

Archaeological Overview Assessment

Land Parcels 70, 34, 35, 36A and
Associated Roads, Sun Peaks
Resort



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Management Summary

At the request of Sun Peaks Resort Real Estate, Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) conducted an archaeological overview assessment (AOA) for land parcels 70, 34, 35 and 36A and associated roads (study area; Figure 1 to Figure 3) located within the Sun Peaks Resort Municipality, British Columbia (BC).

The objectives of this AOA were to (1) identify previously recorded archaeological sites, if present, within the study area; (2) evaluate the potential for previously unrecorded sites within the study area; and, (3) provide recommendations for additional archaeological study, if/where required for future development of the study area.

The AOA included a background review of relevant information sources regarding the biophysical, ethnographic, historical, and archaeological setting of the study area. The results of the background information review were used to provide an assessment of archaeological potential within the study area.

No previously recorded archaeological sites are located within the study area; however, portions of study area are considered to possess archaeological potential (Figure 2 and Figure 3). A preliminary field reconnaissance (PFR), followed by an archaeological impact assessment (AIA) if necessary, is recommended for those portions of the study area identified as possessing archaeological potential. No further work is required in the remainder of the study area provided the proposed development area boundaries are not expanded to include unassessed areas.

When considering the AOA results, it is important to note that low potential does not mean *no* potential. It is possible for archaeological sites to be located in areas identified as having low archaeological potential.

Archaeological sites which pre-date AD 1846 are automatically protected from inadvertent or intentional destruction by the HCA (1996). To address the discovery of any unanticipated archaeological finds, it is recommended that the proponent inform their personnel and contractors that, if possible archaeological materials are encountered, all development activities near these archaeological materials must be suspended immediately. The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development, potentially affected First Nations, and the Archaeology Branch must be notified as soon as possible of the existence of the archaeological finds and the nature of the disturbance.

The present study was designed solely to identify the potential for evidence of past human activity protected under the HCA (1996). It is not the intent of this report to evaluate traditional aboriginal use, nor is the intent to address potential impacts to post-1846 cultural heritage resources within the study area.

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Abbreviations

AIA	archaeological impact assessment
AOA	archaeological overview assessment
BC	British Columbia
ha	hectare
HCA	<i>Heritage Conservation Act</i>
km	kilometre
m	metre
MFLNRORD	Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development
PARL	Provincial Archaeological Report Library
PFR	preliminary field reconnaissance
RAAD	Remote Access to Archaeological Data
Stantec	Stantec Consulting Ltd.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW ASSESSMENT

Introduction
March 14, 2018

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

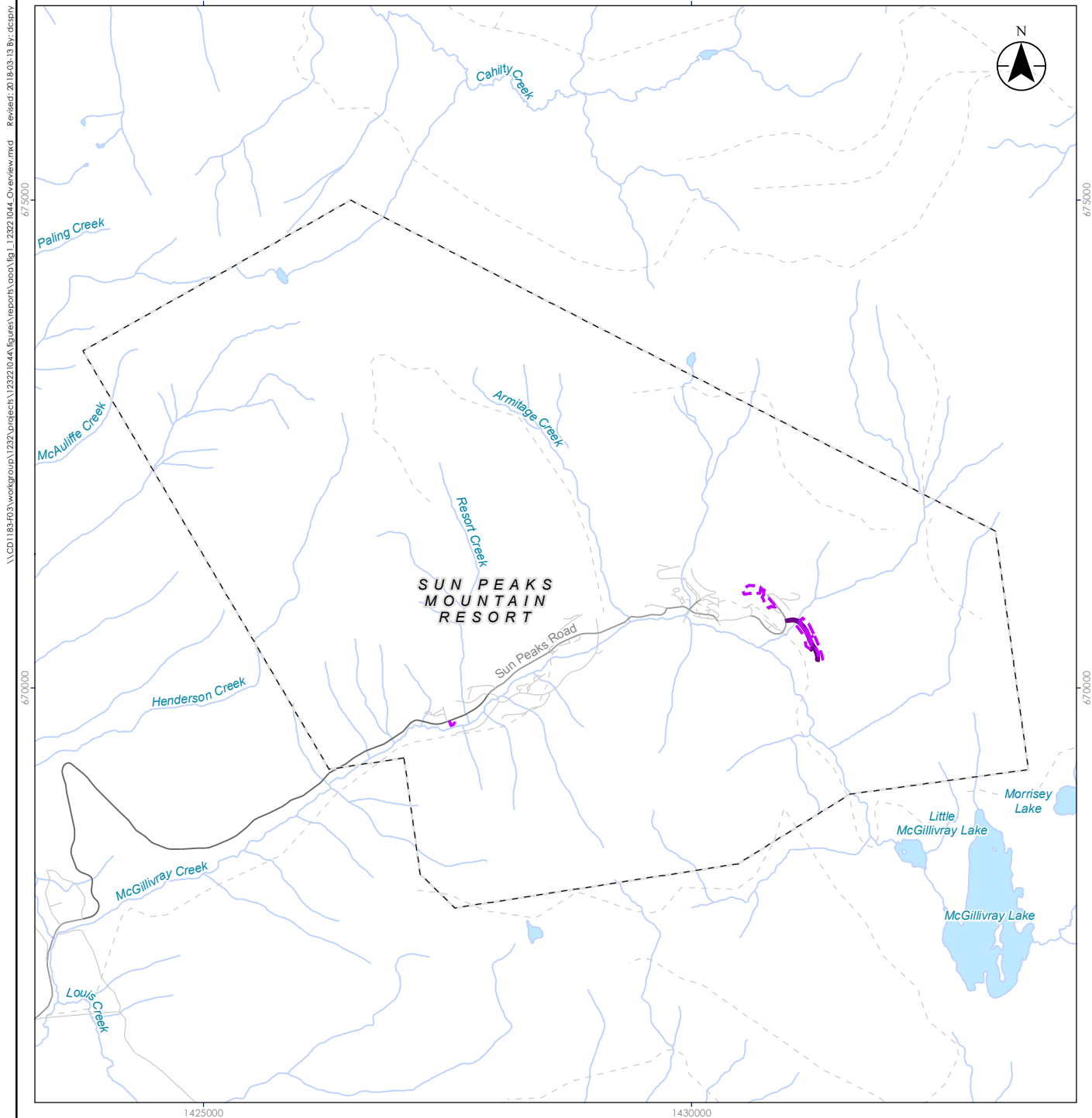
At the request of Sun Peaks Resort Real Estate, Stantec conducted an archaeological overview assessment (AOA) for four land parcels and associated roads, within the Sun Peaks Resort Municipality, British Columbia. The study area includes land parcels 70, 34, 35, 36A and associated access roads (Figure 1). Parcels 34 and 35 are located along Valley Drive. Parcel 36A is adjacent to the McGillivray Lake Trail and connects to Valley Drive via a proposed road. Parcel 70 is located along Sun Peaks Road, opposite the Burfield Chairlift. Sun Peaks Resort intends to develop the land parcels as residential lots to support expansion of the Sun Peaks Village.

The objectives of this AOA were to (1) identify previously recorded archaeological sites, if present, within the study area; (2) evaluate the potential for previously unrecorded sites within the study area; and, (3) provide recommendations for additional archaeological study, if/where required for future development of the study area.

1.2 HERITAGE LEGISLATION

In British Columbia, heritage resources are managed in accordance with the legal requirements and conditions set forth in the Provincial *Heritage Conservation Act* (HCA). The HCA extends automatic legal protection to archaeological sites if they pre-date AD 1846, or are of unknown age but may pre-date AD 1846.

The Archaeology Branch of the British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (MFLNRORD) has authority over the archaeological assessment and review processes. Under the HCA, the Archaeology Branch is responsible for deciding whether permits can be issued to allow development to take place within protected site areas and has established standards, policies, and guidelines to regulate the archaeological assessment process. This study follows current Archaeology Branch guidelines for AOA (Archaeology Branch 2009).



Notes
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 BC Environment Albers
 2. Data Sources: DataBC, Government of British Columbia; Natural Resources Canada

- Proposed Road
- - - Proposed Lot
- Highway
- Major Road
- Local Street
- - - Resource Road
- Municipal Boundary
- Watercourse
- Waterbody

0 0.5 1 1.5 2 km
 1:60,000 (at original document size of 8.5x11)



Project Location: Project Number 123221044
 Prepared by VDOUGLAS on 20180215
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Client/Project
 Sun Peaks Resort
 Archaeological Overview Assessment of Proposed
 District Lot Development & Roads

Figure No.

1

Title

**Sun Peaks Resort Real Estate
 District Lots and Roads Location Map**

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW ASSESSMENT

Methods

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First Nations Correspondence

The study area is within the asserted traditional territory of the following First Nations.

- Adams Lake Indian Band
- Little Shuswap Indian Band
- Neskonlith Indian Band
- Skeetchestn Indian Band
- Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation
- Tk'emlups te Secwepemc

Stantec contacted the Adams Lake Indian Band, the Little Shuswap Indian Band, and the Neskonlith Indian Band to provide notification regarding the AOA and to request any additional information the Band's wished to provide that might contribute to the assessment of archaeological potential. At the time of report preparation, no additional information had been received.

2.0 METHODS

2.1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION REVIEW

Stantec reviewed and summarized available literature concerning the biophysical, ethnographic, and archaeological settings to characterize the regional context of the study.

A review of archaeological data in the study was undertaken using the Remote Access to Archaeological Data (RAAD) application maintained by the Archaeology Branch of the MFLNRORD to determine the location, nature and distribution of recorded archaeological sites and historical sites in the vicinity of the study area. A file search was also completed using the Archaeology Branch's Provincial Archaeological Report Library (PARL) to review the results of past archaeological studies near the project area. Available maps, digital elevation models, satellite imagery, air photographs, ethnographies, histories, and archaeological reports for the study area were examined.

2.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT

Criteria used to determine archaeological potential included: proximity to streams and water bodies, known archaeological sites, terrain features frequently associated with archaeological sites, Aboriginal or historical trails, vegetation cover, and the presence of fish and wildlife habitat.

A preliminary field reconnaissance (PFR) and/or archaeological impact assessment (AIA) is typically recommended for areas determined to have high archaeological potential.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW ASSESSMENT

Study Area
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A PFR involves field survey to assess the archaeological potential of the study area and to identify and document visible archaeological resources, if present. Based on the results of the PFR, modifications to the proposed developments may be recommended with the intention of avoiding impacts to protected archaeological resources and minimizing additional archaeological fieldwork, where possible.

An AIA involves surface inspection and subsurface testing, if necessary, to identify archaeological resources and assess impacts to archaeological sites. For an AIA to be conducted, a Heritage Inspection Permit would need to be applied for and issued under section 14 of the HCA (Province of British Columbia 1996).

3.0 STUDY AREA

Information regarding the broad regional setting, and general overview of previous archaeological work for the study area is included in archaeological reports previously completed by Stantec for Sun Peaks (Perdue 2014a; Gallagher and Perdue 2014).

A detailed review of conditions and archaeological potential within the study area is provided in Section 4.0.

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION REVIEW

4.1.1 Landscape and Environment

The study area includes land parcels 70, 34, 35, 36A and associated roads, and covers an approximately 7 ha area. Parcels 34, 35, 36A and associated access roads are situated within the Sun Peaks East Village. Parcels 34 and 35 are located along Valley Drive. Parcel 36A is adjacent to the McGillivray Lake Trail and connects to Valley Drive via a proposed road. Parcel 70 is located along Sun Peaks Road, opposite the Burfield Chairlift.

The study area is characterized by gently to moderately sloping, south aspect terrain situated within a U-shaped valley. McGillivray Creek and associated low-lying, poorly drained areas are situated at the base of the valley floor. Numerous named and unnamed tributaries drain into the creek from higher elevations, which consist of both upland and alpine areas. A proposed road connecting Valley Drive to parcel 36A crosses an unnamed stream tributary of McGillivray Creek and McGillivray Creek is approximately 350 southwest. Portions of the study area have been previously disturbed during construction of the McGillivray Lake Trail and spur road off the McGillivray Lake Forest Service Road Connector. McGillivray Creek is immediately south of parcel 70. Portions of parcel 70 appear to have been previously cleared.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW ASSESSMENT

Results

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4.1.2 Previous Archaeological Studies

No previously recorded archaeological sites are located within the study area. The nearest recorded archaeological site is 11 km southeast of the study area, near Niskonlith Lake.

Several archaeological studies have been completed within the vicinity of the study area (Table 1). These include six desktop-based overview assessments (AOA) and three field-based assessments (PFR, AIA) and are described below. The results of these studies were reviewed and used to inform our assessment of archaeological potential within the study area.

Table 1 Previous Archaeological Studies

Year	Title	Assessment Type
2018	Archaeological Overview Assessment for Proposed Snow Making Reservoir, Chairlifts, Power Trench-Lines, and Ski Runs at Sun Peaks Resort.	AOA
2014	Archaeological Overview Assessment of the Morrisey Bridge Crossing, Sun Peaks	AOA
2014	Archaeological Overview Assessment of Amended License of Occupation #337752 Controlled Recreation Area	AOA
2013	Archaeological Impact Assessment of the Gills Development Area, Sun Peaks	AIA
2011	Archaeological Preliminary Field Reconnaissance Report, Forest Health and Fuel Management Mount Morrisey West	PFR
2011	Archaeological Preliminary Field Reconnaissance Report, Forest Health Treatment Units 1-4 and 6-9 and Fuel Treatment Units 5, 7, 12A, 12B and 15	PFR
2003	Archaeological Assessment Orient Ridge	AOA
2000	Archaeological Overview Letter Report, Proposed Mt. Morrisey Expansion	AOA
1994	Archaeological Overview of the Kamloops Forest District, Land and Resource Management Planning Region	AOA

Arcas Consulting Ltd. conducted an AOA for the Kamloops Forest District, Land, and Resource Management Planning region, which included the Mount Todd area (Muir et al. 1994). The purpose of the study was to compile and synthesize information regarding the distribution of archaeological sites in the study area. It also identified (on 1:250 000 scale maps) areas of high and low archaeological potential. The results of the potential mapping completed during the 1994 study were not available for the current AOA.

An AOA was completed for the proposed Sun Peaks Resort expansion area on Mount Morrisey, approximately 2 km southwest of the study area (Lackowicz and Handy 2000). Three areas of archaeological potential were identified within the proposed expansion area. Further archaeological work was recommended if land altering activities were proposed within the areas of archaeological potential.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW ASSESSMENT

Results

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Altamira Consulting Ltd. completed an AOA for the Orient Ridge, located immediately north of the current study area (Ball 2003). No areas of archaeological potential were identified during the 2003 AOA and no further archaeological work was recommended for the Orient Ridge.

Two PFR surveys were conducted within the Mount Morrissey area, approximately 2 km southwest of the study area (LeBourdais 2011a and 2011b). No archaeological sites were identified during the studies. Field surveys assessed the Mount Morrissey blocks as having low archaeological potential as well as most areas located in the Forest Health Treatment Units and Fuel Treatment Units located to the west of Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality. However, an AIA was recommended for two proposed fuel treatment units.

Stantec completed an AOA for a proposed ski lift and run development in the Sun Peaks Resort Municipality (Gallacher and Perdue 2014) located approximately 5.5 km northeast of the current study area. The original AOA study area was proposed in 2013 and included an area adjacent to Mount Todd. The study area was subsequently expanded in 2014 to include an area referred to as Gills development area. Gallacher and Perdue (2014) details the results of the AOA for these two areas. One area of high archaeological potential was identified during the AOA. An AIA was completed under Ministerial Order M-252-2013 (Perdue 2014). AIA fieldwork identified two discrete areas of high archaeological potential. Subsurface testing was completed at these two areas and no archaeological materials were identified. No further archaeological work was recommended for the Gills development area (Perdue 2014b). Stantec also completed an AOA for the proposed Morrissey Bridge Crossing in 2014 (Perdue 2014a). No areas of archaeological potential were identified.

Stantec completed an AOA (Grieve 2018) of a proposed snow making reservoir (3 km northwest of the current study area), power trench lines and disturbance footprints associated with the Crystal Chair (4 km west/northwest of the current study area) and disturbance footprint associated with the proposed Orient Chair (immediately north of the current study area). Several areas of high archaeological potential were identified during the AOA and a PFR, followed by an AIA if necessary, was recommended for areas of high archaeological potential.

4.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT

Areas of archaeological potential are areas that possess biophysical characteristics often associated with archaeological sites. These include relatively level to gently sloping terrain, favorable aspects (south to southeast or southwest), well drained sediments, proximity to water, and proximity to food and other resources. Archaeological features are often found in association with prominent terrain features such as terraces, knolls, benches, and ridges.

Areas considered to possess low archaeological potential include terrain that is low-lying and poorly drained, undifferentiated, moderately to steeply sloping, or where surface sediments have previously been removed to down to unambiguous sterile stratum (such as glacial till or bedrock). Presence or absence of previously recorded archaeological sites within the general area was determined irrelevant in this study. The lack of previously recorded sites likely reflects

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW ASSESSMENT

Results

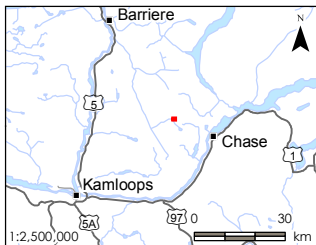
March 14, 2018

the limited field studies conducted in the area, and not an absence of archaeological sites in the area.

Based on the provided development map and factors listed above, two areas of high archaeological potential were identified within the proposed development area (Figure 2). These are both situated within a proposed access road to Parcel 36. These areas are considered to have archaeological potential due to relatively level to gently sloping terrain in proximity to an unnamed tributary of McGillivray Creek.

The remainder of the proposed development area is considered to be of low archaeological due to continuously sloping, uneven, undulating, or low-lying terrain, the absence of well-drained, level landforms in proximity to prominent hydrological features, and the results of previously archaeological field assessments in the study area.

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Notes
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 BC Environment Albers
2. Data Sources: DataBC, Government of British Columbia; Natural Resources Canada

- Proposed Road
- - - Proposed Lot
- Area of Potential
- Major Road
- Local Street
- - - Resource Road
- - - Municipal Boundary
- Watercourse

0 50 100 150 Meters
1:5,000 (at original document size of 8.5x11)



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Independent Review by SHEFFNER 20180226
Client/Project

Sun Peaks Resort
Archaeological Overview Assessment of Proposed
District Lot Development & Roads

Figure No.

2

**Sun Peaks Resort Real Estate
District Lots and Roads AOA Map**

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- 70 Proposed Lot
- Highway
- Major Road
- Local Street
- Resource Road
- Municipal Boundary
- Watercourse

Notes
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 BC Environment Albers
 2. Data Sources: DataBC, Government of British Columbia; Natural Resources Canada

0 50 100 150
 Meters
 1:5,000 (at original document size of 8.5x11)



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Sun Peaks Resort
 Archaeological Overview Assessment of Proposed
 District Lot Development & Roads

Figure No.

3

Title

**Sun Peaks Resort Real Estate
 District Lots and Roads AOA Map**

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW ASSESSMENT

Recommendations
March 14, 2018

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

A PFR, followed by an AIA if necessary, is recommended for those areas determined to possess archaeological potential within the proposed development area (Figure 2 and Figure 3).

Both intact and disturbed archaeological sites that predate 1846 AD, whether on private or public lands, are automatically protected from both intentional or unintentional disturbance under the HCA.

6.0 CLOSURE

When considering the AOA results, it is important to note that low potential does not mean *no* potential. It is possible for archaeological sites to be located outside of areas identified as having high archaeological potential.

The present study was designed solely to identify the potential for evidence of past human activity protected under the HCA (1996). It is not the intent of this report to evaluate traditional aboriginal use, nor is the intent to address potential impacts to post-1846 cultural heritage resources within the study area.

Archaeological sites which pre-date AD 1846 are automatically protected from inadvertent or intentional destruction by the HCA (1996). To address the discovery of any unanticipated archaeological finds, it is recommended that the proponent inform their personnel and contractors that, if possible archaeological materials are encountered, all development activities near these archaeological materials must be suspended immediately. The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development, potentially affected First Nations, and the Archaeology Branch must be notified as soon as possible of the existence of the archaeological finds and the nature of the disturbance.

7.0 REFERENCES

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW ASSESSMENT

References

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