

**AMENDMENT #1 TO
PRELIMINARY FINDING AND DECISION**

COMPETITIVE LAND LEASE

ADL 416953

Teck-Pogo, Inc.
Maintenance/Staging Facility

Proposed Action

Teck-Pogo, Inc. (Teck-Pogo) is requesting to amend their lease application to include third parcel for the maintenance/staging area. This parcel is located between the Old Richardson Highway and the new Richardson Highway approximately ¼ to ½ mile east of Shaw Creek, in the Shaw Creek Valley approximately 25 miles northwest of Delta Junction. Teck-Pogo has requested to lease the 7.6 acre parcel for fifteen years. The parcel will be used for a maintenance and staging facility for the proposed Pogo Gold Mine.

Location

Geographic and Legal Description:

The third parcel, Parcel C, is situated in the triangle formed by the Richardson Highway, Old Richardson Highway and the Alyeska access road, 49 APL2. The parcel is within Lots 7 and 11, Section 35, Township 7 South, 8 East, Fairbanks Meridian.

Borough: Unorganized Borough.

Coastal Zone: None.

Native Regional/Village Corporation: Doyon Regional Corporation.

U.S.G.S. Map: Big Delta (1:250,000).

Title

Acquisition: Parcel C is on General Select lands, selection 1068. The land has been patented, under patent number 50-66-0024, to the state from BLM.

Restrictions: Standard, reservation of rights-of-way and subject to ANCSA.

Other Interests and/or Conflicts: Existing powerline authorizations (ADL 1794 and F13508 60 foot)

Land Management Plan: Tanana Basin Area Plan

Land Classification: Parcel C is located in Subunit 7F1 of the Tanana Basin Area Plan which is classified Wildlife Habitat, Forestry, and Public Recreation. Land leases are allowed within this subunit and under these classifications.

Mineral Closing Order: Parcel C is not closed to mineral entry. No additional mineral closing orders are proposed.

Alaska Coastal Management Plan (ACMP): None of these parcels are within the coastal zone as defined by the ACMP.

Borough Zoning: Both parcels are within the Unorganized Borough. No zoning applies.

Access

Access to Parcel C will be via the Richardson Highway, Old Richardson Highway and Road 49 APL 2. Teck-Pogo may be improving the highway approach to the Richardson Highway as part of this proposal.

Discussion

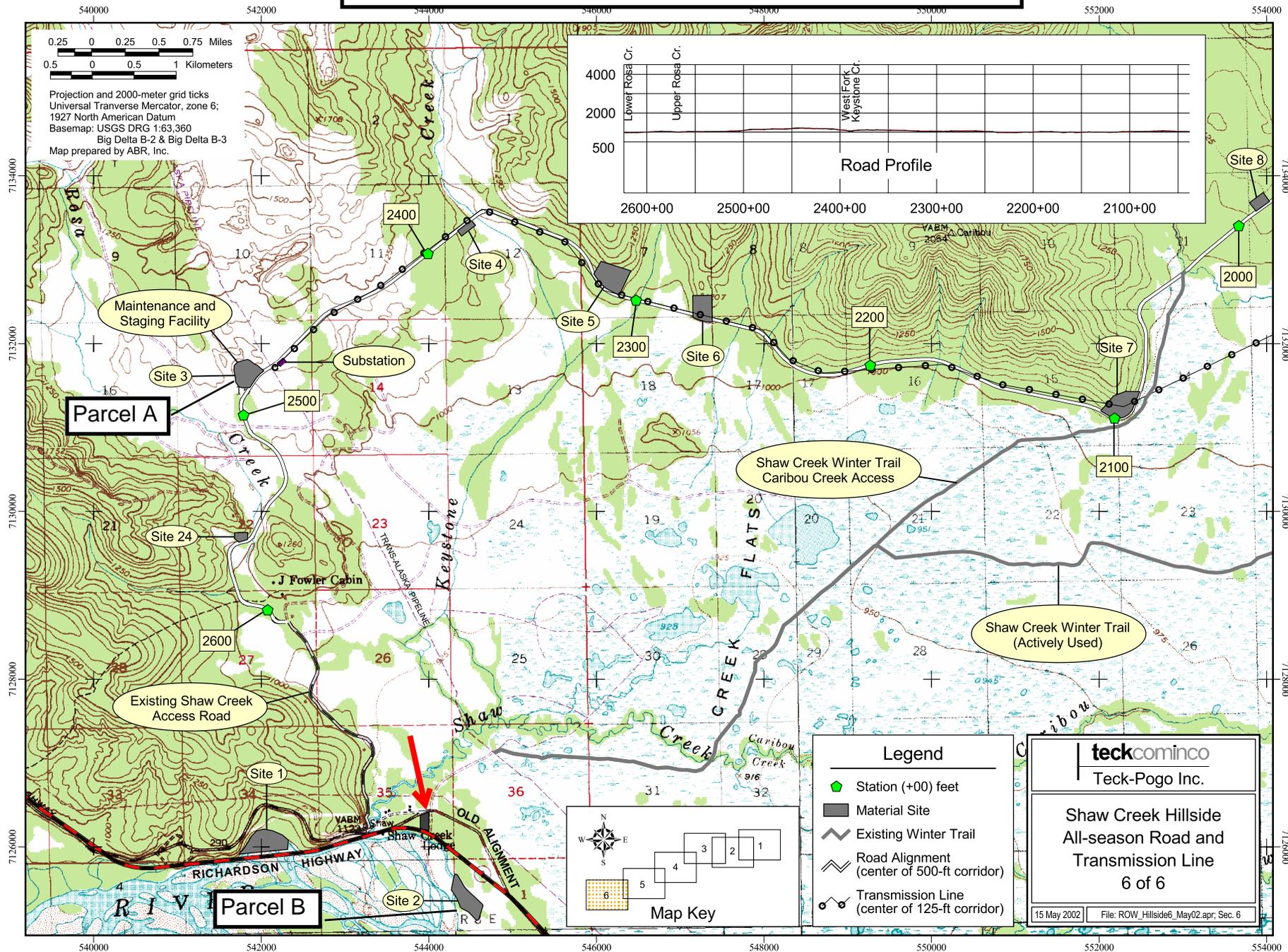
Teck-Pogo's preferred lease location is Parcel C. A lease on this site will reduce the amount of employee traffic on Shaw Creek Road. This parcel will be used strictly as a maintenance/staging area. No gravel extraction is proposed at this site.

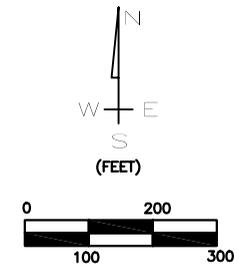
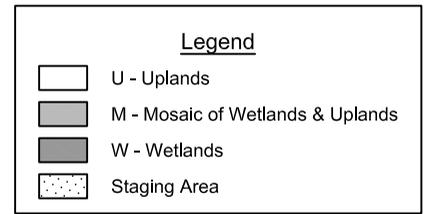
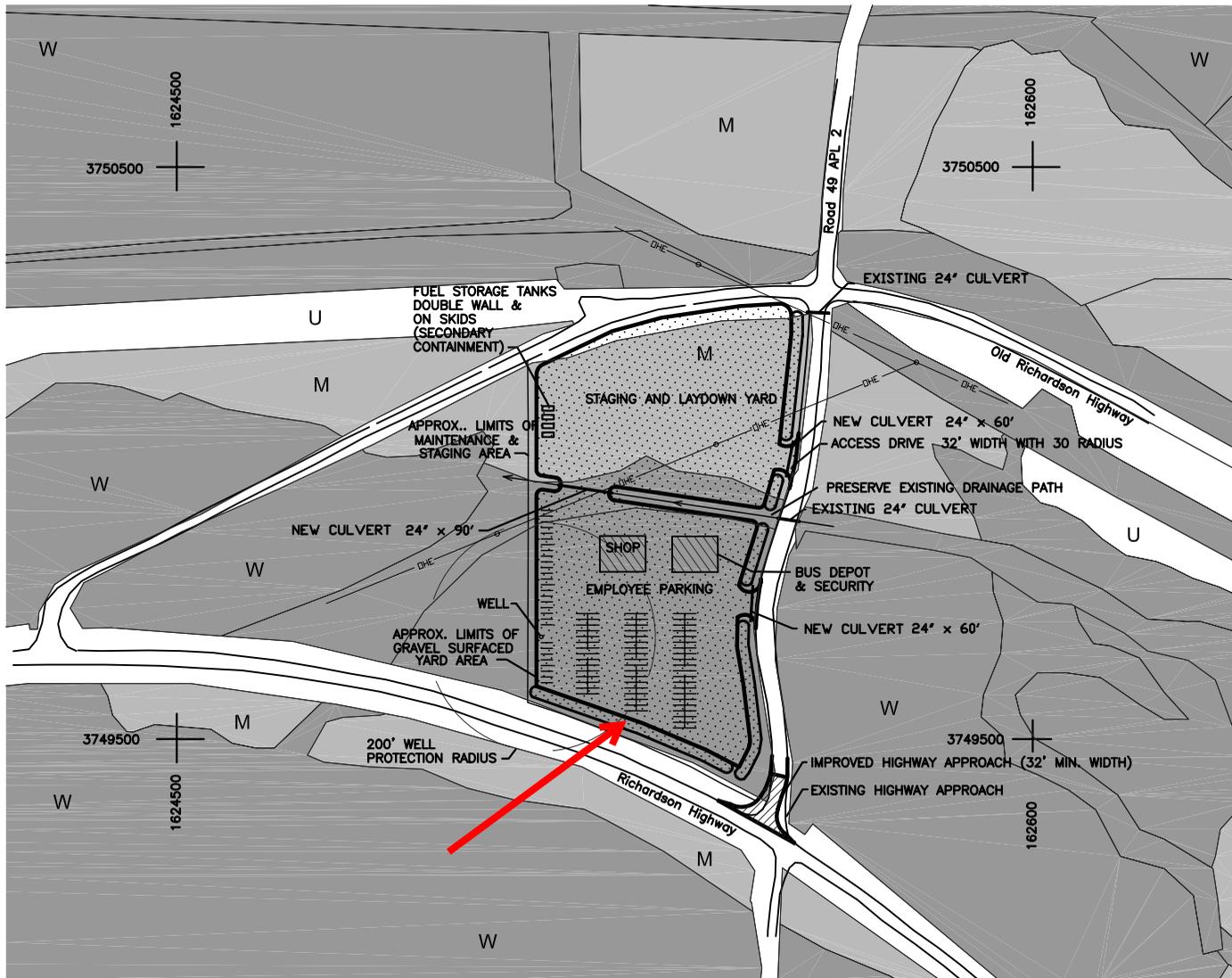
One of the primary reasons that DNR supports Parcels B and C is that it will potentially reduce traffic impacts on the residents of Shaw Creek Road. The seven residences along the Shaw Creek Road are likely to experience some impacts from Pogo Mine related traffic. These impacts would be reduced if the workers are transported in buses up the Shaw Creek Road to the mine. Locating the bus terminal on the Richardson Highway would eliminate up to 180 round trips (personal vehicles) on the Shaw Creek Road on shift-change days, and replace this traffic with 6 round trips by bus during shift change outs.

Preliminary Finding

The proposed activity is consistent with the overall management intent for state land and may be in the state's best interest. Changes to the public resources and the public interest as a result of this proposed activity are acceptable. This amendment to the Preliminary Finding dated February 27, 2003 will be noticed in accordance with AS 38.05.945 as part of the EPA/State of Alaska notice of the Pogo Gold Mine Project Final Environmental Impact Statement. In addition, Doyon, Ltd. will be sent a .945/946 notice.

Attachment 1 -- General Location Map





Construction Notes

1. The Richardson Hwy intersection shall be improved to meet ADOT standards for public road intersection as shown in ADOT standard detail I-40.0.
2. Foundation pads will be excavated so all silty soils shall be removed to expose the native gravel strata. Backfill to foundation elevation with NFS sandy gravel.
3. Domestic wastewater will be collected in an appropriately sized holding tank and disposed at an ADEC approved septage disposal facility.

Reclamation Notes

1. The facilities will be removed.
2. Fill will be removed from wetlands. Uplands will be recontoured for drainage, scarified, and spread with growth media.

<h1 style="margin: 0;">Teck-Pogo Inc.</h1>	
<p>Q-1996-0211 Goodpaster 1 Sheet 66 of 75</p>	<p>RICHARDSON HIGHWAY STAGING AREA</p>
15 AUG 2003	reclaim Staging Area.dwg