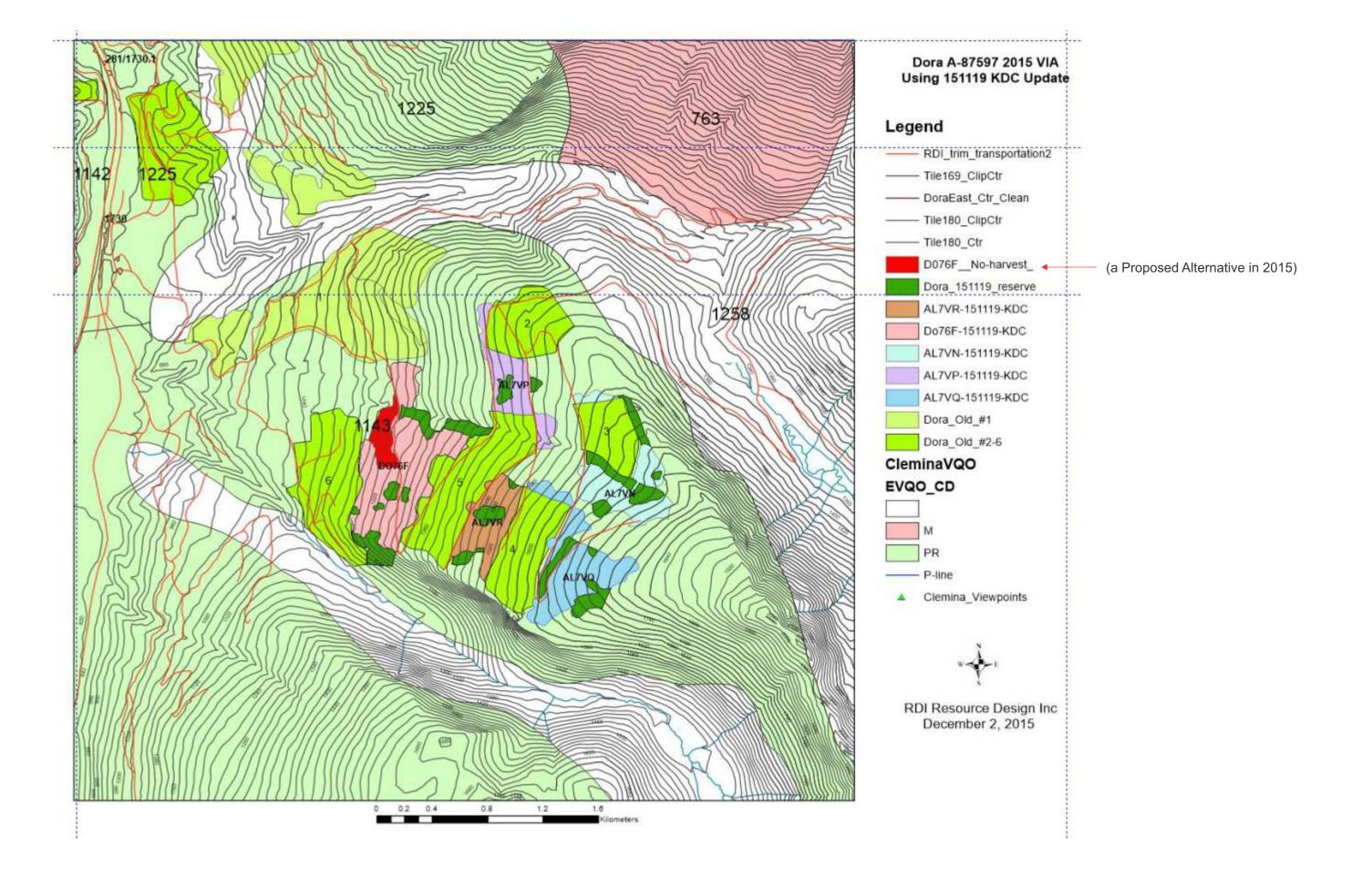


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Summary Comments

RDI was requested by Ches Clem, Planning Forester, BCTS Kamloops Business Area, to examine the proposed visual influence, if any, of TA0201 - Cutblock AL91P within the landform popularly known as the "Dora Rehab" landform. That landform, part of VSU 1143, with an established VQO of Partial Retention, was assessed by RDI in 2011-2012, 2014, and again in a collaborative design effort in 2015.

History

The purpose of the Dora Rehab effort was to mitigate the broad rectangular bands of previous harvesting while providing some leniency in VQO achievement to meet that goal. Photos taken by RDI at that time reveal the banding which was most prominent in winter snow-cover. These are presented in this report on Page 5 (VP 6), Page 6 (VP 8), and Page 10 (VP 10). The final configuration of FL A87597 Dora cutblocks were prepared on November 19, 2015, entered into the RDI project models and tested for visual impact, including percent alteration. One option provided for a large area of "No-harvest" in cutblock Do76F in place of a Retention patch designed by RDI. It is obvious when comparing the existing alteration as provided by Ches as indicated in the Key Map on Page 1 to that on Page 3 from 2015 that the "No Harvest" area has been logged. The visual simulation of the 2015 plan is presented on Page 8 of this report. The results were that, with the patch left standing, percent alteration would be 10.1%, 3% greater than the limit for the Partial Retention VQO assigned to the landform. With the patch removed, the result would be 11.85% - 4.85% above the PR limit (see pages 6 and 7 for comparisons from Viewpoint 8 (old Viewpoint Number 1730.3).

The "No Harvest" patch was considered to be important to the integrity of the overall plan that was been developed with much input of Peter Rennie (FLNRO Landscape Officer, retired), BCTS, and RDI, and the continued and much appreciated effort by Kurt Dodd of KDC who was responsible for the actual field layout. The patch was not intended to be harvested in the short-term, The preferred option had high merit, likely met all of the concerns of all participants, but required the approval of the District Manager to exceed the allowance of Partial Retention by 3%. RDI did not have further involvement in that issue following the December 2015 report and did not follow its final denouement.

The 2020 visual condition following implementation of the 2015 plan can be seen in photos taken by Ches Clem in January of this year: on Page 5 - VP6, and on Page 9 - VP X3. Poor weather on the day of his visit prevented clear depiction of the success of that plan. Ches was concentrating on the west-side cutblock plan for Albreda - the purpose of his trip. Updates in good weather would be welcomed for the record.

Current Plan - TA0201 - Cutblock AL91P

AL91P will be seen as a small focal speck on the landform, calculated to be 0.07% of the landform in perspective (camera) view. The opening also will create a notch in the skyline which adds to the observability (see VP 8). It will be visible to the mainly trained eye within the highly textured, high Visual Absorption Capability (VAC) landform of multiple harvest entries and green-up, and beyond to the dominant alpine peaks. With advancing green-up and successful "rehab", the broad bands of past logging are commanding much less attention.

There will be continuous viewing opportunities while travelling south along Highway 5 from just over the brow of the hill south of the "Welcome to the North Thompson Valley" sign at the pull-out (Viewpoint 11 - photo seen but went missing when prearing this report), southwards for about 4 km (see Viewpoints 10, X3, 9, and 8) until just north of Viewpoint 6 where it disappears from view.

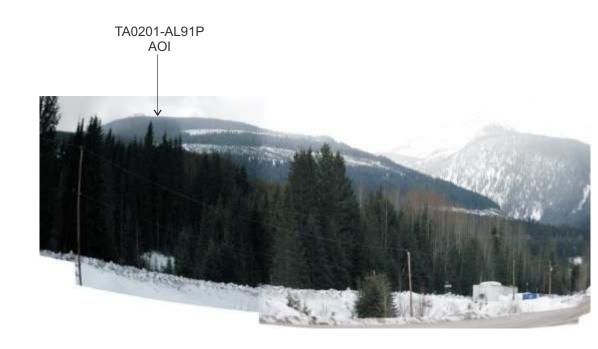
While the fate of the "No Harvest" patch remains a mystery to RDI (or perhaps has been forgotten), and has pushed the Percent Alteration much above Partial Retention, RDI assumes the decision received FLNRO District Manager approval to exceed the VQO limit [Ches: can you look into this, please?]. That said, a less than 1/10th of 1 percent addition to the existing Percent Alteration will not likely register as a significant or unacceptable change in visual quality and should not necessarily forestall approval of TA0201 - Cutblock AL91P, provided the approving parties are in agreement.

Should having any apparency at all be problematic at this time, RDI's trial addition of a 1 hectare leave strip along the central western edge of the 25 ha cutblock, similar in shape and scale (1 ha) to the current WTRA within the cutblock, would eliminate visibility and close the skyline notch (see location and visual results on Page 6).

Ken B. Fairhurst, PhD, RPF RDI Resource Design Inc

Ka B. Fair hunt

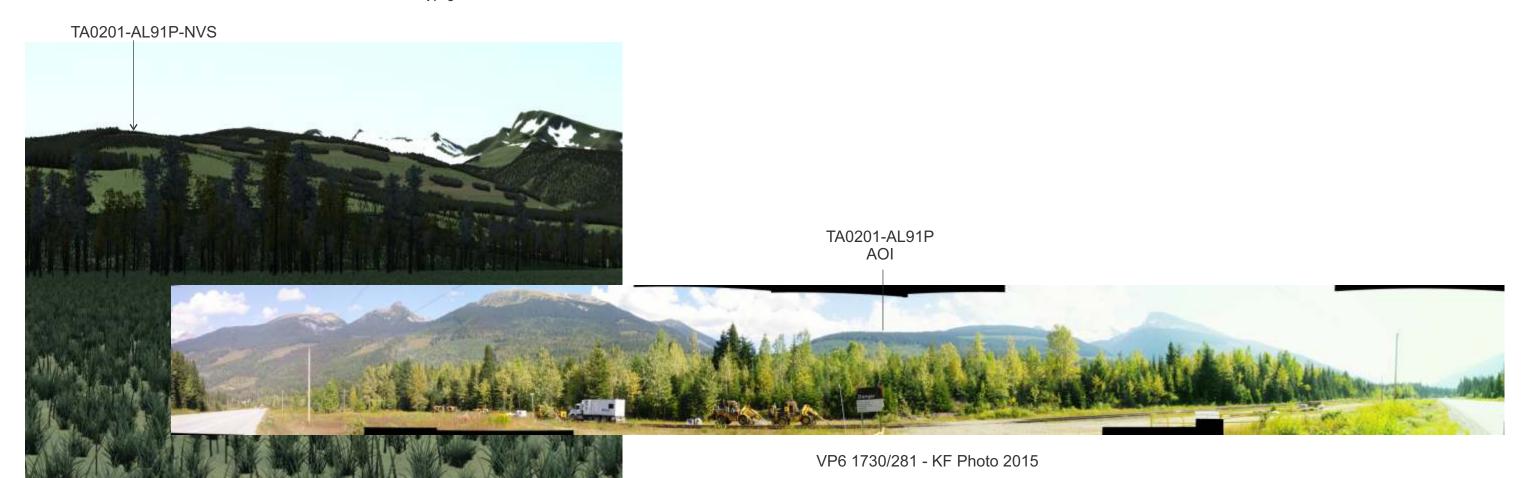




1730.1 2015 - KF Photo

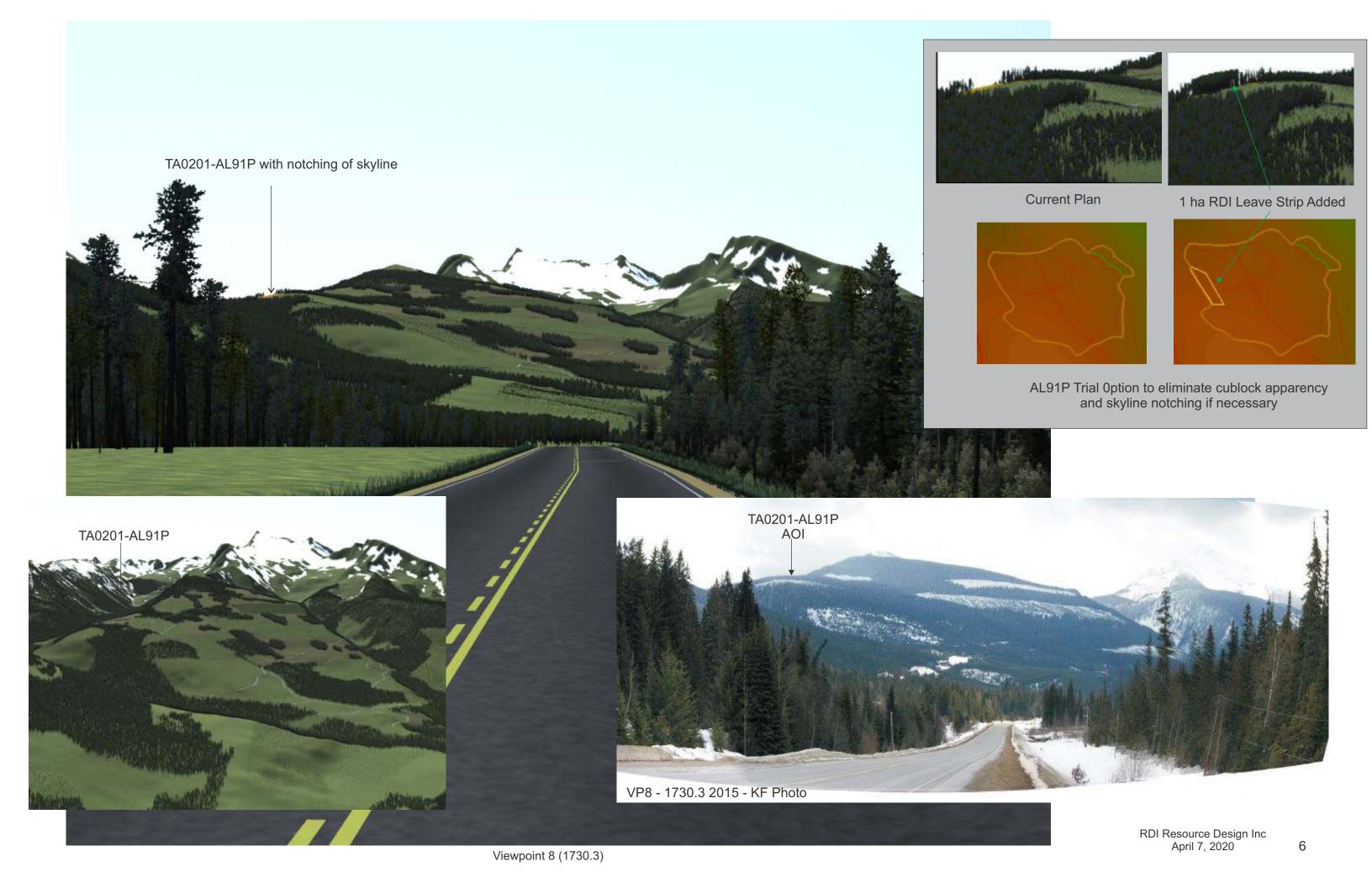
Photos by Ches Clem January 2020; placed into panorama by RDI using Kolor Autopano Giga 4.2

VP 6

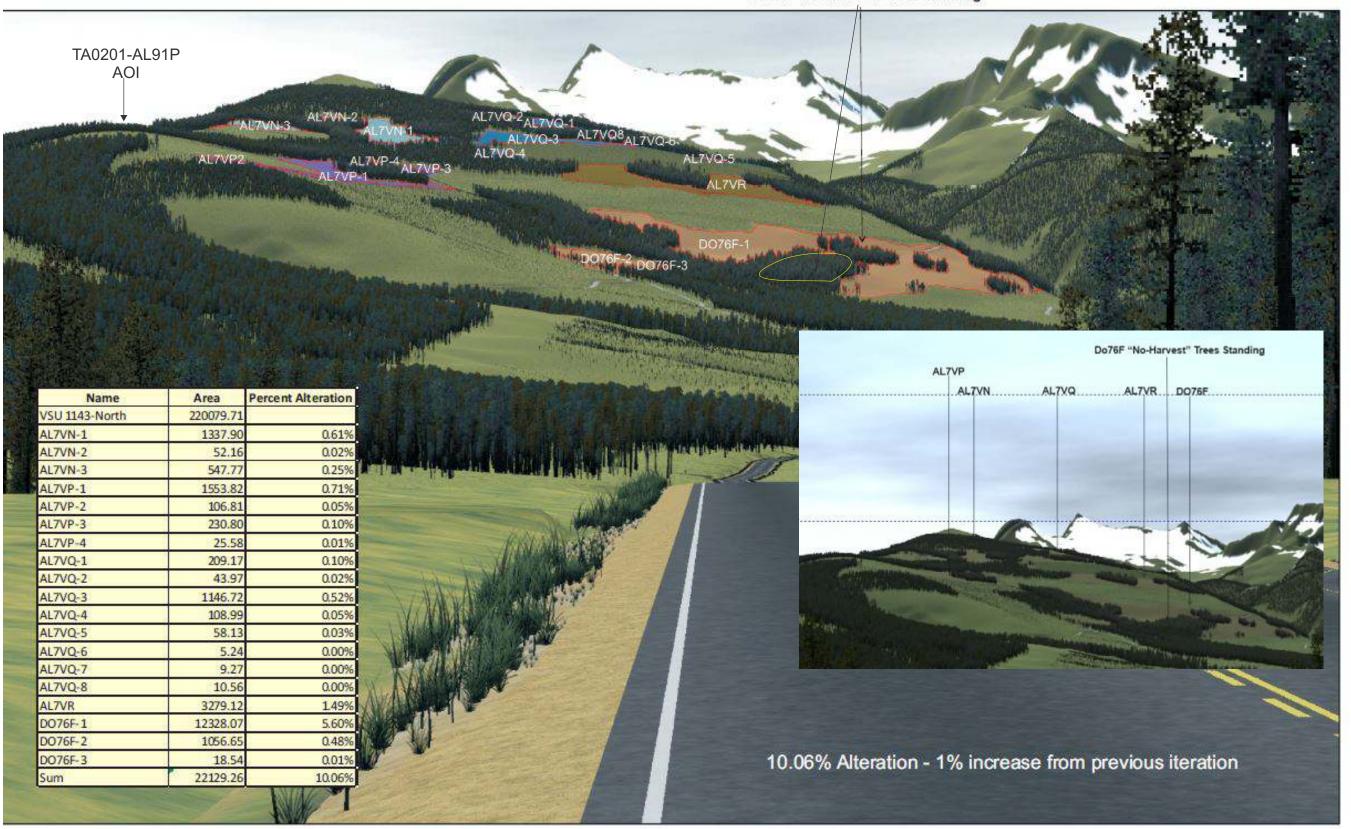


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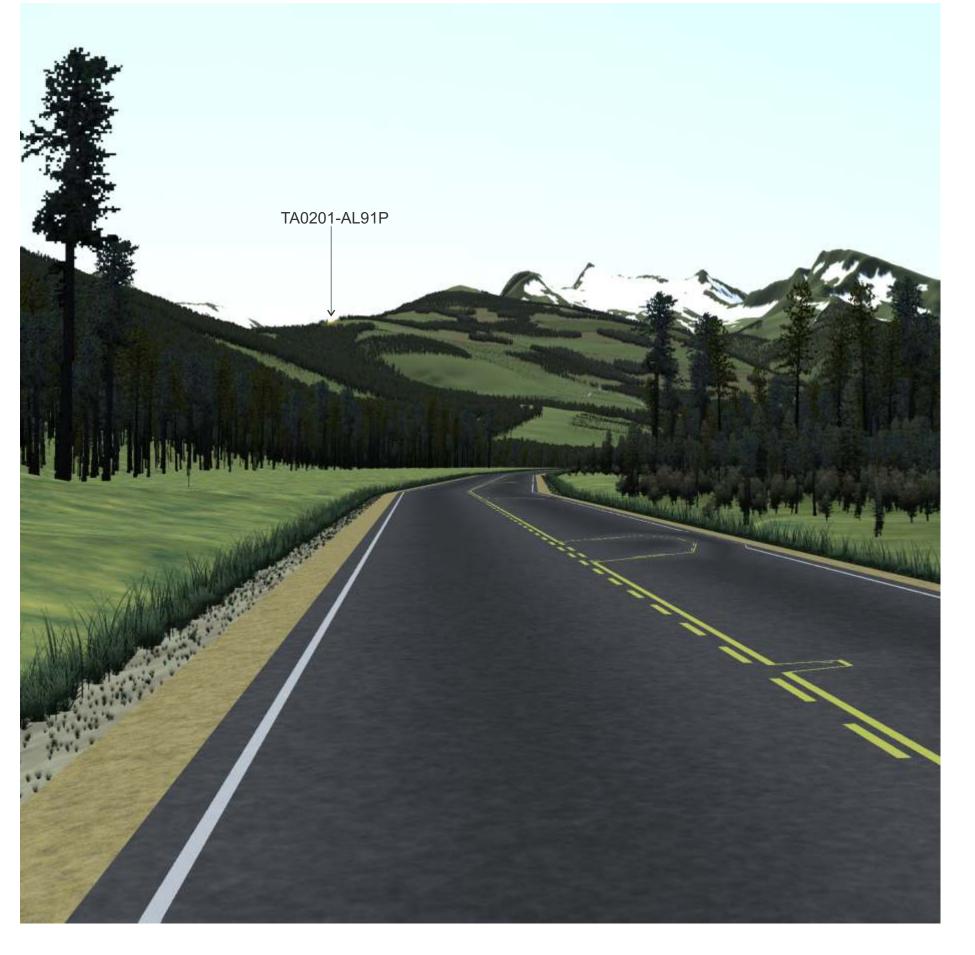


Do76F "No-Harvest" Trees Standing

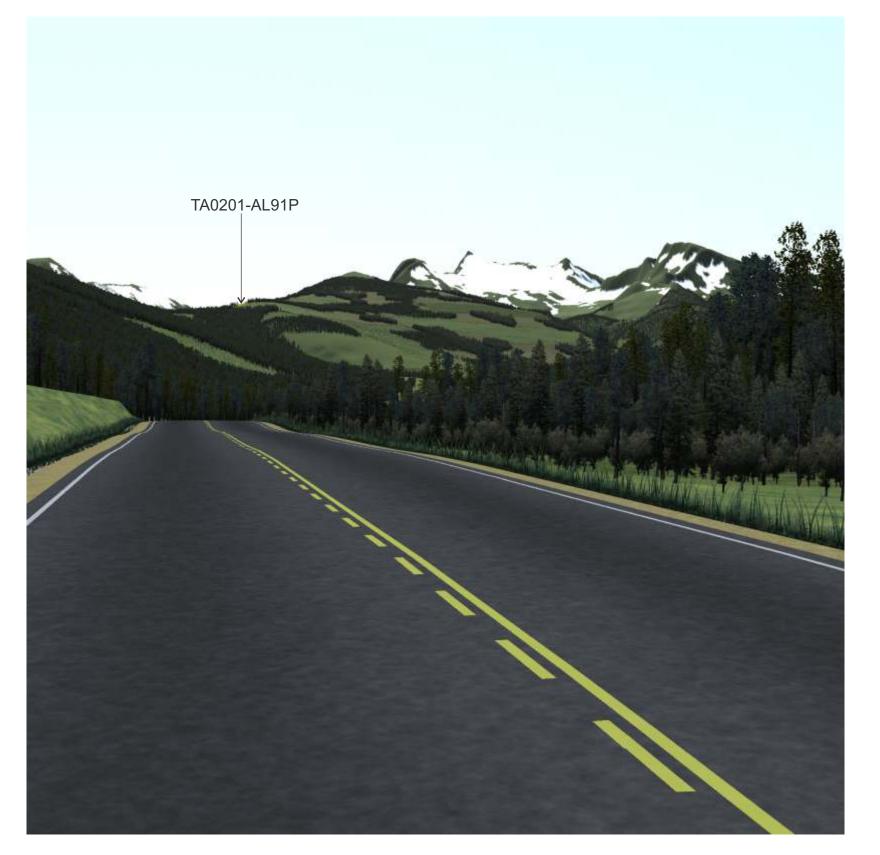


Viewpoint 1730.3 151119 KDC with No-Harvest Area with Standing Trees - Natural Cutblock Colour

RDI Resource Design Inc December 2, 2015



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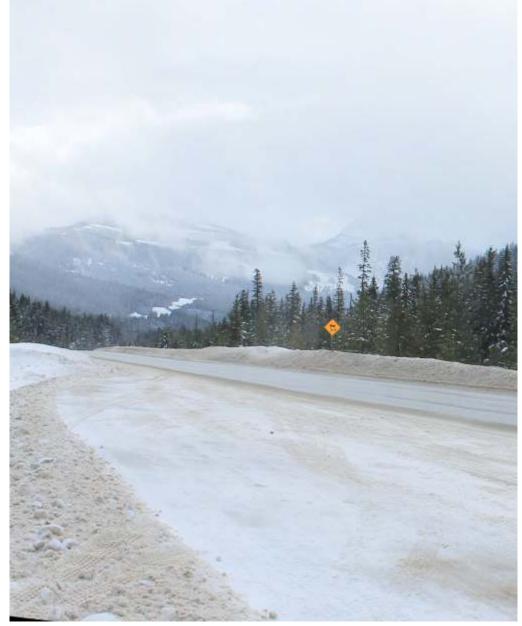


Photo by Ches Clem January 2020

VP X3

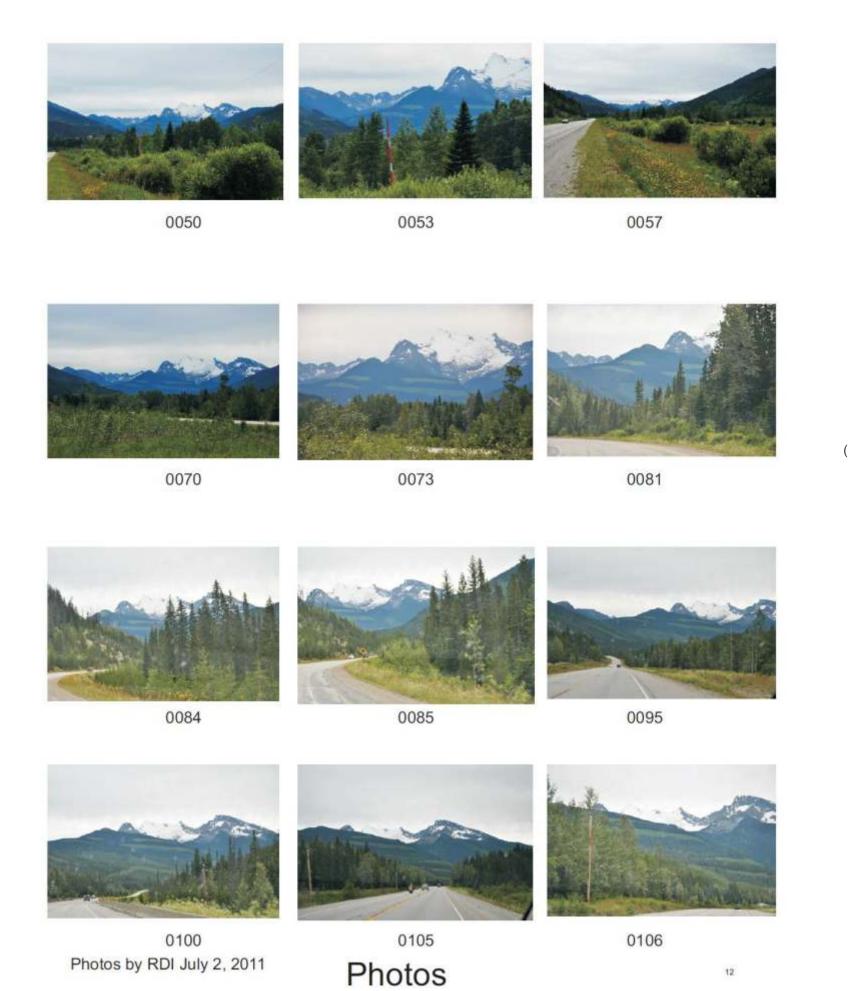
Viewpoint X3



Viewpoint 10 (1734) - Snowmobile Parking Lot



VP10 2015 - KF Photo



RDI Photos 2011 (source: Albreda-Area1-A56781-A87597-Visual Assessment-RDI-2012-F.pdf