

2.0 SURFACE CONDITIONS AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The Carmacks Copper Project is located approximately 200 km north of Whitehorse and 38 km northwest of the village of Carmacks, in the Yukon Territory.

The proposed Carmacks Copper Project will be developed as an open-pit mine with copper extraction through acid heap leaching and a solvent extraction/electrowinning (SX/EW) processing facility. The site will also include, a crusher, waste rock storage area (WRSA), plant site which the SX/EW plant is part, truck shop, camp facilities, and stormwater management facilities. Drawing 1 shows the general layout of the proposed facilities.

The area has a generally subdued topography with an elevation of approximately 715 m near Williams Creek, south of the process plant to 890 m near the north end (upper end) of the overall project site. The area is naturally covered by forest vegetation.

The proposed design for the Heap Leach Facility (HLF) is a modified valley heap, with external solution storage occurring in the Events Pond located downstream of the heap. An embankment will be constructed at the toe of the heap for solution collection and structural support. A majority of the proposed footprint area of the HLF was logged, and a portion of the organics and topsoil were stripped from the area in 1997 in preparation for site development. Some vegetation has now re-grown over the previously cleared area.

Locations for the proposed mine infrastructure which were investigated as part of this program included:

- Three potential locations for the HLF, (Option 1, Option 2 and Option 3);
- Events Pond and a Sedimentation Pond;
- Waste Rock Storage Area (WRSA) and an associated Sedimentation Pond;
- Site Infrastructure, including the Process Plant, Crusher, Truck Shop, Explosives Magazine, Bulk Explosives Facility, and Camp; and,
- Potential Borrow Areas (PBAs).

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