An overview of the mining sequence: impacts, decision points, and activities.



April 2014

Presentation by Northwatch

An overview of the mining sequence: impacts, decision points, and activities.

- Mining and Water: the Mining Sequence
 - Prospecting
 - Exploration
 - Operation
 - Processing
 - Closure
- Mining and the Land: Mineral Exploration
- Mining decision points / decision-makers
- Mining in Timiskaming First Nation Territory

An overview of the mining sequence: impacts, decision points, and activities.

- Mining and Water: the Mining Sequence
 - Prospecting
 - Exploration
 - Extraction
 - Processing
 - Mine Closure



Prospecting – individuals or companies gain the exclusive right to search for minerals on an exploration property by staking a mineral claim



Exploration – includes surface stripping, drilling and bulk sampling to evaluate an area for its mineral potential; can include high levels of disturbance and loss of natural values



Extraction - the operation of a mine includes the mine itself, where the ore is removed from the ground, but also the creation of waste rock and mine tailings, and all of the infrastructure related to the

mine's operation.



Processing - the ore is crushed and ground, and the valued metals are separated from waste; smelting or refining is carried out either on-site or at another location



Closure - Mine site is to be returned to its"original" state or to a productive alternative; Structures are removed, openings to surface capped, regrading and revegetation is done. Most often the area is reclaimed by constructing ponds, wetlands, grassland or forest over the mine site and impoundments of waste



Perpetual Care - After closure, most major mines require perpetual care to monitor for structural stability (e.g. of tailings dams), many mines require water treatment long after closure



An overview of the mining sequence: impacts, decision points, and activities.

Mining and the Land: Mineral Exploration



Mineral Exploration Site Visits - 2010

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- DOCUMENT IMPACTS OF EARLY STAGES OF MINERAL EXPLORATION
- TEST-DRIVE AUDIT CHECKLIST
 - Identified candidate sites
 - Developed observation sheet
 - Conducted field visits
 - Assemble related background information

Mineral Exploration Sites – Field Observations

Site:		Location:
Claim Holder:		Observations by:
Explorationist:]	Date:

#	Category	Description	Indicator	Observations	Comments	Followup
1		Pits, Trenches, Stripping, Adits, Shafts	Disturbence, slope/depth, overburden or weste rock piles			
2	Chemical Hazards	pH, metals, nitrates, ammonia	Fleid monitoring, lab samples			
3	Aquatic Values	Wetlands, streams, creeks, lakes; Riperian Zones	Disturbence, sedimentation / siltation, conductivity			
4	Terrestrial Values	Life Science (Vegetation), Habitat (eg. Endangered Species), Earth Science (land formations)	Forest composition, plant communities, nests, land forms			
5	Landscape Values	Fragmentation, eg. related to road access, grid lines,	Width, condition, spacing, competion, rutting, pooling			
6	Infrastructure	Camps, clearings, waste, debris, core, power lines,	Presence of structures, pads, waste piles			
7	Social	Hunting, Fishing, Trapping, NTFPs, Recreational uses, Nearby residences	Indication of other uses of site or adjacent areas			
S	Aboriginal Interests	Treety area, proximity to First Nation(s)				





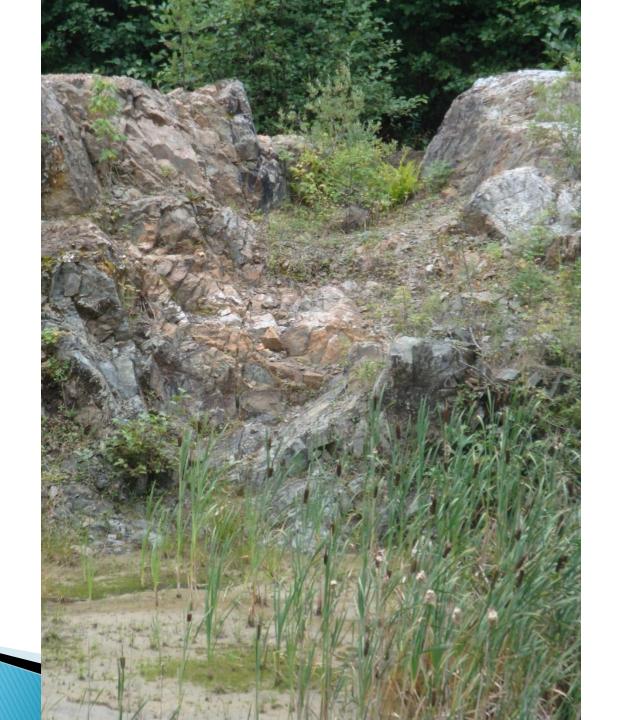






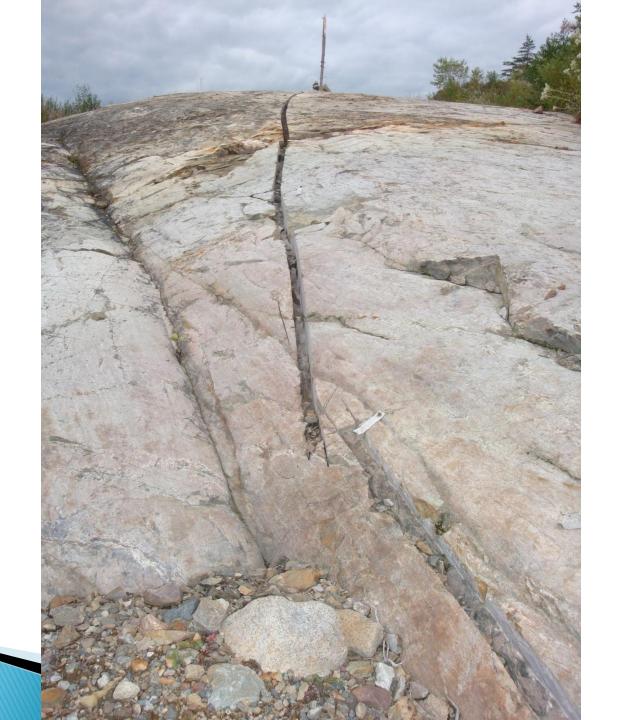


















BIG DOME PROJECT





















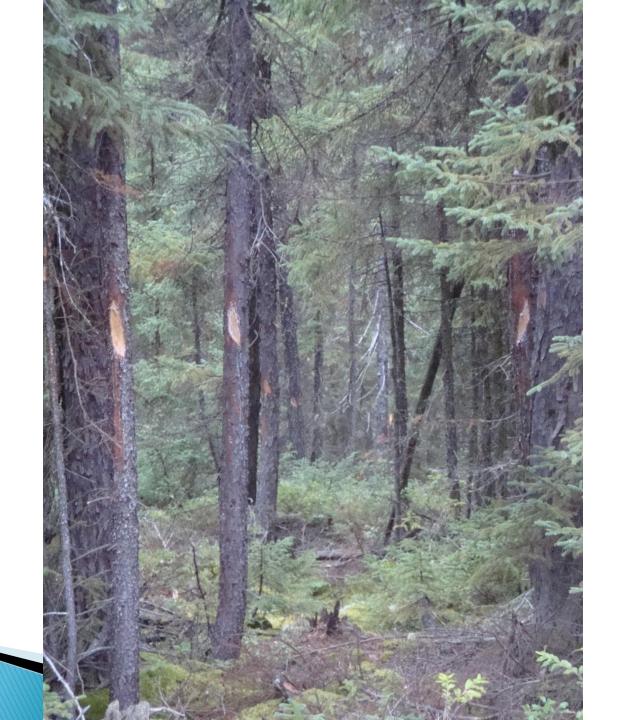
































































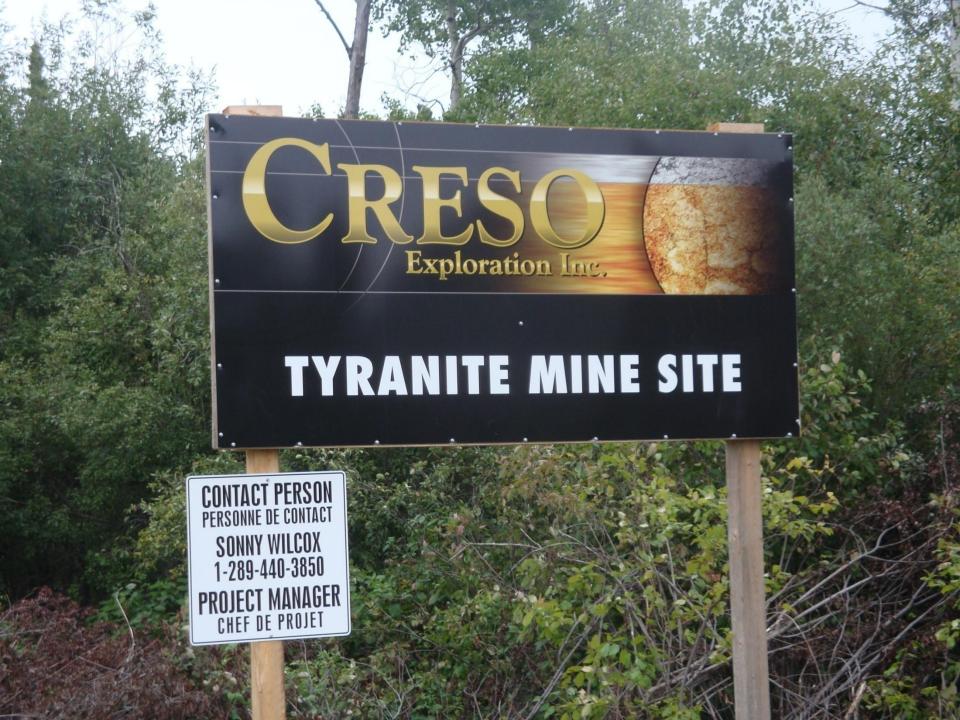


























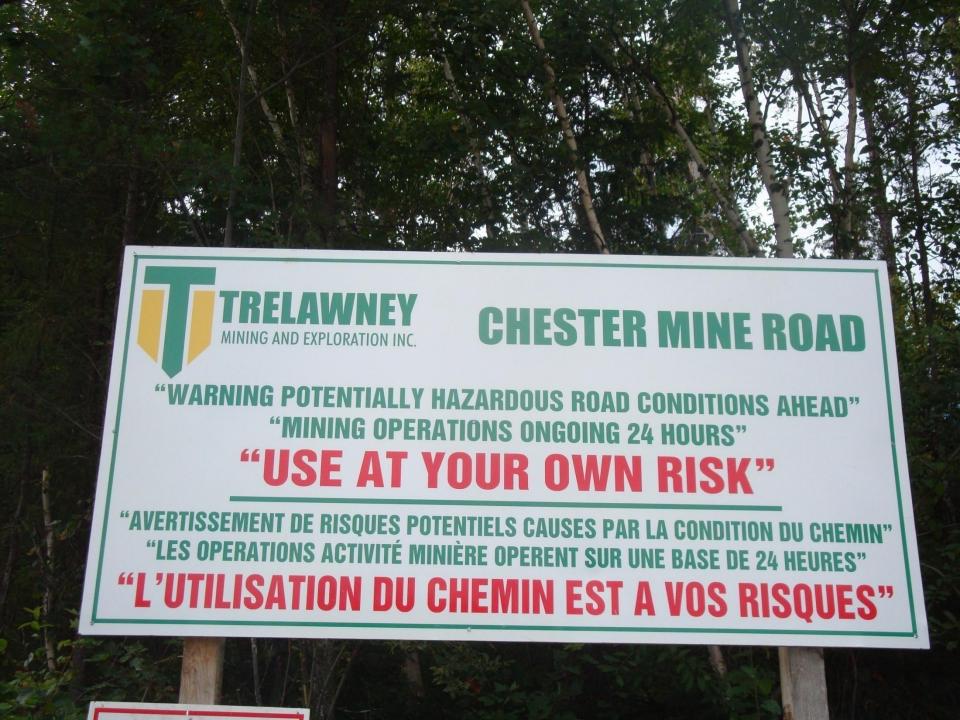
























Summary Observations

- Disturbances are extensive, and affect terrestrial and aquatic environments
- Past and current mineral exploration disturbances are co-mingled
- Mineral exploration is taking place amidst a variety of other land uses, some of them competing and all of them cumulative

Key recommendations

- Remediation must be mandatory, within defined and limited timelines
- Permitting process must take into account previous disturbances
- Monitoring, compliance and enforcement are essential