BRITISH COLUMBIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT INTERIM REPORT FORM

1. REPORT TITLE

2019-0140-13416	Archaeological Impact Assessment of Proposed British Columbia Timber Sales Stuart-Nechako Cutblock SAL080.

2. MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

2.1	*Protected HCA Sites:*	N/A
2.2	*Brief Overview of Study:*	
	ARCHER CRM Partnership (ARCHER) conducted an archaeological impact assessment (AIA) on the subject project at the request of David Zurevinski of British Columbia Timber Sales Stuart Nechako (BCTS Stuart Nechako). An in-office review of the proposed cutblock prior to field assessment identified areas of archaeological potential (AOPs), as well as the potential for culturally modified trees (CMTs) based on VRI data of a tree stand of a sufficient age to produce pre-1846 CMTs.	
2.3	*Results:*	
	A total of 261 subsurface tests were placed at three locations exhibiting archaeological potential. All subsurface tests returned negative results for archaeological materials. No archaeological sites or other cultural heritage resources protected under the *Heritage Conservation Act* (HCA) were identified as a result of this study.	
2.4	*Management Recommendations:*	
	Our visual inspection and subsurface testing program of the proposed BCTS Stuart Nechako cutblock SAL080 did not result in the identification of archeological or other cultural heritage remains protected under *Heritage Conservation Act* (HCA). To address the prospect of unanticipated archaeological materials and/or features being discovered, it is recommended that the proponent inform its employees and contractors of this possibility. If archaeological materials or other heritage remains are uncovered during construction, work in the area of the find must immediately cease and the Archaeology Branch and/or ARCHER informed. It is recommended that the proponent also promptly inform the relevant First Nations concerning any unanticipated archaeological findings.	

3. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

3.1	*Permit Holder:*	Frank Craig *f.craig@archercrm.ca*	*3.2*	*Permit Holder Affiliation:*	ARCHER CRM Partnership T: 250-567-9496
3.3	*Proponent Contact:*	David Zurevinski David.Zurevinski@gov.bc.ca	*3.4*	*Proponent Affiliation:*	BCTS Stuart Nechako T: 250-567-6331
3.5	*Interim Report Author(s):*	Marina Russell			
3.6	*Interim Report Date & Version:*	December 14, 2020, V1			
3.7	*Notification of Work Date:*	May 11, 2020: • McLeod Lake Indian Band			

		• Nak'azdli Whut'en Band

4. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

4.1	*Description:*	British Columbia Timber Sales Stuart Nechako Business Area SAL080 • Cutblock for timber harvest • Total area 376.7 ha
4.2	*Location:*	The development is located southeast of Salmon Lake, east of Noonlang Lake and southwest of Mount MacKinnon. It is situated at NAD 83 UTM Zone 10 UTM Coordinates (approximate center) E: 452233 N: 6071396.

5. FIELD CREW

Table 1. Field Crew

Date (dd/mm/yy)	*Field Director (on site? Y/N)*	*Field Supervisor*	*Other Field Personnel*
15/07/20	Marina Russell (Y)	Ashley How	Tanner Humphreys, Cyrus Prince (Nak'azdli Whut'en)
16/07/20	Marina Russell (Y)	N/A	Ashley How, Tanner Humphreys, Cyrus Prince (Nak'azdli Whut'en)
17/07/20	Marina Russell (Y)	N/A	Ashley How, Tanner Humphreys, Cyrus Prince (Nak'azdli Whut'en)
01/09/20	Laura Enns (Y)	N/A	Tanner Humphreys, Carling Reid
02/09/20	Laura Enns (Y)	N/A	Tanner Humphreys, Carling Reid
03/09/20	Laura Enns (Y)	N/A	Tanner Humphreys, Carling Reid
22/09/20	Laura Enns (Y)	N/A	Tanner Humphreys, Carling Reid
23/09/20	Laura Enns (Y)	N/A	Tanner Humphreys, Carling Reid

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODS & RESULTS

6.1. Pre-field Methodology

☒ Archaeological potential and sites are indicated on the Study Area Map

☐ An AOA and /or archaeological predictive model exists for the study area

Details:

☒ Previous field studies influenced this assessment

Details: A previous AIA overlaps part of the study area and influenced the field assessment, as areas surveyed during the previous assessment were not revisited (ARCHER CRM Partnership 2013).

☒ Review of Provincial Heritage Register

Date Accessed: May 21 and November 18, 2020

☒ Other

Details: Prior to fieldwork, the study area was subject to an in-office map review, this included identifying areas of archaeological potential and determining the potential presence of culturally modified trees (CMTs), orthographic photos, and records of previous archaeological assessments. Identified areas of potential which could be impacted by development activities were subject to field assessment by crew members on the ground. The terms and conditions guiding the overview and identification of archaeological potential are defined in the corresponding permit.

Table 2. Archaeological Sites within 5 km of the Study Area

Borden No.	*Distance & Direction from the Proposed Development*	*Site Type*	*Permit No. of Previous Visits*	*Site in Conflict (Y/N)*
GeRw-6	2191 m W	PRECONTACT – Cultural Material – Subsurface – Lithic	2019-140	N
GeRw-2	2462 m W	PRECONTACT – Subsistence Feature – Cultural Depression – Cache Pit	2016-124	N
GeRw-3	2944 m NW	PRECONTACT – Cultural Material – Subsurface – Lithic	2016-124	N
GeRw-7	3247 m NW	PRECONTACT – Subsistence Feature – Cultural Depresion – Cache Pit	2019-140	N
GeRw-5	3329 m W	PRECONTACT – Cultural Material – Subsurface – Lithic	2019-140	N

6.2. In-field Methodology

☒ Subsurface test measurements are a minimum of 35 x 35 cm

Date Accessed: July 15-17, September 1-3, 22 and 23

During the assessment the study area was visually assessed by one crew with three to four crew members walking parallel to each other, spaced in a manner that would enable maximum coverage depending on visibility and archaeological potential of the area. Where applicable, natural and anthropogenic soil exposures (eroded banks, tree throws etc.) in the project footprint were visually examined for cultural remains in disturbed or secondary contexts.

The depths of the tests varied from 20-45 cm, at which point glacial sediments were encountered and the tests were discontinued. All sediments from the tests were screened through ¼" mesh.

CMTs in or adjacent to the subject project were sought given the presence of mature forest cover.

6.2.1	*Number of Crew Members:*	3-4	*6.2.2*	*Crew Spacing:*	10-20 m
6.2.3	*Other:*	Transects were spaced according to archaeological potential, forest/vegetation cover density and ground surface visibility.			

6.3. In-field Observations

The study area is situated across terrain which in the eastern section has an overall slope to the south with some terraces associated with an ephemeral stream along the eastern boundary. The western section is characterized by featureless terrain except for a large terrace associated with an ephemeral stream. Neither stream had flowing water at the time of the assessment.

The forest cover is primarily lodgepole pine, hybrid spruce and subalpine fir with some trembling aspen. The understory is comprised of bunchberry, kinnikinnick, soapberry, rose, lichen, moss, huckleberry, horsetail, lupin, colt's foot, twinberry, gooseberry, Queen's cup, grasses, clasping twisted stock, Labrador tea, alder, blueberry, cranberry, fireweed, juniper, willow, princes pine, ground cedar, false Solomon's seal and five-leaved bramble.

The block was flagged at the time of assessment. No previous disturbances were noted.

6.4. Results

A total of 261 subsurface tests were placed at three locations exhibiting archaeological potential. All subsurface tests returned negative results for archaeological materials.

No archaeological sites or other cultural heritage resources protected under the *Heritage Conservation Act* (HCA) were identified as a result of this study.

Table 3. Assessment Results

Subsurface Test Area	*Description*	*Stratigraphy*	*Dimensions (m) (L x W)*	*Subsurface Tests*		
				Total	*Positive*	*Negative*
TLM1	Located on a well-defined terrace overlooking an ephemeral stream below. Systematic testing was employed with additional judgement testing where the terrace turns to create a point.	Stratigraphy is uniform throughout as follows: 0-8 cm duff; 8-15 cm grey clayey sand; 15-25 cm orange-brown sand with 60% small pebble and cobble inclusions; 25-30 cm + coarse grey-brown sand fluvial with 90% small pebble inclusions.	231 m x 5 m	93	0	93
TLM2	Located on a terrace overlooking an ephemeral drainage. Systematic testing was employed.	Stratigraphy is uniform throughout as follows: 0-6 cm duff; 6-26 cm orange sand with 10% pebble inclusions; 26-32 cm tan sand with 10% pebble inclusions; 32- 38 cm + tan coarse sand with 40% gravel inclusions.	140 m x 4 m	58	0	58
TLA1	Located on a well-defined terrace overlooking an ephemeral stream	Stratigraphy is uniform throughout as follows:	310 m x 3 m	110	0	110

Subsurface Test Area	*Description*	*Stratigraphy*	*Dimensions (m) (L x W)*	*Subsurface Tests*		
				Total	*Positive*	*Negative*
	below. Systematic testing was employed with additional judgement testing around a possible cultural depression. After testing the depression was not deemed cultural in nature.	0-8 cm duff; 8-13 silty sand with 5% gravel and pebble inclusions; 13-27 cm tan clayey sand with 5% gravel and pebble inclusions; 27-44 cm + grey clayey sand with 20% gravel inclusions.				

7. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE SUMMARY

No archaeological sites were identified or revisited.

8. DISCLOSURE STATEMENT & SIGNATURE

Project footprint boundaries illustrated on the attached map(s) indicate those areas subject to the archaeological assessment described in this report, unless otherwise noted. If future or final construction and development plans differ from those presented here, the results of this assessment may not be applicable in part or in whole.

To address the prospect of unanticipated archaeological remains being discovered, it is recommended that the proponent inform its employees and contractors of this possibility. If archaeological materials or other heritage remains are uncovered during construction, work in the area of the find must immediately cease and the Archaeology Branch and/or ARCHER informed. It is recommended that the proponent also promptly inform the relevant First Nations concerning any unanticipated archaeological findings.

It was not the intent of this study to identify, evaluate, or comment on the presence or absence of Aboriginal Rights in the study area. Completion of this study does not "abrogate or derogate from aboriginal treaty rights" (Heritage Conservation Act Sec. 8). The study was conducted without prejudice to First Nations Treaty Negotiations, aboriginal rights or aboriginal title.

It is my opinion that the reported fieldwork and this corresponding report were completed in agreement with the requirements of the relevant Heritage Inspection Permit issued by the Archaeology Branch. I concur that the above information is true given available information.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SIGNED

Marina Russell, *B.Sc.*
Field Director, on behalf of,

Frank Craig, *B.A., RPCA*
Permit holder

9. REFERENCES CITED

ARCHER CRM Partnership
2013 Archaeological Impact Assessment of Stuart-Nechako BCTS (Fort St. James) cutblock SAL078. HCA Permit 2013-0099. ARCHER CRM Partnership File 10074. Submitted to British Columbia Timber Sales Stuart Nechako. Copies on file at the Archaeology Branch, Victoria, BC.

Subject Report Citation:

ARCHER CRM Partnership
2020 *Archaeological Impact Assessment of Proposed British Columbia Timber Sales Cutblock SAL080*. HCA Permit 2019-0140. ARCHER CRM Partnership file 13416. Submitted to British Columbia Timber Sales Stuart Nechako. Copies on file at the Archaeology Branch, Victoria, BC.

10. REPORT DISTRIBUTION

Contact	*Affiliation*
David Zurevinski 250-567-6331 David.Zurevinski@gov.bc.ca	British Columba Timber Sales Stuart Nechako 15560 BC-16, Vanderhoof, BC, V0J 3A0
Damian Hind 250-953-3334 Damian.Hind@gov.bc.ca	Archaeology Branch 1250 Quadra St, Victoria, BC, V8W 2K7

11. SHAPE FILES

☒ Study area shape files have been sent to archsiteform@gov.bc.ca Study area shapefiles will be submitted on the anniversary date of the Permit.

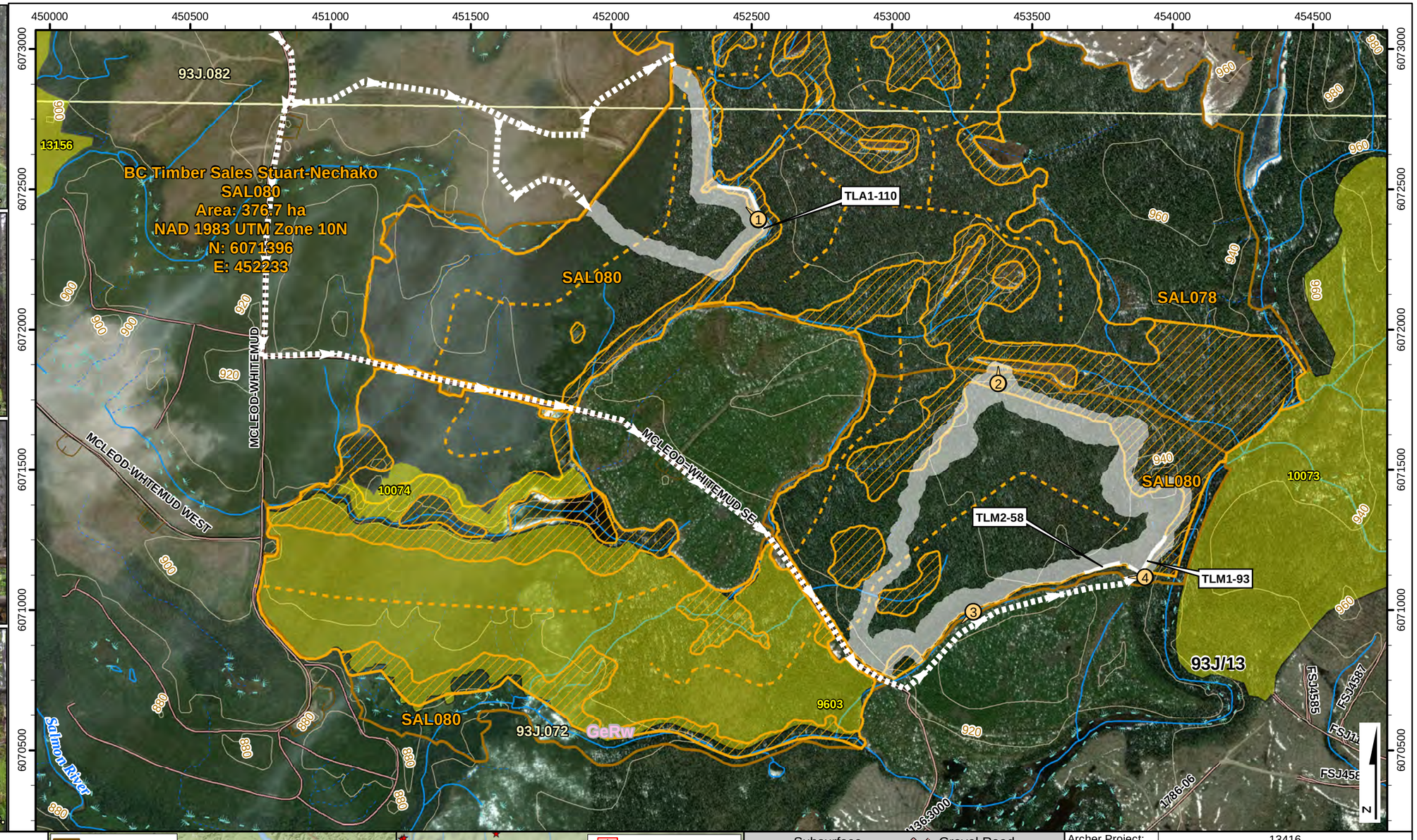
12. APPENDICES

Required:

☒ General Area Map (Figure 1)
☒ Study Area Map (Figure 1)
☒ Photo Plate(s) (Figures 1-2)

If Applicable:

☒ Detailed Development Map (Figure 1)
☐ Subsurface Test Log
☐ Site Forms, Site Maps and Related Documents
☐ Other Details:



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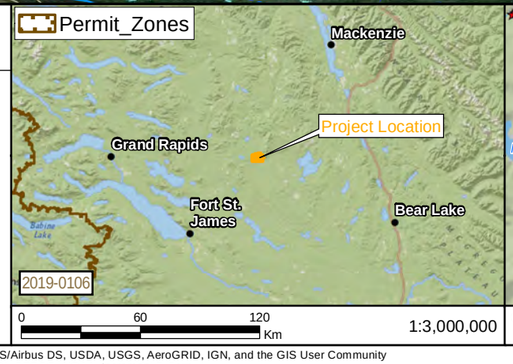
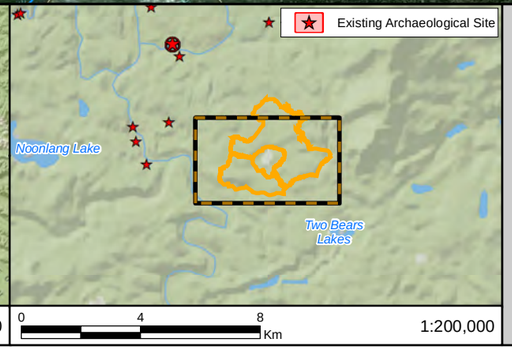
Archaeological Impact Assessment

BC Timber Sales Stuart-Nechako
Block SAL080
Detailed Results Map

Figure: 1 **Page: 7**





- Subsurface Testing
- Archer Survey Area
- Previous Project Other Company
- Archer Previous Project
- Block Roads
- Final Block
- WTP
- Recce Block
- Gravel Pit
- Gravel Road
- Rec Trail
- Water Body
- Intermittant Water Body
- Wetland
- Contour 20 m
- Archer Access
- (1) Photo Location
- BCGS Grid
- Borden Grid
- NTS Grid

Archer Project:	13416
Proponent:	BC Timber Sales Stuart-Nechako
HCA Permit:	2019-0140 (Sec. 12.2)
OGC AMS AA#:	N/A
Surveyor's File:	N/A

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Version	Detail	Reviewed by:	Date
0	Original		15-Dec-2020

Basemap: Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community
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NAD 1983 UTM Zone 10N; Meters *DRM - o.leblanc - 15-Dec-2020*