

Poison Lake Recce Report

Completed by Dave Leegstra and Anthony Francis on November 9, 2022.

Purpose

Assess potential areas for firewood harvest by Liard First Nation.

Scope

Areas adjacent to the gravel pit located between KM 53 and KM 54 of the Robert Campbell Highway. The area surrounding the gravel pit was burned by wildfire in 2018. This area was selected due to ease of access, as well as the close proximity to dead-standing timber.

Findings

Polygon 1

Located near the southwest to western end of the gravel pit. This area has flat, even terrain. It is pine and spruce leading with approximately 40% green pine of merchantable size in the northwest area of the polygon. Fire-killed trees are black, but many have peeling bark. Wood is dry with little to no spiral grain and straight cracks/ checks were noted on 80% of the timber. Blowdown is estimated to be 30%. The edge of the stand can be accessed through the gravel pit.

Cruise plot results:

- # of trees: 8
- Average height: 14.6 m
- Volume: Gross - 117 m³/ha, Net - 85m³/ha
- Average DBH: 16.9 cm
- Polygon area 5.6ha



Polygon 2

This area is located at the southeastern part of the gravel pit. There is road access to the edge of the stand through the pit, as well as a cutline that grants access further northeast into the stand (see map). The terrain is mostly even, with a gentle slope and southwest facing aspect in the southern part of the polygon. Windthrow varies from 10% near the southern end of the stand to 30% near the cutline. The stand is pine and spruce leading with poplar interspersed throughout. Stand density is lower near the cutline. Fire-killed trees are black, but many have peeling bark. Wood is dry with little to no spiral grain. This stand contains some recently insect-killed pine. These trees have scorched bottoms, but no charcoal on the rest of the tree. A large area of the polygon experienced low intensity surface fire, which stressed and killed the timber. This resulted in dead-standing timber with no black bark. Straight cracks and checks were noted on 80% or greater of the timber.

Cruise plot results:

- # of trees: 8
- Average height: 14.3 m
- Volume: Gross - 114.5 m³/ha, Net – 90m³/ha
- Average DBH: 17.6 cm
- Polygon area 9.7ha



Polygon 3

This area is fairly small, but is easily accessible due to a road/trail running adjacent to the edge of the stand. It is located at the northern edge of the gravel pit. There is a gentle slope with a west facing aspect. It is pine leading with approximately 30% of the stand being poplar. Average tree height is 16-18 m. Average DBH is 15-20 cm. Fire-killed trees are black, but many have peeling bark. Wood is dry with little to no spiral grain noted.

- Approximate Net Vol: 85m³/ha
- Polygon area 2.0ha

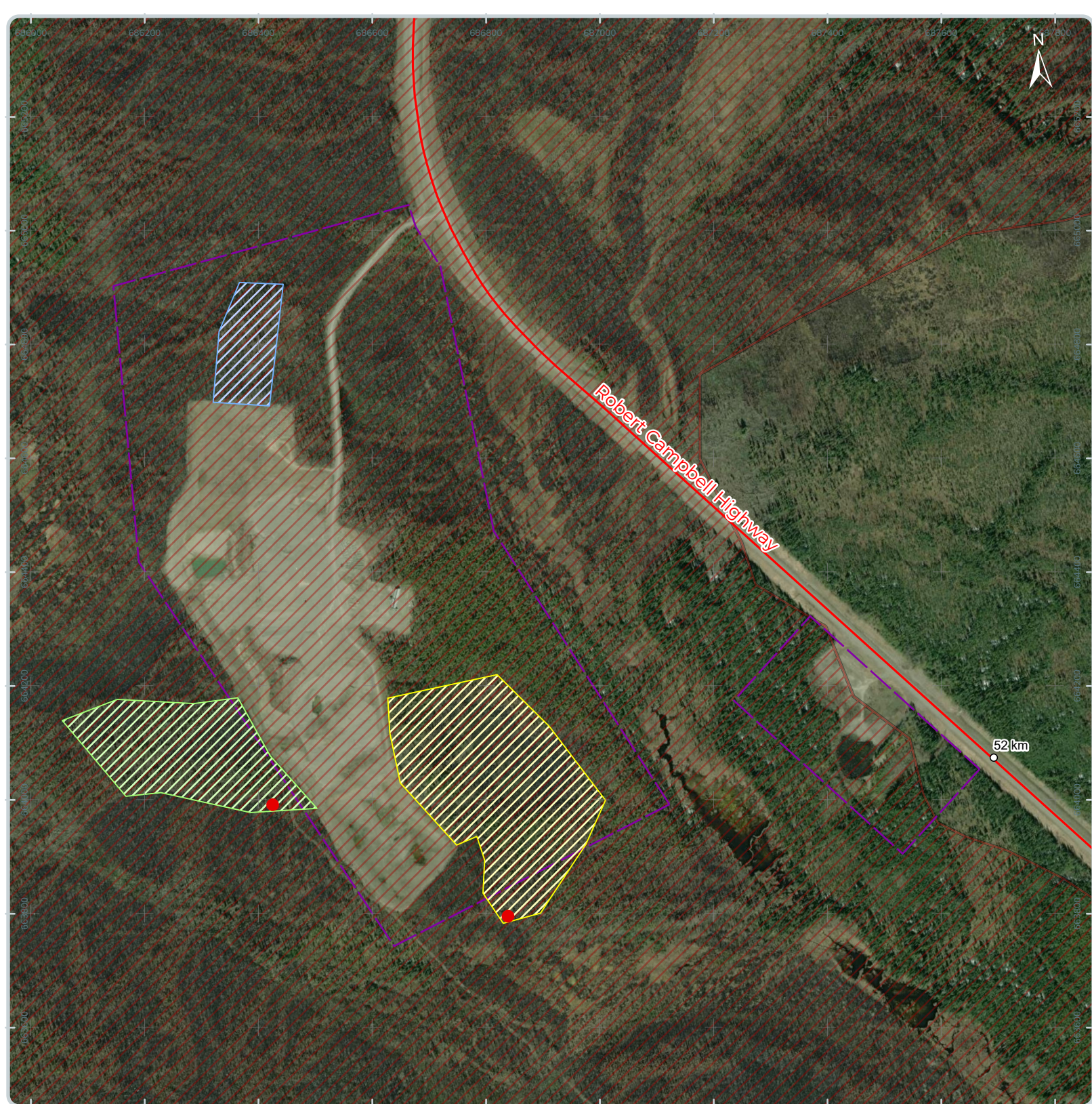


Additional Areas to Assess

Liard River Burn – currently permitted, access has been washed out and would need to be re-established. Recommended next steps are to gain access in the winter to assess the remaining timber and determine the feasibility of upgrading the road into the area.

King Creek THP – There are two remaining operating units in the King Creek THP adjacent to the Nahanni Range road that could be assessed for suitability (KC-06 and KC-07).

Watson Lake Fuelwood THP – This THP has operating units located immediately adjacent to Watson Lake. One of the operating units was going to be assessed to determine if it would be better served as a designated Personal Use harvest area.



Poison Lake Recce with Land Applications

Produced on 2022-11-16
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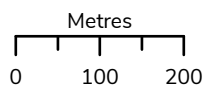
Overview

Poison Lake Recce Areas Fire History

-  Polygon 1
-  Polygon 2
-  Polygon 3
-  2010
-  Land Applications Active

Map Center: 129°6'30"W 60°26'2"N
NAD 83 Yukon Albers

1:9,000



*Red dots indicate cruise plot location.

Image credits: Government of Yukon, Maxar