APPENDIX E-2

Terrain Classification Codes and Terminology

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Terrain Classification Legend[1]

Texture			
Symbol	**Name**	**Size (mm)**	**Other Characteristics**
a	blocks	>256	angular particles
b	boulders	>256	rounded & subrounded particles
k	cobble	64-256	rounded & subrounded particles
p	pebbles	2-64	rounded & subrounded particles
s	sand	2-.062	
z	silt	.062-.002	
c	clay	<.002	
d	mixed fragments	>2	mix of rounded and angular particles
g	gravel	>2	mix of boulders, cobbles and pebbles
x	angular fragments	>2	mix of rubble and blocks
r	rubble	2-256	angular particles
m	mud	<.062	mix of clay and silt
y	shells	-	shells or shell fragments
e	fibric	well-preserved fibre: (40%) identifies after rubbing	
u	mesic	intermediate decomposition between fibric and mesic	
h	humic	decomposed organic material; (10%) identified after rubbing	

Deliminiters		
Symbol	**Name**	**Definition**
•	bullet	components are approximately equal
/	single slash	approximately 60/40 component in front is dominant
//	double slash	approximately 80//20 component in front considerably more extensive

[1] Howes, D.E., and E. Kenk. 1997. Terrain Classification System for British Columbia (Revised Edition), Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Crown Lands, Victoria, BC, Canada.

Surficial Materials			
Symbol	**Name**	**Assumed Status of Formative Process**	**Description**
A	anthropogenic	(A)	Man-made or man-modified material
C	colluvial	(A)	Products of mass wastage
D	weathered rock	(A)	In situ bedrock
E	eolian	(I)	Materials deposited by wind action
F	fluvial	(I)	River deposits
F^G	glaciofluvial	(I)	Fluvial materials deposited by meltwater streams
I	ice	(A)	Permanent snow; glaciers and icefields
L	lacustrine	(I)	Lake sediments: includes littoral deposits
L^G	glaciolacustrine	(I)	Sediments deposited in glacial lakes
M	morainal	(I)	Material deposited directly by glaciers
O	organic	(A)	Accumulation/decay of vegetative matter
R	bedrock	(-)	Outcrops/rocks covered by less than 10 cm
U	undifferentiated	(-)	Layered sequence three materials or more
V	volcanic	(I)	Unconsolidated pyroclastic sediments
W	marine	(I)	Marine sediments: includes littoral deposits
W^G	glaciomarine	(I)	Sediments of glacial origin deposited in a marine environment

Qualifiers		
Symbol	**Name**	**Description**
G	glacial	Used to qualify surficial material where there is evidence that glacier ice affected the mode of deposition of material
A	active	Used to qualify surficial material and geomorphological processes with regard to their current state of activity
I	inactive	

Surface Expression		
Symbol	**Name**	**Description**
a	moderate slope	Unidirectional surface: 16 to 26°
b	blanket	A mantle of unconsolidated materials: >1 m thick
c	cone	A cone or sector of a cone: >15°
d	depression	A sharply demarked hollow
f	fan	A sector of a cone: up to 15°
h	hummocky	Hillocks and hollows, irregular plan: 15 to 35°
j	gentle slope	Unidirectional surface: 4 to 15°
k	moderately steep	Unidirectional surface 27 to 35°
m	rolling	Elongate hillocks: parallel in plan: 3 to 15°
p	plain	Unidirectional surface: 0 to 3 °
r	ridged	Elongated hillocks: parallel in plan: 15 to 35°
s	steep	Steep slopes: >35°
t	terraced	Step like topography
u	undulating	Hillocks and hollows: irregular in plan: 0 to 15°
v	veneer	Mantle of unconsolidated material: 10 cm to 1 m thick
w	mantle of variable thickness	Surficial material of variable thickness: (0 to about 3 m)
x	thin veneer	Similar to veneer (2-20 cm thick)

Geomorphological Processes			
Symbol	**Name**	**Assumed Status of Formative Process**	**Description**
A	avalanches	(A)	Terrain modified by snow avalanches
B	braiding	(A)	Diverging/converging channels: unvegetated bars
C	cryoturbation	(A)	Sediments modifies by frost heaving and churning
D	deflation	(A)	removal of sand and silt by wind action
E	channelled	(I)	channel formation by glacial meltwater
F	slow mass movement	(A)	slow down-slope movement of masses of cohesive or non-cohesive material and/or bedrock
H	kettled	(I)	depressions due to the melting of buried glacier ice
I	irregular channel	(A)	a single, clearly defined main channel displaying irregular turns and bends
J	anastamosing channel	(A)	A channel zone where channels diverge and converge around vegetated islands
K	karst	(A)	Processes associated with the solution of carbonates
L	surface seepage	(A)	Abundant surface seepage
M	meandering channels	(A)	Channels characterized by regular patterns of bends with uniformed amplitude and wave length
N	nivation	(A)	Erosion beneath and along the margin of snow patches
P	piping	(A)	subterranean erosion by flowing water
R	rapid mass movement	(A)	rapid downslope movement of dry, moist or saturated debris
S	solifluction	(A)	slow downslope movement of saturated overburden across a frozen or otherwise impermeable substrate
U	inundation	(A)	Seasonally under water due to high water table
V	gully erosion	(A)	Parellel/subparallel ravines due to erosion by various processes
W	washing	(A)	removal of fines by waves and running water
X	permafrost	(A)	Processes controlled by the presence of permafrost
Z	periglacial processes	(A)	Solifluction, cryoturbation and nivation processes occurring within a single unit