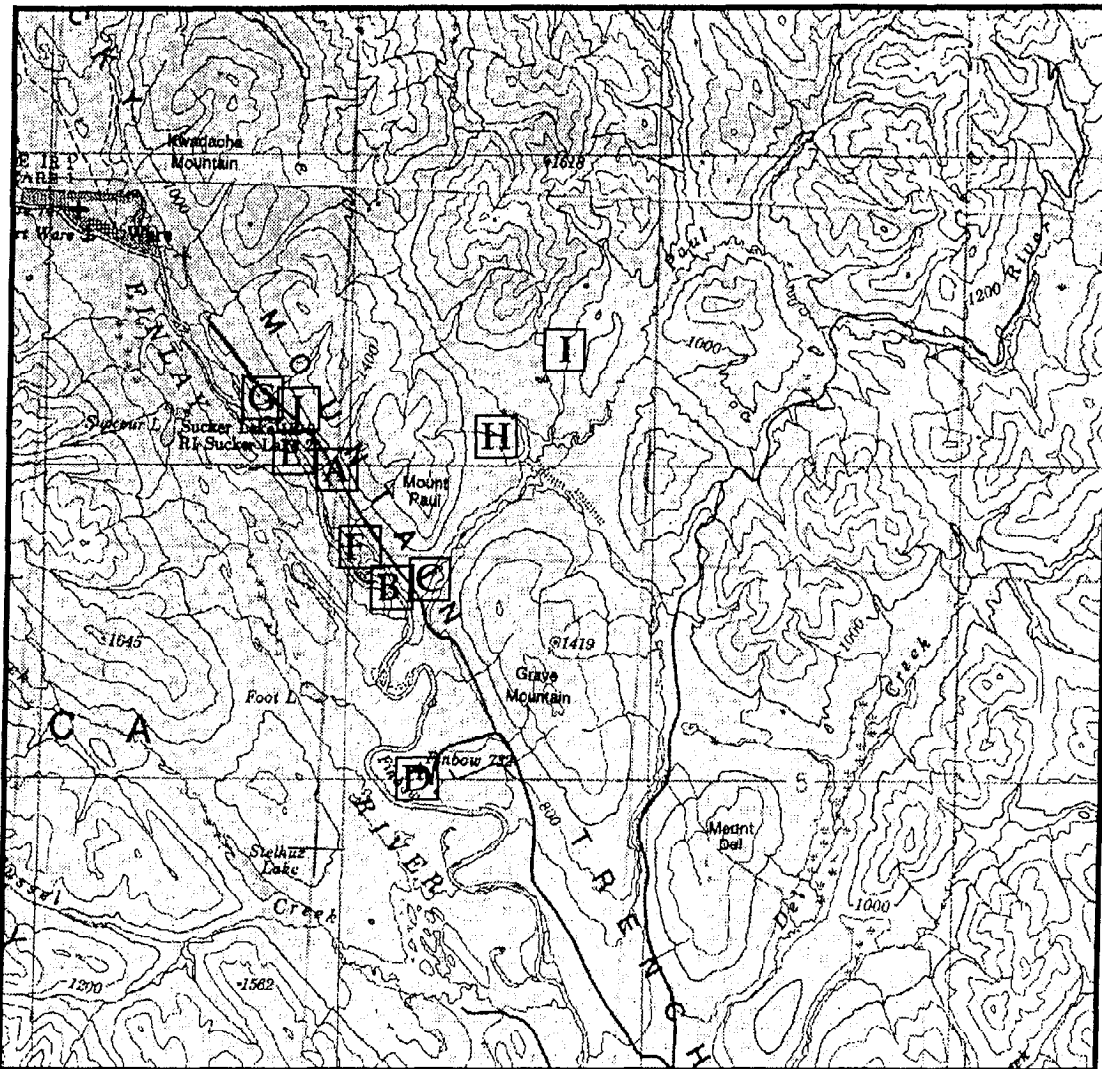


Figure 41. Buffalo Head/Paul River Forestry Operating Area AOA's (from NTS 94F edition 2).

5.8.2 Paul River Crossing Inspection/95, Inspection Area B

Several terraces above the Paul River crossing were examined. Exposure was good, with thin mineral soil on gravel. Approximately 50 m of exposure was inspected. A 15 m high terrace on the south side of the Paul River, immediately west of the road was inspected. A large gravel pile had been established adjacent to the terrace, leaving a margin of level ground between the pile and the terrace edge. Exposure was poor along the vertical drop-off, with moss hanging over the edge. Some exposure was present along the road edge. Mineral soil was very thin, overlying gravel.

5.8.3 McCook Cabin Area/95, Inspection Area C

Melvin and Doreen McCook's cabin and yard were visited, at their request. The habitation area is located on a terrace raised approximately 15 m above the Finlay River, immediately north of where the Paul River empties into the Finlay. Their cabin was relatively new (built since early 1990's), but an older cabin, which they rebuilt as a storage shed, had been built on this spot in the late

1950's. The terrace provided an excellent view of the Finlay River valley, looking northwest.

According to Doreen, a trail begins at this point, and runs northeast to the main road, crosses it and then follows along the north side of the Paul River for 10 km, crossing to the south side, eventually ending at Rainbow Lake. This was apparently a well-known stopping spot for travelling to Rainbow and Long Lake, located to the east.

There was a small amount of exposure on this terrace, but no early cultural remains were observed immediately around the cabin area.

Below this cabin terrace is a lower one, raised approx. 2 m above the flowing water. It is 15 to 20 m wide. Melvin McCook stated that there used to be several old cabins on this terrace, and that it was much wider than it is now. Apparently, the river has been eroding the terrace away for many years. Small depressions can be seen in the tall grass on the uneven ground, and a good profile was provided of the terrace deposits at the river edge. Melvin had collected several bottles from the eroding river bank, as well as an old tin pot. The bottles were relatively recent in age, probably dating after the 1940's.

The stratigraphic profile showed that many depositional events had taken place on the terrace in recent years, since several dozen soil layers can be seen. A few burned soil lenses two to three m long were observed in the profile, and may represent old cabin remnants. No precontact cultural remains were observed.

Directly across the river a level terrace raised above the water appeared to provide good habitation potential. Melvin McCook said that the area was a good camping spot, and was regularly used by people travelling down the river.

58.4 Finbow Airstrip and Camp, Inspection Area D

This location, on the Finlay River, has a gravel runway which provides a landing site for daily scheduled flights from Mackenzie by Northern Thunderbird and Williston Airways. There is also a permanent trailer camp which can accommodate at least 100 people. The airstrip was built around 1980 and the camp was built in the late 1980's.

The camp and airstrip are situated on a high, wide, relatively flat landform which is covered in pine and is actually quite sandy, compared the rest of the region, which is characterized by silt soil deposits. The sand layer is little more than 10-30 cm thick, overlying gravel. At the river's edge, below the upper plateau, are two narrow terraces, the lowest little more than 1.5 m above the river edge. The second terrace is 3-5 m above the river and the highest (i.e. the plateau) is approximately 15 m above the river.

Inspection of the lowest terrace showed that it is prone to frequent flooding and erosion. Deposits looked fresh, and vegetation was quite young. The second terrace was overgrown, and little more than two or three m wide in most areas. In one area a good profile of the terrace deposits was observed. The stratigraphy resembled that of the lower terrace of the McCook cabin area (Paul

River junction) where many depositional events could be seen in the profile. No cultural remains were observed in any of the juvenile buried soils, however.

The upper terrace/plateau was given a fairly detailed walkover. Between the camp/airstrip and the river was an open pine forest, on sand, providing one of the most attractive camping spots in the locality. A good line of exposure was provided at the margin of the forest and the camp, and trails ran through the trees, also providing good subsurface visibility. No cultural remains were observed, although remains of recent camping were observed. Large cleared areas around the camp were also inspected, revealing only contemporary garbage. A fringe of pine on a low sandy ridge located between the camp and the airstrip was also inspected.

According to Doreen McCook, a preferred camping spot at Finbow was on the lowest terrace, beside the river edge. This area was examined by Finnigan, Ferris and Gibson on Sept. 25/96. Exposure was fair, obscured to some extent by leaves. Considerable evidence of contemporary use, but no precontact remains observed. The lowest terrace had a trail or scraped road long its length, providing most of the exposure. Evidence of continual camping on the terrace above the Finlay River was observed, adjacent to Finbow Camp.

5.8.5 Ft. Ware Trail (east side), Inspection Area E

This trail is visible at this point, and follows along the east side of the Finlay River upper terrace adjacent to the road for 500 m. The trail is quite clear, and rarely deviates more than a metre or so from the edge of the terrace. Despite the fact that a major road development parallels the trail, the thin buffer zone between the west side of the road ditch and the terrace edge is sufficient to protect the trail integrity, except for a few areas. The trail descends into the valley as the river edge moves away from the edge of the terrace where the road passes, at 10V CU 5 15 560. The river at this point is at least 60 m below the level of the trail, with a slope of 60° or greater. The trail goes through a low, swampy area to a cabin, owned by Doreen McCook's grandfather.

5.8.6 Doreen McCook's Grandfather's Cabin, Inspection Area F

This cabin was occupied by Doreen McCook's grandfather ("Grandpa Don") up to a year ago. It is presently unoccupied, although she thinks someone may move into it again soon. An attempt to find this cabin in the fall of 1996 was unsuccessful, since the location could not be accurately determined.

5.8.7 Eighty Mile Bar Camp, Inspection Area G

This is an old traditional camping spot used by many people over the years. Doreen McCook had a cabin here up until the late 1980's and still used the cabin occasionally until it burned down in a forest fire this past summer. There are only burned remains of the site there now, with parts of an old cook stove, pieces of metal furniture etc. The site is located adjacent to the river, and there was good exposure of the mineral soil in the area. Only historic artifacts were observed in the area. The terrace above the river was examined as well, but nothing was observed.

5.8.8 Paul River Haul Road, Inspection Area H

This existing haul road was driven over in 1995, accompanied by Doreen McCook. Driveby's were

made past West Forks Creek crossing and Beaver Creek crossing, both which had low relief and poor surface exposure. Doreen pointed out an old trail between West Forks and Beaver Creek, just past the Two Forks Creek crossing, into higher elevations. Doreen indicated that there would have been little or no camping taking place in the highlands because of the altitude and due to the lack of available water. When people went into the highlands, it was in pursuit of moose or grouse, or to collect berries.

This road was revisited in the fall of 1996 by the AOA survey crew. A road section and an upland cutblock were assessed by pedestrian walkover along road exposures. Visibility was fair to good, although habitation potential in the cutblock was low. It was better along the road, which was located on a terrace above the Paul River. Remains of an old contemporary campsite were observed, including tent poles (held up with plastic twine) still partially standing and cut up stumps used as chairs.

5.8.9 North Paul Haul Road Assessment, Inspection Area I

This was assessed by the AOA survey crew in the fall of 1996. The road was passable by 4x4 to its end, but only certain areas were worth examining, as exposure was poor, or else the slopes were too steep to walk on. The road terminated in a cutblock at high elevations. Nothing was observed along the road except where spot checks at habitable locations were made.

An old trail was observed from the road, and was followed through the bush. It approached the edge of a small creek, then veered away south through generally level, forested terrain. The trail, at time almost invisible and at others quite clear, came to a stream edge, then terminated at the confluence of another creek. At the terminus of the trapping trail, a moderately well formed stream terrace was observed where a small stream ran into a larger one. Exposure on the banks was good, but the area was silty rather than sandy. This area was shovel tested. The trail appeared to start up again and follow along the larger stream to the northeast.

On the trail, a small, rusted leg hold trap was observed, hanging by a chain from a tree. It was photographed but left in place.

The general area of cutblock 8790 was examined by looking at the network of drag trails. The northeast end was a large gravel pit. The cutblock was located on a bench of land which dropped down to a wide flat area adjacent to the Paul River. Visibility was fair to poor, and the drag trails were dominated by gravel.

5.8.10 Site HhSI-9 Assessment, Inspection Area J

This site was supposedly located on cutblock 8854, just east of the Buffalo Head road. An old road or trail was observed in clump of standing trees designated a "No Work Zone". Nothing was observed of the supposed cabin, however.

5.9 Finlay FSR Region

This region is located south of the Paul River drainage, east of the Finlay

River. The dominant drainages are the Del River and the Akie River, to which vehicle access was provided by the Del and the Akie M/L roads. At the time of the survey the Akie M/L was under construction and only a few kilometres could be traversed. The third major access was the Mine Road, which led many kilometres inland from the Finlay FSR up into very high elevations. The road terminated at a currently dormant mining development. People from Ft. Ware and from Tsay Keh use this area frequently for hunting and family camping.

Since access was generally good because of road development, detailed surveys were made far into the interior away from the Finlay Valley. Pedestrian spot checks and surveys were undertaken at creek crossings, confluences, off existing trails and in cut blocks which provided good exposure. Access was also good along the edge of the Finlay valley for much of its length, right up to the edge of the river. A detailed inspection of historic trails along high terraces on the east side of the Finlay River revealed considerable evidence of contemporary and historic use, and several precontact archaeological sites were discovered as well. At least one historic cemetery and several traditional camping areas were located with directions provided by Chief Pierre of Tsay Keh.

5.9.1 Del Creek Locality, Inspection Area A

As Del Creek approaches the Finlay River valley, it drops rapidly in elevation (Figure 42). Near the valley edge, the swift-flowing creek maintains its elevation at the upper terrace level. A bulldozer trail had been pushed between the creek and the valley edge, furnished excellent exposure in an area which provided a spectacular view of the country to the west, overlooking the Finlay River valley. The twenty metre area of land between the creek and the valley edge was level and highly amenable to camping. No cultural remains were observed in the locality along the bulldozer trail, or along the edge of the eroding river valley edge, however.

5.9.2 Hank Creek Crossing, Inspection Area B

Considerable disturbance had been made in the vicinity of this crossing by dozing of several trails, including an older one which actually made a crossing of the creek, and linked up to the one coming from Del Creek (Figure 42). Exposure was good but no artifacts were observed.

5.9.3 Akie River Crossing, Inspection Area C

This is a fairly major river crossed by a large bridge (Figure 42). There was considerable exposure, but much of it was near the river edge, which had been subject to extensive natural erosion during high water levels. A contemporary use campsite was found on the east side of the road, north of the bridge, just south of the 33 Km sign. Campsite debris and the remains of a stove were observed.

5.9.4 Deserters Canyon Locality, Inspection Area D

This locality was inspected by the AOA crew (Figure 43). The area was very steep at the Finlay River bridge crossing, and Finlay road rose high up over a ridge, where there was very poor habitation potential. Both sides of the Finlay River crossing were examined. Considerable ground impact was observed. North of Deserter's Canyon, Pesika Creek crossing was also examined. Although nothing was observed in the crossing area, an occupied cabin was observed 200 m west of road on the north side of Pesika Creek.

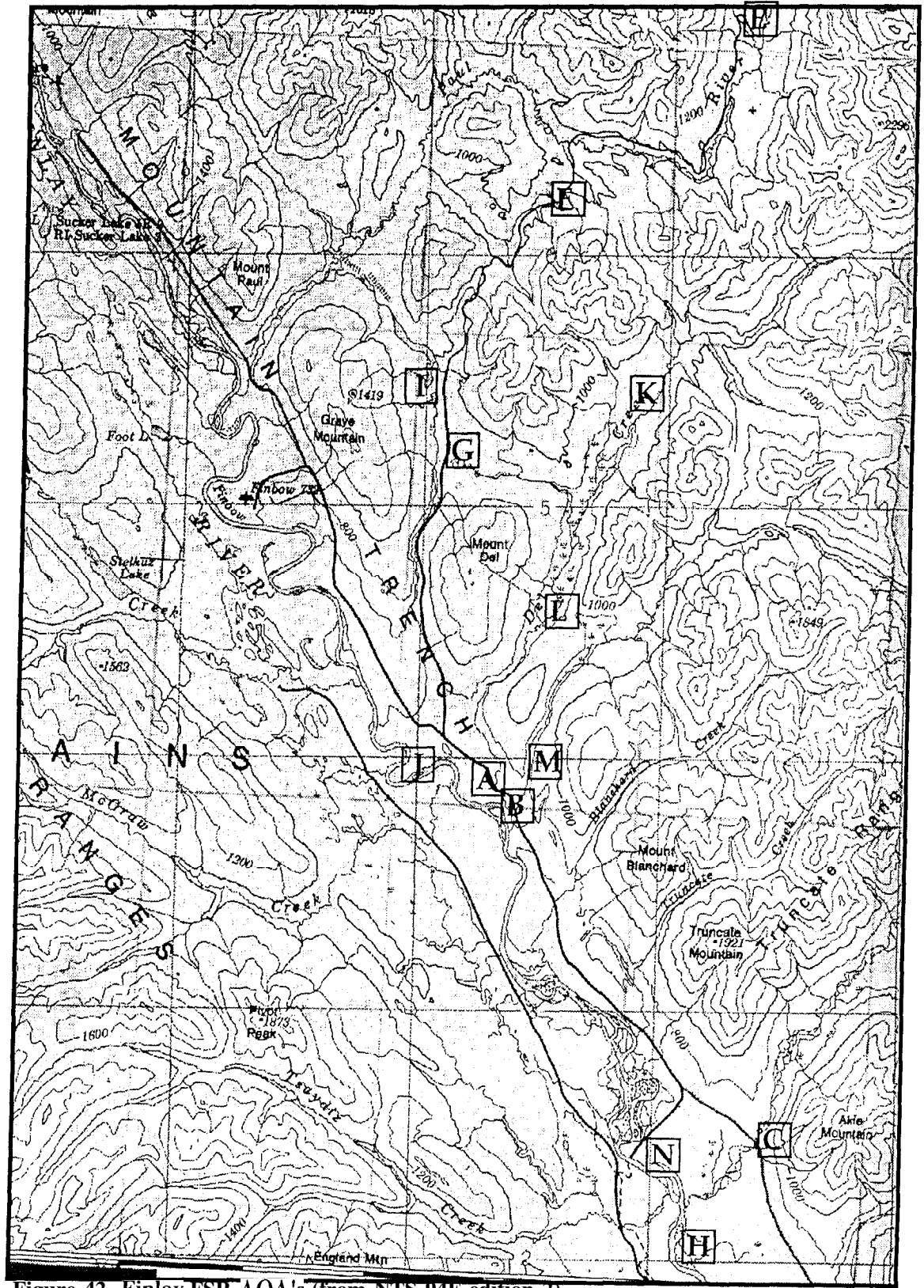


Figure 42. Finlay FSR AOA's (from NTS 94F edition 2).

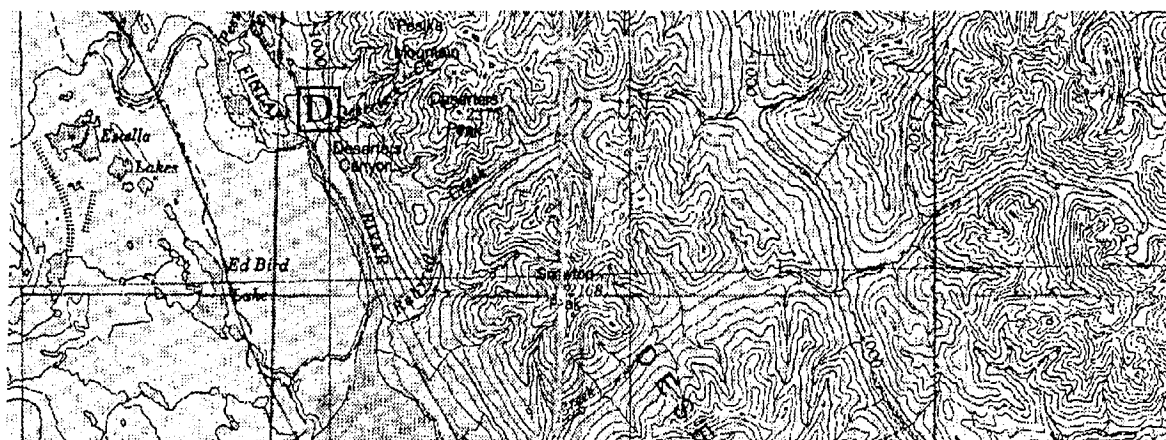


Figure 43. Finlay FSR AOA, showing Area D (from NTS 94C edition 4).

59.5 Upper Mine Road Assessment, Inspection Area E

This portion of the Mine Road was investigated by the AOA survey crew (Figure 42). The north end of the road terminated at the main entrance to the Currough CIRQUE 2 mine. This area was at least 100 m above the tree line. Although the elevation was very high, there was nearby access to some mountain peaks above tree line in Alpine meadow. Several of these meadows were walked over as part of spot checks. Visibility on them was good since vegetation growth was sparse. No cultural remains were observed. A trail was observed to follow one ridge upward to a high, barren crag, but it appeared to be recent, and possibly animal related. It was not investigated since there were snow flurries and footing was treacherous.

5.9.6 Central Mine Road Assessment, Inspection Area F

The road in this area was lower in elevation, but still high enough to be covered with snow in mornings in mid-September (Figure 42). Generally, the road wound around several low mountain peaks, before following along the edge of the Upper Paul River valley. A large area of Alpine meadow was assessed, since it was crisscrossed with vehicle trails. Several cutblock roads were followed off the main road, but they usually ascended small mountains, where habitation potential was poor, and survey conditions were not good. A number of stream crossings were examined, but they were small, and had poor terrace development. Soils in the area were very silty, so that the ground was damp, even back from the edge of streams and bogs.

Despite the less than ideal habitation potential for the area, several traditional use sites were observed. At least one, beside the main road, was quite extensive, with evidence of tents being present, as well as a cabin. The area was perched on the edge of a dropoff, north of a bog. Several trails were examined. The area was fairly sandy, and provided a good habitation location. However, no precontact remains were observed. Trails were followed away from several traditional use areas that were found along the road. These provided generally poor visibility and usually dwindled in visibility after several hundred metres.

5.9.7 Lower Mine Road Assessment, Inspection Area G

As the Mine Road dropped down in elevation towards the Finlay FSR located on the margin of the Finlay River Valley, habitation potential along its route continued to be sporadic (Figure 42). Several river and creek crossings were examined, but they were usually poorly formed stream channels with minimal terracing, and very gravelly. Even in areas of Alpine Meadow, habitation potential appeared to be poor because of the low, damp character of the stream edges. In places, the road traversed high upland adjacent to the Upper Paul River valley, affording an excellent vista of the valley for many km. However, despite the good viewshed, habitation potential was very poor because of the highly sloped character of the terrain, and the lack of available water at such high elevations.

A traditional camp was observed beside the road. It consisted of a tent frame, hearth and recent debris. The camp situation was unusually damp, however, and dominated by spruce forest. It may have been a winter camping location. A second traditional (or at least contemporary) use camp was found by the road, adjacent to an open gravel pit, again in vegetation dominated by spruce. This one was much larger, and appeared to support a number of tents. At the crossing of the Paul River, a small frame shack was observed, on the south side of the crossing. It may have been some sort of hunting establishment, and differed in character from the other camping areas observed in the locality. Finally, several km north of the junction of the Finlay FSR, an extensive traditional use camping area was observed, located on both sides of the road. Trails led off to the east towards a small lake. Several trails were followed, leading into bog. More trails extended west and south-west for the west side of the road.

5.9.8 Lower Finlay River Survey, Inspection Area H

This area was examined by a survey crew after consultation with Chief Pierre of Tsay Keh village (Figure 42). Access was gained into the area from the Finlay FSR along a road which passed over several terraces of the Finlay River valley, occasionally traversing sandy terrain. Each ridge was pedestrian inspected, where surface exposure was good.

Based on information provided by Chief Johny Pierre of Tsay Keh, and unrecorded family cemetery was located. This was apparently a cemetery belonging to the Pierre family. Eight graves were observed in a 6 x 6 m plot. Most graves had small house structures on them. Some of the structures had collapsed. The cemetery was located on the edge of the Finlay River valley, beside an old but well-worn trail.

A vehicle trail which angled into the forest interior was walked and surveyed. Visibility was fair to good on the trail since it was slightly sandy. The well-worn foot trail which passed by the cemetery was followed south for several km. It passed along the edge of a large terrace which overlooked the Finlay River valley. Visibility on the trail varied from poor to good. At the end of the trail, the terrace edge swung sharply east, forming a promontory. One part of the trail went over the terrace edge into a flat, 50 m lower in elevation. A spur of the trail swung east along the redirected terrace edge. At this location, where the trails bifurcated, a biface chopper was found eroding out of the walking path, indicating a precontact archaeological site (Site HbSg-1, Figure 44). No other pre-contact materials were found. However, a traditional use site was observed in the same area, con-

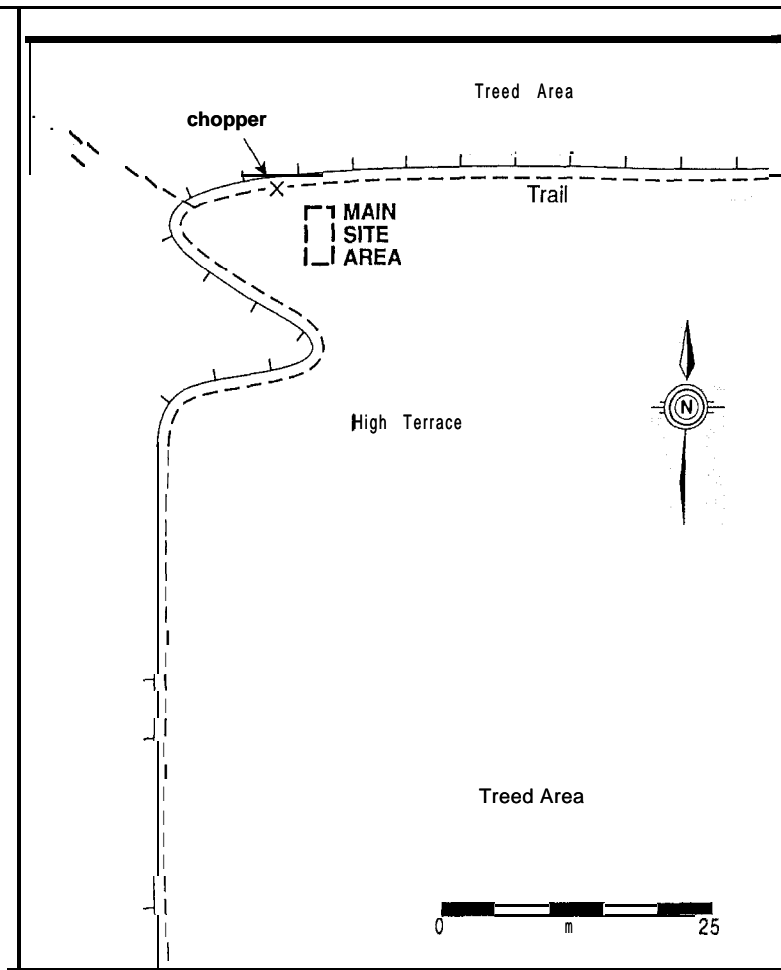


Figure 44. Map of spot find for site Finlay East-1.

A well-used traditional use campsite was observed at the end of a vehicle trail mentioned above. This area was also intersected by the trail running east of the point on the terrace where the pre-contact archaeological site was found. An excellent view of an open bog in the lower flat (50 m below) was afforded by this camp. Recent hearths, cut trees, stacked wood and tripods were observed. The eastbound trail was followed for 300 m, until it entered a low boggy area.

5.9.9 Long Lake Survey, Inspection Area I

This area was surveyed during the Mine Road assessment (Figure 42). Long Lake had been specifically mentioned by Doreen McCook as being an important camping area for local people. As the junction to the lake access trail was approached, this became readily apparent. A large contemporary use camp was observed on the edge of a gravel pit by the side of the Mine Road near the lake trail junction. A second contemporary use camp was observed right at the turnoff to the trail to Long Lake. This locality had been partially logged. A third camp was found along the access trail, on the south side of a creek.

The access trail was deeply rutted and wet, leading north off the Mine Road. It descended steeply over a series of terraces or ridges to the edge of Long Lake. On reaching the lake, it leveled out onto a gravel ridge which divided Long Lake into a north and south half. Exposure was very good in places along this ridge. The north side of Long Lake was raised approx. 3-5 m above the south

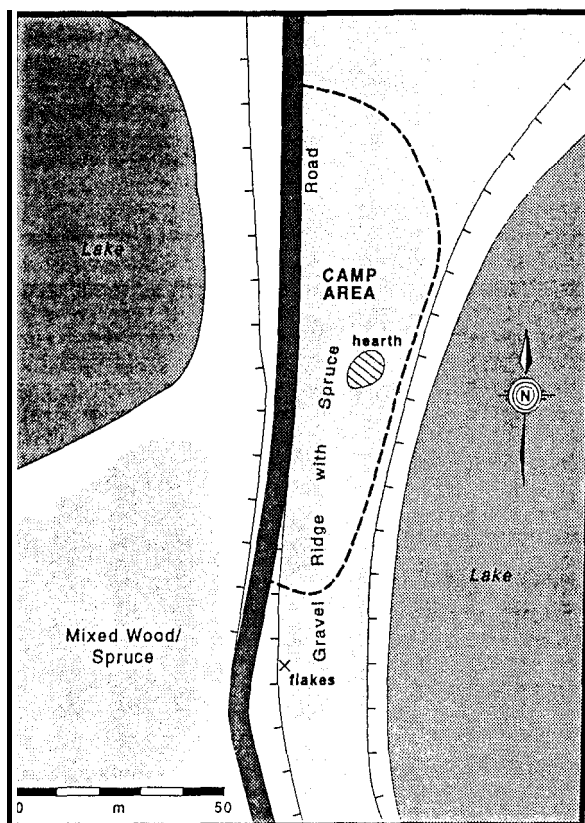


Figure 45 Map of spot find for site Finlay East-2, on Long Lake.

side of the lake, and separated by a 10 m wide gravel ridge. On the south side of Long Lake, north of the lower portion of the adjacent water body, continuous contemporary use campsites were observed. Old fire hearths were also observed close to the water, but no precontact artifacts were found.

Just northeast of the contemporary use area on the gravel ridge south of the lake, a scattering of black chert flakes was found eroding out of a cleared area on the gravel ridge, above the road access (Site HhSh-1, Figure 45). Testing around an adjacent tree stump revealed more flakes, apparently in intact deposits. This site did not appear to be very large, although it was not tested in any detail.

5.9.10 Finlay River Cutblock Survey, Inspection Area J

This area was surveyed because it offered access to terrain located immediately adjacent to the lowest valley terrace of the Finlay River (Figure 42). The Finlay River shoreline was examined in some detail. It was heavily disturbed by redeposition and there was no evidence of human occupation either in the past or currently. Within the cutblock, a raised river terrace had been exposed by the access road cut. This cut was examined, but archaeological remains were observed.

The edge of the cutblock was demarcated by another raised terrace. This terrace edge was examined where the access road passed over it. A partial trail was observed to run along the edge of the terrace, although it was very discontinuous because of logging damage.

5.9.11 Upper Del Mainline Survey, Inspection Area K

terrace, although it was very discontinuous because of logging damage.

5.9.11 Upper Del Mainline Survey, Inspection Area K

Archaeological examination of the Del Mainline road started high in the mountains at cutblock 8860 (Figure 42). The cutblock was highly sloped, and exhibited no real habitable land surface. Several connecting cutblock access roads leading off the Del Mainline were travelled, to the edge of existing cutblocks. In all cases, the roads passed through highly sloped landscapes with no real habitable, or even traversable, landforms. Without the access roads being built literally into the slopes of the uplands, it is questionable whether people would make an effort to get into this particular locality with any regularity at any time in the past.

5.9.12 Central Del Mainline Survey, Inspection Area L

In this part of the Del Mainline road there was no good ground exposure, nor any habitable landforms observed (Figure 42). The edge of a boggy area adjacent to a mountain was checked, but again exposure was poor, and there was no real habitable land surface, except where the road had cut out the mountain slope. Much of the mainline road passed through mountainous relief, exhibiting no terrain worth spot checking.

A spur road leading north off the Del Mainline road led upslope into mountain cutblocks. The terrain in those blocks was highly sloped throughout, especially in the cutblocks. There were no habitable landforms.

Proceeding south, the bridge crossing at Del Creek was inspected. The creek was low-banked, with some exposure, but nothing was observed. A trapline trail was observed at this location on the south side of the road.

5.9.13 Lower Del Mainline Survey, Inspection Area M

The lower section of Del Mainline road was driven over (Figure 42). No surveyable land was observed. A spur road swung south off the mainline into a small cutblock containing a small lake. The area on the south side of the lake was examined, but exposures were poor. The margin of the lake was examined, but exposure was poor, and habitable landforms were nonexistent. Better terrace formation was observed to the north on the lake, but access to that area could not be gained,

5.9.14 Finlay East Riverbend assessment, Inspection Area N

The road to this locality accessed by truck from Finlay FSR to the Finlay River edge (Figure 42). A well-marked (and recently travelled) trail followed south along the edge of the riverbank, which was quite steep. The trail was occasionally blazed, and sandy in places, providing fair exposure, and an excellent almost continuous viewshed of the Finlay River valley. A traditional use cabin and camping area was located in this area, perched on a high terrace above the river. A trail led east, and was followed. The trail was followed to a point of land overlooking the Finlay River. Across the bend of the river a cabin (or several cabins) was observed, apparently occupied. The trail appeared to be well used, and was associated with several features. Trees had been blazed along it, and several smaller trails led eastward into the dense forest, away from the valley edge. In the vicinity

of one of these trail junctions, a culturally modified tree was observed. A reverse swastika and several large letters had been carved into an ancient poplar. The letters were heavily overgrown, suggesting that the tree had been modified 10-20 years previously. A large blaze was also observed on the tree, also overgrown.

Just past the CMT, a blazed tree and an old rusted trap were observed on the trail. Past this area, remnants of a traditional use camp were observed, on the terrace immediately above the river. This terrace was followed north for several km, with spot checks being made in road cuts and in cleared areas. A vehicle trail paralleled the terrace edge, eventually descending to a terrace beside an abandoned channel of the Finlay River. At the end of the road, the remains of a wooden bridge were observed. Remains of a traditional use camp were also observed. At a point where the land rose up from the relict stream channel flat, good exposure was provided. This terrace edge was spot checked. Soil was silty. No trails or other evidence of occupation were observed.

Above the trail terrace, a second terrace was examined, which represented the 706 m contour terrace shown on the NTS 1:50,000 topographic map. A spot check was made of this terrace where the road rose up over it. The area was sandy, but nothing was observed. A spot check was made of yet another terrace rising above the one to the west towards the river. The road passed up over the edge, creating good exposure.

5.10 Russel FSR Region

On the west side of the Finlay River a drive-through survey and several pedestrian inspections were carried out along the Russel FSR and adjoining Stelkuz M/L as well as the Ingenika village and Fort Ware areas. Discussions with Chief Emil McCook revealed some areas of concern, including traditional use cabins, trails and burials. The chief also mentioned that a hunting trail led from Ft. Ware south on the upper terraces west of the Finlay Valley, but that it was not used any more. Pedestrian surveys in some cut block areas identified precontact sites as well. These areas included Foote Lake, Succour Lake, and Stelkuz Lake. Again, contemporary and historic trails figured prominently in the discovery of heritage resources.

The Ingenika and Swannell areas were not investigated by drive-throughs or pedestrian surveys. However, discussions with Tsay Keh Dene Band peoples, including Elder Jean Isaac indicated several areas of traditional land-use and historical concerns. Other band members also discussed possible precontact sites within the areas.

510.1 Succour Lake Survey, Inspection Area A

In the summer of 1995, a large portion of the forest south of Ft. Ware, west of the Finlay River, was damaged by fire. As a consequence, intensive timber salvage to recover fire-killed trees was undertaken, which involved massive clearcutting of the west Finlay River valley around Succour Lake (Figure 46). Exposures in this locality were good to excellent, especially along the haul trails and wood landings. Many of these trails were pedestrian or ATV surveyed. Also, several high ridges or terraces were examined. These had been harvested, but roads did not pass along their edges. Consequently, surface exposure was virtually nonexistent since no mineral soil had been exposed by timbering.

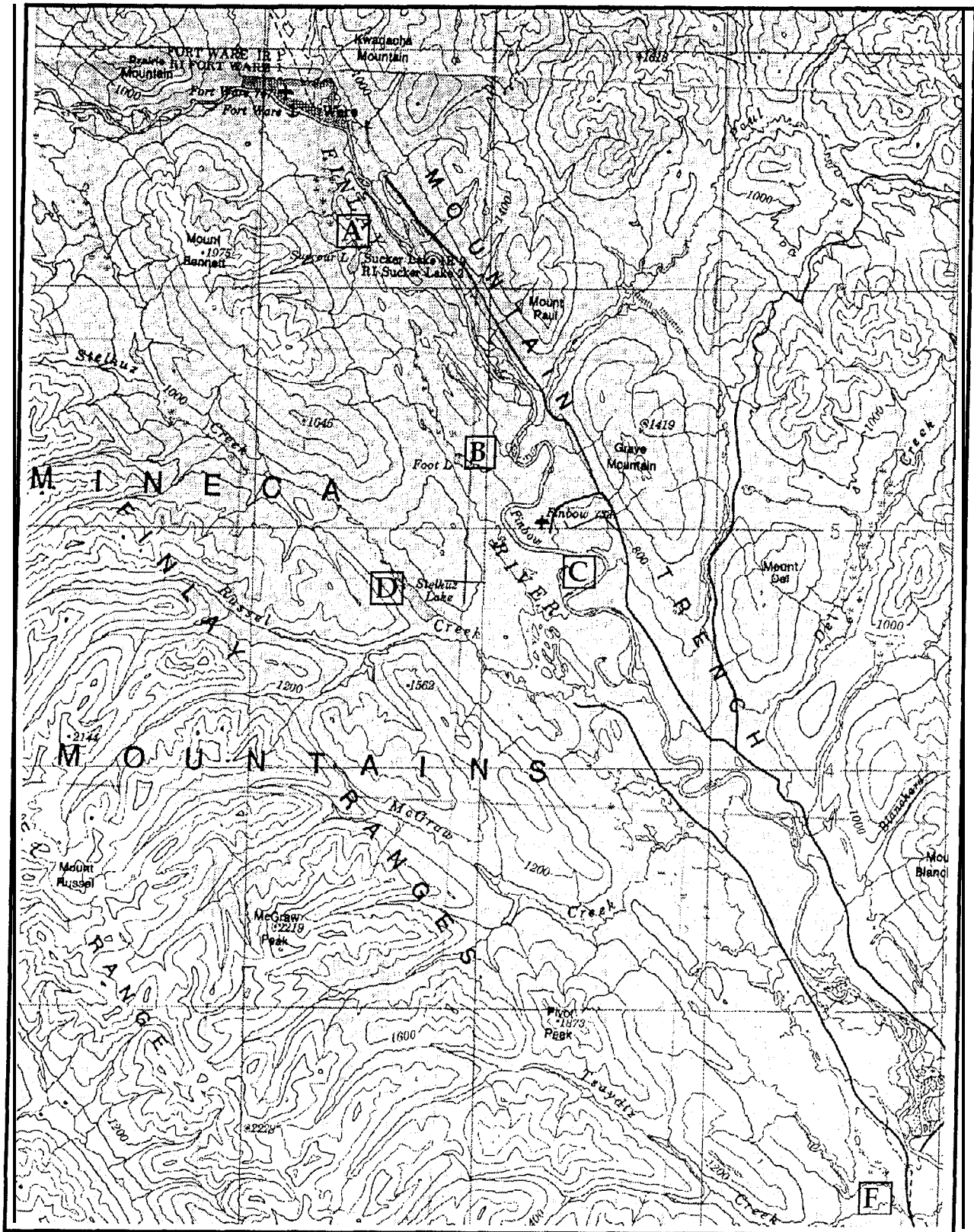


Figure 46. Russel Road AOA's (from NTS 94F edition 2).

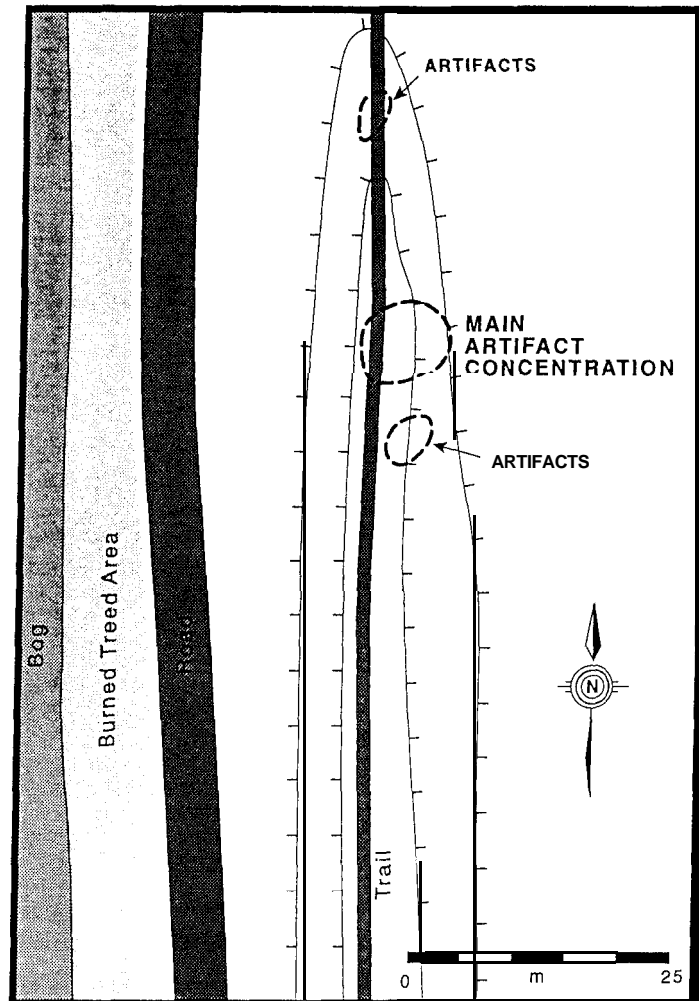


Figure 47. Map of artifact recoveries for site Succour Lake-1.

Survey was undertaken along ridges which faced the Finlay River, and along a boggy drainage which appeared to drain northward through the middle of the massive cutblock towards Ft. Ware. While following a low, esker-like gravel ridge which paralleled this drainage, site Succour Lake #1 was found (Site HiSj-2, Figure 47). It consisted of a scatter of black chert flakes in two clusters, with one cluster containing an end scraper. A third cluster was found at the end of the gravel ridge. The site provided a vista of the bog to the west, and may have been associated with a trail (the trail mentioned by Emil McCook?), although the latter was very difficult to discern since the entire area had been completely clearcut, and also intensively burned.

A second site, Succour Lake #2 (Site HiSj-3, Figure 48) was found on a sandy knoll beside a road, in a patch of unburned forest. A number of flakes were observed on the largely unvegetated pine forest floor. A trowel test in the area revealed a few more flakes just beneath the sand surface. The knoll was one of a number of sandy hills in this area, approximately 200 m north of a small lake which was drained to the north by the boggy drainage where site Succour Lake #1 was found.

5.10.2 Foote Lake Area Survey, Inspection Area B

Access was made into this harvested area by truck along a well-built road (Figure 46). Exposure

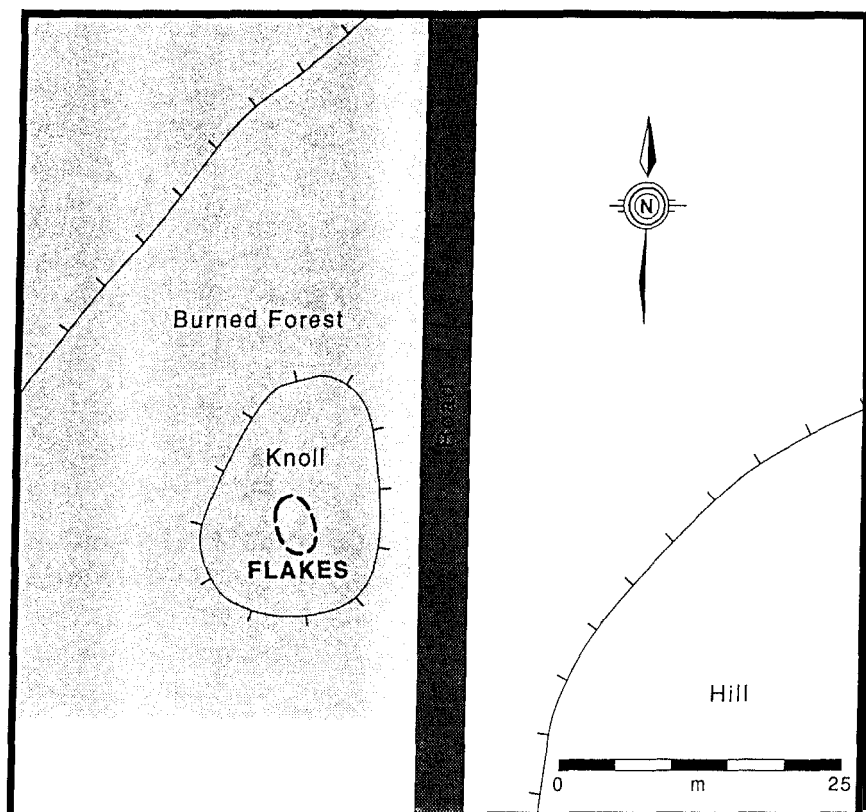


Figure 48. Map of artifact recoveries for site Succour Lake-2.

was poor because of heavy construction. There were some large ridges present adjacent to the road, but they were not really good habitable landforms. An old cabin was found in this location, northeast of a small drainage. It was of log construction, and was tumbling down when examined. The south side of this cabin was disturbed by skidders. Exposure was good, but no artifacts were observed. Information about this locality was provided by Chief Emil McCook of Ft. Ware. He mentioned that a sister of his who died as a child had been buried in that location. However, no trace of the grave could be found in the cutblock area that surrounded the locality.

The east side of Foote Lake was assessed, with visibility being poor to fair. The east side of the lake was raised at least a metre above the water, but the terrain was hummocky in many places and poorly suited to habitation. An elevated area west of the cabin, above the small lake was examined. Several knolls adjacent to the lake had been partially cut, providing some good survey exposure. It was here that site Foote Lake-1 (Site HhSi-10, Figure 49). Flakes were found eroding out of a bulldoze push on the edge of a knoll. On top of the knoll a recent fire hearth was observed, and spent shotgun cartridges. A shovel test 5 m west of the hearth revealed several additional flakes. The site afforded an excellent overview of the lake. The land below the knoll, adjacent to the lake, was very low and poorly drained, which probably accounted for the presence of the site in this locality.

Several hundred metres east of Foote Lake, in the cutblock, remains of a camp were observed, including tent frames and a big hearth. It is possible that the camp may have been associated with some kind of forestry activity.

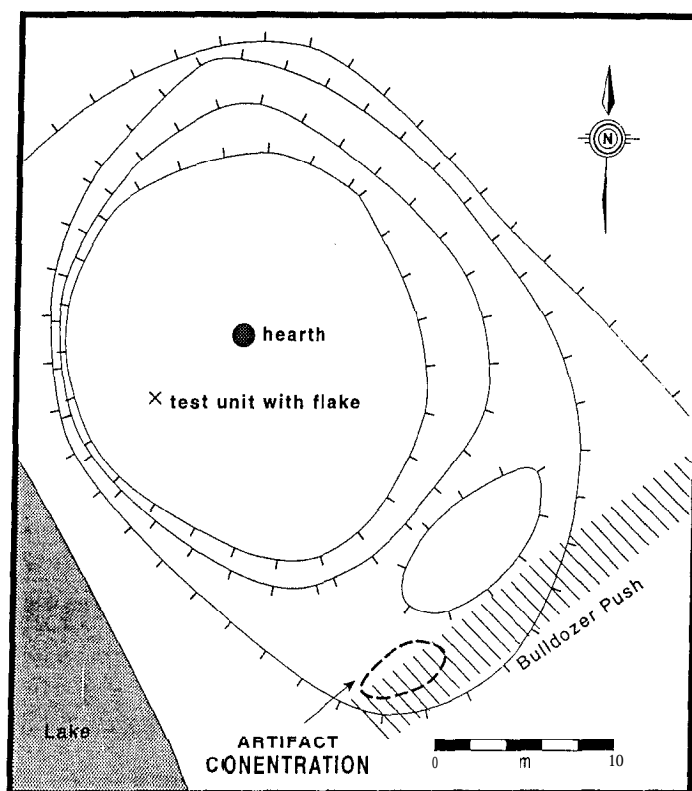


Figure 49. Map of artifact recoveries for site Foote Lake-1.

510.3 West Russell Road Assessment, Inspection Area C

Several logging trails led eastward off the Russell Road down into the Finlay River valley (Figure 46). Several cutblocks were examined close to the river, but visibility was generally quite poor. One trail led down to the edge of a Finlay River terrace which rose at least 20 metres above the water. A camping area and traditional use site were observed in this location, overlooking the Finlay River. Finbow camp was visible across the river. There was good exposure along the terrace edge, but nothing observed. Tent frames were observed, plus 5 lone blazed trees.

5.10.4 Stelkuz Mainline Survey, Inspection Area D

This road was under construction at the time of survey. The end of the built road was at an unnamed creek crossing 17 km in from the Russell Road (Figure 46). The area around the creek was very rocky, faced by a narrow valley with sheer rock faces. No habitable landform was observed. Spot checks were made back along the road.

Several small creek crossings were examined, but none had habitable land surfaces. A large traditional camp spot was observed by a large unnamed lake. Several very large campfires were observed (possibly related to timber thinning crew camping?), plus some standing tent poles to the south. Nothing was observed around the camp, despite good exposure. A very unclear trail was followed along the south side of this same lake. Testing showed that there was no habitable landform because of water-saturated soils. The drainage at the end of the lake was very small.

The bridge crossing at Burrell Creek was assessed. The area on both sides of the creek was checked,

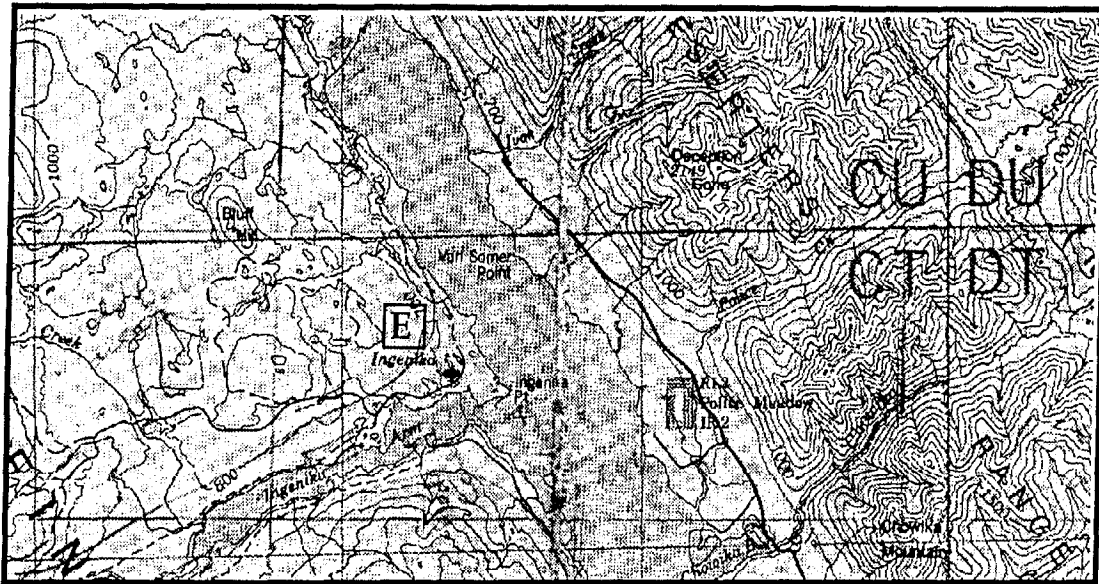


Figure 50. Russel Road AOA's, showing Area E (from NTS 94C edition 4).

as well as a trail which extended to the west from the creek crossing. Nothing was observed on the trail, or at the creek crossing, despite good exposure.

5.10.5 Ingenika Point Survey, Inspection Area E

Ingenika Point, including the abandoned townsite of Ingenika and the abandoned landing strip were randomly walked over by following existing vehicle trails that crossed the point through the undergrowth (Figure 50). Also, the margin of the Ingenika Point terrace overlooking the lake was examined. This was an area where McGhee had discovered several artifact finds in sand dunes. However, there was no easy access to the areas where McGhee had located his sites, and they could not be revisited. Some sand dune areas were intensively surveyed, but no cultural remains were found.

The general area of abandoned Ingenika Village was walked over. The trails and roads in this area provided some good surface exposure. Considerable disturbance was observed, and cellar holes and dump pits were present throughout the area. A maintained cemetery was also present on the village site. Despite some good exposure, no cultural remains were observed, however.

The Ingenika barge landing was examined in some detail. Disturbance was heavy over most of the landing area. However, the margins of the landing, adjacent to upper terraces were examined, where the upper edges were eroding. However, nothing was observed.

5.10.6 Tsaydiz Creek Survey, Inspection Area F

The access road from the Russel road east to the junction of Tsaydiz Creek and the Finlay River was driven (Figure 46). Access was poor, with little exposure being observed. In this area, the margin of Tsaydiz creek was assessed. A low terrace was observed, above a moderate sized stream. The stream bank had very little observable cut exposure, but what was visible was highly reworked. A cabin was observed at Tsaydiz Creek junction with a tributary stream of the Finlay River (Figure



Figure 51. Old cabin on Tsaydiz Creek.

51). The cabin had partially eroded into the creek at the time of assessment, and there were indications that several other structures had already eroded away as well.

5.11 East Williston Lake Survey

Spot Checks of the northeast side of Williston Lake were made during the move from the Ospika Point target locality northward to the Finlay River region. Available access roads were taken in to lake bays formed by inlets of Lafferty Creek, Collins Creek, the Davis River and the Chowika River. Some assessment of this area had been undertaken by C. Ramsay earlier in the year, accompanied by residents of Tsay Keh. In some cases the same areas were revisited, but other parts of the bays formed by the drainage inlets were examined. Several archaeological sites were found on these bays, and considerable evidence of traditional use by First Nations residents of the region.

511.1 Collins Creek Locality, Inspection Area A:

While travelling on the Russel road the Collins Creek crossing was examined (Figure 52). Two terraces on each side of the creek were assessed. Exposure was fair to good in the road cuts, but nothing was observed.

511.2 Bruin Creek Locality, Inspection Area B:

Two terraces on the north side of Bruin Creek were examined (Figure 52). The terraces were elevated, but exposures were good because of road cuts. No artifactual material was observed.

5.11.3 Davis River Locality, Inspection Area C:

Archaeological survey undertaken for the Tsay Keh Dene Band (Ramsay 1996) had located four archaeological sites on the north side of the bay formed by the Davis River entrance into Williston Lake (Figure 52). Among them were two projectile points and a drill tool recovered from the beach

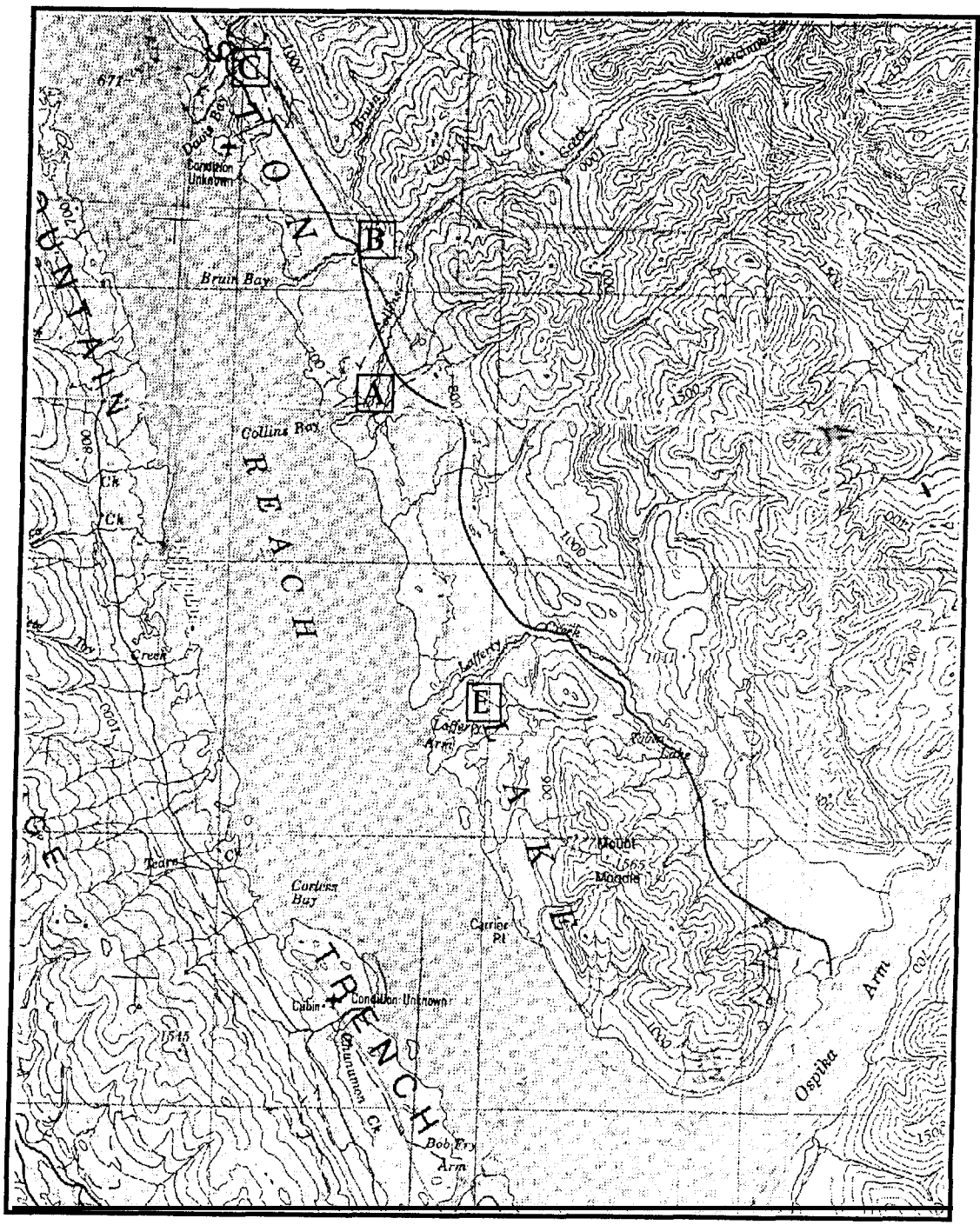
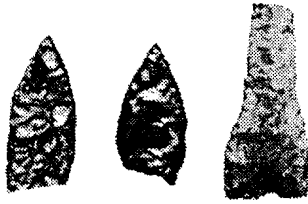


Figure 52. East Williston Lake AOA's (from NTS 94C edition 4).



(approx. 1/2 actual size)

Figure 53: Two Blade Projectile Points and a Biface Drill Tool

area in the north bay locality (Figure 53). Additional survey was conducted on the edge of an old cutblock along beach exposures on the south Davis Bay area. Water levels were low, and a scatter of quartzite flakes (Site Davis South-1, HdSc-2, Figure 54) were discovered on an exposed sand bar which would have been a terrace raised above the river prior to Williston Lake inundation. No other cultural remains were found in the area.

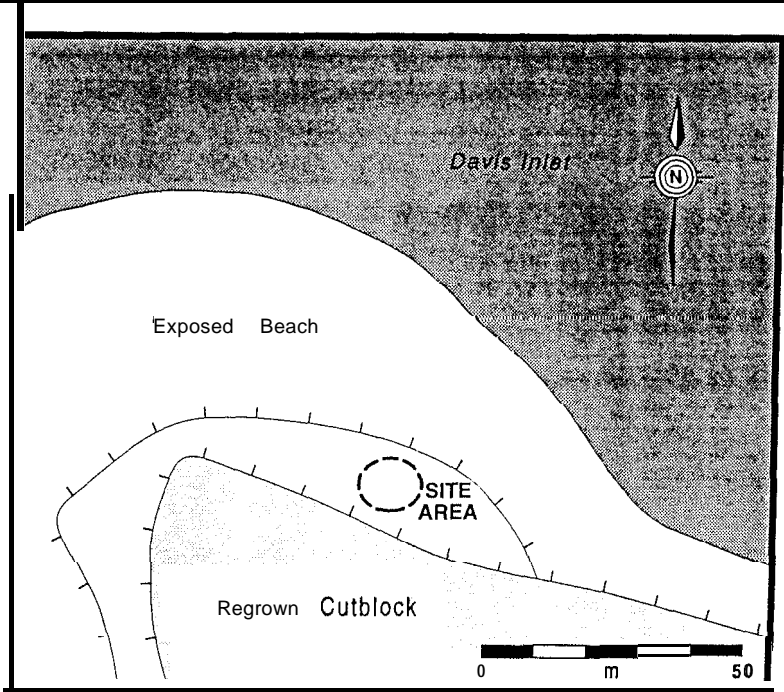


Figure 54. Map of site Davis River South-1.

5.11.4 Chowika Bay Locality, Inspection Area D:

This large, open bay locality was pedestrian surveyed in some detail (Figure 55). A traditional use

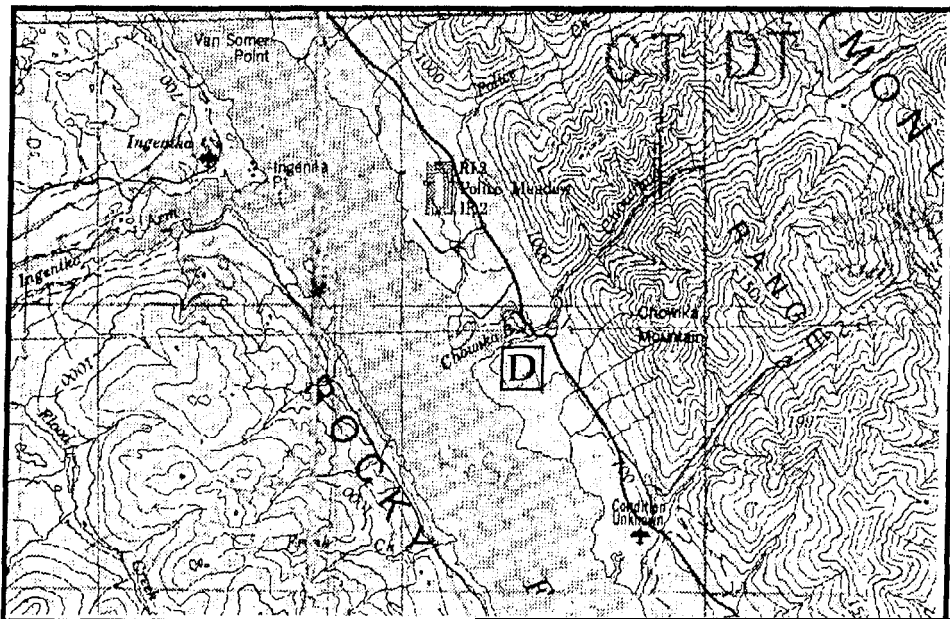


Figure 55. East Williston Lake AOA, showing Location E (from NTS 94C edition 4).

camping area was observed beside a set of rapids where the Choweka River enters the lake. Several small clusters of quartzite flakes and cores were observed beside this camping spot, as it appeared that somebody had been purposefully reducing a quartzite core at the camp. North of this area, on a low knoll, more core reduction areas were observed, some of them quite large, with large boulders which were the source of the debitage still sitting in place. The knapping work looked like it had been recently undertaken. It is possible that local residents have been using this area for camping, and for doing some knapping work, since this area is frequently visited by people from Ft. Ware. None of the materials were collected. However, beside the road entering the bay area, a quartzite core was found which was not freshly worked. It is suspected that this item was from a precontact archaeological site. In any case, this area has been designated as Choweka Bay-1 (Site HeSe-2, Figure 56).

5.11.5 Lafferty Creek Locality, Inspection Area E:

A drive-through inspection was conducted

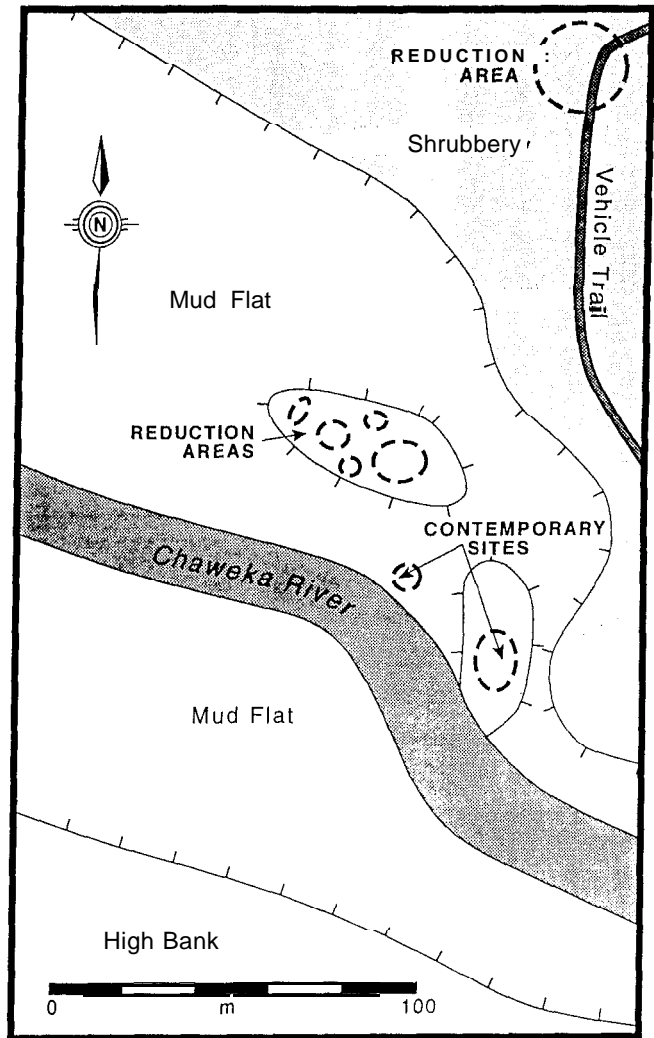


Figure 56. Map of site Choweka Bay-1.

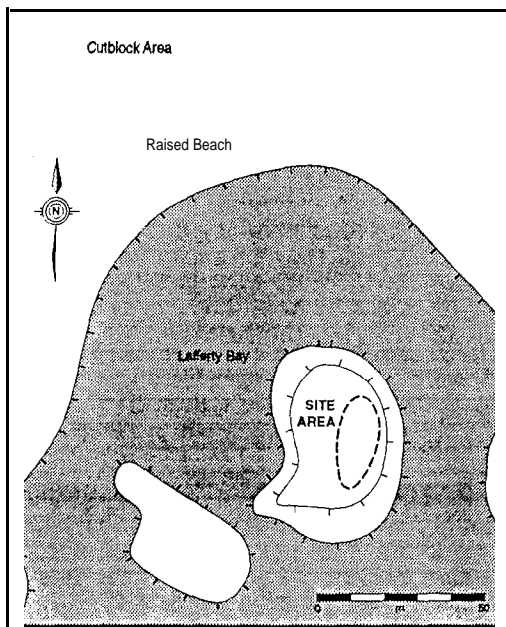


Figure 57. Map of site Lafferty Bay-1.

along the access road (Figure 52). Pedestrian surveys were also made in the vicinity of Lafferty Bay and the associated Williston Lake beaches, and along haul roads in the cutblock. Several high terraces were walked, but exposure on them was poor. A small scatter of lithic material was on a bit of exposed beach by the bay, which would have been a terrace above Lafferty Creek prior to Williston Lake inundation (Site Lafferty Bay-1, HcSc-2, Figure 57).

5.12 Ospika Locality

The Ospika Locality was received several archaeological inspections in the past 2 years, related to forestry developments of the Gavreau Road and the Ospika Road. Although evidence of local traditional use was found, no definite precontact remains were observed during the surveys. Ospika point had been noted as an area of concern during discussion with the Tsay Keh Dene Band. Previous archaeological finds had been made far out on the point, during times of low water levels in the lake. A survey undertaken by Charles Ramsay (1996) produced definite artifact finds from this area. Assessment of the area in the fall of 1996 by the AOA survey crew was focused on the terraces above the beach area where most of the previous finds were made. Several additional archaeological sites were discovered on these high terraces.

5.12.1 Ospika FSR Survey, Inspection Area A:

During drive-through assessment, recent outfitter camps were observed along the road which follows on the north west and then the east side of the Ospika River (Figure 58). Historical records indicate that part of the old Police trail passes across the Ospika River further north. Some depressions in the ground were examined during a previous survey (Ramsay and Gibson 1996). These features were found clustered on two terraces on the east side of the river. Subsurface tests at some of these features did not reveal any archaeological resources. Examination of the features by a geomorphologist suggested that these could be naturally formed sink holes developed by a process called piping. Piping occurs when fine silts wash down into coarse gravel layers below producing various funnel-shaped depressions.

A drive-through survey was conducted in addition to these previous studies. Pedestrian inspections were made in several locations, but apart from recent outfitter camps, no other remains were discovered.

5.12.2 Ospika Helicopter Survey/96, Inspection Area B:

This assessment work was done in the spring of 1996 by T. Gibson and C. Ramsay. It consisted of a helicopter flyover, and a number of touchdowns along the north Ospika River valley, where an extension to the Ospika M/L road is being constructed (Figure 58). A number of stream crossings and exposed areas were examined, but no cultural remains were observed.

5.12.3 Ospika Landing Survey, Inspection Area C:

Pedestrian survey was conducted beginning at Ospika camp, walking along the access road westward and down into the bay area where a large barge landing is located (Figure 59). Several roads and cutlines were examined, following terraces that were raised far above the current edge of the lake. Directly south of Ospika camp, lithic flakes were recovered from a sandy exposure on a

cutbank overlooking Ospika channel, approximately 10 m above the current shoreline (site Ospika Point-1, HbSa-4, Figure 60). This cutbank was part of an eroded terrace. The area had been bulldozed in the past, so the site is probably largely destroyed.

While walking the access road from Ospika camp to the barge landing, more lithic flakes were recovered from a sandy exposure on the edge of the road where it crosses a raised terrace (site Ospika Point-2, HbSa-5, Figure 62). The area around the road has not been damaged so this site may still be intact. The margin of the barge loading area was examined. The interior was severely disturbed and wasn't examined. The margin had variable exposure, but nothing was observed.

A waterline from Ospika channel to Ospika camp was followed, and then the cutbank along the channel was examined. Exposures were fair to good because of recent disturbance and cutbank erosion. No cultural remains were observed.

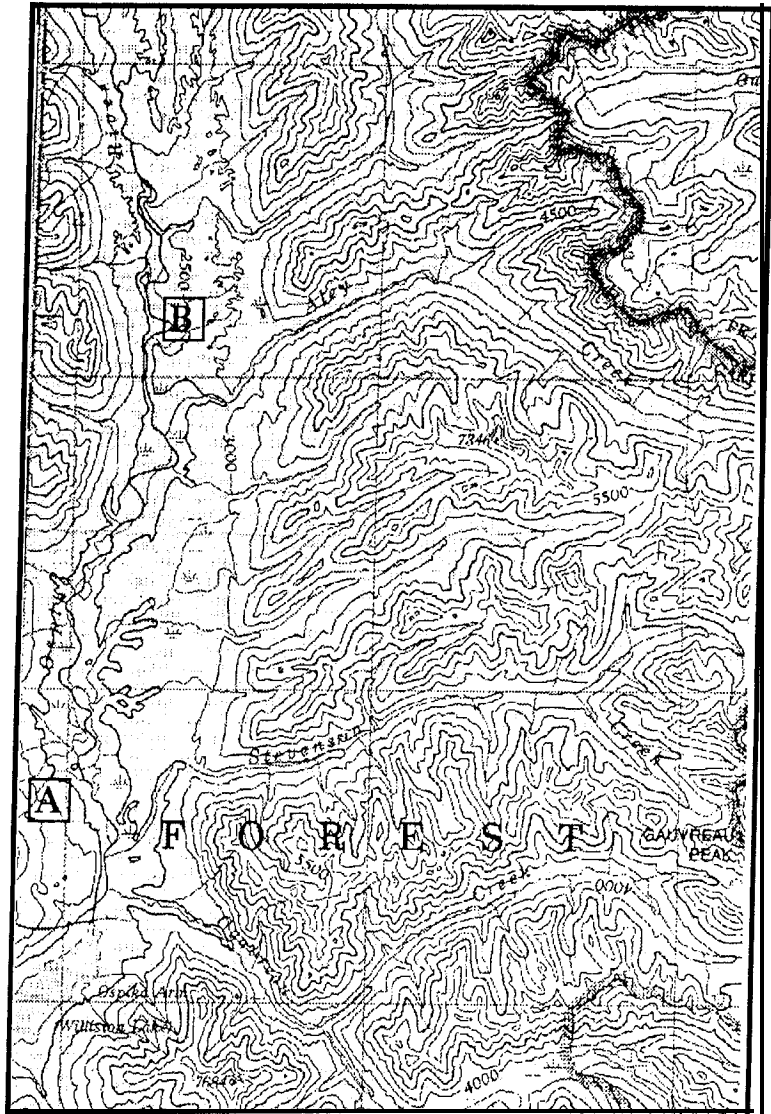


Figure 58. Ospika Locality AOA, showing Locations A and B (from NTS 94B edition 2).

5.12.4 Ospika Point Survey, Inspection Area C:

This area was surveyed by detailed pedestrian assessment (Figure 59). The water level on the bay was much lower than normal, so a considerable amount of beach area could be examined. Exposure was good to excellent. Three sites were found.

A spot find of an endscraper was discovered on the beach area just below a wooded ridge. It was found on a beach terrace formed by the new lake (Site Ospika Point-3, HbSa-3, Figure 63). Along the same terrace level, but farther east, a large biface (Site Ospika Point-4, HbSa-2, Figure 64) was found on a sloping beach terrace (the 3rd terrace above lake). This was probably the edge of the upper terrace which forms the margin of the lake in this area. Finally, a large retouched flake was recovered in the middle of what is now a mud flat adjacent to the upper terrace, but perhaps 100 m

back from it (Site Ospika Point-5, HbSa-1). The area was quite level and otherwise unremarkable. This spot find did not appear to be related to any terrace edge, and no other artifacts were found around it, despite excellent ground exposure.

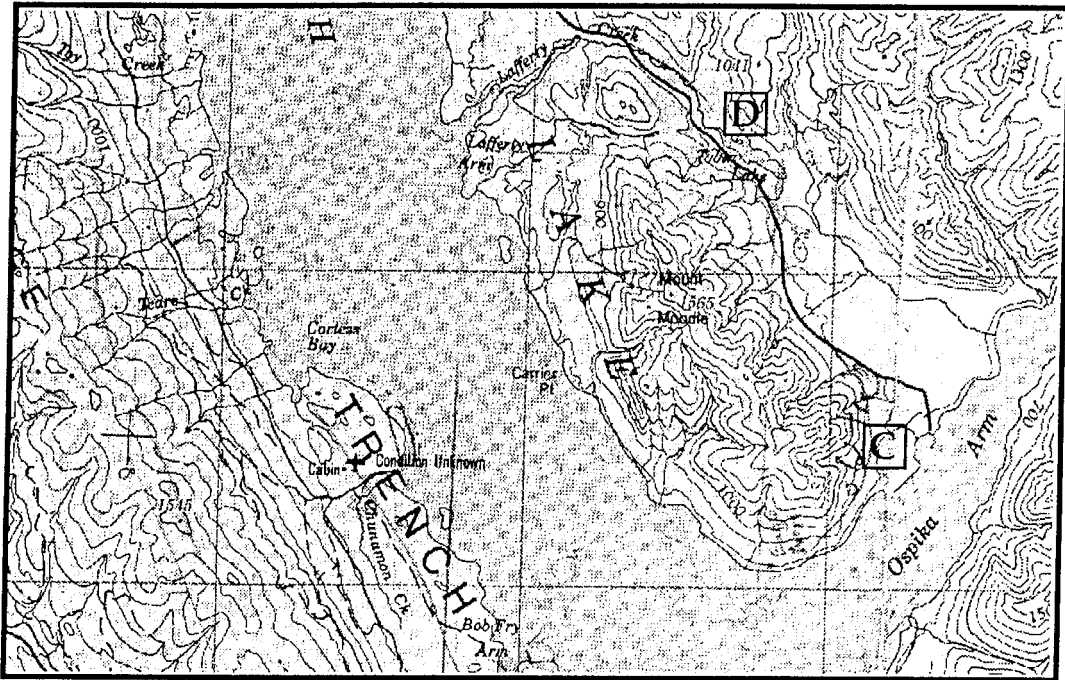


Figure 59. Ospika Locality AOA, showing Locations C and D (from NTS 94B edition 2).

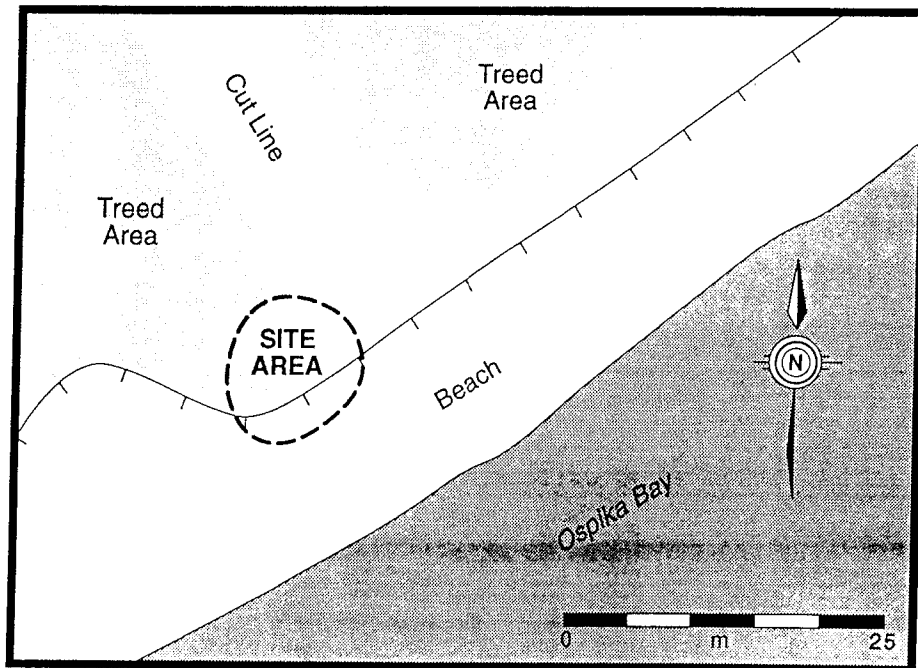


Figure 60. Map of site Ospika Point-1.

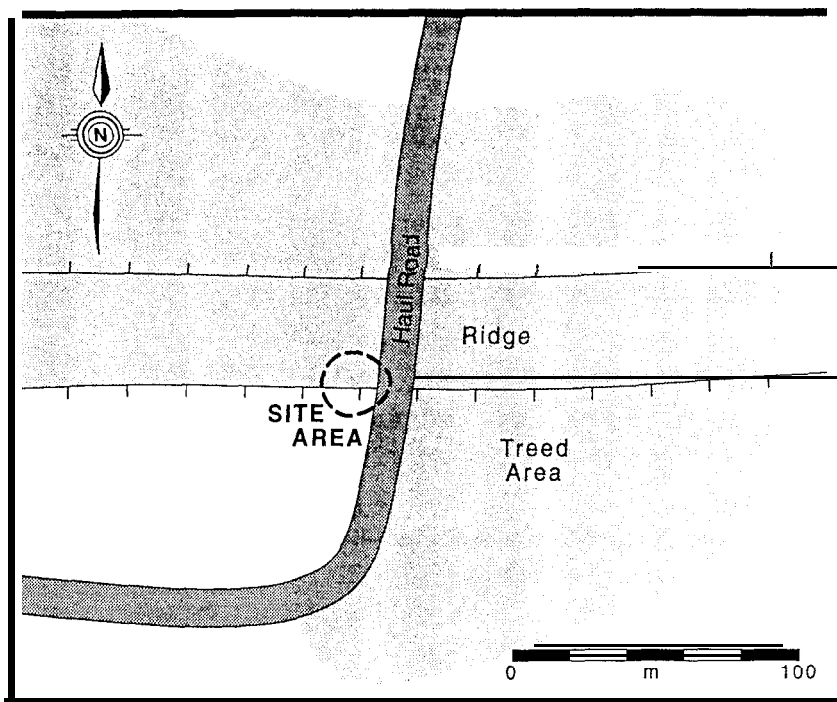


Figure 61. Map of site Ospika Point-2.

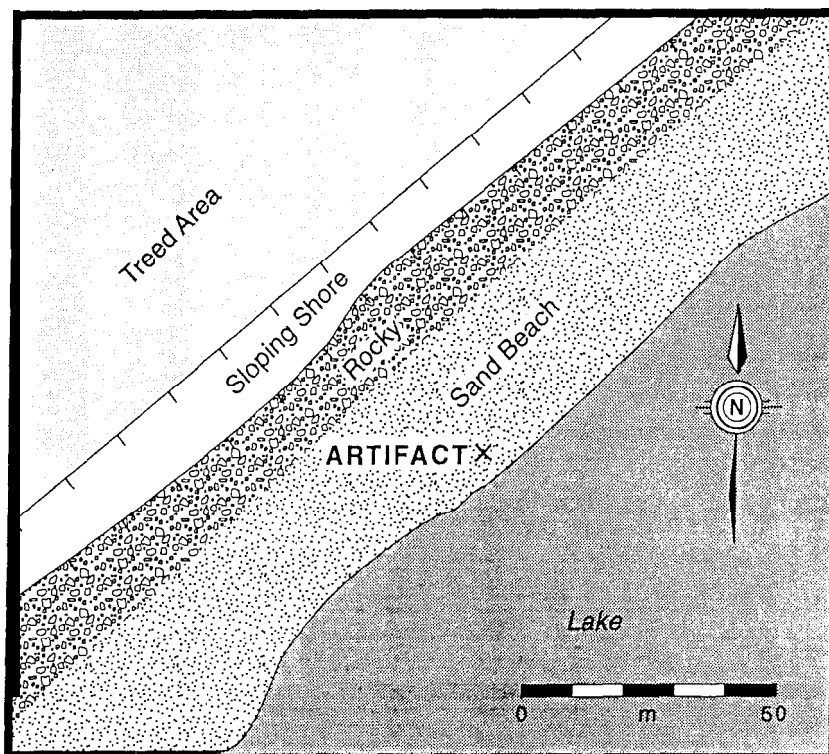


Figure 62. Map of site Ospika Point-3.

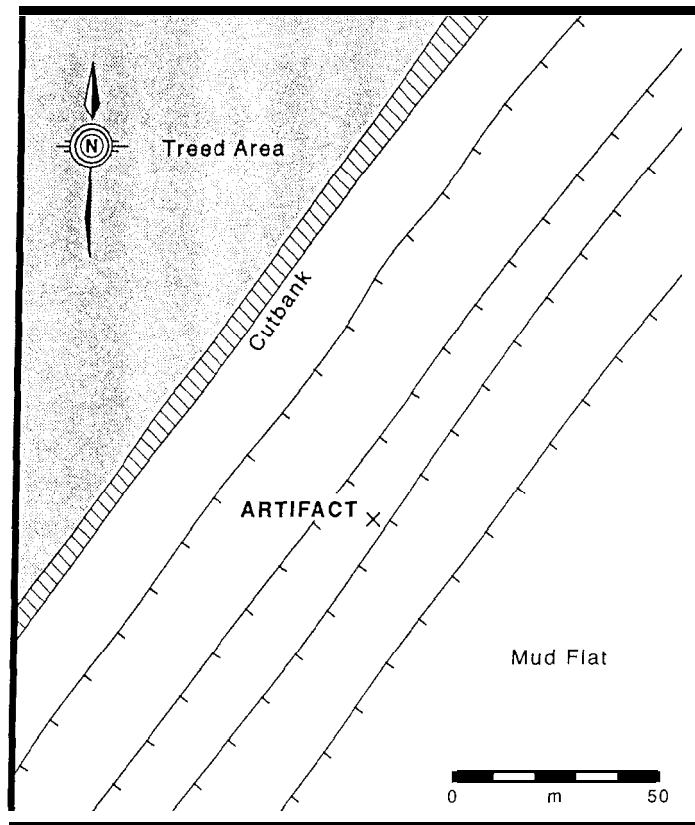


Figure 64. Map of site Ospika Point-4.

5.8.3 Tobin Lake Locality, Inspection Area D:

A pedestrian survey was conducted at the camp area at Tobin Lake (Figure 57). This was considered to have high archaeological potential. The area provided moderate to good visibility. No archaeological materials were observed (Figure 65).



Figure 65. Tobin Lake ground inspection.

6.0 Conclusion and Recommendations

The primary goal of the Mackenzie TSA Archaeological Overview Assessment Project was to develop a means of predicting the location of heritage sensitive land so that forestry developments could avoid impacting archaeological sites during their operations. A review of past archaeological work in the northern half of the province indicated that the TSA, dominated by mountainous terrain split by the Rocky Mountain Trench, had in fact received virtually no archaeological study. Even during the development of the gigantic Williston Lake Reservoir, which ultimately flooded a significant portion of the Finlay, Peace and Parsnip rivers, only cursory archaeological field reconnaissance was undertaken. The result was that although there were many archaeological studies to draw on from areas surrounding the TSA region, there was no useful information to be gained from the actual area in question. This was exemplified by the very small number of archaeological sites which had been recorded. A review of the provincial site database showed that only 90 archaeological sites had been recorded, and only 48 were actually precontact in age (Table 1). Consequently, a field inventory program was initiated to collect some baseline information about the heritage potential of the region prior to producing a predictive heritage potential model.

Archaeological field work involved drive-through surveys of roads and forestry cut blocks. The field techniques included pedestrian surface surveys, spot checks, subsurface tests, and excavation tests. Determination of archaeological potential for landforms was evaluated in a number of regions within the TSA, and local residents were queried about general and specific land use patterns in the areas they were familiar with. During the relatively short field assessment program, approximately 5,000 square km of land were visited. The survey resulted in the discovery of 29 new precontact sites, an increase in the TSA precontact inventory of over 60%.

Significantly, the intensive survey demonstrated that there was precontact human use of the northern Rocky Mountain Trench in areas immediately beyond the boundaries of what is now Williston Lake. The assumption that the reservoir impoundment severely disturbed or completely removed all archaeological evidence from the inundated Finlay River, Parsnip River and Peace River valleys appears to be invalid, since survey data indicate that many of the travel corridors along the valleys probably followed terraces raised sufficiently above the river valleys to avoid being covered by flood waters. This observation (which was actually first suggested by McGhee (1963) after the original Finlay River survey) has significant implications for regional resource development, since these early travel corridors will closely correspond to the emplacement of future transportation developments in the region.

Though the new sites were discovered by examining less than 0.1 percent of the entire Mackenzie TSA, the additional information they provided was considered sufficient to begin the task of building a heritage potential model for the region. Despite the lack of time-diagnostic items represented in their artifact inventories, the simple existence of the sites in conjunction with areas of current land use provides important information about how the land was used in the past. This provides invaluable information for heritage potential model building, and helps to define criteria which can be used for designing new survey methodologies when new archaeological surveys are implemented. These ideas are discussed in more detail in the modeling study accompanying this field report.

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