

TABLES





Table 2-1: Characterization Used in Evaluating Alternatives

Environmental	Technical	Project-economics	Socio-economic
Characterization	Characterization	Characterization	Characterization
 Distance from the Mine/Ore Processing Facility. Topography. Stockpile footprint and dimensions. Failure/poor performance consequences. Removal of vegetation. Effects on aquatic ecology. Effects on terrestrial ecology. Effects on hydrology. Effects on water quality. Effects on air quality 	 Topography/ watershed considerations. Hydrological/ hydrogeological/ watershed considerations. Geotechnical design considerations. Storage capacity. Dumping techniques. Haul distances. Sedimentation and pollution control dam requirements. Tailings discharge methods. Pipeline grades and routes. Closure design. Long-term stability and safety Extent of water treatment infrastructure. Supporting infrastructure (access roads). Ease of construction. 	 Capital Cost. Operating Cost. Closure Cost. Fish Habitat Compensation. Land use or lease fees 	 Aesthetics. Community safety. Presence of archaeological sites. Cultural significance. Employment/ training opportunities. Effects on cultural heritage sites. Effects on land use.



Table 2-2: Biological Criteria for the Selection of Valued Ecosystem Components

Biological Criteria	Rationale
Range	Selection focused on those species with local populations, since these would be more likely to suffer adverse effects at the population level. Broadly distributed populations could withstand localized effects with little or no effect on the population as a whole, and therefore, would not be as sensitive to Project-related effects.
Abundance of the species within the local aquatic community	Effects would be more readily measured and therefore, more readily apparent in those organisms that form a major component of the local community.
Status of the species	Native species (i.e., those that have been well established in the area over a long time period) provide the greatest opportunity to show responses to environmental effects. The responses would not be clouded by population dynamics that may not have reached equilibrium, or that may be influenced by anthropogenic actions such as stocking or management programs.
Habitat use by the species	Species that are permanent residents are more likely to show a response since they are subject to the effect(s) for a much greater percentage of their life history.
Residency sensitivity	The relative effect would be greatest for those organisms using the area during critical life history stages such as those associated with reproduction, or during critical growth periods. Those organisms that use the area only during infrequent periods or as part of a broader feeding range would be less likely to suffer and hence demonstrate effects.
Exposure potential and duration	Those organisms that are closer to the sources of effect, and that are exposed to the effect for extended periods of time would be more suitable for measuring potential effects.
Sensitivity	Those species that are known to be most sensitive to the potential effects would provide the most sensitive measure of effects.
Role of the species in the local food web	While certain species may not be significant under the above selection criteria, they may nonetheless be significant locally as a food source for other organisms. As such, the viability of their populations locally may affect the viability of other species.
Socio-economic importance	Those organisms that are socially or economically important could result in effects that extend beyond the aquatic ecosystem to ultimately affect human uses.
Information availability	Determination of effects depends on detection of changes in an organism's response, either at the level of the individual or the population. In order to reliably detect such changes, the life history of the organism in the area needs to be known in detail. Furthermore, the natural variability of population-level or community-level parameters must be known if Project-related effects are to be distinguished from natural variability.





Table 2-3: Hammond Reef Gold Project Valued Ecosystem Components/Valued Social Components

VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators
TERRESTRIAL ENVIRONMENT		
Habitat VECs		
Wetlands	 Support's the ecological integrity of the boreal region Important as wildlife habitat Support migratory waterfowl breeding Supports critical habitats for beaver, moose, others Hydrological functions Supports traditional use plants (e.g., wild rice) 	 Extent of wetland habitat Composition/diversity of wetland plant communities Hydrological function
Forest Cover	 Dominant forest plant community that supports the ecological integrity of the boreal region Important as wildlife habitat Supports populations of large carnivores such as black bear, wolves and lynx, as well as prey animals such as hare, marten and red squirrel Abundance of migratory birds utilize habitat for breeding Socio-economic importance 	 Extent of forested habitat Composition of forest plant community Suitability of habitat in supporting wildlife populations





Table 2-3:	Hammond Reef Gold Pro	ject Valued Ecosystem Co	mponents/Valued Social Components

	VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators
TERRESTRIA	AL ENVIRONMENT (CO	NTINUED)	
Group VECs			
Species at Risk	Bald Eagle	 Observed in the vicinity of the Project Site Cultural significance Provincially, bald eagles are designated as Special Concern under Ontario's Endangered Species Act 	 Habitat suitability and availability for bald eagle
	Common Nighthawk	 Bird SAR observed on and in the vicinity of the Project Site Provincially, Common nighthawk is designated as Special Concern under Ontario's Endangered Species Act Breeding habitat occurs on the Project Site 	 Habitat suitability and availability for common nighthawk
	Canada Warbler	 Bird SAR observed on and in the vicinity of the Project Site Provincially, Canada warbler is designated as Special Concern under Ontario's Endangered Species Act Breeding habitat occurs on the Project Site 	 Habitat suitability and availability for Canada warbler
	Little Brown Myotis	 Observed in the vicinity of the Project Site Cultural significance Provincially, little brown myotis are designated as Special Concern under Ontario's Endangered Species Act 	 Habitat suitability and availability for little brown myotis
	Northern Myotis	 Observed in the vicinity of the Project Site Cultural significance Provincially, northern myotis are designated as Special Concern under Ontario's Endangered Species Act 	 Habitat suitability and availability for northern myotis
	Snapping Turtle	 Herpetofaunal SAR observed on and in the vicinity of the Project Site One of few reptile species in this northern ecosystem Indicator of wetland function 	 Habitat suitability and availability for snapping turtle





Table 2-3:	Hammond Reef Gold Project Valued Ecosystem Components/Valued Social Components
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	VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators
TERRESTRIA	AL ENVIRONMENT (C	ONTINUED)	
Group VECs	(Continued)		
Furbearers	■ Marten■ Muskrat	 Common and abundant in the Project Site Important prey species for many carnivores in northern environments May be tolerant of human activities, but may be affected by habitat loss Traditional and non-traditional uses 	 Presence/persistence of furbearers Habitat suitability and availability for furbearers
Upland Breed	ding Birds	 Small territory size and high bird density means large numbers of upland birds may be affected by habitat loss Migratory birds are susceptible to population declines as a result of changing environmental conditions on breeding and overwintering habitats 	 Relative abundance of breeding birds Habitat suitability and availability for upland breeding birds
Species VEC	Cs		
Moose		 Observed on and in the vicinity of the Project Site Important subsistence and cultural species Large herbivorous mammal requiring a large home range Prey species for large carnivores 	 Presence/persistence of moose in the area Habitat suitability and availability for moose
Wild rice		 Traditional use plant (culturally significant to Aboriginal communities) Sensitive to fluctuating water levels 	 Potential presence/persistence of wild rice in the area Habitat suitability and availability for wild rice





Table 2-3: Hammond Reef Gold Project Valued Ecosystem Components/Valued Social Components

VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators
AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT		
Lower reaches (e.g., downstream) of	■ Potentially affected (altered, diverted) by Project	■ Benthic invertebrate community
small streams draining footprint including any mainstem ponds, and	infrastructure ■ Alteration may result in loss of fish and productivity	■ Fish habitat suitability
stream crossings (e.g., critical habitats, food resources for fish) Changes can be measured using a variety of standard indicators available (e.g., provincial and federal government criteria)	■ Fish community (resident assemblages/species present)	
Upper Marmion Reservoir (receiver)	■ Socio-economic importance (tourism, angling)	■ Benthic invertebrate community
	 Sensitive receiving water environment Receiving Bays (mouths of small streams) potentially 	■ Fish habitat suitability (receiving bays)
affected (altered), diverted) l Receiving Bays may repres locally important fish specie result in loss of fish and pro habitats, food resources for Changes can be measured	affected (altered, diverted) by Project infrastructure Receiving Bays may represent significant habitat for locally important fish species. Alteration of habitats may	 Fish community (resident assemblages/species present in receiving bays)
	result in loss of fish and productivity (e.g., critical habitats, food resources for fish) Changes can be measured using a variety of standard indicators available (e.g., provincial and federal government criteria)	■ Contaminants in fish tissue.
Lizard Lake (receiver)	■ Socio-economic importance (tourism, angling)	■ Benthic invertebrate community
	 Sensitive receiving water environment Receiving Bays (mouths of small streams) potentially affected (altered, diverted) by Project infrastructure Receiving Bays may represent significant habitat for locally important fish species. Alteration of habitats may 	■ Fish habitat suitability (receiving bays)
		 Fish community (resident assemblages/species present in receiving bays)
	result in loss of fish and productivity (e.g., critical habitats, food resources for fish) Changes can be measured using a variety of standard indicators available (e.g., provincial and federal government criteria)	■ Contaminants in fish tissue





Table 2-3: Hammond Reef Gold Project Valued Ecosystem Components/Valued Social Components

VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators
AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT (CON	TINUED)	
Walleye	■ Socio-economic importance (angling)	■ Walleye habitat
	 Traditional resource use (First Nation concern Long lived, top predator species (piscivorous), will accumulate contaminants Human health; consumed by anglers, subsistence fishers 	■ Contaminants in walleye flesh
Smallmouth Bass	 Socio-economic importance (angling, Bass Classic fishing derby) 	■ Smallmouth Bass habitat
Northern Pike	 Socio-economic importance (angling) Long lived, top predator species (piscivorous), will accumulate contaminants Human health; consumed by anglers, subsistence fishers 	■ Northern Pike habitat
Baitfish species	 Socio-economic importance (commercial baitfish fishery) Important food resource for large fish species (e.g., walleye) 	■ Baitfish habitat
CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOUR	CES	•
Archaeological Sites	Possible affect to archaeological sites	 Project related changes to archaeological sites and artifacts
Built Heritage	 Possible affect to late 19th and early 20th century mine sites 	 Project-related changes to 19th to mid-20th century mine sites
Cultural Heritage Landscapes	Possible affect to cultural heritage landscapes	 Project-related changes to cultural heritage landscapes





Table 2-3: Hammond Reef Gold Project Valued Ecosystem Components/Valued Social Components

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VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection Indicators		
ABORIGINAL INTERESTS			
Aboriginal community characteristics	 Potential changes to economic base and educational attainment of Aboriginal communities 	 Project Aboriginal employment Project contracts awarded to Aboriginal businesses Education and training of Aboriginal people 	
Aboriginal heritage resources	 Importance of Aboriginal heritage resources such as archaeological sites Importance of specific cultural or spiritual sites 	Identified archaeological sites and artefactsIdentification of Cultural or spiritual sites	
Traditional use of land and resources	 Aboriginal people have traditionally made use of lands and resources for their personal and community needs Importance of plants, animals and fish that have been traditionally harvested and consumed by Aboriginal people 	 Changes or effects identified on the aquatic environment Changes or effects identified on the terrestrial environment Availability and quality of country foods 	
SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT			
Population and demographics	 Direct job opportunities will attract workers to area for short-term (i.e. construction) and longer term (i.e., operations) Population change may result in changes in demand on social and physical services and infrastructure The influx of workers due to the Project could benefit long-term economic and community development, supporting community vibrancy and improved social infrastructure (e.g., housing, organized recreation, support for local business, etc.) 	 Population change (historical and projections) Mobility Age and Gender Dependency ratios 	





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VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators
SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	(CONTINUED)	
Economics		
Labour market (employment and training)	 Sustainable employment and training opportunities can develop transferable skills, and long-term regional and local economic benefits Communities are interested in local recruitment, training and employment Timing and number of employment opportunities could offset layoffs in other sectors Loss of employment and income generation at closure may require mitigation measures to avoid adverse effects 	 Labour force by industry and occupation Employment and Unemployment rates Median Income High school/post-secondary completion rates
Economic development	 The Project would contribute to diversification of the regional and local economies and either directly or indirectly encourage investment in other business activities, namely through: Creation of opportunities for local contractors and suppliers Encouraging new investment in service capacity Encouraging business creation and expansion Creation of competitive local suppliers Loss of business opportunities at closure (~2030) may require mitigation measures to avoid adverse effects 	Regional and local economic base Regional and local supplier base
Local government finances	 Governments will benefit through increased tax and fee for service revenues Governments may incur costs related to the provision of services 	 Local government revenues and expenditures





Table 2-3:	Hammond Reef Gold	Hammond Reef Gold Project Valued Ecosystem Components/Valued Social Components				
	VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators			

VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators			
SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT (CONTINUED)					
Services and Infrastructure					
Public services and infrastructure	 Population increase in the LSA may increase demand on services (health, emergency and protection, education, recreation) and water and waste infrastructure Project activities may increase demand for health, emergency services and waste/water infrastructure 	Protection and Emergency: Police capacity Ambulance capacity Fire protection capacity Health Services: Number/type of facilities, services and programs Number of medical practitioners per population Capacity/capacity utilization Social Services: Capacity/capacity utilization Education: School enrolment Capacity utilization Recreation: Number/type of recreational facilities Capacity utilization Water, Wastewater and Waste Management: Capacity and capacity utilization of infrastructure Solid waste management sites and capacity utilization Utilities:			
		Capacity and capacity utilization			





Table 2-3: Hammond Reef Gold Project Valued Ecosystem Components/Valued

VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators		
SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMEN	T (CONTINUED)			
Services and Infrastructure (conti	nued)			
Housing and accommodation	Influx of workers and families may lead to changes in demand for, availability and cost for temporary and permanent housing, and tourism accommodation	 Permanent and temporary housing supply Occupancy rates Housing costs and availability 		
Transportation The Project may strain existing road and transportation network due to movement of Project workers, equipment, supplies and products		 Traffic volumes (average annual daily traffic counts) and levels of service on relevant access roads and intersections (traffic study to be completed) Existing transportation network 		
Land Use and Resources				
Outdoor tourism and recreation	 The Project may affect tourism and recreation activities and opportunities Loss of employment and income generation by tourist operators may require mitigation measures to avoid adverse effects 	 Crown land and other tenures Tourism activities and specific-use areas Number and types of visitors to the study area Tourism revenue generation 		
Hunting	 The Project may occupy or affect the land base which supports hunting Loss of employment and income generation by hunters may require mitigation measures to avoid adverse effects 	 Hunting areas Wildlife management (e.g., moose, debear) management areas License sales Harvest volumes 		
Trapping	 The Project may occupy or affect the land base which supports trapping Loss of employment and income generation by trappers may require mitigation measures to avoid adverse effects 	Tenured trapline areasHarvest volumes		





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VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators			
SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT (CONTINUED)					
Land Use and Resources (continue	d)				
Fishing	 The Project may occupy land base which supports fishing activities Loss of fishing opportunity may require mitigation measures to avoid adverse effects 	 Recreational fishing participation (e.g., Atikokan Bass Classic) Recreational and commercial fishing areas, licence sales and harvest volumes Baitfish areas and harvest volumes Conduct a biannual fishing questionnaire of the project workforce to estimate the level of fishing pressure resulting from the Project 			
Water use and access	 The Project has the potential to influence the use of and access to water bodies such as the Marmion Reservoir The Marmion Reservoir is an important resource for recreational fisheries and tourism, hydro-electric power and other commercial and industrial uses 	 Recreational fishing participation (e.g., Atikokan Bass Classic) Water use for hydro-electric power and other industrial and commercial uses 			
Mining	The Project may affect current and future mining and aggregate resource activity	 Exploration and development projects (current and potential resources) Mining land use, plans 			
Forestry	 The Project occupies forested land Disrupting access to existing or future harvest land may require mitigation measures to avoid adverse effects 	 Timber harvesting land base (harvest area, tenure) 			





Table 2-3:	Hammond Reef Gold Project Valued Ecosystem Components/Valued Social Components

VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators	
ATMOSPHERIC ENVIRONME	ENT	·	
Air Quality			
Ambient air quality	Air quality is selected as a VEC since it has been identified as an important aspect of the environment by both public and regulators. In addition, emissions from the Site activities have the potential to alter the existing air quality	 The following compounds have been identified, which are expected to be emitted in measureable amounts from the Site, and for which air quality criteria against which the Site effects can be compared are available: Particulate matter, including suspended particulate matter (SPM), particles nominally smaller than 10 μm in aerodynamic diameter (PM₁₀), and particles nominally smaller than 2.5 μm in aerodynamic diameter (PM_{2.5}) Oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and the resulting nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) Sulphur dioxide (SO₂) Carbon monoxide (CO) Metals, including antimony, arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, lead, manganese, mercury, nickel, selenium, silver, tellurium, tin and vanadium 	





Table 2-3:	Hammond Reef Gold Project Valued Ecosystem Components/Valued Social Components
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VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators					
ATMOSPHERIC ENVIRONMENT (Continued)							
Noise							
Ambient noise levels	Noise levels are selected as a VEC since it has been identified as being important to regulators and stakeholders. In addition, Site activities have the potential to affect existing noise levels.	 The effect of the on Site noise sources will be evaluated using the 1-hour equivalent noise level (Leq). The 1-hour Leq is the energy equivalent continuous sound level, which has the same energy as the time varying signal over a one hour period at the same location. Other noise indicators are available that are not appropriate for the evaluation of the Site noise levels, but are appropriate for evaluating the indirect effects of changes in noise levels on other VECs (e.g., ecological effects). 					
Vibration from Blasting							
Vibration Levels	Vibration levels are selected as a VEC since they have been identified as being important to regulators and stakeholders. In addition, Project Site activities have the potential to affect existing vibration levels.	 The effect of blasting on air vibrations will be evaluated using Peak Air Pressure Level in dBL. The effect of blasting on ground vibrations will be evaluated using Peak Particle Velocity in mm/s 					





Table 2-3: Hammond Reef Gold Project Valued Ecosystem Components/Valued Social Components

VEC/VSC	Rationale for Selection	Indicators					
HYDROLOGY							
Surface water quantity	The Project may result in changes to surface water quantity within the MSA.	 Seasonal stream flow in creeks Seasonal water levels in Marmion Reservoir and Lizard Lake Catchment areas 					
Navigability	 The Project may result in the partial obstruction or change to navigable watercourses or waterbodies. Potential for changes in flow, width, depth or gradient of watercourses or waterbodies. 	 Presence of obstruction. Flow, width, depth or gradient of waterbody or watercourse. 					
HYDROGEOLOGY							
Groundwater quantity	Potential of groundwater flow change within the MSA.	 Changes in groundwater levels. 					
WATER QUALITY							
Surface Water Quality and Quantity	Potential changes in surface water quality due to water intake and discharge and/or from alteration of runoff processes within the MSA.	 Substrate metal content. Amount of organic material. Dissolved oxygen. pH. Temperature. Total phosphorous. Total and dissolved metal concentrations in water. Nutrient content in water. Total Dissolved Solids. TKN, TP. Anions, cations. Conductivity. 					

Note:

As per Response to A-6, Common Nighthawk and Canadian Warbler are also federally designed as Threatened under Canada's Species at Risk Act.





 Table 2-4:
 Assessment Measures Common to Environmental Components

Assessment Criteria	Level	Environmental Component				
Geographic Extent (of effect)	Low	Aquatic Environment	Cultural Heritage Resources	Human Health and Ecological Risk	Socio-Economic Environment	Terrestrial Ecology
		Effect is within the Pro Study Area or Linear Area)		Effect extends into the	Local Study Area	Effects limited to the Mine Study Area
	Medium	Aquatic Environment	Cultural Heritage Resources	Human Health and Ecological Risk	Socio-Economic Environment	Terrestrial Ecology
		Effect extends into the Local Study Area		gional Study Area	Effects limited to the Local Study Area	
	High	Aquatic Environment	Cultural Heritage Resources	Human Health and Ecological Risk	Socio-Economic Environment	Terrestrial Ecology
		Effect extends into the Area	e Regional Study	Effect extends beyond Area	l Regional Study	Effects limited to the Regional Study Area
Frequency (of effect)	Low	Aquatic Environment	Cultural Heritage Resources	Human Health and Ecological Risk	Socio-Economic Environment	Terrestrial Ecology
		Conditions or phenom year	nena causing the effect	to occur infrequently (i.	e., several times per	N/A
	Medium	Aquatic Environment	Cultural Heritage Resources	Human Health and Ecological Risk	Socio-Economic Environment	Terrestrial Ecology
		Conditions or phenomena causing the effect to occur at regular, although infrequent intervals (i.e., several times per month)				N/A
	High	Aquatic Environment	Cultural Heritage Resources	Human Health and Ecological Risk	Socio-Economic Environment	Terrestrial Ecology
		Conditions or phenom (i.e., daily or continuo		to occur at regular and	frequent intervals	N/A





 Table 2-4:
 Assessment Measures Common to Environmental Components

Assessment Criteria	Level		Er	nvironmental Compon	ent	
Duration (of conditions causing	Low	Aquatic Environment	Cultural Heritage Resources	Human Health and Ecological Risk	Socio-Economic Environment	Terrestrial Ecology
effect)		Conditions causing effect are evident during site preparation and construction phase, or closure phase				Duration of effects, which includes
	Medium	Aquatic Environment	Cultural Heritage Resources	Human Health and Ecological Risk	Socio-Economic Environment	reversibility, is a function of ecological
		Conditions causing ef	fect are evident during	the operations phase		resilience, and these ecological principles
	High	Aquatic Environment	Cultural Heritage Resources	Human Health and Ecological Risk	Socio-Economic Environment	are applied to the evaluation of
		Conditions dadsing en	fect extend beyond any	one phase		significance. Although difficult to measure, resilience is the capacity of the system to absorb disturbance, and reorganize and retain the same structure, function, and feedback responses. Resilience includes resistance, capability to adapt to change, and how close the system is to a threshold before shifting starts (i.e., precariousness).





 Table 2-4:
 Assessment Measures Common to Environmental Components

Assessment Criteria	Level	Environmental Component				
Degree of Reversibility	Low	Aquatic Environment	Cultural Heritage Resources	Human Health and Ecological Risk	Socio-Economic Environment	Terrestrial Ecology
(of effect)		Effect is readily (i.e., immediately) reversible				Included within
	Medium	Aquatic Environment	Cultural Heritage Resources	Human Health and Ecological Risk	Socio-Economic Environment	Duration criteria
		Effect is reversible wit	h time			
	High	Aquatic Environment	Cultural Heritage Resources	Human Health and Ecological Risk	Socio-Economic Environment]
		Effect is not reversible	e (i.e., permanent)			





Table 2-5: Magnitude Levels for Aquatic Environment Valued Ecosystem Components Indicator Measures

Valued Ecosystem	Magnitude				
Components	Low	Medium	High		
Fish species habitat	Less than 10% of the waterbody lengths/surface area lost or disturbed in the LSA and/or 5% to 10% change in stream flow/discharge	10% to 25% of the waterbody lengths/surface are lost or disturbed in the LSA and/or 10% to 25% change in streamflow/discharge/contributing drainage	Greater than 25% of the waterbody lengths/surface area lost or disturbed in the LSA and/or greater than 25% change in streamflow/discharge/ contributing drainage		
Contaminants in fish tissue	Magnitude is assessed in the Human H	ealth and Ecological Risk Assessment			
Benthic Indices	N/A	N/A	Significant difference from existing conditions for parameters		
Aquatic species, populations and communities (including species with special designation)	Less than 10% change	10% to 25% change	Greater than 25% change		





Table 2-6: Magnitude Levels for Terrestrial Ecology Valued Ecosystem Components

Valued Ecosystem	Magnitude					
Components	Negligible	Low	Medium	High		
Wetlands	Effect is <1% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	1-10% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	Greater than10% to 25% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	Effect is >25% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)		
Forest Cover	Effect is <1% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	1-10% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	Greater than10% to 25% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	Effect is >25% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)		
Species At Risk	Effect is <1% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	1-10% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	Greater than10% to 25% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	Effect is >25% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)		
Furbearers	Effect is <1% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	1-10% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	Greater than10% to 25% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	Effect is >25% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)		
Upland Breeding Birds	Effect is <1% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	1-10% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	Greater than10% to 25% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	Effect is >25% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)		
Moose	Effect is <1% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	1-10% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	Greater than10% to 25% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)	Effect is >25% change from baseline conditions (in the VEC relevant spatial area)		





Table 2-7: Magnitude Levels for Human Health

Valued Ecosystem Components	Magnitude				
	Negligible	Low	Medium	High	
Non-Carcinogenic Compounds	No change from baseline conditions, below applicable guidelines, or HQ ≤ 1	1 <hq 10<="" td="" ≤=""><td>10 <hq 100<="" td="" ≤=""><td>HQ >100</td></hq></td></hq>	10 <hq 100<="" td="" ≤=""><td>HQ >100</td></hq>	HQ >100	
Carcinogenic Compounds	No change from baseline conditions, below applicable guidelines, or ILCR ≤ 1×10 ⁻⁶	1×10 ⁻⁶ <ilcr 1×10<sup="" ≤="">-5</ilcr>	1×10 ⁻⁵ <ilcr 1×10<sup="" ≤="">-4</ilcr>	ILCR >1×10 ⁻⁴	

Note:

HQ = Hazard Quotient; represents the target ratio of the predicted chemical exposure relative to its health-based benchmarks.

ILCR = Incremental Lifetime Cancer Risks represents additional risk of developing cancer due to chemical exposure (from the Project) incurred over the lifetime of an individual.

Table 2-8: Magnitude Levels for Cultural Heritage Resources Valued Ecosystem Components

Valued Ecosystem	Magnitude			
Component	Negligible	Low	Medium	High
Population and Demographics	Predicted change in population and demographic indicators <1% of existing conditions	Predicted change in population and demographic indicators of 1% - 4.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in population and demographic indicators of 5% - 19.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in population and demographic indicators of ≥20% of existing conditions





Table 2-9: Assessment Criteria and Levels for Determining Significance

Assessment Criteria	Level				
Geographic Extent	Low	Medium	High		
(of effect)	Effect extends into the Local Study Area	Effect extends into the Regional Study Area	Effect extends beyond Regional Study Area		
Frequency	Low	Medium	High		
(of effect)	Conditions or phenomena causing the effect to occur infrequently (i.e., several times per year)	Conditions or phenomena causing the effect to occur at regular, although infrequent intervals (i.e., several times per month)	Conditions or phenomena causing the effect to occur at regular and frequent intervals (i.e., daily or continuously)		
Duration	Low	Medium	High		
(of conditions causing effect)	Conditions causing effect are evident during the site preparation and construction phase, or decommissioning phase	Conditions causing effect are evident during the operations phase	Conditions causing effect extend beyond any one phase		
Degree of	Low	Medium	High		
Irreversibility (of effect)	Effect is readily (i.e., immediately) reversible	Effect is reversible with time	Effect is not reversible (i.e., permanent)		





Table 2-10: Magnitude Levels for Socio-economic Valued Ecosystem Components

VECs	Magnitude					
VL03	Negligible	Low	Medium	High		
Population and Demographics	Predicted change in population and demographic indicators <1% of existing conditions	Predicted change in population and demographic indicators of 1% - 4.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in population and demographic indicators of 5% - 19.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in population and demographic indicators of ≥20% of existing conditions		
Labour Market	Predicted change in labour market indicators <1% of existing conditions	Predicted change in labour market indicators of 1% - 4.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in labour market indicators of 5% - 19.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in labour market indicators of ≥20% of existing conditions		
Government Finances	Predicted change in indicators <1% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 1% - 4.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 5% - 19.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of ≥20% of existing conditions		
Public Services and Infrastructure	Utilization does not exceed 75% of capacity	Utilization is between 75% and 90% of capacity	Utilization is greater than 90% of capacity	Utilization exceeds capacity		
Housing and Accommodation	Utilization does not exceed 75% of capacity	Utilization is between 75% and 90% of capacity	Utilization is greater than 90% of capacity	Utilization exceeds capacity		
Transportation	Level of service (LOS) 'A' or 'B', or volume to capacity ratio (V/C) <0.10	LOS 'C' or V/C 0.10 – 0.49	LOS 'D' or V/C 0.50 – 0.90	LOS 'E' or 'F', or V/C >0.9		
Outdoor Tourism and Recreation	Predicted change in indicators <1% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 1% - 4.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 5% - 19.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of ≥20% of existing conditions		
Hunting	Predicted change in indicators <1% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 1% - 4.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 5% - 19.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of ≥20% of existing conditions		
Trapping	Predicted change in indicators <1% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 1% - 4.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 5% - 19.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of ≥20% of existing conditions		
Fishing	Predicted change in indicators <1% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 1% - 4.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 5% - 19.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of ≥20% of existing conditions		





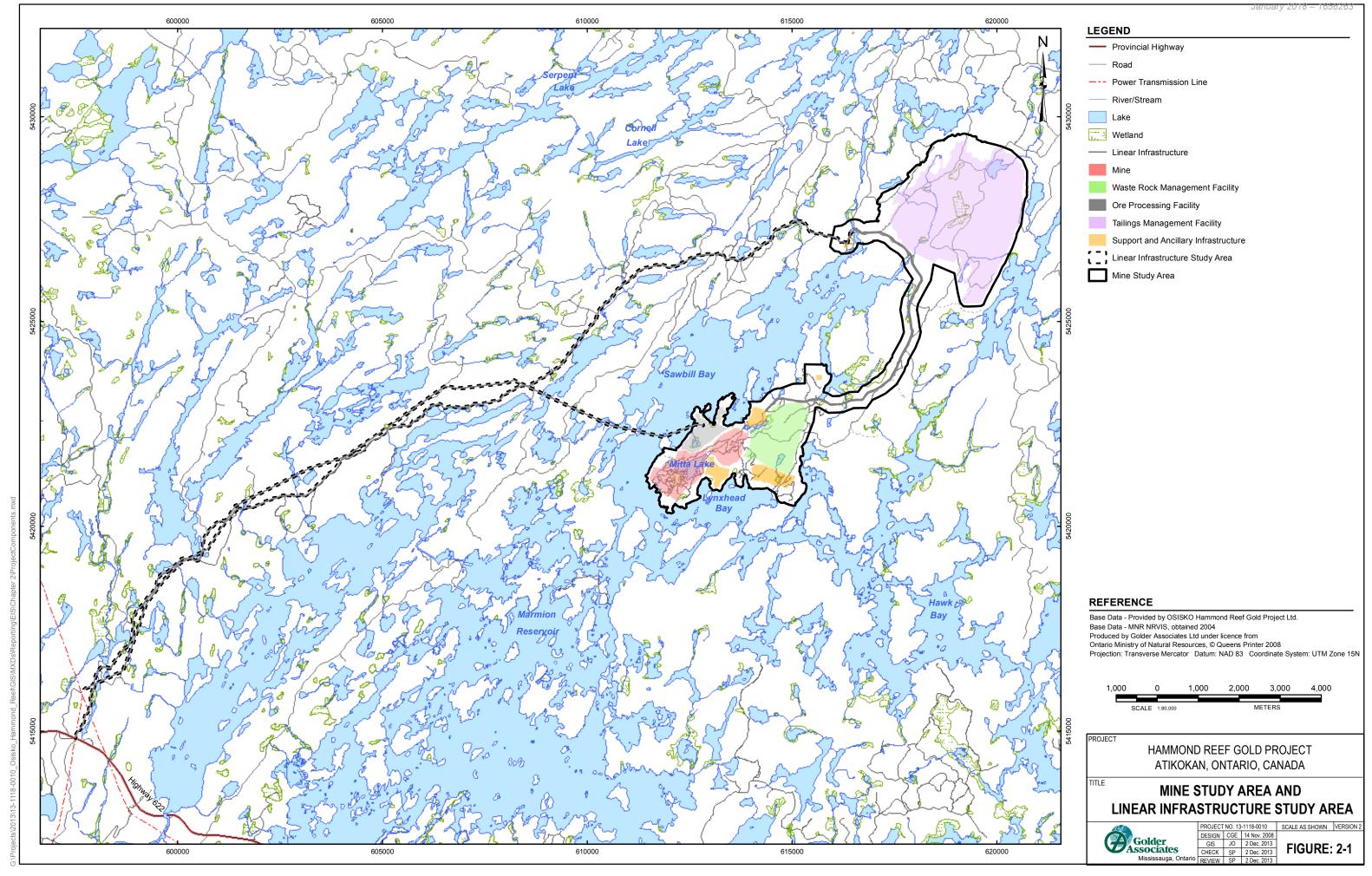
Table 2-10: Magnitude Levels for Socio-economic Valued Ecosystem Components

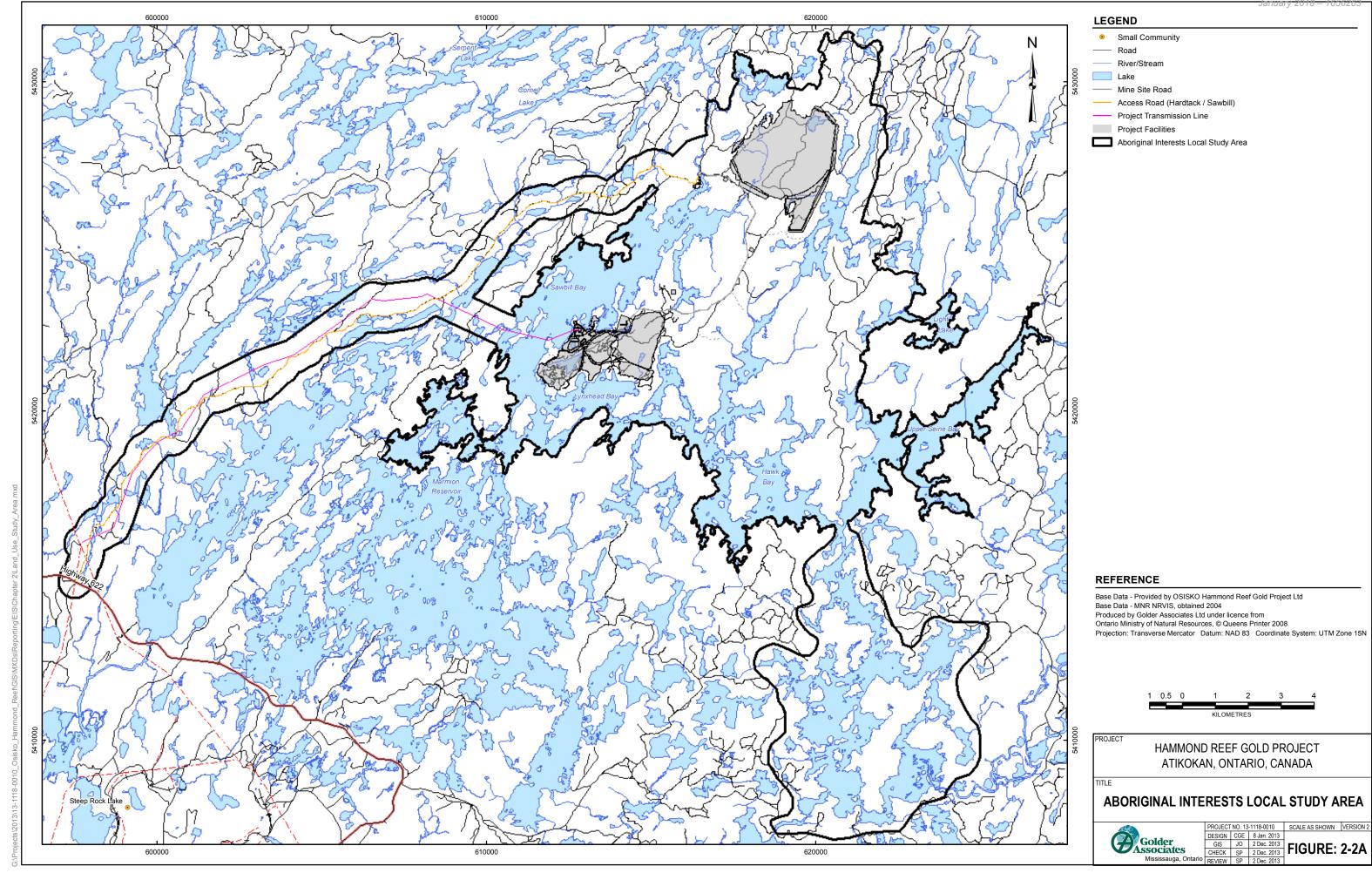
VECs	Magnitude				
	Negligible	Low	Medium	High	
Water Use and Access	Predicted change in indicators <1% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 1% - 4.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 5% - 19.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of ≥20% of existing conditions	
Mining	Predicted change in indicators <1% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 1% - 4.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 5% - 19.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of ≥20% of existing conditions	
Forestry	Predicted change in indicators <1% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 1% - 4.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of 5% - 19.9% of existing conditions	Predicted change in indicators of ≥20% of existing conditions	

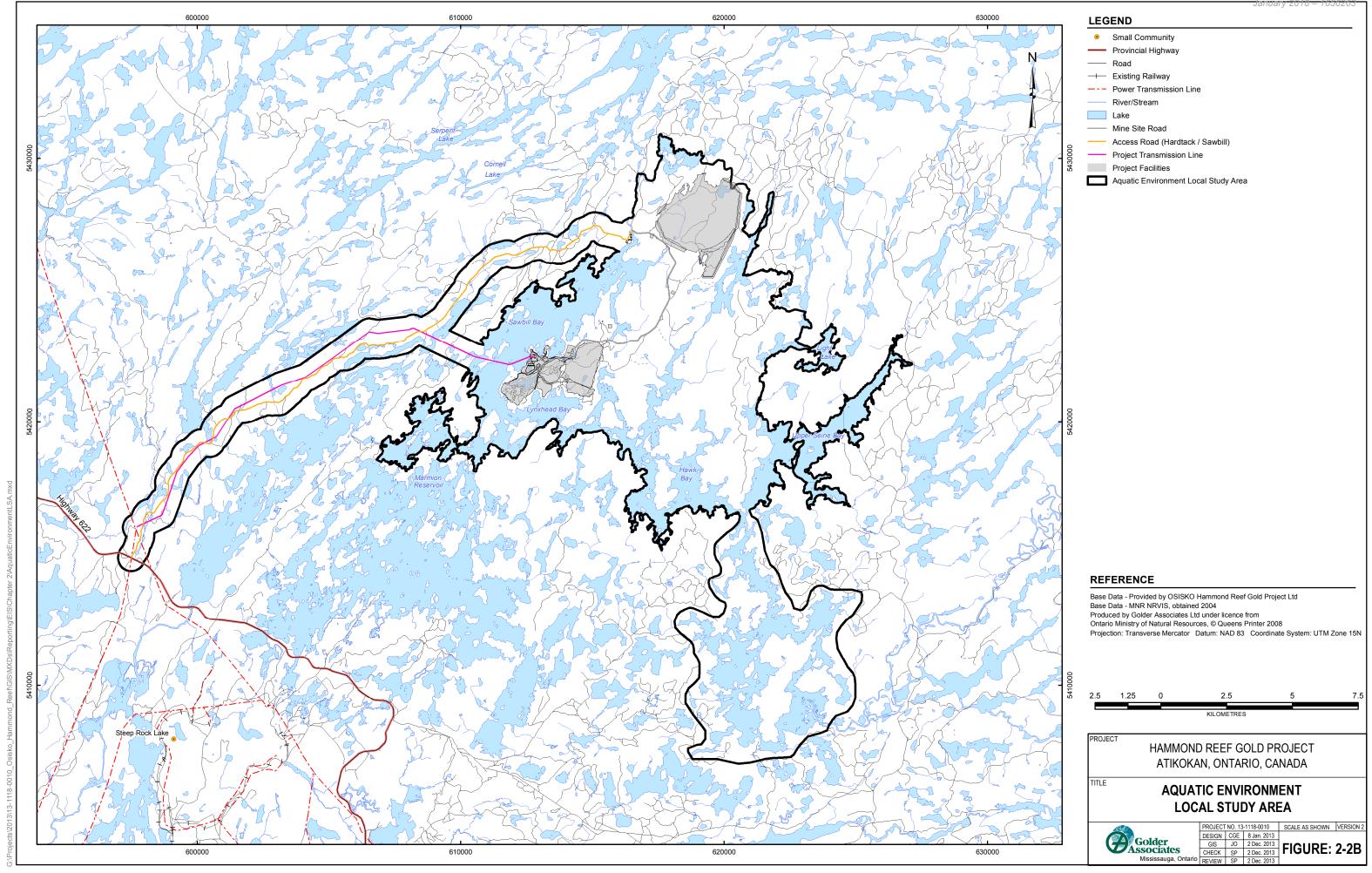


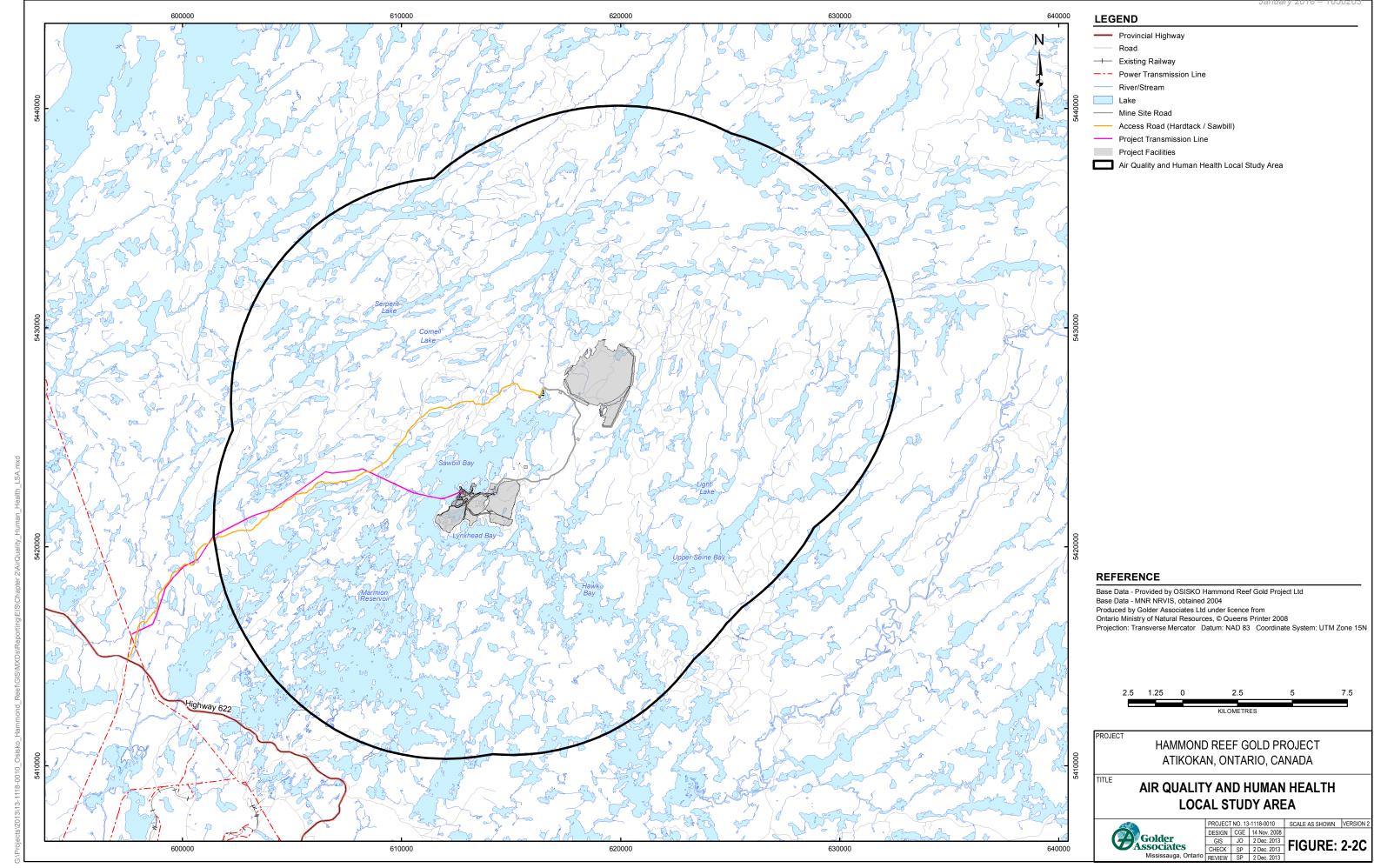


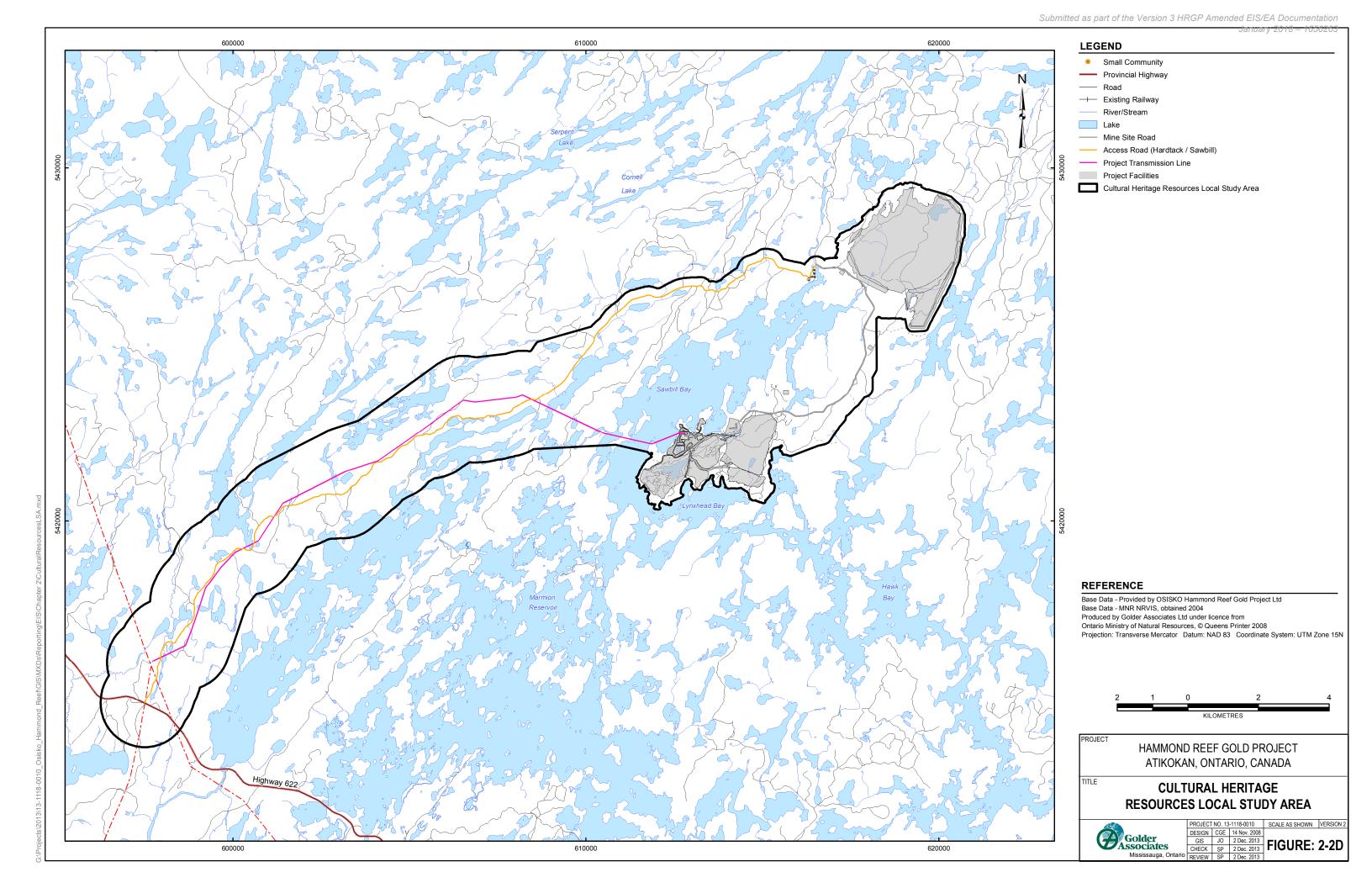
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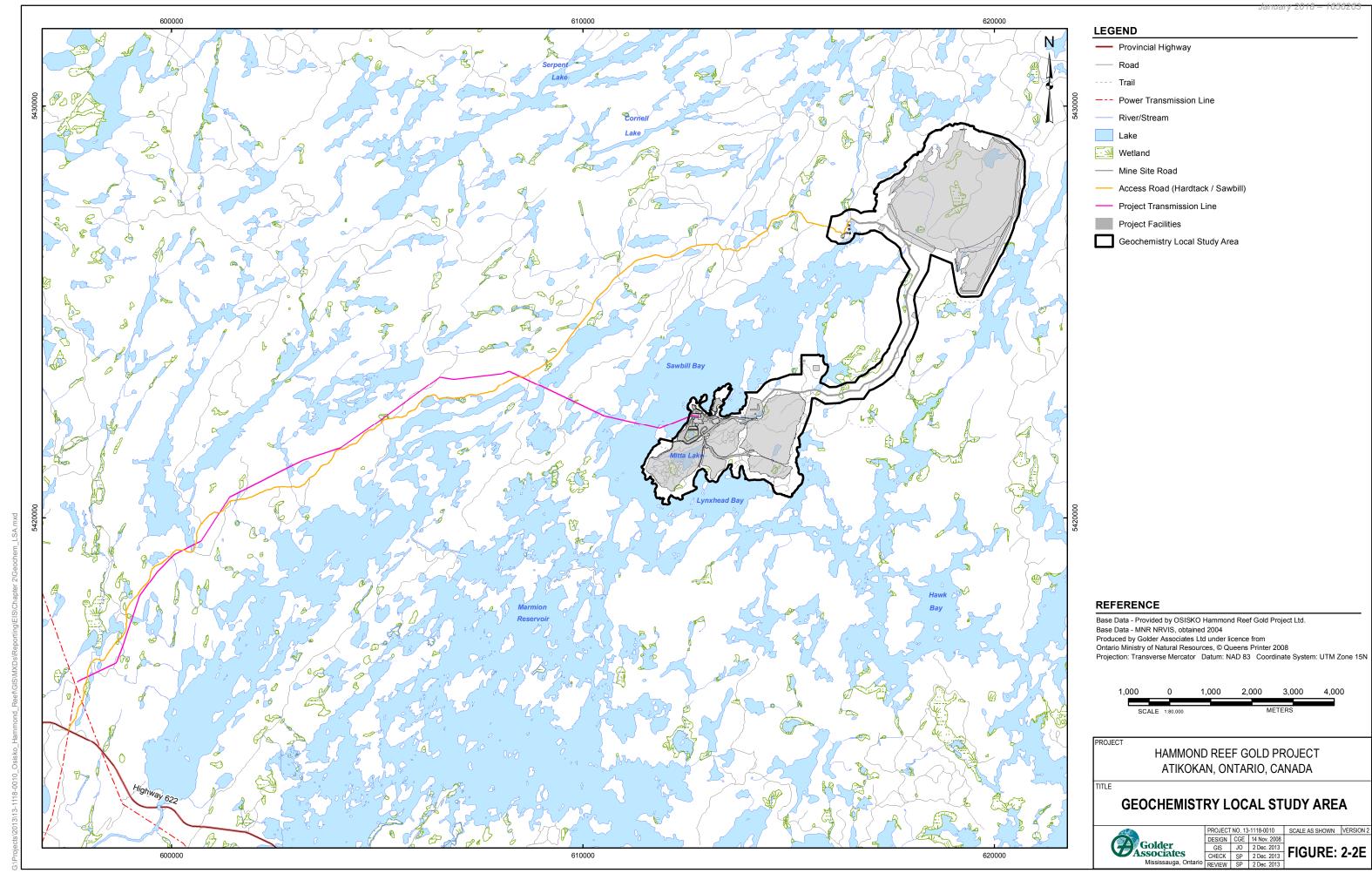


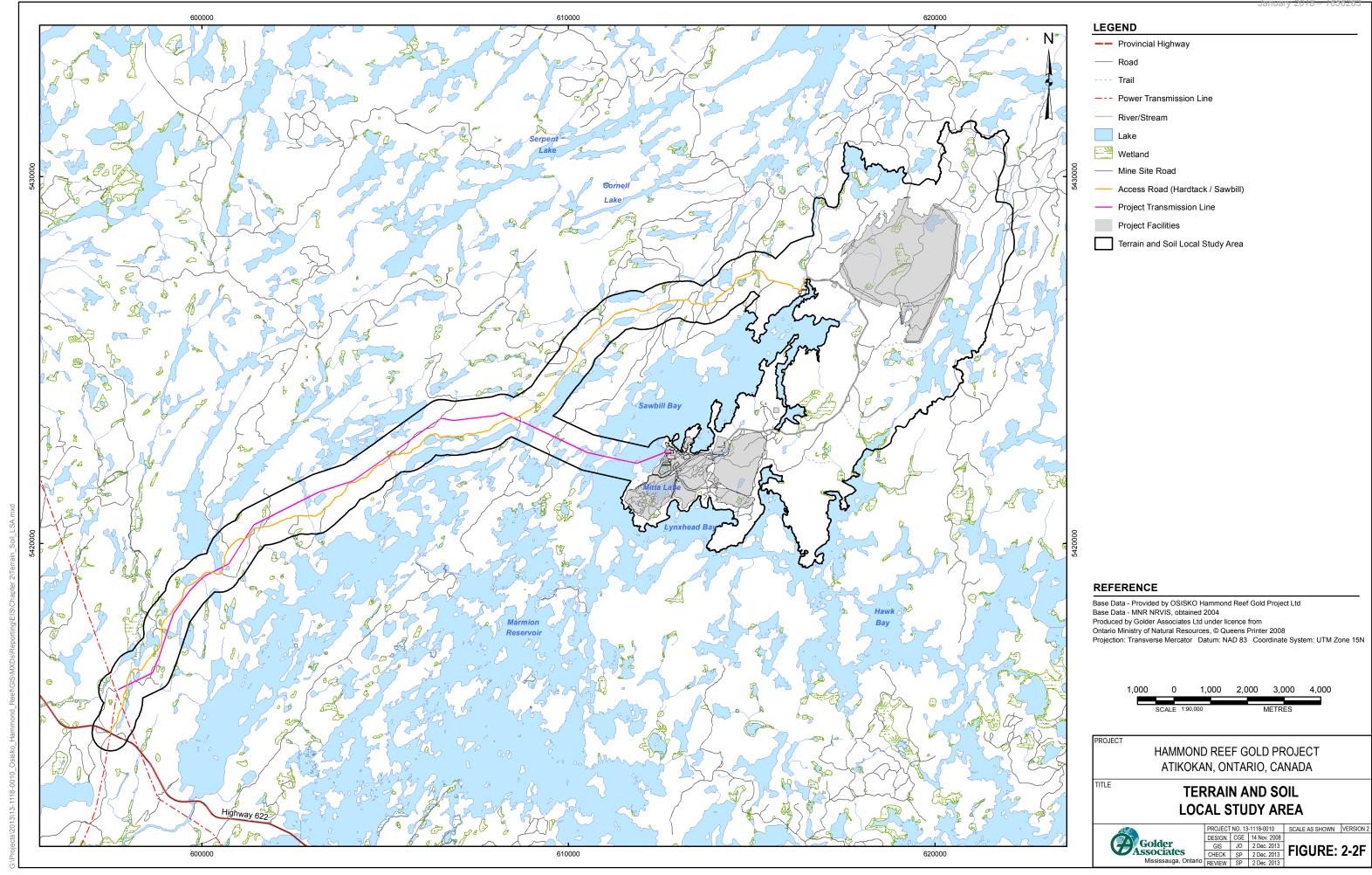


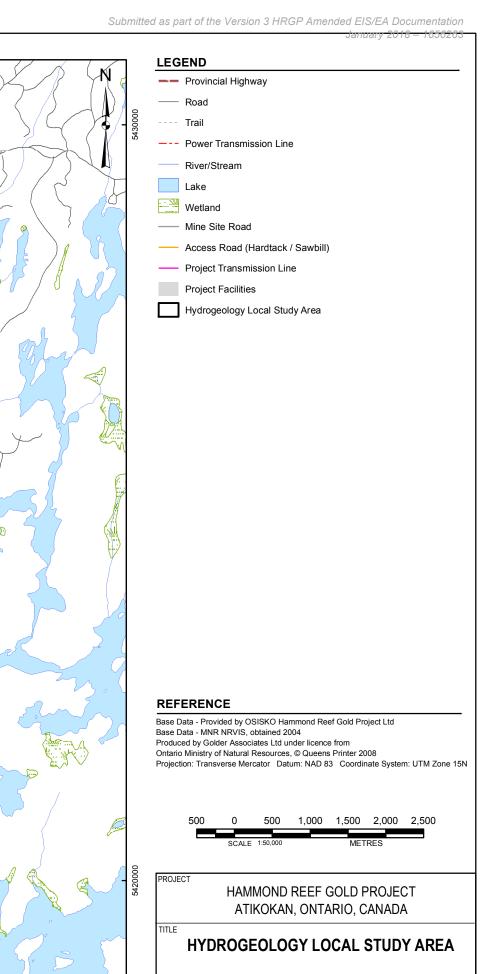


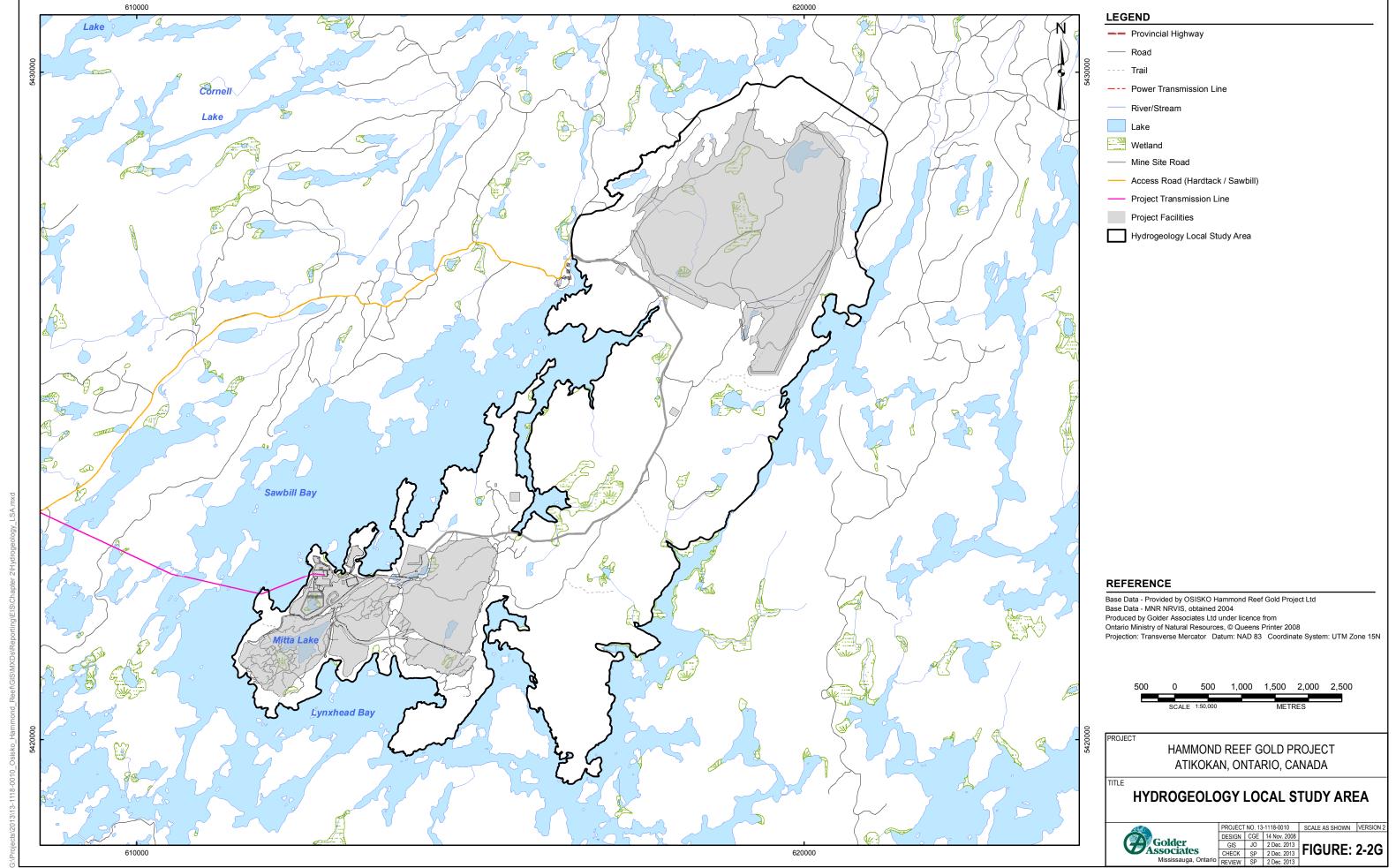


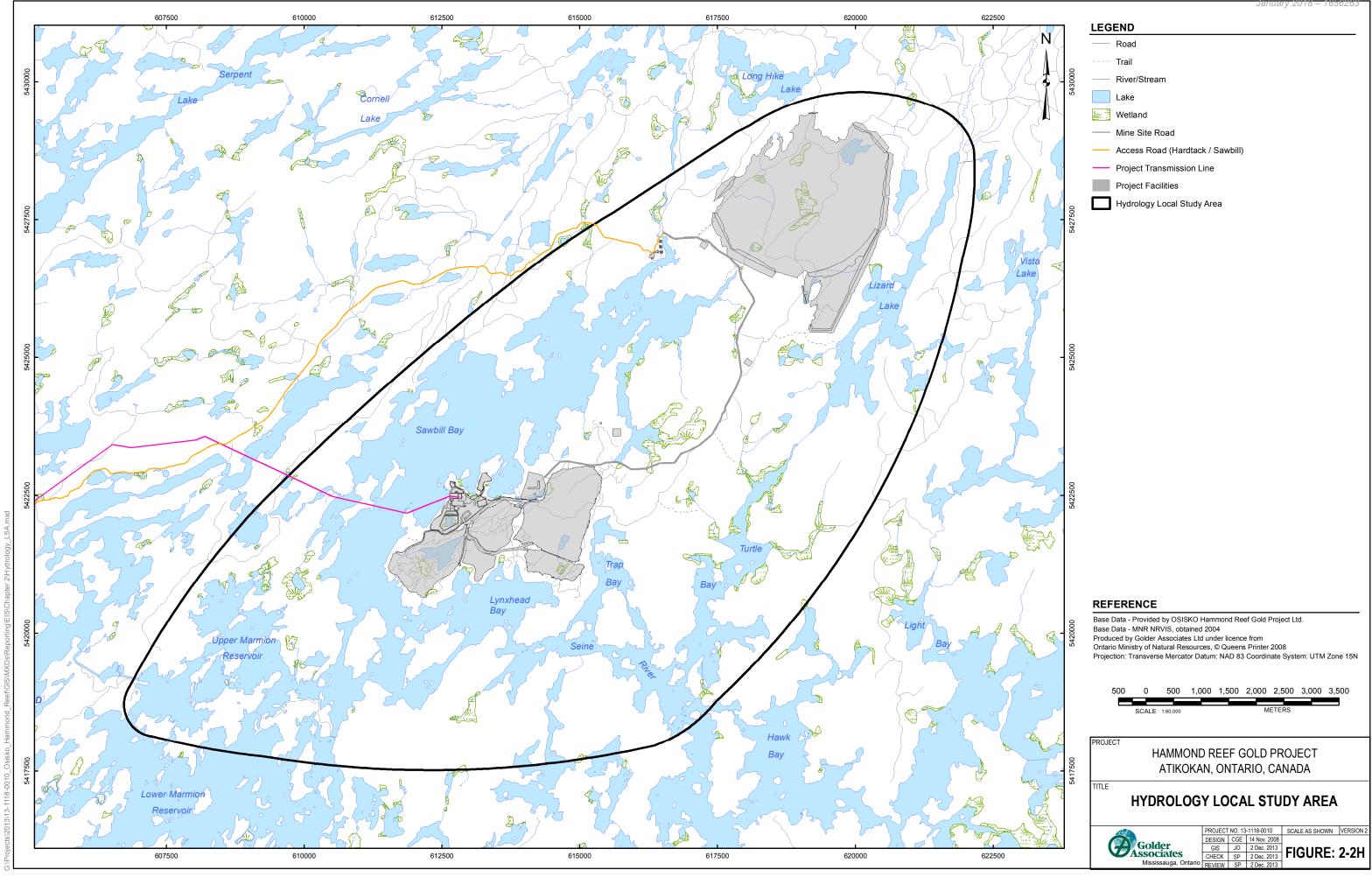


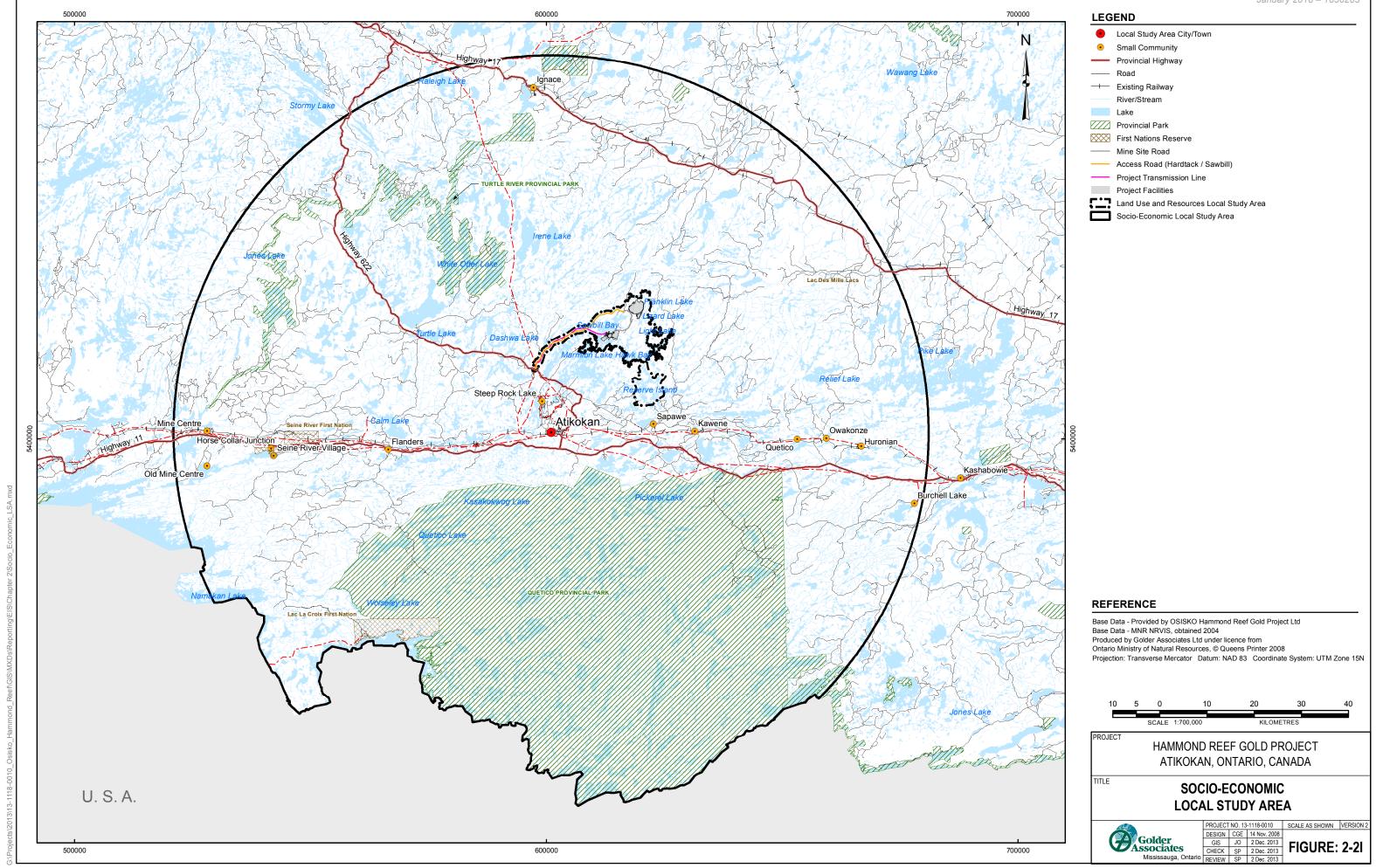


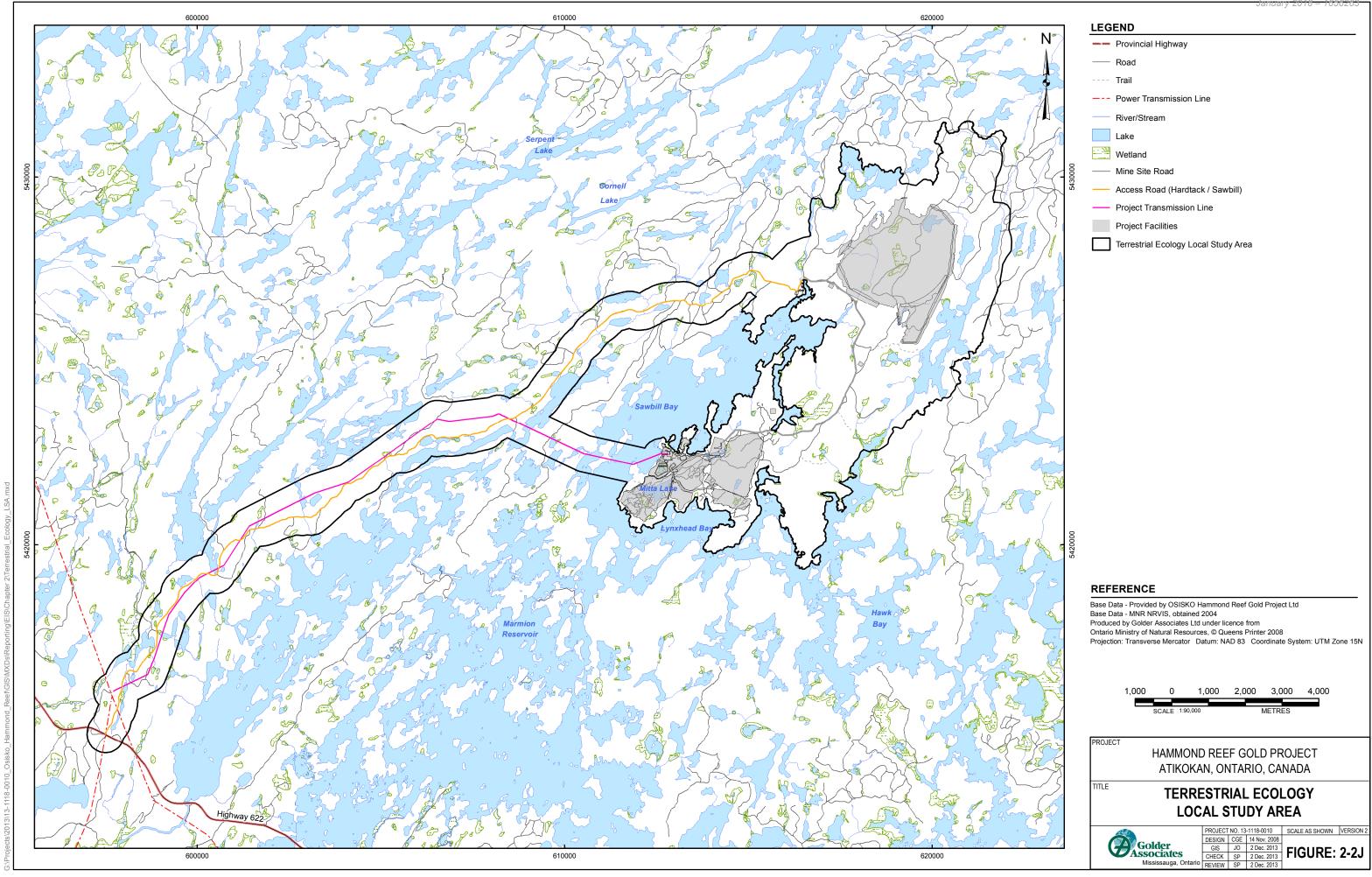


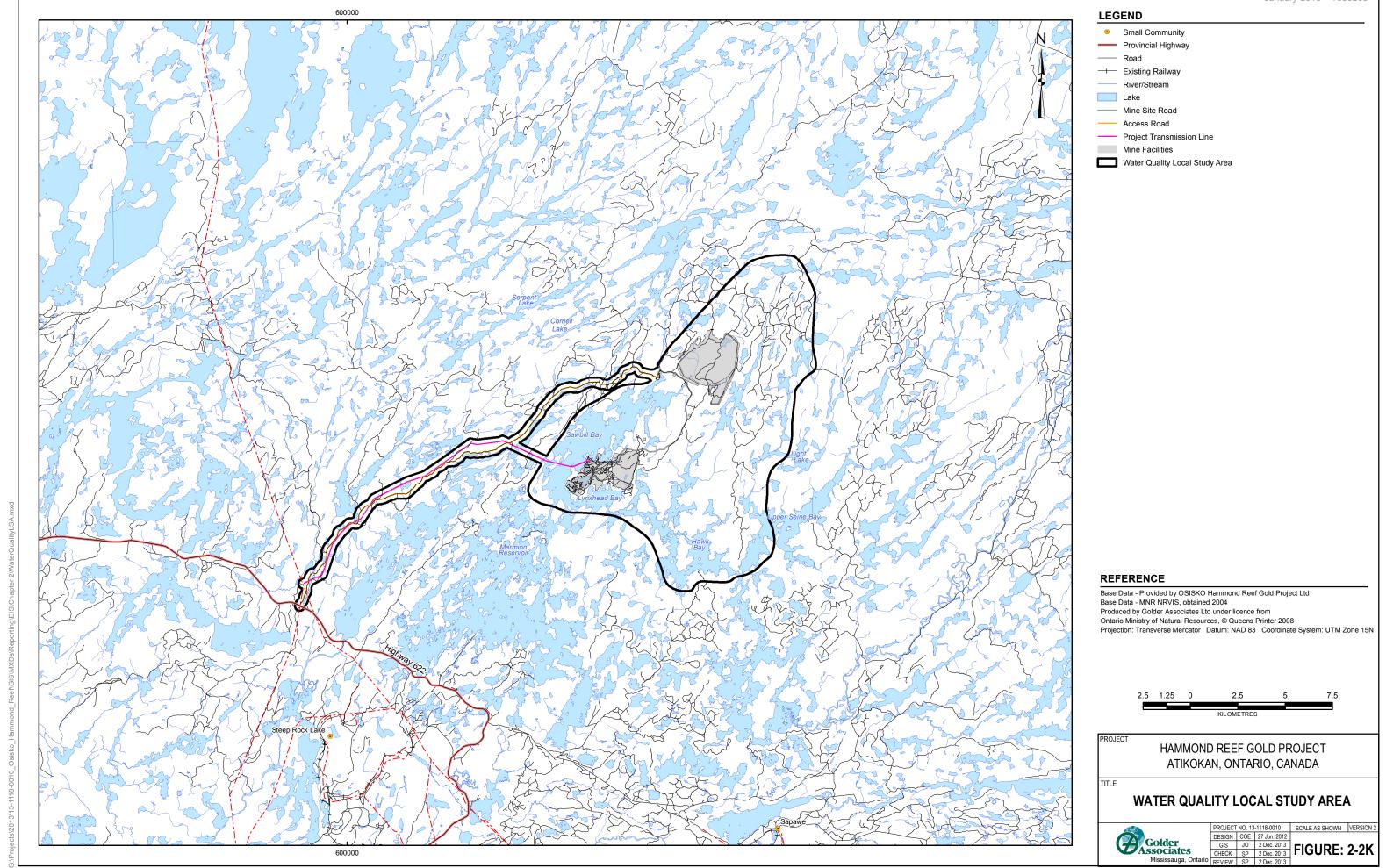




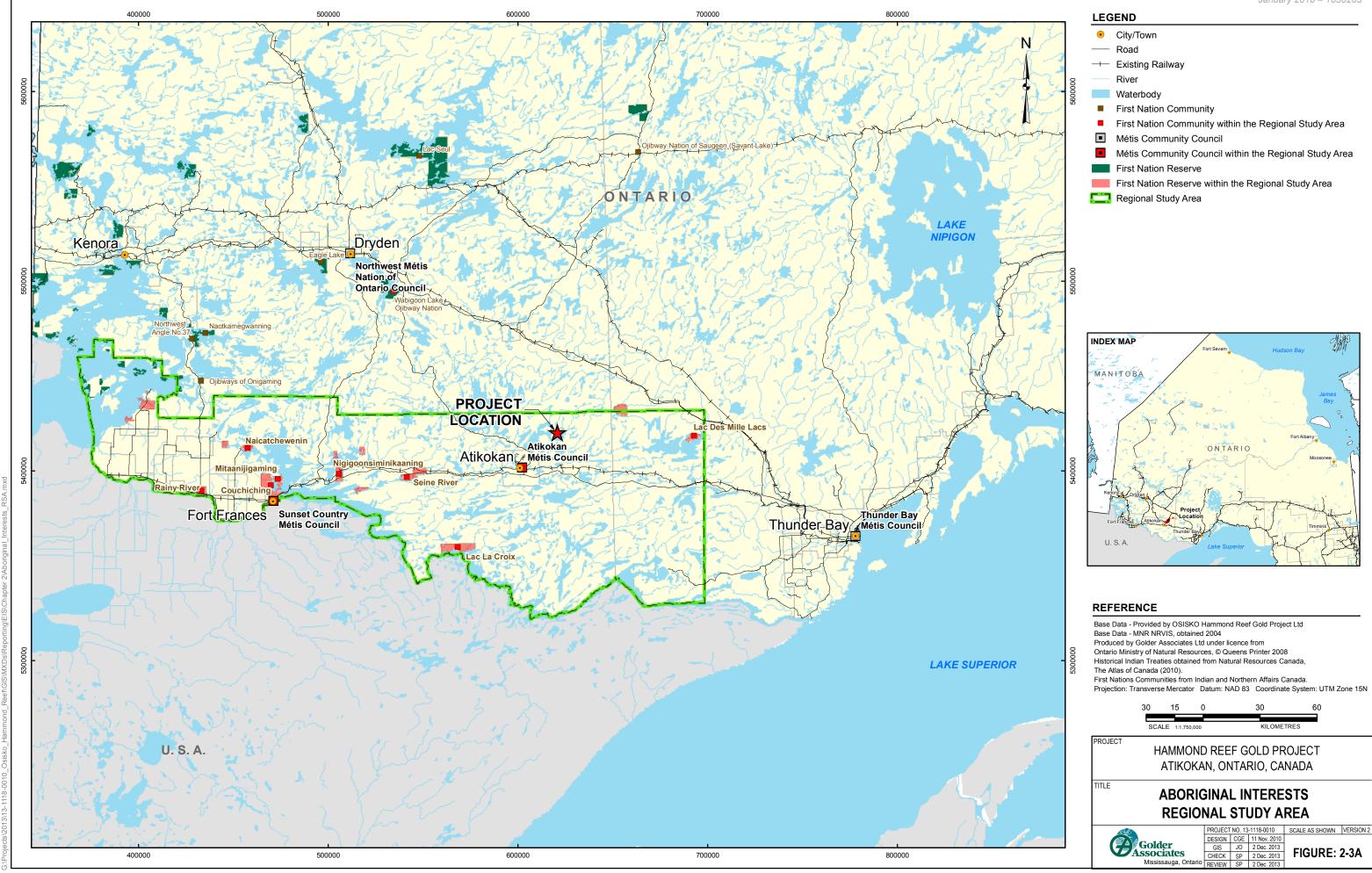


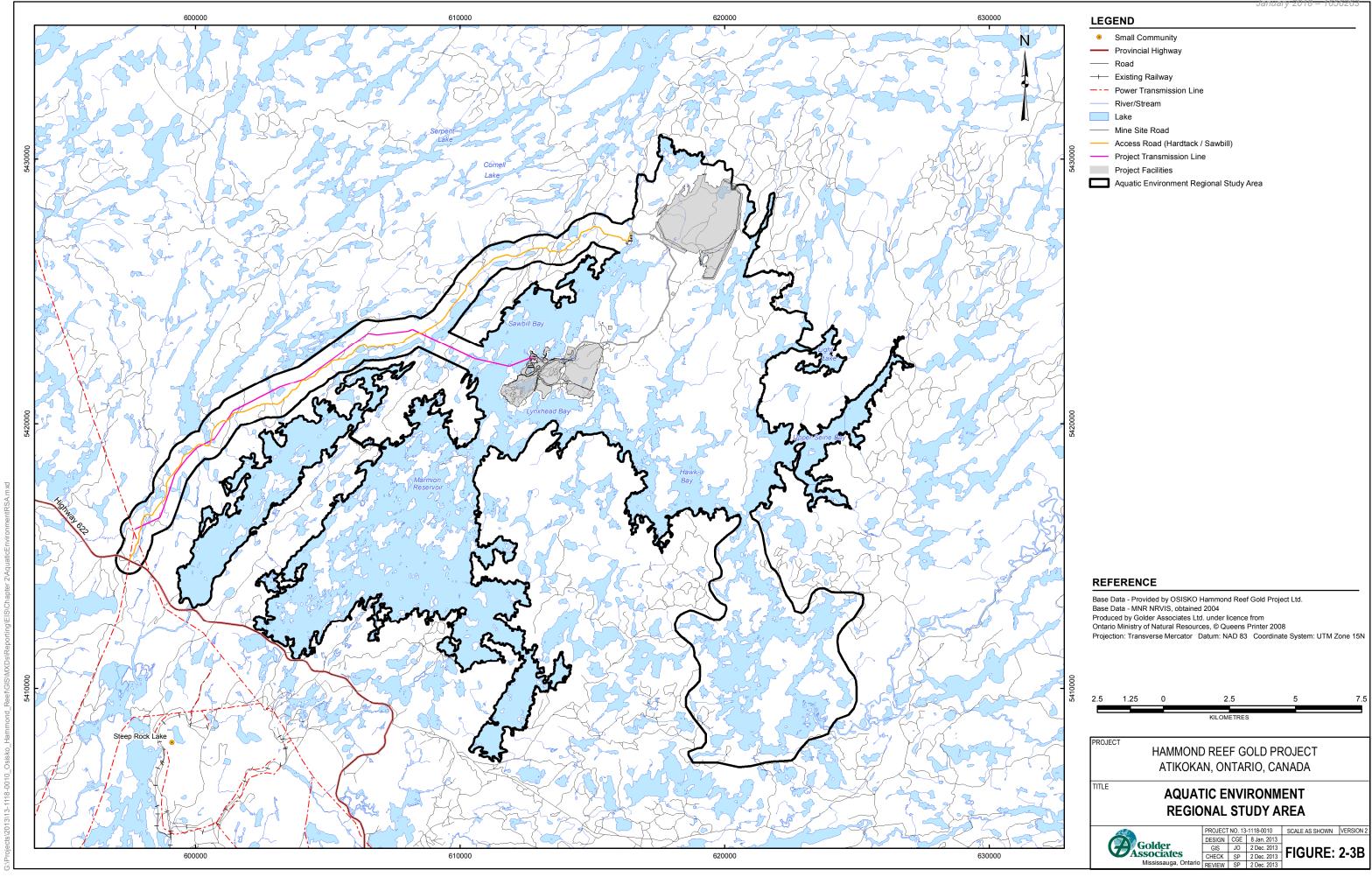


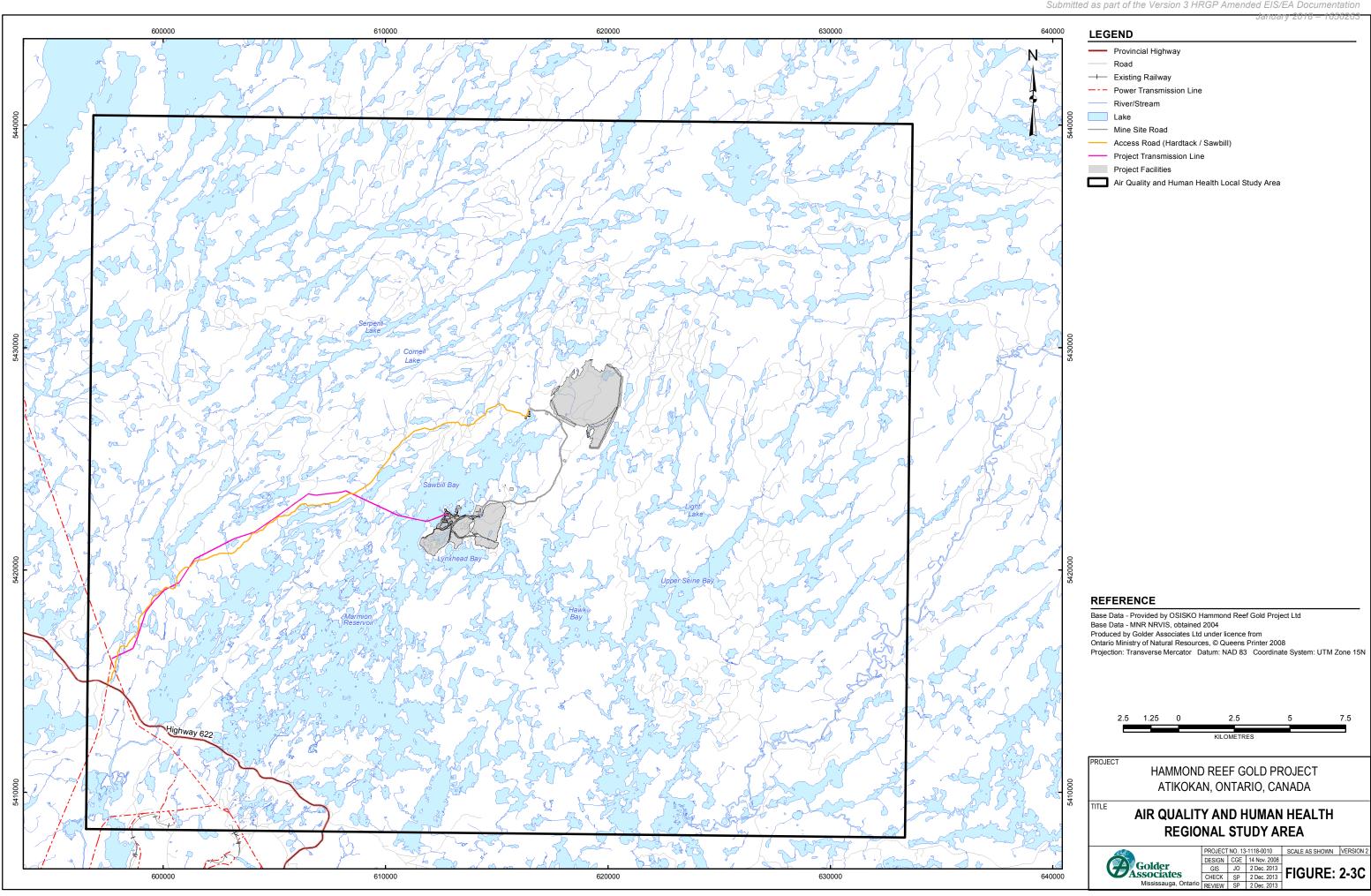


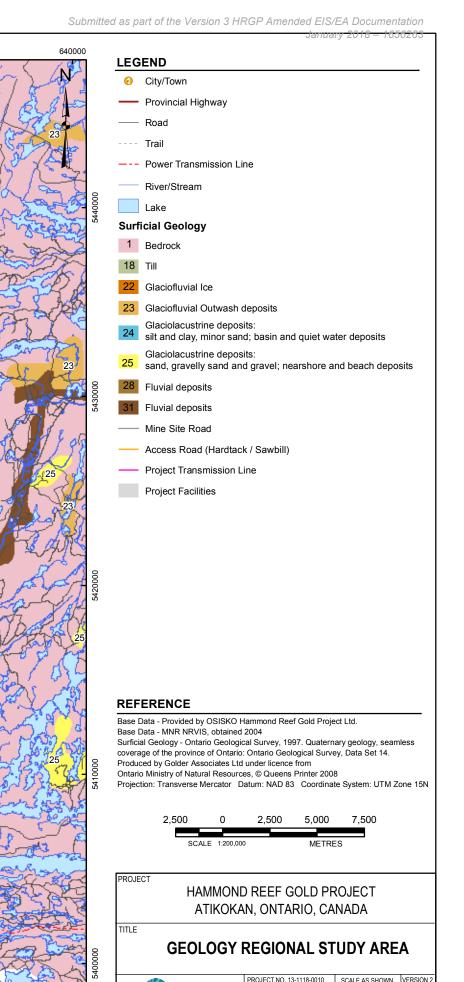


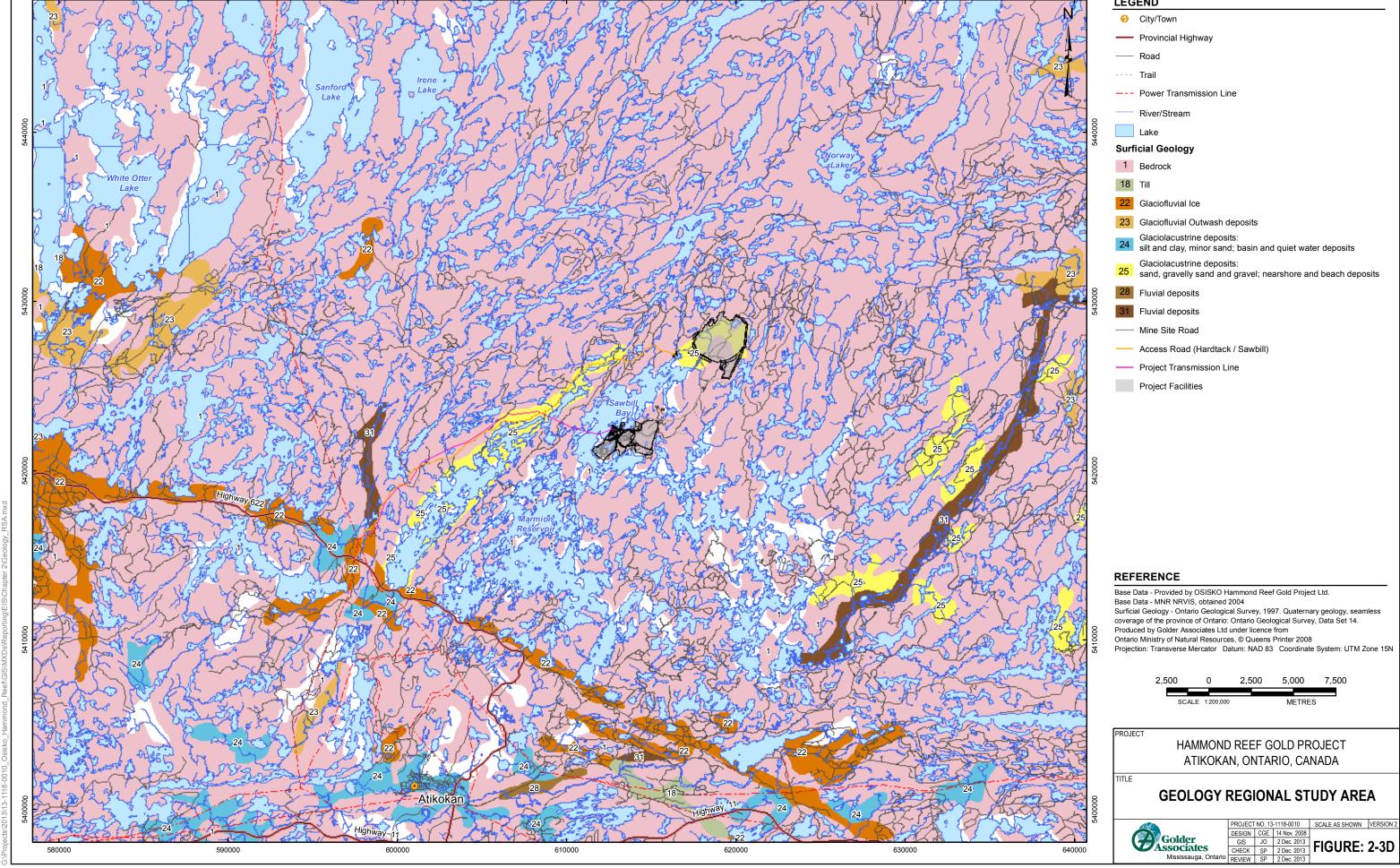


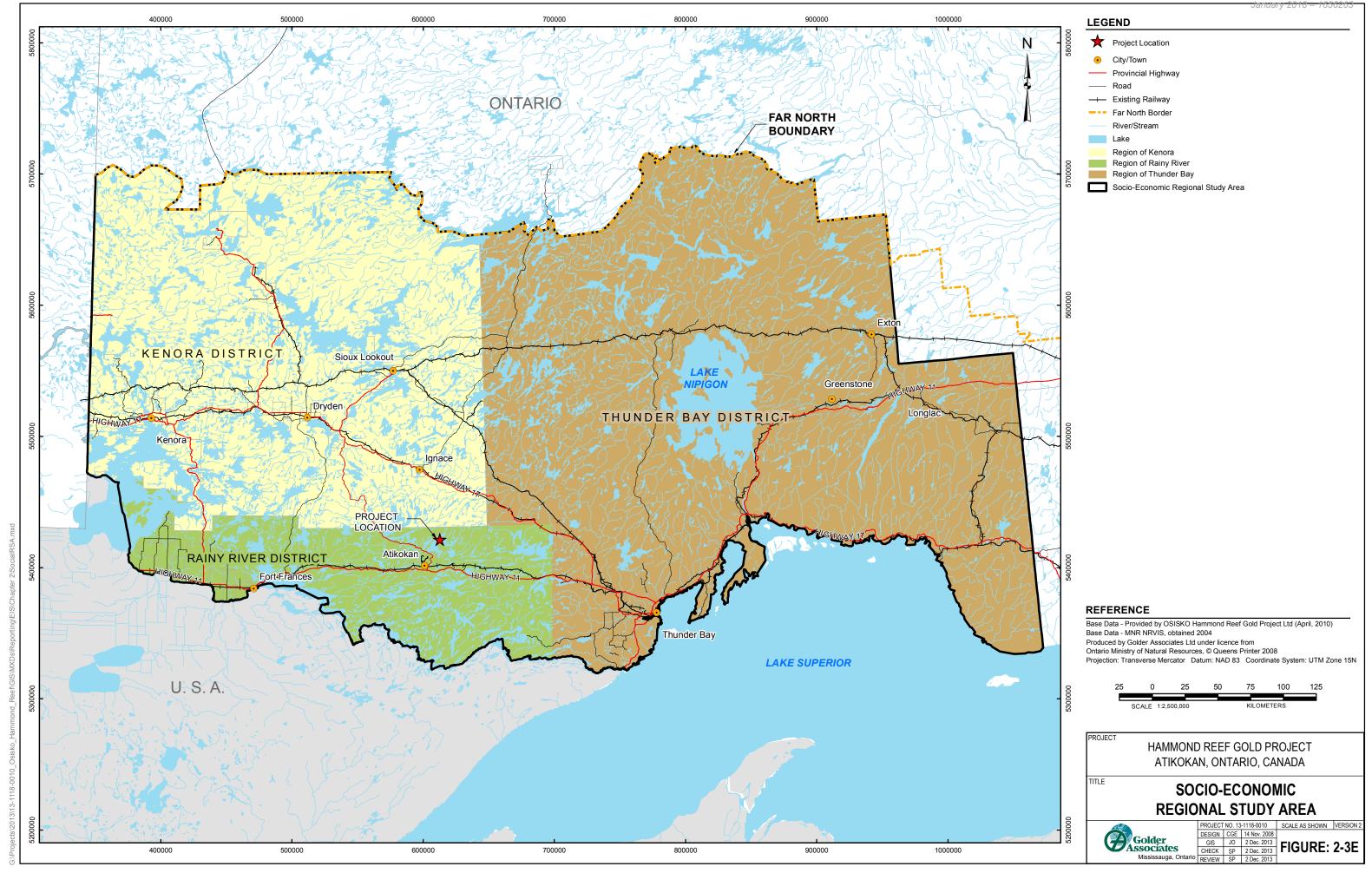


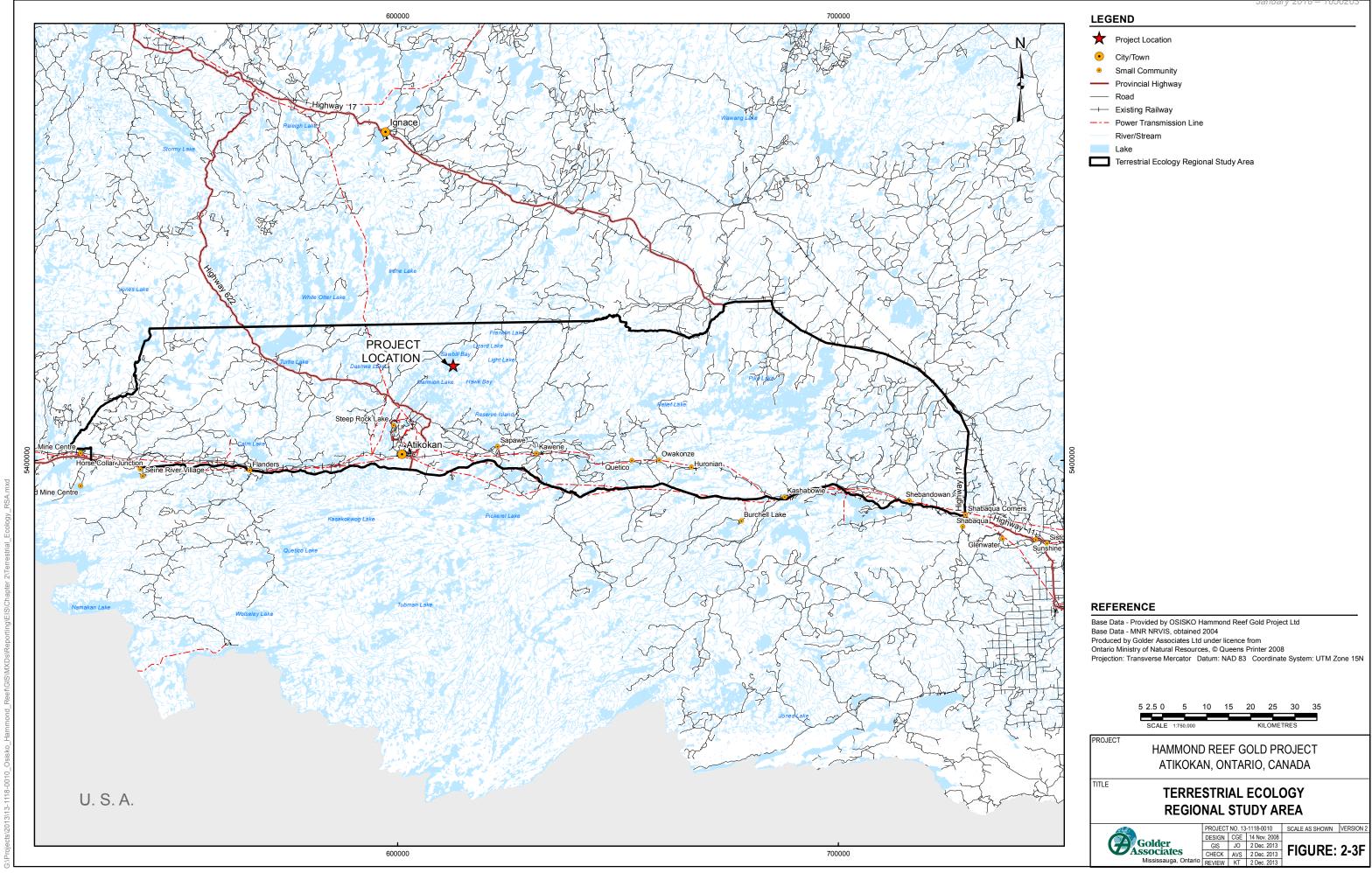


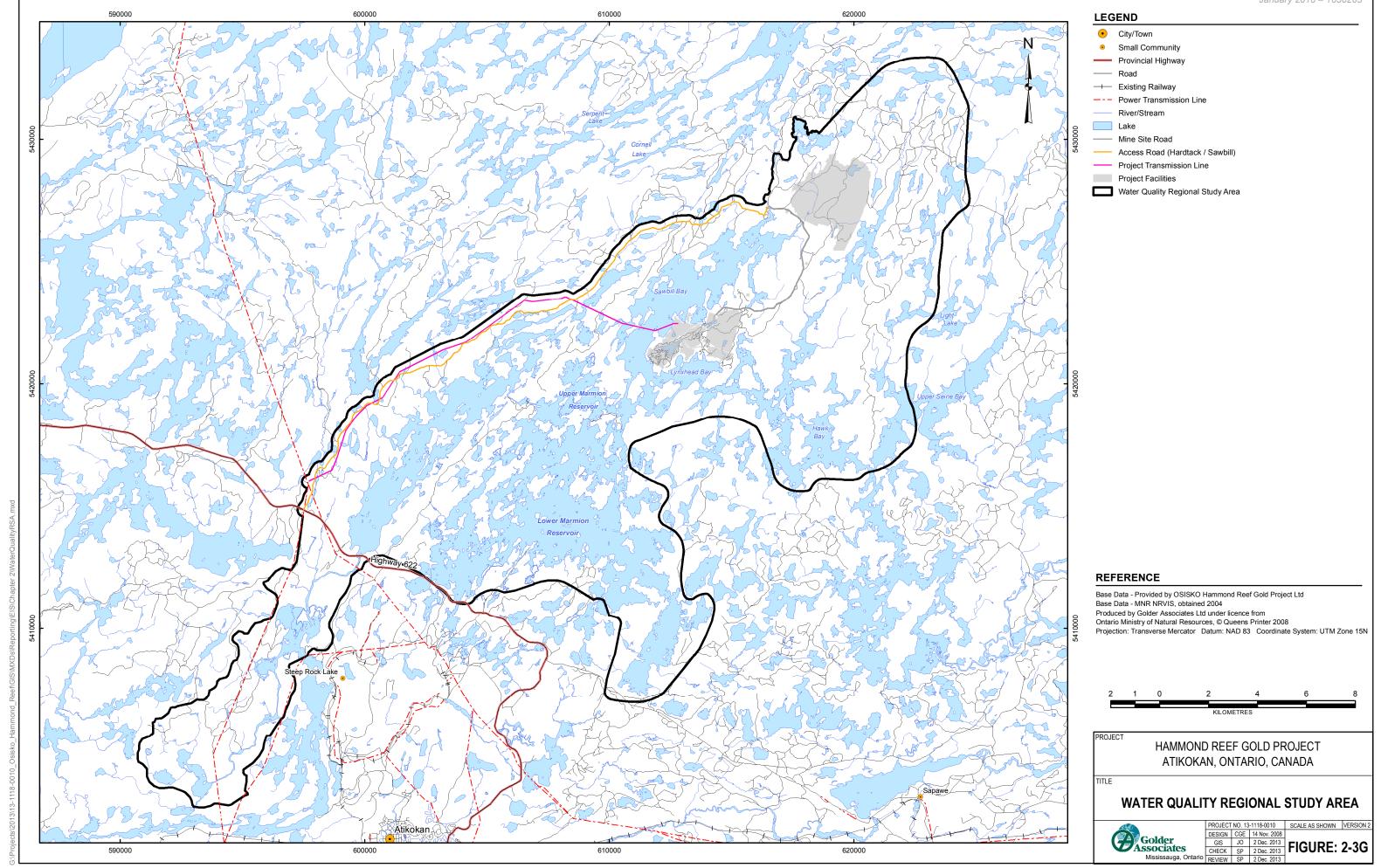














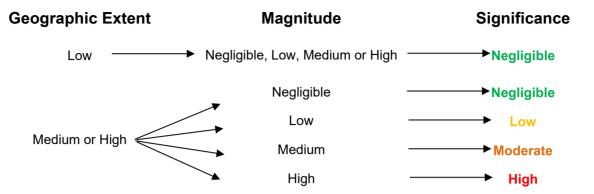


Figure 2-4: Decision Tree for Assigning Significance to Residual Effects on the Socio-economic Environment

