

## APPENDIX D

# **Botanical Survey of Torbrook C & D Disposal and Recovery Site**

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## Introduction

This survey was carried out on April 11, 2012 by botanist, Ruth E. Newell, B.Sc. (Hons.), M.Sc.

Areas surveyed on the property (Fig.1) included the completed C & D cells (Figs. 2 & 3), the current C & D and asbestos cells (Figs. 4 & 5) and the future C & D and asbestos cells (Figs. 6, 7 & 8). A survey was also conducted in the vicinity of the settling/fire pond (Figs. 9 & 10).

Peripheral woodland on both sides of the disposal site was also surveyed (Figs. 11 & 12).

The survey technique employed involved a careful meander over the various cells whilst recording all vascular plant species observed. Suitability of each habitat for potential rare species was also considered. Photos of areas surveyed were taken.

It should be noted that this survey was conducted very early in the growing season and as a result, there are a number of plants that could not be identified to species due to lack of flowers and/or fruit. Other plant species had not yet begun to grow.

Prior to this survey, a list of potential species-at-risk based on existing records within a radius of 100 km from the survey location, was obtained from the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre (ACCDC). TABLE 1 shows a list of potential federally and provincially listed vascular plant species and their presence/absence on site. TABLE 2 shows a list of potential non-listed, rare vascular plant species.

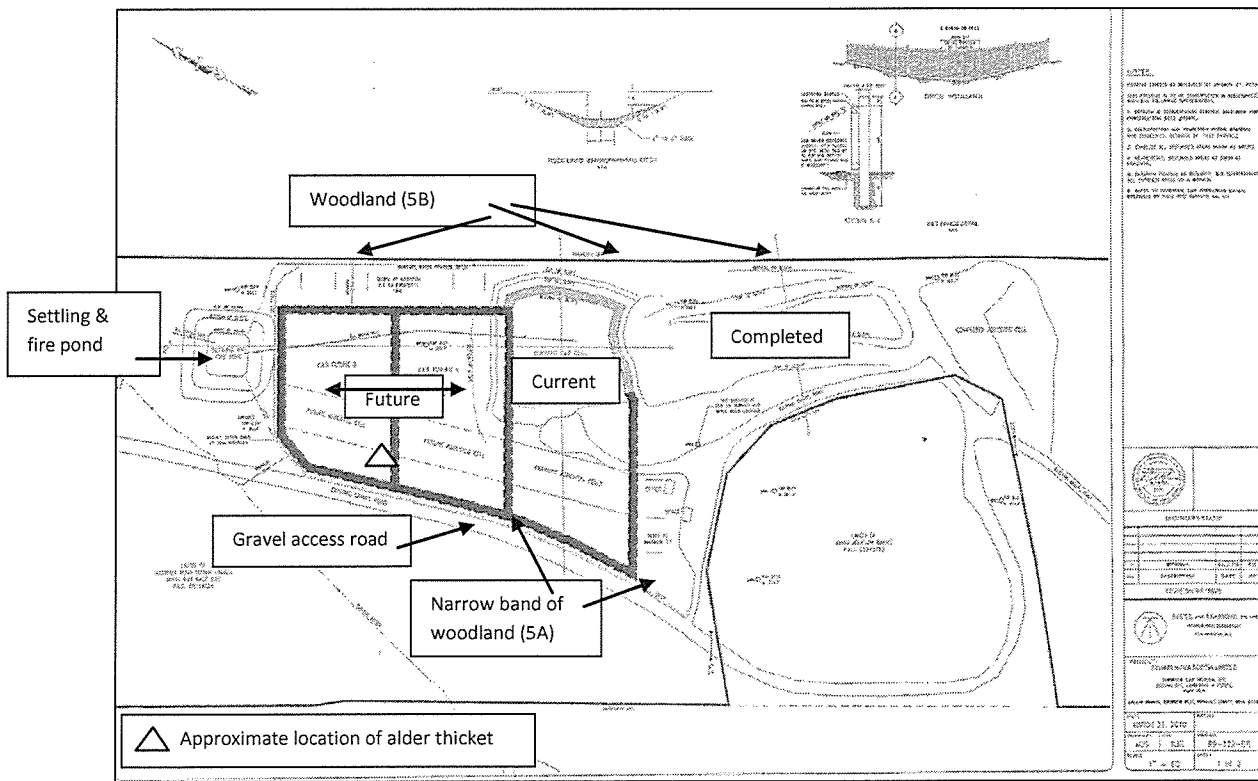


Figure 1. Diagram of Torbrook C & D Disposal and Recovery Site.

## Results

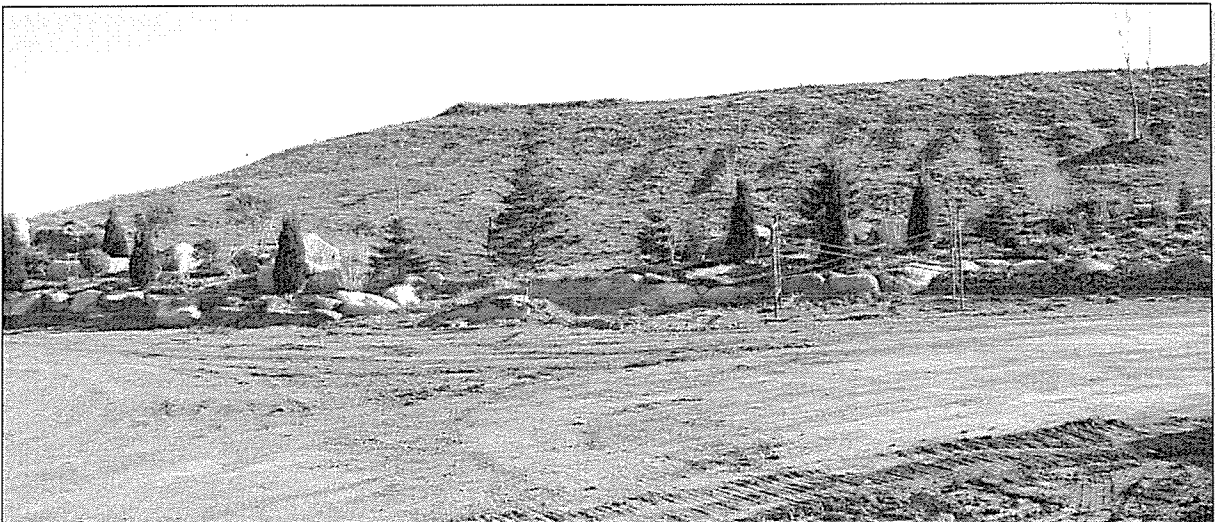
Figure 1 shows the locations of the various areas surveyed. A description of the vegetation present on the past, present and future disposal areas is given below.

### 1. Completed C & D and Asbestos Cells

This disposal area (Figs. 2 & 3) had been covered over with soil and is in the process of being planted with young spruce (*Picea* sp.). In addition to the spruce plantings, a number of young black walnut trees (*Juglans nigra*) are scheduled to be planted this year. A variety of herbaceous plants are present on the mound. The majority of these consist of non-native, weedy species.

Herbaceous vascular plants observed on the completed C & D cell mound included a variety of grasses (grasses were not identified unless fruiting material from last year was present), evening primrose (*Oenothera* sp.), Common Speedwell (*Veronica officinalis*), English Plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), Common Plantain (*Plantago major*), Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*), a number of clover species including Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* ssp. *falcata*) and Red Clover (*Trifolium pratense*), Coltsfoot (*Tussilago farfara*), several species of dock (*Rumex* spp.), Wild Carrot (*Daucus carota*), Common St. John's-wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), Yellow Rocket (*Barbarea vulgaris*), Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*), Sheep Sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), violets (*Viola* spp.), Mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*).

The periphery of the mound is being landscaped with a mix of garden and native species and large boulders.



**Figure 2.** Completed C & D cells, in the process of being planted with a variety of native and non-native trees, shrubs and herbaceous species.



**Figure 3.** A close-up of some of the vegetation on the completed C & D cells including a recently planted young spruce (*Picea* sp.).