

# APPENDIX

## **D** VEGETATION COMMUNITIES



## Vegetation Communities

| Vegetation Community           | Description  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Meadow Community<br>(B094)     | The Meadow Community (B094) are located primarily in disturbed area along the edges of the existing highway and along the cleared pipeline and hydro corridors. The community is dominated by herbaceous vegetation consisting of forbs and graminoids with a limited amount of trees and shrubs present. Vegetation species present in this community include: Bluejoint Reedgrass, Reed Canary Grass, Narrow-leaved Cattail, Broadleaf Cattail, Yellow Marsh Marigold, Water Horsetail, Dwarf Raspberry, Northern Beech Fern, Spotted Joe-pye-weed, Spotted Jewelweed, Blueflag, Hard-stemmed Bulrush, Greater Bladder Sedge, Awl-fruited Sedge, and Canada Goldenrod.   |
| Shrub Community<br>(B096)      | The Shrub Community (B096) occurs regularly along the proposed route and consists primarily of a thicket type community with relatively dense shrub cover. It is likely these areas had been cleared or harvested for timber at some point and have been left to regrow. For the most part, this community transitions to a more developed forest community of young trees or lowland communities. Species present in this community include: Specked Alder, Beaked Hazel, Highbush Cranberry, Mountain Maple, Red-osier Dogwood, Heart-leaved Willow, Prickly Rose, Spotted Jewelweed, Canadian Bluejoint, Marsh Marigold, Dwarf Raspberry, Large-leaved Aster, Regenerating White Spruce, Trembling Aspen, Balsam Poplar, and White Birch.   |
| Spruce-Fir Conifer<br>(B101)   | The Spruce-Fir Conifer Community are located in three isolated areas within the project area. Species present in this community include: White Spruce, Balsam Fir, Tamarack, Bunch Berry, Wild-lily-of-the-valley, and Bracted Honeysuckle.  |
| Aspen-Birch Hardwood<br>(B104) | The Aspen-Birch Hardwood Community is the most abundant community along within the study area, occupying upland areas with both young and old communities. Trembling Aspen is the dominant tree species with the majority of trees being young in age and likely a result of past timber harvesting operations or land clearing. Additional species within this community include: White Birch, Black Ash, Beaked Hazel, Red-osier Dogwood, Northern Bush-honeysuckle, Mountain Maple, Green Alder, Highbush Cranberry, Dwarf raspberry, Red Raspberry, Large-leaved Aster, Common Oak Fern, Interrupted Fern, Spinulose Woodfern, Lady Fern, Ostrich Fern, Bracken Fern, Wild Strawberry, Tall buttercup, Nodding Trillium, Red Trillium, Wild Sarsaparilla, Bladder Sedge, Pink Pyrola, Twinflower, and Squashberry. |

| Vegetation Community                           | Description   |
|--|---|
| Intolerant Hardwood Swamp (B130)               | The Intolerant Hardwood Swamp Community within the study is a result of the silty soils that retain water for periods of time during the spring and fall, however, during the summer, these areas dry up though wetland plant species remain dominant. Species within this community include: Balsam Poplar, White Birch, Red Maple, Speckled Alder, Highbush Cranberry, Brownish Sedge, Lady Fern, Interrupted Fern, Ostrich Fern, Bladder Sedge, Cow Parsnip, Spotted Joe-pye-weed, Wild Sarsaparilla, Nodding Trillium, Marsh Marigold and Dwarf Raspberry.  |
| Mineral Meadow Marsh (B142)                    | The Mineral Meadow Marsh Community is primarily located within the cleared portions of the existing highway corridor, along the utility corridors, and in areas associated with open water features. Vegetation species within this community include: Blue-joint Reedgrass, Reed Canary Grass, Water Horsetail, Dwarf Raspberry, Northern Beech Fern, Spotted Joe-pyeweed, Spotted Jewelweed, Blueflag, Hard-stemmed Bulrush, Greater Bladder Sedge and Awlfruted Sedge.   |
| Open Rock Barren (B165)                        | The Open Rock Barren Community is primarily located along the west portion of the proposed highway four-laning, to the west of Meyers Road East. Additional small areas of rock barren are located along the utility corridors and have likely been formed through vegetation clearing. Vegetation species present in this community include: White Birch, Showy Mountain Ash, Three-toothed Cinquefoil, Rock Polypody, Fireweed, Yarrow, Meadow Hawkweed, Northern Bush-honeysuckle, Prickly Rose, Velvet-leaved Blueberry, Early Lowbush Blueberry, Wild Strawberry, Wild-lily-of-the-valley, Tufted Vetch, Wild Sarsaparilla and Showy Mountain-ash.   |
| Anthropogenic (ANTH) and Cultural Meadow (CUM) | Cultural and Anthropogenic communities are abundant along the existing and proposed highway four-laning. These areas are highly disturbed and are periodically mowed or cleared as they are associated with either residential or agricultural land use. Vegetation species present in these communities include: Red Clover, Tufted Vetch, Common Yarrow, White Sweet Clover, Fireweed, Wood Anemone, Garden Bird's-foot-trefoil, Meadow Timothy, Reed Canary Grass, Northern Bush-honeysuckle, Bracken Fern, Large-leaf Aster, Oxeye Daisy, Common Dandelion, Meadow Hawkweed, Red Raspberry, Canada Goldenrod, Red-osier Dogwood and regenerating White Spruce, Jack Pine, Trembling Aspen, and Balsam Poplar. |