

Re-visioning of the Empire State Building in wood by Vancouver and Portland Architect Michael Green using the “mass timber” approach  
(Michael Green image)



35 Story design competition  
Reinventer Paris Tower  
Building Designed by  
Vancouver and Portland  
Architect Michael Green  
using Laminated Strand  
Lumber beams.



Wood is a Good  
Solar-Energy-Grown Renewable



Wood Innovation and Design Centre – Prince George BC.  
Primarily Cross Laminated Timber. Credits: Ema Peter



T3 Building Minneapolis – 3600 m<sup>3</sup> (1526 m<sup>3</sup>) beetle killed  
Nailed Laminated Timber – 3600 T CO<sub>2</sub> captured over  
lifetime – largest in USA. Credits: Ema Peter



30 Story Proposed TallWood Tower Building  
Vancouver



OSU College of Forestry – American Way Center

Designs by Vancouver and Portland Architect Michael Green using Mass Timber Construction

# Visualization to meet Visual Quality Effectiveness Obligations in British Columbia

for the  
Visualization Tools Forum  
Portland Oregon, April 19, 2017

Ken B. Fairhurst, PhD, RPF  
Founder and President, RDI Resource Design Inc, Vancouver Canada  
and  
Adjunct Professor, Forest Resources Management  
Faculty of Forestry, the University of British Columbia, Vancouver

## Quick Background of KBF:

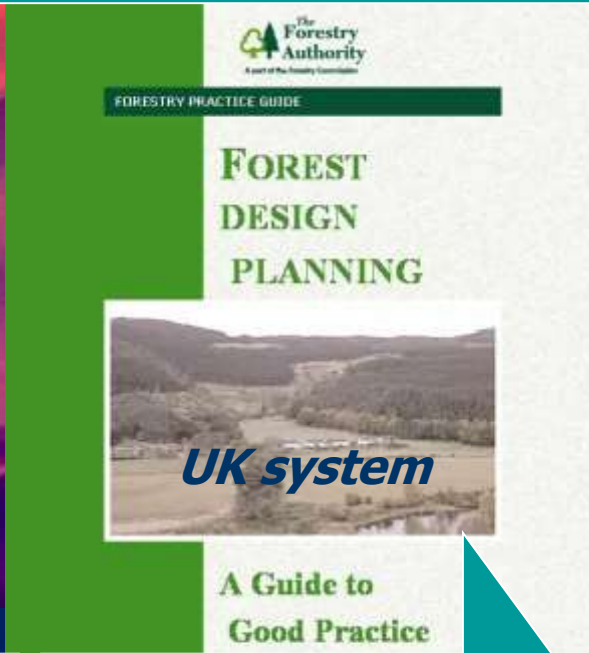
- 21 years Founder/President of RDI Resource Design Inc (current and on-going)
- Adjunct Professor – UBC Forest Resources Management
- Member - Collaborative for Advanced Landscape Planning (CALP) - UBC
- UBC Doctoral Degree 2010
- UBC Forestry 424 – Taught Visualization Component
- UBC Forestry 491 – Co-taught Visualization and Design
- Ministry of Forests – Regional Visual Management Specialist (from Inception of Program in 1980 until 1996)
- Alberta Forest Service - Preliminary Visual Landscape Program Set-up

# Linkages between VRM Systems

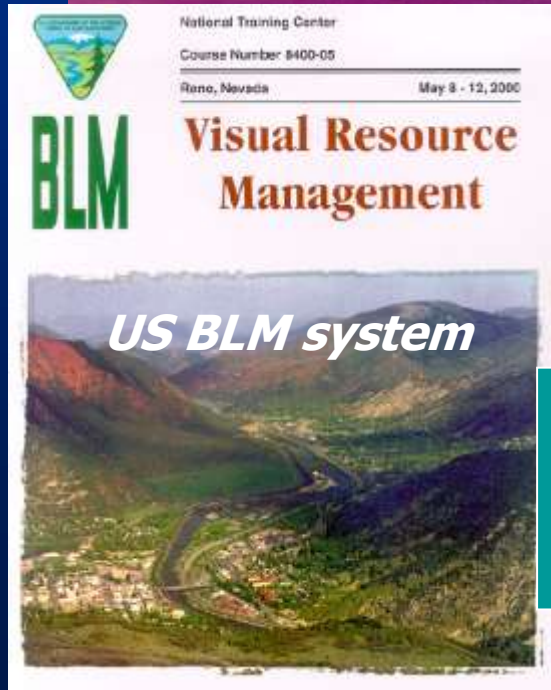
Visual risk assessment and planning procedures are important components of major expert visual assessment processes in British Columbia and other jurisdictions:



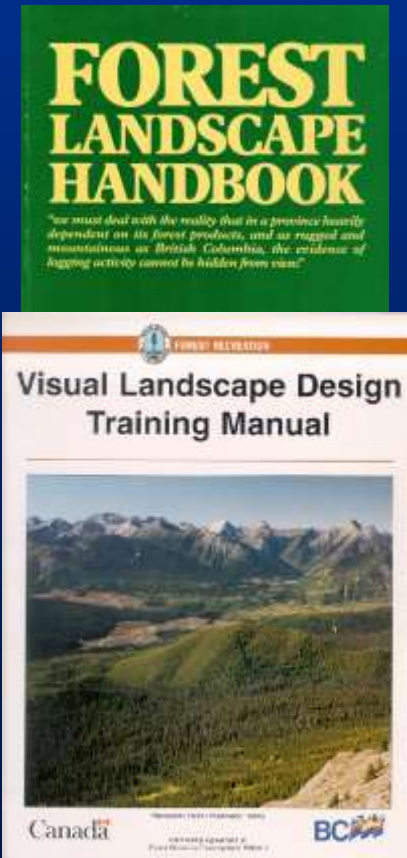
*USFS system*



*UK system*




*US BLM system*



BC System

1. **Visual Landscape Inventory and recommended VQOs – P. 8-14**
2. **Legally Established Visual Quality Objectives – P. 15-21**
3. **Visual Impact Assessment – using visuals to meet VQOs – P. 22-43**
4. **Visual Quality Effectiveness Evaluation – preharvest using visuals – P. 44-47**
5. **Integrated Visual Design – long term planning to meet VQOs (full rotation) – P. 48-56**
6. **Research Studies – using visuals – P. 57-90**

## Visual Landscape Processes in BC

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- A 3D rendered landscape showing a road winding through a forested valley with hills in the background. The road is paved and has a white line on the left and a yellow dashed line on the right. The vegetation includes various types of trees and shrubs, with some areas appearing to be in a different color palette, possibly representing a different stage of a simulation or a specific type of vegetation. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.
1. **Visual Landscape Inventory and recommended VQOs**
  2. **Legally Established Visual Quality Objectives**
  3. **Visual Impact Assessment – using visuals to meet VQOs**
  4. **Visual Quality Effectiveness Evaluation – preharvest using visuals**
  5. **Integrated Visual Design – long term plan using visuals to meet VQOs (full rotation)**
  6. **Research Studies – using visuals**

## 1. Visual Landscape Inventory



Established Visual Quality Objectives for British Columbia



- (1) Visual Landscape Inventory and
- (2) Established Visual Quality Objectives

British Columbia Land Mass:  
 950,000 sq. km / 360,000 sq. mi.  
 (Alaska only US state larger)

Provincial Forest: 94%

Arable Land: 5%

Parks and other Protected Areas: 12%

Area with VQO's: 12,800 sq. km. (14% of land mass) from highways, waterways

Allowable Annual Cut:  
 71.6 million cubic metres (30 mfbm)

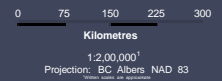
Conversions:  
 1 sq. km. = 0.4 sq. mi.  
 1 sq. km. – 100 hectares  
 1 ha = 2.5 ac.  
 1 ac = 0.4 ha

1 mfbm = 2.36 cubic metres

(Values rounded)

Green and orange areas have VLI with VQOs

Legend	Total Area (hectares)
Preservation (0%)	Preservation - 222,895 ha
Retention (0-1.5%)	Retention - 1,780,098 ha
Partial Retention (1.6-7%)	Partial Retention - 6,572,048 ha
Modification (7.1-18%)	Modification - 3,696,414 ha
Maximum Modification (18.1-30+%)	Maximum Modification - 475,009 ha



Data Sources  
 - Ministry of Forests and Range  
 - ESRI base data



**DRAFT**



# Visual Sensitivity Unit Classification Form

- Forest District Code: \_\_\_\_\_
- Rated by: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Project: \_\_\_\_\_
- VSA #: \_\_\_\_\_
- VSU #: \_\_\_\_\_
- VRU #: \_\_\_\_\_
- Cross Mapsheet VSU # (optional): \_\_\_\_\_
- BCGS Map #: \_\_\_\_\_
- VSU Rating Point #: \_\_\_\_\_

VSU # _____			
VAC	BR	VC	VR
VSC			

<b>Existing Visual Condition (EVC)</b>						EVC Rationale:	
11. Scale of Existing Alteration	0% P	0-13 R	13-7 PR	7-20 M	20-50 MM	>50 EM	
12. Influence of Visual Landscape Design	H	M	L	N/A			TR: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
13. Influence of Site Disturbance	H	M	L	N/A			A B C D
14. Influence of Veg. Color & Texture	H	M	L	N/A			
15. EVC Final Value	P	R	PR	M	MM	EM	

EVC

<b>Visual Absorption Capability (VAC)</b>						VAC Rationale:	
16. Slope	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	
17. Aspect	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	
18. Surface Variation	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	
19. Rock/Soil/Vegetative Variety	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	A B C D E
20. VAC Initial Value	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	
20. VAC Final Value	H	M	L				

VAC

<b>Biophysical Rating (BR)</b>						BR Rationale:	
21. Slope	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	
22. Aspect	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	
23. Edge	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	TR: A B C D E F G H I J
24. Topographic Variety	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	A B C
25. Vertical Relief	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	
26. Vegetative Variety	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	A B
27. BR Initial Value	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	
27. Influence of Rock/Soil	H	M	L	N/A (H)			A B
28. Influence of Water	H	M	L	N/A (H)			A B C
29. Influence of Adjacent Scenery	H	M	L	N/A (H)			
30. BR Final Value	H	M	L				

BR

<b>Viewing Condition (VC)</b>						VC Rationale:	
31. Viewing Distance	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	
32. Viewing Frequency	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	VPT x S _____
33. Viewing Duration	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	A B
34. Viewing Angle	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	
35. VC Initial Value	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	
35. VC Final Value	H	M	L				

VC

<b>Viewer Rating (VR)</b>						VR Rationale:	
36. Number of Viewers	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	A B C D E
37. Viewer Expectations	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	A B
38. VR Initial Value	H	(H)	M	(M)	L	(L)	
38. VR Final Value	H	M	L				

VR

<b>Visual Sensitivity Class (VSC)</b>						VSC Rationale (reverse page)	
VSC Initial Value	VSC 1 (1)	VSC 2 (1-7)	VSC 3 (7-1)	VSC 4 (1-2)	VSC 5 (1)	BR / VC / VR / VAC final values: H = 10, M = 7, L = 1 DBL: + VC, + VR, - VAC =	
39. VSC Final Value	VSC 1	VSC 2	VSC 3	VSC 4	VSC 5	VSC score	

VSC

<b>Other (Optional)</b>				Other Rationale:	
40. Years to VEG	< 5 years	5-10 years	> 10 years	N/A	
41. Visual Recovery	H	M	L	A B	
42. Rehabilitation/Enhancement	RH	EH	N/A		

See other calls for VSU Rating Point Data & Factor descriptions.

10. VSU Rating Point Data:	Print:	Slide:	Digital Image	Videocassette
VSU Rating Point Number				
10.1 Viewpoint Type: rating point (V0), major (V1); minor (V2); potential (V3)				
10.2 Elevation of the VSU Rating Point (meters)				
10.3 Latitude and Longitude (UTM) Coordinates (optional)				
10.4 BCGS Map Number of VSU Rating Point				
10.5 Compass Bearing (0-360 degrees)				
10.6 Vertical Viewing Angle (0-90 degrees ±)				
10.7 Roll Number (start-end frame number)	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /
10.8 Focal Length of Lens (mm)				

<b>EVC</b>			
11. Scale of Existing Alteration			
12. Influence of Vis. Landscape Design	H (transit)	M (moderate)	L (low)
13. Influence of Site Disturbance	H (dominant)	M (moderate)	L (subdominant)
14. Influence of Veg. Color & Texture	H (strong)	M (moderate)	L (weak)
15. Existing Visual Condition	F - B - PR - M - MM		
<b>VAC</b>			
16. Slope	H (0-10%)	M (10-40%)	L (>40%)
17. Aspect	H (N/S/W/E)	M (E/W)	L (N/S/S/E)
18. Surface Variation	H (high)	M (moderate)	L (low)
19. Rock/Soil/Vegetative Variety	H (high)	M (moderate)	L (low)
20. Visual Absorption Capability	H (high)	M (moderate)	L (low)
<b>BR</b>			
21. Slope	H (>40%)	M (30-40%)	L (0-30%)
22. Aspect	H (N/S/S/E)	M (E/W)	L (N/S/W/E)
23. Edge	H (high)	M (moderate)	L (low)
24. Topographic Variety	H (high)	M (200-400m)	L (<200m)
25. Vertical Relief	H (high)	M (200-400m)	L (<200m)
26. Vegetative Variety	H (high)	M (moderate)	L (low)
27. Influence of Rock/Soil	H (high)	M (moderate)	L (low)
28. Influence of Water	H (high)	M (moderate)	L (low)
29. Influence of Adjacent Scenery	H (high)	M (moderate)	L (low)
30. Biophysical Rating	H (high)	M (moderate)	L (low)
<b>VR</b>			
36. Number of Viewers	H (high)	M (moderate)	L (low)
37. Viewer Expectations	H (high)	M (moderate)	L (low)
38. Viewer Rating	H (high)	M (moderate)	L (low)
<b>VSC</b>			
VSC Initial Rating	VAC, BR, VC, VR, H-1, M-7, L-1		
39. Visual Sensitivity	1 2 3 4 5		
<b>Other (Optional)</b>			
40. Years to VEG	< 5 yr	5-10 yr	> 10 yr
41. Visual Recovery	H (high site)	M (mod. site)	L (Low site)
42. Rehabilitation/Enhancement	RH/EH/NA	Rehabilitation	Enhancement

Farther Notes

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## Landform in Perspective View



### Interpreting Inventory symbols

The notation or code on the map contains abbreviated information describing each unit. Units are delineated based on landforms and what is visible from different viewpoints. Each letter describes a characteristic of the unit and the final number ranks the sensitivity of the unit to alteration.



Extremely important to viewers  
Very sensitive to alterations



Somewhat important to viewers  
Low sensitivity to alterations



### Existing visual condition (EVC):

identifies the existing level of human-made alteration on the landscapes at the time the inventory is conducted. The scale is preservation, retention, partial retention, modification, maximum modification and excessive modification. Unaltered landscapes are rated as preserved.

### Visual absorption capability (VAC):

rates the relative capacity of a landscape to absorb human-made alterations and still maintain its visual integrity. The scale is high, medium and low. The higher the rating the greater the ability to absorb alteration.

### Biophysical rating (BR):

identifies the degree of visual interest in the landscape and rates the level that it would attract viewer attention. The scale is high, medium and low. The higher the attraction, the more sensitive the landscape.

### Viewing condition (VC):

records the conditions under which the landscape is viewed such as viewing duration and number of viewpoints. The scale is high, medium and low. The higher the rating the more you see the landscape and the more sensitive it is.

### Viewer rating (VR):

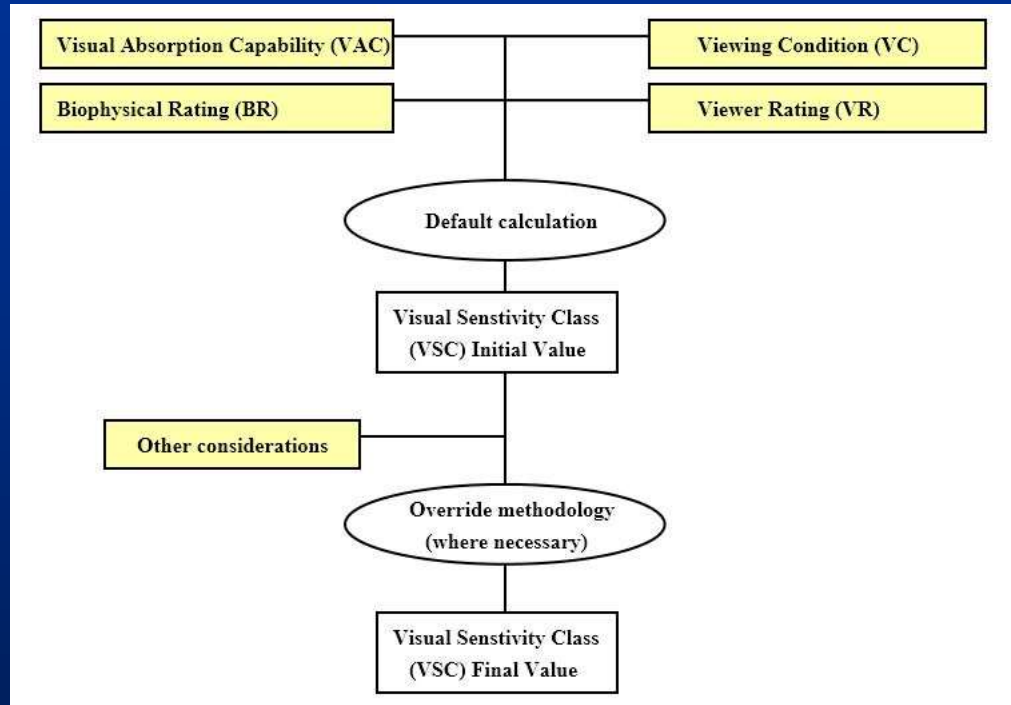
measures the number of people and their expectations for visual quality. Ratings are high, medium and low. The higher the rating, the more people view the landscape and/or are more concerned.

### Visual sensitivity class (VSC):

rates the sensitivity of the landscape to visual alteration based on biophysical and viewing characteristics listed above. The rating scale is 1 to 5. Class 1 is extremely sensitive to alteration and class 5 has low sensitivity to alteration.

The photographs to the right show representative landscapes and their corresponding VSC.

# Visual Landscape Inventory Terminology Review



$$(BR+VC+VR) - VAC = \text{VSC Score}$$

# Visual Absorption Capability (VAC)

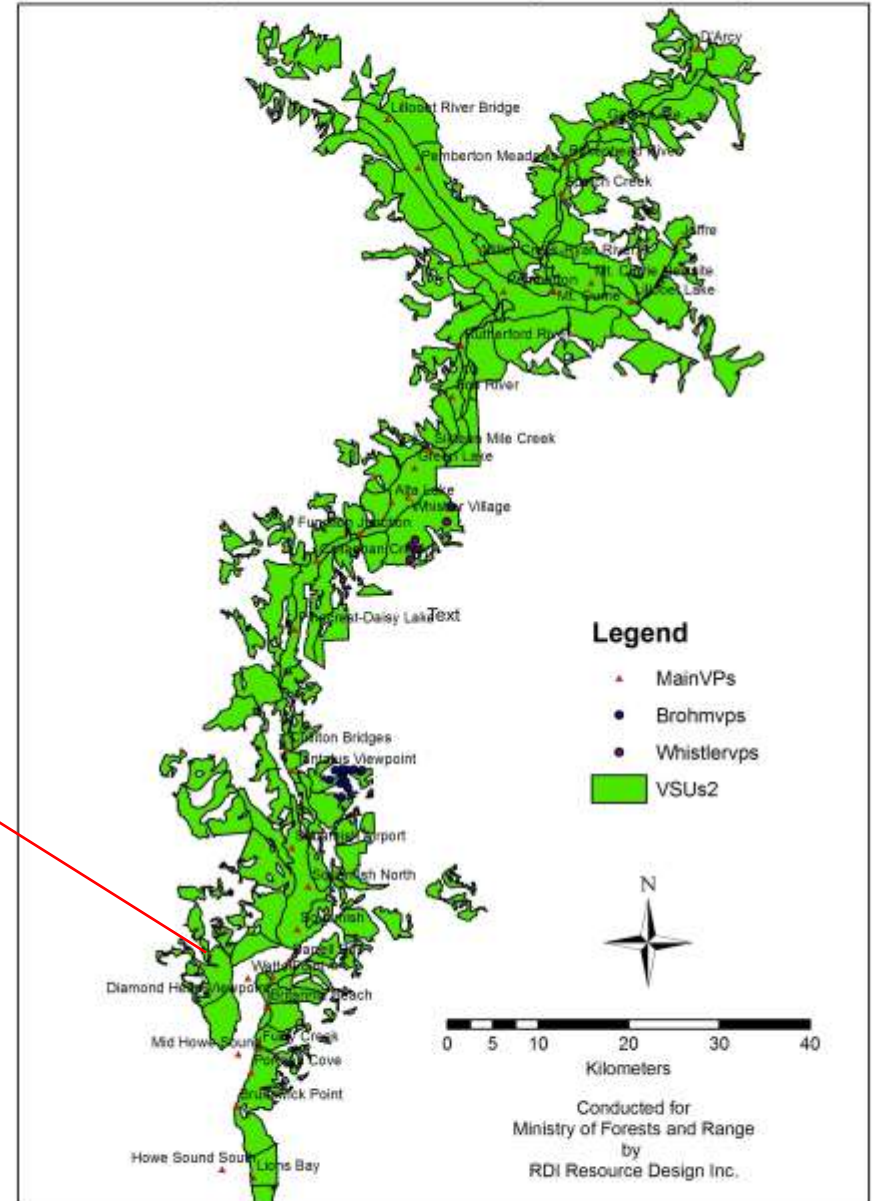



**VAC is the ability of a particular landscape unit to accept visual alteration or resist visual impacts, the opposite of visual vulnerability**

# Sea-To-Sky Visual Landscape Inventory 2006



VAC is determined during BCMOFR's visual landscape inventory process, applied to **large** Visual Sensitivity Units as a 3-class rating: (High-Moderate-Low).



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- A 3D rendered landscape showing a road winding through a forested valley with hills in the background. The road is paved and has a white line on the left and a yellow dashed line on the right. The vegetation includes various types of trees and shrubs, and the sky is overcast.
1. Visual Landscape Inventory and recommended VQOs
  2. **Legally Established Visual Quality Objectives**
  3. Visual Impact Assessment – using visuals to meet VQOs
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  6. Research Studies – using visuals

## 2. Visual Landscape Analysis - eVQOs

# Visual Quality - Categories of Alteration

Visual Quality Objectives are defined in Section 1.1 of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation. Visual Quality research shows that percent alteration for clear cuts and volume/stems per hectare for partial cuts are also good predictors of visual quality if applied correctly.

## Clear Cuts

## Retention Harvest

## Partial Cuts

**Preservation:** very small in scale, and not easily distinguishable from the pre-harvest landscape.

0% ground may be visible.



**Retention:** is difficult to see, small in scale, and natural in appearance

0 -1.5% ground may be visible.



**Partial Retention:** easy to see, small to medium in scale, and natural and not rectilinear or geometric in shape.

1.6 – 7% ground may be visible.



**Modification:** is very easy to see, and is A) large in scale and natural in its appearance, or B) small to medium in scale but with some angular characteristics.

7.1-18% ground may be visible.



**Maximum Modification:** is very easy to see, and is (A) very large in scale, (B) rectilinear and geometric in shape, or (C) both

18.1-30% ground may be visible.



### Percent Alteration Per VQO

Preservation	0
Retention	0 - 1.5
Partial Retention	1.6 - 7.0
Modification	7.1 - 18.0
Max Modification	18.1 - 30.0

**Note:** % Alteration numbers must be applied to a readily distinguishable landform. They were not derived for application against entire landscapes.



**Note:** The Partial Cutting table may be applied across the landscape as this measure is landform Independent.



## Categories of Altered Forest Landscape (FPPR 1.1)

When assessed from a significant public viewpoint:

**Preservation:** very small in scale, and not easily distinguishable from the pre-harvest landscape.

**Retention:** is difficult to see, small in scale, and natural in appearance

**Partial Retention:** easy to see, small to medium in scale, and natural and not rectilinear or geometric in shape.

**Modification:** is very easy to see, and is A) large in scale and natural in its appearance, or B) small to medium in scale but with some angular characteristics.

**Maximum Modification:** is very easy to see, and is (A) very large in scale, (B) rectilinear and geometric in shape, or (C) both

## Percent Alteration of Landform (not in Act or Regulations)

0% ground may be visible.

0 -1.5% ground may be visible.

1.6 – 7% ground may be visible.

7.1-18% ground may be visible.

18.1-30% ground may be visible.

Quite similar to BLM VRM Classes 1-5 and USDA Forest Service VMS VQOs  
Except the BC method provides the numerical measure of percent alteration of the landform)

## Some Legalise requiring the setting and meeting of Visual Quality Objectives (Categories of Altered Forest):

- A. Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) - Scenic Areas and VQOs
- B. Government Action Regulation (GAR) - Scenic Areas, and VQOs consistent with:
- C. Categories of Altered Forest prescribed in the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR).

(See next 2 slides)

# Legal Establishment and Obligations

Scenic Areas and Visual Quality Objectives are Authorized under Sec. 150.3 (1) of the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) and Sec. 7 (1) and (2) of the Government Actions Regulation (GAR)

## FRPA

### Scenic areas and visual quality objectives

**150.3** (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations

- (a) authorizing the minister responsible for the [Land Act](#) to designate an area of land as a **scenic area**,
- (b) authorizing the minister to **establish visual quality objectives in relation to a scenic area**,
- (c) prescribing the circumstances in which the discretion conferred in the authorization may be exercised, and
- (d) respecting scenic areas.

(2) The minister may not specify an objective referred to in subsection (1) (b) for an area unless the objective is consistent with the objectives set by government that pertain to the area.

## GAR

### Scenic areas and visual quality objectives

**7** (1) The minister responsible for the [Land Act](#) by order may establish an area as a **scenic area** if satisfied that the area

- (a) is visually important based on its physical characteristics and public use, and

- (b) requires special management that has not otherwise been provided for by this regulation or another enactment.

(2) The minister responsible for the [Forest Act](#) by order may **establish for a scenic area visual quality objectives** that are consistent with subsection (1) and are within the **categories of altered forest landscape** prescribed under section 1.1 of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation.

[http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/582\\_2004#section7](http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/582_2004#section7)

# Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR)

## Categories of Altered Forest Landscape: Sec. 1.1

### Objectives set by government for visual quality

9.2 (1) In this section:

"**scenic area**" means an area of land established as a scenic area under the [Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act](#) on or before October 24, 2002 and continued as a scenic area under section 180 (c) of the Act;

"**visual sensitivity class**" means a visual sensitivity class established on or before October 24, 2002, particulars of which are publicly available in the Land and Resource Data Warehouse maintained by the minister responsible for the [Land Act](#).

(2) The objective set by government in relation to visual quality for a scenic area, that

(a) was established on or before October 24, 2002, and

(b) for which there is no visual quality objective

is to ensure that the altered forest landscape for the scenic area

(c) in visual sensitivity class 1 is in either the [preservation or retention](#) category,

(d) in visual sensitivity class 2 is in either the [retention or partial retention](#) category,

(e) in visual sensitivity class 3 is in either the [partial retention or modification](#) category,

(f) in visual sensitivity class 4 is in either the [partial retention or modification](#) category, and

(g) in visual sensitivity class 5 is in either the [modification or maximum modification](#) category.

[en. B.C. Reg. 580/2004, s. 9.]

[http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws\\_new/document/ID/freeside/14\\_2004#section9.2](http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/14_2004#section9.2)

## 2. Visual Landscape Analysis

Following the inventory, Visual Sensitivity Class is used to derive a recommended Visual Quality Class (rVQC)

VSC1: preservation or retention

VSC2: retention or partial retention


VSC3: partial retention or modification

VSC4: partial retention or modification

VSC5: modification or maximum modification.

Note:

The final Established VQO (eVQO) is derived in a higher level planning process or by the FLNRO District Manager

- 
- A 3D rendered landscape showing a road winding through a forested valley with hills in the background. The road is paved and has a white line on the left and a dashed yellow line on the right. The vegetation includes tall grasses in the foreground, a dense forest of trees, and rolling hills in the distance under a cloudy sky.
1. Visual Landscape Inventory and recommended VQOs
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  6. Research Studies – using visuals

## 3. Visual Impact Assessment

### 3. Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) Considerations:

Landform Determination  
Existing Visual Condition  
Visually Effective Green-up  
Visual Design



Existing Alteration that exhibits Visually Effective Green-up (VEG) is exempt.

Visual Force Lines  
Natural Character  
Edge Treatment  
Avoid Straight Lines  
In-block Tree Retention  
Visible Roads

VEG is the condition of reforestation and regrowth when bare ground and stumps are no longer visible and the **average viewer** can see a regenerating forest.

Existing Alteration with Poor Design  
Design Techniques / Simulation  
Percent Alteration Calculation  
Usually Requires **3-d Visualization**



### 1. ASSESSING BASIC VQO DEFINITION

Describe the level of impact that the proposed alteration, in combination with any existing non-VEG alterations, will have on the landscape from each viewpoint, using one of the following terms: <i>Not visible, Not visually evident, Subordinate, Dominant, Out of scale</i>	VPT #	VPT #	VPT #	VPT #
Which basic VQO definition would the proposed alteration, in combination with any existing non-VEG alterations, meet from all the selected viewpoints and taking into account viewpoint importance, viewing distance and viewing duration?	P	R	PR	M MM
If applicable, state reasons why the proposed alteration(s) does not achieve the basic definition of the established VQO from any of the selected viewpoints.				

### 2. ASSESSING VISUAL DESIGN

Have major lines of force been identified and used to develop the size and shape of the proposed operation? (If Yes, attach visual force analysis to this form.)	Yes ___ No ___
Has the proposed operation borrowed from the natural character of the landscape?	Yes ___ No ___
Have edge treatments been incorporated into the design of the proposed operation (feathered edges, irregular cutblock design, etc.)?	Yes ___ No ___
Have "islands," or patches of trees, been maintained to mitigate visual impacts and other resource management objectives?	Yes ___ No ___
Are there any existing human-made alterations visible in the unit that exhibit poor design? If Yes, describe design deficiencies below:	Yes ___ No ___
If applicable, list any additional design techniques used and/or state reasons why certain design techniques could not be employed.	

### 3. ASSESSING NUMERICAL DATA

Complete either the clearcut or partial-cutting section below depending on the silviculture system used.

### Percent Alteration Worksheet for Clearcutting

Use photograph or computer simulation output from each viewpoint for calculations. See Appendix 8 for example of calculation.	VPT #	VPT #	VPT #	VPT #
1. Total area of landform/VSU in perspective view as seen from each viewpoint (measured in cm <sup>2</sup> )				
2. Visible ground area of proposed alteration(s) in perspective view as seen from each viewpoint (measured in cm <sup>2</sup> )				
3. Visible ground area of all existing alterations in non-VEG state in perspective view as seen from each viewpoint (measured in cm <sup>2</sup> )				
4. Total % alteration of the viewshed in perspective view as seen from each viewpoint $[(\#2+\#3)/\#1] \times 100 = \#4$				
Identify for each viewpoint which VQO will be achieved based on % alteration. See Table 3 in VIA Guidebook for % alteration guidelines.				
Which VQO would the proposed alteration, in combination with any existing non-VEG alterations, meet from all the selected viewpoints based on percent alteration only?				
	P	R	PR	M MM or Other

### Partial-cutting Evaluation

What percent volume or stems retention is proposed?	%Volume Remaining	% Stems Remaining
Which VQO would the proposed alteration, in combination with any existing non-VEG alterations, meet from all the selected viewpoints based on volume or stems remaining? See Table 4 in VIA Guidebook for partial-cutting guidelines.		
P ___ R ___ PR ___ M ___ MM ___		

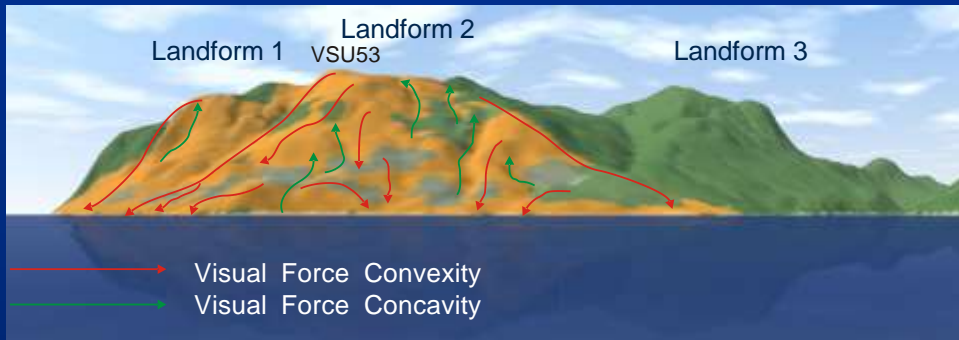
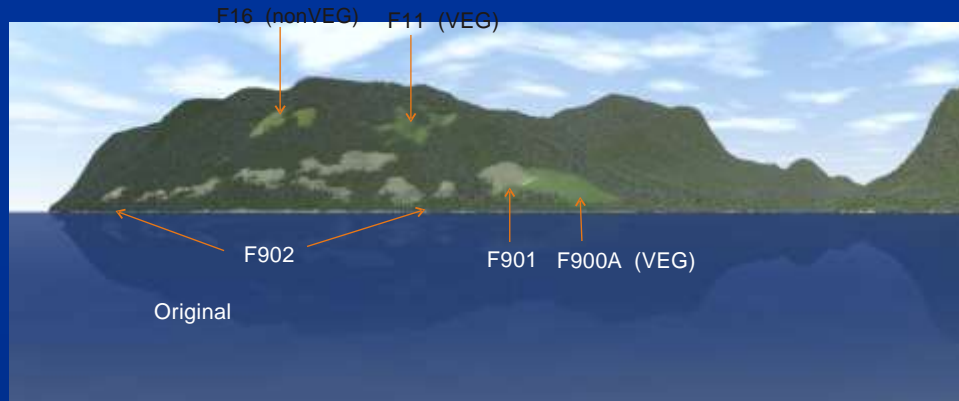
### VIA SUMMARY

Does the proposal, in combination with any existing non-VEG alterations, achieve the basic definition for the established VQO?	Yes ___ No ___
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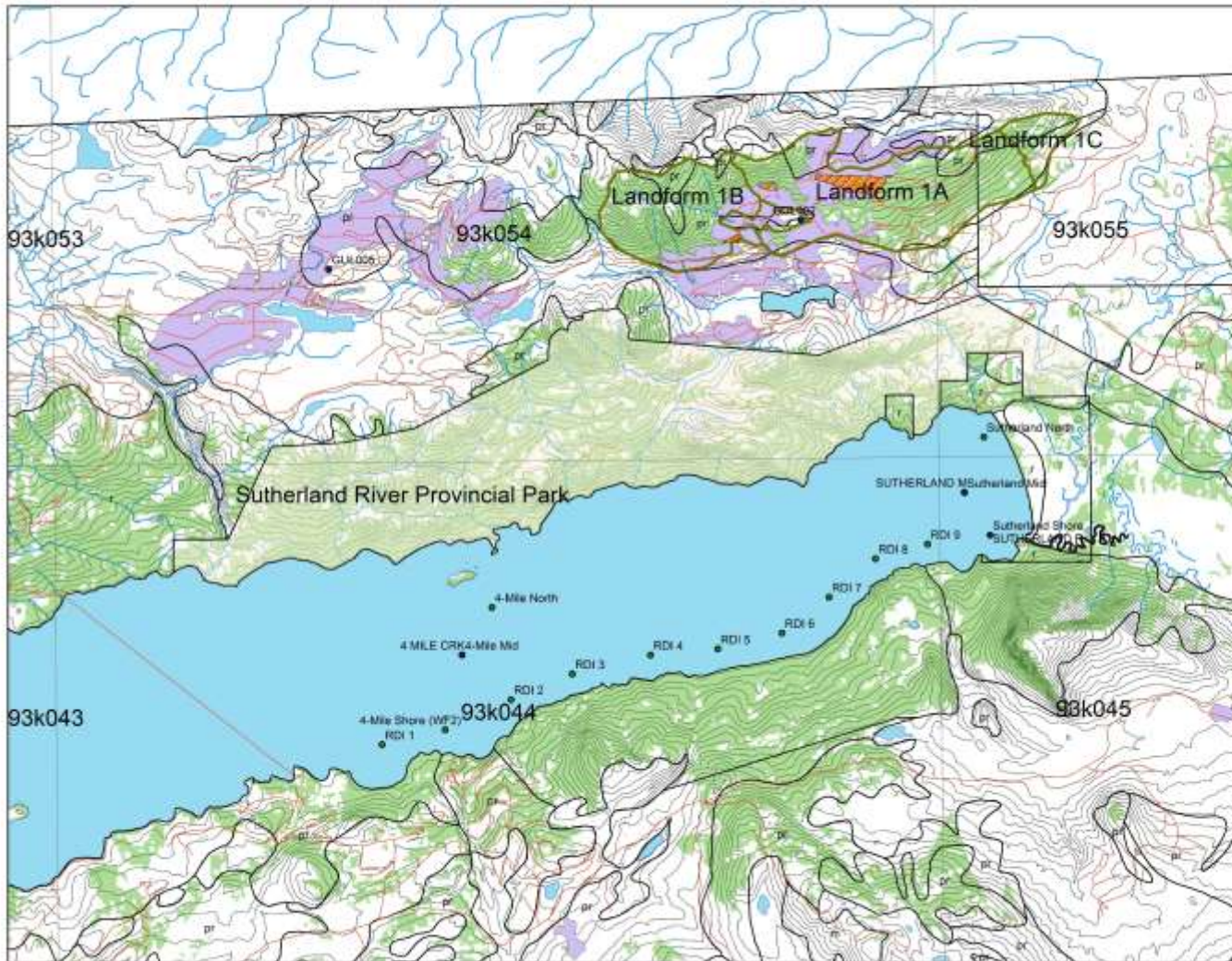


FLNRO Working Definition of Landform: a distinct topographic feature that is 3-dimensional in form and is generally defined by ridges, drainage channels, valleys, shorelines and skylines.

RDI interpretation: a piece of 3-dimensional terrain distinguished from its neighbours by major draws, major skyline breaks and intervening non-visible land (if any).

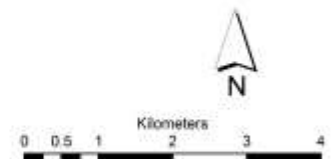


Prepared by Interfor, Sept. 10, 2013



**West Fraser GUL-002  
Visual Assessment  
RDI Resource Design Inc  
February 28, 2017**

- BCmapgrid
  - RDI\_Leave\_GUL\_002
  - LandformVizPoly
  - Patches
  - Lakes
  - Sutherland Prov. Park
- vs-fh-multi Viewshed**
- VALUE**
- 0
  - 0 - 15 **Visible**
- Freshwater\_Atlas\_streams
  - Contours\_20m
  - VLI



Terrain Adjusted with Forest Height

Percent Alteration Viewpoint RDI 3		
Name_1	AREA	% Alt
Landform 1A	75959.85	
A	6286.19	8.28%
A	465.40	0.61%
A	113.45	0.15%
Sum Alt 1A	6865.03	9.04%
Landform1B	146429.92	
B	3717.16	2.54%
B	9099.19	6.21%
B	81.84	0.06%
B	22.74	0.02%
Sum Alt 1B	12920.92	8.82%
Total Combined	222389.77	
	19785.95	8.90%



## Original Percent Alteration

GUL-002 ranges from 6.6 km to 7.6km in distance (far middleground) from Viewpoint RDI 3. The cutblock will be located behind the dominant frontal landforms along the lakeshore which are designated as Sutherland River Provincial Park.

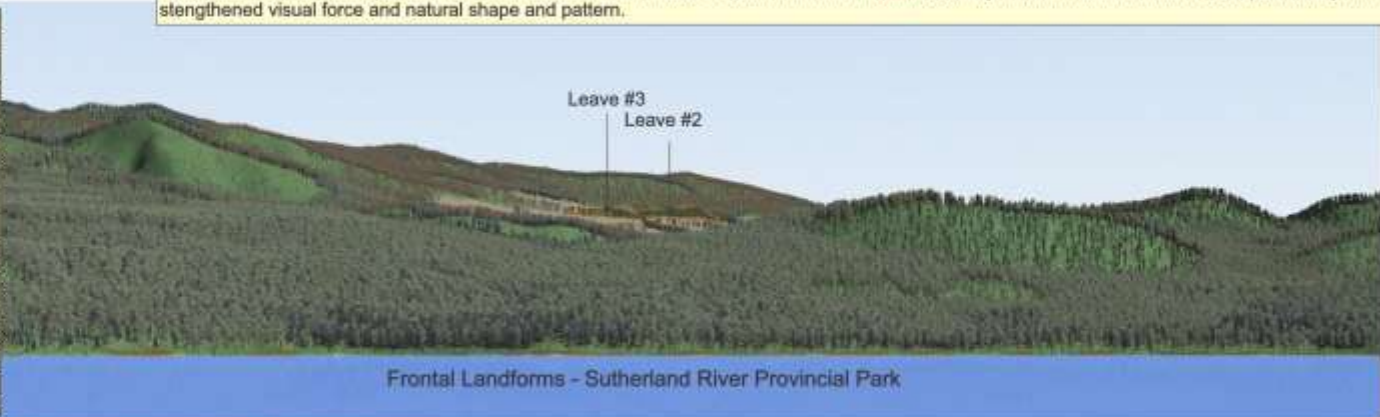
This view offers a glimpse of both Landform 1A and Landform 1B. Together, their viewing width is 20 degrees, with GUL-002 a width of 6 1/2 degrees.

The original Percent alteration was 9.04% for Landform 1A and 8.82% for Landform 1B. The combined effect was 8.9%. The layout has a good location away from the skyline, and has good compatibility with the visual forces in the landforms.

This viewpoint offers a view of Landform 1B and a portion of Landform 1A together and the combined coverage is broader (20 degrees) than from 4-Mile Shore Viewpoint (11 degrees).

RDI designed extra leave patches - Leave #2 in 1A and #3 in 1B are visible, as shown below. Leave #2 is an upper corner of the block, reducing Landform 1A 2.80%. Leave 3 in Landform 1B follows below the mid road, reducing Landform 1B to 7.06%. The patch in Landform 1B may require a road extension below the patch. The combined effect is to reduce Percent Alteration to 5.6%, easdily within Partial Retention VQC, particularly with strengthened visual force and natural shape and pattern.

Percent Alteration Viewpoint RDI3		
Name_1	AREA	% Alt
Landform1B	146429.92	
B4	3717.16	2.54%
B1	6510.52	4.45%
B2	81.84	0.06%
B3	22.74	0.02%
Sum Alt 1B	10332.26	7.06%
Landform 1A	75959.85	
A2	465.40	0.61%
A3	113.45	0.15%
A1	1475.86	1.94%
A4	75.01	0.10%
Sum Alt 1A	2129.72	2.80%
Landform 1A+1B	222389.77	
Sum Alt 1A+1B	12461.98	5.60%



## RDI3 Final Percent Alteration with RDI Leave

Viewpoint RDI 3 Percent Alteration Original Layout and with Final RDI Leave

# Analysis by Landform

3.82% alteration in Landform 1 (meets Partial Retention)

A landform is defined as

Sample VIA prepared by RDI for Interfor Corp. 2017



Photo by RDI 2016 slightly to left of Vb1, obscuring L2 and L3. This "worst-case (best-opportunity)" viewpoint is located on the southeast side of Van Bay near the log-dump operation (not a travel route). The locations of VAN53 and VAN52A are seen together, medium in size, and are low and to one side of the central bold landform. The small pockets of VAN86 are strung along the bottom of the dominant, highly complex and scenic landform. VAN57, VAN 63 and VAN63A are located on the side-slopes behind Landform 1 on Landform 2 which extends back to the knoll of Landform 3. The key focal point is beyond Landform 3 towards Mount Churchill. The percent alteration in both landforms 1 and 2 is within the VQC of Partial Retention.

The array of irregular-shaped openings are small to medium in themselves and overall in each landform, responding well to lines of force and to the strongly angular peaks. As well, the larger (medium-sized) openings respond to the large rock faces in shape and scale (obscured in the photo). Roads are very subordinate where seen at all. The general visual condition in the bay is that of "active" forest management. No design intervention was considered necessary by RDI in order to meet the VQC, but look for opportunities for retention of residuals in VAN52 if any. Additional cutblocks VAN22, VAN22A, VAN 22B and VAN C1B are seen in the distance as very small, well-shaped openings.

NAME	AREA2	%AR
31	1213605.48	
VAN86-2	8188.36	0.32%
VAN86-2	846.11	0.07%
VAN86-3	3755.65	0.28%
VAN86-4	656.46	0.09%
VAN86-5	2601.00	0.21%
VAN86-6	1742.34	0.14%
VAN86-7	1189.90	0.10%
VAN86-8	36.95	0.00%
VAN86-9	59.67	0.00%
VAN86-10	181.80	0.02%
VAN22	23028.14	0.21%
VAN22A	7034.57	0.58%
Sum ALL	44484.62	0.43%
32	89586.35	
VAN53A	174.61	0.00%
VAN63	1851.78	0.07%
VAN67	1054.15	0.27%
Sum ALL	4296.87	0.35%

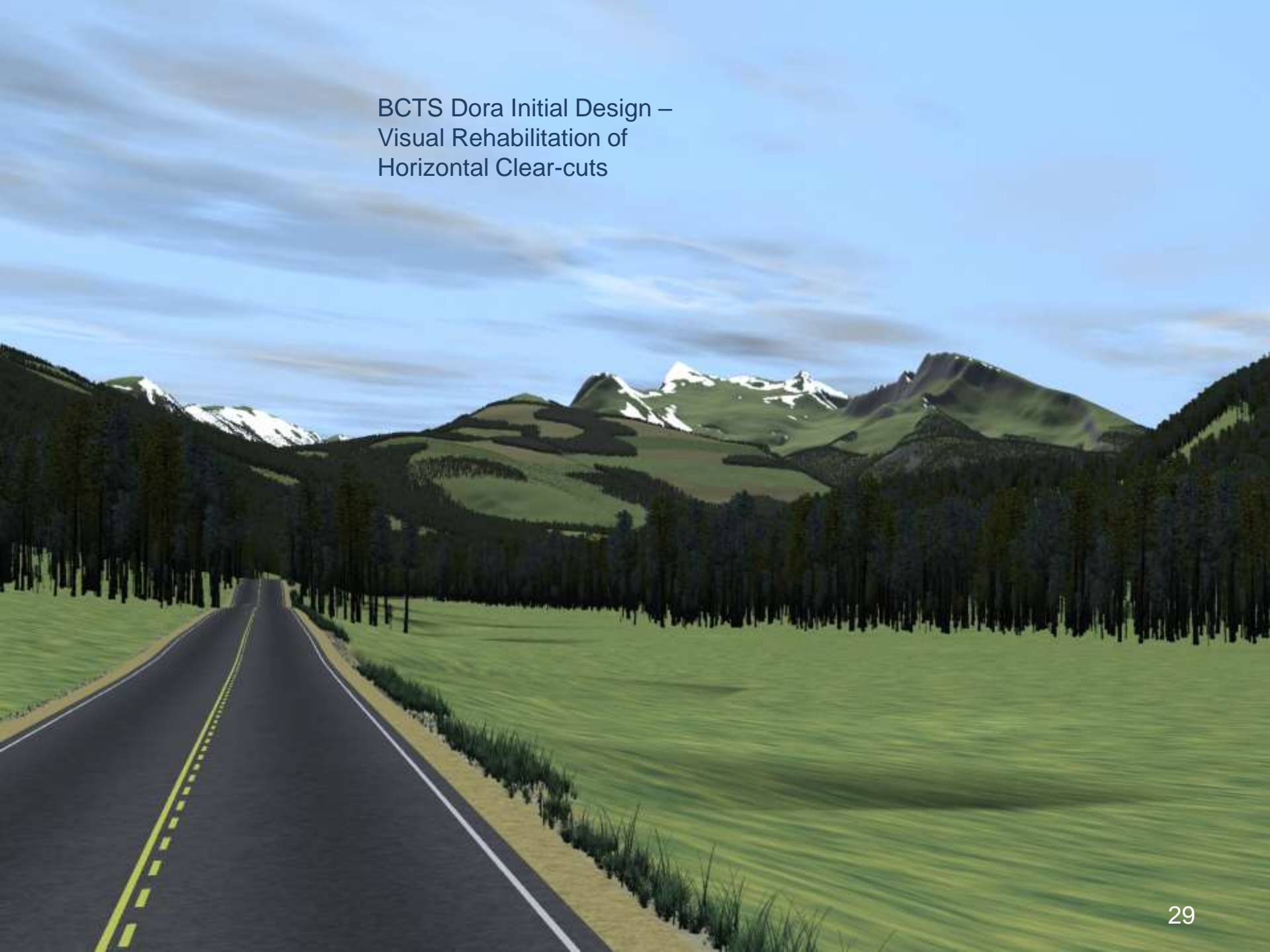
Full forest simulation identifies shapes, roads, old harvesting and existing forest with heights and other data derived from ArcMap shape files

Bare-ground simulation exposes landform structure

New alteration simulation outlined using ArcMap for Percent Alteration calculation

Photo verifies simulation and existing conditions

BCTS Dora Initial Design –  
Visual Rehabilitation of  
Horizontal Clear-cuts



BCTS Dora Final Design -  
Visual Rehabilitation of  
Horizontal Clear-cuts

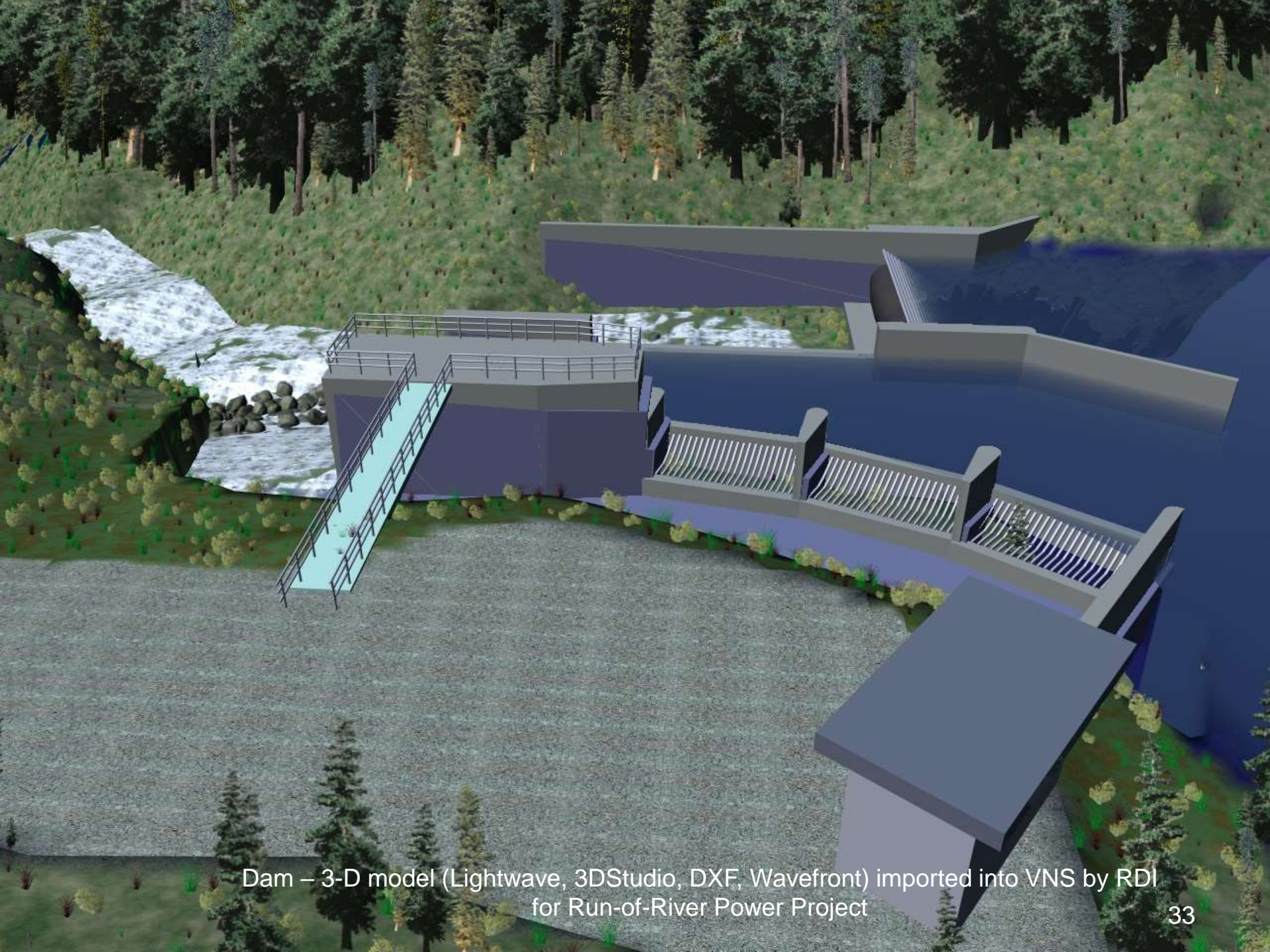


## 3.1 Examples of Simulations



Interfor Corp. Data and Simulation revealing age classes,  
proposed alteration, roads, edge effect, islands, nonVEG, VEG.





Dam – 3-D model (Lightwave, 3DStudio, DXF, Wavefront) imported into VNS by RDI for Run-of-River Power Project



Powerhouse – 3-D model imported into VNS by RDI for Run-of-River Power Project 34

*LiDAR in ArcScene:  
Light Detection And Ranging (sometimes Light Imaging, Detection, And Ranging)  
For comparison with VNS (next slide)*

PR  
6701



Lidar Tree Heights Precise but no “see-through”

Visual Nature Studio Rendering – RDI  
with some “see-through” – to compare with LiDAR (previous slide)

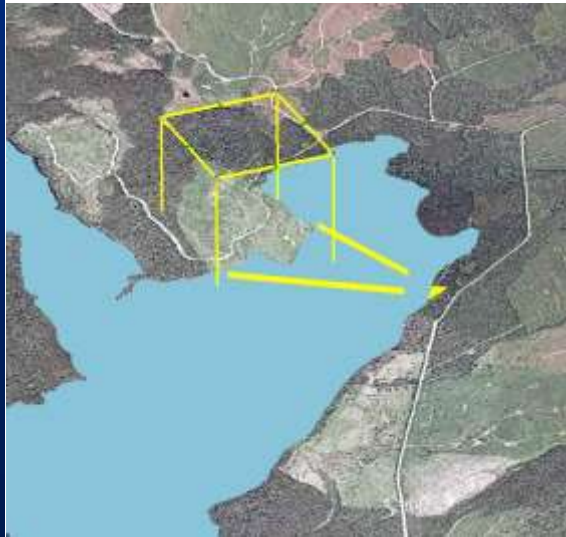


VP5 - 40 DEG FOV- 48 mm lens Simulation (c)

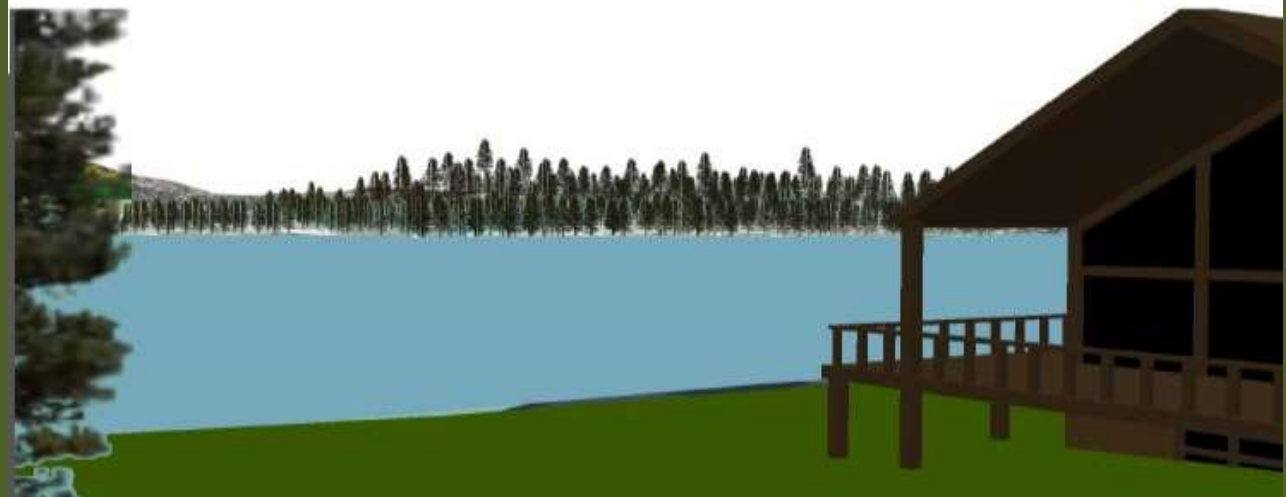


Almanac Consulting  
A student initiative

Visual Quality Assessment of  
Kloch  
Lake Recreation Site and Cabin



Current cabin view facing cut block

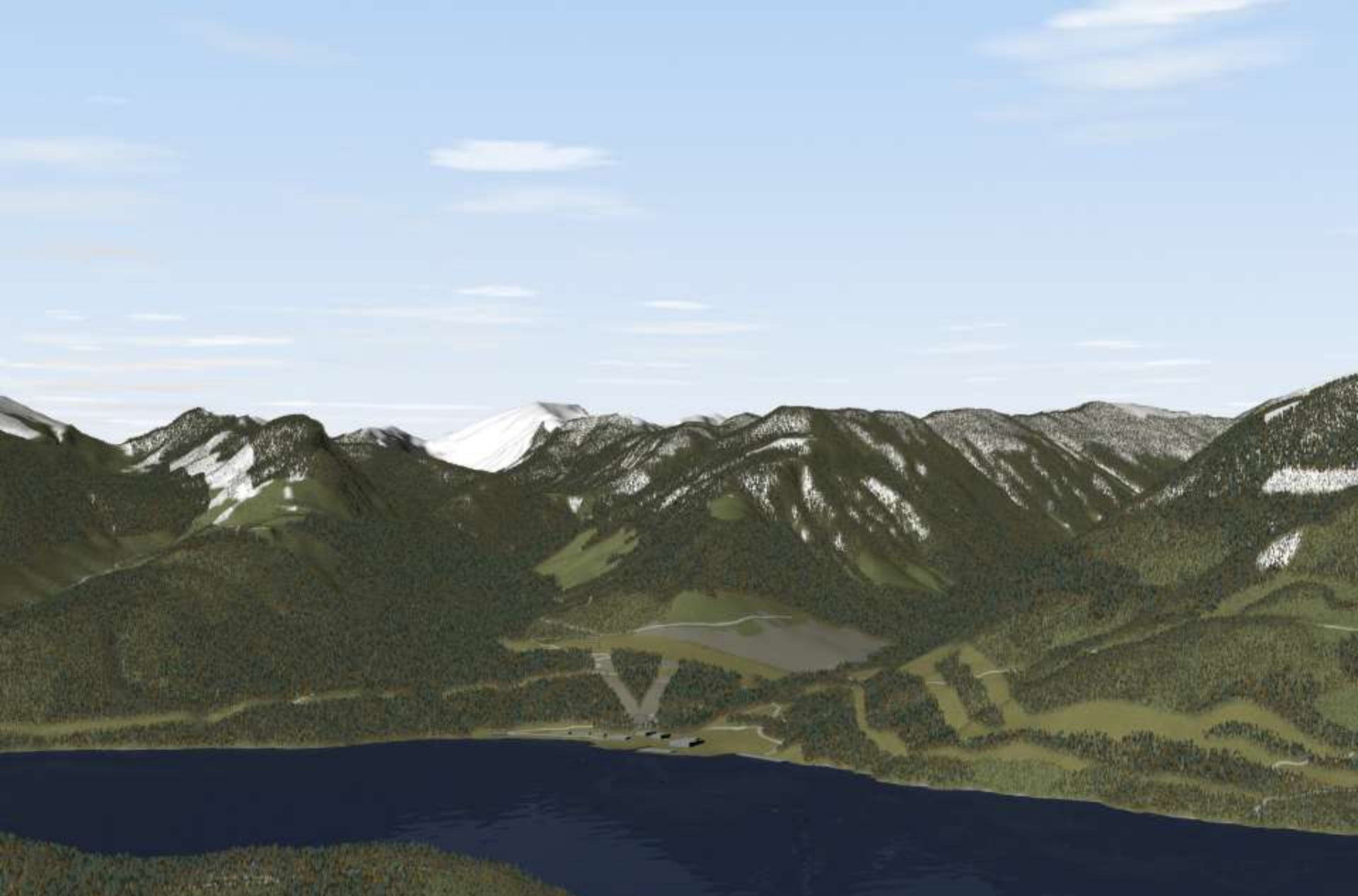


Potential future view in a no harvest/retention scenario

Example of Application of ArcScene with Tree Cover over Draped Ortho-photo  
(FRST 424 Student Project)



Simulation of Proposed Woodfibre LNG Facility single full 3-D Model  
in Photo to compare with VNS next slide – alternate viewpoint  
assessment difficult and expensive  
Source: AMEC 2016



Simulation of Proposed Woodfibre LNG Facility Using VNS by RDI for AMEC 2016 – simple buildings assigned to design footprints. Multiple viewpoints quick and easy compared to single fixed model (previous page).



Transmission line model .dxf in VNS.  
Produced for Northwest Cascade Power by RDI





Wind Turbine Example



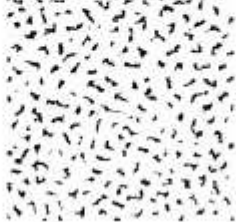
Culliton Bridge Simulation by RDI for BC Highways  
Animated fly-around also produced at 30 frames per second

## Partial Retention Textures in Visual Nature Studio Simulations Trials from Viewpoint 1768

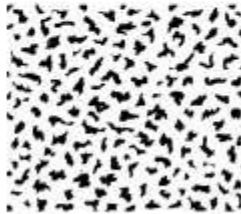
10% hybrid dispersed (of 400 tph)  
plus 10% tiled across the blocks  
applied together with  
10, 20, 30 percent grouped



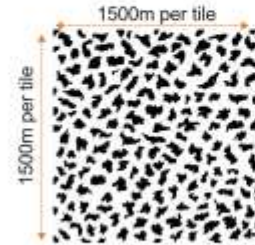
10% grouped retention (of 400 tph)  
tiled across the blocks,  
rotated -20 degrees



20% grouped retention (of 400 tph)  
tiled across the blocks,  
rotated -20 degrees



30% grouped retention (of 400 tph)  
tiled across the blocks,  
rotated -20 degrees



25% fractal-randomized (in VNS)  
dispersed retention (of 400 tph)  
no tiling image used

10% hybrid dispersed (of 400 tph)  
plus 10% tiled across the blocks  
applied together with each of  
10, 20, 30 percent grouped



10% hybrid dispersed (of 400 tph)  
plus 10% tiled across the blocks  
applied together with  
10, 20, 30 percent grouped

20% grouped retention (of 400 tph)  
plus 10% hybrid dispersed tiled  
across the blocks,  
rotated -20 degrees

30% grouped retention (of 400 tph)  
plus 10% hybrid dispersed tiled  
across the blocks,  
rotated -20 degrees

25% fractal-randomized (in VNS)  
dispersed retention (of 400 tph)



10%+10% Hybrid

20%+10% hybrid

30%+10% hybrid

25% Fractal Dispersed

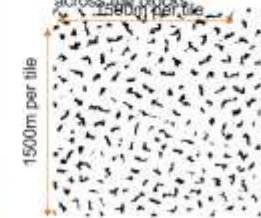


25% Dist.

100 tph (25%)  
fractal-randomized residuals  
across block



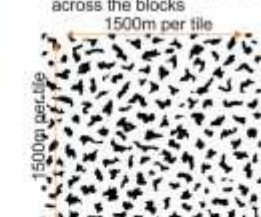
10% grouped retention (of 400 tph)  
plus 10% hybrid dispersed tiled  
across the blocks



10%



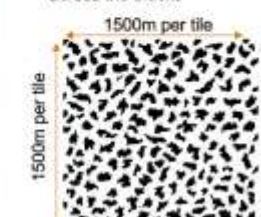
20% grouped retention (of 400 tph)  
plus 10% hybrid dispersed tiled  
across the blocks



20%



30% grouped retention (of 400 tph)  
plus 10% hybrid dispersed tiled  
across the blocks

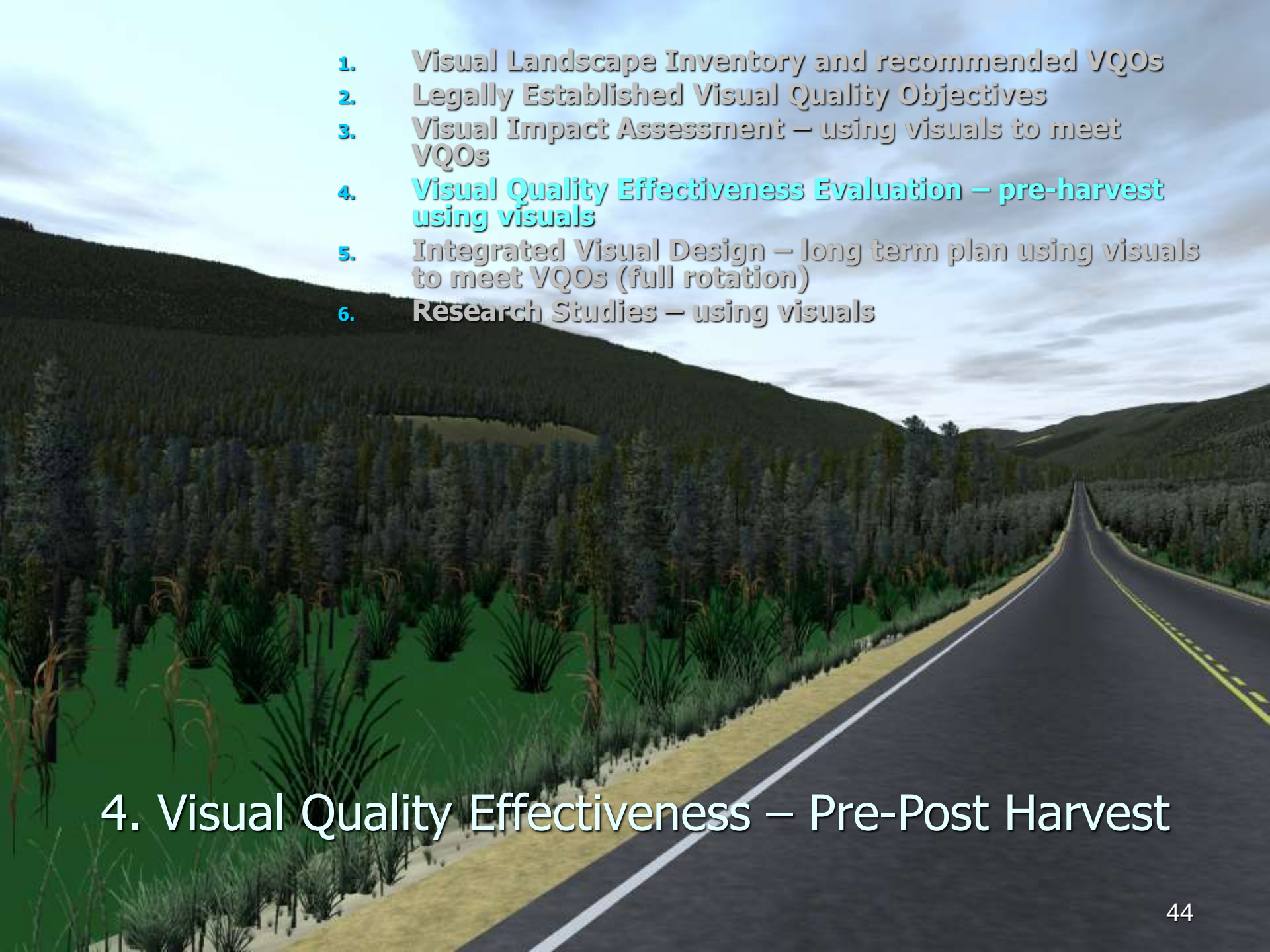


30%

no shadows, understory or ground cover

1768

8

- 
1. Visual Landscape Inventory and recommended VQOs
  2. Legally Established Visual Quality Objectives
  3. Visual Impact Assessment – using visuals to meet VQOs
  4. Visual Quality Effectiveness Evaluation – pre-harvest using visuals
  5. Integrated Visual Design – long term plan using visuals to meet VQOs (full rotation)
  6. Research Studies – using visuals

## 4. Visual Quality Effectiveness – Pre-Post Harvest



## 4. Forest and Range Evaluation Program – Visual Quality Monitoring Post-harvest

Have objectives been met across operation ?

How are views in scenic areas being effectively managed?

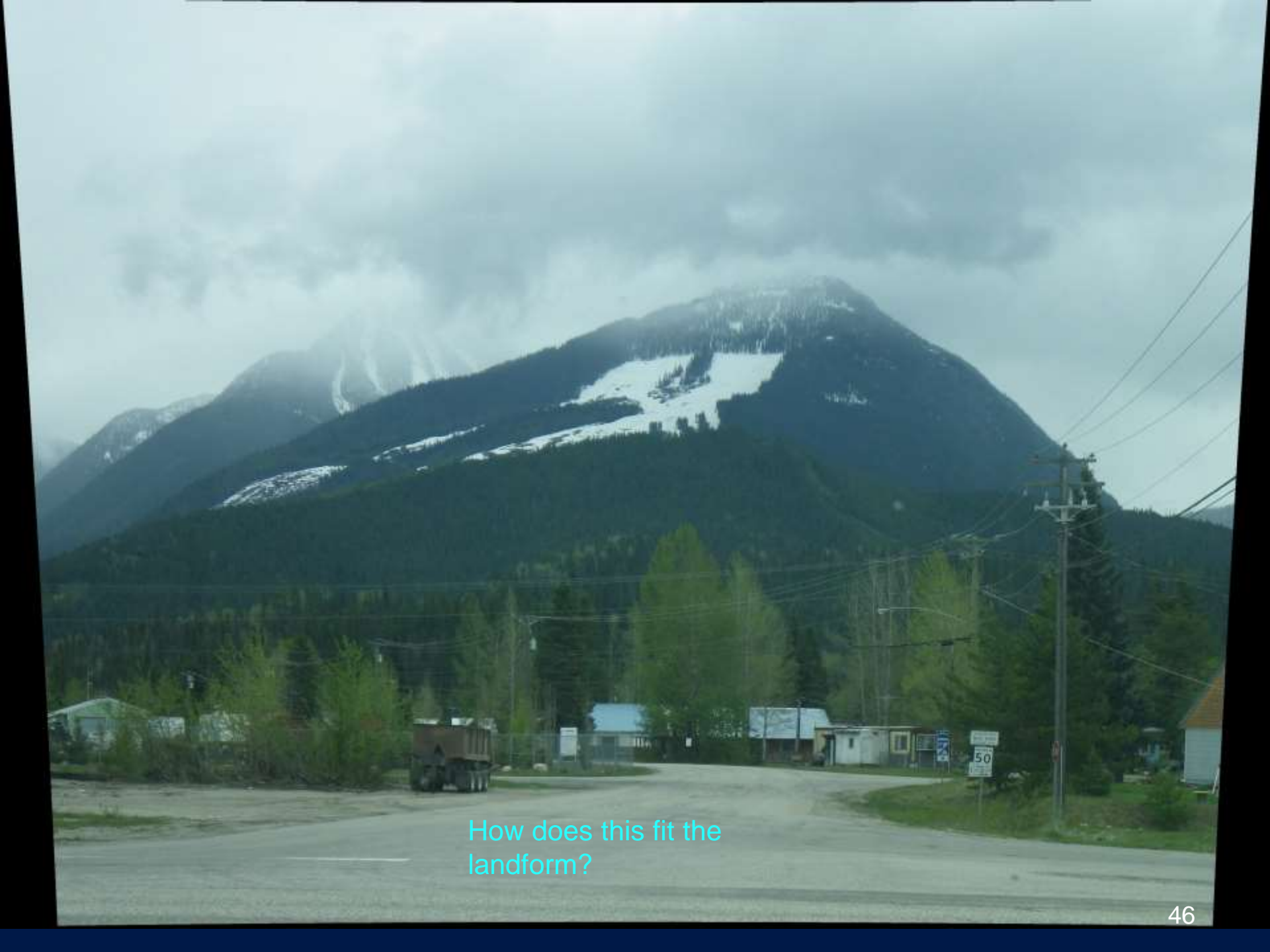
How are visual quality objectives being effectively managed?

Can raise or lower adjusted percent alteration to determine if Effectiveness is met, partly met, or not met (see form on next slide).

A similar form is used by Natural Resource Officers of the Compliance and Enforcement Branch to investigate possible failures to meet the prescribed Visual Quality Objectives. The Officers have the authority to enforce a broad range of environmental and natural resource laws and administer administrative remedies.

Used also to inform pre-harvest assessment by RDI (a level playing field).

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/integrated-resource-monitoring/forest-range-evaluation-program/frep-monitoring-protocols/visual-quality>



How does this fit the landform?

**2.1.2 Site Information (Office)**

Forest District \_\_\_\_\_ Sample Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Licensee \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Field Evaluation: MON 2008/04/15  
 Licence No. \_\_\_\_\_ CP No. \_\_\_\_\_ Block \_\_\_\_\_  
 General Location \_\_\_\_\_ Results Opening ID \_\_\_\_\_

**2.1.3 VQI Information (Office)**

Date of Update: 10/04/2008 VQC \_\_\_\_\_ Established VQC \_\_\_\_\_  
 Polygon No. \_\_\_\_\_ VSC \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Establishment: 15/04/2008  
 EVC \_\_\_\_\_ Recommended VQC \_\_\_\_\_ Source Document \_\_\_\_\_

**2.2.1 Viewpoint (Field)**

Viewpoint No. \_\_\_\_\_ GPS Latitude \_\_\_\_\_ Viewing Direction \_\_\_\_\_  
 GPS Longitude \_\_\_\_\_ Elevation (m) \_\_\_\_\_ Viewing Distance \_\_\_\_\_

**2.2.2 Photography (Field)**

Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_ ID No. \_\_\_\_\_ Viewpoint Importance (1-5) \_\_\_\_\_ Field of View Width (degrees) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Digital Photo ID No. \_\_\_\_\_ Viewpoint Description \_\_\_\_\_ Field of View Height (degrees) \_\_\_\_\_

**2.2.3 Assess Basic VQC (Field)**

Alterations meet with Basic VQC definition? Circle where in the range for that VQC. Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Basic VQC: P R M MM

**2.2.4 Design Observations (Field)**

Design Elements	G (-)	M (0)	P (+)
Response to visual form lines			
Borrow from natural character			
Edge treatments incorporated			
Distance from the viewpoint			
Position on the landform			
<b>Total Design:</b>			

**2.3.4 Partial Cut Alterations**

Partial cutting: % removed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Average tree height (m): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clearcut equivalent: \_\_\_\_\_ % alteration as read from Table 4.  
 Record this value on line 2.3.2 e.

**2.3.2 Assess Initial VQC (Office)**

a) % of landform altered by recent openings \_\_\_\_\_  
 b) % of landform with site disturbance outside openings \_\_\_\_\_  
 c) % non veg contribute of old openings \_\_\_\_\_  
 $X = (a+b+c) =$  \_\_\_\_\_ % alteration. Initial VQC \_\_\_\_\_

**2.3.3 Assess Adjusted VQC (Office)**

i) Impact of roads, side cast, etc. (within openings) \_\_\_\_\_  
 None  Subordinate  Significant  Dominant (Adj. Factor) \_\_\_\_\_  
 j) Tree retention: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Good  Moderate  Poor (Adj. Factor) \_\_\_\_\_  
 k) Design (enter total from 2.2.4 above) (Adj. Factor) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total adjustment:  $Y = (i+j+k)$  \_\_\_\_\_ Adj. Total \_\_\_\_\_  
 Calculate adjusted % alteration:  $X' = (1+Y)X$  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Adjusted VQC: P R M MM  
 Adjusted % alt: 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50

**2.3.6 Determining EE Rating for the Landform by Comparing Basic VQC with Adjusted VQC (Office)**

1  **Clearly not met** (Neither method indicates VQC achievement, both are far from class boundary)  
 2  **Not met** (Neither method indicates VQC achievement, but both are close to class boundary)  
 3  **Borderline** (One method indicates VQC achievement, one does not)  
 4  **Met** (Both methods indicate VQC achievement, but one or both are close to the high end "maximum" % alteration limit.)  
 5  **Well met** (Both methods indicate VQC achievement and are on the lower % alteration limit or in-range for the class)

**2.3.7 Allowance for Over-ride**

Over-ride EE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reason for over-ride: \_\_\_\_\_

FS1252 2008/04

**2.2.2 Viewpoint Importance**

(1) glimpse view, less than 10 seconds  
 (2) sustained side view  
 (3) sustained focal view, travelling toward the alteration for more than one minute  
 (4) viewpoint is at a rest stop, campsite, or other static short-term view location  
 (5) viewpoint is the location of a community, commercial/business-related enterprise, or other static long-term view location

**2.2.3 Table 1 – Definitions of Visual Quality Classes**

Visual Quality Class Symbol	Basic Definition
<b>Preservation (P)</b>	"preservation" means an alteration of a forest landscape resulting from the presence of cutblocks or roads, such that when assessed from a viewpoint that is representative of significant public viewing opportunities, the alteration: (a) is very small in scale, and (b) is designed to be indistinguishable from the pre-altered landscape.
<b>Retention (R)</b>	"retention" means an alteration of a forest landscape resulting from the presence of cutblocks or roads, such that when assessed from a viewpoint that is representative of significant public viewing opportunities, the alteration: (a) is difficult to see, (b) is small in scale, and (c) has a design that appears natural or blends natural occurrences.
<b>Partial Retention (PR)</b>	"partial retention" means an alteration of a forest landscape resulting from the presence of cutblocks or roads, such that, when assessed from a viewpoint that is representative of significant public viewing opportunities, the alteration: (a) is easy to see, (b) is small to moderate in scale, and (c) has a design that appears natural and is not angular or geometric.
<b>Modification (M)</b>	"modification" means an alteration of a forest landscape resulting from the presence of cutblocks or roads, such that, when assessed from a viewpoint that is representative of significant public viewing opportunities, the alteration is very easy to see and is either: (a) large in scale with a design that is natural in its appearance, or (b) small to moderate in scale but with a design that has some angular characteristics.
<b>Maximum Modification (MM)</b>	"maximum modification" means an alteration of a forest landscape resulting from the presence of cutblocks or roads, such that, when assessed from a viewpoint that is representative of significant public viewing opportunities, the alteration is extremely easy to see and one or both of the following apply: (a) the alteration is very large in scale, or (b) the alteration is angular and geometric.

**2.2.4 Table 2 – Design Observations (Field)**

Design Elements	Good (-)	Moderate (0)	Poor (+)
1. Response to Major Lines of Form	Strong	Fine (see Note)	Weak or No Response
2. Borrowing from Natural Character	Fully	Partially	Isolated or Not at All
3. Incorporating Edge Treatment	Fluently and Irregular	Stiffly Fluently or Irregular	Stiffly Rigidly
4. Distance between Alteration and Viewpoint	> 300	> 150 < 300	< 150
5. Position of Opening on the Landform	Upper Slope & % (not flat)	Good Opening over Contour	High on the Landform or Large over Contour

**2.2.4 Table 3 – Percent Alteration Ranges for Visual Quality Classes**

Visual Quality Class	Alteration percent of landform in perspective view
P – Preservation	0
R – Retention	0 – 1.5
PR – Partial Retention	1.6 – 7.0
M – Modification	7.1 – 18.0
MM – Maximum Modification	18.1 – 30.0

**2.3.4 Table 4 – Visual Equivalent to Clearcut Percent Alteration Factors for Partial Cut Alterations**

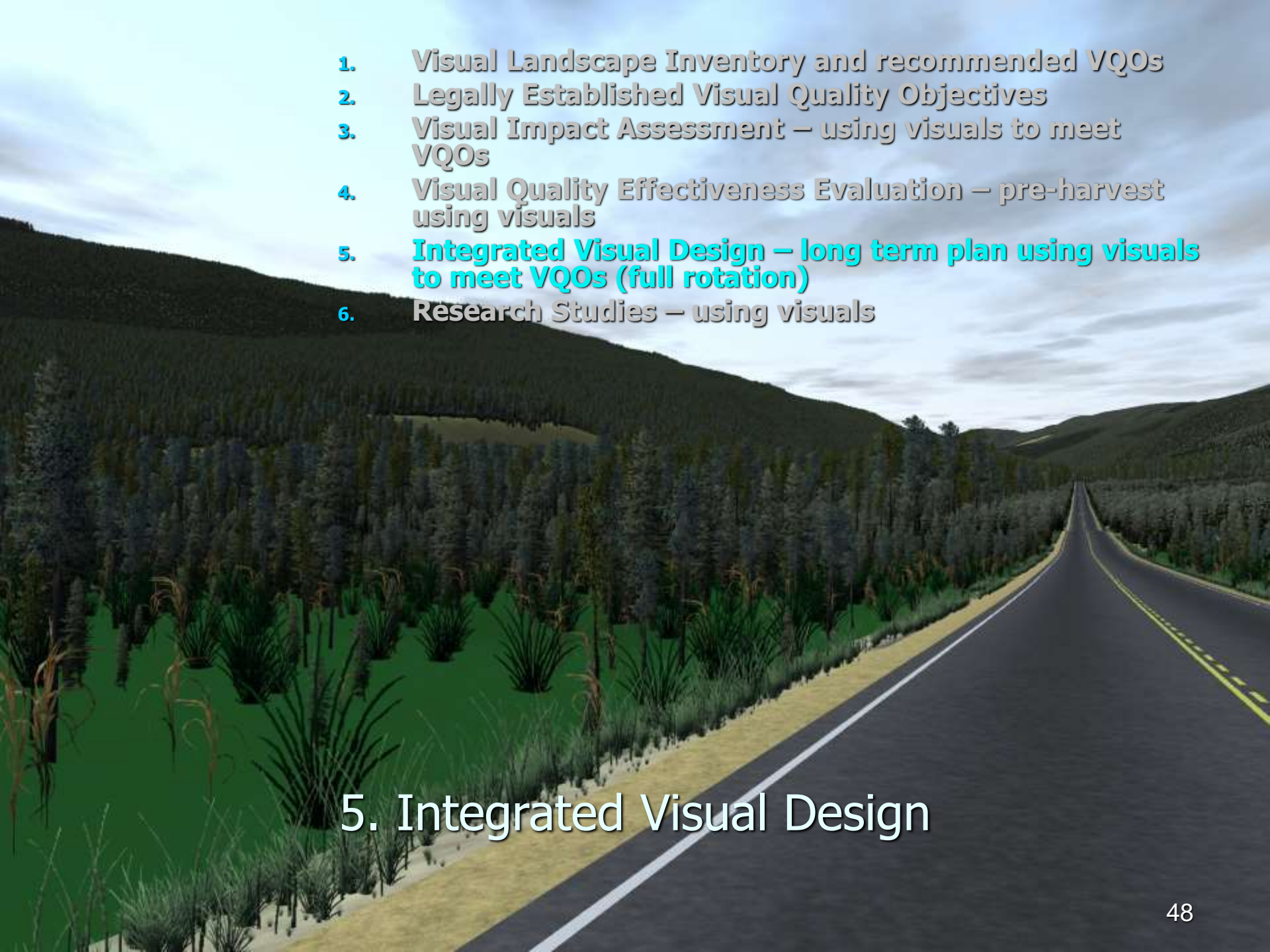
Mean height (m) of residual trees	Mean height (m) of residual trees									
	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
10	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.6	2.2
20	0.3	0.4	0.7	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.8	2.2	3.0	4.4
30	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.4	2.0	2.4	3.3	4.2	5.5	8.5
40	1.2	1.4	2.0	2.4	3.4	4.3	5.2	6.1	8.7	12.6
50	1.8	2.3	3.4	4.3	5.2	6.3	8.8	10.7	14.0	19.0
60	3.5	4.4	5.9	6.7	7.7	8.4	10.2	12.0	15.6	21.6
70	4.9	5.9	8.5	9.7	10.4	12.0	15.0	17.4	22.7	30.9
80	6.0	6.8	9.8	11.0	11.9	13.9	17.0	19.4	25.0	33.6
90	8.8	10.0	13.8	15.0	15.9	18.0	22.0	25.0	31.0	41.0

**2.3.3 Adjustment Factors**

c) Roads: 0 = None  
 1 = Subordinate  
 2 = Significant  
 3 = Dominant  
 d) Tree Retention: -2 = Good = 33%  
 0 = Poor = 15%  
 e) Design: Record Total from 2.2.4

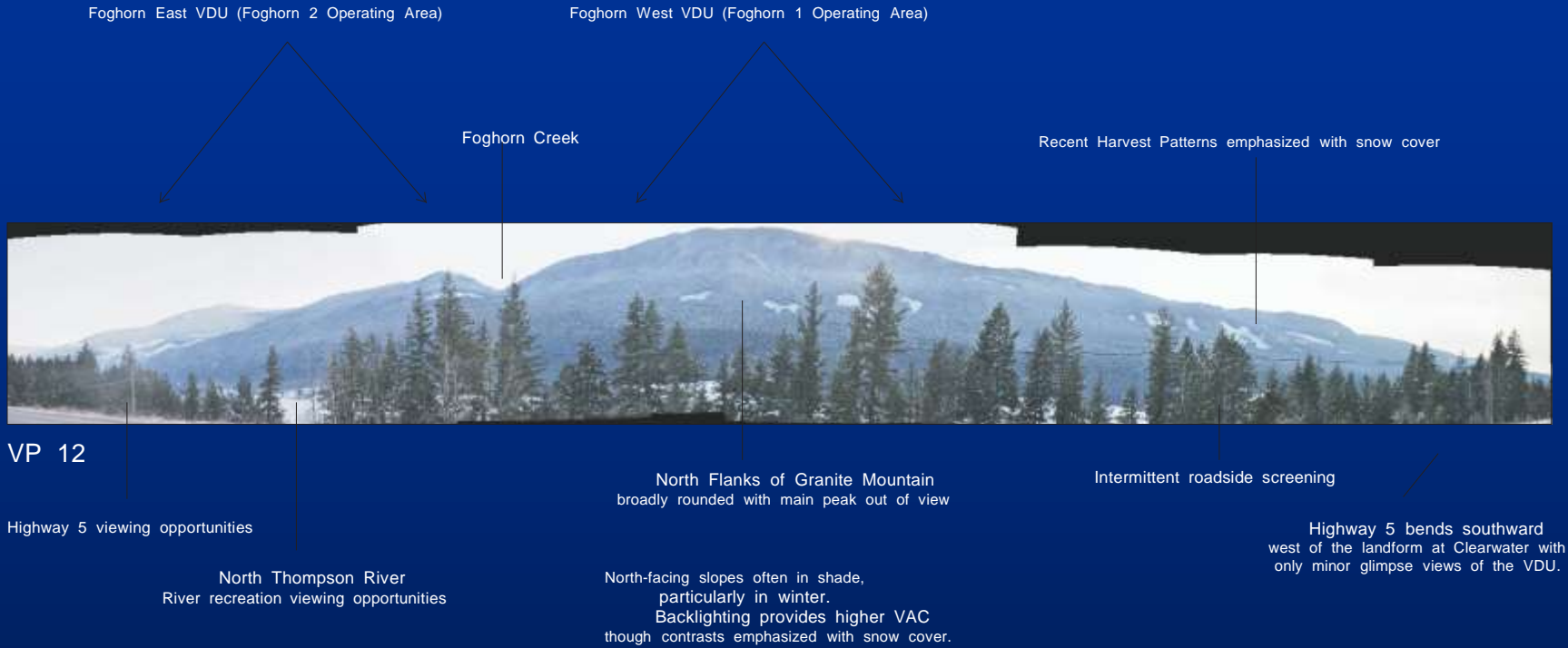
FS1252 2008/04

Visual Quality Effectiveness Evaluation Protocol

- 
1. Visual Landscape Inventory and recommended VQOs
  2. Legally Established Visual Quality Objectives
  3. Visual Impact Assessment – using visuals to meet VQOs
  4. Visual Quality Effectiveness Evaluation – pre-harvest using visuals
  5. **Integrated Visual Design – long term plan using visuals to meet VQOs (full rotation)**
  6. Research Studies – using visuals

## 5. Integrated Visual Design

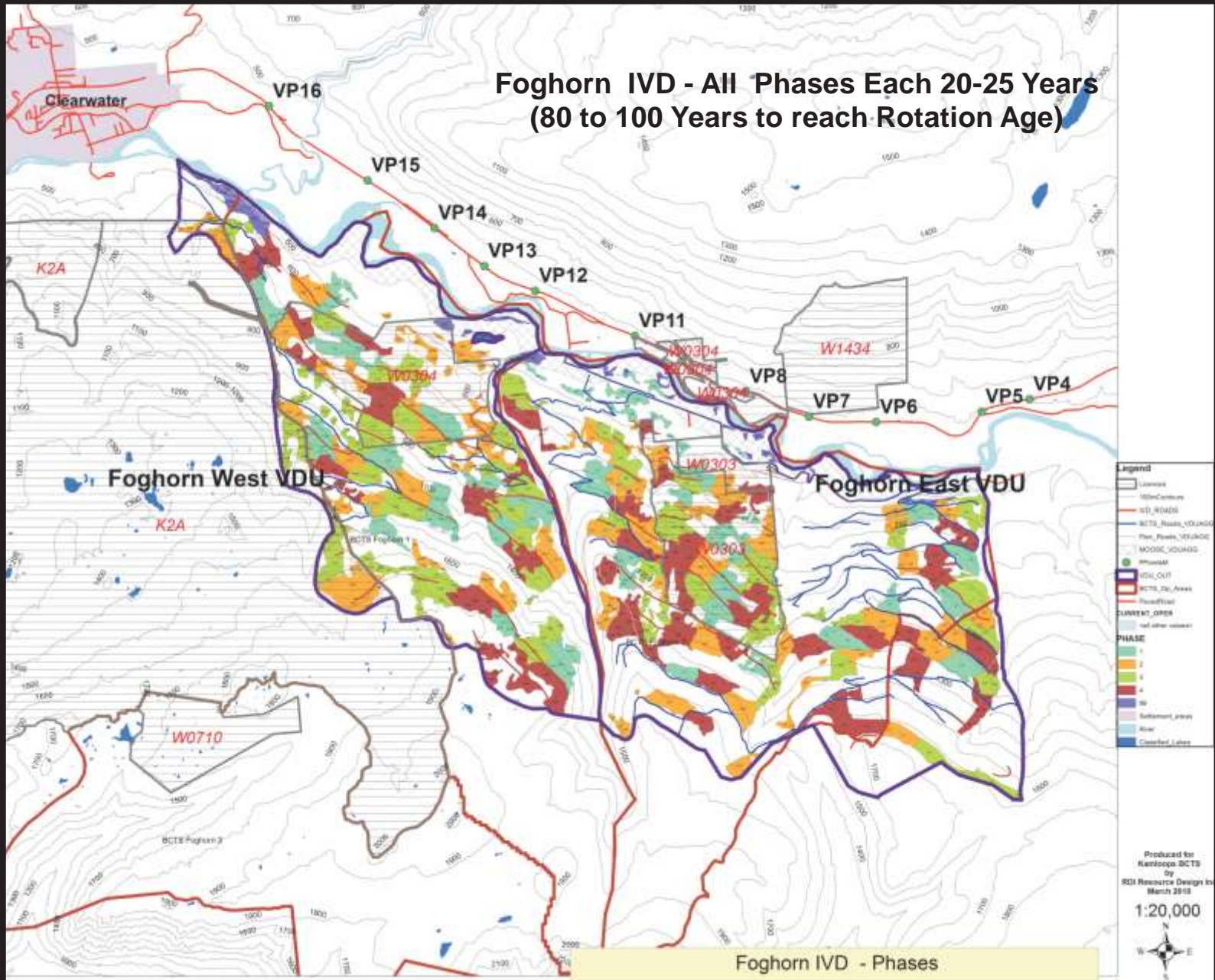




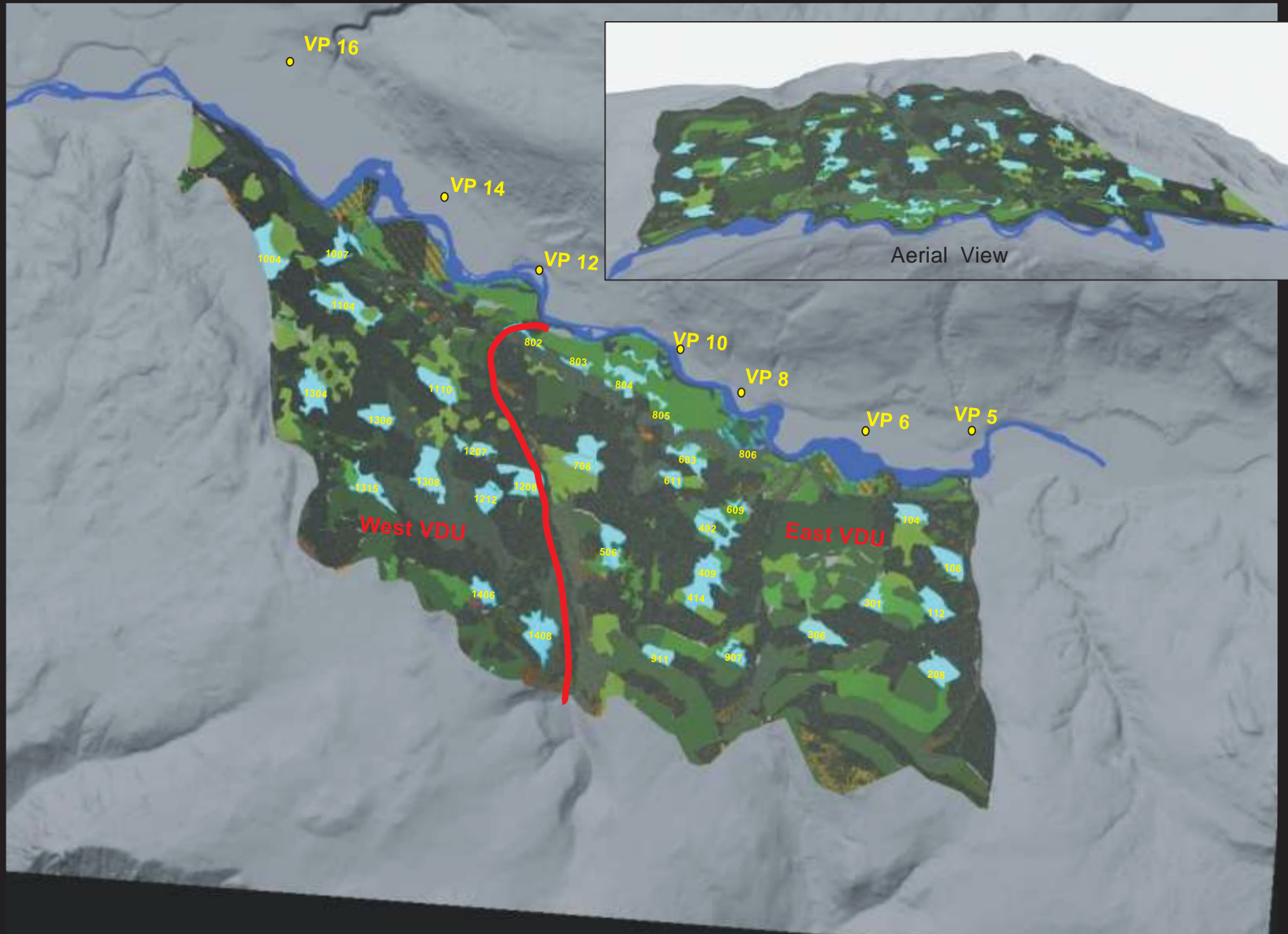
Integrated Visual Design – Full Rotation Planning BCTS Foghorn Example by RDI



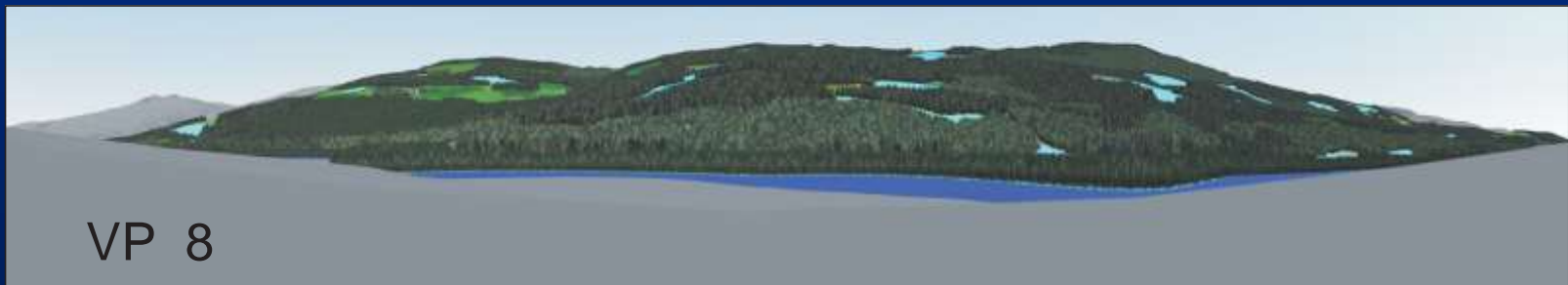
# Foghorn IVD - All Phases Each 20-25 Years (80 to 100 Years to reach Rotation Age)



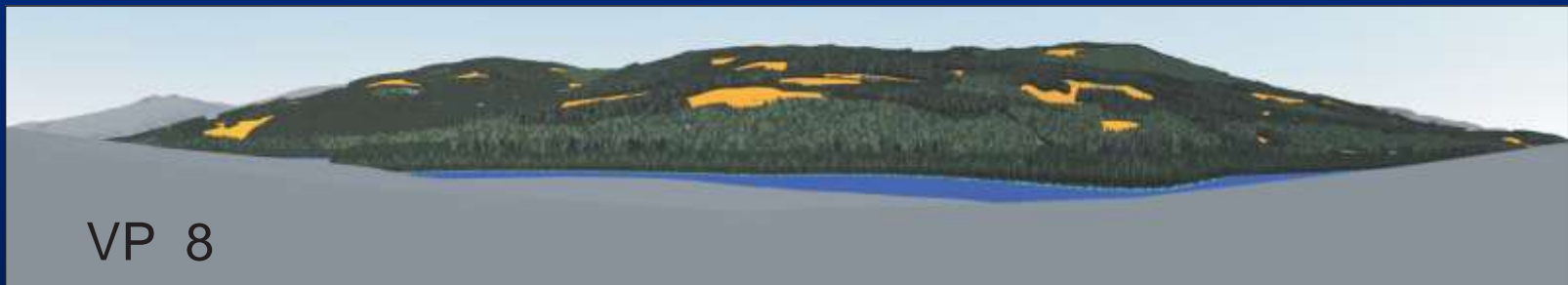
Foghorn IVD - Phases



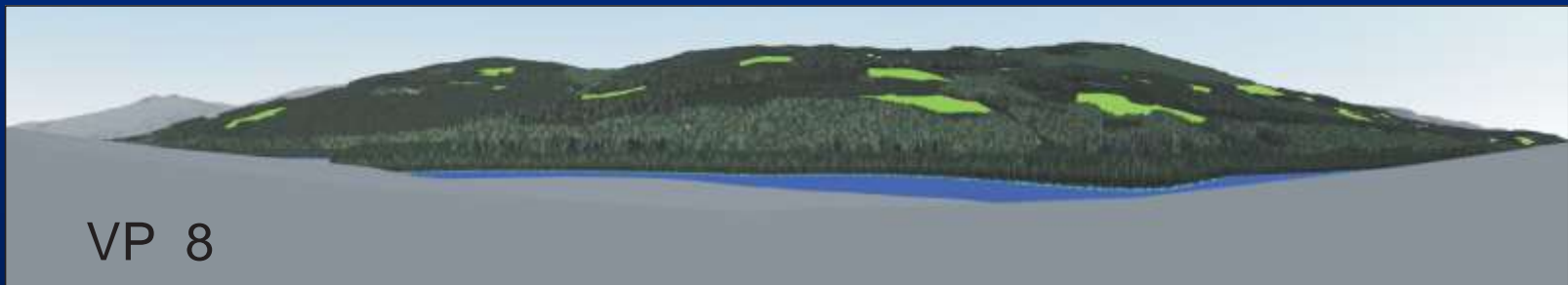
# Foghorn IVD Phase 1



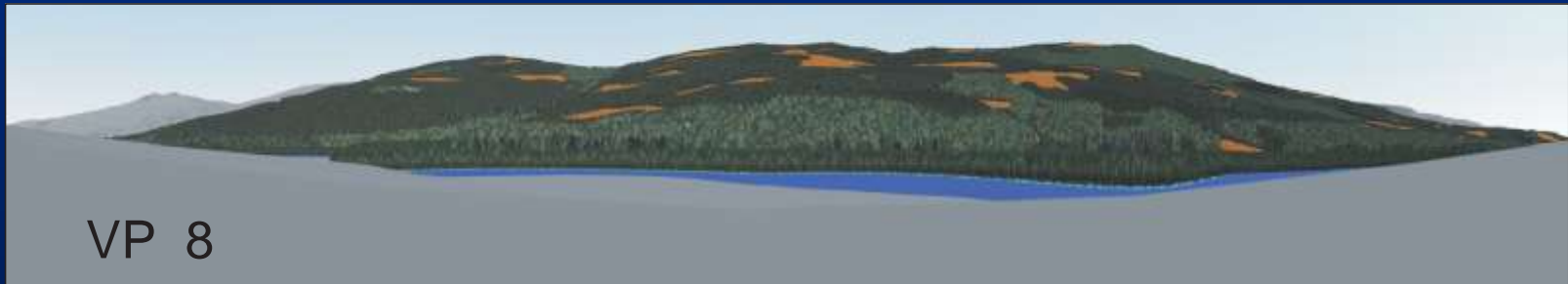
**Foghorn IVD Phase 1 – 222,561 m<sup>3</sup> – 663 ha**



**Foghorn IVD Phase 2 – 298,011 m<sup>3</sup> – 856 ha**



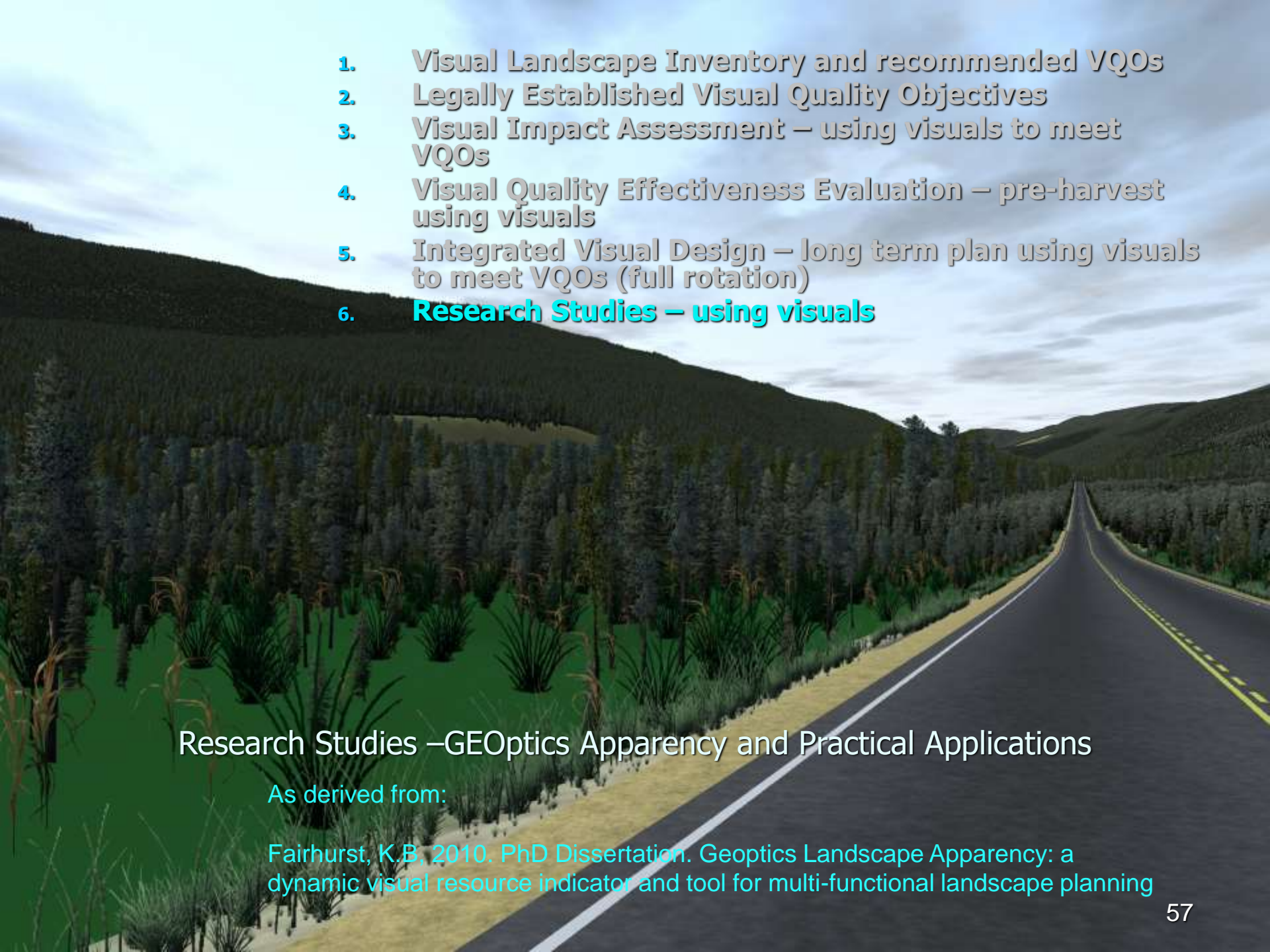
**Foghorn IVD Phase 3 – 316,514 m<sup>3</sup> – 912 ha**



**Foghorn IVD Phase 4 – 298, 267 m<sup>3</sup> – 880 ha**

Cumulative Total over 80 Years – 1,135,353 m<sup>3</sup>



- 
1. Visual Landscape Inventory and recommended VQOs
  2. Legally Established Visual Quality Objectives
  3. Visual Impact Assessment – using visuals to meet VQOs
  4. Visual Quality Effectiveness Evaluation – pre-harvest using visuals
  5. Integrated Visual Design – long term plan using visuals to meet VQOs (full rotation)
  6. **Research Studies – using visuals**

## Research Studies –GEOptics Apparency and Practical Applications

As derived from:

Fairhurst, K.B. 2010. PhD Dissertation. Geoptics Landscape Apparency: a dynamic visual resource indicator and tool for multi-functional landscape planning

# ***"Improving the worth of one or more key components of an EVA"***

*Expert visual assessment systems must be assessed for their worth in a variety of measures – sensitivity, reliability, validity and utility....unless an assessment method is sensitive and reliable, it can not achieve an acceptable level of validity" (Daniel and Vining '83).*

## ■ Internally:

- **Reliability** – agreement or consistency (precision/accuracy)
- **Sensitivity** – method is sensitive to changes
- **Validity** – measures what the system purports to measure
- **Utility** – efficiency and generality

## ■ Externally:

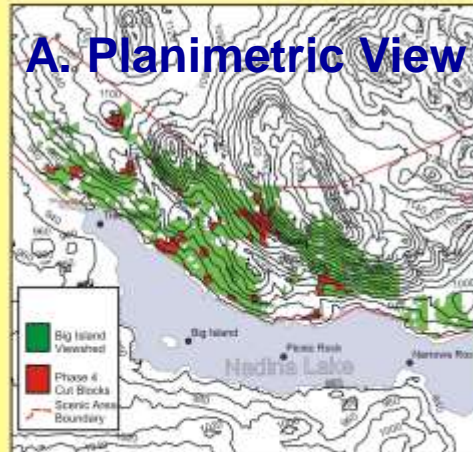
- **Advancement** – inventory, planning and design
- **Utility** – familiar programs, quick, easy, interest to do so
- **Adaptability** – programs, systems
- **Compatibility** – existing systems - ArcGIS
- **Generality** – jurisdictions, applications

# Plan-to-Perspective (P2P) Ratio



**B. Perspective View**

B) Nadina Lake - Big Island Perspective Viewshed  
Phase 4 Cut Blocks outlined in yellow - 3% alteration



**A. Planimetric View**

A) Nadina Lake Big Island Viewshed Plan View  
Phase 4 Cut Blocks in Red  
15% Planimetric Percent Alteration

## Percent Alteration Calculation

### A) Plan View: 15%

Big Island viewshed plan area = 495.6 ha.  
Big Island viewshed Phase 4 alteration = 73.8 ha  
Planimetric percent alteration:  $73.8/495.6 = 15\%$ .

### B) Perspective View: 3%

Big Island viewshed perspective area = 3,621,481 units<sup>2</sup>  
Phase 4 perspective alteration in viewshed = 118,195 units<sup>2</sup>  
Perspective percent alteration:  $118195/3621481 = 3.3\%$ .

### C) Plan-to-Perspective Ratio: 5:1

Big Island Viewshed plan to perspective area = 495.6 ha.  
Big Island Viewshed Phase 4 alteration  
Plan-to-Perspective Ratio =  $15\%/3\% = 5:1$

(Numbers rounded for demonstration purposes)

**P2P ratio = A/B (in percent)**

**Current Predicted Plan to Perspective Ratios for slopes 0% - 70%  
for all visual designs (FLNRO 2003).**

<b>Slope</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>70%+</b>
<b>P2P</b>	<b>4.68</b>	<b>3.77</b>	<b>3.04</b>	<b>2.45</b>	<b>1.98</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>1.29</b>	<b>1.04</b>

The results were used to adjust the P2Ps used in timber supply review (FLNRO 2003). The standard is 2:1.

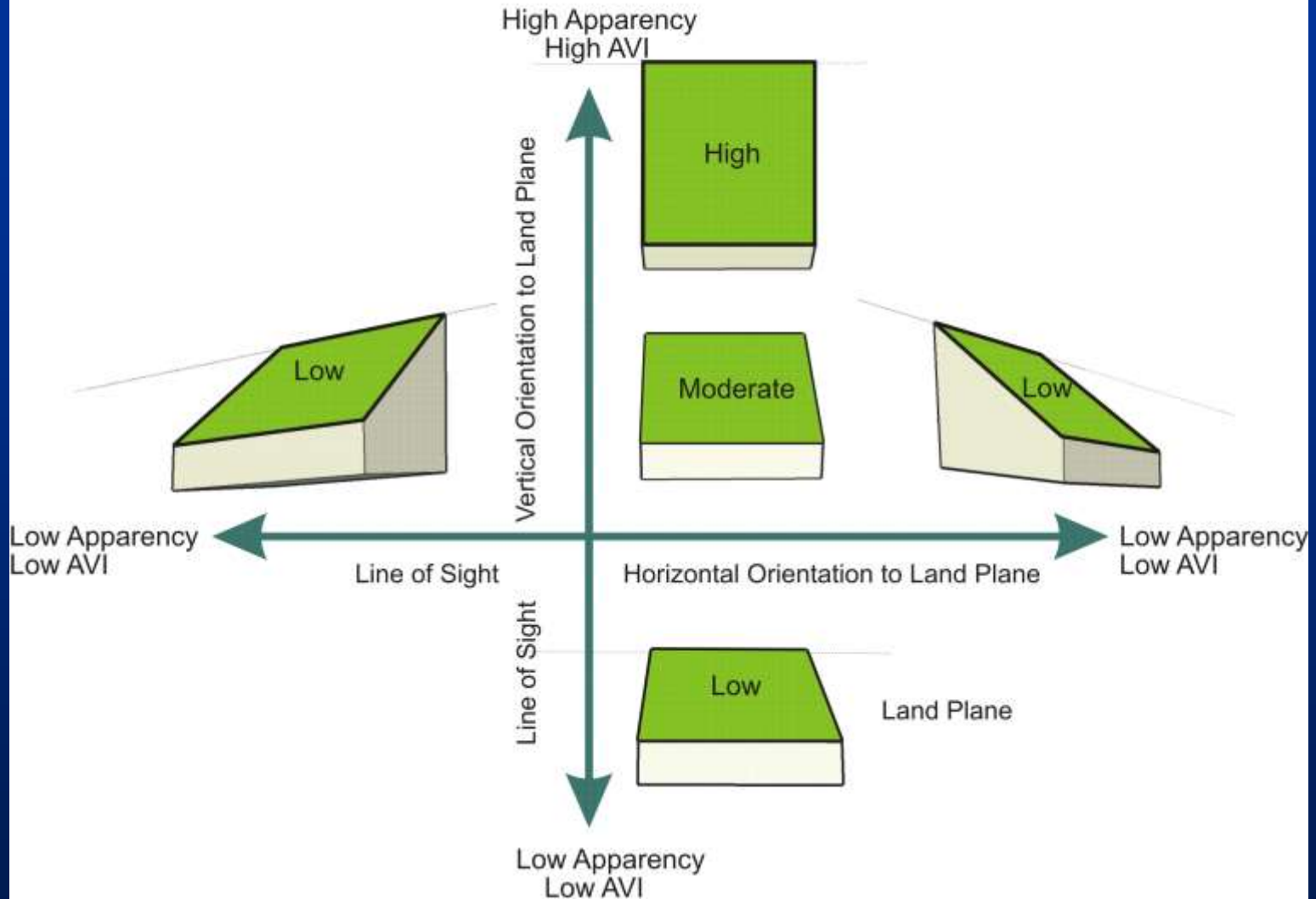
Problem: topographic slopes may be very different from perceived slopes due to apparency (AVI)

# Multiple/Moving Viewpoints – Changing Perspectives

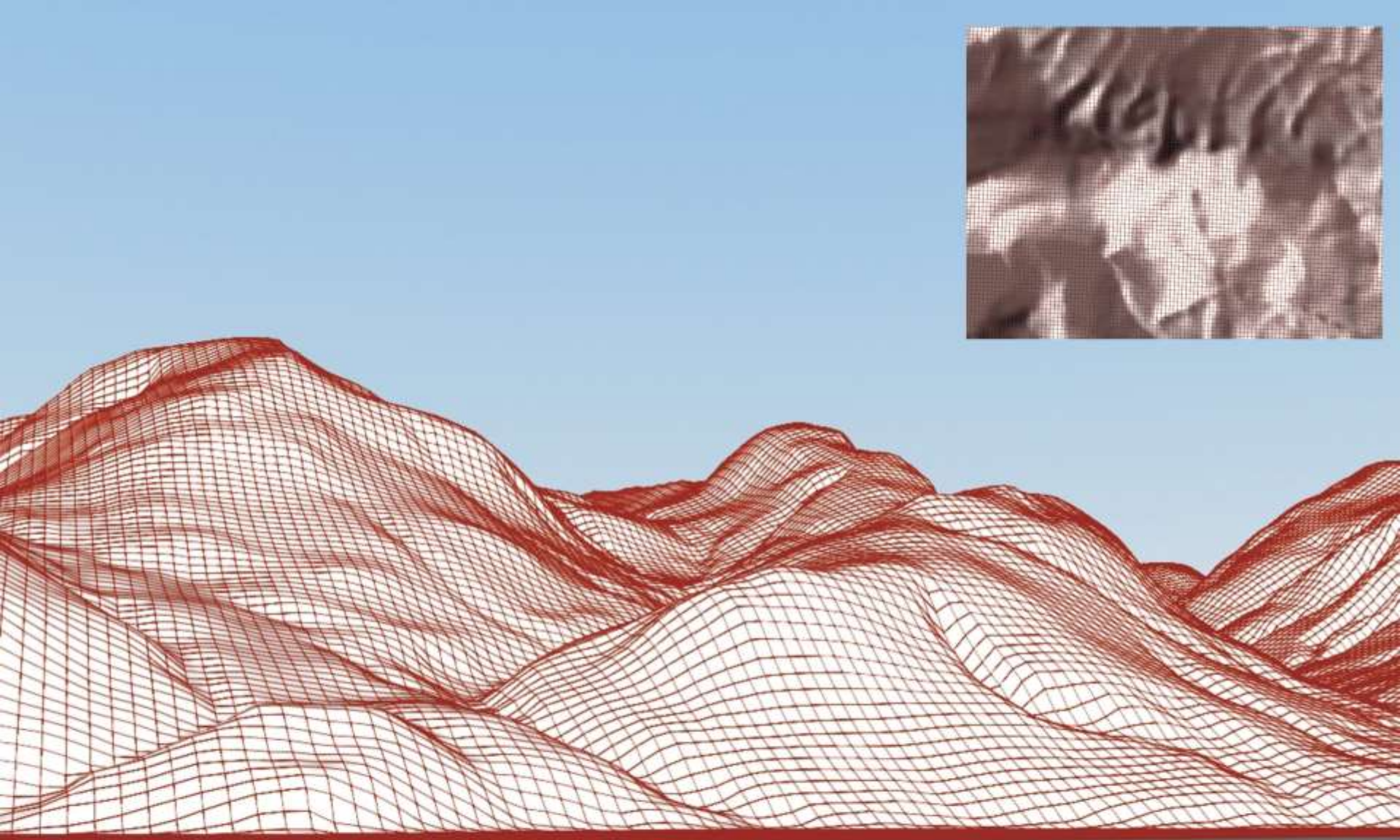


Pryce Channel - Left to Right Views

## Apparency is Influenced by AVI



**Angle of Visual Incidence (AVI) is *the angle between the sight line and the land plane at the point of incidence.***



**Angle of visual incidence and apparency affect the scale and shape of individual land planes relative to the viewpoint. Inset shows the planimetric pattern of 25 metre grid cells.**

## **GEOptics Landscape Apparency:**

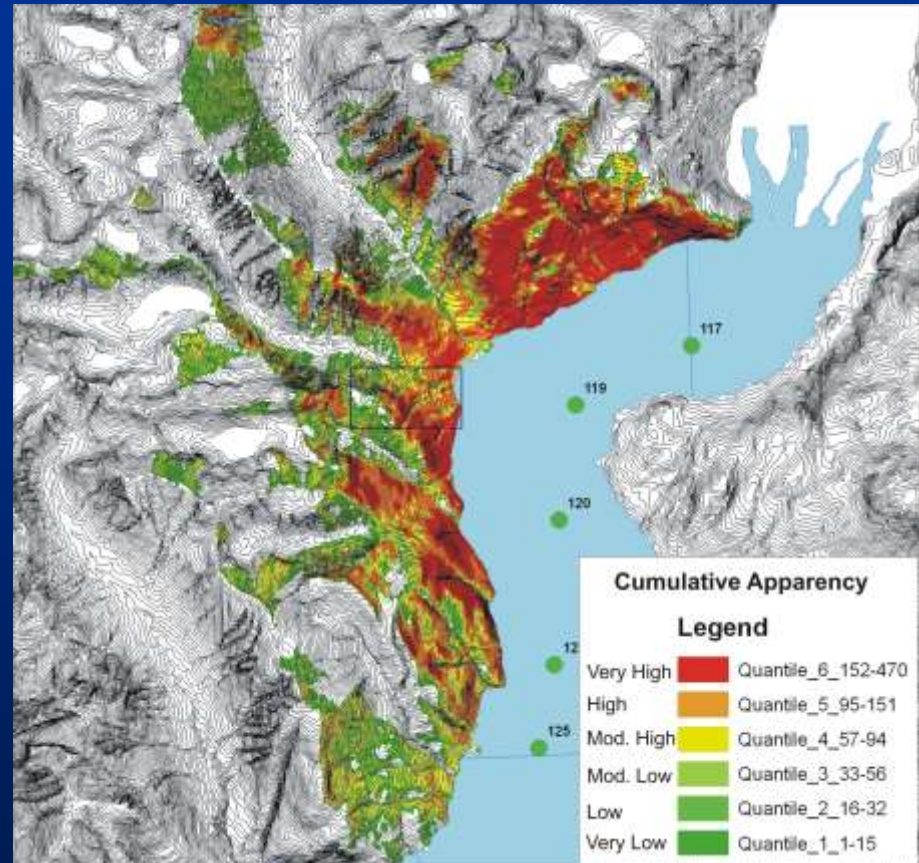
*A quantified **visual risk  
indicator and tool...***

*capturing the **dynamic  
interaction...***

*between the **viewer and  
the landscape...***

*as determined from an  
**array of viewpoints...***

*within a **digital 3-D terrain  
environment.***



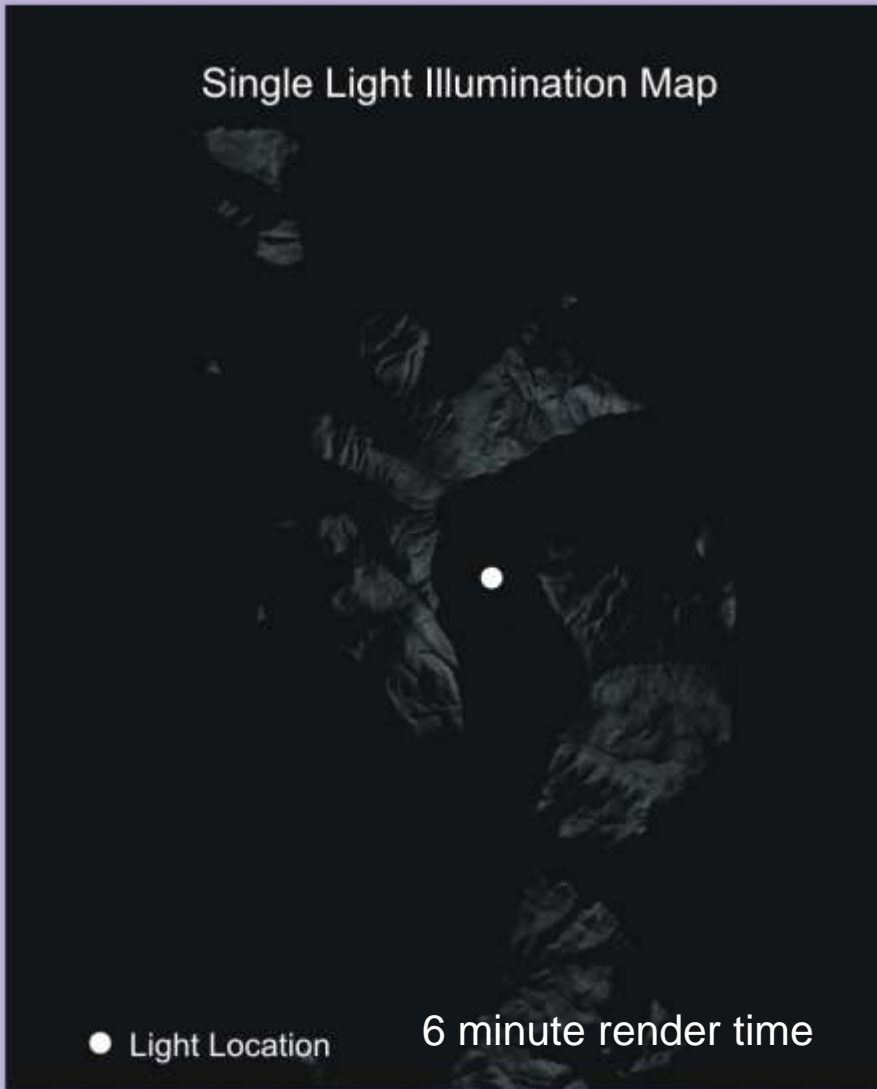
**Cumulative Apparency Map Example**

**Requires both ArcMap and VNS**

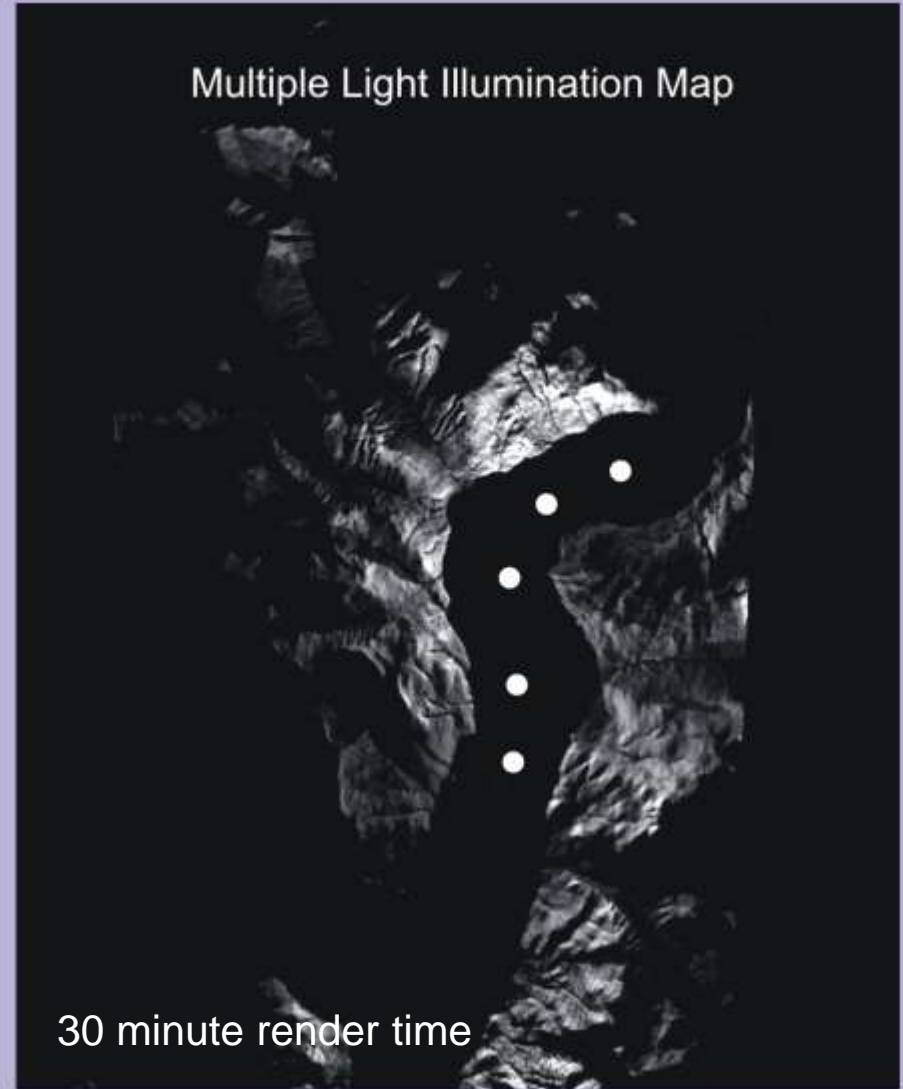


## Howe Sound VNS Model

Single Light Illumination Map



Multiple Light Illumination Map



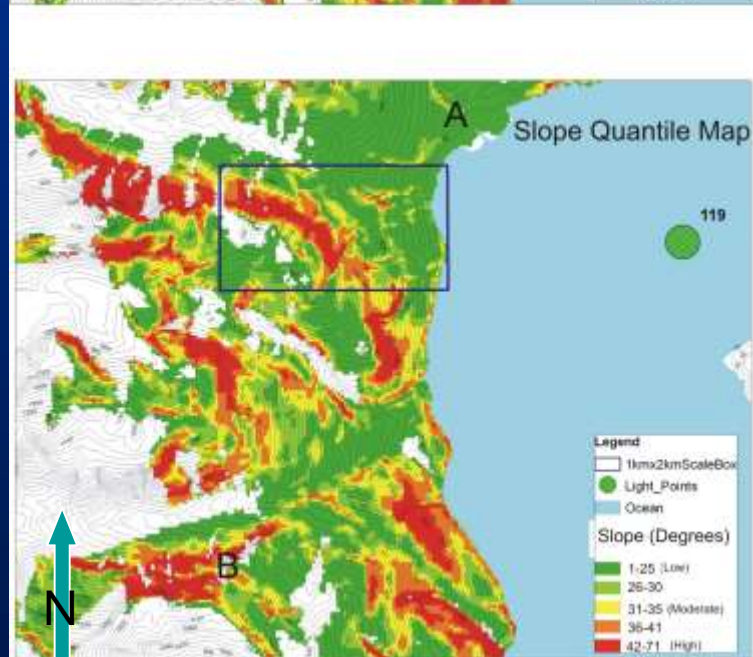
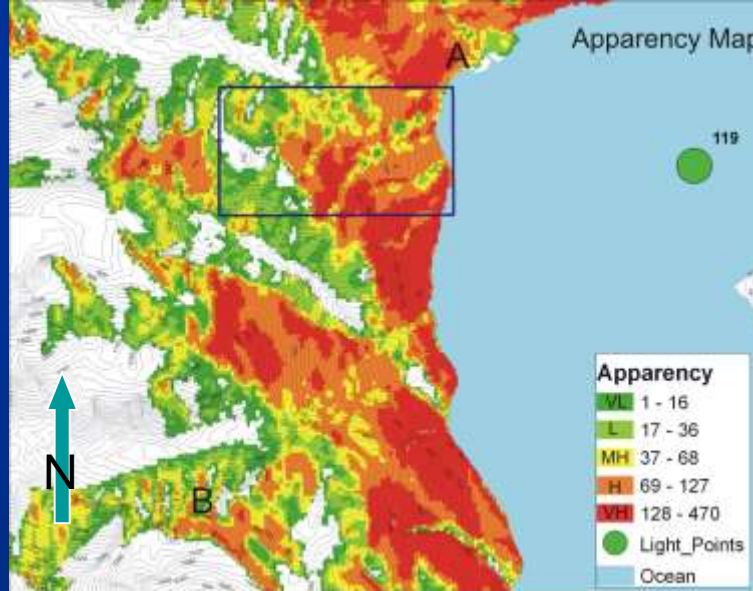
**Apparency is determined from the intensity of illumination (reflected light) from each land plane in a digital terrain model. Light is reflected equally in all directions allowing measurements in plan view**

Slope is a coarsely-rated (3-class) BCMOFR VAC factor and a moderator of VQO percent alteration in Timber Supply

*“a crude axiom may be suggested:*

*the steeper the slope, the greater the potential for visual vulnerability.”*

*Litton '73*



## Apparency Map

5 equal area quantiles

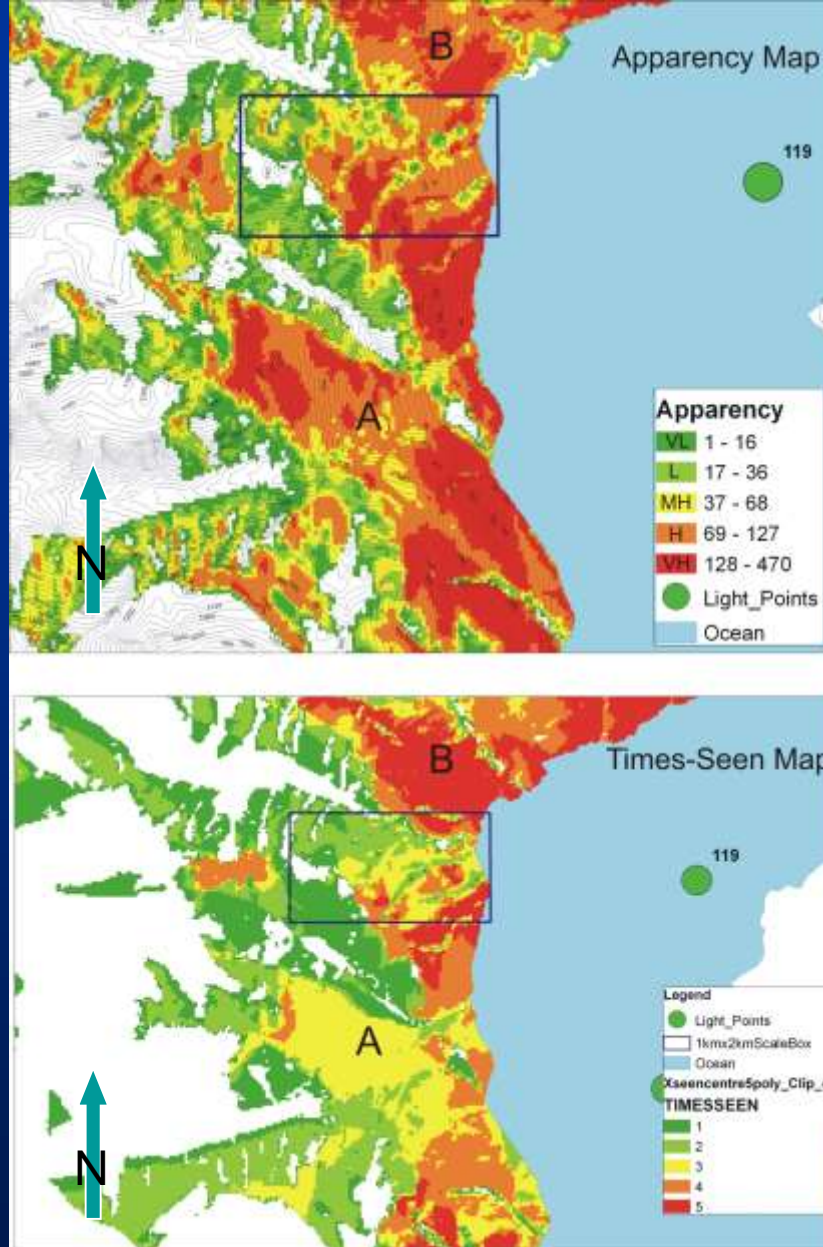
Compare areas marked “A” in each and “B” in each

## Slope Map

5 equal area quantiles

Comparison of cumulative apparency and topographic slope analysis

Times-seen is a conventional GIS measure emphasising areas of greater or lesser visibility by number of viewpoints observing a piece of land (visible or not visible only).  
Not used in VLI.

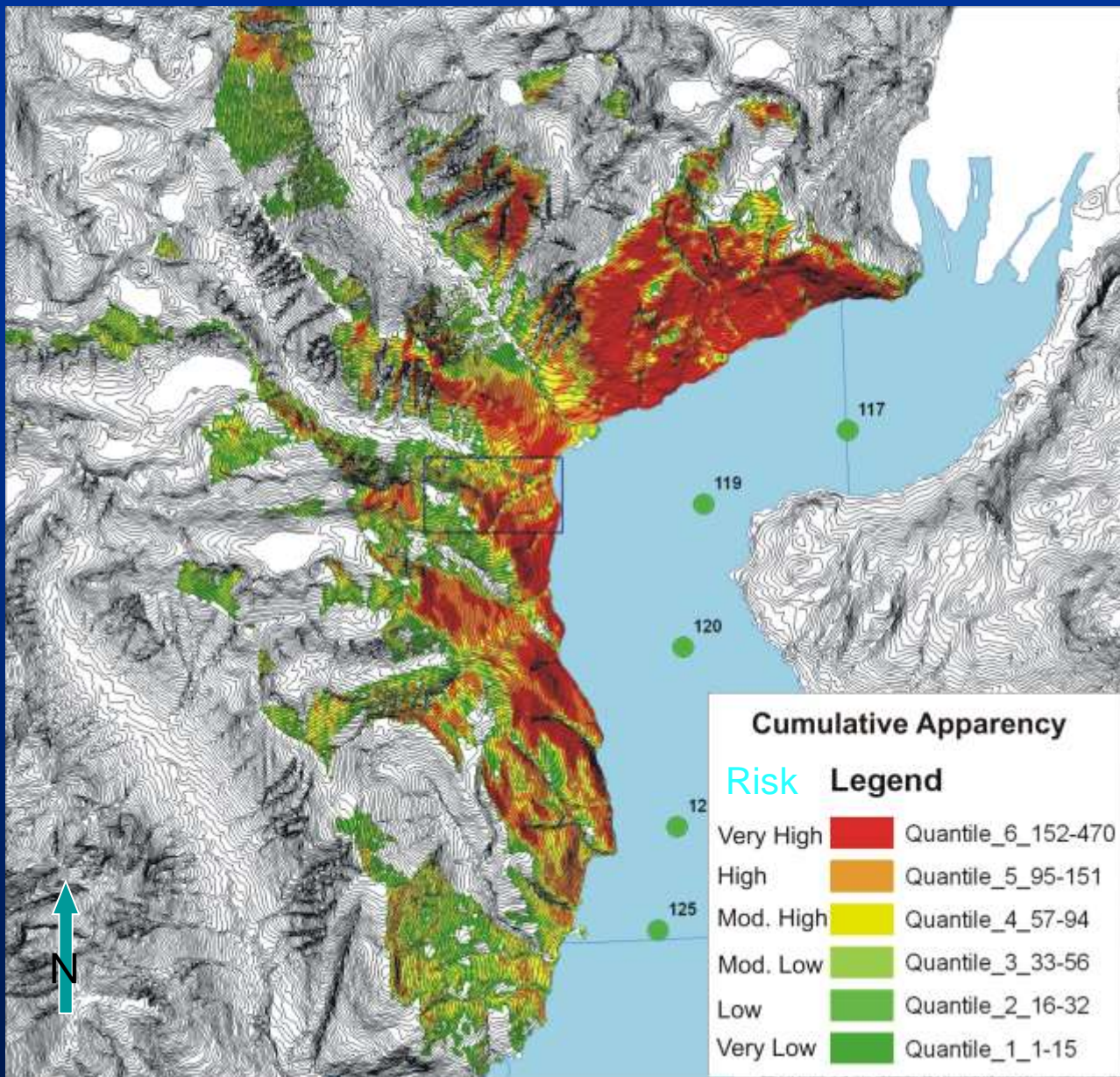


## Apperency Map

Compare areas marked "A" in each and "B" in each

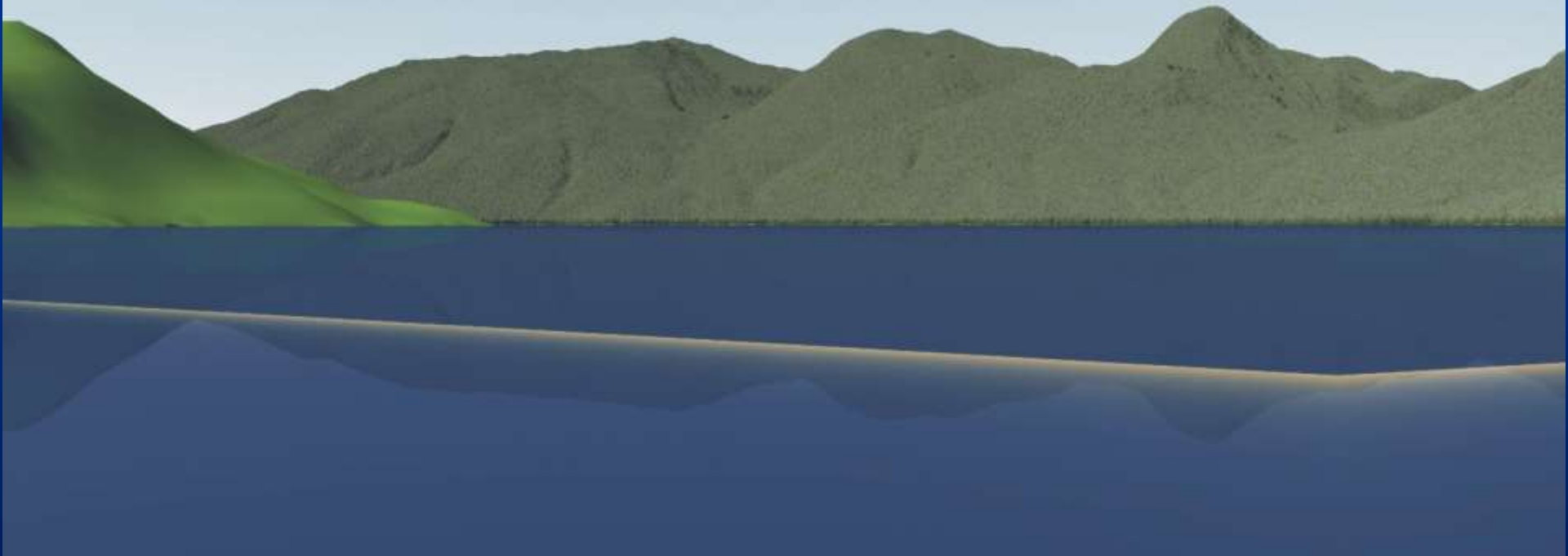
## Times-seen Map (produced from 5 viewpoints)

Comparison of Howe Sound project cumulative apperency and times-seen



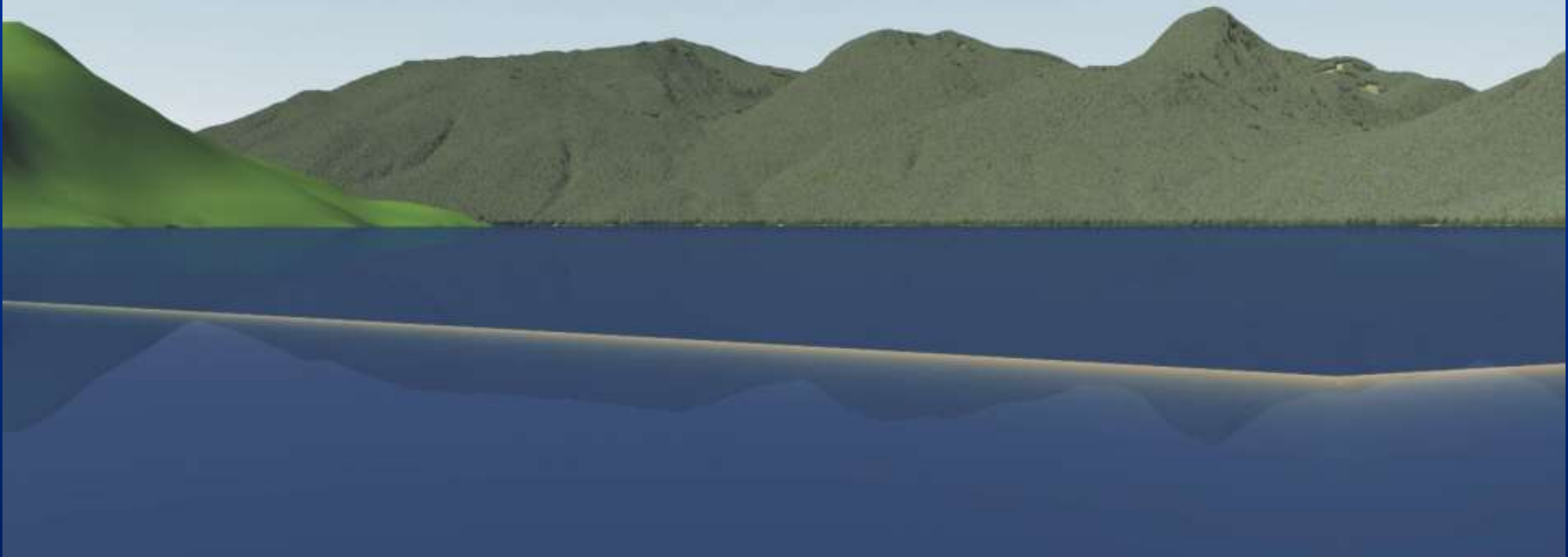
**Cumulative apperancy raster map with six classes of apperancy  
Howe Sound west side model.**

# Howe Sound Apparency Quantile (equal area ) Projections LCP117



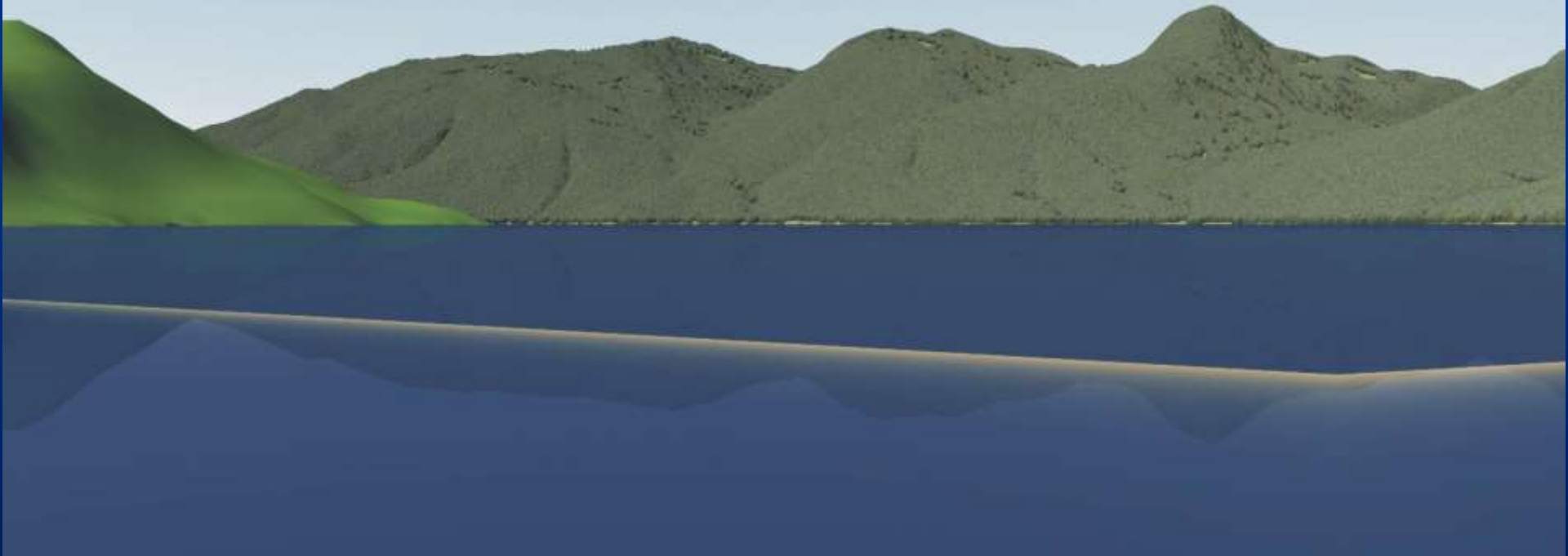
Quantile / Risk	Plan (%)	Pers. (%)	P2P
1 / VL	11	0.05	218:1

# Howe Sound Apparency Quantile (equal area ) Projections LCP117



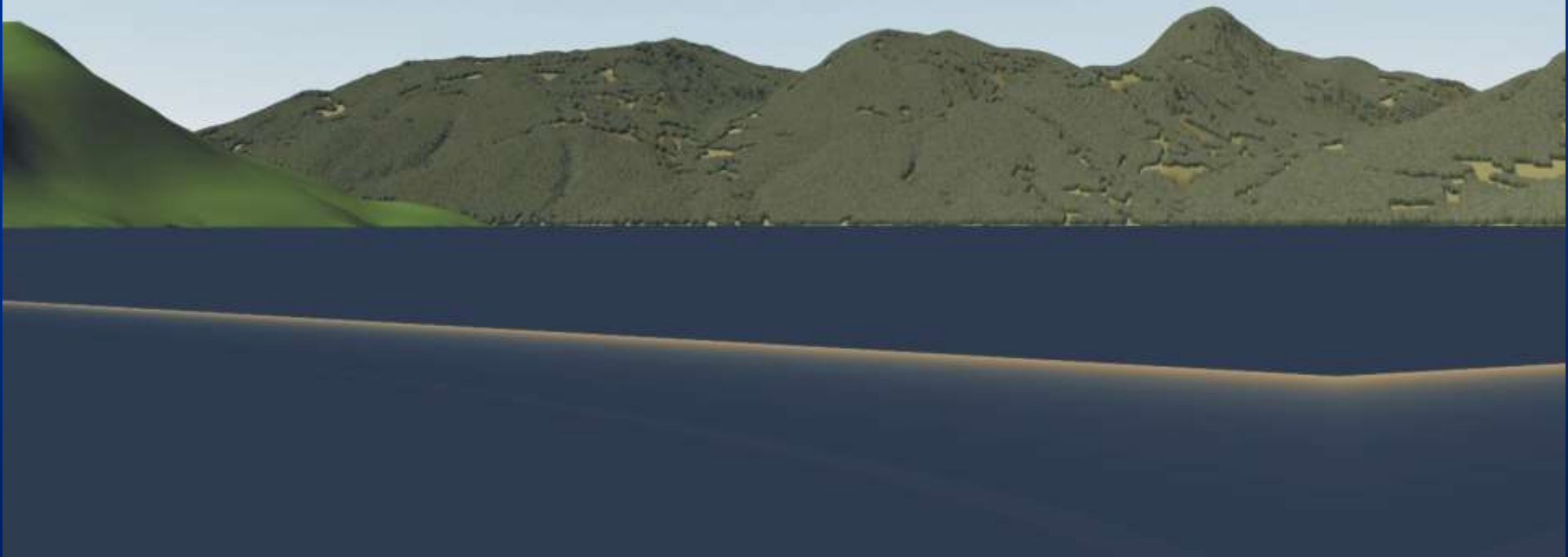
Quantile / Risk	Plan (%)	Pers. (%)	P2P
2 / L	12	0.2	89:1

# Howe Sound Apparency Quantile (equal area ) Projections LCP117



Quantile / Risk	Plan (%)	Pers. (%)	P2P
3 / ML	13	1	13:1

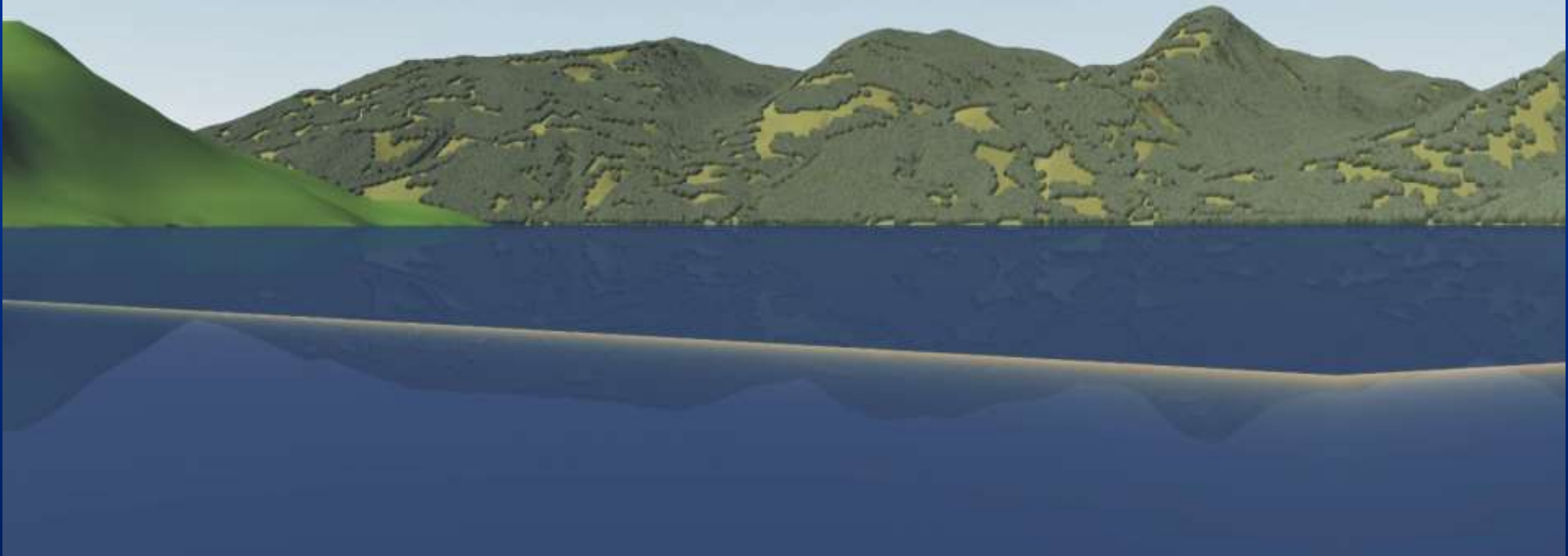
# Howe Sound Apparency Quantile (equal area ) Projections LCP117



Quantile / Risk	Plan (%)	Pers. (%)	P2P
4 / MH	17	2.2	8:1

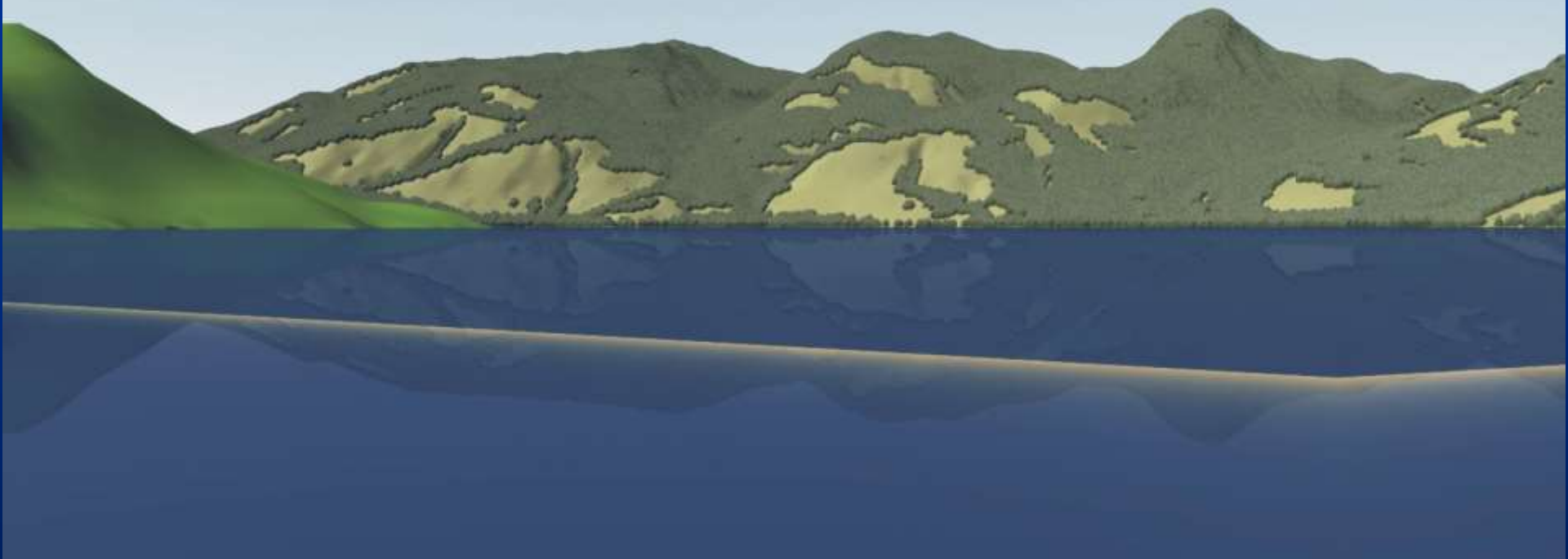


# Howe Sound Apparency Quantile (equal area ) Projections LCP117



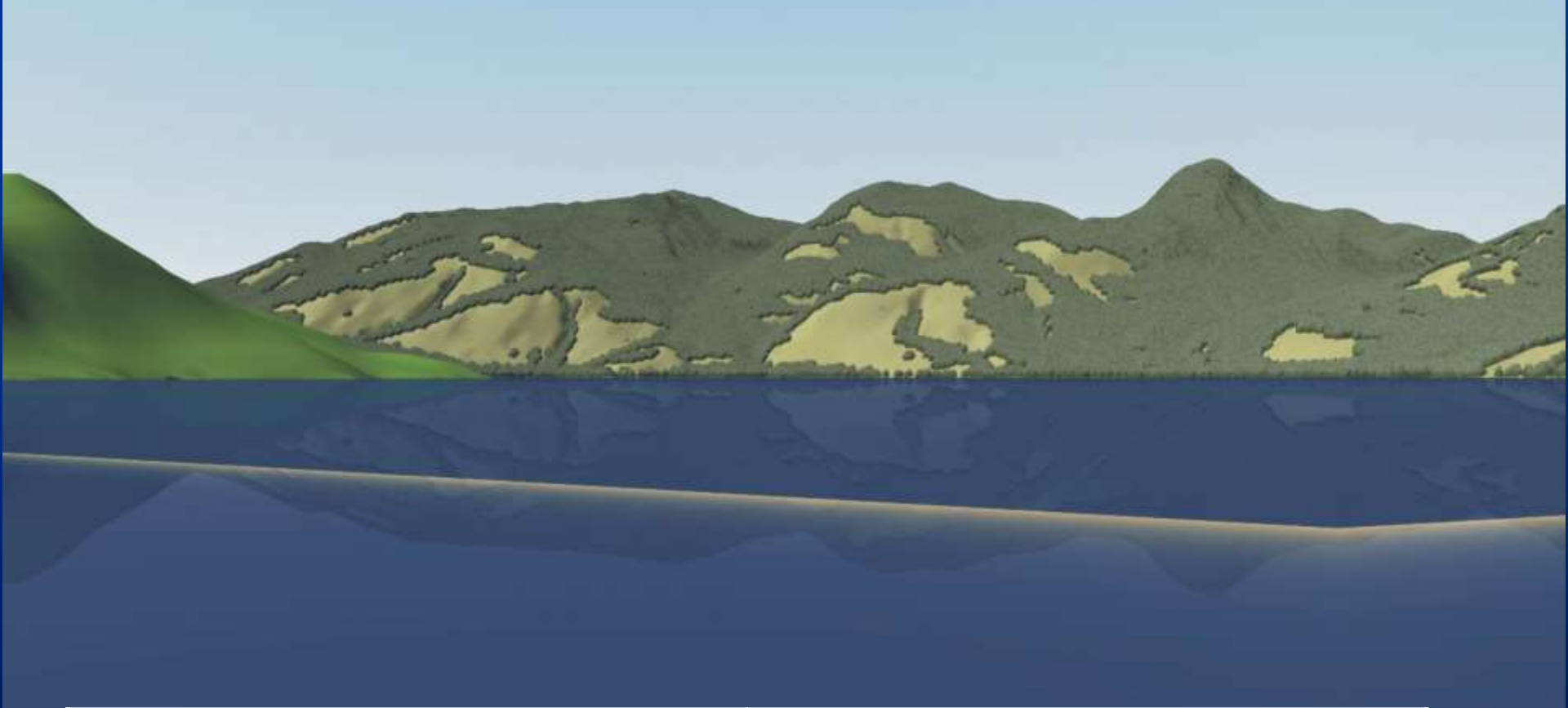
Quantile / Risk	Plan (%)	Pers. (%)	P2P
5 / H	21	6.1	3.4:1

# Howe Sound Apparency Quantile (equal area ) Projections LCP117



Quantile / Risk	Plan (%)	Pers. (%)	P2P
6 / VH	26	50	0.5:1

# Howe Sound Apparency Quantile (equal area ) Projections LCP117

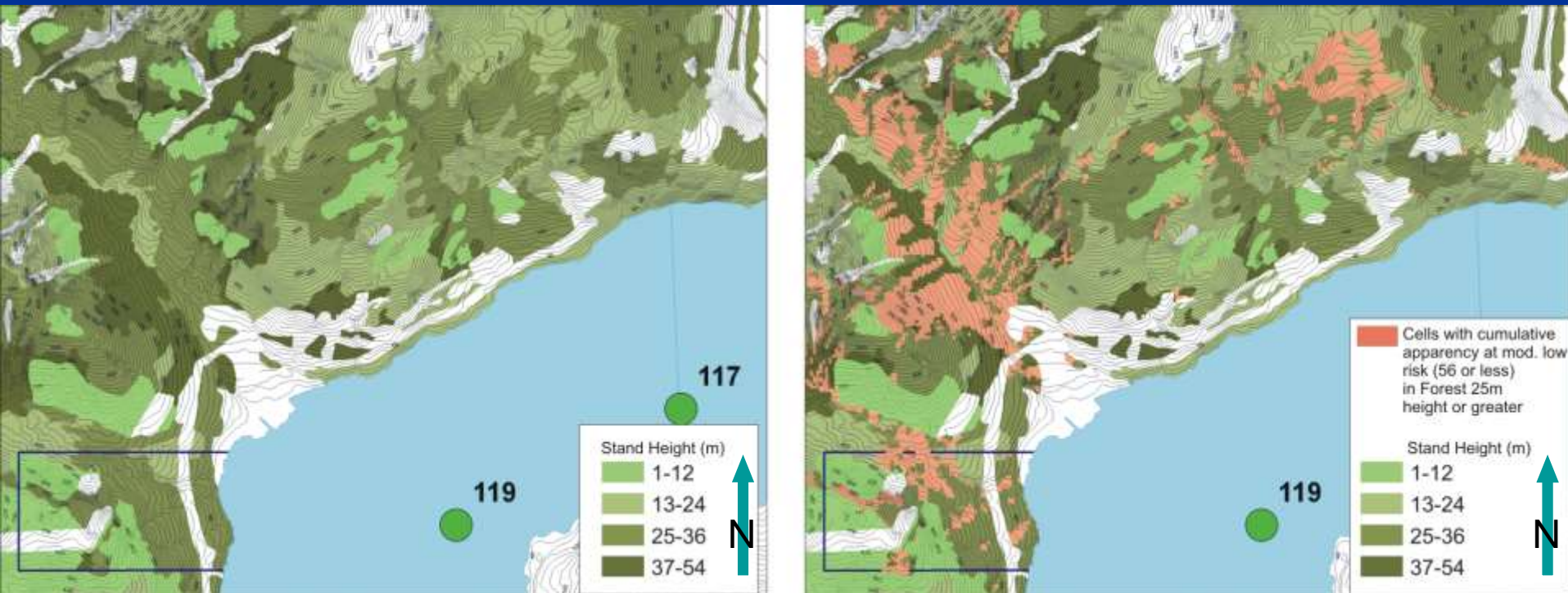


## Conclusions of Howe Sound Test

Consequences of apparency  
Learning opportunity with landbase  
Detailed P2P with tree screening  
inherent design; lines of force, etc.

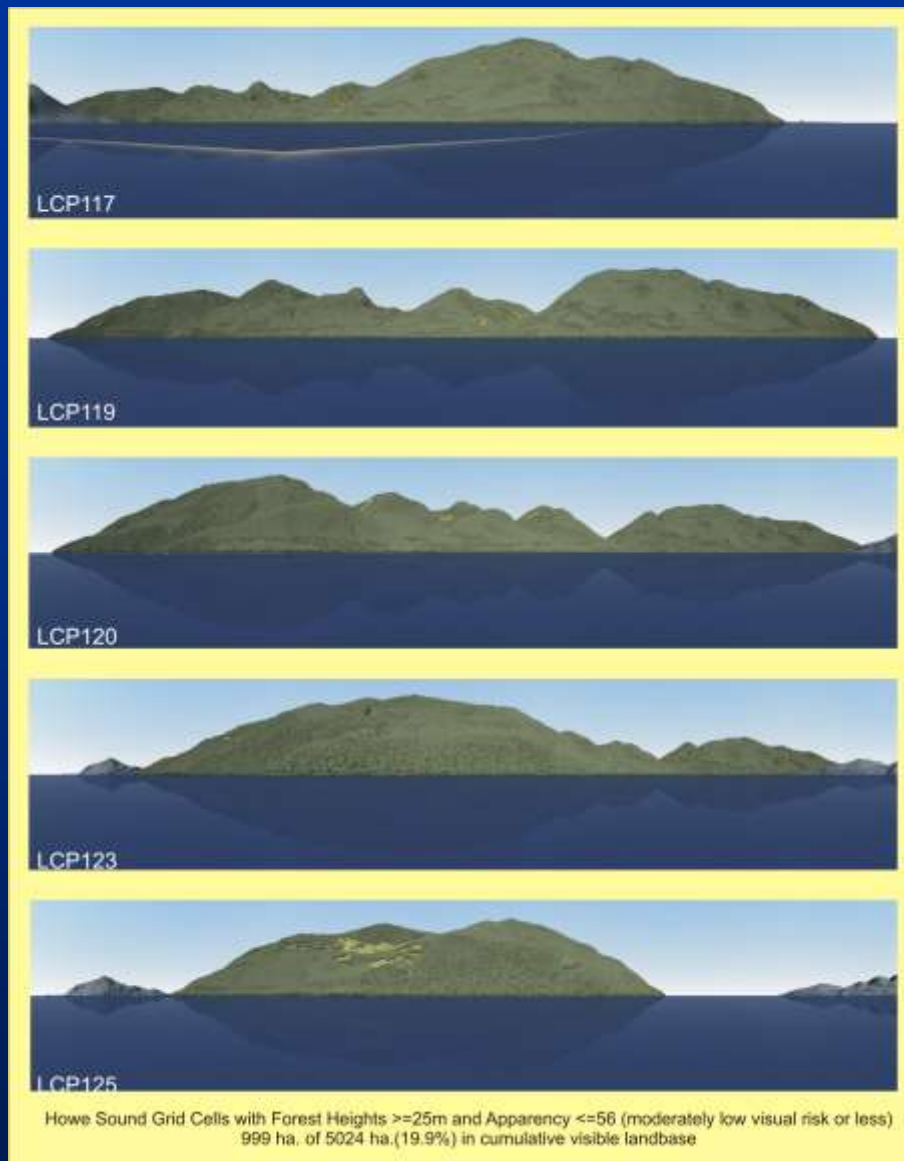
## Limitations

Not a plan; no design  
No other constraints at this point  
Generic forest  
DEM limitation – accuracy/resolution



## Finding Low Risk Mature Timber

**Cell selection by tree height attribute (25m or greater) and moderately low or low apperancy (visual risk) in ArcMap (right image: selected cells in pink).**

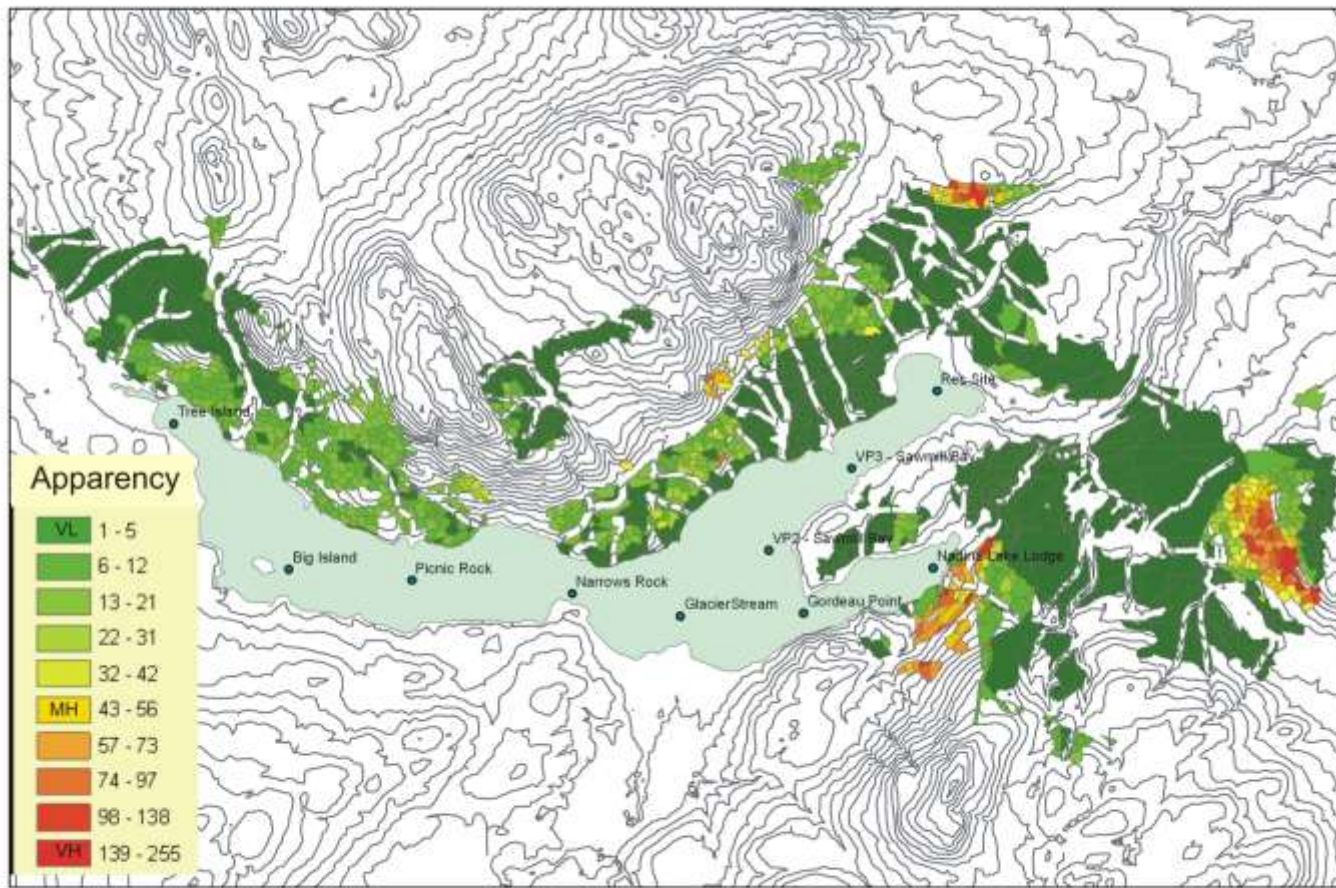


**Cell selection by tree height attribute, Howe Sound model, all viewpoints  
 Visual results, if selected cells were harvested,  
 grid cells selected by forest height from VRI, 25m height or greater,  
 and cumulative apparency, moderately low to very low visual risk).**

## Test Area 2 – Nadina Lake

- A. **Integrated Visual Design Plan** to provide full rotation harvest plan of beetle infested timber, using apparency to guide scheduling and design  
Four 20-year passes

(Actual Plan by RDI for West Fraser)

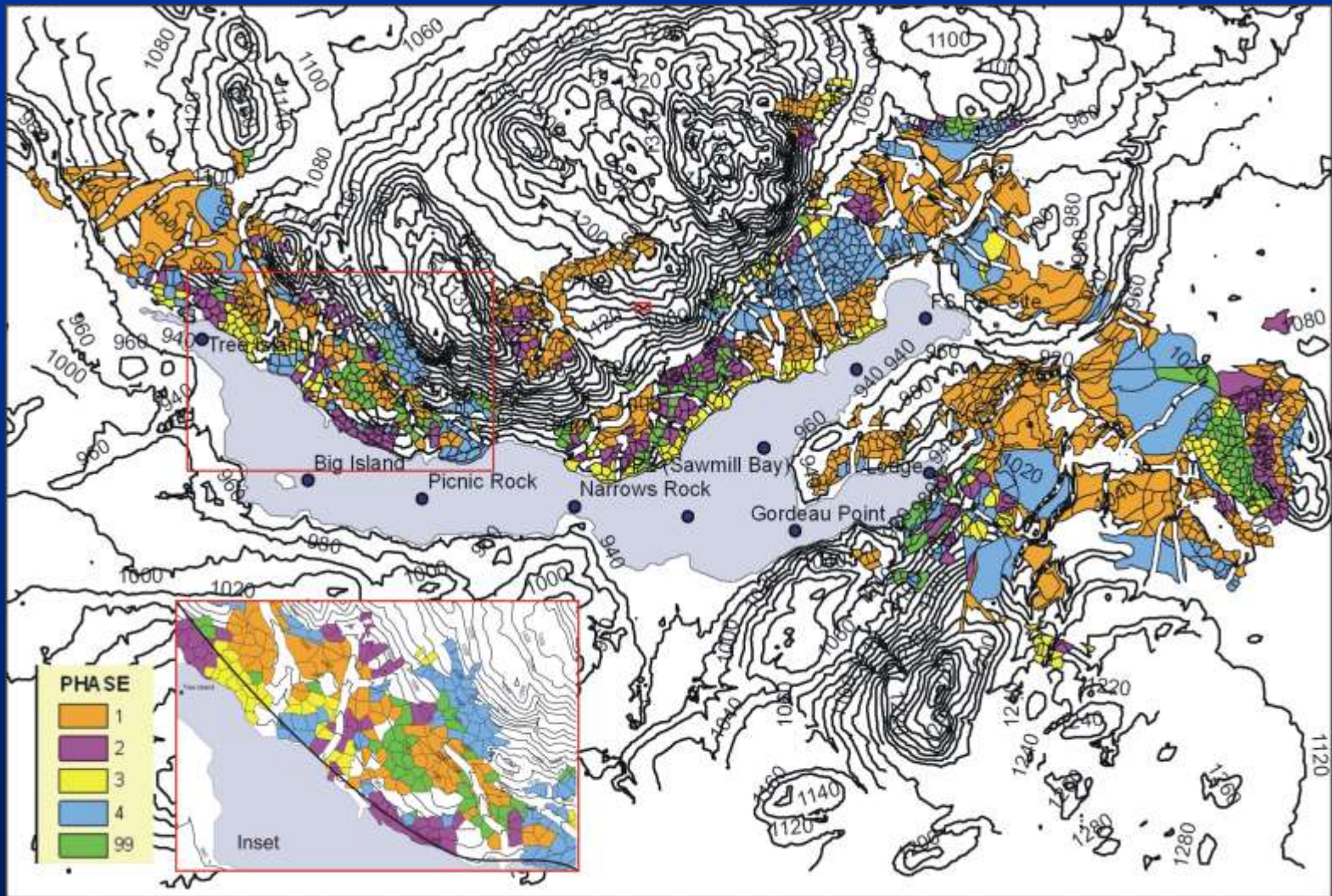


West Fraser Mills Ltd.  
 Nadina Integrated Visual Design - GEOptics Apparency by Planning Cell

Produced by:  
 RDI Resource Design Inc  
 February 5, 2007

## Nadina Lake Integrated Visual Design Plan (Actual Plan)

Figure 83 Apparency value is assigned to each potential harvest unit to provide guidance when scheduling the units for harvest phase.



## Nadina Lake Integrated Visual Design Plan

Figure 84 Four pass scheduling to meet VQOs applied to treatment units based on cumulative apparency and iterative testing with perspective visualizations, with inset showing closer view of treatment units; Class 99 units were not set to a schedule.



## Test Area 2 – Nadina Lake

### Atlas-GEOptics Automated Landscape Design Plan

to determine efficacy of a harvest scheduler program (Atlas) using GEOptics apparency

12 – 20 year Periods – 150,000 m<sup>3</sup> each

Forest Cover Attributes from  
Vegetation Resource Inventory

using

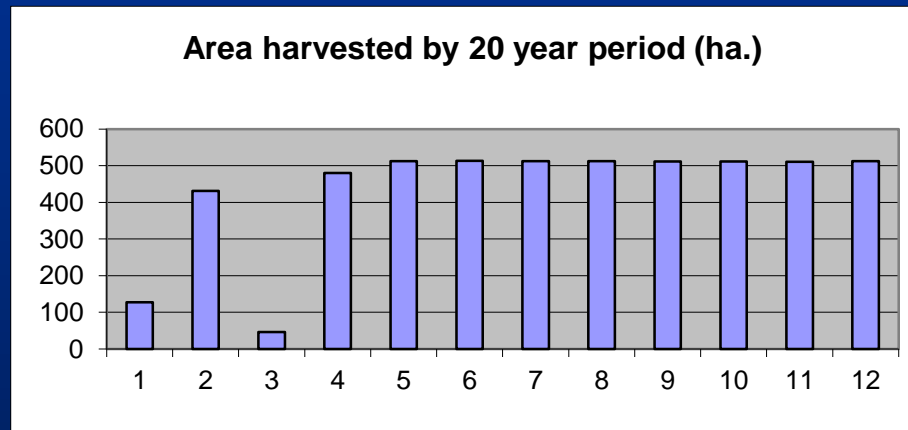
Atlas-Forest Planning Studio - Atlas

a forest-level harvest simulator

-schedules according to a range of spatial/temporal objectives  
such as

harvest flows, riparian buffers, seral stage distributions, patch size

<http://sfmtutorials.forestry.ubc.ca/fps-atlas/>



**Automated Design using Forest Planning Studio  
(ATLAS)**

**Atlas-Nadina automated harvest schedule - All 20, 20  
year Periods – 5,180 ha – 1,442,197 m<sup>3</sup>**



Big Island



Narrows Rock



Sawmill Bay

#### Atlas-Nadina Period 4



## Automated Design using Forest Planning Studio (ATLAS)

Figure 92 Atlas-Nadina automated harvest schedule - Period 4 – 480 ha – 131841 m3.

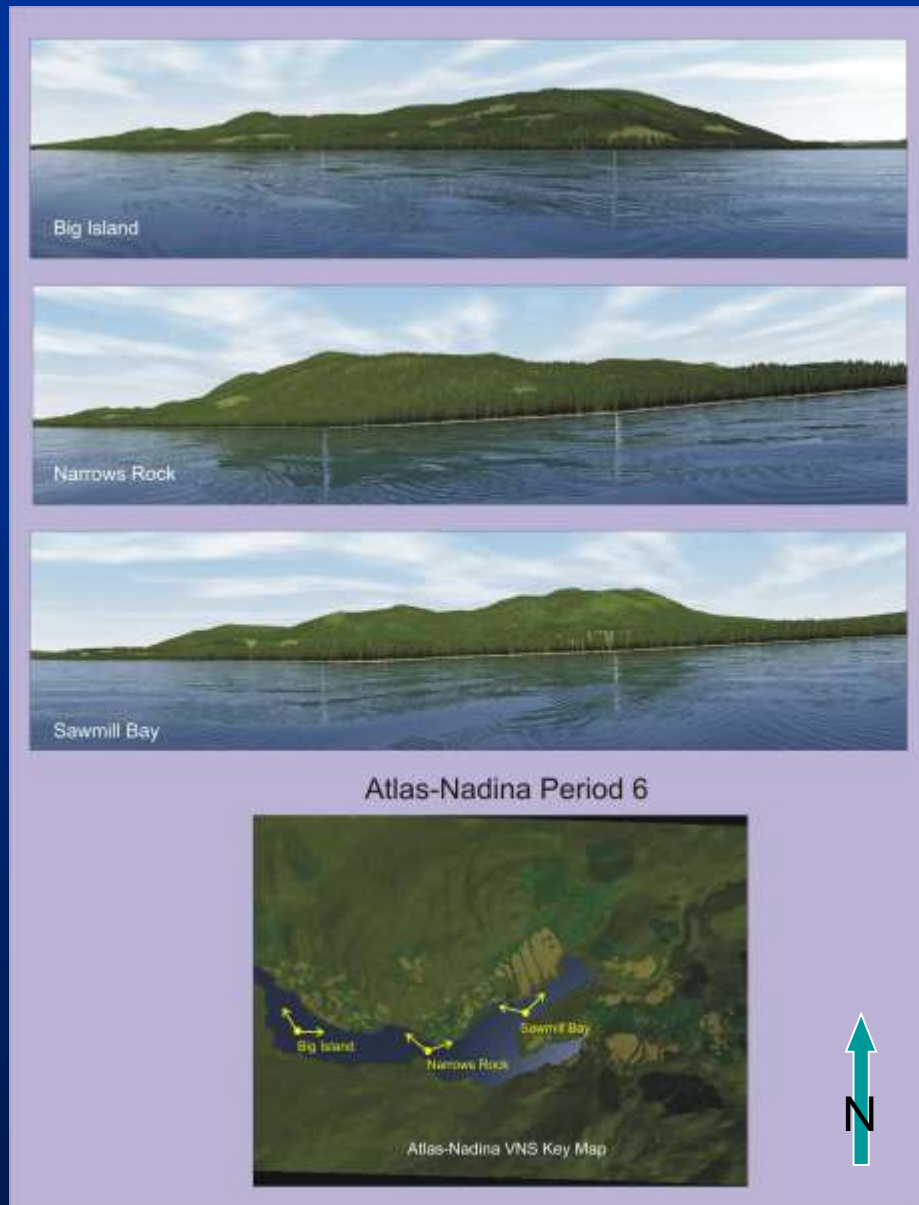


Atlas-Nadina Period 5



## Automated Design using Forest Planning Studio (ATLAS)

Figure 92 Atlas-Nadina automated harvest schedule - Period 5 – 513 ha – 133005 m3.



**Automated Design using Forest Planning Studio (ATLAS)**  
**Figure 92 Atlas-Nadina automated harvest schedule - Period 6 – 513 ha – 158981 m3. 85**

Total Integrated Visual Design Plan over 20, 20 year periods: 5,180 ha  
– 1,442,197 m<sup>3</sup>

Conclusions of Nadina Automation

Tests

Actual plan with all constraints  
Apparency informed scheduling and design  
Learning opportunity with landbase  
Detailed P2P with tree screening  
Replaced trial and error  
Supplemented expert design

Limitations

DEM resolution  
Constraint data

# Achievements of the Apparency Model

- ✓ More precise understanding of visual risk within VSU
- ✓ Integrated tool linking viewer and landscape
- ✓ Inherent understanding of landscape
- ✓ Informs users' understanding of visual impact potential
- ✓ Visual Design “guide”
- ✓ Efficient “automation”
- ✓ Precise P2P factors may improve available wood supply
- ✓ Adaptable to other GIS tools
- ✓ Adaptable to other jurisdictions
- ✓ Helpful, compatible with conventional mapping
- ✓ Well-suited to integrated planning
- ✓ (and PhD granted!)



# Limitations of GEOptics Apparency

- ✓ New tool – requires learning
- ✓ Shadow map/viewshed validation
- ✓ Possibly new computer program(s)
- ✓ DEM resolution; accuracy
- ✓ Not replacement for design expertise
- ✓ More trials required in more landscape types
- ✓ Perceived as too complex - streamline
- ✓ Caution with timber supply analysis – coarse by intent
- ✓ Resistance to change; new concepts





Helpful Links to References relating to this presentation:

MFLNRO Forest Practices Branch Visual Resource Management Publications:

Visual Landscape Inventory, Monitoring

Research into public responses to clearcutting, partial cutting, retention cutting,  
visually effective green-up, roadside management, wind energy, tourism, mountain pine beetle

All available at:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/visual-resource-management>

Fairhurst, K.B, 2010. PhD Dissertation. Geoptics Landscape Apparency: a dynamic visual resource indicator and tool for multi-functional landscape planning. UBC Library

<https://open.library.ubc.ca/cIRcle/collections/ubctheses/24/items/1.0071267>

Atlas-Forest Planning Studio <http://sfmtutorials.forestry.ubc.ca/fps-atlas/>

Collaborative for Advanced Landscape Planning – UBC: [www.calp.forestry.ubc.ca](http://www.calp.forestry.ubc.ca)

The Case for Tall Wood Buildings – MGB Architecture + Design et al 2012

<http://cwc.ca/wp-content/uploads/publications-Tall-Wood.pdf>

General Information about RDI Resource Design Inc and CV can be found at: [www.rdi3d.com](http://www.rdi3d.com)

Ken Fairhurst can be reached by e-mail at [ken.fairhurst@rdi3d.com](mailto:ken.fairhurst@rdi3d.com)

This presentation can be down-loaded from:

<http://rdi3d.com/Fairhurst-170421-OK.pdf>



My Great Appreciation!

to

Rob Ribe - for recommending that I share the BC perspective

and to

Cheryl Friesen - for arranging this Forum and inviting me to present

End

