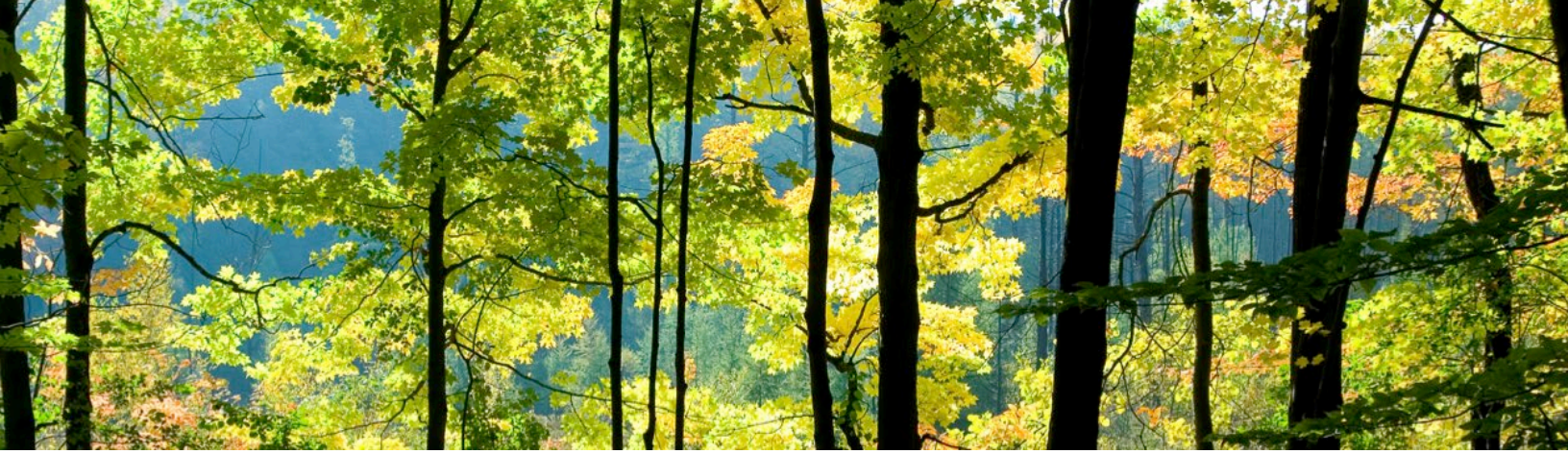

Taykwa Tagamou Nation Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study for the Aboriginal Participation Fund

Executive Summary

Prepared for:
Taykwa Tagamou Nation

Taykwa Tagamou Nation

Prepared by:

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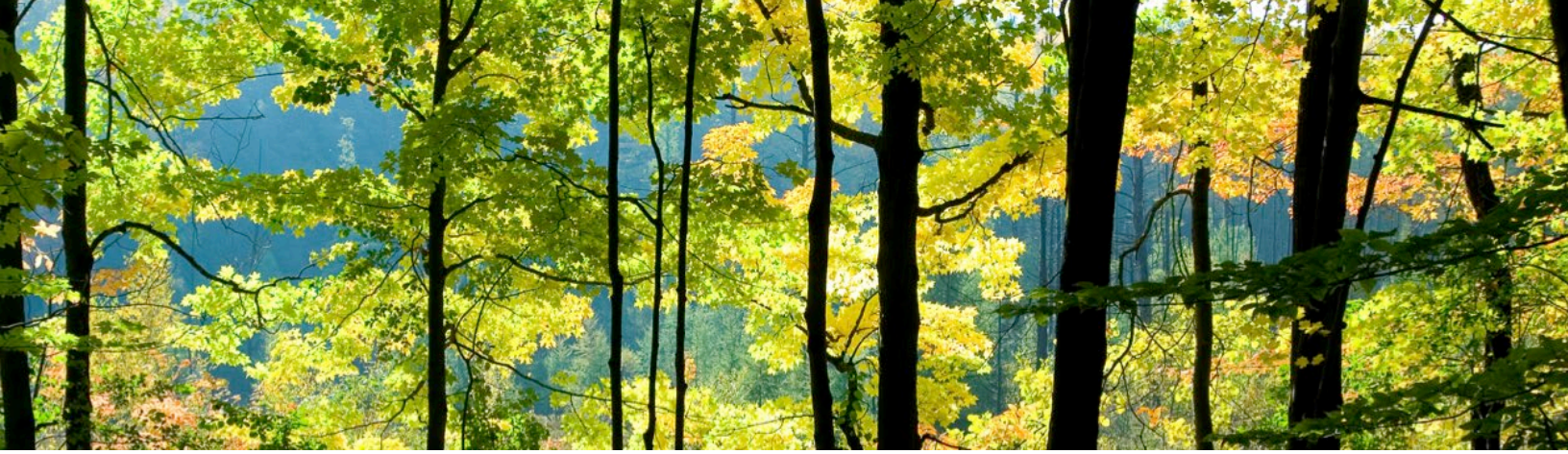

Peter Archibald
PO Box 3310, RR2,
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P0L 1C0

August 2019

Dear Peter,

It is our pleasure to provide you with the Taykwa Tagamou Nation Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study for Aboriginal Participation Fund with a focus on the HWY 101 Corridor within TTN's Traditional Homeland. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any questions or concerns with the enclosed report.

With best regards,

Laura Taylor
Managing Partner, Shared Value Solutions Ltd.

Contents

Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge members of Taykwa Tagamou Nation (TTN) who participated in this study. Their time and care in sharing their stories with us was essential to this report and the Study findings. We would also like to acknowledge Peter Archibald, Stanley Sutherland, Dwight Sutherland, and Theron Sutherland for their time and energy in both conducting and coordinating interviews as well as sharing their knowledge of the history of TTN. Their dedication to and support of this project has contributed to its success.

Authorship and Study team

SVS worked collaboratively with TTN to complete this Study and we would like to thank the following people:

Study Researchers:

- Peter Archibald, Lands and Resources Department, TTN
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Disclaimer

The information presented in this report is owned by TTN and is not intended to be used for any other purposes other than the objectives of this Study. That is, the data presented in this report cannot be used to assess the potential impacts of any other current or future resource development project, including mining and energy projects, within the current Study Area. If necessary, proponents, Provincial or Federal governing bodies may request the information within this report from TTN, who will, at their discretion, develop an information-sharing agreement with the party requesting access. Any current or new resource development project that requires Traditional Knowledge, Land Use and Occupancy data should provide resources for TTN to undertake a project-specific study to ensure a) participants are informed about the project components and have opportunity to provide comments and b) to ensure the data collected is specific to the geographic area in which the project is being proposed.

Executive Summary

Study Background

Taykwa Tagamou Nation (TTN) received funding from the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines (MENDM formerly Ministry of Northern Development and Mines) through the Aboriginal Participation Fund (APF) to help support TTN in regulatory processes, including "under the *Mining Act* and economic development activities associated with mineral exploration and development" (Grant File #2016-06-1-414747347 – Taykwa Tagamou Nation). TTN has undertaken the Study in accordance with the funding agreement to conduct a values mapping project within their Traditional Homelands. The purpose of the Study is to provide TTN with the opportunity to share the findings of the Land Use and Occupancy surveys and archival research to more effectively participate in "processes pursuant to the *Mining Act* and its regulations by improving long term accessibility and organization of values and other land use information" (Grant File #2016-06-1-414747347 – Taykwa Tagamou Nation). To achieve these goals, TTN and Shared Value Solutions (SVS) collaboratively undertook the TTN Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study (TKLU Study or the Study) that mapped the values, land use, and occupancy sites of TTN. Throughout this report, we use the terms "the Study team" or "researchers" to represent the TTN and SVS research team.

The primary goal of this TKLU Study was to provide evidence of where TTN members have used and currently use the lands and waters within the Hwy 101 corridor. This evidence, presented in this report, supports TTN's own acknowledgement of their Traditional Homeland area. TTN's Traditional Homeland falls within the Study Area for this Study. This includes the lands and waters from the Quebec border westward to the Missinabi River.

The results presented in this report do not constitute the entirety of TTN's traditional land use and occupancy. Rather, these results present a brief insight into a limited number of TTN members' experiences and histories and are only a representative sample of TTN members' combined lived experience and history of their Traditional Homeland. Indeed, the evidence shared by TTN members in this Study indicates a strong connection to places on the land and acknowledges what TTN already knew to be true—that their Aboriginal and Treaty Rights to the lands and waters include the areas around the Hwy 101 corridor from the Quebec border and west toward Timmins as far as the Missinabi River. TTN asserts that the area has been used by TTN members from time immemorial, that is, from the time before Treaties and the development of stationary First Nation Reserves.

1.1 Methodology

The following is a high-level summary of the methodological approach of this Study. A more comprehensive methodology section can be found in Appendix B.

1.2 Study Scope

The Study's main objective was to document TTN's land use, occupancy, and knowledge of places in their Traditional Homeland of relevance to the Hwy 101 corridor. While each interview was focused on this area, researchers encouraged participants to provide information across the whole of TTN's Traditional Homeland.

The geographic scope for this Study was a 50 km–wide buffer on either side of Hwy 101, resulting in a 100 km–wide Study Area. Figure 1 illustrates the extent of the Study Area.

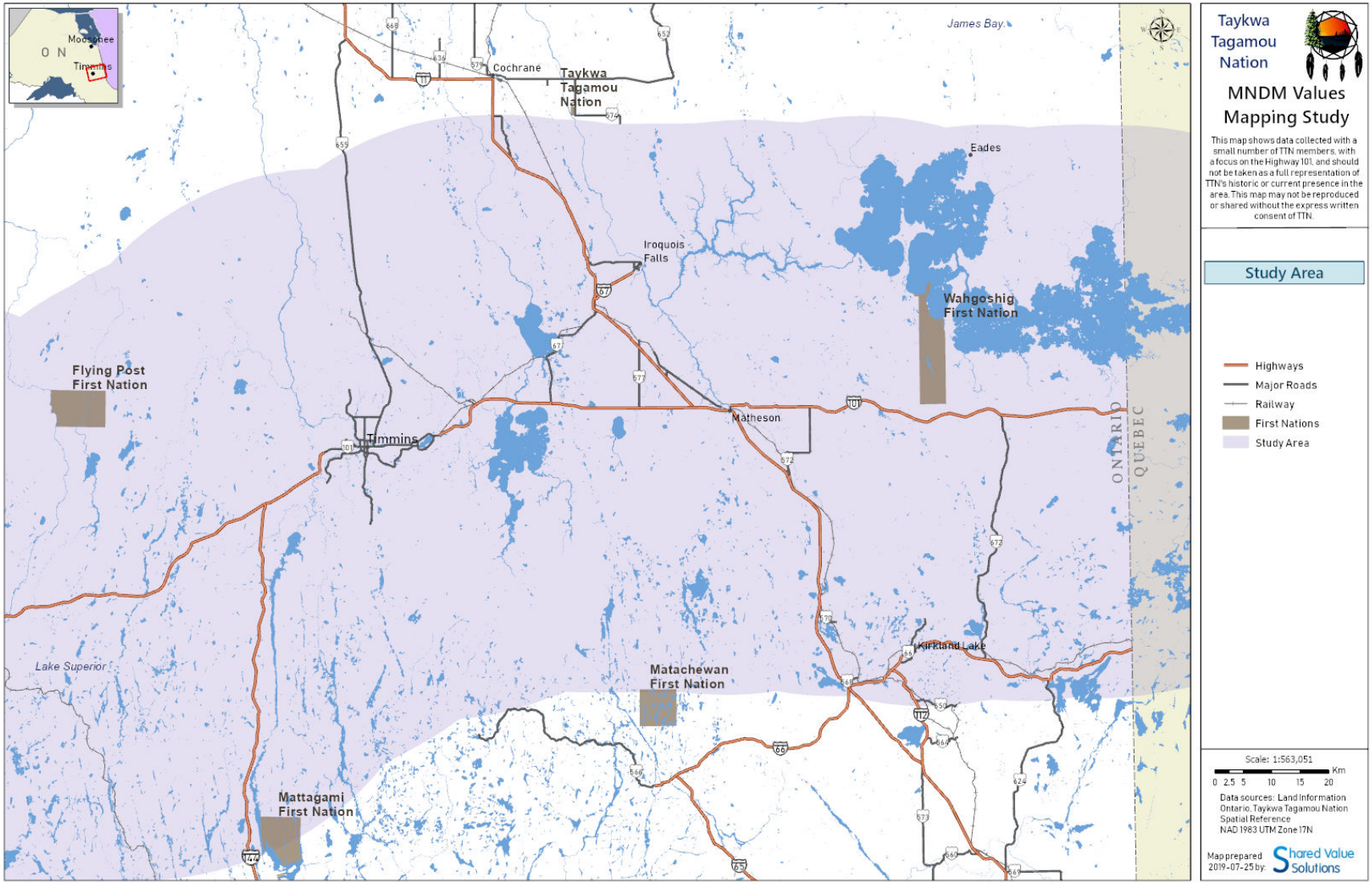

Figure 1. Study Area Map

Taykwa Tagamou Nation

Shared Value Solutions

The Study had two temporal scopes: one applied to the map biography component of the interviews and the second applied to the oral history component of the interviews. The temporal scope of the map biographies is within the lived experience of participants, which encompasses the 21st century and most of the 20th century, and teachings from their ancestors. The temporal scope for the oral history interviews went beyond participant's lived experiences. Participants were encouraged to share stories and experiences of TTN's history, and experiences of their parents and grandparents. Given that knowledge passed down through oral tradition has existed since time immemorial, many of the stories and experiences shared during the oral history interviews should be regarded as having existed for multiple generations.

1.3 Study Goals and Objectives

The Study had the following goals and objectives:

- Document and describe a sample of TTN's traditional land use and occupancy within the Hwy 101 Study Area. These include trails, routes, and heritage sites within the corridor.
- Document and describe participants' oral history and knowledge of where and how their ancestors used and relied on the lands and its resources within the Hwy 101 Study Area.
- Document participants' perspectives, concerns, and experiences on past mining developments within the Hwy 101 Study Area.
- Identify how participants feel TTN should be consulted moving forward.
- Document a baseline of TTN land use and occupancy data to assist TTN in making informed decisions during consultation processes and to help TTN Chief and Council make decisions on potential impacts of mining and other resource development on TTN members land use and occupancy.
- Provide the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines (MENDM) with a report outlining the areas where TTN members have used and continue to use the lands within the Hwy 101 Study Area.

1.4 Study Definitions

For the purpose of this Study, "land use" refers to the activities of harvesting traditional resources, including hunting, trapping, gathering, fishing, and travelling to these places. "Occupancy" refers to specific cultural sites such as settlements, cabins, overnight locations, burial sites or sacred sites. Occupancy refers to an area that is considered to be the traditional territory of a particular group through the continual use, habitation, naming, knowledge and control of a certain area (Tobias, 2000:2).

"Traditional knowledge" is defined as the body of knowledge shared by TTN participants, held by and transmitted between generations, and which supports traditional land use for the benefit and well-being of TTN peoples.

People come to understand the ecology of their surrounding environment through years of firsthand experience and inherent cultural understandings of relationships between humans, animals, lands and waters. People also come to understand the ecology of their environment through teachings that have been passed down through the generations of a First Nation and in relations with other First Nations. This type of knowledge is referred to as "traditional ecological knowledge."

Land use, occupancy and traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) is

- Knowledge, practices and land uses that establish and maintain a connection over time between TTN's long-term occupancy, survival and well-being, and the environmental integrity of their Traditional Homeland. TEK identified by participants is representative of features or knowledge that support the viability of traditional land use.
- Dynamic. The viability of a culture's oral history requires transmission, participation and repetition by and amongst TTN members and others. It is adaptive to new circumstances and technologies.
- Rich in symbolic meanings and practical applications. The practice and possession of land use and occupancy information and TEK has a deep connection to cultural viability, well-being, individual identity, physical health and mental health.

1.5 Study Participants

The TTN Lands and Resources department identified the participants for this Study. The Study team completed a total of 46 interviews. TTN completed 30 of these interviews and SVS and TTN conducted the remaining 16 in June of 2019[1]. Participants were those who had knowledge about the history of TTN and/or currently use the area around the Study Area for harvesting and cultural purposes. The TTN Lands and Resources department also used the following criteria to select participants:

- Age – different age groups were represented in the group of people interviewed
- Gender – men and women were in the group of people interviewed

[1] It is possible that three individuals participated in two interviews. The first time with TTN and the second time with SVS. These interviews were years apart.

- Land use/knowledge – Participants who had personal use of the land in the present or past near the Study Area (e.g., hunting/fishing/trapping/gathering, etc.) and/or had knowledge of the land near the Study Area

The following is a breakdown of the information of those who participated in the Study:

- A total of 46 map biography interviews were conducted for this Study
- 10 women and 36 men[2] participated in the Study
- The oldest participant was born in 1941 and the youngest participant was born in 2003[3]

2.0 Study Results: Evidence of TTN Land Use and Occupancy

The results of the Study provide a snapshot of current and historic land use and occupancy by members of TTN and their families. Participants told stories about the ways that their parents and grandparents used the land for long periods of time, moving to different areas according to the seasons. Today, TTN members are still using the lands and waters and continue to teach younger generations harvesting practices and ways to live and be on the land. Despite vast changes in the landscape of their Traditional Homeland and much of the land being taken up through privatization and resource development, TTN members still have a deep connection to their Traditional Homeland and still exercise their rights to harvesting in the area. TTN members assert that their Traditional Homeland includes the Hwy 101 corridor, and that they need to be consulted on all resource developments happening within their Traditional Homeland.

The land use and occupancy information collected as part of this Study now contributes to TTN's body of evidence of their rights and interests in their Traditional Homeland. The reader should **not** assume that this is a comprehensive data set of all land use and occupancy activities of TTN, but rather a cross-section of a select number of TTN harvesters, Elders, and land users that has been combined to help tell a story of the lands and waters and TTN's rights and connection to the area. The reader should also recognize that the Study focused on a relatively narrow Study Area and that the lack of land use and occupancy data outside of the Study Area is not necessarily indicative of the lack of land use and occupancy in those areas.

As noted above, the data presented in this report cannot be used to make assumptions surrounding the impacts of ongoing or future mining or other resource development activities on the rights of TTN. We assert that best practice is to conduct project-specific land use and occupancy studies for each resource

[2] For reasons outside of TTN's control, there is not certainty whether a participant was interviewed on more than one occasion. For example, there are two PINs assigned to the same name – but it is possible that these are two people with the same name i.e. father and son. This sometimes happens when data is collected years apart with different Study Team members.
[3] This participant had parental permission to take part in this Study.

development project. The data collected in this Study would be used in addition to any new data collected in future site-specific studies.

2.1 Overview of Traditional Knowledge and Land Use (TKLU) Data

This Study included data from two sets of map biography studies. The first set was completed by TTN and the second was completed by SVS and TTN together. In total, between both studies, participants mapped a total of 3184 sites of land use and occupancy. The most commonly mapped type of land use and occupancy was hunting, followed by fishing, locations where participants stayed overnight on the land, and places of cultural significance.

Participants mapped a total of 759 sites of land use and occupancy located within the Study Area. These sites included the following:

- 324 hunting sites
- 171 fishing sites (170 personal and one commercial)
- 86 gathering locations
- 57 places of cultural significance to TTN
- 56 locations where participants have stayed out overnight on the land
- 33 areas of ecological significance (TEK)
- 15 demographic locations (places of residence of participant or parents and grandparents)[4]
- 11 travel routes or sites
- Three locations of other land use activities (such as a hunting area where no successful kills were made)
- Two locations of non-commercial trapping and snaring locations
- One location where a participant mapped a change they had observed over their lifetime

Within the Study Area, the concentration of land use and occupancy mapped by participants falls as far west as the Groundhog River, north toward Cochrane, as far east as the Quebec border, and south toward Matachewan. Within this area, there are concentrations along the Hwy 655 corridor, Night Hawk Lake and surrounding areas, and Lake Abitibi and surrounding areas. The waterways connecting these locations, especially the Abitibi River, Mattagami River, Low Bush River, and Circle River, are also places

[4] For protection of sensitive information, demographic locations have not been included in any of the maps or attribute tables

of significance. The map in Figure 2 below shows all land use and occupancy data gathered within the Study Area.

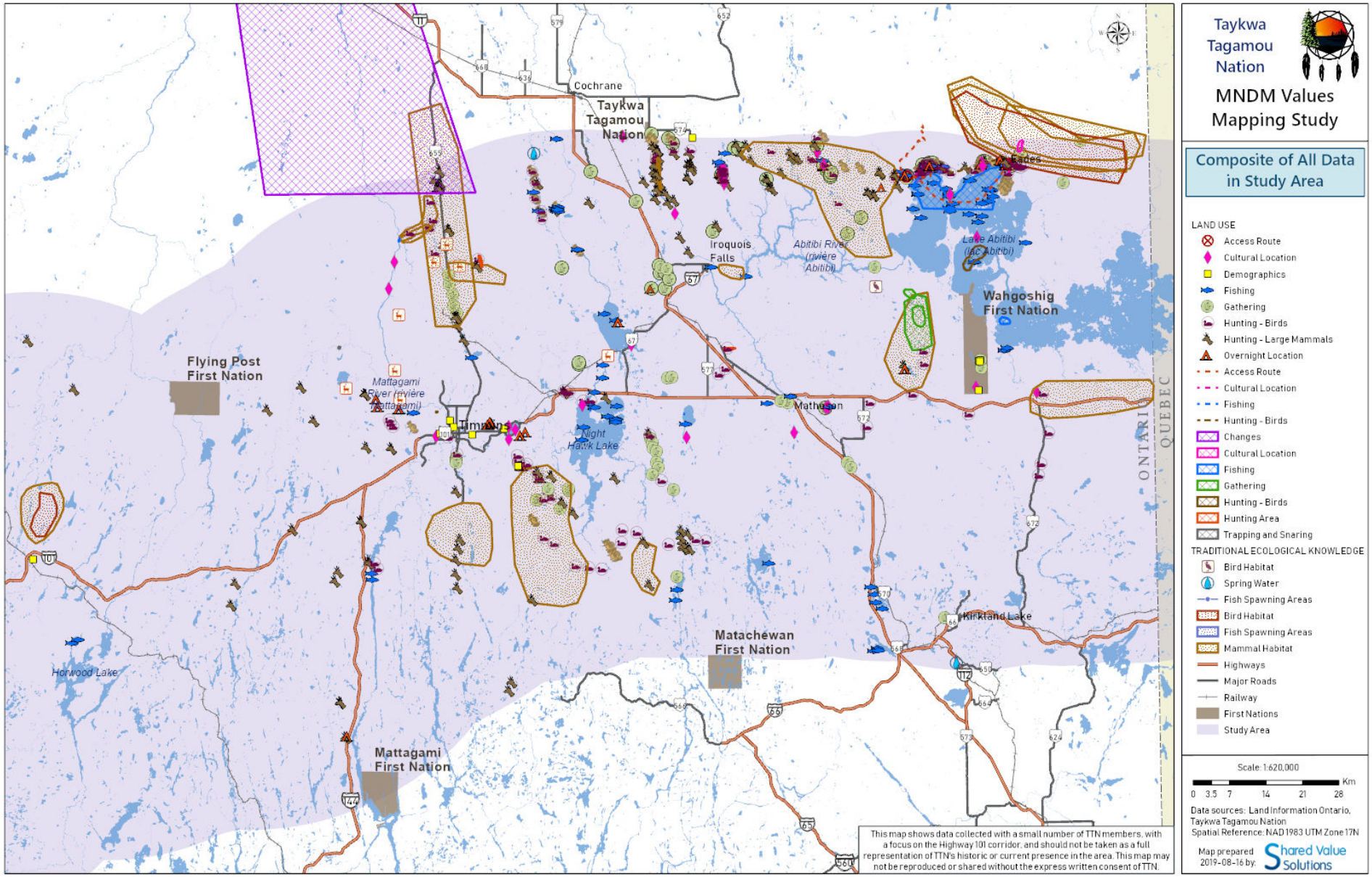

Figure 2 Composite Map of Land Use and Occupancy Data Within the Study Area

Taykwa Tagamou Nation

Shared Value Solutions

2.1.1 Land Use Identified Within the Study Area

Land use includes hunting, gathering, fishing, trapping, and TEK.

Participants identified 583 harvesting locations within the Study Area. Participants most commonly harvested the following:

- Waterfowl, such as ducks and geese, harvested in the springtime and fall
- Moose, harvested in the fall time
- Pickerel and pike, harvested all year but more commonly in the summertime
- Food plants such as berries, harvested in the summertime

Table 1 below provides a detailed breakdown of the findings by harvesting type. Table 2 provides a breakdown of the areas of TEK that participants mapped in the Study Area.

Table 1. Total Harvesting Locations Mapped within the Study Area

Harvesting Type	Total Locations Mapped in the Study Area by Participants
Hunting	
Birds (hunting)	146
Large Mammals (hunting)	143
Small Mammals (hunting)	35
Other (Moose hunting sites with no kills)	3
Personal Fishing	
Fishing - Personal	170
Fishing - Commercial	1
Gathering	
Food Plants (gathering)	43
Medicinal or Ceremonial Material (gathering)	16

Harvesting Type	Total Locations Mapped in the Study Area by Participants
Firewood (gathering)	13
Other (gathering)	11
Trapping	
Trapping - Personal	2

Table 2. Locations of Ecological Knowledge Mapped within the Study Area

TEK Type	Total Locations Mapped in the Study Area by Participants
Mammal Habitat	17
Mammal Migration Route	7
Spring Water	3
Fish Spawning Areas	3
Bird Habitat	3

Participants identified the areas south of Timmins from Hwy 144, north toward Hwy 101, and east toward the Quebec border as important harvesting areas. For example, Kenogamissi Lake, Night Hawk Lake, Sesekinike Lake, and the southern part of the Porcupine River were commonly identified as hunting and gathering sites. The part of the Study Area north of Hwy 101 is also heavily used by participants for harvesting. The areas Hwy 655, Hwy 11, the Abitibi River, Frederick House River and Abitibi Lake are all busy areas of the map where participants identified hunting, fishing, and gathering sites.

SVS is of the opinion that the diversity of land use across the areas described above indicates that participants know the geographic area intimately and definitively. The maps and qualitative data described below all point to participants' understanding of the ecological complexity of this area as well. Many participants were able to identify places where they had ecological knowledge. This knowledge of spawning areas, bird habitats, natural springs, and mammal habitats helps harvesters know when and where to go to harvest certain plants and animals. The areas where participants identified the ecology of the landscape were, in some instances, not surprisingly the same areas where participants harvest. Within the Study Area, participants identified moose habitats north and south of Timmins and around Abitibi Lake and fish spawning areas within the Abitibi Lake watersheds. Knowing the lands and waters in such an intimate way is essential for participants to have successful harvests, and participants highlighted that this is often achieved through knowledge transfer, specifically teachings and stories, that are passed down through generations. In this sense, the teachings and ways of life of participants' ancestors are still being lived today and while the cultural, environmental, and political landscape look different, there is still a desire to protect the lands for future generations.

2.1.2 Travel Routes, Overnight and Cultural Locations Identified within the Study Area

Participants mapped 126 sites of travel, overnight, and cultural sites in the Study Area, including 11 travel routes used to access the land, 56 overnight locations, and 57 cultural sites. Table 3 provides information on the types of occupancy sites mapped within each of these categories.

Table 3. Travel Routes, Overnight and Cultural Sites Mapped by Participants within the Study Area

Occupancy and Use Type	Total Locations Mapped in the Study Area by Participants
Travel Routes	
Boat Launch/Landing	4
Water Route	4
Land Trail	1
Portage Route	1
Historic Land Route	1
Overnight Locations	
Other Overnight Locations	18
Temporary Structure (Tent, Lean-To, Etc.)	18
Cabin	11
Historic Overnight Location	7
Trailer	2
Cultural Sites [5]	
Hunting Blinds	17
Other Cultural Site	11
Burial Sites	7
Gathering Sites	5
Historic Significant Sites	5

[5] To protect the integrity and sensitivity of cultural sites, none have been identified in detail on the maps or within the attribute tables.

Occupancy and Use Type	Total Locations Mapped in the Study Area by Participants
Historic Harvesting Site	3
Historic Family or Village Site	3
Historic Fish Netting Structures and Sites	2
Spiritual/Ceremonial/Sacred Site	2
Matrimonial Sites	1
Trading Post	1

Porcupine Lake, Mattagami River, Abitibi River, Withington Lake, Doucette Lake, and Abitibi Lake are all areas where participants mapped many occupancy sites. Abitibi Lake, for example, was noted by participants to be an important area for harvesting, overnight locations, and cultural sites. Hospital Point on Abitibi Lake includes important cultural sites such as a cabin of Chief Omakees (discussed in depth below), burial sites, and the site of an old trading post. The north shores of Abitibi Lake include overnight locations, old hunting blinds and identified historic hunting areas of TTN ancestors, travel routes, and boat launches.

West of Abitibi Lake toward Hwy 11 are Doucette Lake and Withington Lake. Here, participants identified multiple hunting blinds and overnight locations. At Porcupine Lake, Frederick House Lake and Night Hawk Lake, participants identified overnight locations and important cultural sites that they had learned about from their ancestors. For example, one participant noted that they learned about an old village and gathering site located on Night Hawk Lake from their ancestors.

Participants also mapped multiple overnight sites along the portion of the Mattagami River located within the Study Area. Two participants identified sensitive cultural sites between Macdiarmid Creek and Lower Sturgeon Generating Station.

South of Hwy 101 and near Hwy 11 are two sites of cultural significance, a burial site and a sacred and ceremonial site, where feasts and ceremonies have taken place.

Oral history teachings from family and community members is, and has always been, a way that TTN members know and learn about their own history. For some participants, these teachings bring to life the story of their ancestors and where and how they used and occupied the lands and waters. Many participants spoke about oral history teachings from their ancestors from which they have learned that the people of TTN have used the lands and waters within the Study Area for generations. For example, in one interview, a participant told researchers that they learned that their ancestor, Chief Esau Omakees, who was the first chief of New Post, was living on Lake Abitibi at the time of the treaty signing and had cabins throughout the area of his trapline. The participant noted that this information has been confirmed through archival research. There was more than one participant that mapped

these areas as historic harvesting sites of Chief Omakees, indicating that the harvesting areas of the ancestors of TTN members include the areas around Lake Abitibi and into the Study Area around the Hwy 101 corridor.

Hospital Point on Lake Abitibi was discussed again by another participant who told the same story about Chief Omakees. In this instance, the participant noted that while the New Post Reserve was a significant part of the signing of the 1905 treaty, their ancestors were actually travelling and using the areas around Lake Abitibi and as far south as Timmins.

Some participants also spoke about areas where their ancestors gathered in certain seasons. Within the Study Area, these included Night Hawk Lake and Lake Abitibi. One participant spoke about the importance of Night Hawk Lake for spiritual and ceremonial purposes and as a gathering place in certain seasons. They described it as a highway of sorts, a central location that could be accessed from many routes. Another participant commented on how these gathering places were significant for visiting family that they may only see once a year. Throughout the year, people would spend time making gifts and preparing for the annual family gathering. Stories such as this show that traditionally, families would move around the lands and waters on a seasonal basis and were not based out of one specific area.

2.2 Overview of TTN's Interests and Cultural Connection to the Lands and Waters

As noted in the previous sections, TTN has strong connections to the lands and waters for traditional activities and overall well-being. To better understand and document these connections, the Study team asked interview participants questions about the significance of the lands and waters and TTN's interests in this context.

Interview participants told the Study team stories of their families' lives on the land that date back to the years before treaties were signed, explaining their familial connections to specific places as well as their traditional way of life. Interviewees also spoke of their ancestors, including where and how they lived, offering stories that reached far into the past. Often, these stories had been told to interviewees by family members or mentors and described how their ancestors survived on the land by harvesting and gathering food and medicine, camping, travelling and practicing ceremony. Interview participants also offered stories and observations of changes and cumulative effects they have noticed over time, including changes to their own harvesting and gathering practices, areas they are able to access and occupy, as well as those that are a direct result of development in the region.

TTN's Traditional Homeland, and the community's connection to these lands and waters is significant for several reasons. First, for as long as people have lived in the region, they have depended on the natural environment to survive. Interview participants told stories of their ancestors harvesting food, medicines and other natural materials on the land in every season and explained how they would navigate rivers and waterways to access specific areas or visit family and friends. Second, TTN has long-standing cultural connections to the lands that include many significant sites, such as historic trading posts, places where the treaties were signed or archaeological sites that tell stories of their ancestors. Interviewees described areas on the land that are spiritual, sacred or have been used for ceremony

both throughout history and into the present day. In this sense, the lands and waters throughout TTN's Traditional Homeland are integral pieces of the fabric that makes up TTN's community and cultural identity.

2.2.1 Teachings and Knowledge Transfers

Participants explained that connections to and knowledge of their lands and waters are often passed on to younger generations through their family members, other community members or mentors. To capture and better understand these stories, the Study team asked interview participants about the teachings and knowledge they have received. Many interviewees talked about stories their parents or grandparents had shared about their experiences of being on the land and learning how to survive. Specifically, these included stories of how participants learned to navigate their territory by following or travelling along with their families, as well as stories of how specific skills were passed down to them such as tracking, hunting, and preserving wildlife on the land. Interview participants also highlighted that knowledge of culturally significant sites, such as burial sites, and how to honour them were also passed down through generations.

The evidence gathered in this Study demonstrates TTN members' connections to the lands and waters through both harvesting practices and knowledge of significant sites. Additionally, these stories demonstrate how this important knowledge is passed between generations through family members and spending time on the land. Protecting these interests, including the lands, waters, and systems of knowledge transfer are important to both TTN's culture and their ability to exercise their Aboriginal and Treaty Rights throughout their traditional territory.

2.2.2 Participant-Identified Changes and Cumulative Effects

The Study team asked interview participants to identify areas where they have observed or experienced changes and cumulative effects throughout TTN's traditional territory. For the purpose of this study, cumulative effects are considered environmental, socio-cultural, or economic changes that are caused by a combination of natural or human activities. The term 'cumulative effects' most often refers to those effects accumulated through natural resource developments that cause changes impacting the land and people who rely upon it. In the case of TTN, many of the participant-identified changes and cumulative effects are a result of forestry and logging as well as hydro development throughout TTN territory.

Although TTN is presently being impacted by many observed changes and cumulative effects, the evidence collected also illustrated the legacy that changes from many years ago have left in the community and on the land. TTN Members described industrial activities as having contributed to these changes and cumulative effects, including historic paper mills, the dumping of waste into the river system, ongoing forestry activities, hydro development and mining, though this list is not exhaustive. TTN members cited that these activities have resulted in cumulative impacts to the environment, such as mercury contamination and a decline in wildlife such as fish, but also impacts to human health. These observed changes, and their subsequent impacts on TTN, have the potential to impact the Nation's

ability to exercise their Aboriginal and Treaty Rights protected under the Canadian constitution.

The evidence collected by researchers through the interview process tells a story of widespread displacement of First Nations and TTN members that occurred historically as a result of being "run off" the land by development, which interview participants highlighted both through their own stories and those that had been passed down by their parents and grandparents who lived through the arrival of hydro development and paper mills in the area. For TTN and their former Chief, this displacement was a key motivation in creating the New Post Reserve further north that is used for traditional and cultural activities, such as harvesting, in an effort to maintain their way of life and survive in the face of development.

Cumulative effects and changes to the environment have, and have the potential to continue to, contribute to the loss of important harvesting areas and the ability of TTN members to trap. This is significant, as many interview participants described the importance of traplines to their families, explaining that these are usually passed down through generations and kept in the family. In this sense, traplines are not only important to harvesting and the traditional way of life in TTN but are also deeply connected to the families that have been using and passing down these areas for many generations. Traplines throughout TTN territory have been historically subject to numerous changes and cumulative effects. One interview participant explained that in the 1940's, the MNR implemented a new trapline system that displaced and upset many people who were forced to move to other areas as they "claimed the territory." In more recent decades, traplines continued to be impacted or fully destroyed by development around TTN. Several interviewees described the ongoing pain associated with losing these significant areas to development. As previously described, these traplines are intimately connected to the family and community history of many TTN members, a loss that cannot be replaced by simply moving to a different area or revisiting the location after it is cleared.

In addition to the loss of significant areas, evidence collected in this Study also demonstrated that TTN members are concerned about changes they are witnessing with respect to declining animal populations. Importantly, interviewees also highlighted that these changes are occurring against a backdrop of ongoing climate change. Specifically, interviewees questioned how these changes will play out in the context of land that is already becoming increasingly cleared of trees and animals, providing an illustration of one of the many ways in which changes can accumulate to create larger issues. With concerns of climate change compounding industrial impacts to the environment, these changes and cumulative effects are a source of uncertainty and fear for community members who rely on the land for survival.

2.2.3 Hopes for the Future

In discussing various aspects of land use and TTN's history, interview participants also expressed some hopes for the future, including parts of the environment or TTN's way of life that they hope to see protected or preserved moving forward. Documenting these hopes is important in identifying some of the locations or practices that are important to interview participants; however, the ideas discussed here provide only a snapshot of these hopes and are in no way exhaustive.

Primarily, participants spoke of the importance of protecting the water and waterways they use. The rivers and other bodies of water throughout TTN traditional territory and the Study Area are important to interview participants for several reasons, providing not only a source of food and a place to undertake cultural and traditional activities, but also an important transportation and travel route. One interview participant hoped that the Missinaibi River specifically would remain untouched, describing it as the "highway to our hunting grounds." Other interview participants described using many rivers as a system of highways, which demonstrates that although the Missinaibi was identified specifically, it is not the only important route. Interviewees also expressed frustrations with Ontario Power Generation preventing access to areas around their operations, often putting up fences and gates that prevent TTN members from harvesting easily in these areas.

Ultimately, interview participants hope for the ability to carry on their traditional ways of life into the future, and that access to the waterways and harvesting areas is a crucial part of this. Related to the importance of these hopes for the future is the necessity of Crown consultation with TTN, which will be explored in more detail in the following section.

3.0 Consultation with TTN

As described throughout this report, TTN has experienced numerous changes and impacts to the lands and waters throughout their territory, both historically and on an ongoing basis. As interview participants explained, many of these changes have come about through developments around the community for which TTN was not given adequate, if any, opportunities for notification, consultation or accommodation.

The Government of Canada has a duty to consult and accommodate Indigenous groups where their Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, protected under Section 35 of the constitution, may be adversely impacted. These rights include, among other things, the ability for Indigenous Nations to harvest and practice their traditional ways of life. In TTN, it is evident that these rights are in some ways already being impacted with the observed loss of harvesting areas, such as rivers that have been blocked off by hydro operations, traplines that have been clear-cut, and hunting camps that have been flooded out.

Several interviewees explained why consultation is crucial to the community and the protection of their Aboriginal and Treaty Rights. Aside from being necessary to fulfilling the Crown's duty to consult with Indigenous groups, several interviewees described how engaging in consultation with TTN can be beneficial to those who do so appropriately. One participant explained that notifications and community meetings can aid in getting community buy-in for projects, which can offer support in getting projects approved. Interviewees communicated that it is easier to consult the community on developments and other projects early, which allows for time to hear and address their thoughts on certain elements of these developments. This is advantageous in that it can provide enhanced community support if done well. Furthering this sentiment, interview participants offered several steps to effective consultation with TTN, including building relationships, being respectful of the community's truth, having plans in place for mitigations, being transparent and building an understanding of the people who sit "across the table."

The data collected here not only demonstrates the importance of Crown consultation with TTN, but also the advantages that can emerge from building long-term relationships based on honesty, transparency, trust and understanding. Interview participants have offered several ways in which they would like to be consulted moving forward, including community meetings, notifications, having Crown representatives spend time in the bush with land users and generally getting to know each other better to foster understanding and respect. Appropriate consultation can, in the words of TTN community members, result in increased community buy-in and support of projects, or help to raise issues that need to be addressed early in the process.

4.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

TTN acknowledges that their Traditional Homeland includes the areas where use and occupancy were identified within the Study Area. The information presented by the Study team in this report provides insight into a much larger story of longstanding use and occupancy in the area. This snapshot of land use and occupancy provides evidence that TTN's rights to harvest have been and continue to be impacted by resource development, specifically logging, mining, and hydro electricity developments. These areas are important for traditional and cultural purposes, including a connection to an area where TTN ancestors used the lands and waters. The data presented in this report by the Study team provides evidence of the importance of the area for TTN members to actively exercise their harvesting and Aboriginal and Treaty Rights under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982.* The Study team concludes that any mining activities or other resource developments within the area where participants identified land use and occupancy sites will have negative impacts on TTN. Specific conclusions around mining activities and the regulatory responsibility of MENDM can also be made from the results of this Study:

- Any new or expanded mining developments in this area have the potential to negatively impact the availability of plants and animals for hunting, fishing, gathering, and trapping for TTN. Mining operations and activities could negatively impact the ecosystems that TTN members rely on for traditional harvesting practices.

- TTN identified cultural sites within the Study Area. Any new or expanded mining project operations have the potential to impact access to and enjoyment of these areas by TTN members. Participants already expressed concerns about the impacts from other resource developments in the area, such as logging and hydroelectric operations. Participants have already lost important archaeological and cultural areas, such as traplines, that had been used by their families for generations.

- TTN is at risk of losing important cultural and traditional land use and occupancy areas through changes to the landscape from mining developments, including the loss of access and the inability to freely practice their Aboriginal and Treaty Rights. Some participants identified instances where this has already happened.

- TTN has been impacted by past resource developments. Cumulative impacts from these developments need to be addressed in any mining or resource activity planning moving forward.

Any activities related to mining in this area need to consider and assess the impacts of project activities to TTN Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, including the potential for loss of access and use for future generations. The following recommendations need to be considered for any new or expanded mining development in the Study Area:

- The Crown and proponents need to meaningfully consult TTN regarding any developments that could impact TTN's Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, including any projects that occur within the watersheds of their Traditional Homeland. This includes ensuring adequate time and resources are available for TTN to participate in any project planning, operation, and closure phases.

- Further TKLU studies need to be completed for each individual mining project being proposed within the Study Area. The results of this Study cannot be used to determine project-specific potential impacts to TTN traditional harvesting practices. Project-specific studies led by TTN need to be completed to ensure impacts are assessed adequately. As noted throughout this Study, the results are a snapshot of use within the Study Area and cannot be used for any other purpose than to show that TTN members have exercised and continue to exercise their Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in the area.

- TTN needs to be involved in all stages of any mining development. TTN members should be hired as environmental monitors throughout all stages of development to ensure that proper reporting and monitoring is occurs for any potential harmful effects that may impact TTN traditional and cultural land use.

- TTN has expressed that they would like to explore how to address cumulative impacts from past projects, including environmental monitoring and clean-up, and settlement for impacts of past projects.

Moving forward, TTN expects that it will be consulted by the Crown, or any proponent to whom the Crown has passed the duty of consultation, on any resource developments in this area. TTN will work with the Crown or proponents to move forward in a way that protects Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in this area and ensures that future generations can use these areas as the generations before them did.

Appendix A: Study Methodology

This section describes the methodological approach that we used to complete this Study.

1.0 Land Use and Occupancy Study Overview

The Study team conducted a TKLU Study to document the traditional knowledge of TTN members who have used the lands and waters near and around the Hwy 101 corridor and who have extensive knowledge of where TTN members used the lands and waters in the past. The team used a map biography and oral history interview approach; a method that is designed to gather and collect information that identifies how and where participants exercise their Aboriginal and Treaty Rights. This method also provides opportunity for assessments to be made about how resource development has or has potential to impact these rights.

SVS prepared the methodology for this Study in collaboration with the TTN Lands and Resources Department, and more specifically with a mapping methodology that they had developed in partnership with Mushkegowuk Council. The two methodologies took a similar approach, both using the guidelines of Terry Tobias (2009). The main differences between the two was the use of paper mapping versus direct to digital mapping. TTN had previously used a methodology referred to as paper mapping. With this process, the researchers use special pens and large printed maps to record the land use and occupancy sites identified by participants. Researchers then digitize these maps for analysis. SVS uses a direct-to-digital approach, which essentially skips the need for digitization and instead, researchers map participants' land use and occupancy sites directly into ArcGIS.

1.1 Map Biography and Land Use and Occupancy Survey

SVS's approach to map biography and oral history interviews follows the best practices of Terry Tobias, as outlined in Living Proof: The Essential Data-Collection Guide for Indigenous Use and Occupancy Map Surveys (Tobias, 2009). As Tobias notes, "…research design can't be rolled off an assembly line. Designing an effective use-and-occupancy research project is a creative process that requires reflection, solid thinking, common sense, experience, patience and a good work ethic" (2009:11). Tobias' approach to occupancy-and-use research is based in sound social science principles and extensive studies that provide Indigenous communities with evidence that shows where and how land is used and occupied. Oral history provides important contextual information of Indigenous communities' connection to the lands and waters, while map biography data demonstrate physical occupation of one's traditional territory and provides evidence to prove Aboriginal title (Tobias, 2000).

TTN and SVS worked together to develop an interview guide that made it possible to combine data that TTN had already collected with the new data that SVS and TTN collected during the second phase of this Study. This report discusses the limitations of this approach in the Study Limitations section below.

1.2 What is a Map Biography?

A map biography is an individual's autobiography laid out visually on a map; it provides an account of a person's lifetime of land use (Tobias, 2009). It is a snapshot of where and how people are using the lands for harvesting, occupancy, cultural events, and knowledge exchange. Each individual map biography, when combined together, shows how the community as a whole uses and occupies their traditional territory. The map biographies collected for this TKLU Study included the documentation of the following use and occupancy categories:

- Current and childhood residences
- Residences of the parents and grandparents of participants
- Hunting and trapping sites
- Fishing locations, including species and temporal scope of fishing activity
- Gathering of plants for food, medicinal plants and natural materials, including use of gathered materials
- Commercial fishing, trapping, and other land uses for income
- Culture and heritage resources, sacred sites, archaeological sites, birth and death sites, marriage sites, historic harvesting areas, old family or village sites, areas of economic importance, other special sites, and contemporary gathering places
- Locations of overnight sites, including cabins, other types of structures and camping sites
- Land and water travel routes
- Traditional ecological knowledge, including locations of fish spawning areas, seasonal mammal habitats and migration routes, bird habitat, wetlands, salt licks, important plant habitat and other significant ecological features

While map biographies provide the extent of where the land is being used, due to time restrictions and participant recall, they do not include the intensity of one's land use and occupancy. We discuss this in more detail Study Limitations section of this report.

1.3 What is Oral History?

An oral history interview seeks to understand a person's experience as a land user and includes the collection of information of how harvesters learned about their cultural identity and being on the land. These interviews can provide an opportunity for participants to share information about their community. For this Study, researchers asked questions about participants' family and community, and asked them to share stories about TTN in the past versus the present. We also asked

participants to share any thoughts about or experiences they have had with mining and other resource development and/or changing landscapes within their Traditional Homeland.

The oral history portion of the interview was generally conducted at the end of the map biography interview and included questions related to

- cumulative effects of resource developments within TTN's Traditional Homeland;
- how the participant felt TTN should be consulted on mining activities or other resource development projects moving forward;
- the roles of women, men, and children;
- cultural connections to the lands and waters;
- participants' personal land use (e.g., stories of being on the land, etc.); and
- TTN cultural identity and heritage.

1.4 Confidentiality and Informed Consent

SVS understands and respects the importance of confidentiality and informed consent of our research participants. To ensure confidentiality and informed consent of participants, Study team members took all reasonable measures to safeguard personal and confidential information.

Prior to the commencement of each interview, Study team members committed to participants that they would keep their information confidential. Researchers explained to participants that they would each receive a Personal Identification Number (PIN) that would be used to conceal their identity and committed to not using any identifying information in this report. For example, Study team members collected current and childhood residences of all participants but did not provide this information in the report. The Study team also removed all personal identifiers from direct quotes used in the report and ensured that all participants were informed about a) the purpose of the Study and b) the process and approach of the TKLU interviews. Researchers gave each participant a permission form which enabled them to choose whether or not they wanted their interview to be audio or video recorded, and asked participants to sign the form if they felt comfortable doing so. Any participants who were under the age of 18 were required to have a parent or guardian sign for permission.

1.5 Participants

The TTN Lands and Resources department identified the participants for this Study. The Study team completed a total of 46 interviews. TTN completed 30 of these interviews and SVS and TTN conducted

the remaining 16 in June of 2019[6]. Participants were those who had knowledge about the history of TTN and/or currently use the area around the Study Area for harvesting and cultural purposes. The TTN Lands and Resources department also used the following criteria to select participants:

- Age – different age groups were represented in the group of people interviewed
- Gender – men and women were in the group of people interviewed
- Land use/knowledge – Participants who had personal use of the land in the present or past near the Study Area (e.g., hunting/fishing/trapping/gathering, etc.) and/or had knowledge of the land near the Study Area

The following is a breakdown of the information of those who participated in the Study:

- A total of 46 map biography interviews were conducted for this Study
- 10 women and 36 men[7] participated in the Study
- The oldest participant was born in 1941 and the youngest participant was born in 2003[8]

1.6 Tools

The study team developed an interview "toolkit" that was used to conduct the map biography and oral history interviews, which included the following tools:

- Map biography and oral history interview guide designed specifically for this Study
- Project overview that provided a description of the MENDM Values Mapping Project
- Permission form
- Honorarium form
- Interview record form

[6] It is possible that three individuals participated in two interviews. The first time with TTN and the second time with SVS. These interviews were years apart.
[7] For reasons outside of TTN's control, there is not certainty whether a participant was interviewed on more than one occasion. For example, there are two PINs assigned to the same name – but it is possible that these are two people with the same name i.e. father and son. This sometimes happens when data is collected years apart with different Study Team members.
[8] This participant had parental permission to take part in this Study.

1.7 Procedures

TTN conducted 30 interviews prior to working with SVS; however, the following section only describes the procedures of the Study that included SVS. While we included all data in reporting and analysis, SVS cannot make any claims to the interview procedures used prior to our involvement with the Study.

SVS corresponded with TTN Lands and Resources department to discuss TTN's goals and objectives, the current status of the MENDM Value Mapping project, and the next steps to move forward with Study completion. SVS reviewed TTN's methodology and data and prepared a complementary methodology that would allow for a timely turnaround time between data collection and analysis. At the root, the methodology developed with SVS and that which TTN used previously were almost entirely the same, with the only additions being the collection of season, species, and time period of use.

The Study team was made up of SVS social researchers and staff members of TTN's Lands and Resources department. We conducted interviews between June 17th and 20th, 2019 at the TTN Lands and Resources offices. One individual at a time participated in each TKLU.

Most TKLU interviews consisted of a map biography survey and oral history interview. In some instances, participants had to leave for other commitments and not as much time was spent on the oral history portion of the interview. One participant had to leave early in the interview and was not able to return to complete the map biography survey or oral history interview. The interviews ran from 1.5 hours to 3 hours in length. The Study team members prepared interview record forms and set up the room for the interviews before the participants arrived. Study team members strove to make the interview participants feel comfortable and reviewed a brief project background document with each participant. The participants were invited to ask any clarifying questions and then asked to sign a consent form if they agreed to participate in the Study. If a participant was not comfortable providing consent, the interview would not continue. There were no instances where participants declined consent and did not continue with the interview.

Once the participant gave their consent to being interviewed, the Study team started the audio and video recorders. Researchers used audio and video recordings to prepare transcripts of the interview` and to record the Geographic Information System (GIS) screen during the mapping interview in case we needed to reference it for quality checks during data analysis.

During the map biography portion of the interview, participants showed the researchers where they had used or occupied the lands and waters in their traditional territory. The Study team asked participants to focus on the areas around the Hwy 101 corridor. Areas outside of the Study Area were recorded but not reported on for this Study. One of the Study team members recorded the locations in digital format using a GIS software, while prompting the participant to be as specific as possible about the location to ensure the accuracy of the data. The other Study team member would ask a series of questions about each location, including what the participant did at that location and when they went there. Together, this where, what, who, and when forms what is known as a "data diamond" in the map biography methodology (Tobias, 2009). Gathering four pieces of descriptive information about each mapped location helps verify that the data is accurate and provides valuable details about the

locations that can be used in project planning. One of the Study team members recorded the descriptive information in a Microsoft Access database.

The Study team asked participants a set of questions to gather their oral history and personal perspectives of resource development in general in the Study Area. These included questions about mining. A semi-structured interview process was used, in which the researcher followed a set of pre-determined interview questions, along with non-scripted questions in order to draw out each interview participant's unique knowledge and experiences. Researchers also audio and video recorded the oral history interviews.

At the conclusion of each interview, the Study team thanked participants for their time and provided them with an honorarium as a form of acknowledgement. Following the interview, the researchers finalized each interview record form and carried out data management activities.

The research team used a data management and storage protocol to achieve the safe storage of data throughout the research process. This protocol involved having a team member back up all documents and files. After each interview, audio recordings and GIS and Access files were collected by a designated data manager and backed up to an external hard drive and then a second hard drive upon return to the office. Audio files were also uploaded to a cloud storage host as an additional back-up measure. Information collected on the interview record form (including name, PIN, SD Card #, first and last GISID, deviations from standard procedure, interview date and location) was recorded on a Master Data Management Excel spreadsheet and updated daily.

SVS staff also performed quality assurance checks on GIS and Access data collected in each interview session to help ensure any issues would be addressed in a timely fashion. GIS and Access data went through a second round of quality checks as it was processed in advance of preparing the maps. The additional map biography data from the 30 interviews completed by TTN also went through a QA/QC process and adjusted to match the mapping process of SVS.

The audio recordings of the interviews were transcribed by SVS. Verbal ticks such as "ums" and "ahs" were removed to improve readability of the transcripts. The Study team reviewed all transcripts to ensure quality.

SVS researchers analyzed the final GIS and Access data set to prepare the composite maps and tables that are presented in this report. They also analyzed the transcripts of the 16 interviews completed with SVS to identify the themes that are summarized in the results section of the report. Direct quotes have been used throughout this report to help describe the themes in the words of the participants. SVS has removed all names and unique identifiers from the data to protect the confidentiality of the participants.

1.8 Limitations to the Methodology

1.8.1 Mapping Methodology Limitations

Slight accuracy issues can be found with any mapping program and project. For example, a fishing point may appear to be on land or a hunting point in the water. This common mapping issue occurs when data is mapped using one scale and/or one set of base maps and reported using another scale and/or set of base maps. SVS has sought to verify and correct all inconsistencies during the internal QA/QC process and validation process.

1.8.2 Sample Size Limitations

The Study team conducted 46 interviews; TTN completed 30 of these interviews prior to working with SVS. SVS feels that the sample population provides a good cross-section of the sampling criteria for this Study. However, the findings are not statistically representative of TTN members' knowledge or life experiences. Tobias (2009, 175) states that while "a large sample size is always desirable, it is not always necessary." Instead, he points out that it is more important to ensure that the people who take part match the sampling criteria, which should be tied to the Study objectives.

1.8.3 Interviewer and Participant Biases

In any research study, the researchers and participants can have inherent biases. These inherent biases are generally not obvious and can be caused by factors such as the setting of the interview, perceived power imbalances, comfort levels with the process, or other thoughts, feelings or perceptions. SVS recognizes the potential of inherent bias for our researchers, the TTN Study team and participants. The Study team took the following steps to decrease bias:

- To help increase comfort levels of the participants, we held interviews in a well known and central location and worked with the Lands and Resources Department staff to inform participants of the Study. A staff person was always in the building during the interviews.
- We informed participants about the interview process at the beginning and before any audio or video recording equipment was turned on
- We used plain language in the interview guide
- We used a standard interview methodology, including a questionnaire to help ensure consistency and reduce issues such as leading questions or statements
- We took breaks when needed to help ensure focus of the interviewer and interviewee

1.8.4 Limitations of Combining Data Sets

As noted above, this Study used two data sets. We were able to combine the two data sets with relative ease, but researchers made some adjustments to ensure the data matched in a way that made sense for reporting and analysis. This mostly came down to how certain features were categorized within the data. In no instance was a feature changed; rather, the category was adjusted to make reporting easier. For example, in one data set, locations of "bird egg gathering" were categorized as "hunting" and in the other they were categorized as "gathering." To ensure consistency, all bird egg gathering locations were changed to be categorized as "gathering."

Researchers did not use the data diamond methodology for the initial 30 interviews that were completed prior to June 2019. For this data set, there is no information about time period or seasonality of use. This is considered to be a gap in the data set that should be addressed through a future verification process or follow up interviews. However, the Study Team feels the data set still provides a strong body of evidence of land use within the Study Area.