



Advances in the Planning, Design and Construction of a Major Pipeline Project in a Geohazards-Intensive Area.

Indigenous Acknowledgement



Agenda



INTRODUCTION



MODULE 1:
Regulatory Conditions
and Filings



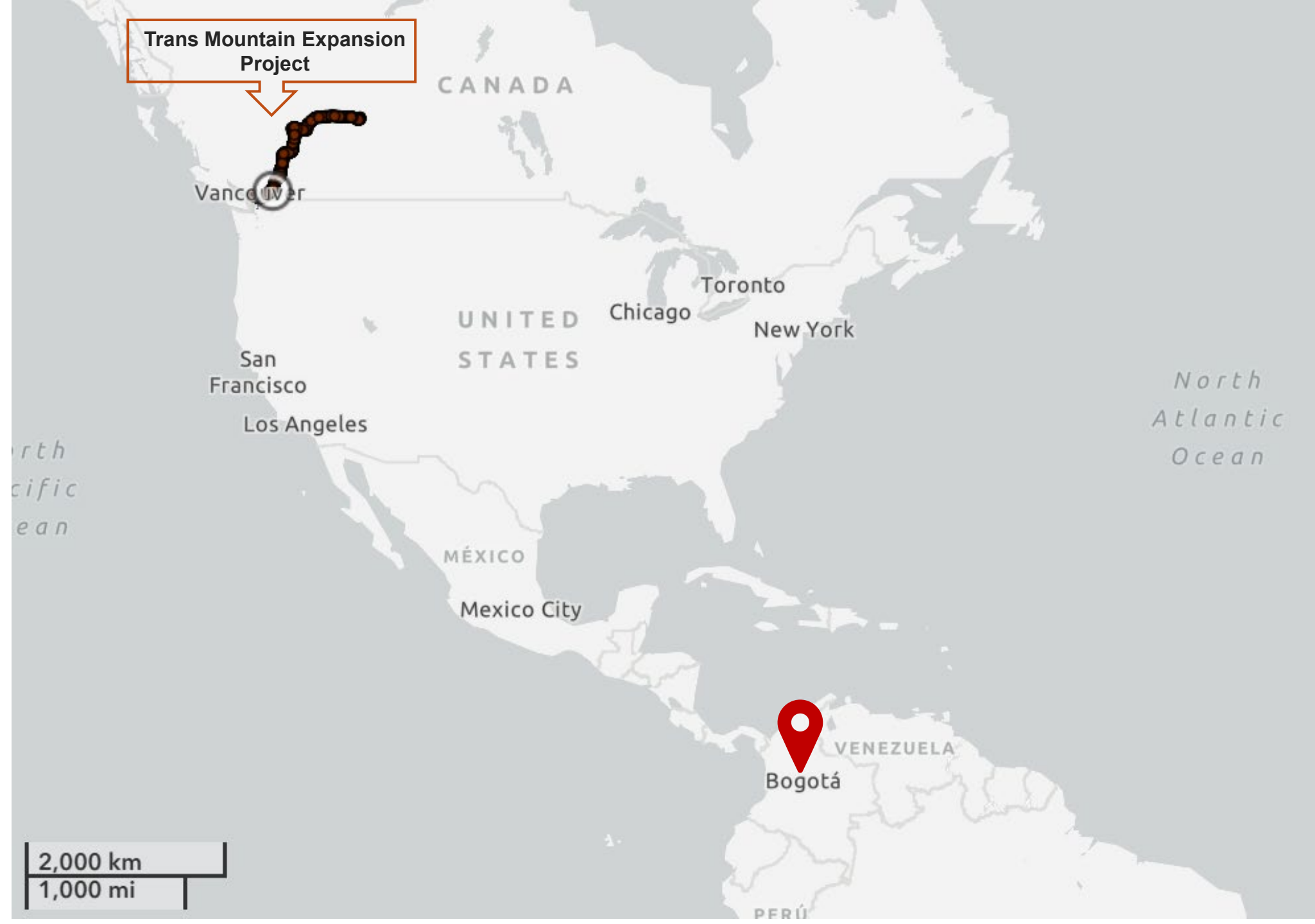
MODULE 2:
Advanced Design
Methods



MODULE 3:
Construction
Techniques



MODULE 4: Geohazards
Management



Trans Mountain Expansion
Project

CANADA

Vancouver

UNITED
STATES

San
Francisco

Los Angeles

Chicago

Toronto

New York

North
Atlantic
Ocean

North
Pacific
Ocean

MÉXICO

Mexico City



Bogotá

VENEZUELA

PERÚ

2,000 km
1,000 mi

Trans Mountain Line 1



- Construction began in 1952 following federal charter approval in March 1951, and took just over 30 months using multiple crews along its 1,150 km route across rugged terrain—including the Rocky Mountains and sensitive wetlands
- The pipeline entered service in October 1953, carrying approximately 150,000 barrels per day from Edmonton, Alberta to Burnaby, British Columbia, via four pump stations and a marine dock terminal

Trans Mountain Expansion Project



Trans Mountain Expansion Project



- The original Trans Mountain Pipeline, built in 1953, continues to operate safely.
- On June 18, 2019, the Government of Canada approved the Trans Mountain Expansion Project (TMEP), subject to 156 conditions enforced by the Canada Energy Regulator (CER).
- Key facts about the expansion:
 - 988 km of new pipeline constructed.
 - 74% of the route used the existing right-of-way.
 - 16% followed other linear infrastructure (telecommunications, hydro, highways).
 - 11% required new right-of-way.
 - 193 km of pipeline was reactivated.
- Unanticipated Challenges:
 - COVID
 - Major forest fires
 - Atmospheric river



Module 1: Planning and Regulatory Commitments

Agenda

TRANS MOUNTAIN EXPANSION PROJECT

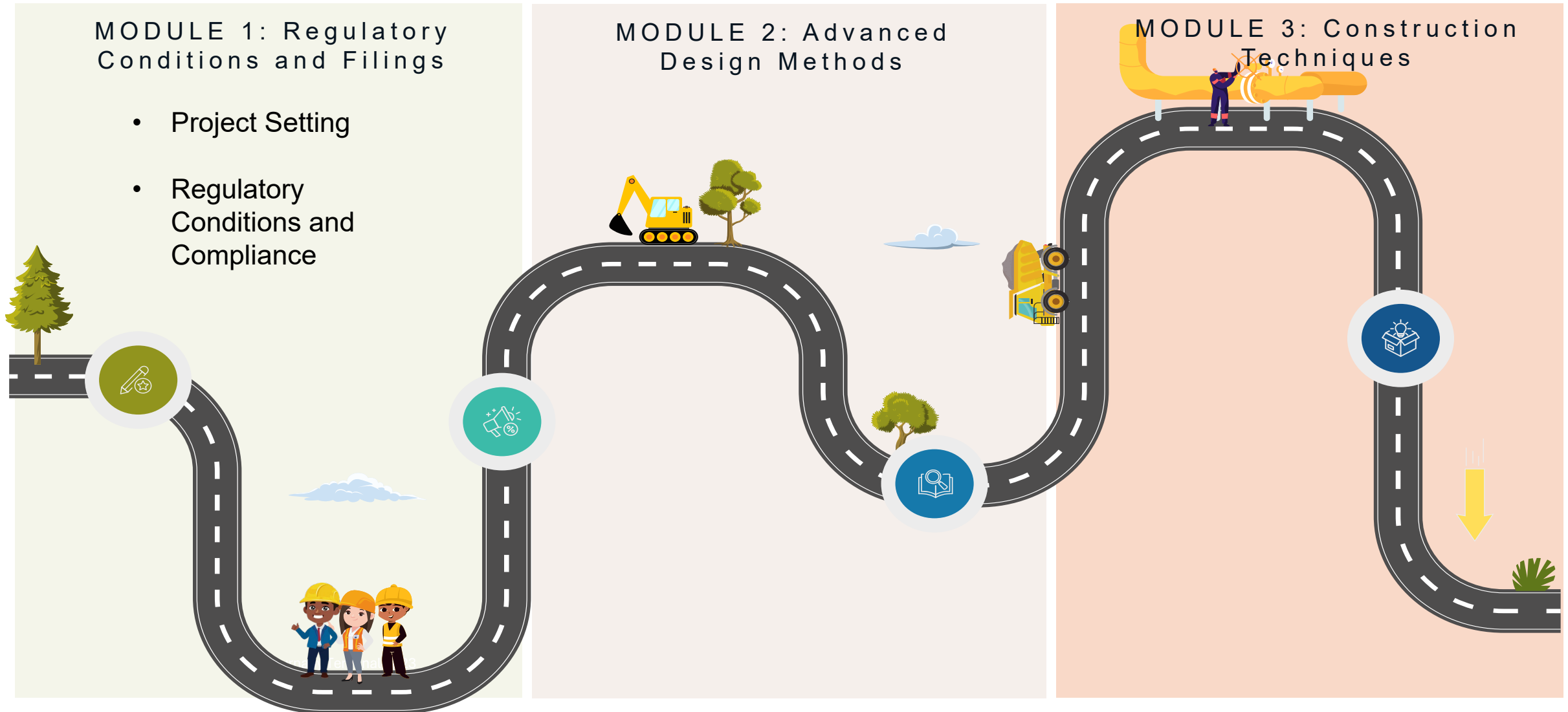
Pipeline Lifecycle Unveiled: Managing Pipeline Geohazards from Design to Operations

MODULE 1: Regulatory Conditions and Filings

- Project Setting
- Regulatory Conditions and Compliance

MODULE 2: Advanced Design Methods

MODULE 3: Construction Techniques



Trans Mountain Expansion Project



- Social and Economic Contributions:
 - >108 million hours worked during the project.
 - 35,500 individuals hired to support construction.
 - >20,000 days of Indigenous Monitoring work.
 - >\$6 billion awarded in indigenous contracts.
 - >80,000 shovel tests, as part of an archaeological program, in areas identified as having potential to support heritage resources.
 - 1,181 km of fiber optic cable installed along the pipeline to support leak detection.

TMEP at a Glance



199
permitted
highway
crossings



50
permitted
railroad
crossings



1,269
permitted
road
crossings



46 km
(5%) steep
slopes



101 km
(10%)
urban
pipelines

TMEP at a Glance



**30 km of well
point
dewatering for
high water
table
conditions**



**434 sites
identified by
TMEP terrain
mapping
based on
geohazards
inventory**



**0.2 to 1.1
water course
crossings per
kilometer**



**214
temporary
bridges**



**73 km of
trench
blasting**

TMEP at a Glance



**584,495 m3 of
grade rock
blasting**



**632,495 m3 of
metal leaching
/acid rock
drainage
material
disposed at
licensed landfill**



**75 major
trenchless
crossings**



**557 Bored
trenchless
crossings**



**125 km (13%)
of stove pipe
construction**

Trans Mountain Expansion Project



Regulatory Conditions and Compliance

Conditions by Lifecycle Stage

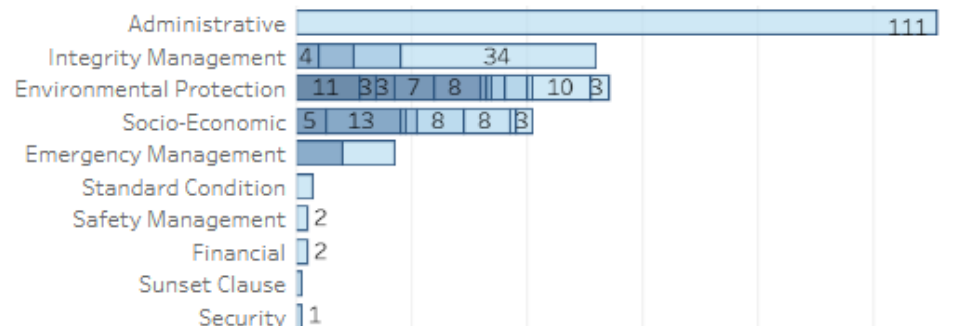
Click on a lifecycle stage to filter the conditions list.



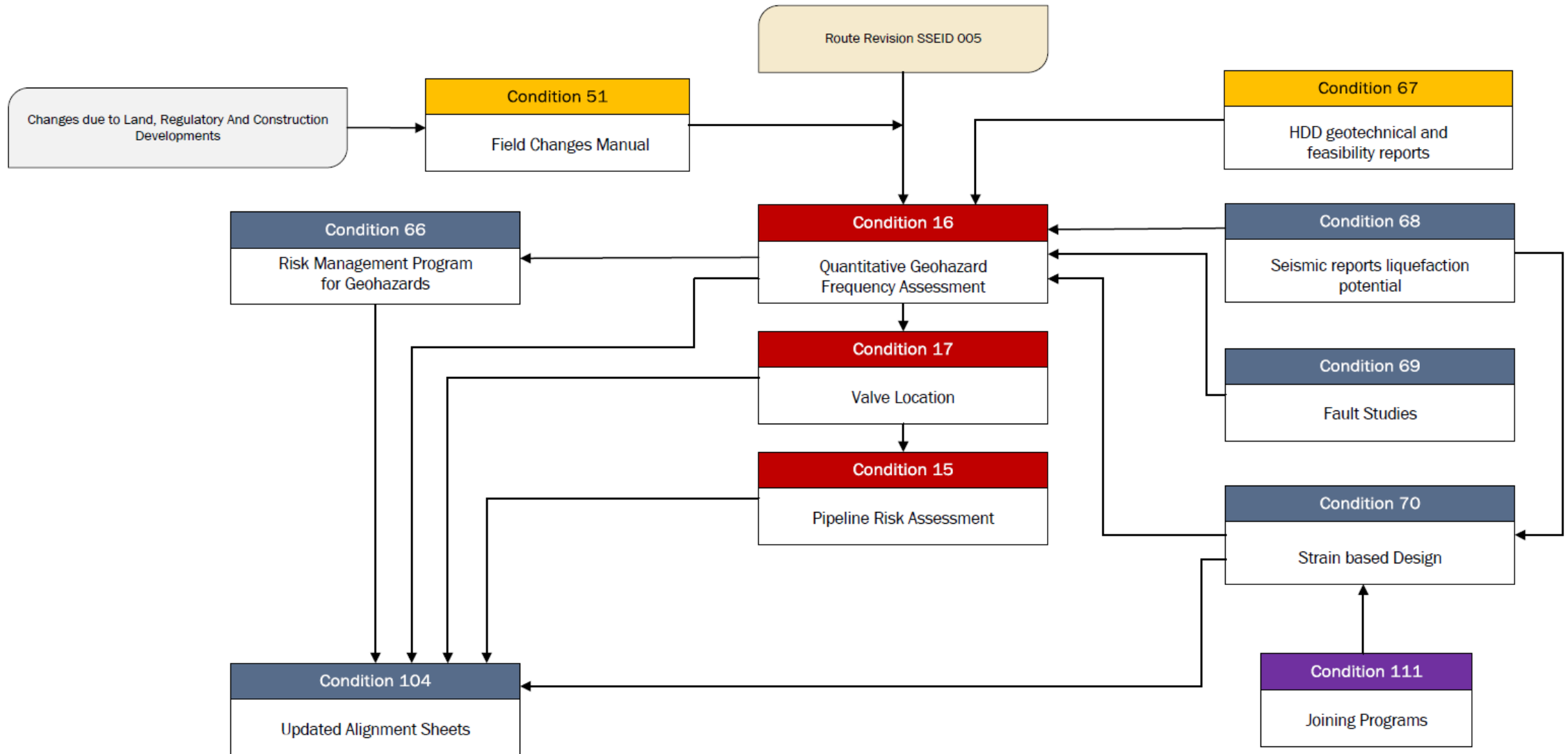
- The Canada Energy Regulator (CER) issued and enforced several conditions directly **applicable or related to geotechnical and geohazards management** considerations.
- These conditions are categorized in terms of their implementation windows as follows:
 - Pre-construction:
 - Geotechnical/Geohazards Related (Conditions 16, 51, 66, 67, 68 and 69)
 - Pipeline Design Related (Conditions 15, 17, 70 and 104)
 - Environmental Protection Related (C72)
 - During Construction (C106)
 - Post-construction (C147)

Conditions By Theme, Sub-Theme

Click on a theme to filter the conditions list.



Geotechnical Pre-Construction Regulatory Conditions



C16: Quantitative Geohazard Frequency Assessment

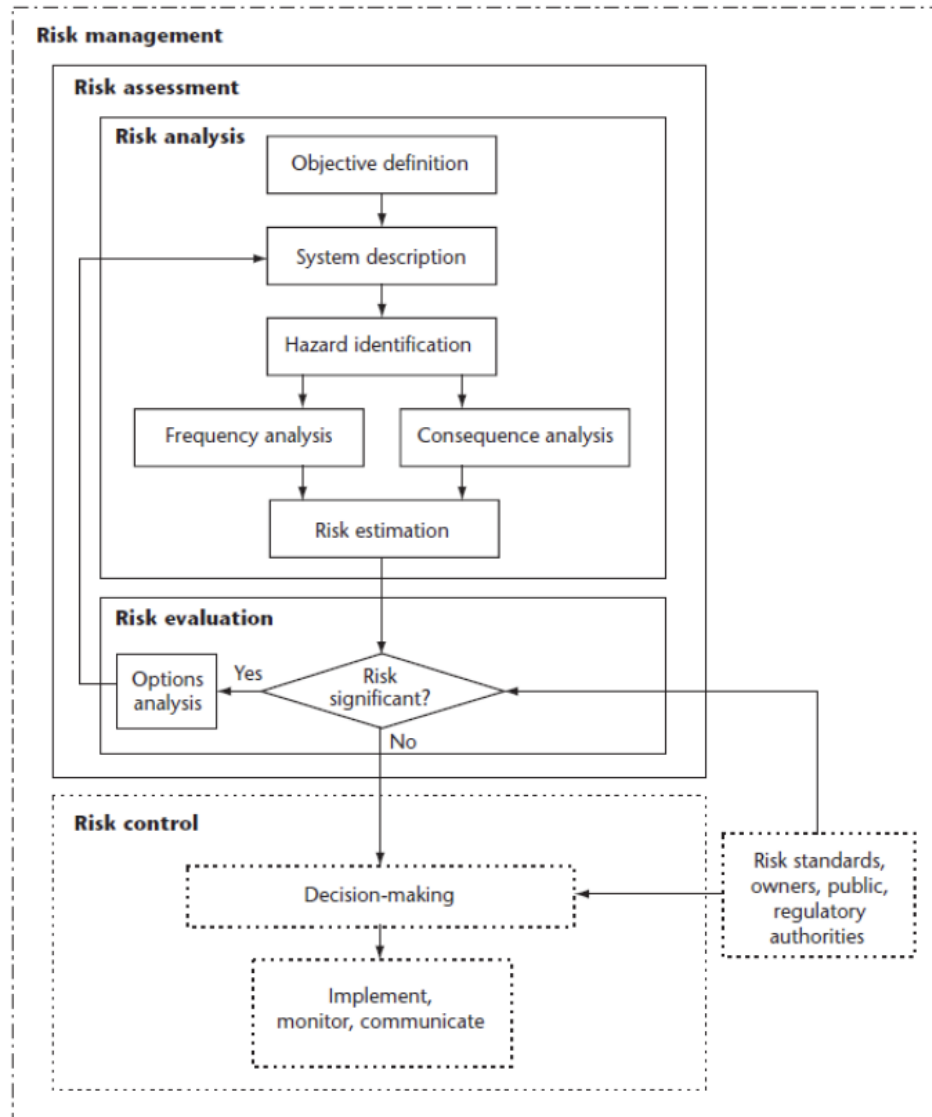


Figure 1. Risk Management Framework (from CSA Z662).

NEB Condition Requirement:

Trans Mountain must provide in the assessment a plan to manage and mitigate geohazards at any location where the FLoC value is greater than 10^{-5} events per year to reduce the level to as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP), including a detailed explanation of how the ALARP level has been attained at each location

C16: Quantitative Geohazard Frequency Assessment

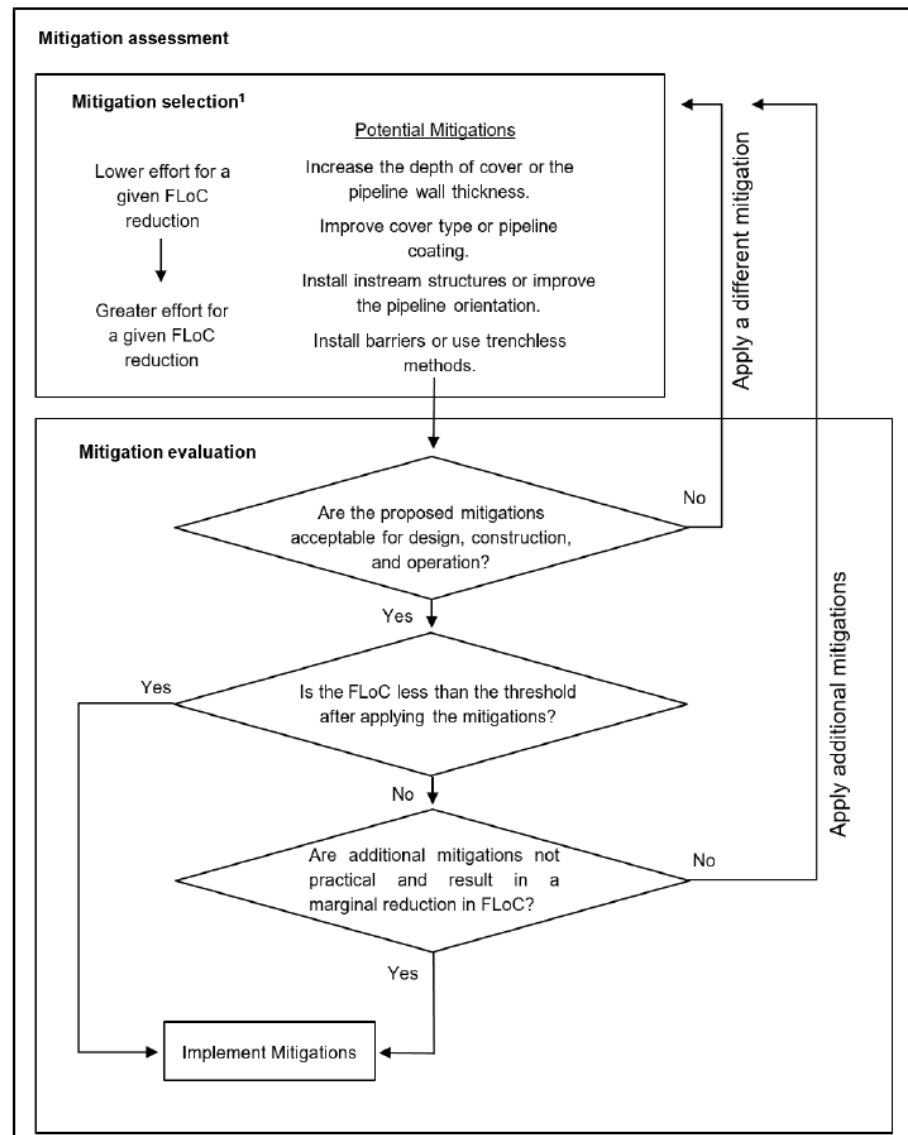


Figure 2. Mitigation assessment flow chart.

The FLoC from a geohazard in terms of events per year was calculated for specific locations along the pipeline (denoted with the subscript, “(i)”) as follows:

$$FLoC(i) = I(i) \times F(i) \times SH(i) \times SV(i) \times V(i) \times M(i)$$

I(i) is the occurrence factor

F(i) is the frequency

SH(i) is the horizontal spatial probability

Sv(i) is the vertical spatial probability

V(i) is the vulnerability

M(i) is a mitigation reduction factor

The estimates for FLoC were compared against a 1×10^{-5} threshold to evaluate if the pipeline design met this geohazard frequency objective. Sites where FLoC exceeded the 1×10^{-5} geohazard threshold were further evaluated to identify if the pipeline design is “as low as reasonably practicable” (ALARP).

C16: Quantitative Geohazard Frequency Assessment

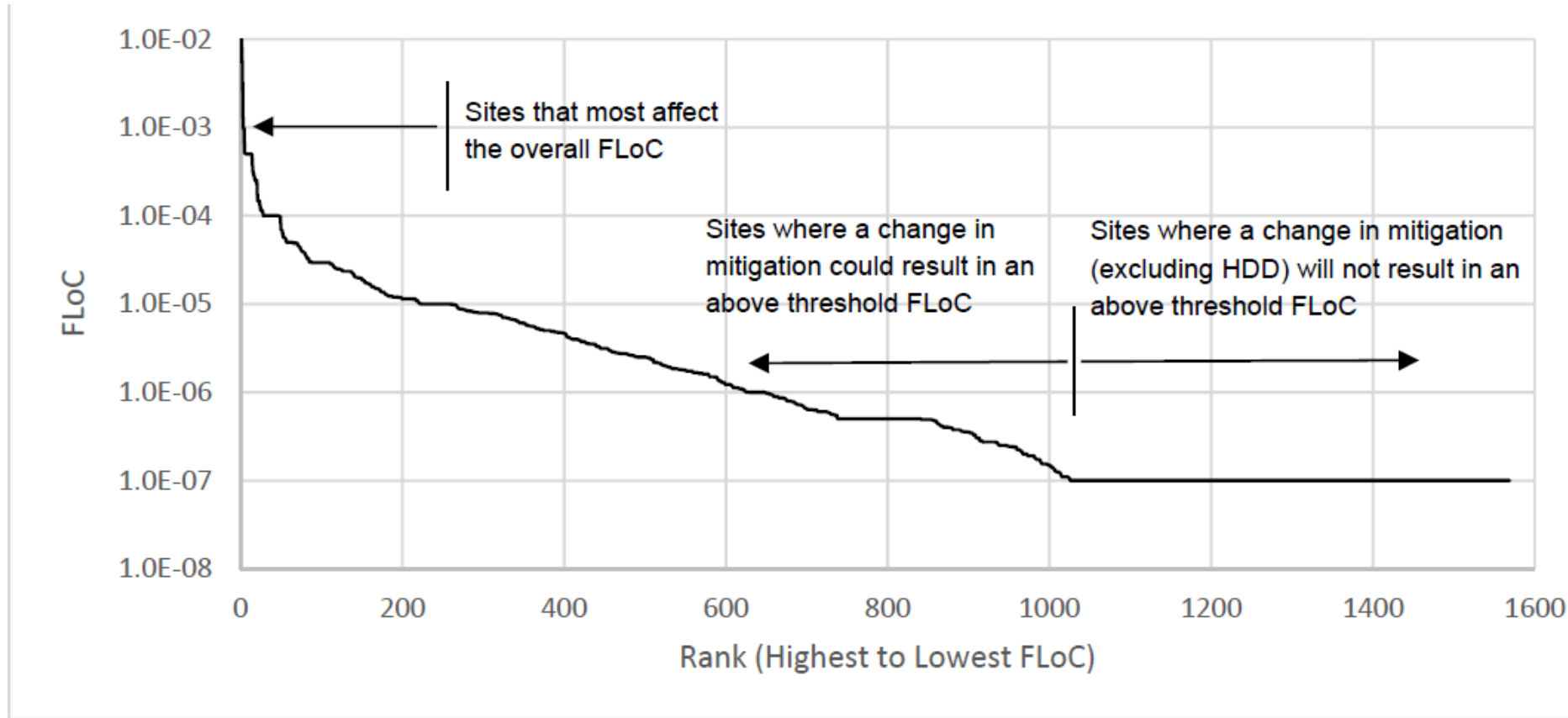


Figure 1-1. Cumulative ranking of sites from highest to lowest FloC. The minimum FloC estimate was set to 1×10^{-7} .

C16: Quantitative Geohazard Frequency Assessment



Sections with FLoC values exceeding 1×10^{-5}

Summary Results:

- The number of geohazard segments with pre-mitigation FLoC estimates exceeding the 1×10^{-5} threshold is 222 (14% of all sites)
- The application of mitigation designs in the post-mitigated assessment has reduced the number of segments that are greater than 1×10^{-5} to 43 (2.7% of all sites)

C51: Field Changes Manual

NEB/CER Condition Requirement:

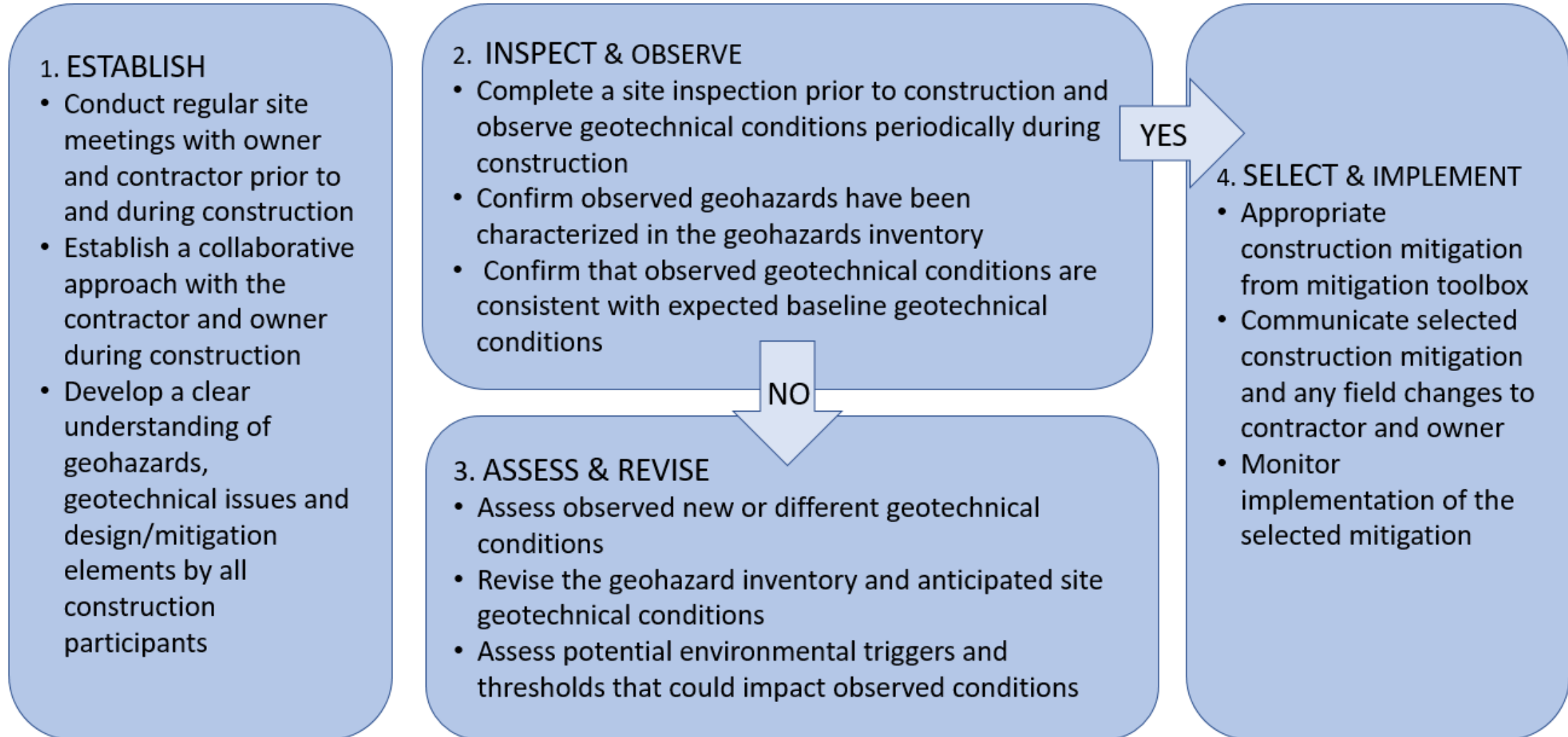
Trans Mountain must file with the NEB, for approval, ... a field changes manual for geohazards mitigations. This manual must include:

Decision criteria for implementing mitigation for any geohazards identified during construction

Specific criteria for implementing changes to the design, grading, special materials, protective structures, burial depth, installation procedures, erosion mitigation measures and monitoring

Details regarding the required qualifications of the field staff that will implement the manual

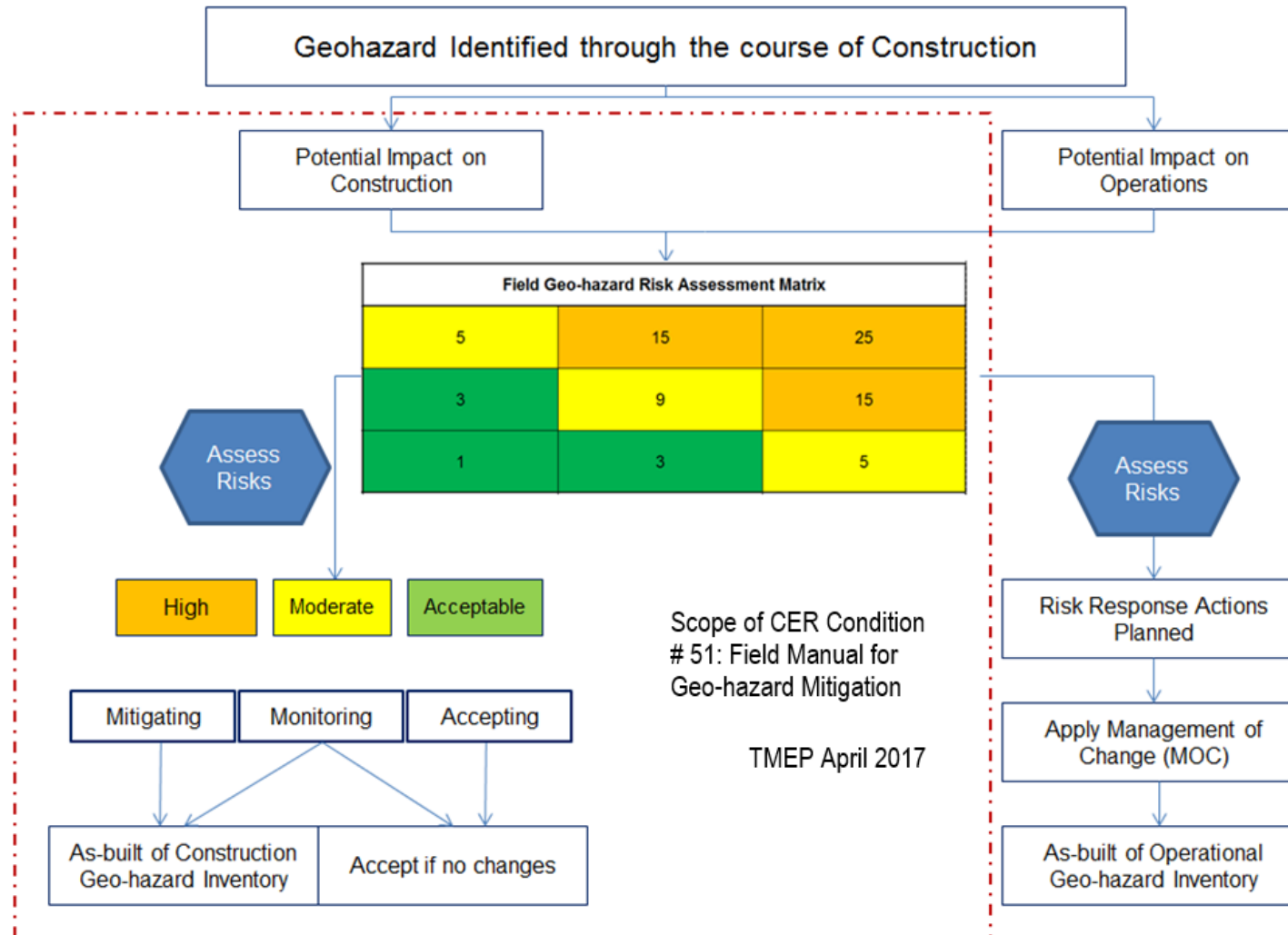
C51: Field Changes Manual



C51: Field Changes Manual

Summary Results:

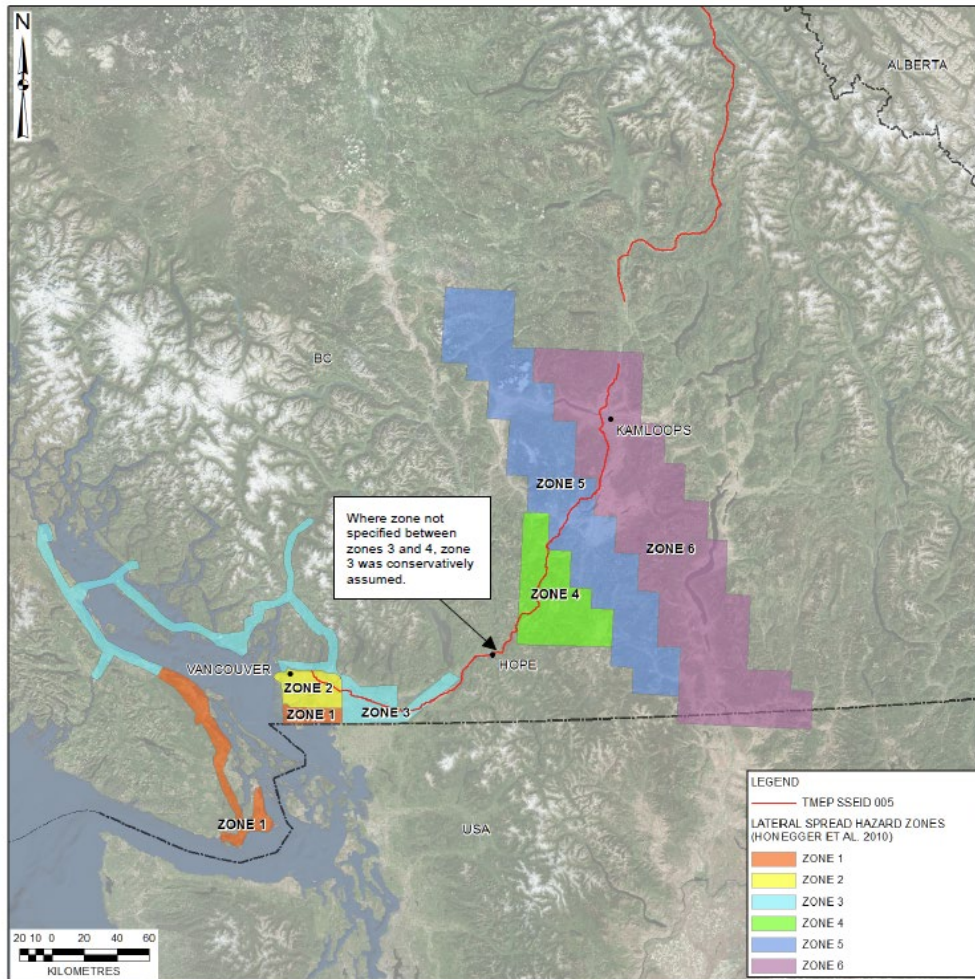
- Decision process was implemented during construction
- Field changes reported to CER as part of Condition 106 (monthly construction report)



Regulator's Condition Requirement:

Trans Mountain must file with the NEB ... a final report that identifies all sites along the Project that have “Very High”, “High” and “Moderate” liquefaction-triggered ground movement potential, and that describes how the potential for liquefaction-triggered movement will be mitigated at each site

C68: Liquefaction Potential

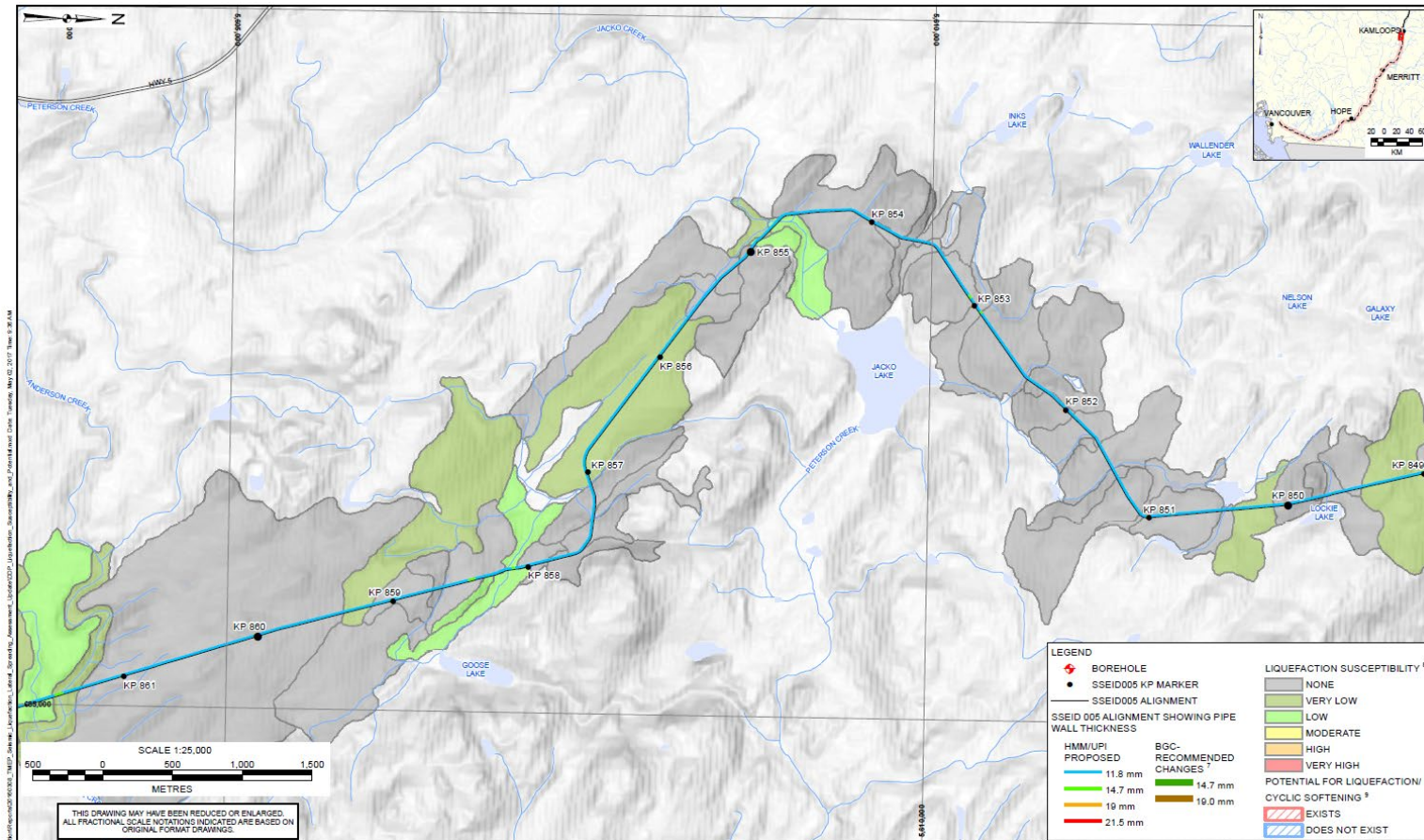


B) Approximate geographic extent of lateral spread hazard zones 1 through 6 (from Honegger et al. 2010), with TMEP proposed alignment.

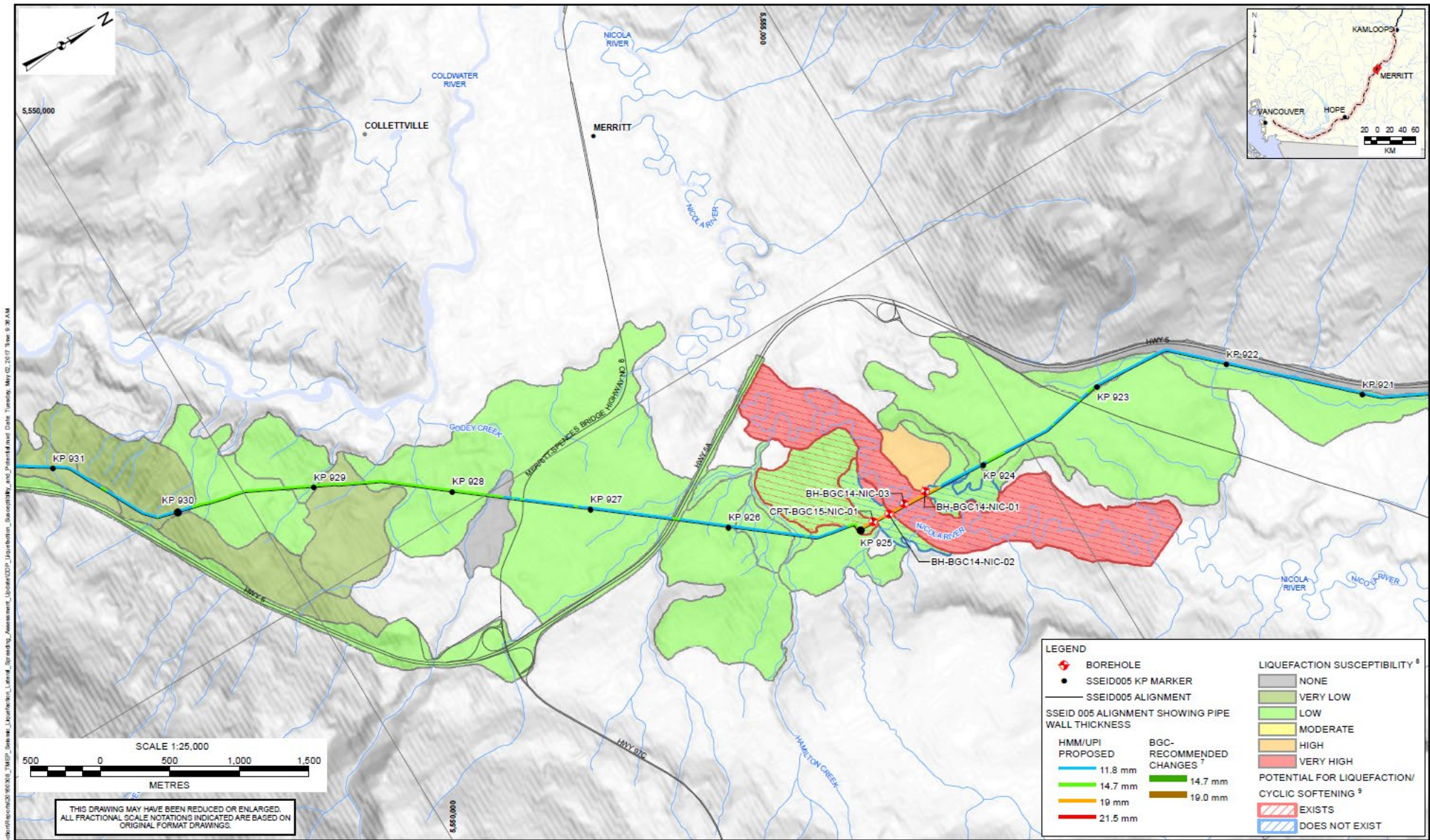
- The seismic liquefaction and lateral spreading hazard assessment was performed in a staged approach starting with desktop remote sensing-based study followed by detailed geotechnical subsurface investigations at select sites including SPT, CPT and advanced lab testing.
- Liquefaction potential was assessed at test sites for the common design seismic hazard of 1:2,475 Annual Exceedance Probability (which refers to ground motion that has a 2% probability of being exceeded in a 50-year period)
- The estimated lateral displacements at each site were used to provide insight on the level of the anticipated imposed strains on the pipeline.
- The procedure used to assess liquefaction triggering followed that outlined in the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) Monograph No. 12 by Idriss and Boulanger (2008) followed by the recommendations outlined in “Greater Vancouver Liquefaction Task Force Report (GVLTF 2007). Work reported by Honneger et. al. (2006) provided additional guidance.

C68: Summary Results

- The assessment demonstrated that out of 339.82 km length of potential interest, 327.41 km does not need mitigation to the pipe wall thickness beyond what has already been specificized to accommodate non-seismic hazards.
- For the remainder 12.41 km, various mitigations in the form of increasing pipeline wall thickness and/or grade was recommended to have seismic FLoC values less than the threshold of 1×10^{-5} .



C68: Summary Results

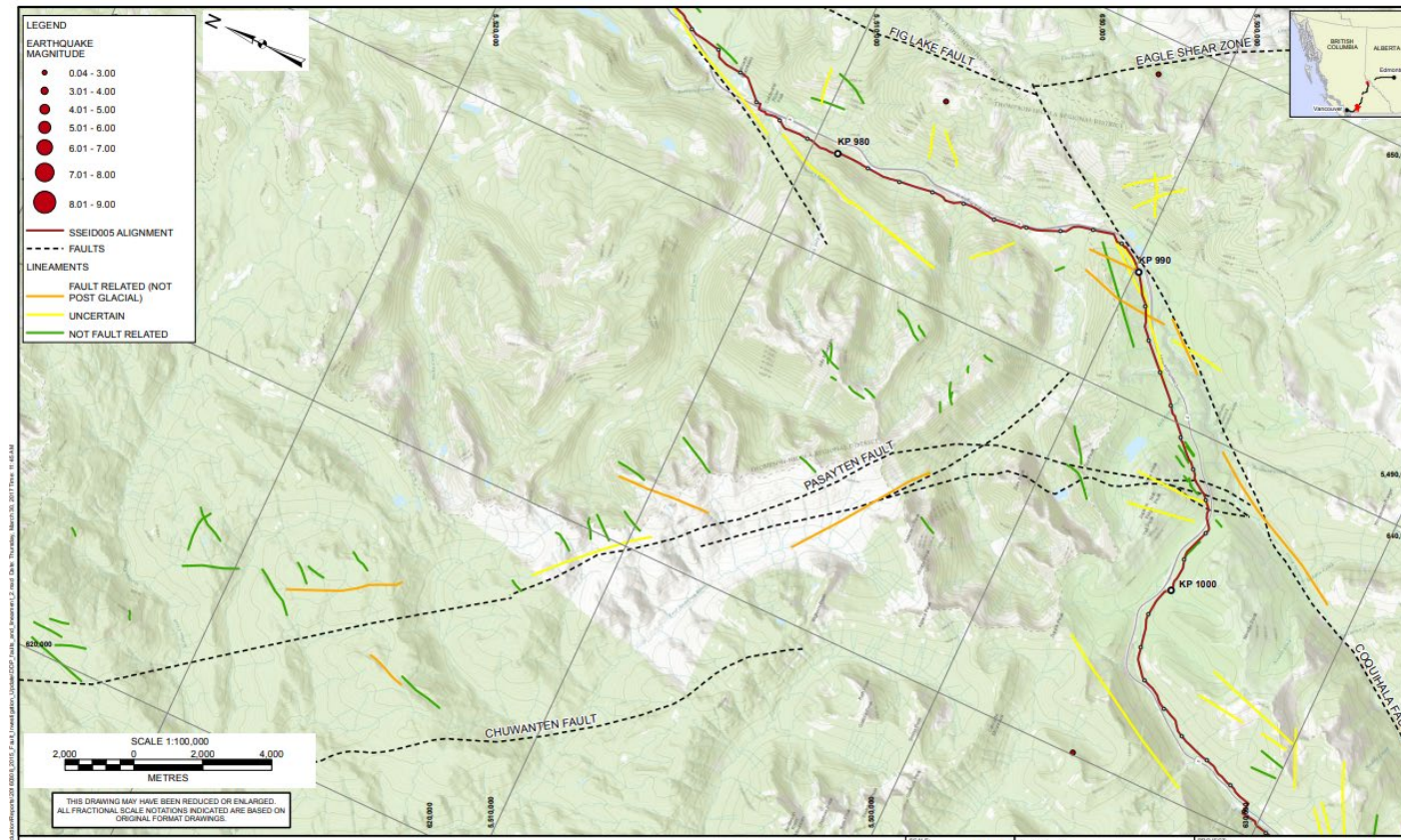


NEB Condition Requirement:

Trans Mountain must file with the NEB, at least 3 months prior to commencing construction, the results of fault-mapping studies that were ongoing during or undertaken after the OH-001-2014 proceeding, for use in the detailed design of the Project. This filing must include conclusions regarding possible seismic activity during the Holocene epoch for Sumas Fault, Vedder Mountain Fault, Fraser River-Straight Creek Fault and Rock Mountain Trench, and other possible hidden faults, as well as the potential for compounding risks due to the proximity of the Vedder Mountain and Sumas Faults

C69: Fault Studies

- Trans Mountain completed studies including a review of new information, field mapping, aerial photograph interpretation, and compiling historical earthquakes along the area of interest.
- The Project defines an active fault as one that has experienced demonstrable surface rupture within the Holocene epoch (about the past 11,600 years).
- The Project's fault investigations have not revealed evidence of Holocene-active faults across the right-of-way. However, the Project does cross seismically active terrain.



C70: Strain-based Design (SBD)

NEB Condition Requirement:

Trans Mountain must file with the NEB ... the following information related to strain-based design where it is applied:

- a) the location and rationale for selecting strain-based design in each location
- b) a report summarizing the adequacy of the strain-based design for various loading scenarios provided in a)
- c) A list of standards and Project-specific specifications, including testing procedures, used in the strain-based design

C- 70: Strain-based Design (SBD)

- Pipe subjected to soil displacement loading can incur a loss of containment (LoC) through three failure mechanisms that define the limit states of the pipeline system. These are:
 1. Tensile failure of the pipe body,
 2. Tensile failure of a girth weld containing a flaw,
 3. Compressive strain induced buckle of sufficient severity as to produce a transverse through wall crack.
- The specification of High Strain Capacity (HSC) heavy wall pipe increases tensile strain capacity and ensures the pipe installed exhibits the proven material and weld properties required to achieve high strain capacity by applying SBD.
- The SBD approach was applied to areas subject to displacement controlled geohazards (landslides and seismic liquefaction induced lateral spreading) as identified in the response to Condition 16 “Quantitative Geohazard Frequency Assessment”.
 - Additionally, TMEP specified HSC pipe for the Westridge tunnel. Short sections of HSC pipe were specified for construction practicality.

C- 70: Summary Results

The total HSC pipe quantities utilized by TMEP were 28,935 m.

It is estimated that the change to heavy wall increases the tensile strain capacity (TSC) moderately (6%). However, the change to HSC and heavy wall pipe, with the accompanying modifications in weld and coating procedures increases, combined with an increase of TSC by 144%

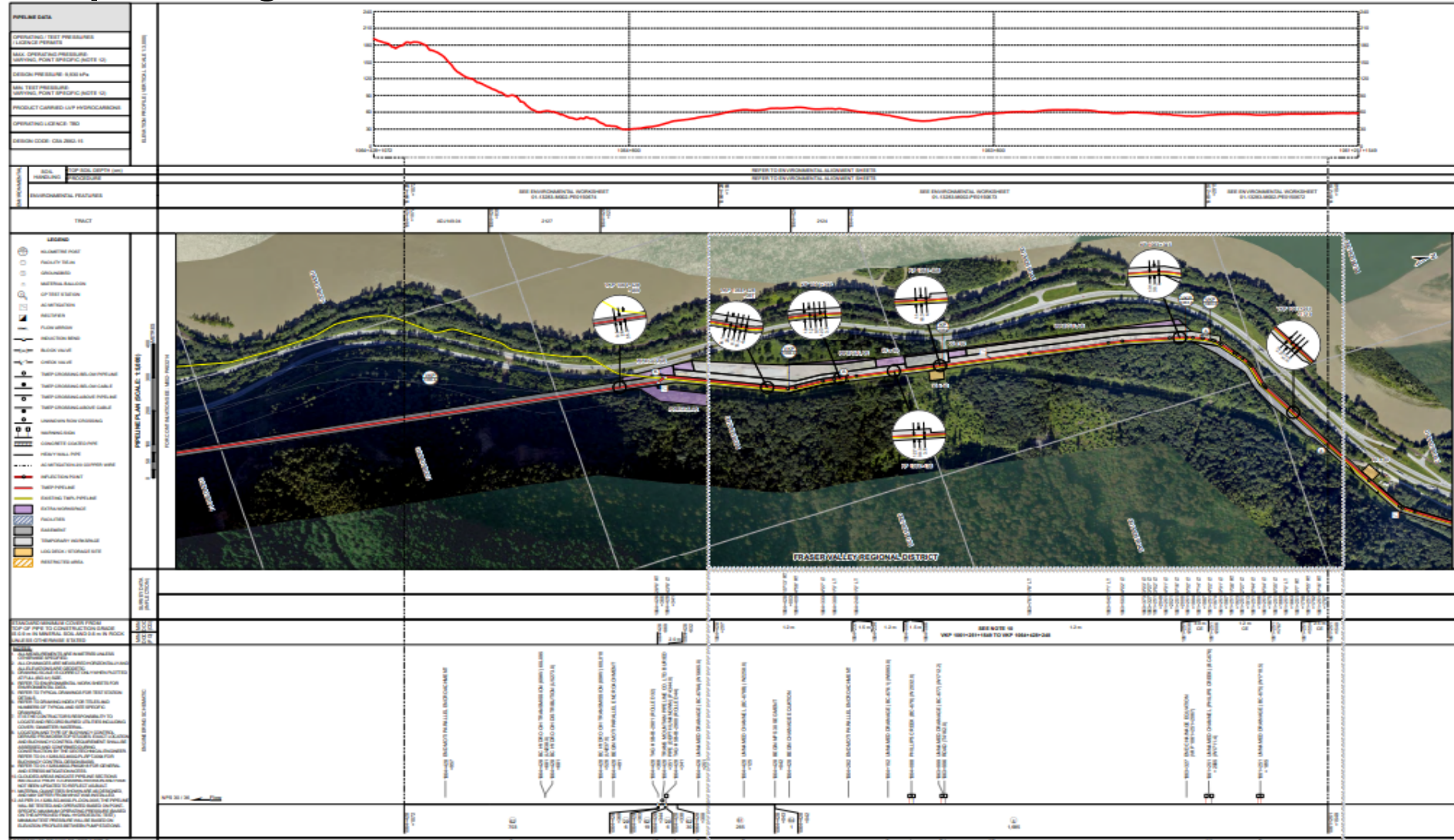
Significant operational benefits are realized as the strain capacity permitted by code increases from 0.5% to 1.3% (or nearly 3 times the design allowable for stress-based design)

NEB Condition Requirement:

Trans Mountain must file with the NEB ... updated engineering alignment sheets and drawings and, as they become available and prior to their implementation, any modifications to those sheets and drawings.

C104: Updated Engineering Alignment Sheets & Designs

Example of alignment sheet



C104: Updated Engineering Alignment Sheets & Designs

Spread 5B Dominant Design table

Spread #	PXID	Geohazard Category	Geographic Location	SSEID005.24.2 (\$5B) KP from	SSEID005.24.2 (\$5B) KP to	Width (m)	Burial Depth (m)	Additional Cover (m)	Recommended Depth of Cover (m)	Pipeline Wall Thickness (mm)	Burial Type
5B	W1612.3	Scour	Unnamed Channel	992.142	992.145	3	1.5	0	1.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B		Rockfall	Dry Gulch East Slope - Coquihalla Summit	992.800	992.910	110	1.5	0.8	2.3	19	IB
5B		Rockfall	Dry Gulch - Coquihalla Summit	992.910	992.974	65	1.5	0.8	2.3	19	IB
5B		Rockfall	Dry Gulch West Slope - Coquihalla Summit	992.974	993.100	126	1.5	0.8	2.3	19	IB
5B	W1615.3	Scour	Fallslake Creek	994.228	994.258	30	1.5	0	1.5	14.7	CE
5B	W1618.3	Scour	Unnamed Channel	995.929	995.935	6	1.5	0	1.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B	W2088.1	Scour	Unnamed Channel	998.085	998.091	6	1.5	0	1.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B	W1621.4	Scour	Unnamed Channel	999.428	999.444	16	1.5	0	1.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B		Debris Flow	Markhor Peak Channel 3	999.513	999.518	5	1.2	0	1.2	As per UPI design	IB
5B	W1622.4	Scour	Boston Bar Creek	1000.059	1000.070	11	1.5	0	1.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B	W1623.5	Scour	Unnamed Channel	1001.635	1001.651	16	1.5	0	1.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B		Debris Slides	Flatiron - Coquihalla Valley	1001.649	1007.920	6271	1.5	1	2.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B	W1627.5	Scour	Boston Bar Creek	1007+810+372	1007+810+401	29	2.2	0	2.2	14.7	CE
5B		Debris Slides	Bombtram Mountain - Coquihalla Valley	1008.237	1008.354	117	1.5	1	2.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B	W1629.3	Debris Flow	Unnamed Channel	1008.354	1008.357	3	2.5	0	2.5	14.7	CE
5B		Debris Slides	Bombtram Mountain - Coquihalla Valley	1008.357	1008.667	309	1.5	1	2.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B		Debris Flow	Unnamed Channel	1008.667	1008.669	2	1.5	0	1.5	19	CE
5B		Debris Slides	Bombtram Mountain - Coquihalla Valley	1008.669	1008.707	39	1.5	1	2.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B		Debris Flow	Unnamed Channel	1008.707	1008.710	2	1.5	0	1.5	As per UPI design	CE
5B		Debris Slides	Bombtram Mountain - Coquihalla Valley	1008.710	1009.031	321	1.5	1	2.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B	W1630.3	Debris Flow	Unnamed Channel	1009.031	1009.035	4	1.5	0	1.5	19	CE
5B		Debris Slides	Bombtram Mountain - Coquihalla Valley	1009.035	1009.413	378	1.5	1	2.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B	W1631.3	Debris Flow	Unnamed Channel	1009.413	1009.433	20	1.5	0	1.5	19	CE
5B		Debris Slides	Bombtram Mountain - Coquihalla Valley	1009.433	1010.880	1447	1.5	1	2.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B	W1637.3	Debris Flow	Unnamed Channel	1010.880	1010.896	15	2	0	2	19	CE
5B		Debris Slides	Bombtram Mountain - Coquihalla Valley	1010.896	1010.943	48	1.5	1	2.5	As per UPI design	IB
5B	W1639.3	Debris Flow	Unnamed Channel	1010.943	1010.947	4	1.5		1.5	As per UPI design	CE

C106: Construction Progress Reports

NEB Condition Requirement:

Trans Mountain must file with the NEB, monthly construction progress reports from commencing construction until after commencing operations. The reports must include information on the progress of activities carried out during the reporting period, including:

- a) safety, environmental and security issues, or non-compliances that occurred during the reporting.
- b) measures undertaken to resolve safety and environmental issues or non-compliances identified in a);
- c) confirmation that security issues identified in a) have been addressed;
- d) a description and the location of any change made to geohazard mitigation measures pursuant to Condition 51; and
- e) the location of any pressure tests carried out during the reporting period and a description of any unsuccessful pressure tests, including the reasons for the lack of success of each.

C106: Construction Progress Reports

Report example:

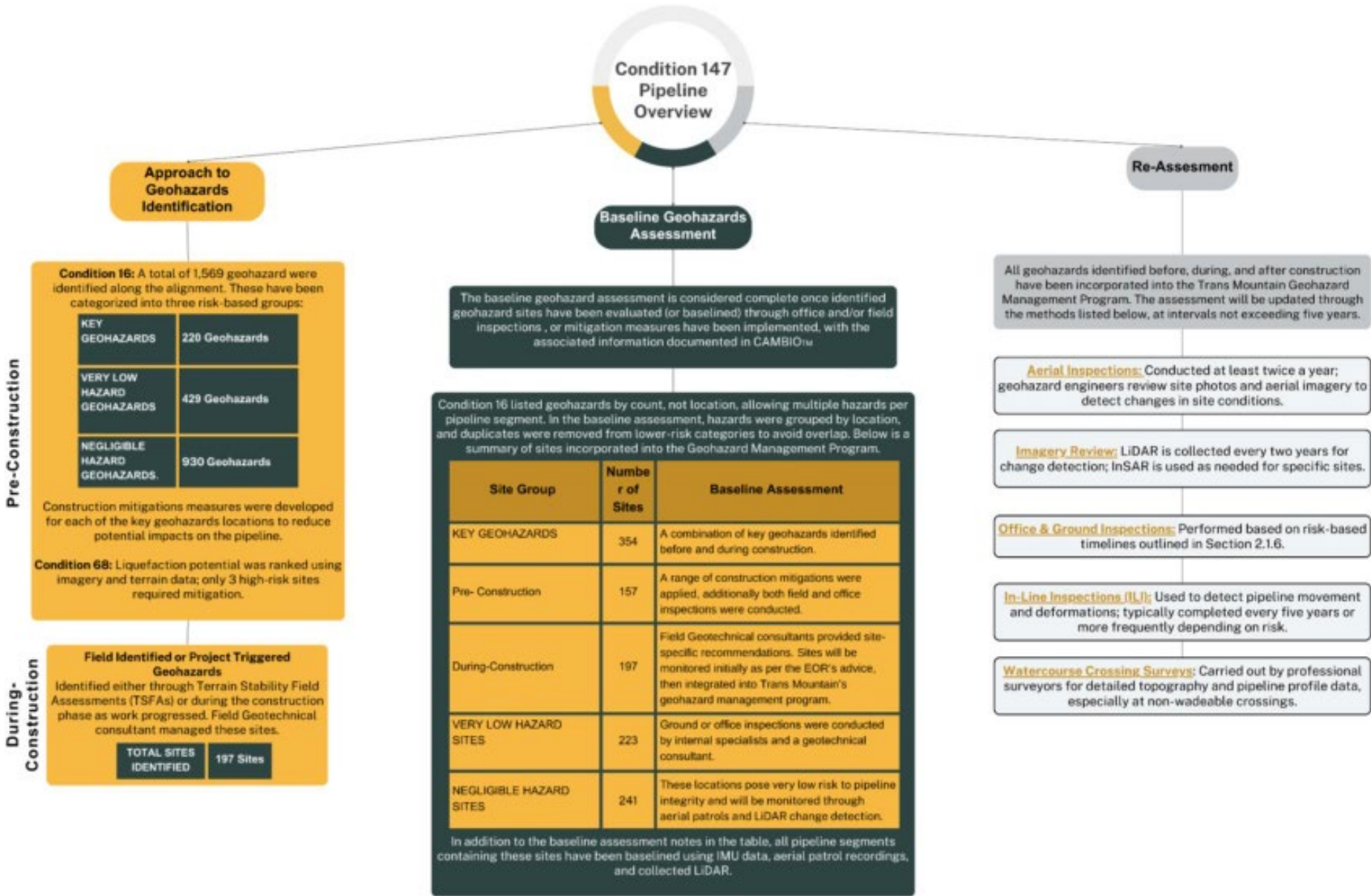
Location	Description of Geohazard	Description of Mitigation Measures
TCA 24B Zig Zag Road (KP1012+800 to KP1013+600)	Erosion/Slope Instability	<p>- On April 24, 2024, TEL completed a field review of the Zig Zag Road section of the TMEP alignment between KP1012+800 and KP1013+600. The purpose of the review was to assess the stability of the cut slopes for worker access safety, and also to provide recommendations for final restoration of the grade cuts to provide long-term stable access for pipeline operations (TEL Document # GH_4984).</p> <p>-TEL assessed the interval to be safe for worker entry, provided several controls were followed as outlined in the above referenced Field Review Report, dated April 24, 2024. These controls included maintaining worker and vehicle distance from the cut as far as practicable, shutdown recommendations for adverse weather including heavy precipitation and wind events, recommendations for the positioning and use of a spotter for workers close to the cut, and the positioning of equipment or vehicles between workers and the cut if stationary work was necessary.</p> <p>-TEL also provided recommendations and construction details in the above report for restoration of extremely oversteepened cuts in a number of locations across the subject interval. Recommendations included the removal of mesh and canopy anchors in several locations, and the placement of lock block walls at the toe of several sections to be backfilled with approved rock or gravel to buttress the cuts. It was noted that the recommended lock block buttress configuration would not buttress the entire footprint of all oversteepened cuts along the road, but are intended to significantly reduce the rate and scale of slope retrogression such that the residual retrogression hazard can be reasonably managed using standard low volume access road maintenance methods. TEL conducted a follow up review on September 9, 2024 to reaffirm all recommendations provided in the April 24, 2024 report (TEL Doc #: GH_5665).</p> <p>-TEL has been conducting ongoing daily site assessments since October 7, 2024, to monitor the implementation of the provided recommendations and the suitability of the final cut slope restoration. TEL will continue to monitor until restoration completion.</p>

NEB Condition Requirement:

Trans Mountain must file with the NEB, within 1 year after commencing operations:

- a) the results of the baseline natural hazard assessment for the Project
- b) confirmation that the natural hazard assessment will be:
 - updated at intervals not exceeding 5 years
 - integrated into the exiting Natural Hazard Management Program for the Trans Mountain Pipeline system

C147: Natural Hazard Assessment





Module 2: Advanced Design Methods

Agenda

TRANS MOUNTAIN EXPANSION PROJECT

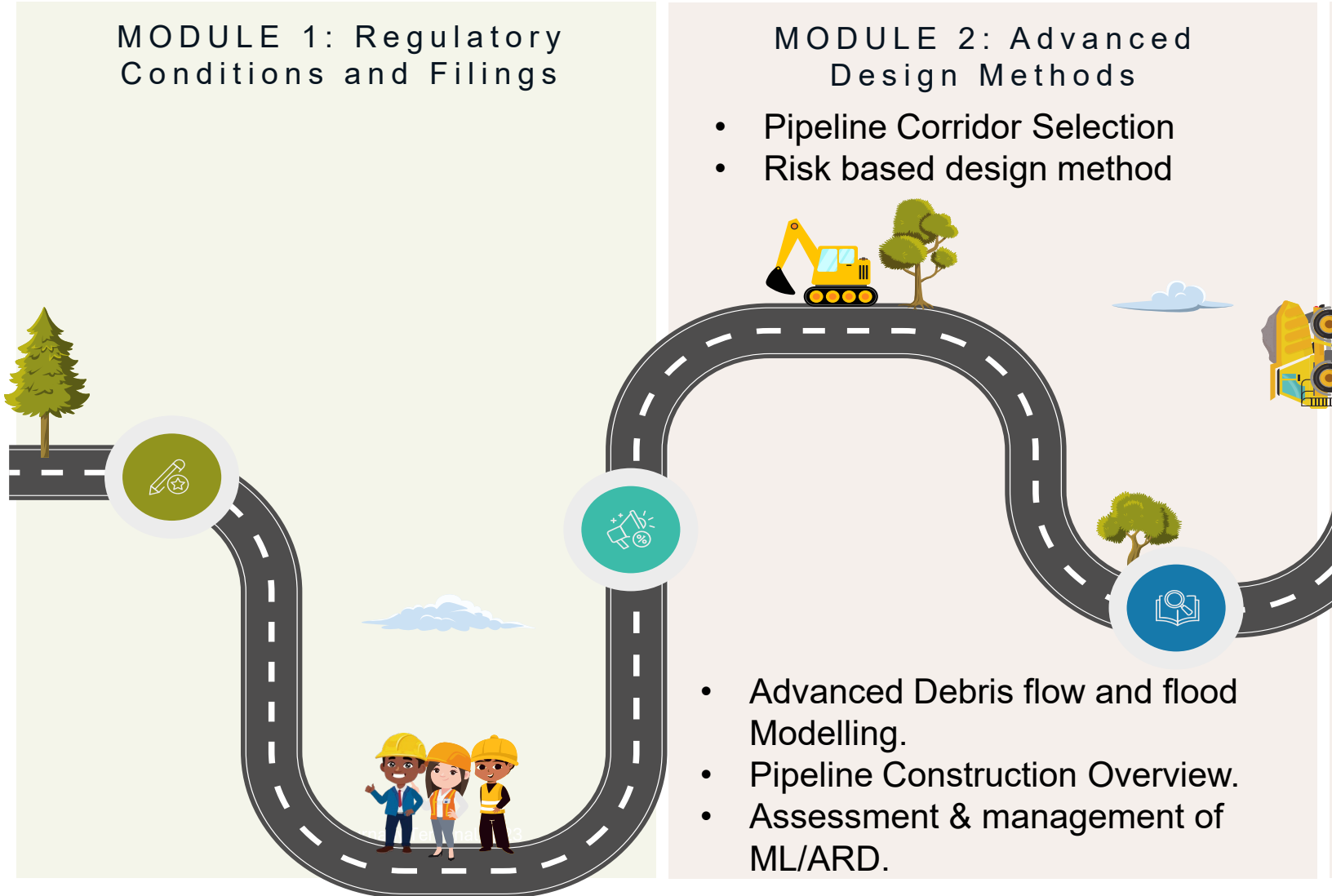
Pipeline Lifecycle Unveiled: Managing Pipeline Geohazards from Design to Operations

MODULE 1: Regulatory Conditions and Filings

MODULE 2: Advanced Design Methods

- Pipeline Corridor Selection
- Risk based design method

- Advanced Debris flow and flood Modelling.
- Pipeline Construction Overview.
- Assessment & management of ML/ARD.





Pipeline Corridor Selection

Pipeline Corridor Selection



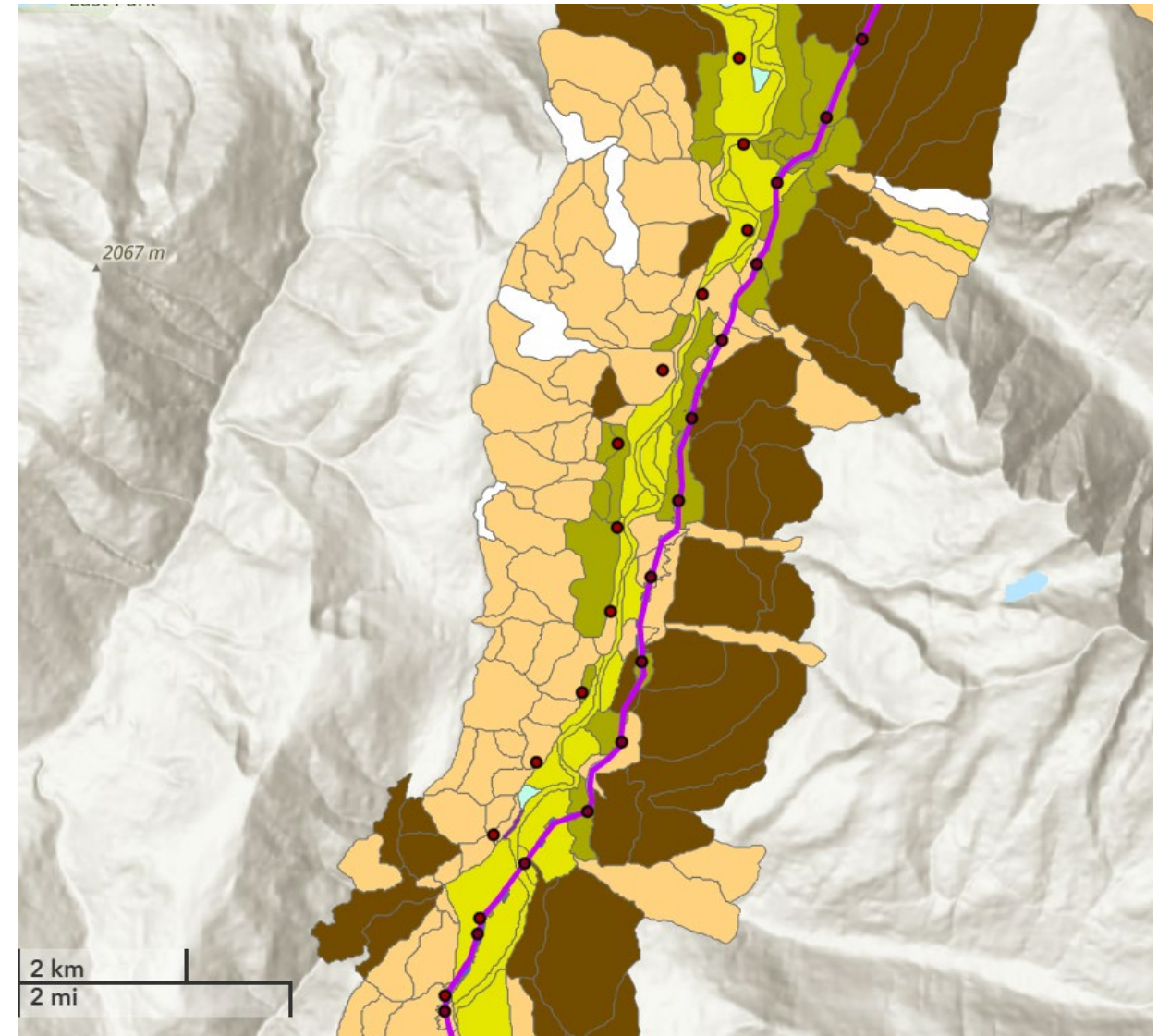
Pipeline Corridor Selection



Terrain Mapping

Terrain mapping involves the **delineation and classification of the landscape based on landforms, surficial materials, and geomorphic processes.**

While terrain analysis describes existing conditions, the information gathered can assist with evaluating **how conditions may change over different stages of the project** and with assessing potential environmental and social impacts of the Project.



Pipeline Corridor Selection



Terrain Mapping

Air Photo Interpretation

- Provides historical and current terrain views.
- Ideal for identifying slope changes, land use, riverbank erosion, channel migration and vegetation patterns.
- The historical photos serve as a valuable archive of past conditions and **providing evidence for changes in the landscape** within the study area.
- **Limitations:** Seasonal coverage and resolution variability.



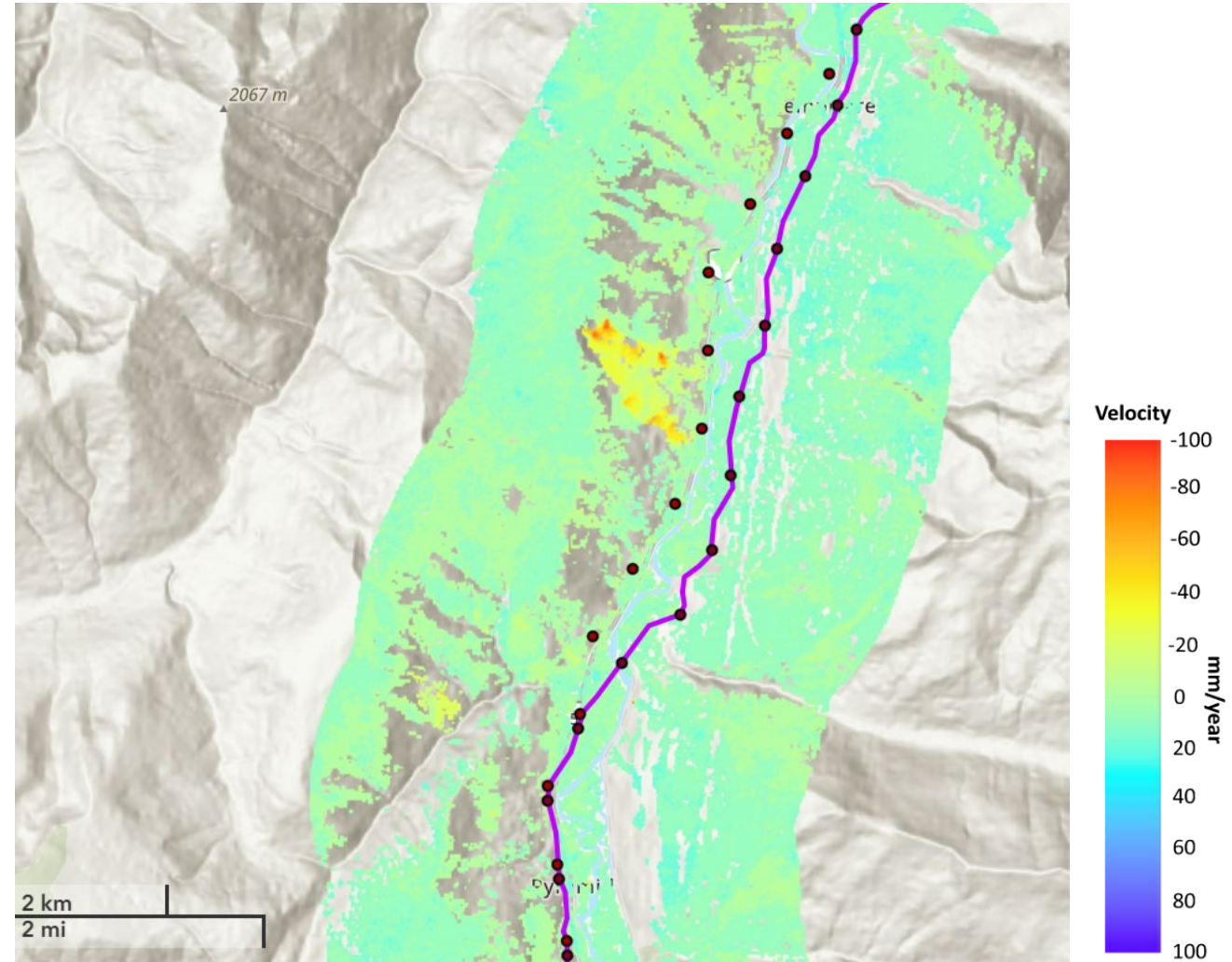
Risk-Based Design Method



Terrain Mapping

Satellite Imagery

- Imagery acquired from satellite is often the preferred image type for large, regional-scale studies.
- Tracks changes over time (e.g., vegetation loss, erosion).
- Types: Optical, radar (InSAR), and thermal imagery.
- Advantage: Global coverage with repeatable monitoring.



Pipeline Corridor Selection



Terrain Mapping

Digital Surface Modelling (DSM)

- 3D representation of terrain and surface features.
- Created using LiDAR, photogrammetry, or radar data.
- Applications: Slope stability analysis, hydrological modeling.
- High accuracy but requires specialized software and expertise.



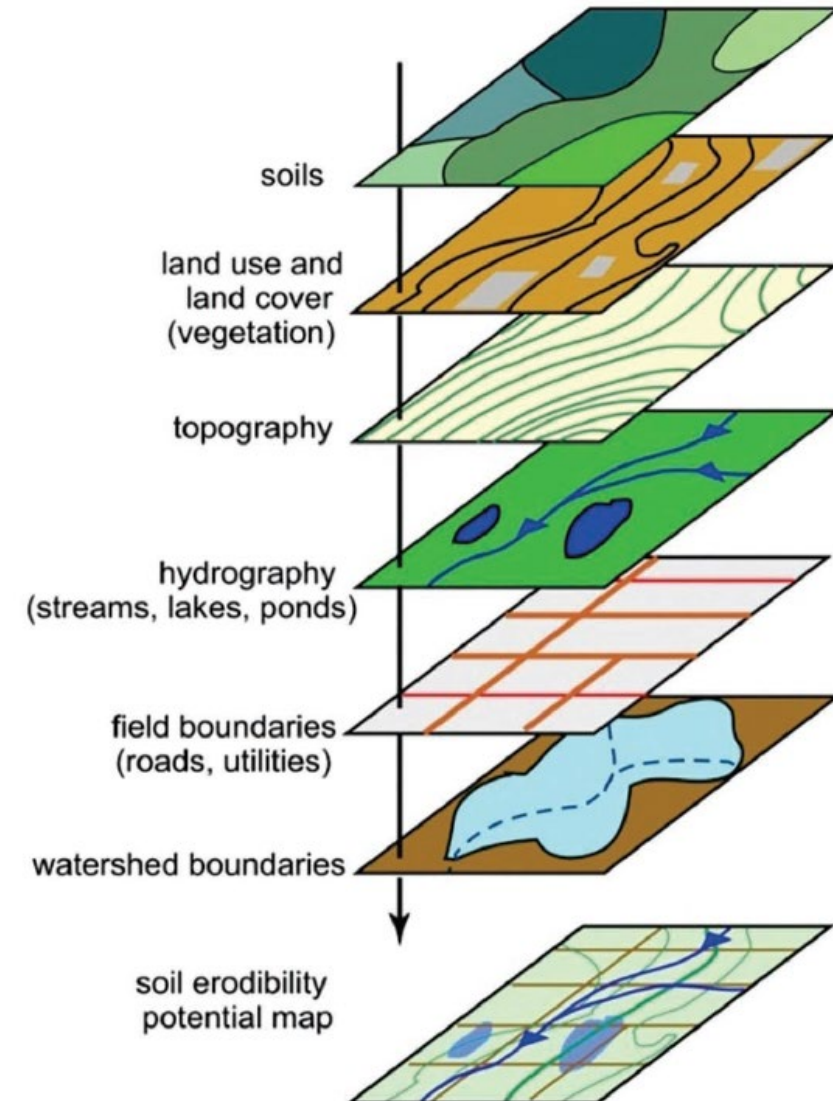
Pipeline Corridor Selection



Terrain Mapping

Existing Maps and Reports

- Provide data on **soils, geology, topography**, and other physical/human factors.
- Guide and supplement air photo and satellite imagery analysis.
- Show **administrative areas and protected lands**, aiding early pipeline studies.
- Highlight existing **transportation and communication corridors** that impact pipeline decisions.
- Obtainable from **government agencies, universities, or commercial resellers**.



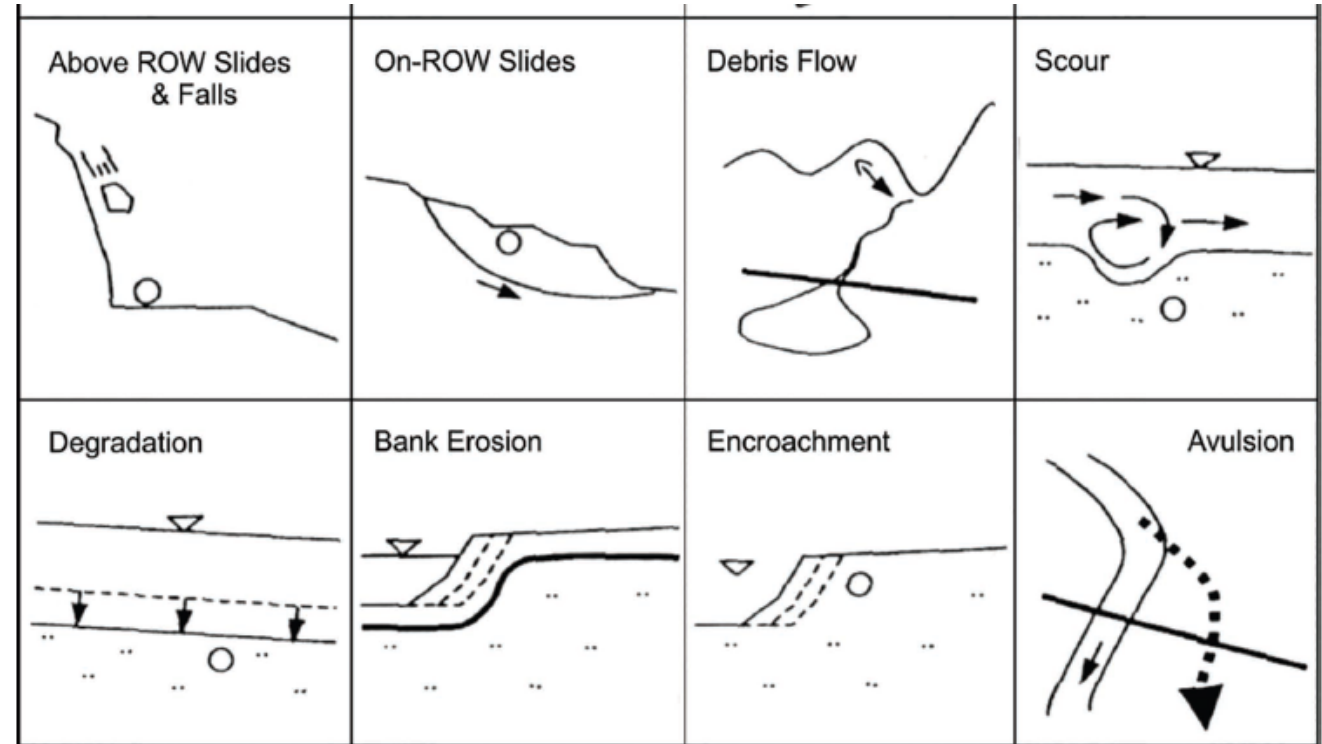
Pipeline Corridor Selection



Topography and Geotechnical Properties

Geohazards

- Buried pipelines are susceptible to many geohazards. Assessing and managing the threat of these geohazards involves recognizing and **delineating specific geohazard mechanisms, estimating the frequency and magnitude of occurrence** of these processes and events and **assessing the vulnerability of the pipeline.**



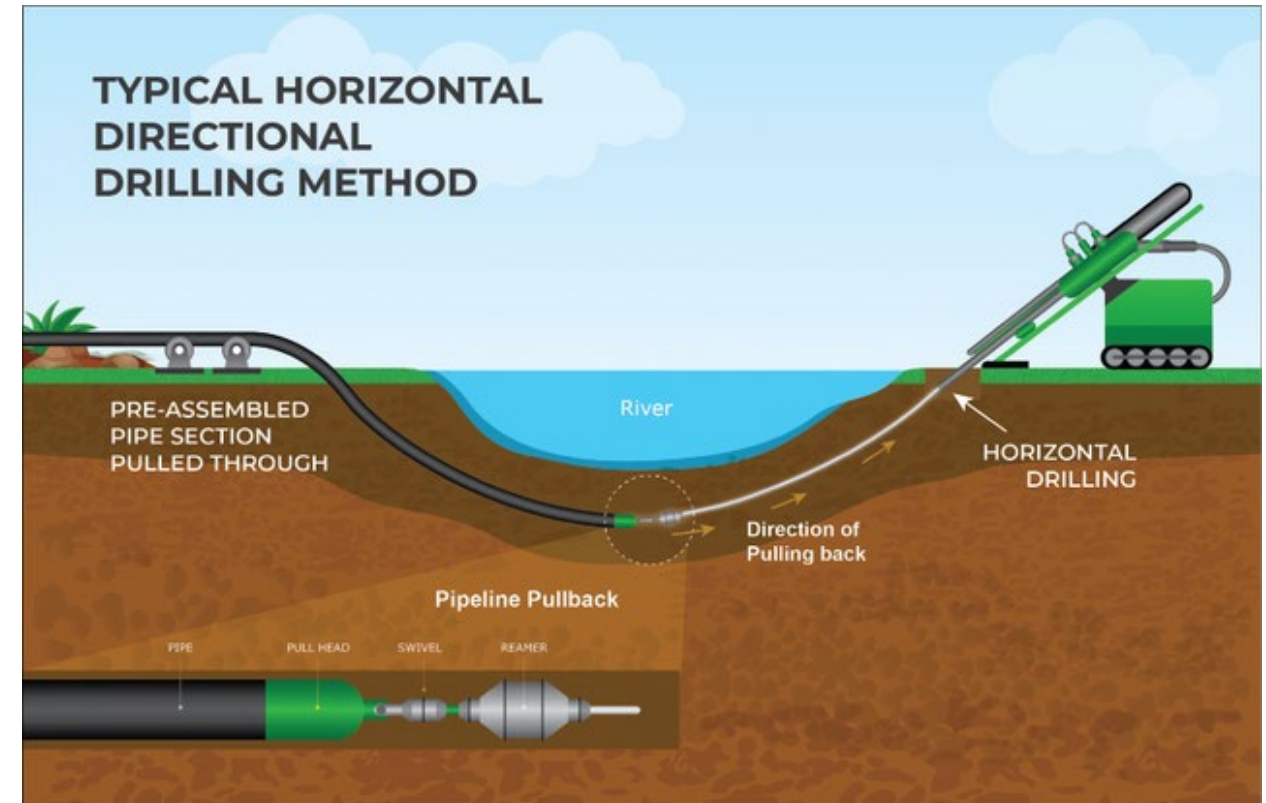
Rizkalla and Read 2019. Chapter 2.

Pipeline Corridor Selection



Ground Water and Drainage

- Hydrotechnical risks: **scour, bank erosion, slope instability, avulsion, and debris impact.**
- Key concern: Potential pipeline leakage **contaminating water resources.**
- Requires understanding shallow groundwater influenced by surface materials and drainage.
- Groundwater conditions are particularly important for evaluating and planning **HDD crossings** to help select **drilling parameters** and to ensure that **aquifers are not contaminated** by drilling fluid.



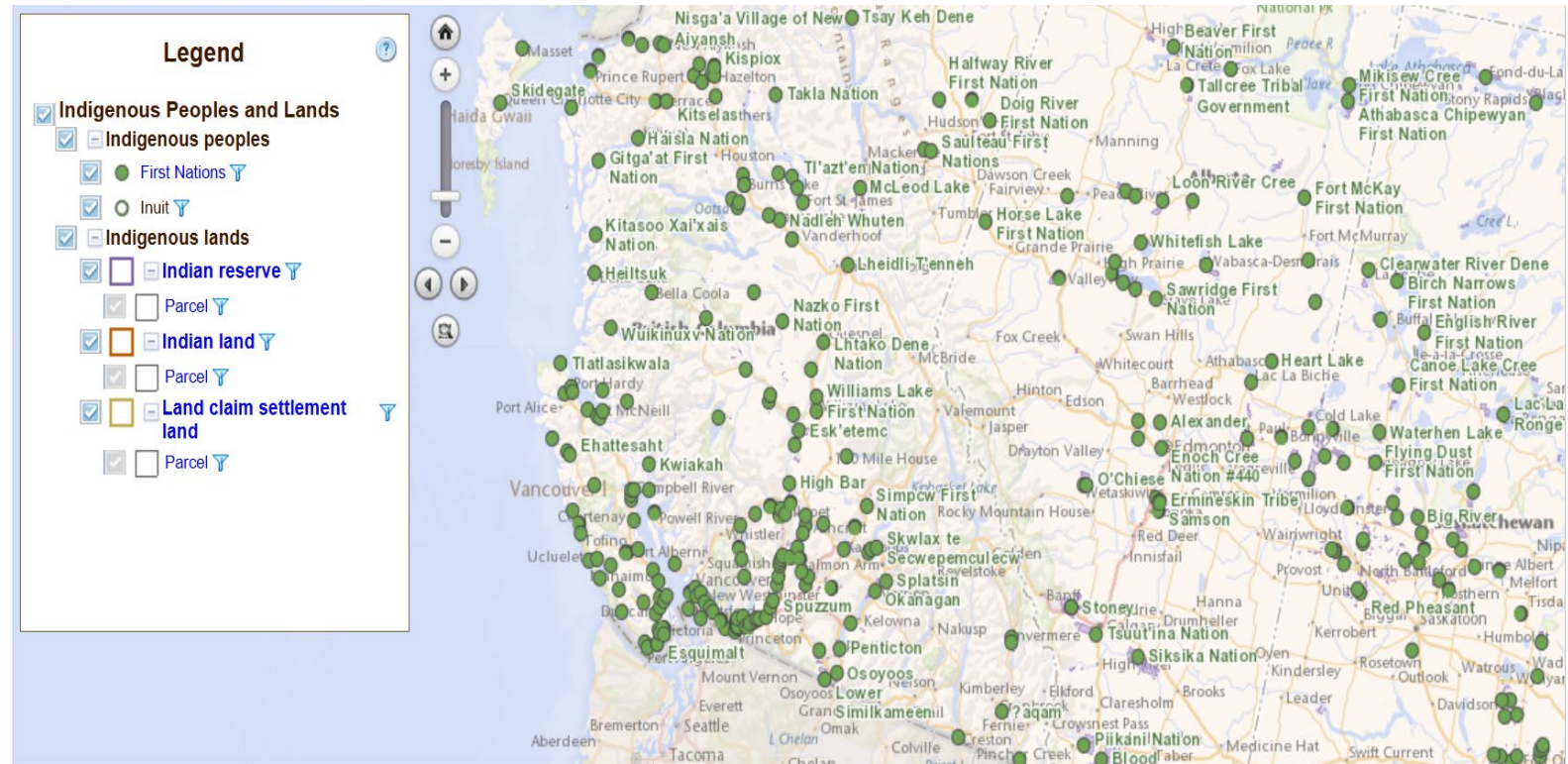
Lawrence M. Slavin. ASTM F1962–22. 2023

Pipeline Corridor Selection



Cultural and Environmental Constraints

- Avoid sensitive areas or use terrain analysis to minimize effects.
 - Protected Environmental Zones
 - Water Resources
 - Indigenous Lands
 - Agricultural Lands
 - Urban and Residential Areas



Indigenous peoples and lands, Government of Canada. <https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1605796533652/1605796625692>

Pipeline Corridor Selection



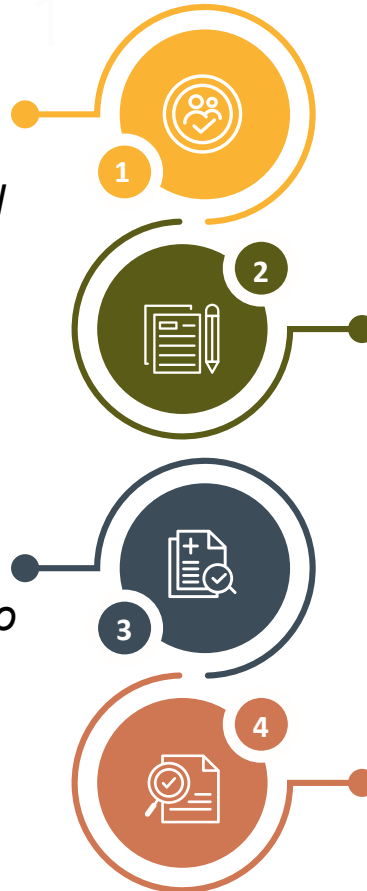
Applications of Terrain Analysis

Corridor and Route Selection

- *Regional corridor studies, identify 2-3 competing, high-level corridors.*
- *Stakeholder engagement on high-level corridors.*
- *Detailed studies to select a preferred corridor.*

Construction

- *During construction, terrain-related issues can arise, but with proper data and design knowledge, they can be quickly addressed to keep projects on track and minimize environmental impacts.*



Design

- *Design must align with engineering criteria and adapt to terrain and geotechnical conditions.*
- *Detailed terrain data (e.g., LiDAR) informs the pipeline's horizontal and vertical alignments.*
- *Geotechnical studies (e.g., borehole drilling) help refine the design and manage terrain challenges.*

Operations

- *Data collected during routing, design, and construction helps with geohazard risk assessments, planning protective measures, and responding to emergencies in a timely and efficient manner.*

Pipeline Corridor Selection

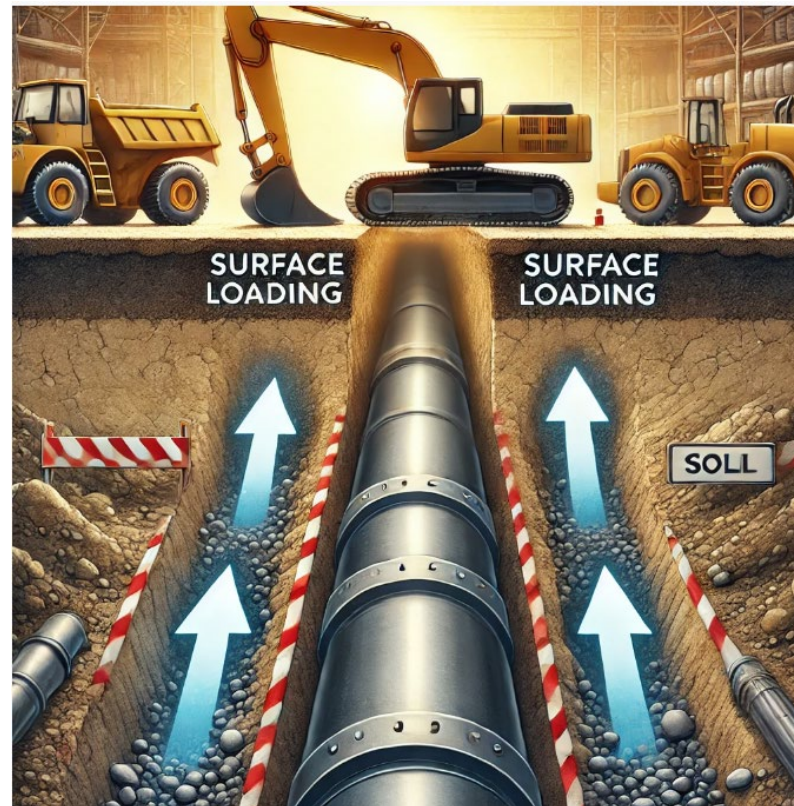


Adjacent Operating Pipelines

Separation Distance



Surface Loading



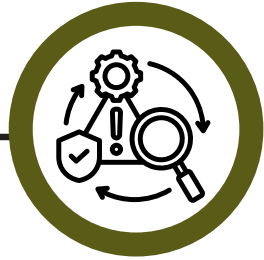
Blasting





Risk Based Design Method

Risk Based Design Method



Trans Mountain used a risk-based design combining annual failure frequency and consequence to estimate pipeline failure risk.



To support that overall risk assessment, **credible geohazards along the pipeline were identified** and the frequency of loss of containment was estimated at each geohazard site following the framework.



Frequency values expressed qualitatively or quantitatively



FLoC estimated using empirical analysis, deterministic assessment, and expert judgment for each hazard and location.

01 Aerial Photos

Recent high-resolution images (1:15,000–1:20,000) plus historical photos for key sites (e.g., watercourses) to analyze changes over time.



Historical Records 06

Long-term geohazard and mitigation data from OPS Natural Hazard Management Program (since 1998).

02 Immersive Video

2012 helicopter flyover video used for corridor review from multiple angles.



Pipeline Design Info 07

HDD crossings, pipe wall thickness, and coating incorporated into frequency analysis.

03 Updated Terrain Mapping

2015–2016 updates using new surficial geology and borehole data.



Debris Flow/Flood 08

2015–2016 inventory and field validation of debris flow channels and fans.

04 LiDAR

High-resolution elevation data for the entire BC and Alberta corridor.



Hydrotechnical Hazards 09

Desktop and field assessments of flood risk at watercourse crossings using LiDAR, satellite imagery, and surveys.

05 Google Earth

Supplemental imagery for cross-checking aerial photos.



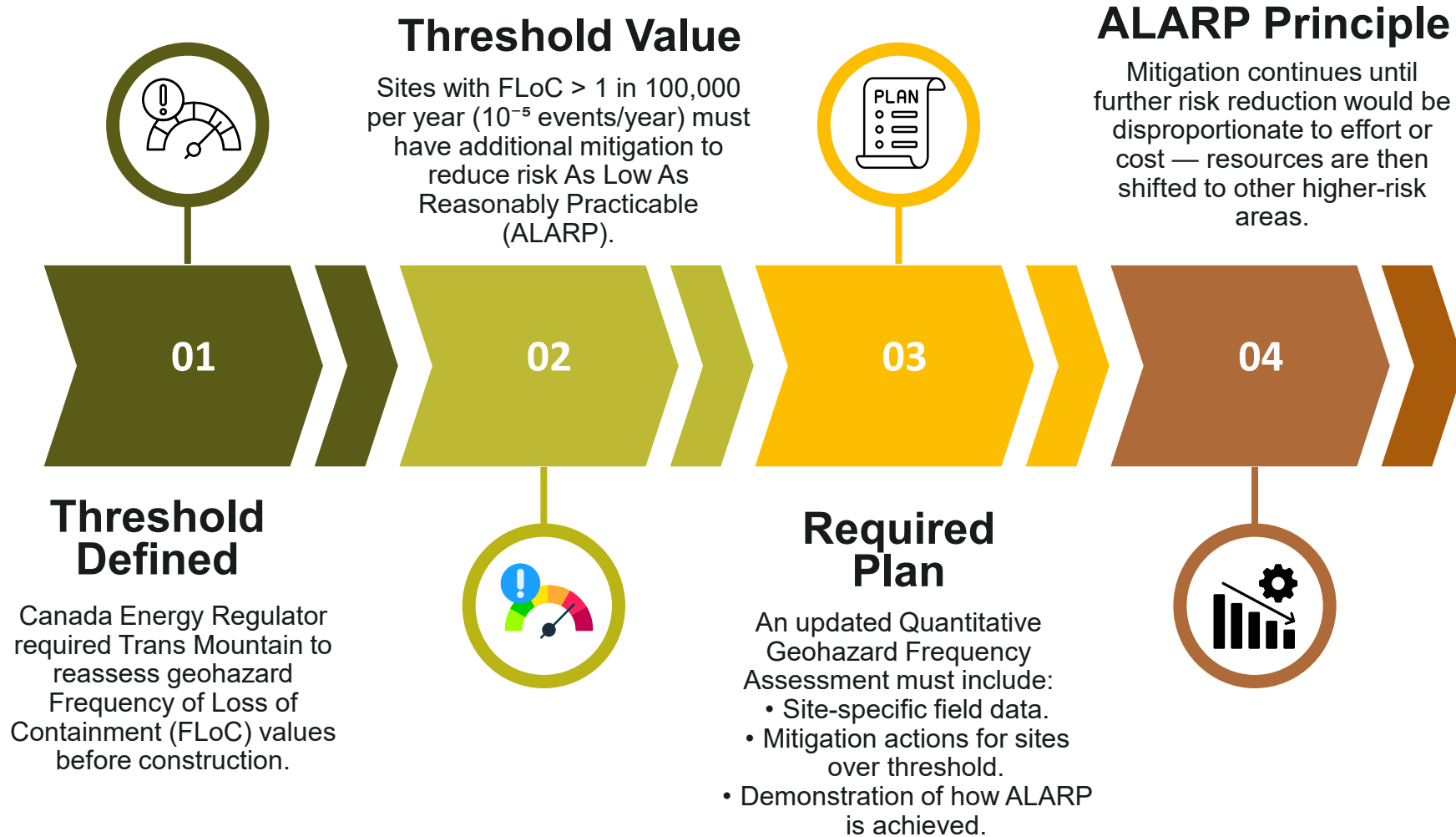
Rock & Soil Slopes 10

Site-specific slope hazard reviews with LiDAR and field checks to refine input data.

Summary of Data Sources for Geohazard Assessment



Risk Based Design Method



Risk Based Design Method

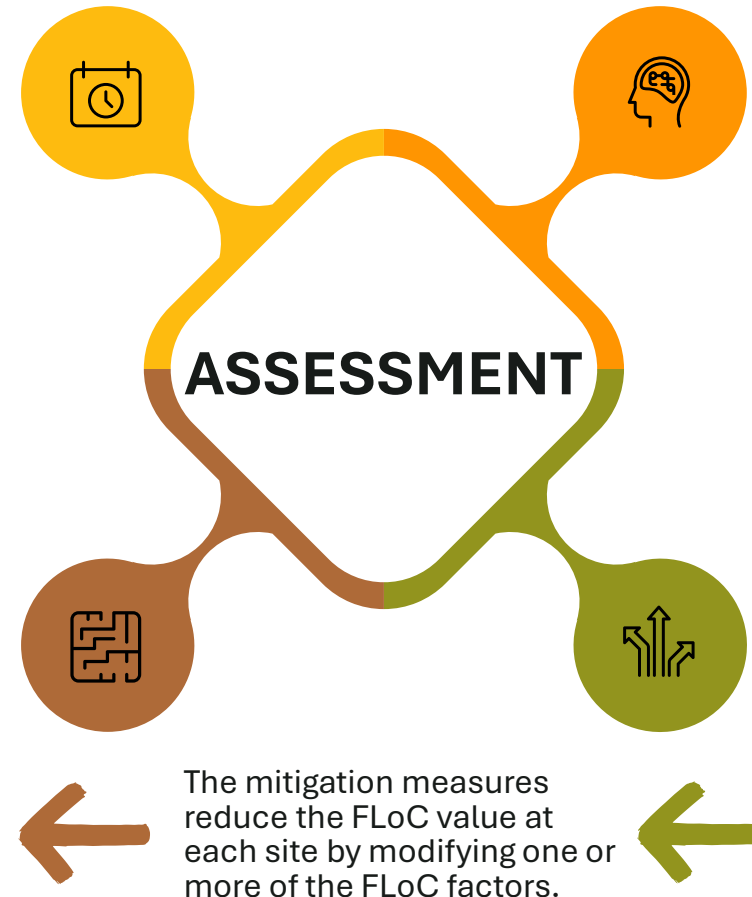
Determine FLoC Values 01

FLoC value calculated based on:
Occurrence (I), Frequency (F),
Horizontal Spatial (SH), Vertical
Spatial (SV), Vulnerability (V), and
Mitigation (M).

$$FLoC(i) = I(i) \times F(i) \times SH(i) \times SV(i) \times V(i) \times M(i, F(i), SH(i), SV(i), V(i))$$

Post-Mitigation Results 04

- Where FLoC remained above threshold:
 - Further mitigation not added if impractical, disproportionate, or environmentally damaging.
 - ALARP principle applied — balance between additional benefit & feasibility.



02 Select sites above threshold: Pre-Mitigated results

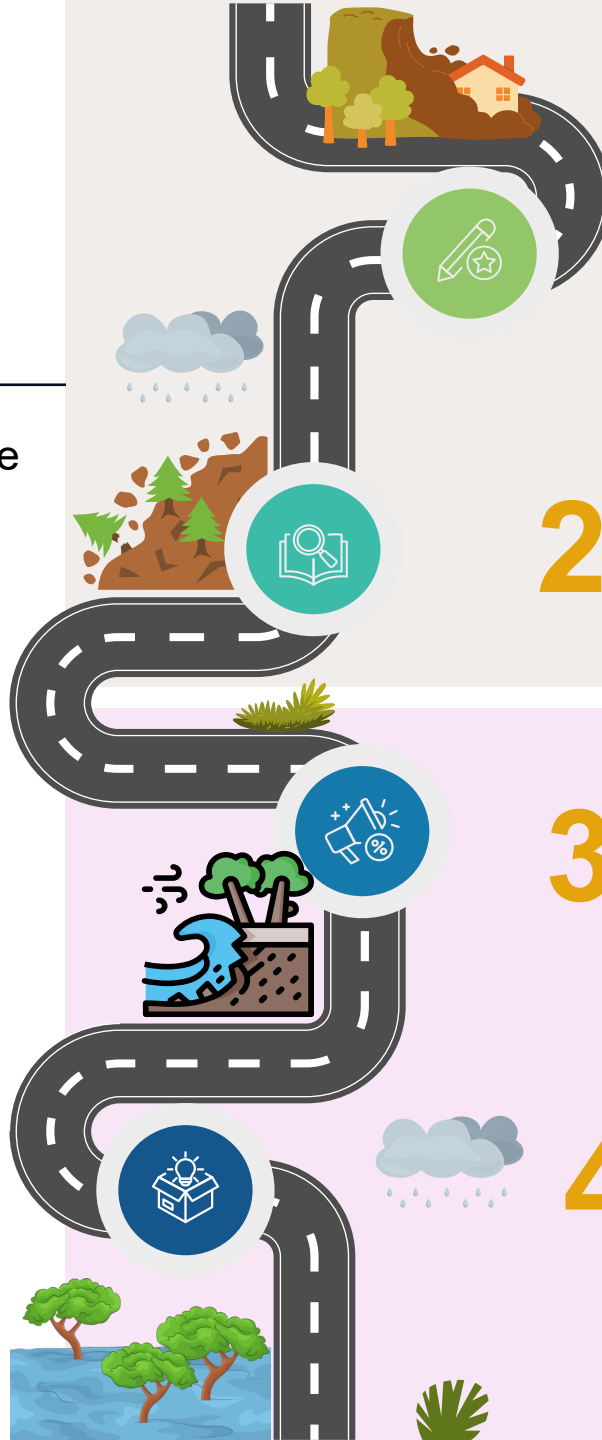
- FLoC values were estimated assuming standard pipeline design and construction techniques would be employed.
- Sites segments with FLoC values above 10-5 were selected for further mitigation

03 Mitigation Selection

- Evaluated based on effort vs. risk reduction.
- Multiple options considered:
 - Increased Depth of Cover
 - Increased Wall Pipe Thickness
 - Horizontal Directional Drilling
 - Concrete Coating
- Reviewed for feasibility during planning, design, and construction.
- Iterative process until suitable solution found.

Assessed Geohazards

- 11 key geohazard types were assessed, and engineering designs were implemented during construction to high-risk sites to mitigate their effects.



1

Rock Slope Geohazards

- Rockfall
- Extremely rapid rockslides
- Extremely Rapid Rock Avalanches

2

Soil Slope Geohazards

- Debris Slides/Avalanches
- Earth landslides

3

Debris Hazards

- Debris Flows
- Debris Floods

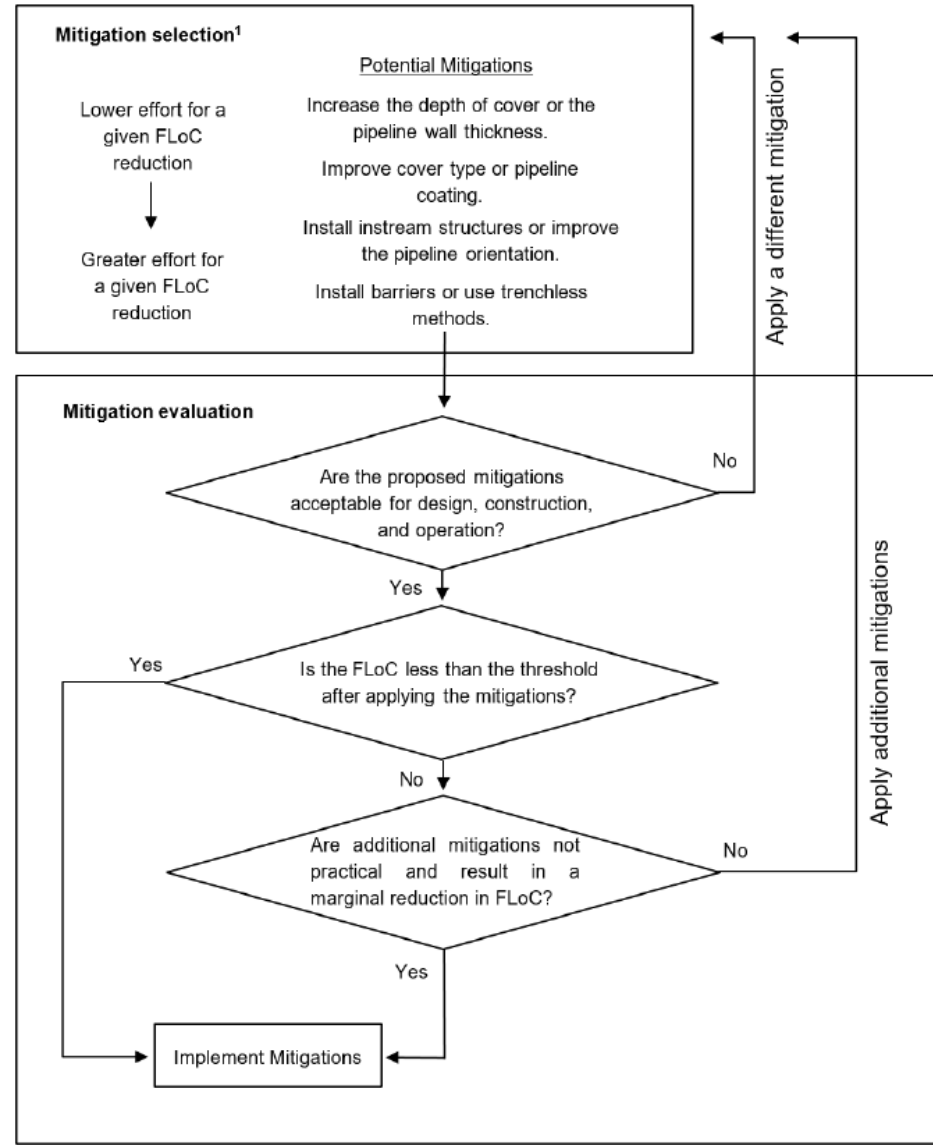
4

Hydrotechnical Hazards

- Avulsion
- Scour
- Lateral Erosion
- Outburst-type floods

Mitigation Assessment

Mitigation assessment



Assessment Results

Assessment

- Quantitative Geohazard Frequency Assessment.
- TM must provide a plan to manage and mitigate geohazards at any location where the FLoC is greater than 1×10^{-5}

A total of **1,569** credible geohazards segments were identified along the alignment.

Out of the 429 geohazards identified as low-risk hazards, **105 sites** were evaluated by TM at the office and selected for baseline and ground inspections.



220 (14%) sites were above the threshold set by the CER for the frequency of loss of containment
Mitigation: Depth of Cover, Wall thickness, concrete coating, HDDs.



The remaining geohazards have a negligible hazard, and no further action was required.

Assessment Results

Table 2. Summary of the pre- and post-mitigated geohazard results.

Frequency of Loss of Containment (Events/Year)	Pre-Mitigated			Post-Mitigated		
	Total Number of Segments	% of Total	Length of Segment (km)	Total Number of Segments	% of Total	Length of Segment (km)
$>10^{-1}$	0	0	0	0	0	0
10^{-1} to $>10^{-2}$	0	0	0	0	0	0
10^{-2} to $>10^{-3}$	2	0.1	0.9	0	0	0
10^{-3} to $>10^{-4}$	25	1.6	17.1	1	0.1	0.6
10^{-4} to $>10^{-5}$	193	12.3	83.6	39	2.5	45.6
10^{-5} to $>10^{-6}$	407	25.9	152.3	475	30.3	180.8
10^{-6} to $>10^{-7}$	399	25.4	112.5	395	25.2	123.0
$<10^{-7}$	543	34.6	60.8	659	42.0	77.2
Total	1,569	100	427.2	1,569	100	427.2

Table 4. Summary of post mitigated geohazard FLoC greater than 10^{-5} events per year by geohazard class and category.

Frequency of Loss of Containment (Events/Year)	Rock Geohazards			Soil Geohazards		Hydrotechnical Hazards							
	Rockfall	Rock Slide	Rock Avalanches	Earth Landslides	Debris Slide	Debris Flow	Debris Flood	Scour	Flooding	Lateral Erosion	Encroachment	Avulsion	Outburst Floods
10^{-2} to $>10^{-3}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10^{-3} to $>10^{-4}$	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10^{-4} to $>2 \times 10^{-5}$	0	1	9	0	0	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	0
2×10^{-5} to $>10^{-5}$	4	4	8	1	0	0	1	2	0	4	0	0	0
Total	4	6	17	1	0	1	1	5	0	5	0	0	0

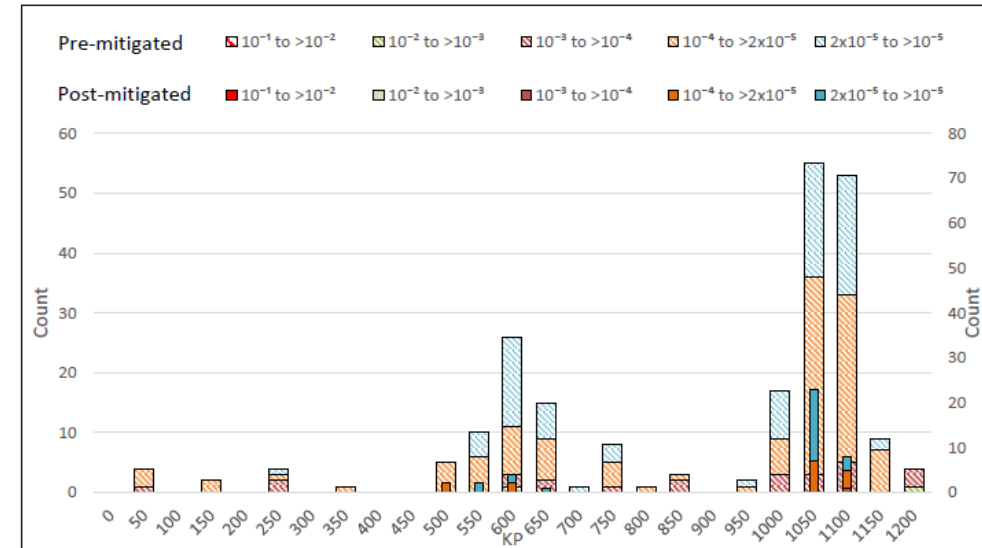
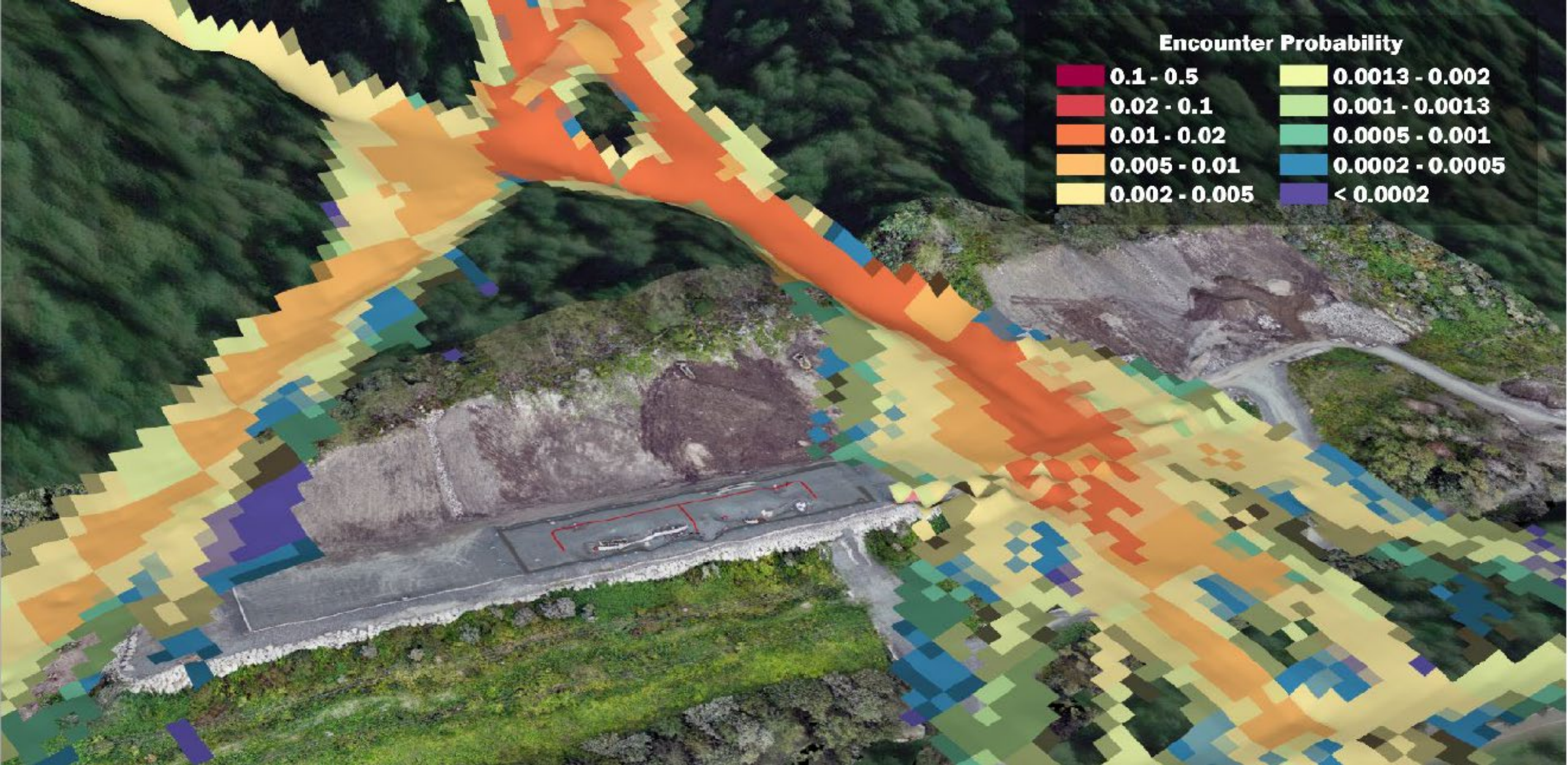


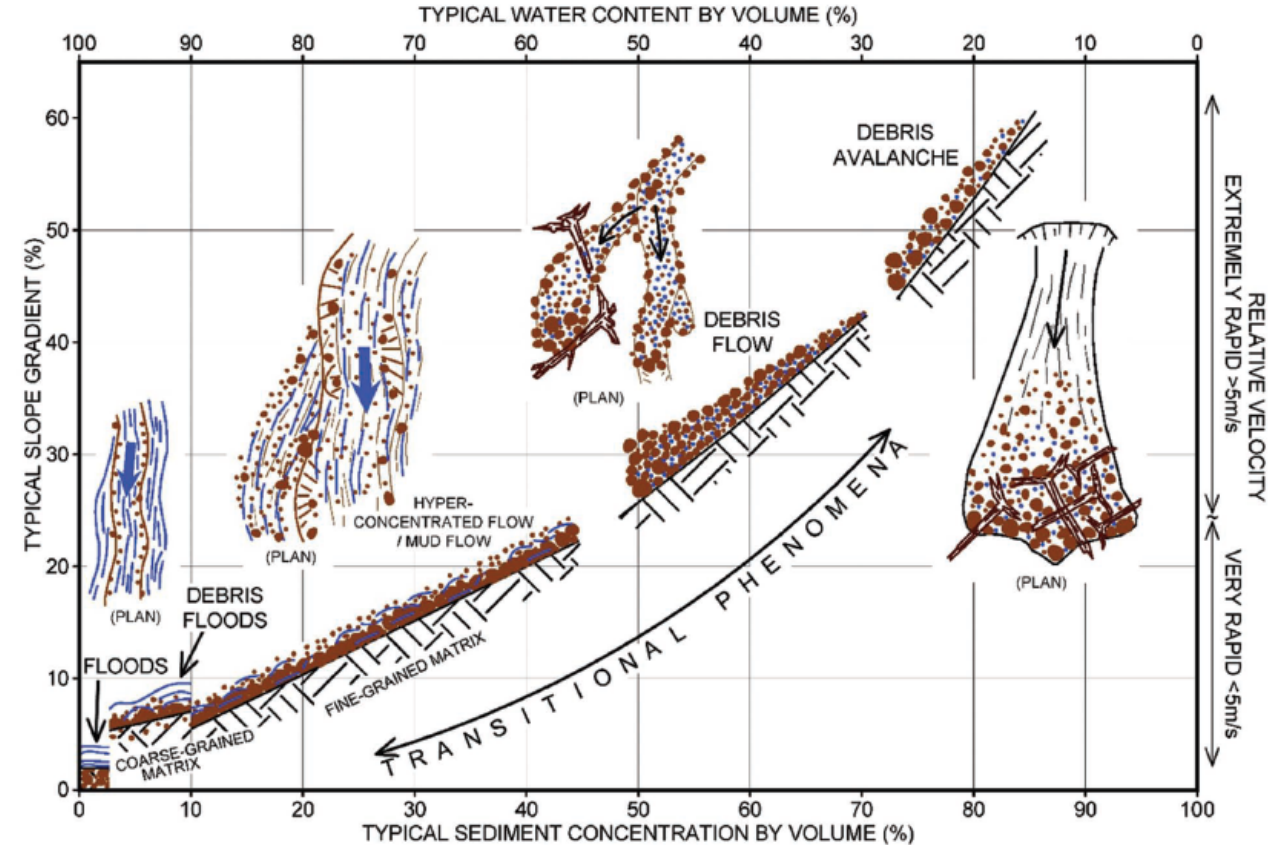
Figure 3. Number of pre- and post-mitigated geohazards along the proposed TMEP alignment with FLoC $> 10^{-5}$ events per year.



Advanced Debris Flow Modelling

Debris Flow vs Debris Flood

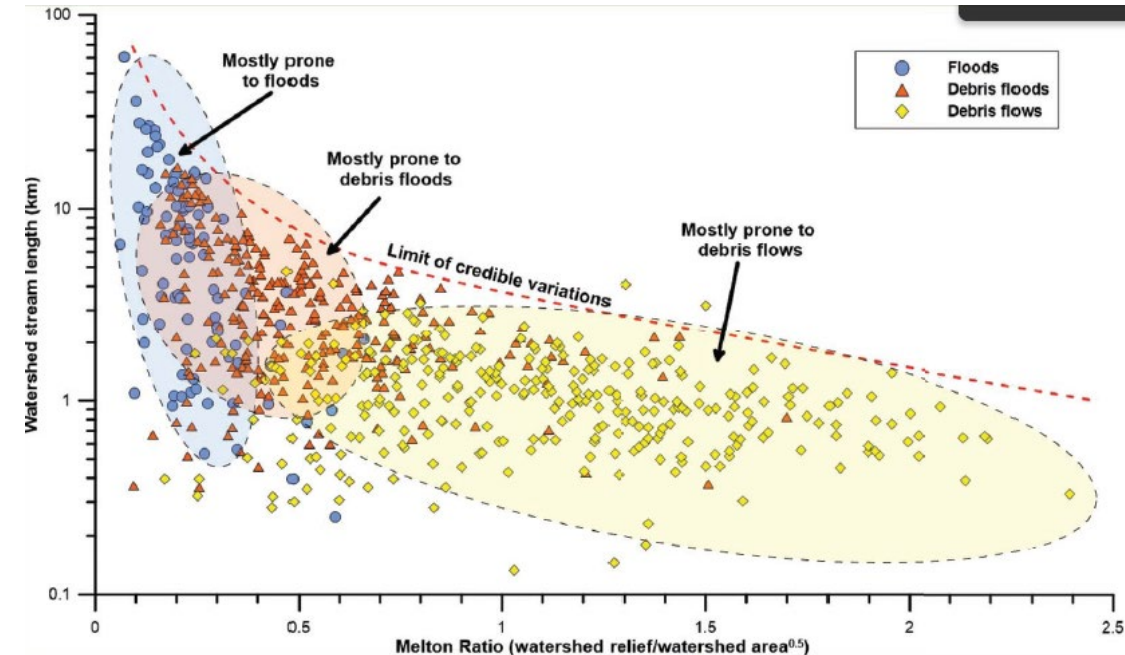
- **Debris flows:** Very rapid, water-saturated movement of debris in steep channels; sediment content **>50%**; can produce peak discharges up to **50× a major flood**.
- **Debris floods:** Similar process with lower sediment content (**3–50%**) and peak discharges up to **2–3× a major flood**.
- Occur in steep watersheds (**>3° gradient**) and confined channels with steep slopes.
- Paths include **initiation, transport, and deposition zones**; initiated by landslides or erosion from intense rain.
- Significant channel erosion and entrainment possible due to high energy and sediment loads.
- Common in steep gullies and small basins; larger basins may produce debris floods rather than flows.



Rizkalla and Read 2019. Chapter 13. BGC Engineering Inc.

Pipeline Crossings & Debris Flow Hazards

- Most mountain pipelines cross **alluvial or colluvial fans**, which are mainly depositional but can still **scour channels**, exposing pipelines to debris-flow impacts.
- **Avulsions** can occur when deposition blocks channels, forcing flows into new or old channels.
- In **transport zones**, debris flows are highly erosive and can strip overburden, exposing pipelines to direct impact.
- New or existing pipelines in these areas require hazard assessments:
 - Classify creek crossings (debris flow, debris flood, flood)
 - Map fans and avulsion paths
 - Evaluate channel scour potential
 - Use tools like **Melton Ratio** and watershed length for classification
- Where multiple hazards exist, design for the **most severe hazard**.
- Combined debris flood and debris flow risks can increase exposure and damage potential if scour exposes a buried line.



Rizkalla and Read 2019. Chapter 13. BGC Engineering Inc

Debris Flow Susceptibility

- **Objective:** Evaluate debris flow probability, vulnerability, and select mitigation.
- **Stability:** Assess initiation using historical evidence, basin conditions, sediment supply, channel gradient, and fan activity.
- **Trigger:** Estimate frequency from regional frequency-magnitude data, rainfall correlations, or expected discharge and return period.
- **Vulnerability:** Evaluate spatial/temporal probability of pipeline impact using proximity, orientation, GZI, and expected stress/strain on pipe.
- **Mitigation:** Select site-specific measures from toolbox:
 - *Construction:* Pipe protection, backfill, coatings, heavy wall pipe.
 - *Control:* Barriers, diversion, bank/channel protection.
 - *Isolation:* Aerial crossing, deep burial, trenchless methods.
 - *Monitoring:* Surveillance, ILI, climatic/seismic monitoring.
- **Practical Analysis:** Use GIS to map debris flow zones (basin, transport, channel, fan).
- **Key Inputs:** Catchment size/elevation, debris type/size/supply, channel morphology, rainfall, flow, velocity, pipe specs, and location.

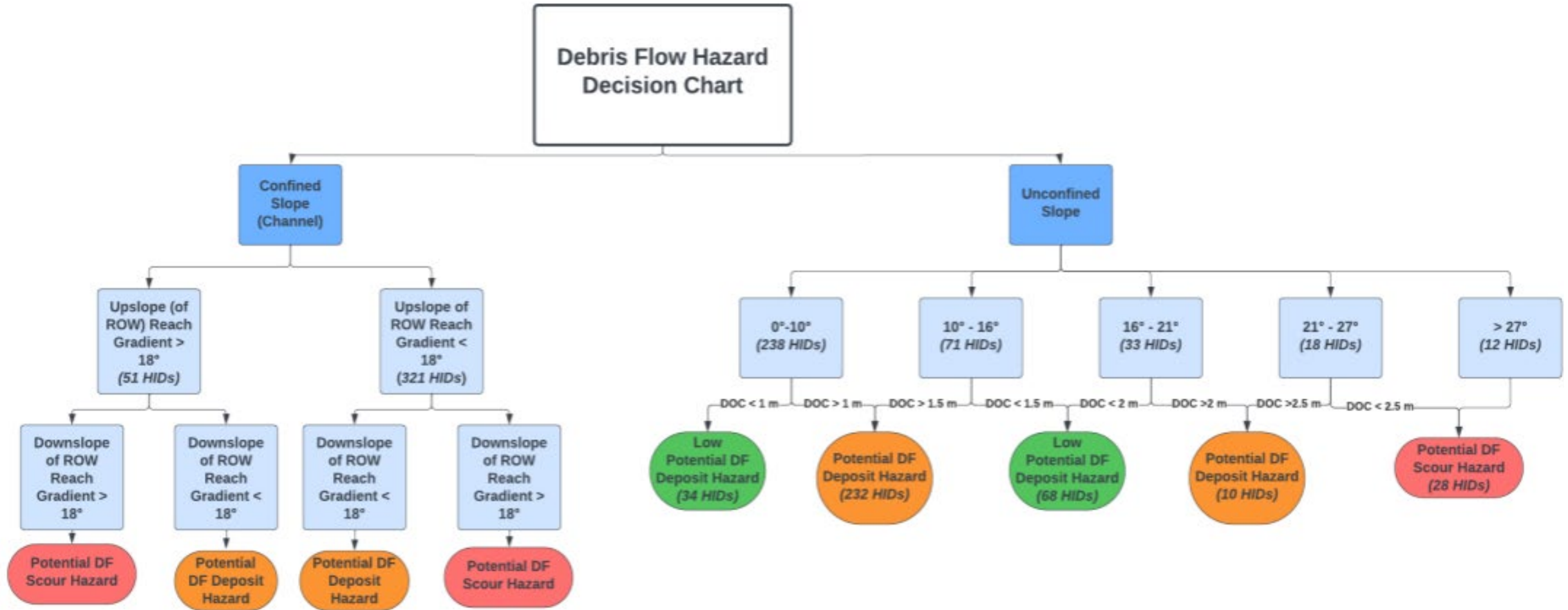
Debris Flow Modelling

**Predicting and
simulating
debris flows**



Stantec Debris Flow Predictor: A tool that simulates the complex behavior of debris flows

Debris Flow Hazard Decision Chart

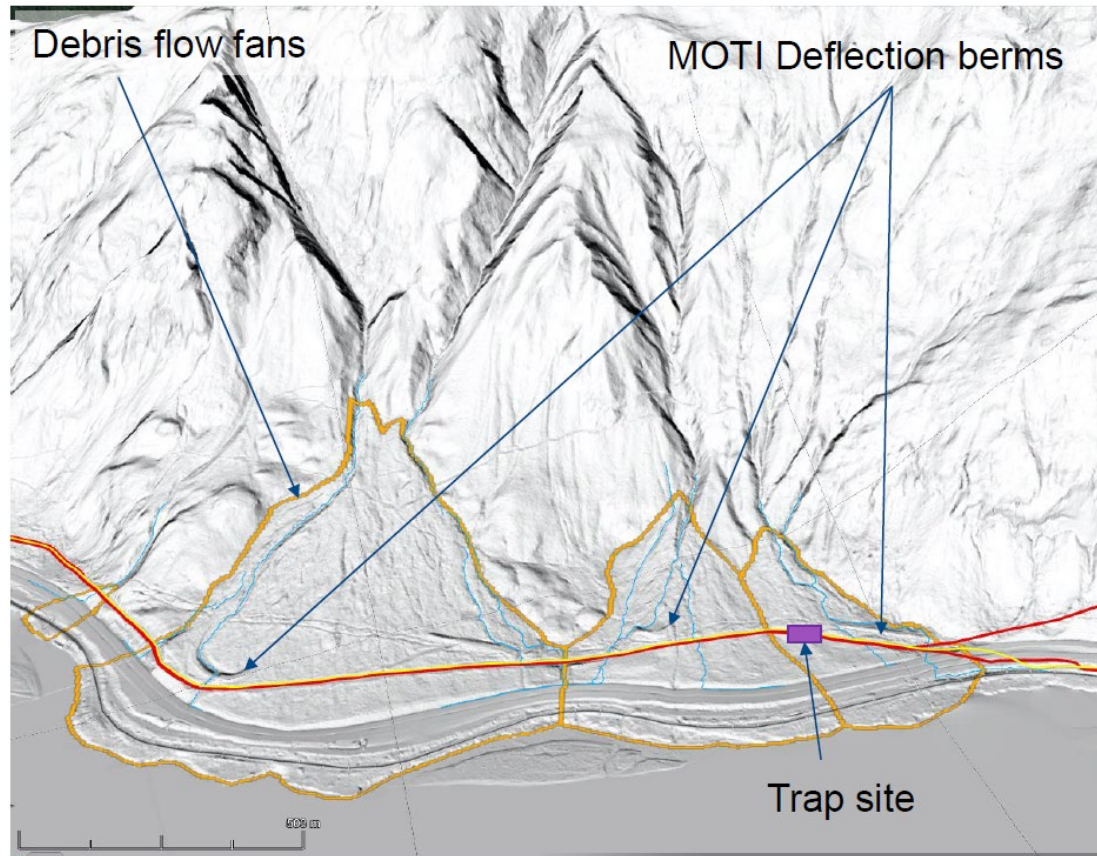


Debris Flow TMEP Modelling

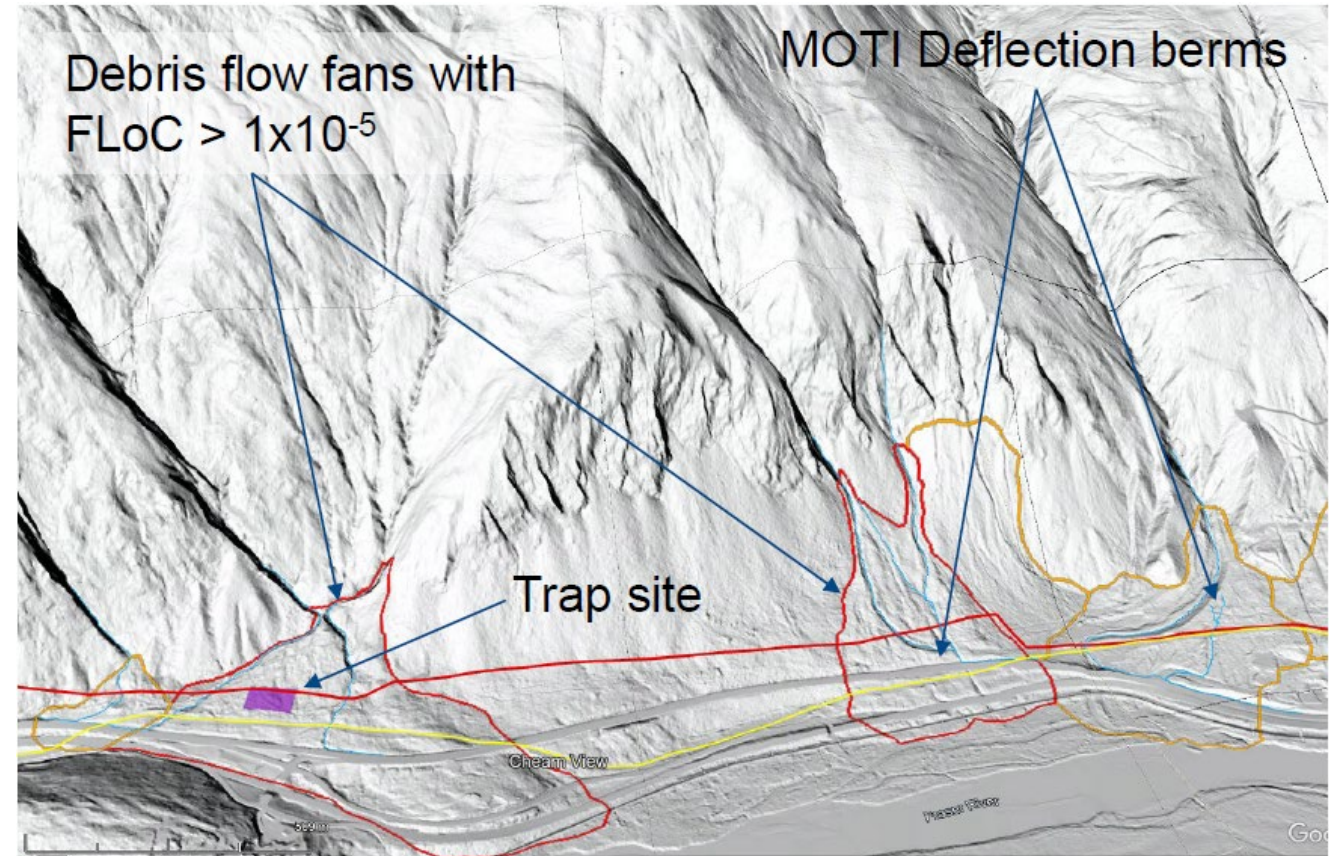


An overview of the assessed area (yellow). The extents of the upstream and downstream pads are shown in white. The valve sites within these pads are depicted in red.

Debris Flow TMEP Modelling



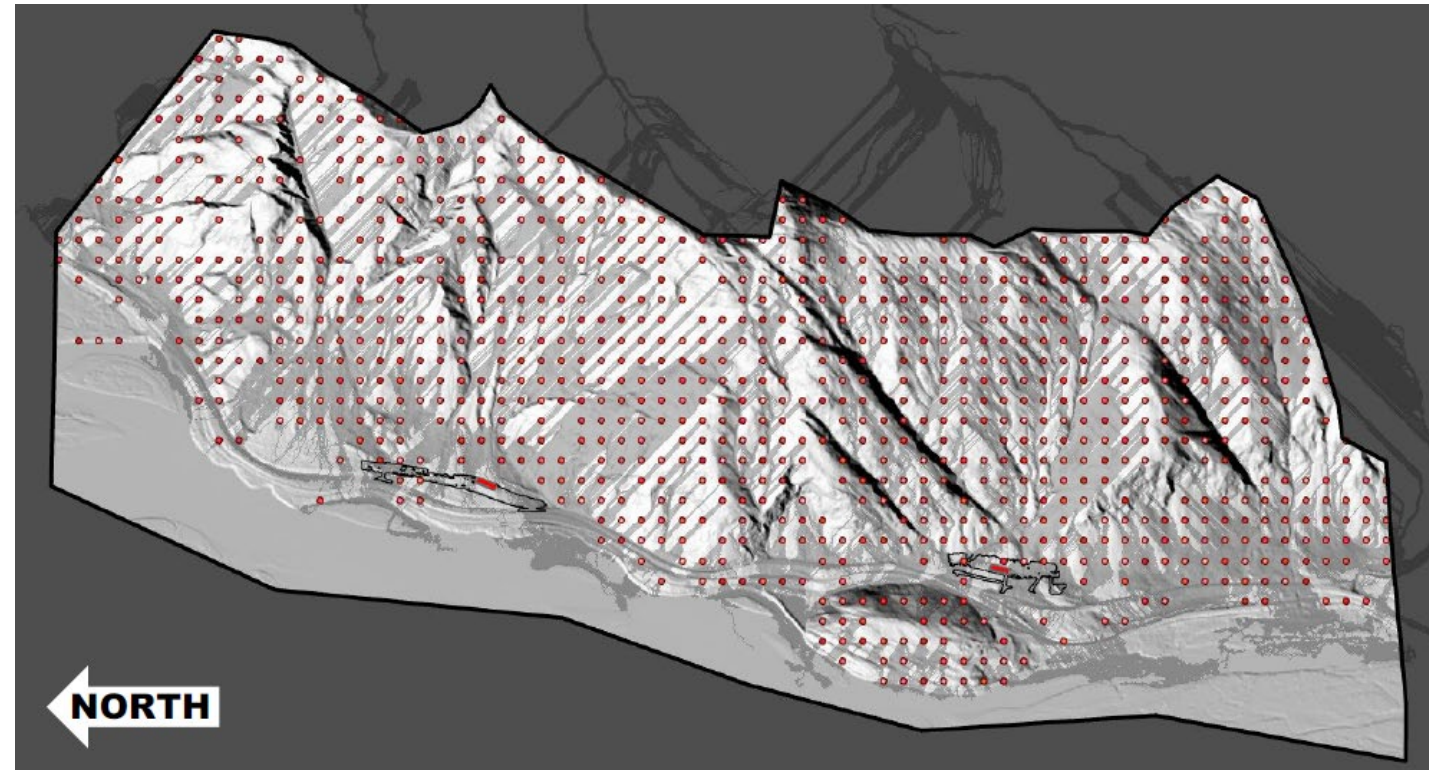
Lidar for Trap Site #1



Lidar for Trap Site #2

Debris Flow TMEP Modelling

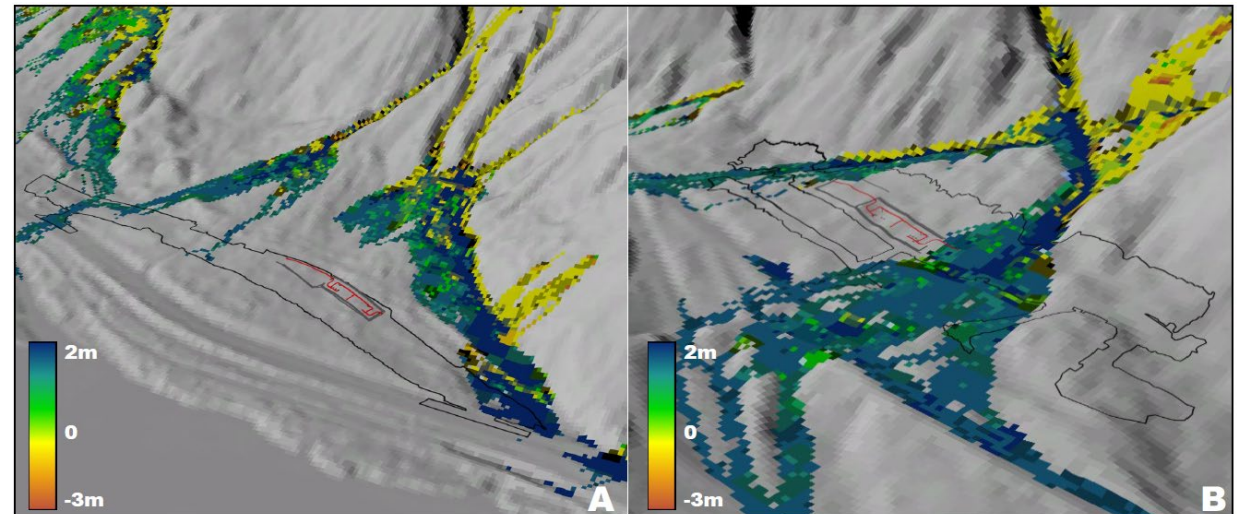
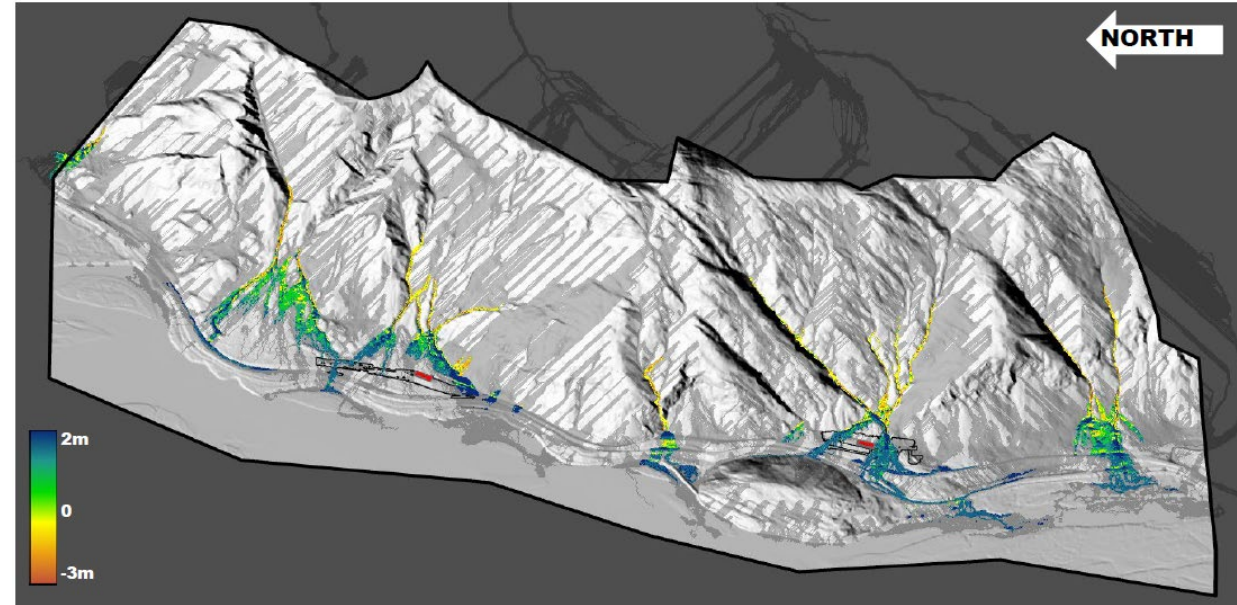
- DEM imported into Debris Flow Predictor.
- Method:
 - 50 initiation configurations upslope of valve sites.
 - ~20 initiation points per configuration.
 - 100 simulation loops.
- Output: ~93,800 probabilistic debris flow runout simulations.



Systematic distribution of debris flow initiation locations in the assessed area. The resulting model debris flows that resulted from these initiation locations is also shown (semi-transparent dark grey).

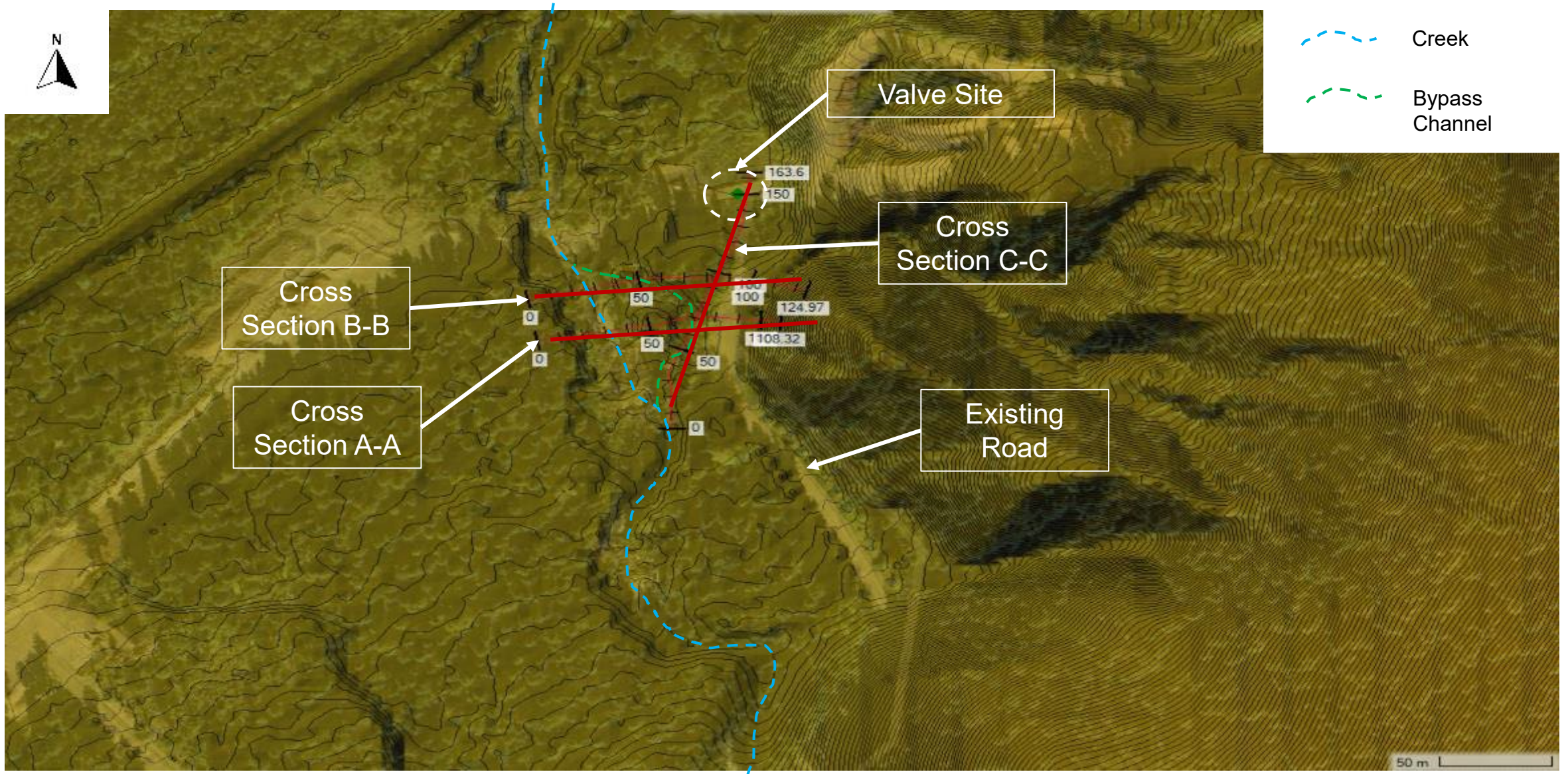
Debris Flow TMEP Modelling

- **Event Counts:** Exported from DebrisFlow Predictor → indicate how often debris flows reach points → used to calculate runout hazard (HR).
- **Scaling:** Simulations corrected to real-world debris flow frequency using Area-Based Probability-Intensity (PI) curves (Stantec 2023; Guthrie et al. 2023).
- **PI Curves:** Link rainfall intensity to landslide likelihood.
- **Conditions Considered:**
 - 2021 Atmospheric River (~1:200-year event) — up to 177 mm in 24h
 - Annual Probability — Calculated with CDF plots (IDF_CC tool) for various rainfall scenarios and years.
 - 50-Year Design Life — Exceedance probability estimated by combining annual probabilities.
- **Climate Note:** Probabilities vary with climate change scenarios (RCPs).



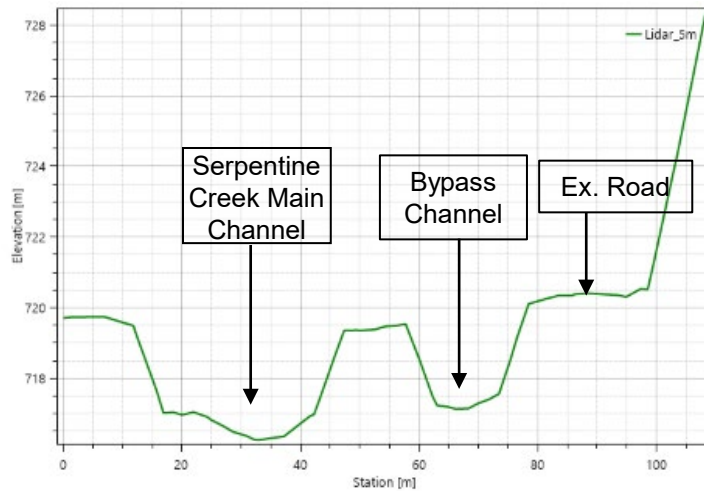
Mean depth of net scour and deposition. Total model debris flow coverage shown in dark grey.

Debris Flood Modelling

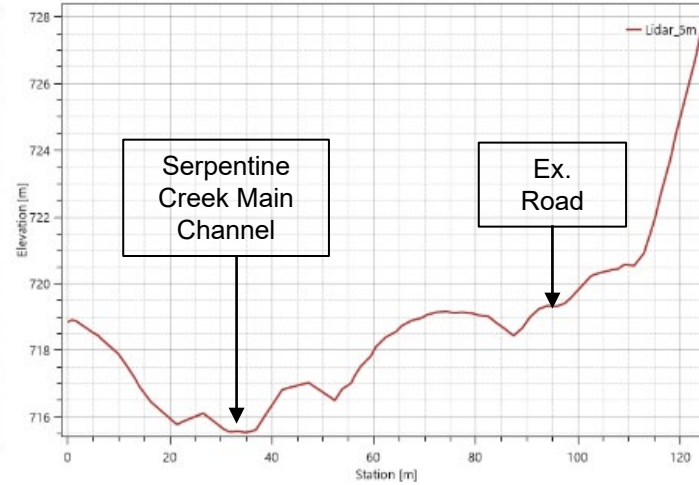


Debris Flood Modelling

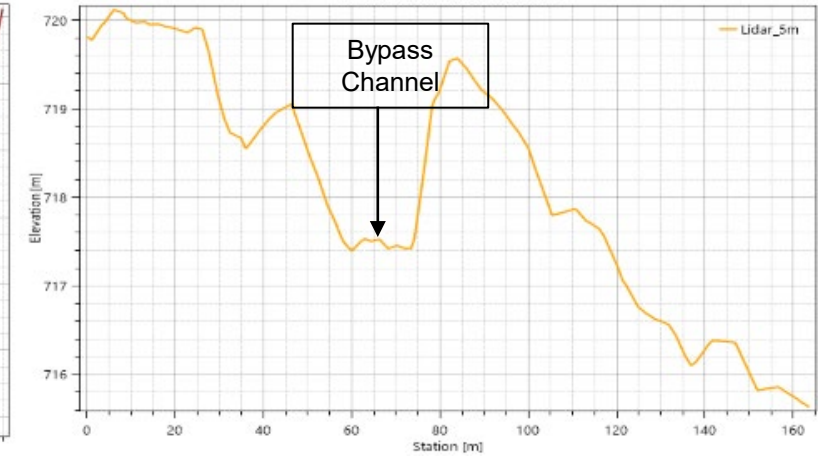
Cross Sections



Cross Section A-A



Cross Section B-B

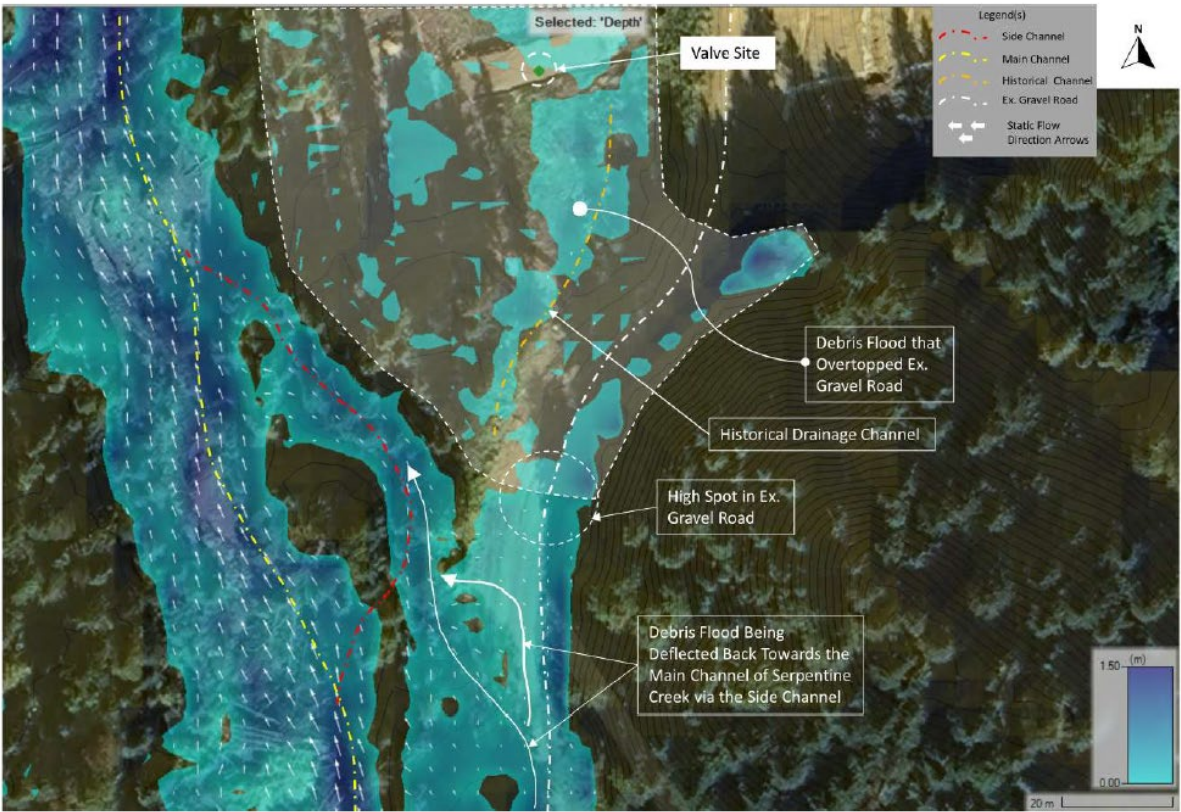
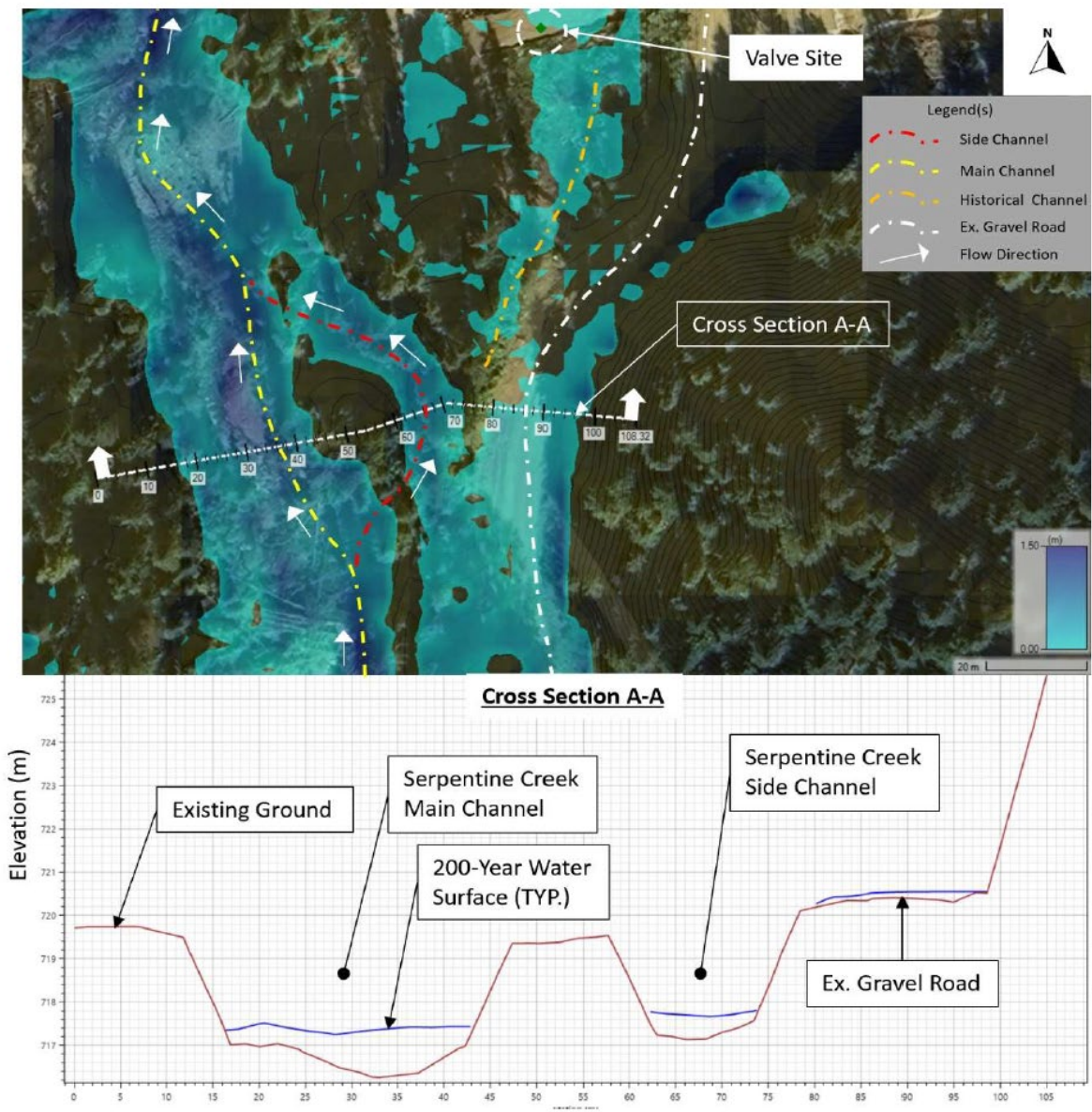


Cross Section C-C

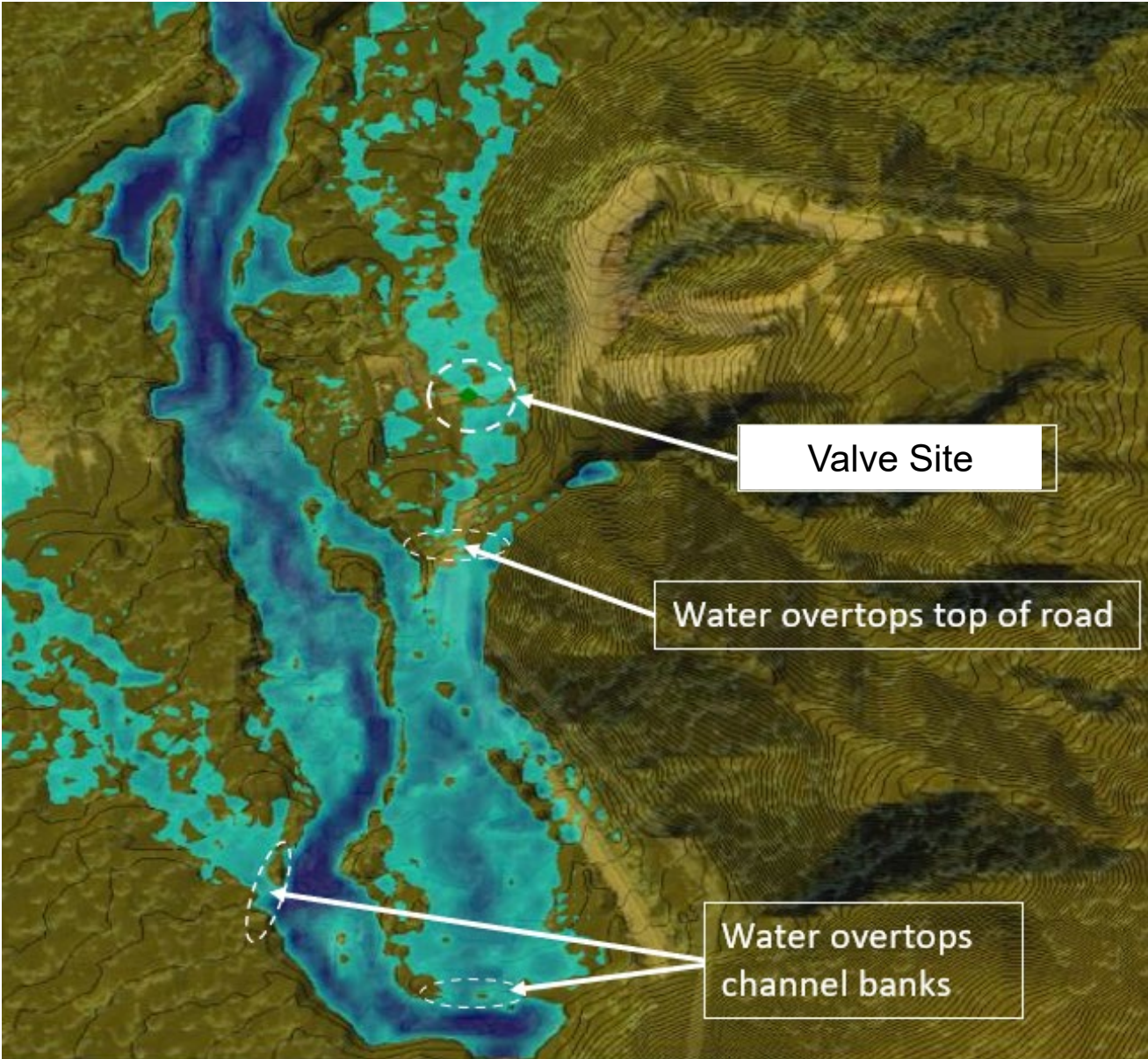
Table 5 – Summary of Design Flows During Different Return Periods

Return Periods	Peak Clearwater Flow (m ³ /s)	Design Flow (with Climate Change Adaptation and Bulking Factor Applied) (m ³ /s)
200-Year	33	73
100-Year	30	67
20-Year	25	54
2-Year	17	38

Debris Flood Modelling



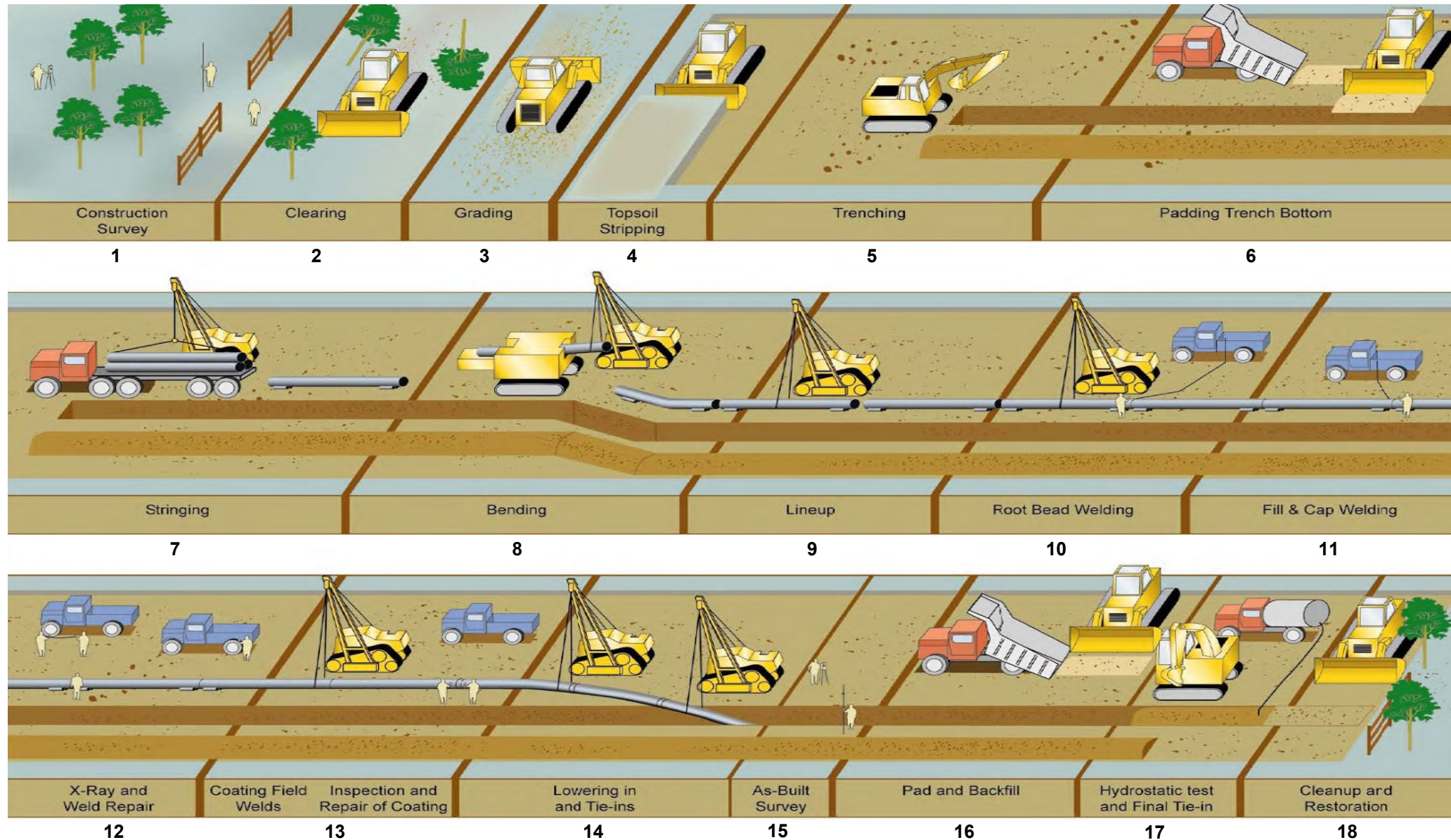
2K576 Debris-Flood Deflection Berm



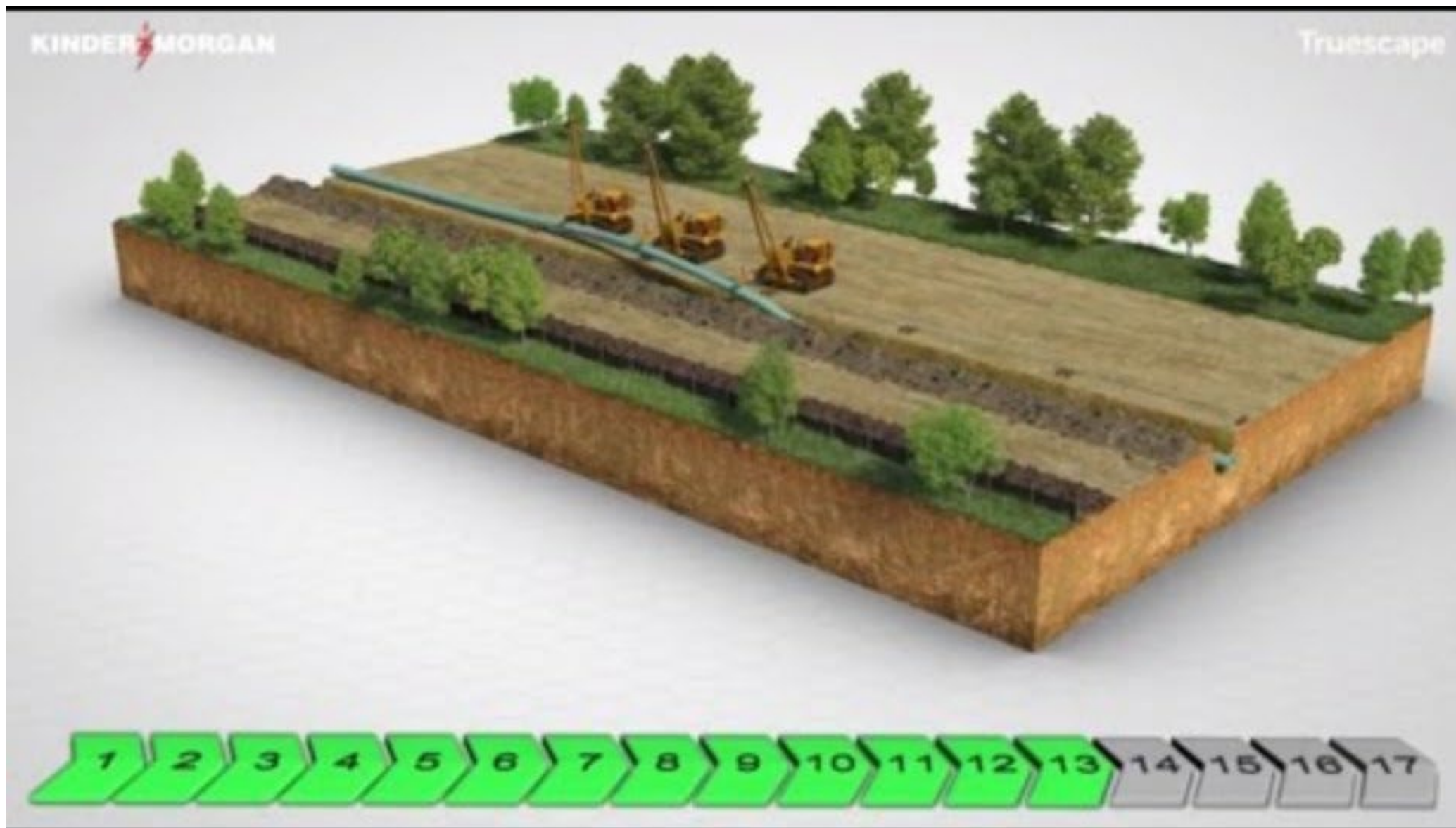


Pipeline Construction Overview

Pipeline Construction Overview



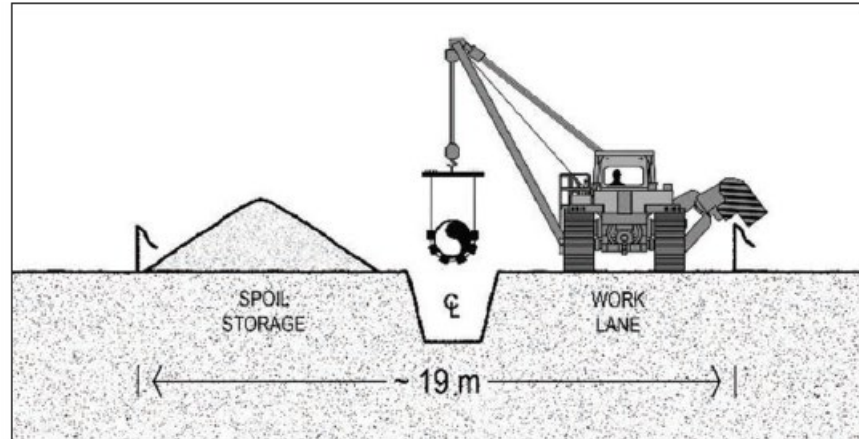
Pipeline Construction Overview



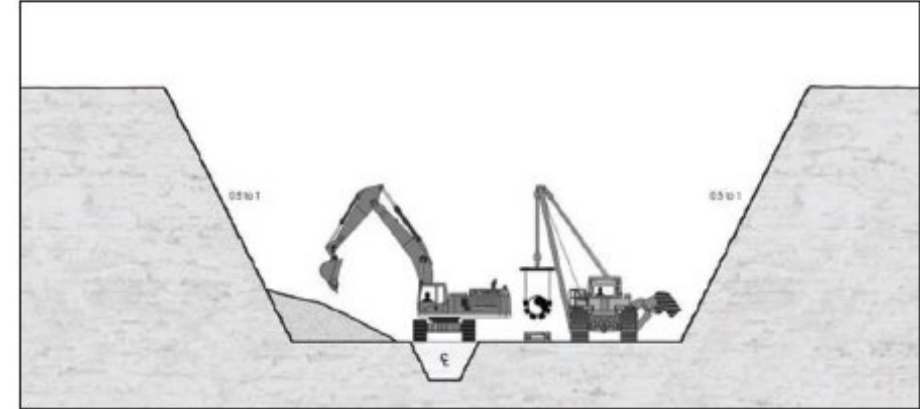
Pipeline Construction Overview

Grading – ROW Configurations

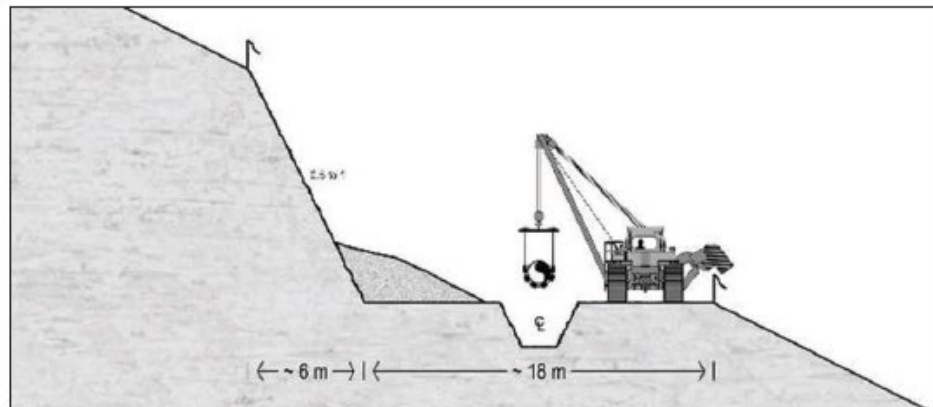
Flat Terrain



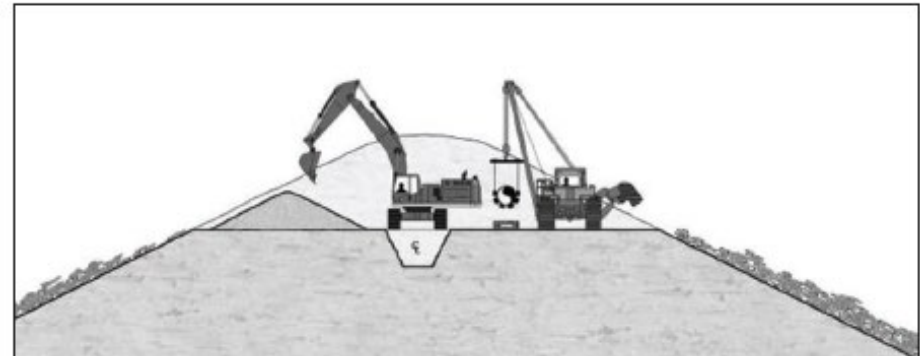
Thru-Cut



Side Cut Slope



Ridges

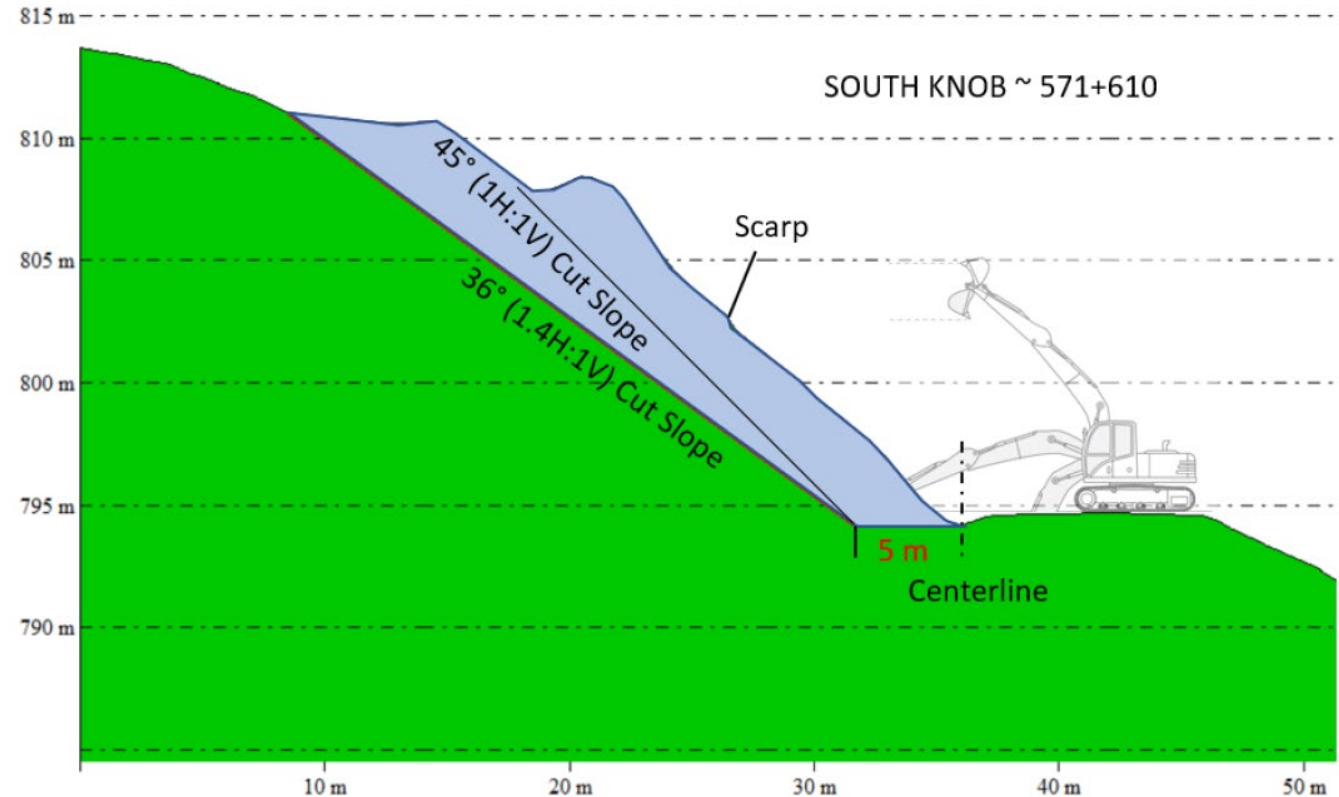


Pipeline Construction Overview

Side Cut Geotechnical Considerations

The stability of the graded cut and fill slopes is determined by the type of material being excavated.

- Competent bedrock may allow for cuts at 0.25H:1V.
- Fractured rock may require a 0.5H:1V angle. Surficial materials like glacial till are only temporarily stable at 1H:1V.
- Coarse soils may be stable at 1.5H:1V or 2H:1V.



Pipeline Construction Overview

Grading Methods

Excavator



Blasting



Side Cut Slope



Flat Terrain



ROW Configurations Examples

Pipeline Construction Overview



Pipeline Construction Overview

Trenching



Pipeline Construction Overview

Blasting



- Controlled blasting is used to break up hard rock to achieve required trench depth and grading.
- Enables efficient excavation in areas where conventional digging is impractical.
- Requires careful planning, safety controls, and monitoring to protect the pipeline corridor and surrounding environment.



Assessment & Management of ML/ARD

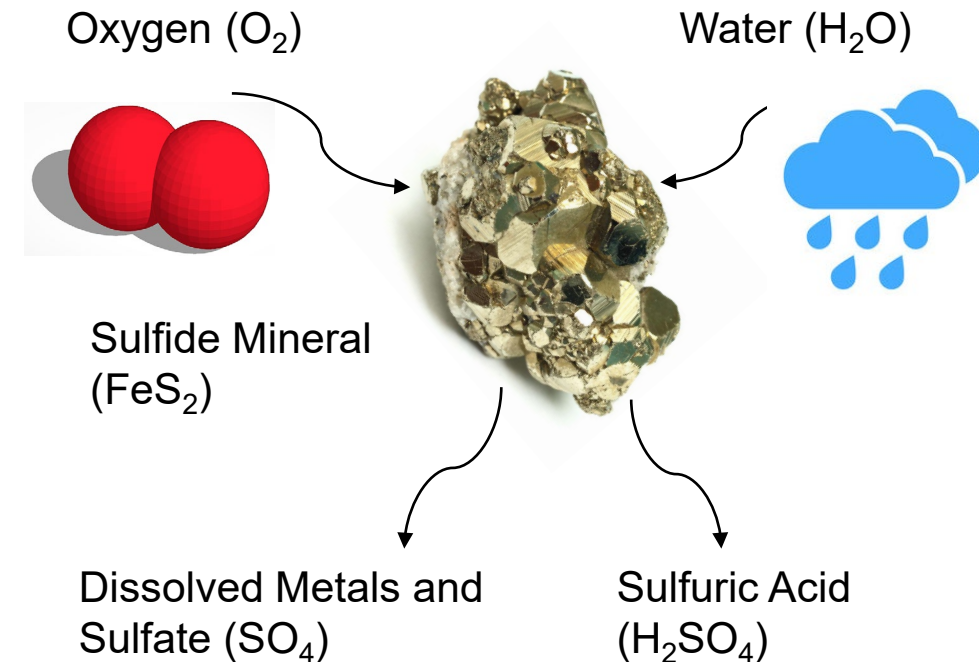
Metal Leaching / Acid Rock Drainage

ML/ARD – What is it

Acid Rock Drainage (ARD) is a geochemical process that occurs when **sulfide minerals**, especially **pyrite (FeS_2)**, are exposed to **oxygen and water**—typically during construction, mining, or excavation. The reaction produces **sulfuric acid**, which lowers the pH of surrounding water and can lead to the **leaching of metals** from surrounding rock.

This reaction continues with further oxidation, especially in the presence of iron-oxidizing bacteria, producing **more acidity and dissolved metals**, which can contaminate groundwater and surface water.

Primary ARD Reaction



Metal Leaching / Acid Rock Drainage



Photo by Taylor Roades, 2023. The Guardian, June 18, 2024



HWY 1 Kicking Horse Canyon (Google Earth)

Understanding ML/ARD: What You Need to Know

- Serious ARD can occur in rock with relatively low concentrations of susceptible minerals.
- Contamination can occur immediately after bedrock disturbance or might take months or years to develop after the bedrock disturbance has occurred.
- May be no visual evidence of ML contamination other than a lack of healthy aquatic biodiversity due to high dissolved metals contents in the water.
- Can occur in rock fills and exposed rock cut slopes.
- Once started, can last for centuries.
- ML/ARD is challenging to control and manage.

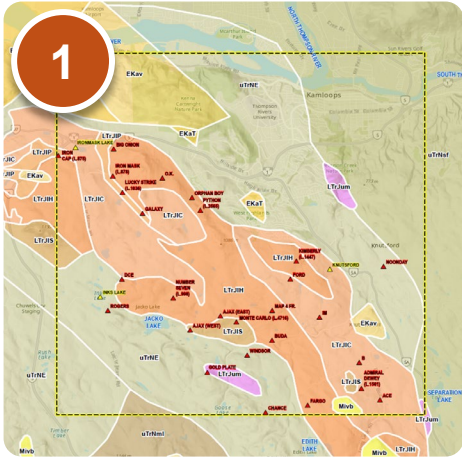


Observed water in the CMC 4 trench.

ML/ARD in Pipeline Corridor

- **Identify susceptible rock material** in areas with variable geology along linear corridors.
- **Segregate or minimize volumes of ML/ARD-prone rock** to reduce handling and management costs.
- **Use phased rock exposure and disturbance** (e.g., access, clearing, grading, trenching) to limit early contact with bedrock where possible.
- **Multiple work fronts** may require continuous assessment and delineation when unassessed bedrock is uncovered during grading or trenching, which can lead to delays while waiting for assessment results.
- **Avoid double handling** by planning excavation and storage to account for limited working space and to manage ML/ARD-prone material efficiently.
- **Assess imported rock material** to ensure it does not introduce additional ML/ARD risks.

Pipeline Construction Workflow



Project Planning Tasks

- Desktop ML/ARD assessments.
- Develop ML/ARD Management Plan.



Pre-Construction Tasks

- Monitor initial implementation of the ML/ARD management plan.
- Sample accessible rock outcrops.
- Conduct static geochemical testing.
- Perform laboratory kinetic tests.
- Develop rapid on-site assessment criteria.
- Pre-assess the ML/ARD potential of rock material.
- Characterize baseline surface water quality.



Construction Tasks

- Monitor implementation of the Plan.
- Ongoing assessment of accessible bedrock using rapid assessment.
- Field marking / delineation.
- Stockpile / mitigation tracking.
- Maintain data management system and provision of mitigation recommendations.
- Monitoring surface water quality.



Grade Reinstatement and Mitigation Tasks

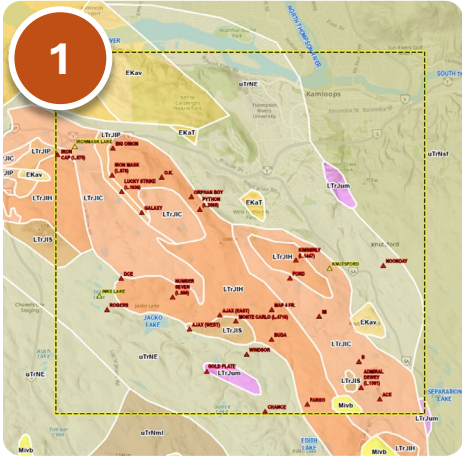
- Assess site-specific cut slope mitigation designs and permanent drainage controls.
- Monitoring and tracking of mitigation implementation.
- Monitoring surface water quality.



Post Construction Tasks

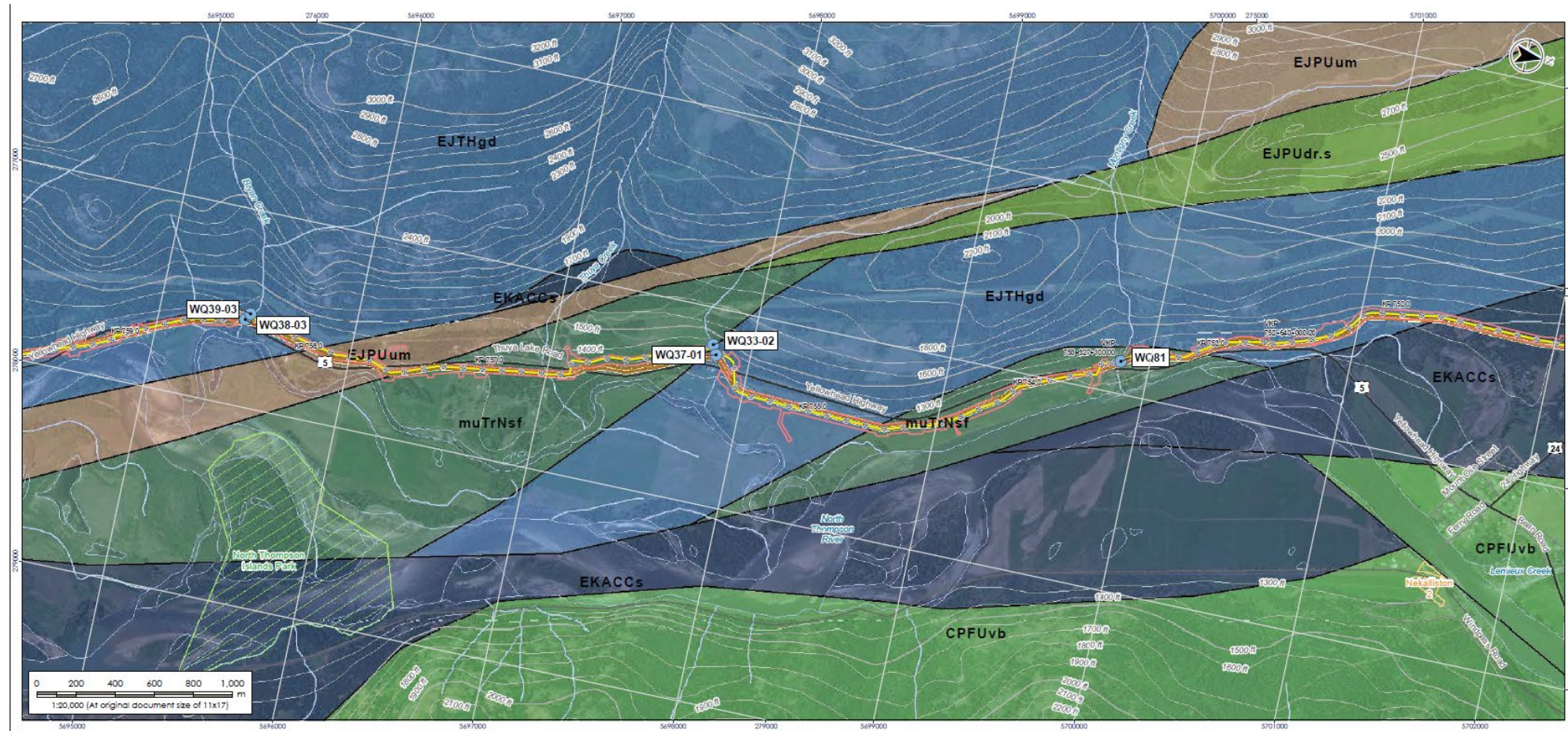
- Monitoring effectiveness of applied mitigations.
- Monitoring surface water quality.

Project Planning



- Review available geological mapping.
- Identify geological units that may be prone to hosting ML/ARD.
- Identify known mineral occurrences and metal mine sites from provincial databases to assist with the geological characterization.
- Look for opportunities for ML/ARD-based route optimization.
- Work with the client to develop a project ML/ARD Management Plan based on:
 - Anticipated project scale
 - Site conditions
 - Pipeline owner's tolerance for risk

Bedrock Geology and ML/ARD



- | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------|---|
| — Highway | ● Water Quality Sample | ■ CPFUvb | Clinopyroxenite, hornblende, wehrlite, dunite, serpentinite; local gabbro, diorite, intrusion breccia |
| — Road | ⊙ Kilometre Post | ■ EJPUdr.s | Conglomerate, sandstone, siltstone, shale, coal |
| — Minor Road | — Centreline | ■ EJPUum | Hornblende-biotite granodiorite, quartz monzodiorite, quartz diorite |
| — Railway | — Footprint | ■ EJTHgd | Microdiorite, quartz diorite, mafic schist, skarn |
| — Major Topographic Contour (ft) | — Existing RoW | ■ EKACCs | Pillowed and massive basalt; local chert, diabase, gabbro |
| — Topographic Contour (ft) | | ■ muTrNsf | Siltstone, argillite, slate; local limestone, volcanic sandstone and basalt |
| — Watercourse | | | |
| — Waterbody | | | |
| — First Nations Reserve | | | |
| — Park, Ecological Reserve, Protected Area, or Conservancy | | | |



- Bedrock samples collected from within proposed construction footprint:
 - On-site geology mapping conducted, looking for: **Geological contacts, Evidence of susceptibility.**
 - Where practical, subsurface investigation can be conducted, which can also determine depth of bedrock (e.g., test pits, test holes).
- Rock samples sent for static (and sometimes) kinetic testing – **this data is critical for developing rapid assessment criteria for use in future phases of project.**
- ML/ARD testing / assessment completed on known source material quarries to prevent import of susceptible material onto project.
- Surface water sampling and testing conducted pre-construction to determine background surface water quality.



ML/ARD Data Collection and Management System

- Integrated digital data collection in the field.
- On-site lab
- Rapid testing – Portable X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (pXRF).
- Decision-ready data in 24 hours.
- Deliverables that can be used by all members of the project team.

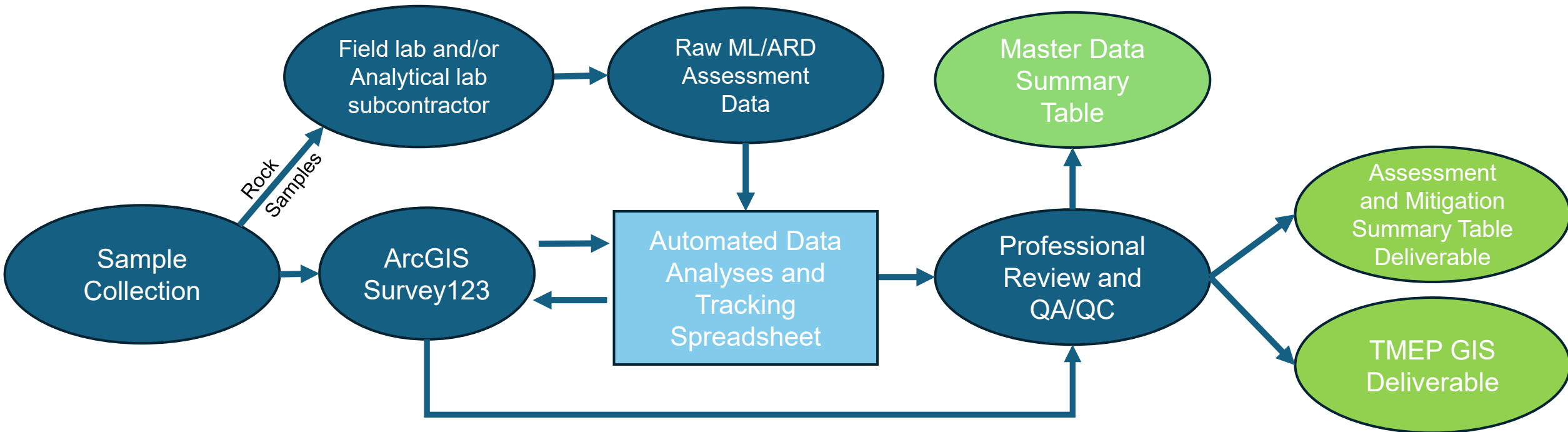
Kinetic testing

- Can be conducted on site in the field where appropriate.

Marking, Tracking, and Monitoring

- Review classification and mark exposed rock.
- Track rock stockpiles and applied mitigation.
- Conduct surface water sampling and assessment.

Construction



Construction

Digital Field Data and Sample Collection

- Field staff complete field forms on digital tablets for sample collection and geological observations. They have field-access to up-to-date assessment data to support decision making.

Digital Field Data Collection and pXRF Assessment

Using tablets and Survey 123 application. Field crews have access to assessment data within 24 hours to assist with field-based decision making.



Pre-Construction ML/ARD Sample Field Notes

Basic Info

ARD Sample Number: Closest KP

Related Excavation ID
This is the TP or excavation ID logged in the Collector App

[Click for Examples of Standard Names](#)

Date:

Assessor: Terrain Poly #:

Site Description and Sample Notes
e.g. core sample from drilling, surface grab

Location (UTM):
Easting: Northing: UTM Zone:

Outcrop Photo(s)

GIS platform for sample collection

Construction

On-Site Lab Trailer

- Set up on-site for rock crushing (with power) and pXRF testing.



Photos by Thurber, Spread 5B TMEP.

Rapid Testing – Portable X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (pXRF)

Determines elemental composition of crushed rock samples in minutes; can be used to predict ML/ARD potential.

Quantitative and repeatable assessment method that can be used in the field (in most cases, likely not as accurate as static testing).

Requires calibration with static data from samples collected pre-construction.

Faster results than static testing.

A cornerstone tool in ML/ARD assessment methodology.

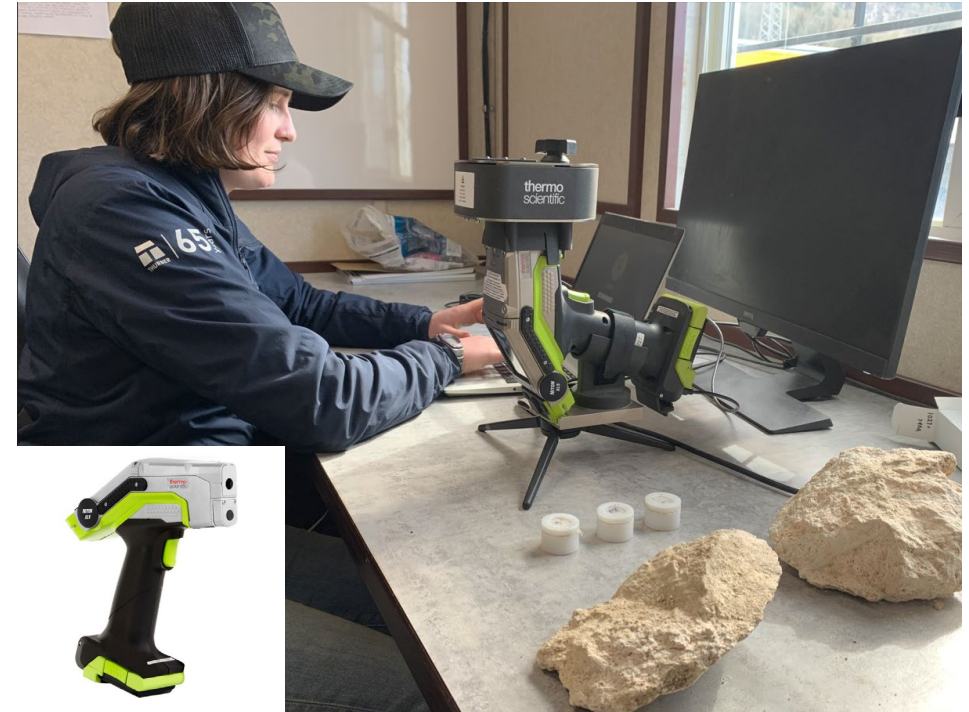


Photo by Thurber, Spread 5B TMEP

Construction Management Category (CMC) Definitions and Mitigation Methods

Category 1 - “Normal” rock with no ML/ARD-related restrictions on the handling and use of this rock material.

Category 2 - “Low Sulfur PAG” Rock. This material will be re-used on the project RoW provided it is tracked, monitored, and kept 25m away from waterbodies.

Category 3 – “High Metal-Leaching (ML) Potential” Rock. This material will be removed from the project RoW and taken to licensed, off-site disposal facilities.

Category 4 – “High Sulfur PAG” Rock. This material will be removed from the project RoW and taken to licensed, off-site disposal facilities.

Category 5 – “Low Metal-Leaching Potential” Rock. This material will be re-used on the project RoW provided it is tracked, monitored, and kept 25m away from waterbodies.

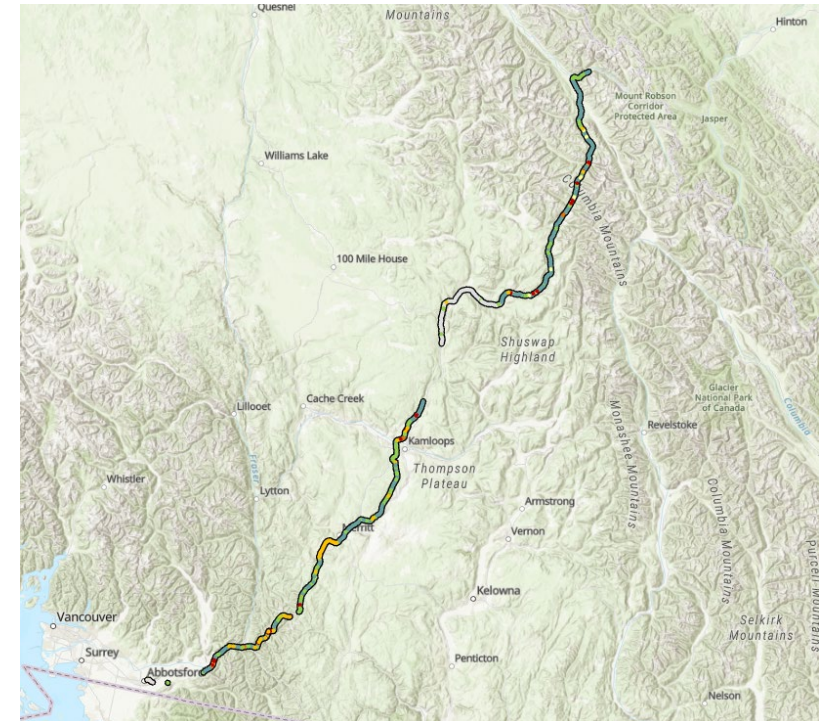
CMC	DESCRIPTION	SPECIAL HANDLING AND MONITORING	RE-USE AND MONITORING	LICENSED OFF-SITE DISPOSAL	MITIGATION OF EXPOSED ROCK CUTS AND MONITORING
1	“Normal” Rock	No Mitigation required			
2	Low Sulfur PAG	✓	✓		
3	High ML	✓		✓	✓
4	High Sulfur PAG	✓		✓	✓
5	Low ML	✓	✓		

ML/ARD Mapping and Characterization

- Digital mapping products are an indispensable tool to work with ML/ARD rock efficiently and effectively.

Spread	Total Spread Length (Km)	Km of RoW Assessed		Characterization of Rock (%) based on Km of Rock Assessed ¹				
		Rock	Thick Soil	CMC 1	CMC 2	CMC 4	CMC 3	CMC 5
3/4A	201.5	24.16	177.34	63%	11%	6%	19%	0%
4B	74.0	10.6	63.4	87%	0%	1%	4%	8%
5A	186.7	50.72	135.69	87%	0%	2%	2%	9%
5B	85.76	28.4	57.3	53%	2%	18%	6%	20%
6	69.3	2.15	67.16	49%	9%	7%	1%	2%

¹ Percent characterization of rock for each CMC category represents the Km of rock characterized in the given category to date with respect to the length of characterized rock.



ML/ARD Risk Characterization — Bedrock Delineation

Field Kinetic Testing

- Kinetic testing is the gold standard for ML susceptibility and timing of metal release:
 - Rapid testing (pXRF) → Static testing → Kinetic testing.
 - May support lower rock classification.
 - Data collected could be available in as little as 2-3+ months.
- In-field kinetic testing systems:
 - ROW space was available for rock storage.
 - Field kinetic testing is relatively lost cost compared.
to potential savings if large volumes are considered.



Construction

Marking, Tracking, and Monitoring

- Review classification and mark exposed rock
- Track rock stockpiles and applied mitigation
- Conduct surface water sampling and assessment



Grade Reinstatement and Mitigation



- It is common for grade reinstatement and mitigation to be ongoing through the life of a pipeline project.
- Sites are individually assessed to provide mitigation and grade reinstatement based on several factors.
- Mitigation tracking and observation is typically part of the project ML/ARD management plan.

Disturbed Material

- **CMC2** and **CMC5** material was determined to be suitable **for reuse and was therefore retained and repurposed on site** as part of the project works.
- **CMC3** and **CMC4** material was **transported off site for disposal at a licensed specialized facility** in accordance with regulatory requirements.

Cut slope

Permanent mitigations included:

- Shotcrete the cut slope.
- Use of fine-grained soil material to cap the cut face.
- Slope recontouring using CMC1.
- Leave rock cuts exposed.

Grade Reinstatement and Mitigation

Mitigation – Disturbed Rock: Permanent off-site disposal



Volume control is critical – no mixing of rock and soil.



Require the provision of landfill characterization data (separate from ML/ARD assessment) weeks in advance in order to facilitate approvals.



ML/ARD Consultant collects the samples and provides the landfill characterization data to the TMEP ML/ARD Coordinators.



Disposal volumes tracked by the Contractor and TMEP ML/ARD Coordinator.



Typical maximum rock size is 300 mm but varies by receiver. Larger rock material was broken up by the Contractor.



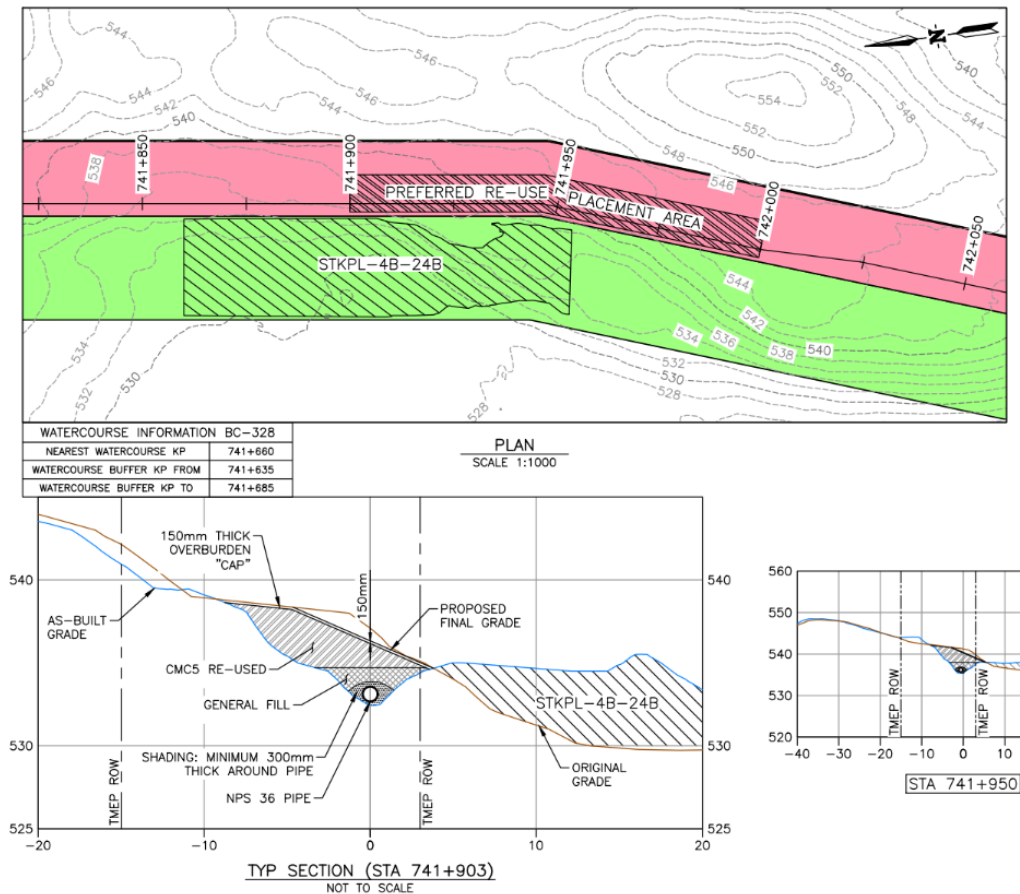
Drainage controls and covers recommended for temporary stockpiles of CMC 3 and CMC 4.



Grade Reinstatement and Mitigation

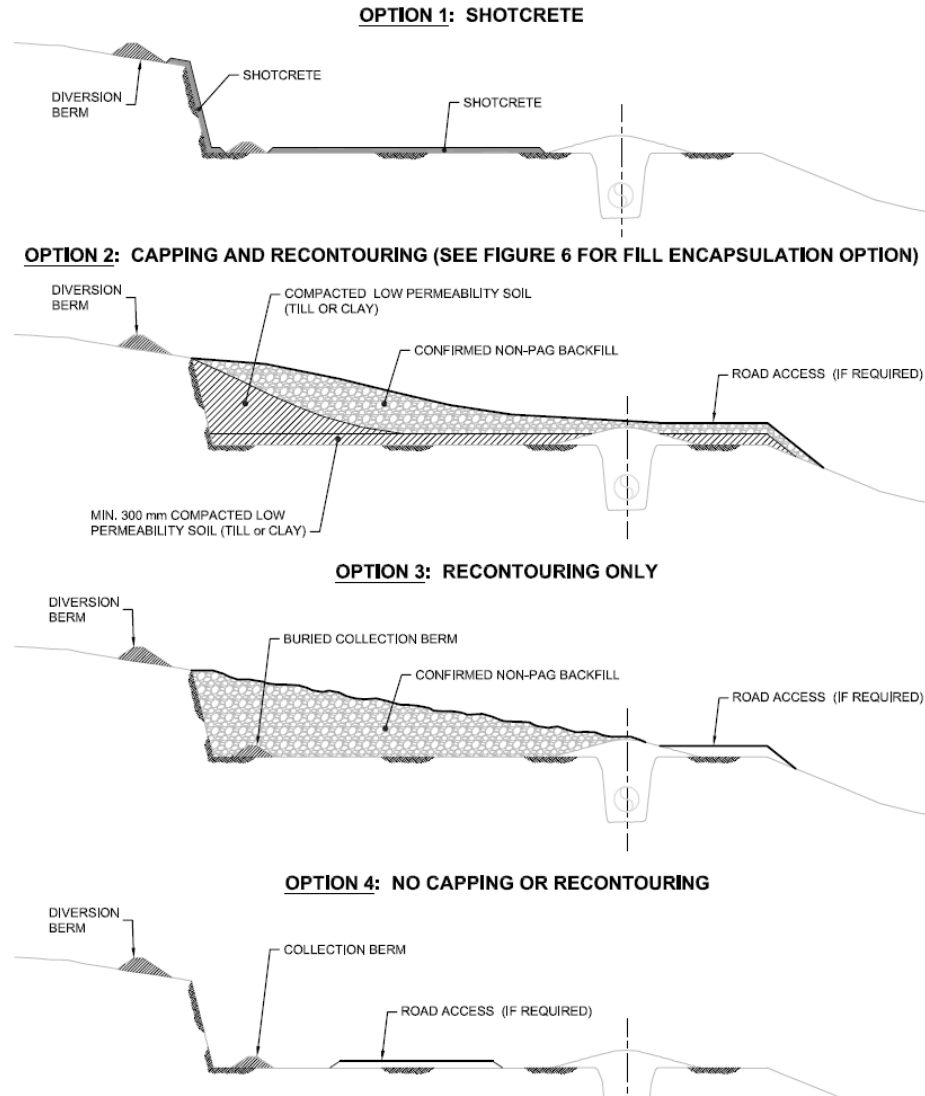
Mitigation – Disturbed Rock: Use in Construction

- Create Reuse Plans.
- Survey location of the reused material.



Grade Reinstatement and Mitigation

Mitigation – Cut Slope Mitigation



Grade Reinstatement and Mitigation

Mitigation – Cut Slope Mitigation



Cut Face Mitigation at a tunnel portal