TAIGA MINING COMPANY, INC.

P.O. BOX 113108
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, 99511-3108
PH 907-349-4644 FAX 907-349-4645

May 15, 2025

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Alaska Regulatory Branch
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

RE: Application for Permit, West Fork Comeback Creek

Dear Mr. Marye,

Taiga Mining would like to submit the enclosed application for permit. The proposed work is located in the lower reaches of the West Fork of Comeback Creek, which is a tributary of Aloha Creek. The project is located not far from our other active project in Aloha Creek (approximately ¾ mile).

Exploration efforts in the main fork of Comeback Creek are generally barren of placer gold resources. The West Fork of Comeback creek, however, flows parallel and adjacent to Aloha Creek, has yielded positive exploration results for placer gold deposits.

A proposed mine plan is detailed in the attached documents. Supporting documentation similar to what has been requested in our recent other applications has also been included in the documents.

Ideally the timing for this application would allow us to mine this site in the summer season of 2026, with construction of the initial access, and site preparation drainage ditches being installed in the fall of 2025.

If any additional information is needed, please contact myself, or Raymond Kukowski, at the Taiga Mining Office, (907) 349-4644.

Sincerely,

Drew Miller

Drew Miller, PE
Taiga Mining Company, Inc.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

APPLICATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT

For use of this form, see 33 CFR 325. The proponent agency is CECW-CO-R.

Form Approved -
OMB No. 0710-0003
Expires: 08-31-2023

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Authorities: Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10, 33 USC 403; Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 USC 1344; Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act, Section 103, 33 USC 1413; Regulatory Programs of the Corps of Engineers; Final Rule 33 CFR 320-332. Principal Purpose: Information provided on this form will be used in evaluating the application for a permit. Routine Uses: This information may be shared with the Department of Justice and other federal, state, and local government agencies, and the public and may be made available as part of a public notice as required by Federal law. Submission of requested information is voluntary, however, if information is not provided the permit application cannot be evaluated nor can a permit be issued. One set of original drawings or good reproducible copies which show the location and character of the proposed activity must be attached to this application (see sample drawings and/or instructions) and be submitted to the District Engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity. An application that is not completed in full will be returned. System of Record Notice (SORN). The information received is entered into our permit tracking database and a SORN has been completed (SORN #A1145b) and may be accessed at the following website: http://dpcld.defense.gov/Privacy/SORNsIndex/DOD-wide-SORN-Article-View/Article/570115/a1145b-ce.aspx

(ITEMS 1 THRU 4 TO BE FILLED BY THE CORPS)

1. APPLICATION NO.	2. FIELD OFFICE CODE	3. DATE RECEIVED	4. DATE APPLICATION COMPLETE

(ITEMS BELOW TO BE FILLED BY APPLICANT)

5. APPLICANT'S NAME	8. AUTHORIZED AGENT'S NAME AND TITLE (agent is not required)
First - Drew Middle - Last - Miller	First - Middle - Last -
Company - TIAGA MINING COMPANY, INC.	Company -
E-mail Address - dmiller@taigamining.com	E-mail Address -
6. APPLICANT'S ADDRESS:	**9. AGENT'S ADDRESS:**
Address- PO BOX 113108	Address-
City - ANCHORAGE State - AK Zip - 99504 Country - USA	City - State - Zip - Country -
7. APPLICANT'S PHONE NOs. w/AREA CODE	**10. AGENTS PHONE NOs. w/AREA CODE**
a. Residence b. Business (907) 349-4644 c. Fax	a. Residence b. Business c. Fax

STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION

11. I hereby authorize, _____ to act in my behalf as my agent in the processing of this application and to furnish, upon request, supplemental information in support of this permit application.

_____ SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____ DATE

NAME, LOCATION, AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY

12. PROJECT NAME OR TITLE (see instructions)
WEST FORK COMEBACK CREEK

13. NAME OF WATERBODY, IF KNOWN (if applicable)	14. PROJECT STREET ADDRESS (if applicable)
COMEBACK CREEK, TRIB OF ALOHA CREEK	Address
15. LOCATION OF PROJECT	City - State- Zip-
Latitude: °N 66.254764 Longitude: °W 155.705673	

16. OTHER LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS, IF KNOWN (see instructions)

State Tax Parcel ID Municipality

Section - 20 Township - 10N Range - 16E, KATEEL RIVER

17. DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE

From Fairbanks Alaska, 245 Miles WNW to private air strip (2AK6) located at: 66° 10.664'N, 155° 41.303'W.

18. Nature of Activity (Description of project, include all features)

Clearing of land to facilitate mining operations. Mining operations include removal of overburden, transporting and processing of gold bearing materials, and reclamation of the disturbed area.

19. Project Purpose (Describe the reason or purpose of the project, see instructions)

The econimic recovery of placer gold resources in the lower reaches of the West Fork of Comeback creek.

USE BLOCKS 20-23 IF DREDGED AND/OR FILL MATERIAL IS TO BE DISCHARGED

20. Reason(s) for Discharge

FILL MATERIAL WILL BE DISCHARGED INTO WELAND AREAS OF THE ALOHA CREEK DRAINAGE TO CREATE A SAFE WORKING AREA AND ACCESS ROAD FOR RECOVERY OF PLACER GOLD RESOURCES

21. Type(s) of Material Being Discharged and the Amount of Each Type in Cubic Yards:

Type Amount in Cubic Yards	Type Amount in Cubic Yards	Type Amount in Cubic Yards

22. Surface Area in Acres of Wetlands or Other Waters Filled (see instructions)

Acres or Linear Feet: Up to 18.5 acres of wetland will be disturbed during the mining process.

23. Description of Avoidance, Minimization, and Compensation (see instructions)

Thorough exploration of the proposed area by means of low impact drilling and sampling, delineate the limits of the gold resource. Areas that do not contain viable gold resources are avoided, only economically viable resources are targeted for mining. When possible, storage of overburden and other materials is done on adjacent uplands, minimizing the impacts to aquatic resources. Compensatory mitigation is not proposed for this project, however, reclamation efforts will have the goal of a 1:1 ratio for newly reclaimed aquatic resources when compared to the aquatic resource area disturbed.

24. Is Any Portion of the Work Already Complete? [ ] Yes [X] No IF YES, DESCRIBE THE COMPLETED WORK

25. Addresses of Adjoining Property Owners, Lessees, Etc., Whose Property Adjoins the Waterbody (if more than can be entered here, please attach a supplemental list).

a. Address- STATE OF ALASKA

City - State - Zip -

b. Address-

City - State - Zip -

c. Address-

City - State - Zip -

d. Address-

City - State - Zip -

e. Address-

City - State - Zip -

26. List of Other Certificates or Approvals/Denials received from other Federal, State, or Local Agencies for Work Described in This Application.

AGENCY	TYPE APPROVAL*	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	DATE APPLIED	DATE APPROVED	DATE DENIED
ADF&G	FISH HABITAT	FH13-III-0059		2023-04-10	
AK DNR	MLUP - APMA	9902	2023-03-10		
AK DEC	PLACER GP	AKG370491	2021-04-30	2021-06-01	

* Would include but is not restricted to zoning, building, and flood plain permits

27. Application is hereby made for permit or permits to authorize the work described in this application. I certify that this information in this application is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.

Drew Miller — SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT
2025-05-12 — DATE
SIGNATURE OF AGENT — DATE

The Application must be signed by the person who desires to undertake the proposed activity (applicant) or it may be signed by a duly authorized agent if the statement in block 11 has been filled out and signed.

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than $10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

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Proposed Placer Mining Activities
Comeback Creeks, Hogatza Alaska
POA-____-__

Project Need

Taiga Mining Company, through an extensive exploration drilling program, has located an economically viable placer gold resource in the Comeback Creek drainage. The identified deposits are located in the lower reaches of the West Fork of Comeback Creek, a tributary of Aloha Creek.

Project Scope

The project scope includes the construction of an access road along existing trails used during exploration. A temporary bridge will be installed at the point where the access road crosses Aloha Creek. A bypass channel will direct the simi-ephemeral flow of the West Fork of Comeback Creek around the work area as is consistent with Best Management Practices for storm water management and the Clean Water Act. After Mining operations are complete, reclamation efforts will contour the area and spread stockpiled organic material to facilitate revegetation, as is consistent with Taiga Mining's operational history, and placer mining best management practices. Reclamation efforts will also have the goal of creating new wetland habitat with a ratio of 1:1 for the wetland area that was disturbed.

Site Preparation and Clearing

Low impact exploration by means of sonic drilling methods has provided information to develop a mine plan that **minimizes and avoids** unnecessary impacts to wetland areas and aquatic resources. Areas that do not contain economic gold deposits are **avoided.** Unavoidable disturbances are minimized by limiting the boundaries of the area to be worked to only those that are economical. Site preparation and clearing operations will further **minimize** unnecessary impacts to wetland areas by using available upland areas for stockpiles and material storage whenever possible.

Mining Activities

During the active mining portion of the work, placer mining best management practices, will be used to manage sediment transport and stormwater runoff in and around the site. Examples of BMPs to be implemented on this project include the use of a berm of organic materials to retard sediments and stormwater from entering the working area from upslope. Similarly, a stormwater bypass ditch will provide safe passage of stormwater around the working area while the site is active.

Reclamation

After completion of the mining activities, reclamation efforts will contour the disturbed area in a way that will place the access road in a reclaimed upland zone and provide additional space for the reestablishment of wetland habitat. The reclamation goal will be to provide a ratio greater than one for the re-

establishment of wetland habitat. The mining process should result in a negative net volume of material in the area which will facilitate an overall lowering of ground surface within the work area. This net loss of volume will promote the creation of water features and littoral habitat zones. The flow path for water through the reclaimed will be of a meandering nature linking the reclaimed pits which will be contoured to provide both shallow littoral and deeper water zones. Organic materials and soils separated in the site preparation phase of the work will be spread over the contoured areas to promote regrowth of the native plants in the area.

Post Reclamation Monitoring

Monitoring of the reclaimed areas after completion will be necessary to ensure that constructed flow paths and slope stability are maintained as they were intended until vegetation has time to establish. It is Taiga Mining's standard procedure to closely monitor all new reclamation during spring breakup and after large storm events to ensure stability. Earthmoving equipment is often staged near areas that are newly reclaimed and have the highest potential for needing "touch up" or repair work during the initial growing seasons.

Adaptive Management

Taiga Mining Company takes an adaptive management approach with many reclamation projects. A general plan and general goals are made often in the field. If specific elements in the reclamation work are not performing as planned or anticipated, a change can be made to alter the location or shape of a feature to better suit the field conditions as they are encountered. This same approach is also used when monitoring and managing a reclaimed area after reclamation work is completed. If an element or feature is not performing as intended after spring runoff and break up or after a storm event, repairs or modifications to the feature or element will be made to enhance the stability of the element or feature in the future.

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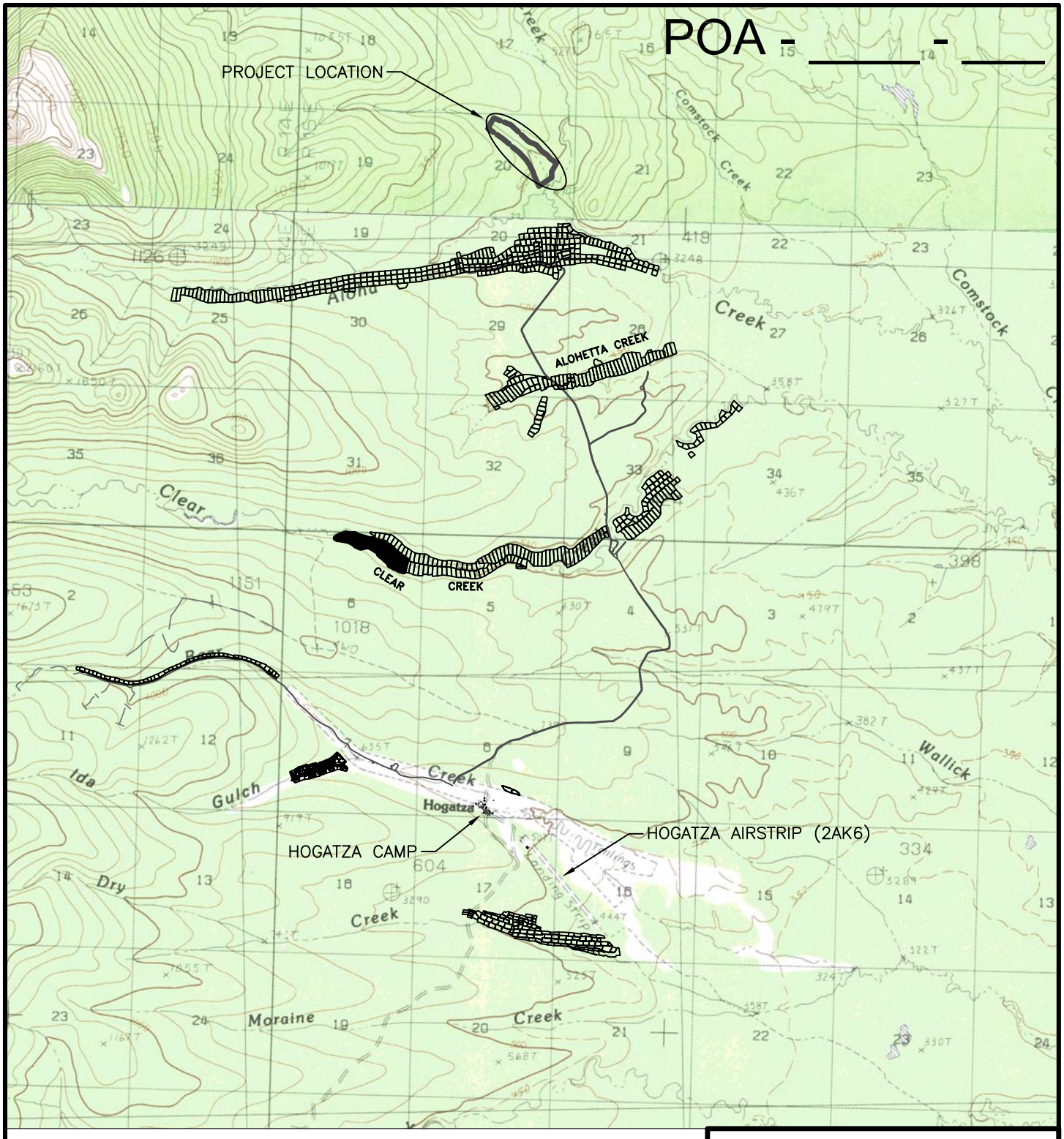
West Fork of Comeback Creek
Alternatives Statement

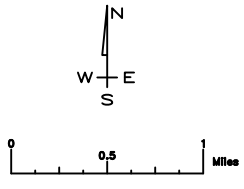
Alternatives that do not affect aquatic sites:
The placer resources is where it is, this cannot be changed. The implementation of low impact exploration by sonic drilling methods has delineated the boundaries of the economical placer deposit. This drilling information allows for the development of a mine plan that minimizes disturbance to aquatic resources by avoiding of areas that are non-economical. This minimizes the disturbance of aquatic sites to only those that are economic to recover.

Practical alternatives located in non-special aquatic sites.
Again the location of the placer deposits is fixed, the boundaries of which have been defined. The location of the deposit cannot be changed, however ancillary operations related to the mining process can be focused in upland areas minimize the total disturbance of aquatic sites. Stockpiles of organic materials and overburden are proposed to be located lateral to the site in adjacent uplands so as to not disturb additional aquatic sites below the proposed work site. Access roads will be located in uplands where possible and the use of a temporary bridge to cross Aloha Creek will reduce the impact to Aloha creek be vehicles and equipment accessing the site.

POA - _____ - ____

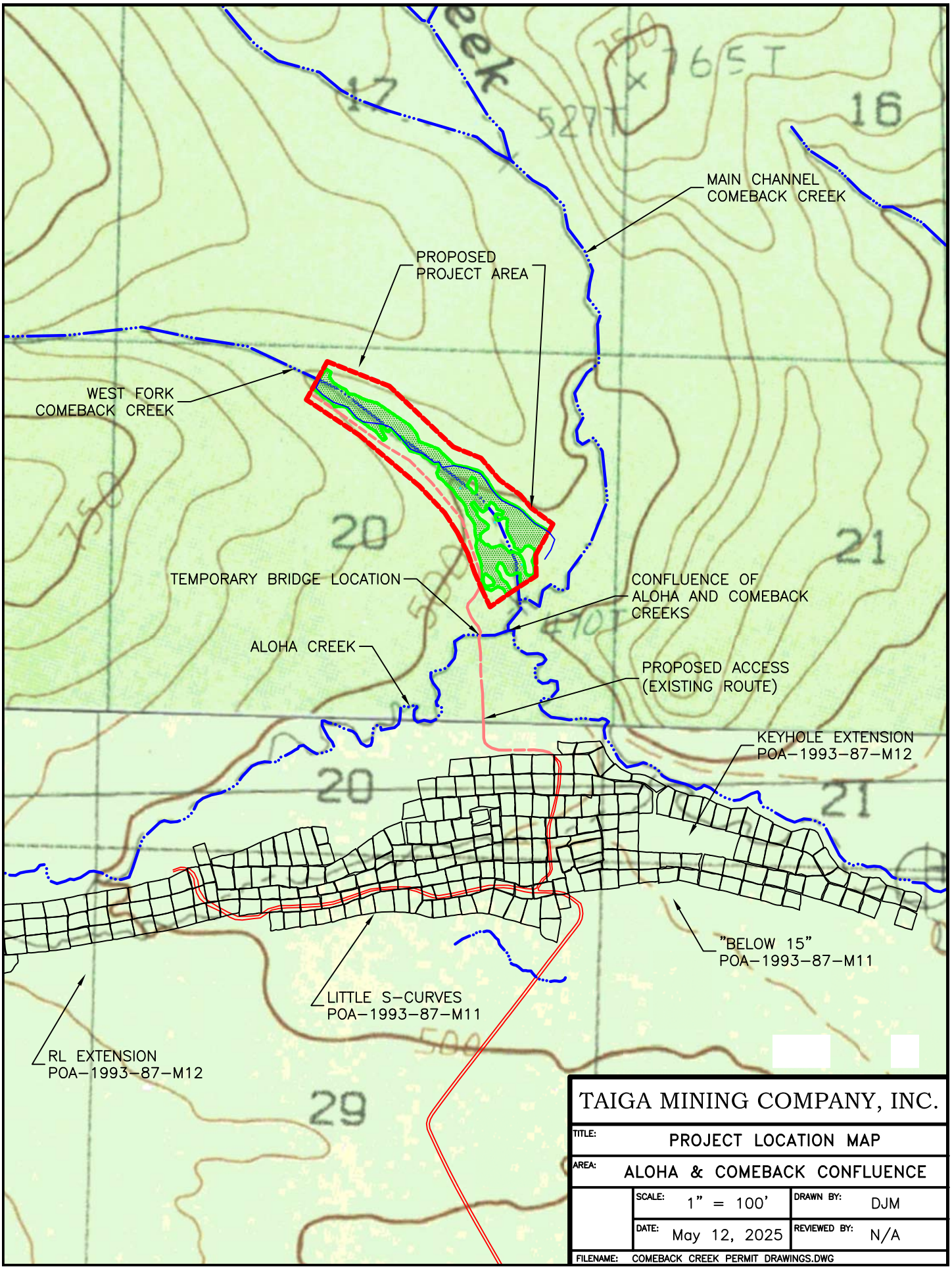


PROJECT LOCATION



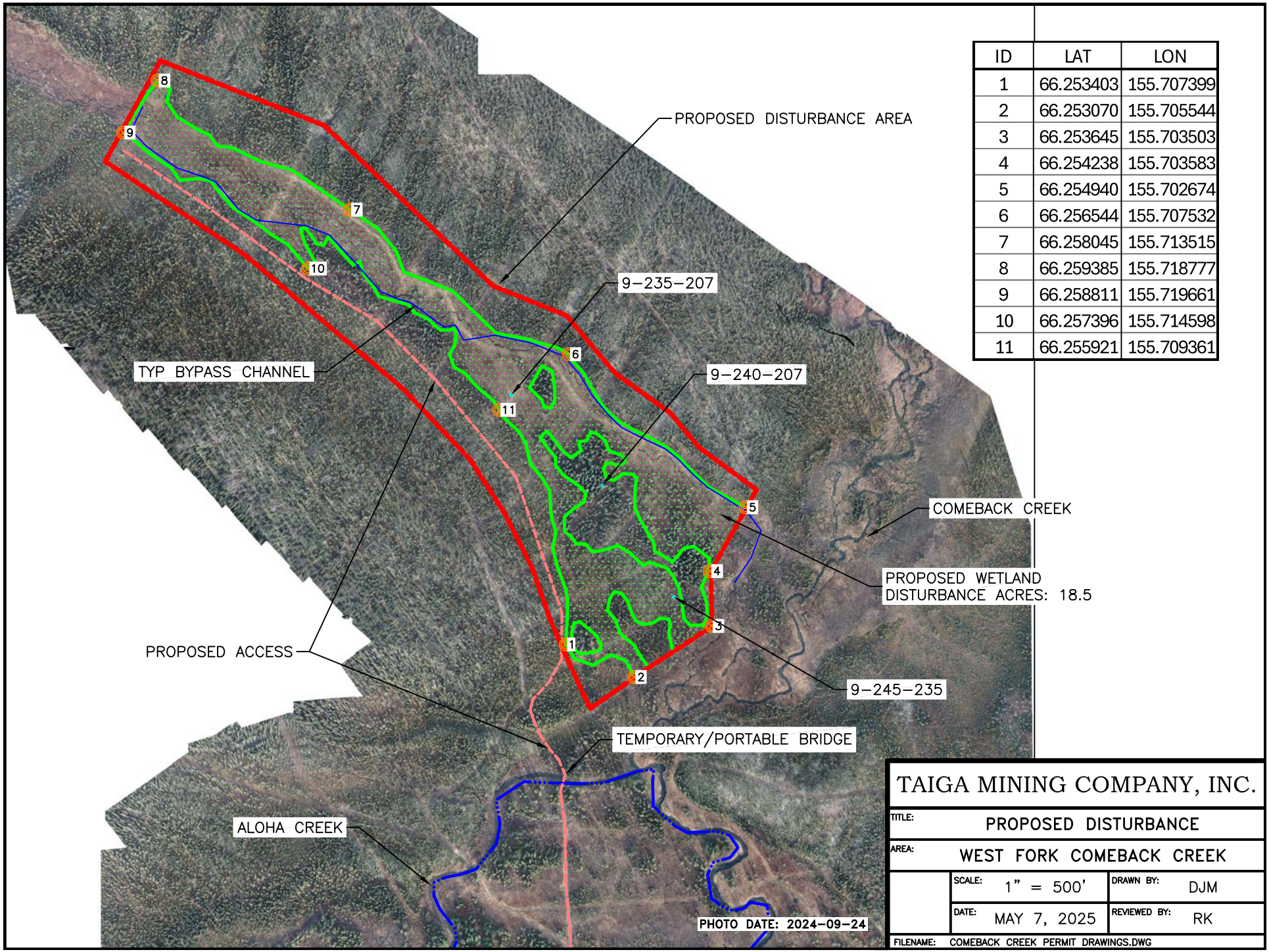
VICINITY MAP

OWNER/OPERATOR:
TAIGA MINING COMPANY, INC.
CREEK: WEST FORK COMEBACK CREEK
QUAD MAP: HUGHES A–6
T10N, R15E, S20, KRM



TAIGA MINING COMPANY, INC.

TITLE:	PROJECT LOCATION MAP		
AREA:	ALOHA & COMEBACK CONFLUENCE		
	SCALE: 1" = 100'	DRAWN BY:	DJM
	DATE: May 12, 2025	REVIEWED BY:	N/A
FILENAME:	COMEBACK CREEK PERMIT DRAWINGS.DWG		



ID	LAT	LON
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2	66.253070	155.705544
3	66.253645	155.703503
4	66.254238	155.703583
5	66.254940	155.702674
6	66.256544	155.707532
7	66.258045	155.713515
8	66.259385	155.718777
9	66.258811	155.719661
10	66.257396	155.714598
11	66.255921	155.709361

TAIGA MINING COMPANY, INC.

TITLE:	PROPOSED DISTURBANCE		
AREA:	WEST FORK COMEBACK CREEK		
	SCALE: 1" = 500'	DRAWN BY:	DJM
	DATE: MAY 7, 2025	REVIEWED BY:	RK
FILENAME:	COMEBACK CREEK PERMIT DRAWINGS.DWG		

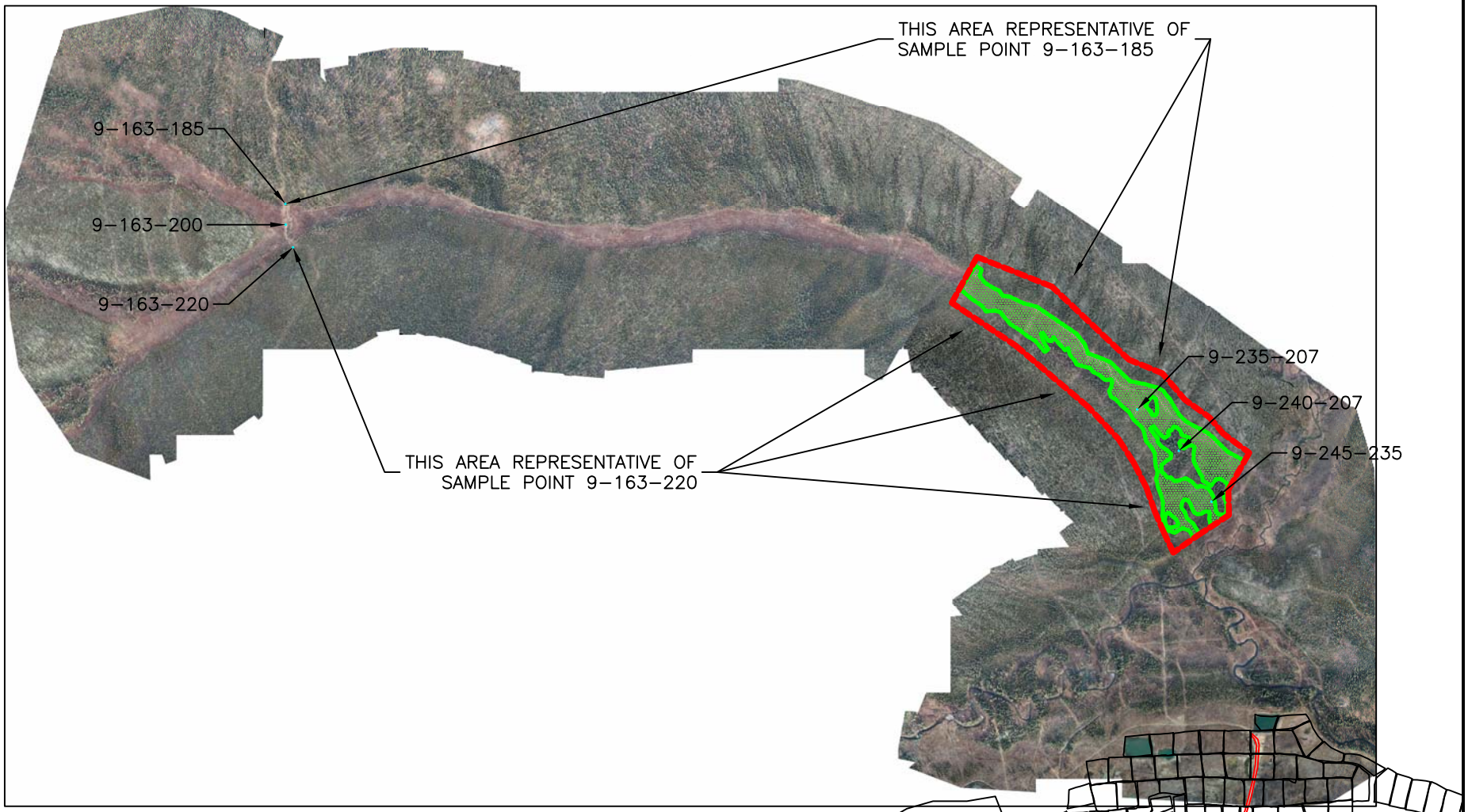
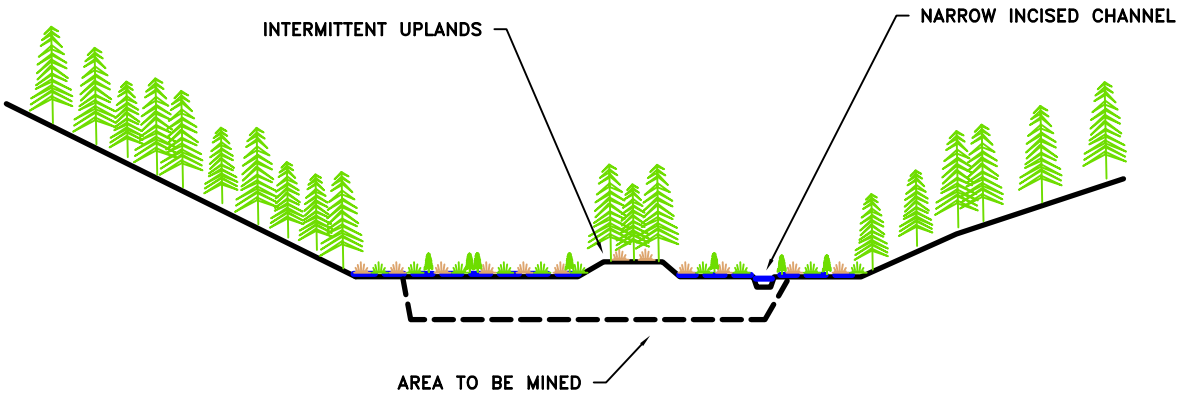


PHOTO DATE: 2024-09-24

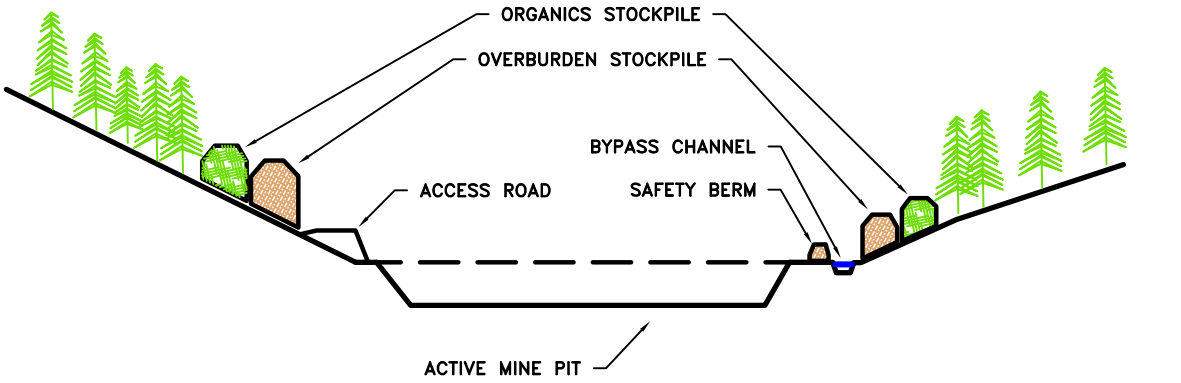
TAIGA MINING COMPANY, INC.

TITLE:	SOIL PIT LOCATIONS		
AREA:	WEST FORK COMEBACK CREEK		
	SCALE: 1" = 500'	DRAWN BY:	DJM
	DATE: MAY 7, 2025	REVIEWED BY:	RK
FILENAME:	COMEBACK CREEK PERMIT DRAWINGS.DWG		

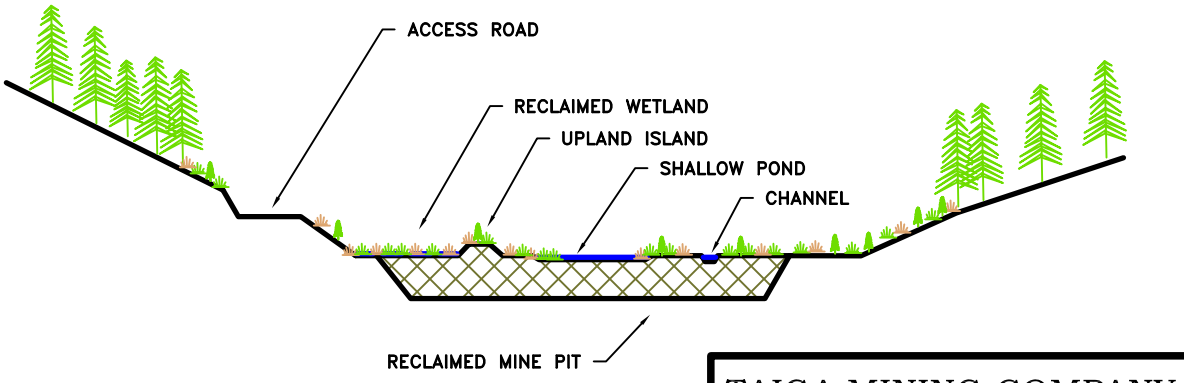
EXISTING CONDITIONS / MINE PLAN



DURING MINING ACTIVITIES



RECLAMATION PLAN



TAIGA MINING COMPANY, INC.	
TITLE:	TYP MINE SECTIONS (W FK COMEBACK CR)
AREA:	POA-_____-__, COMEBACK CREEK
SCALE: NO SCALE	DRAWN BY: DJM
DATE: REVISED ON: MAY 12, 2025	REVIEWED BY: BWB
FILENAME:	TYPICAL SECTIONS ALOHA (USACE) 2025.DWG

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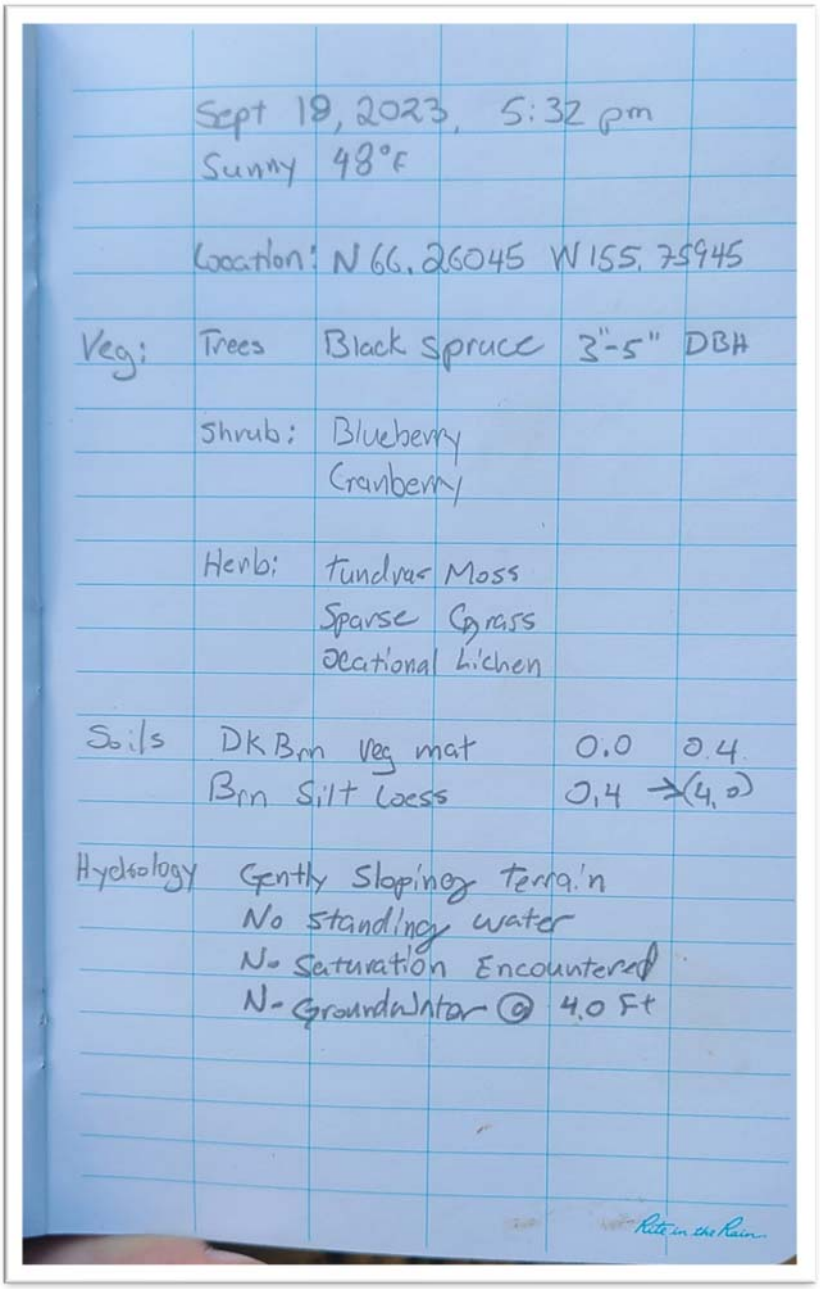
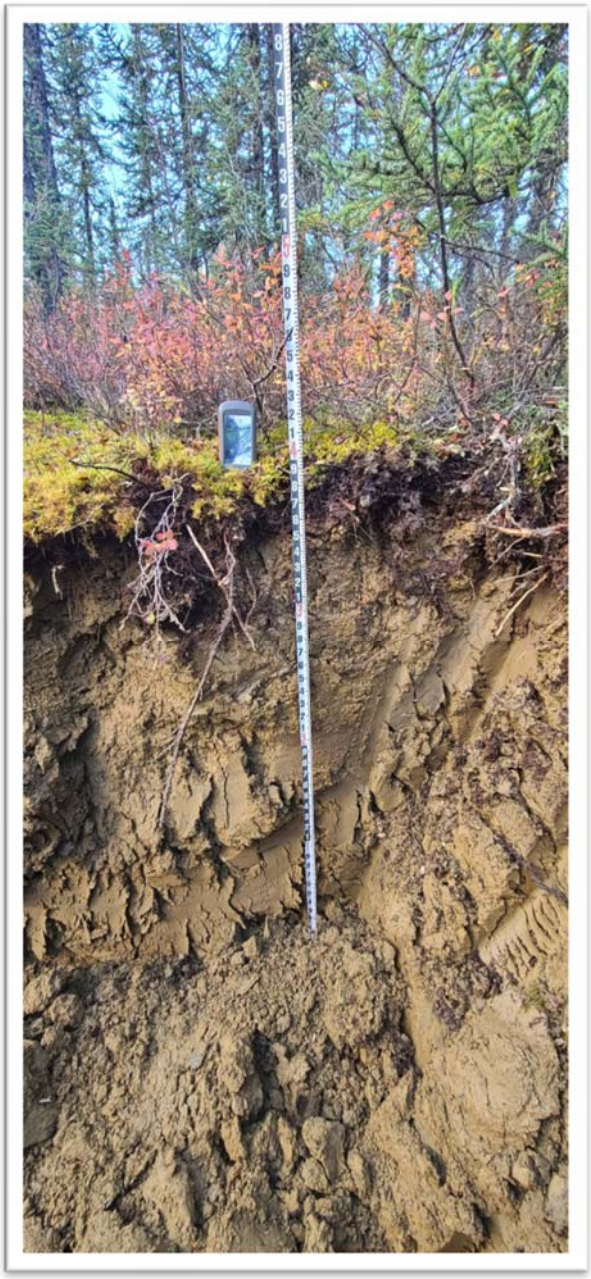
Location: Hogatza, Comeback 1st Pup
Nearest Drill Hole: 9-163-185
Lat-Lon: N 66.26045, W 155.75945





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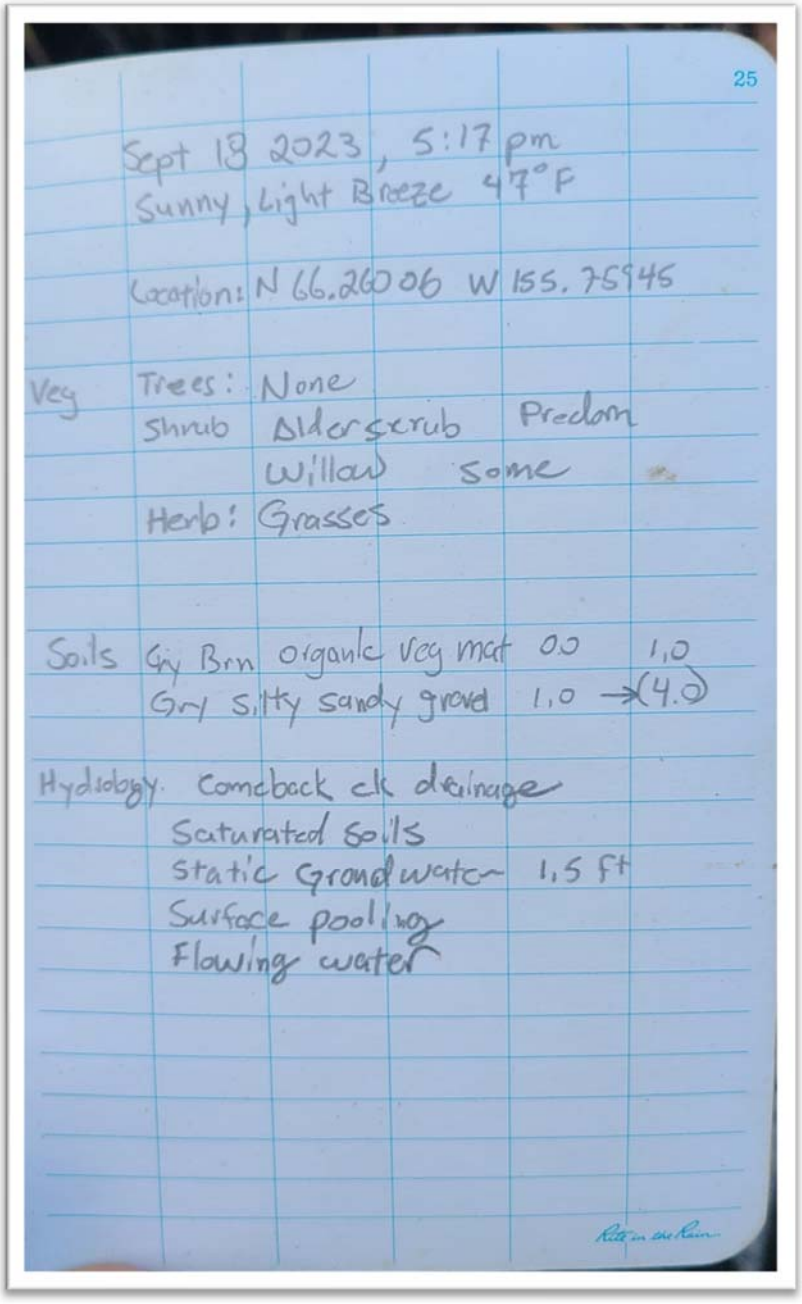
Location: Hogatza, Comeback 1st Pup
Nearest Drill Hole: 9-163-200
Lat-Lon: N 66.2006, W 155.75945



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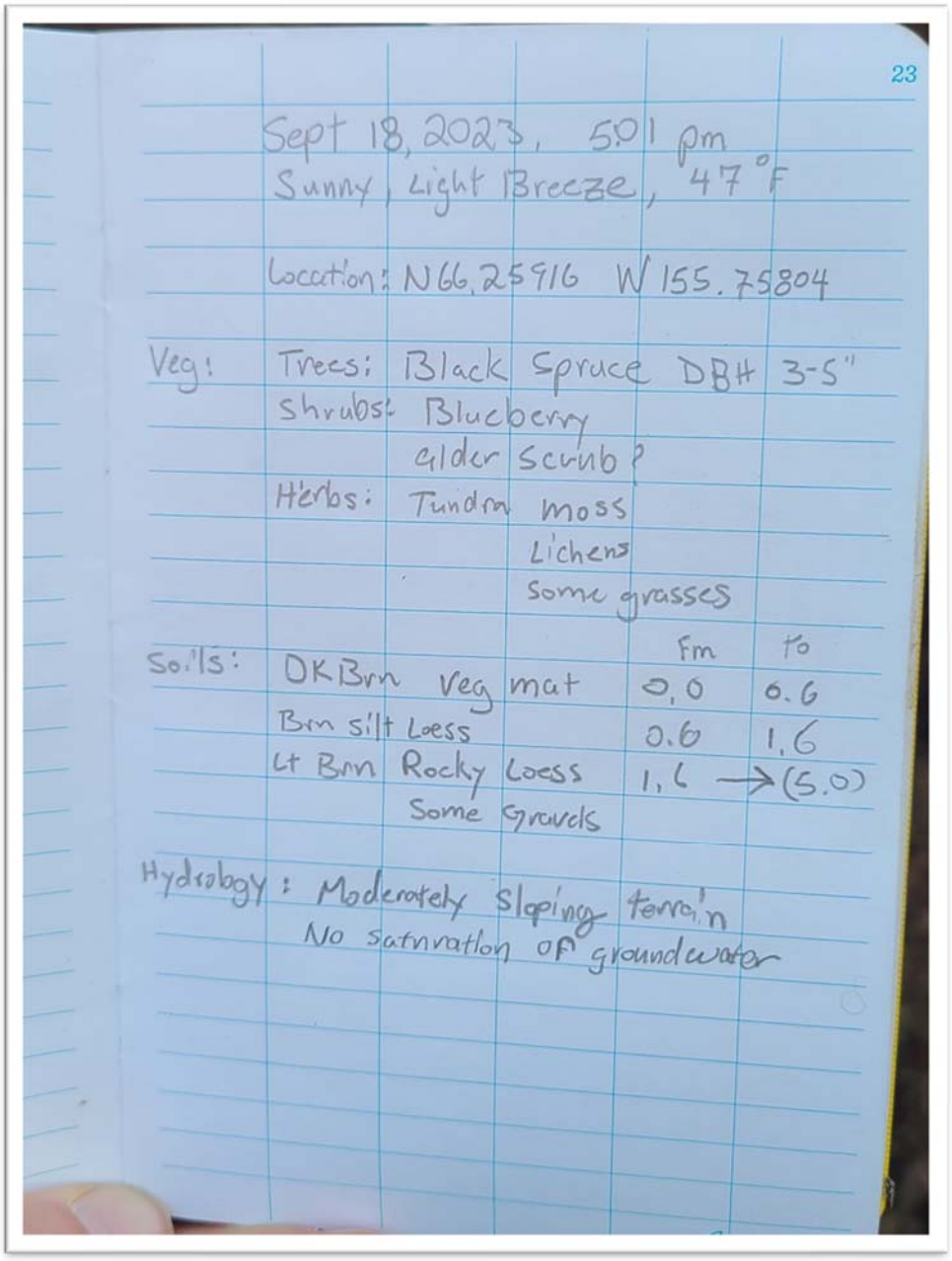
Location: Hogatza, Comeback 1st Pup
Nearest Drill Hole: 9-163-220
Lat-Lon: N 66.25916, W 155.75804



23

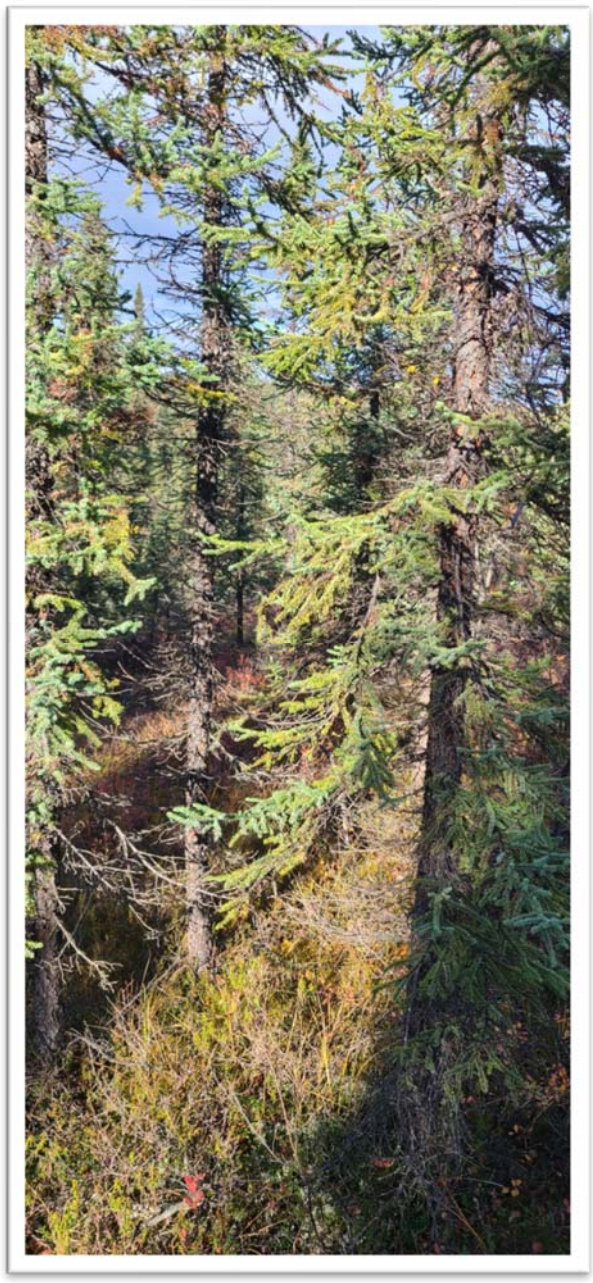
Sept 18, 2023, 5:01 pm
Sunny, Light Breeze, 47°F

Location: N66.25916 W155.75804

Veg: Trees: Black Spruce DBH 3-5"
Shrubs: Blueberry
Alder Scrub?
Herbs: Tundra moss
Lichens
Some grasses

Soils:		Fm	To
	DK Brn Veg mat	0.0	0.6
	Brn silt Loess	0.6	1.6
	Lt Brn Rocky Loess Some Gravels	1.6	→ (5.0)

Hydrology: Moderately sloping terrain
No saturation of groundwater



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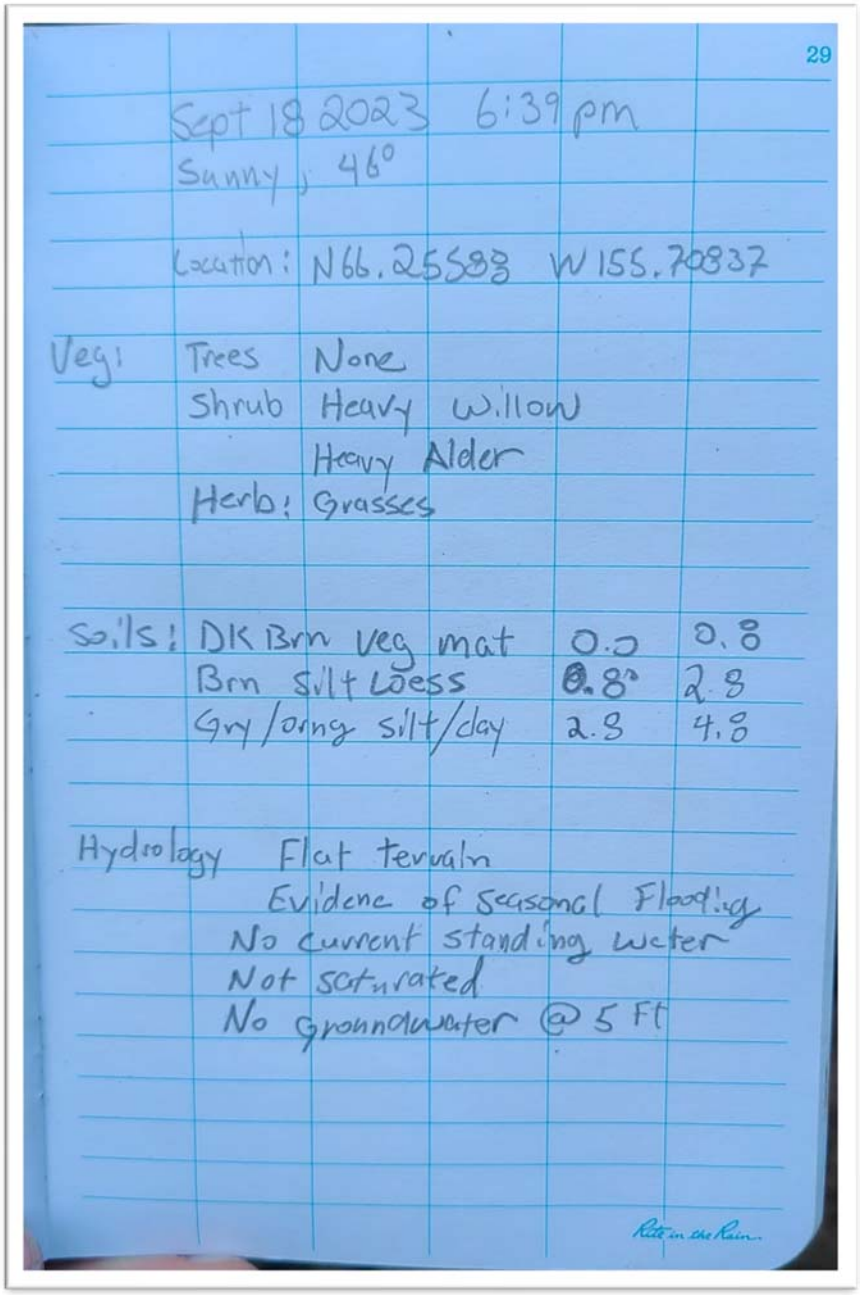
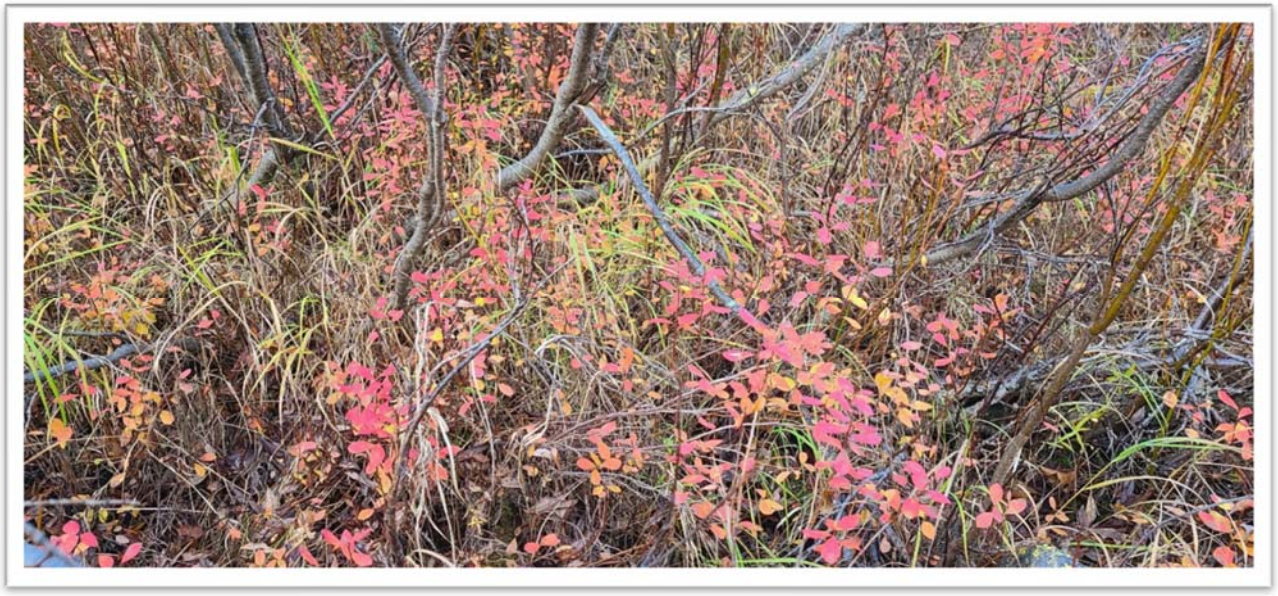
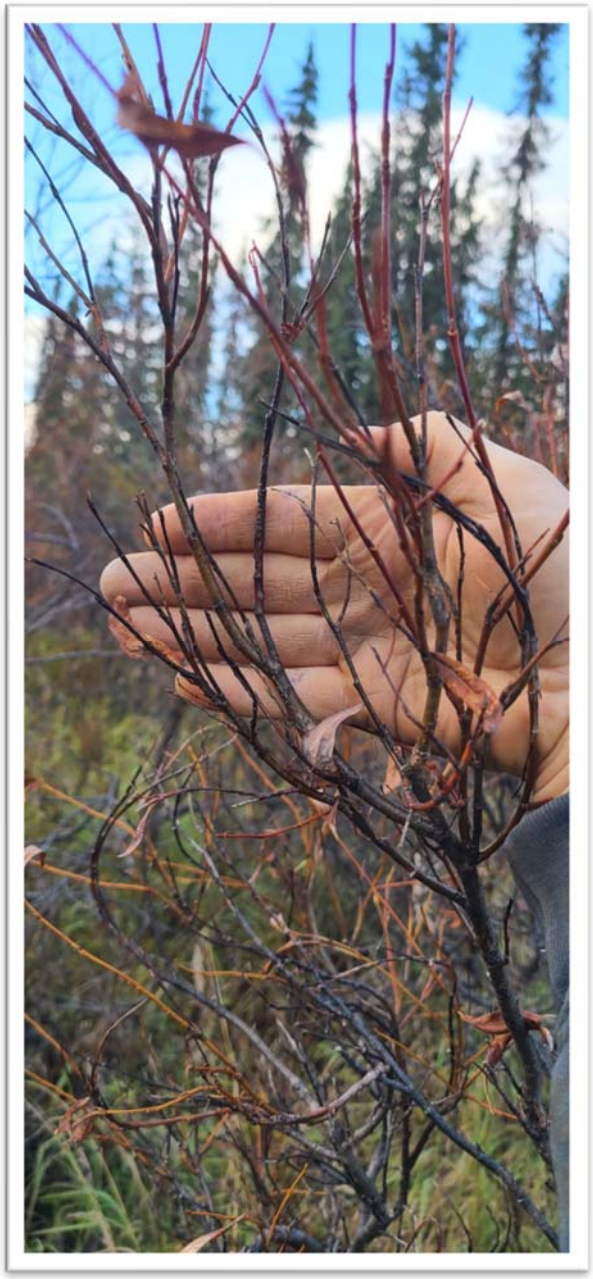
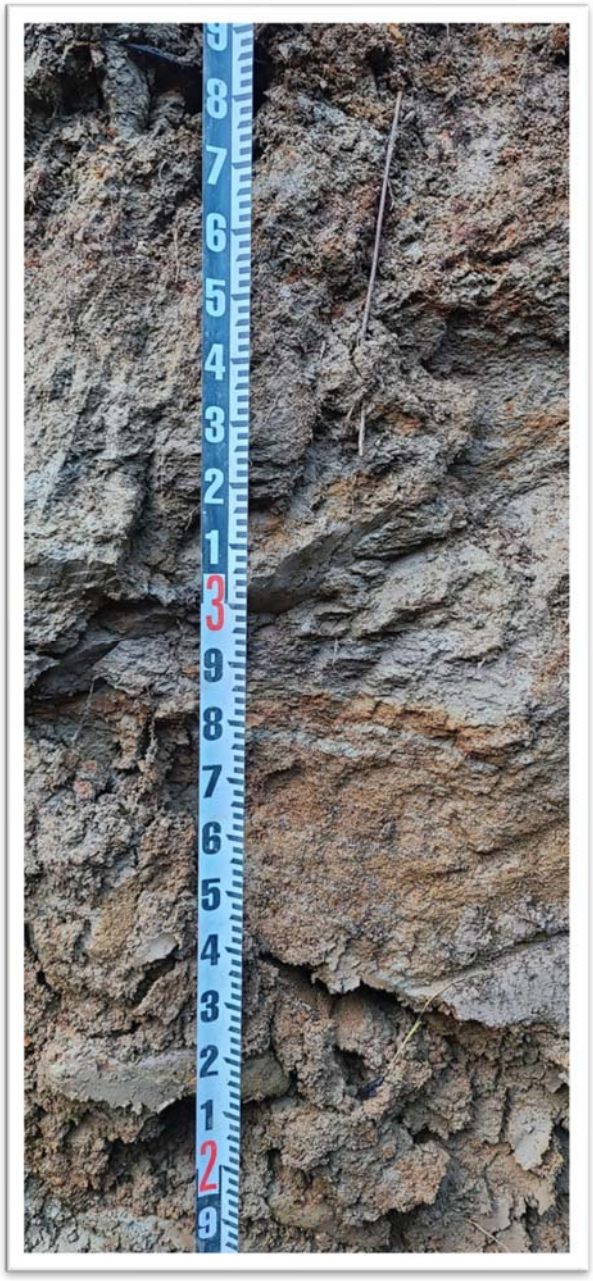
Location: Hogatza, Comeback 1st Pup
Nearest Drill Hole: 9-235-207
Lat-Lon: N 66.25588, W 155.70837









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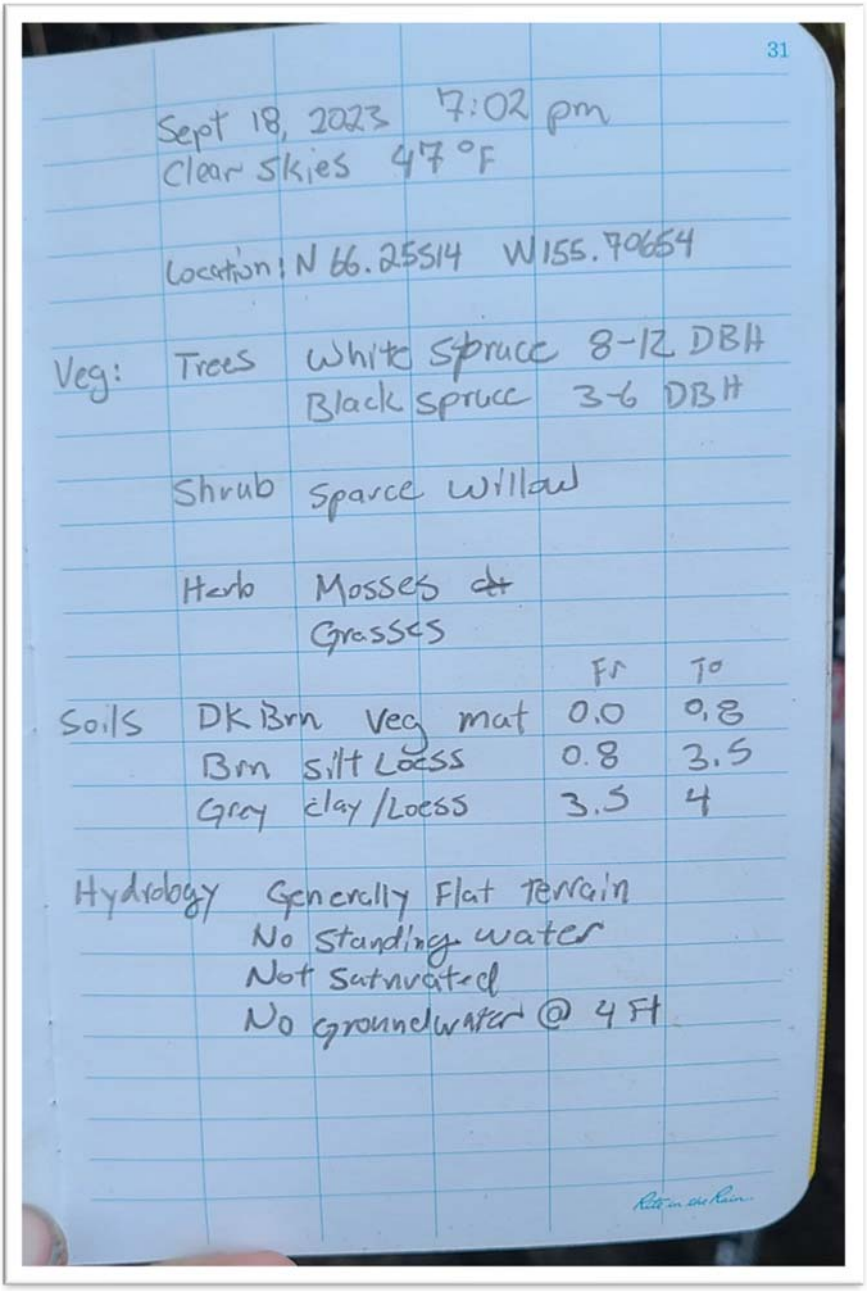
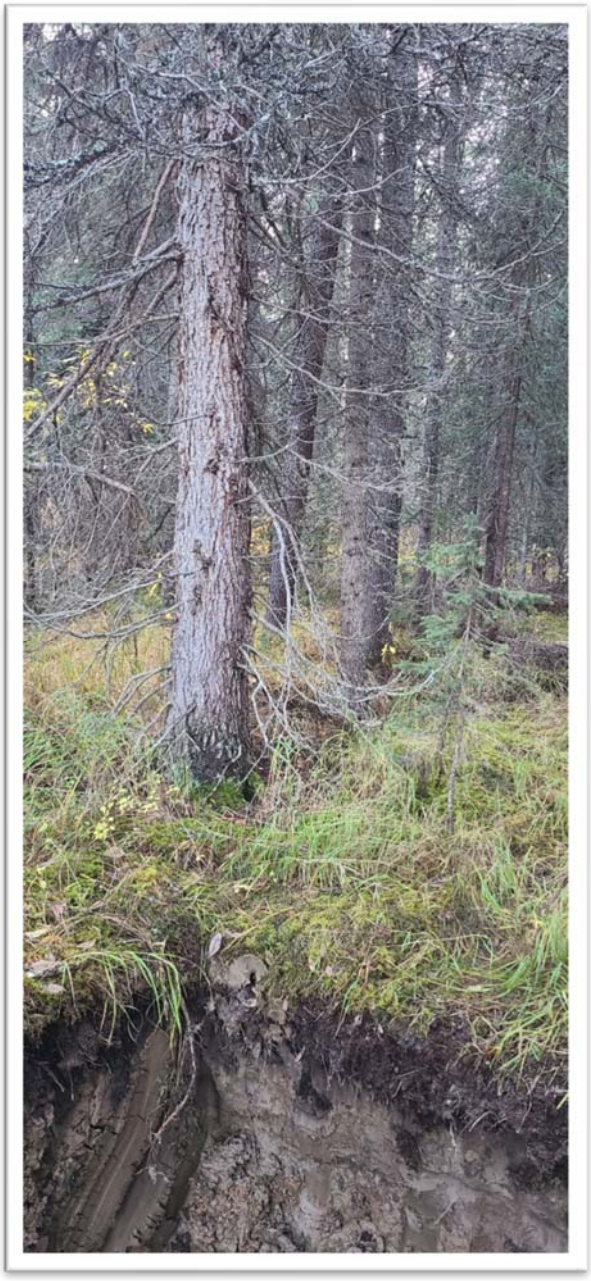
Location: Hogatza, Comeback 1st Pup
Nearest Drill Hole: 9-240-207
Lat-Lon: N 66.25514, W 155.70654





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Location: Hogatza, Comeback 1st Pup
Nearest Drill Hole: 9-245-235
Lat-Lon: N 66.25391, W 155.70470