

MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

## **Existing Conditions Fact Sheet: Visual Aesthetics**

Issued: October 2023

The Visual Aesthetic component explores how the landscape and views may change as a result of the Community Access Road. The visual environment of the study area is directly shaped by the visual landscape, including the region's hydrology, terrain and vegetation makeup.

The landscape is relatively flat with some landforms relating to the Ontario Shield, located south of the Albany River, and is predominantly composed of wetland ecosystems and coniferous forest. There is minimal open landscape, with spare forest areas' dense brush reducing visibility at ground level.

The northern parts of the Project Development Area are characterized by wetland landscapes, such as fens and swamps, resulting in more open views and a potentially higher visual impact from the proposed development, while moving south from Marten Falls and beyond the Albany River reveals a landscape with more forests, reducing visibility and offering greater mitigation potential for future development and the construction of the Community Access Road.



Minor creek with spare forest creating potential opportunities for open views. In this water crossing riparian vegetation and tall dense brush reduce visibility.

## Study Areas

Study areas identify the geographic limit where potential effects of the road may occur. The existing conditions are documented for three study areas:

- Project Development Area (PDA): the area of direct disturbance
- Local Study Area (LSA): the area where direct effects of the road are likely to take place
- Regional Study Area (RSA): the area where indirect effects are likely to occur

## **Contact Information**

You are welcome to contact the Project Team at any time with questions or comments.

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## **Visual Aesthetics**

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Moderate creek, protected and sheltered by vegetation on either side including, trees, tall shrubs and riparian species. The vegetation blocks sightlines down the creek.



Moderate river system sheltered by vegetation on both sides. Vegetation includes a dense canopy of trees, tall shrubs and riparian species which reduce visibility. Proposed development may impact Visual Environment depending on the sites land uses.



