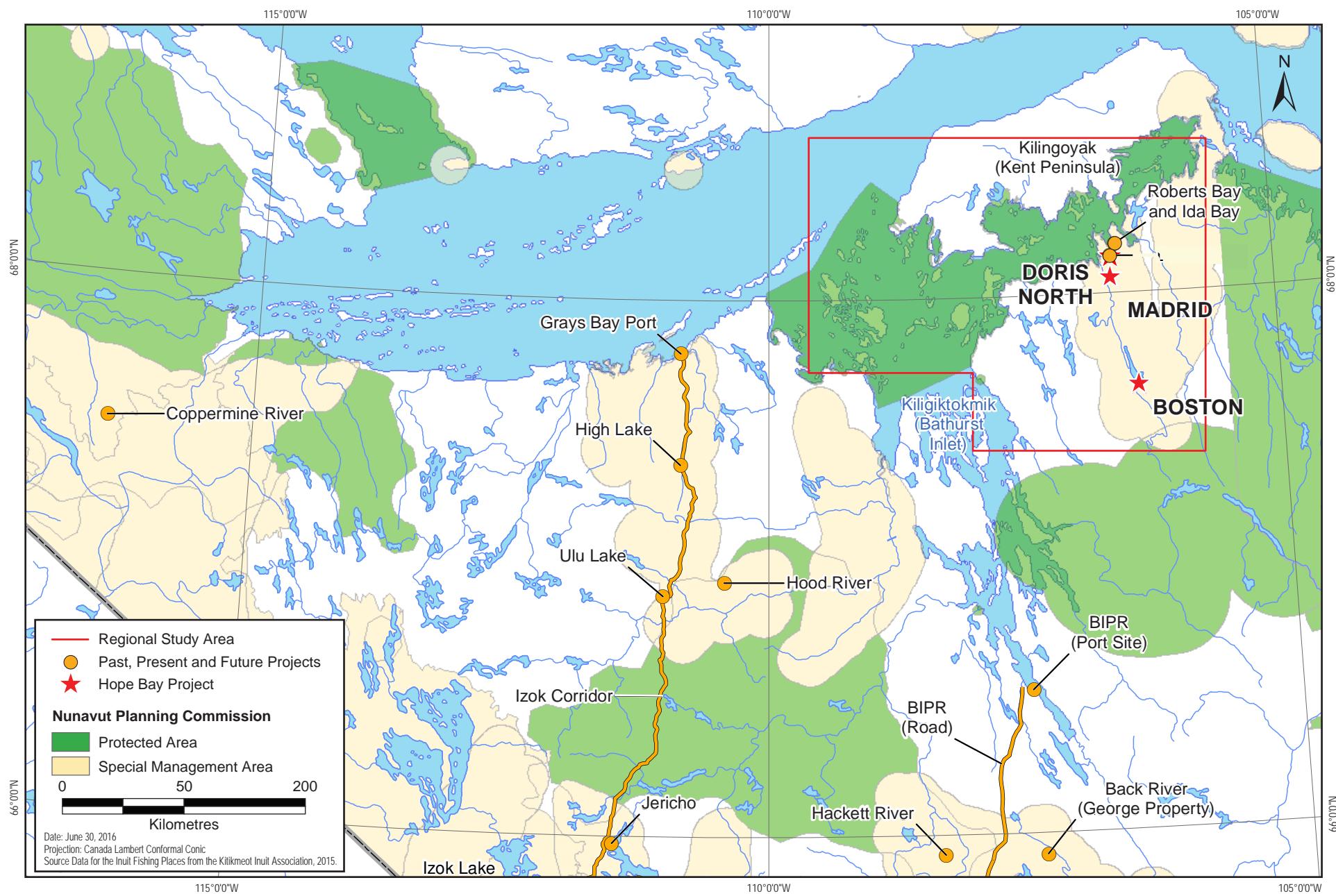


## Figure 4.6-1 Cumulative Effects Assessment Study Area



There is potential for one negative residual effects of the Project (Phase 2 and the complete Hope Bay Project) to interact cumulatively with other projects and developments:

- **Change in harvesting success/ harvesting practice - Fishing**

#### Potential Cumulative Interactions

The following considers potential cumulative interactions of other project components and activities with the residual effect of change in harvesting success/ harvesting practice for fishing.

##### *Potential Cumulative Interactions - Fishing Practices*

As described in Section 4.5.5, there is potential for local land users to avoid fishing at Aimaokatalok as a result of the Phase 2 Project, resulting in a residual effect to harvest practice. No residual effect is anticipated for overall fishing success.

Figure 4.6-2 identifies the location of frequented fishing (Figure 21 of the NTKP report; Banci and Spicker 2015) in relation to past, current and reasonably foreseeable future, which may interact cumulatively with the Phase 2 Project and Approved Projects. The Roberts Bay/Ida Bay silver mine is the one (1) project within the CEA study area that has potential to interact cumulatively with significant residual effects of the Phase 2 Project on fishing practices.

The Roberts Bay/Ida Bay mine closed in 1975 and the sites were abandoned in the mid-1990s. A tailings pond and waste rock piles remain. Remediation work was undertaken from 2007 to 2010 and site monitoring will continue for 25 years, including monitoring of water quality in a channel to Roberts Lake and in other streams near the landfill. The remediation work identified non-hazardous waste left in the landfill and it is unlikely that this waste will have effects on fish or fish habitat.

Baseline information indicates that there is continued use of the seasonal camps at Ida Bay and Roberts Lake (within range of the Roberts Bay/Ida Bay project), and no concerns were identified during consultation regarding impacts of Roberts Bay/Ida Bay project on fishing activities.

The completed remediation and ongoing monitoring program for the Ida Bay/Roberts Bay silver mine is anticipated to mitigate potential for cumulative effects with the Phase 2 Project.

#### Conclusion

**No residual cumulative effects of Phase 2 or Hope Bay Project on land use VSECs are predicted.** No potential cumulative effects on land use activities are identified and no cumulative effects are assessed.

## 4.7 TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS

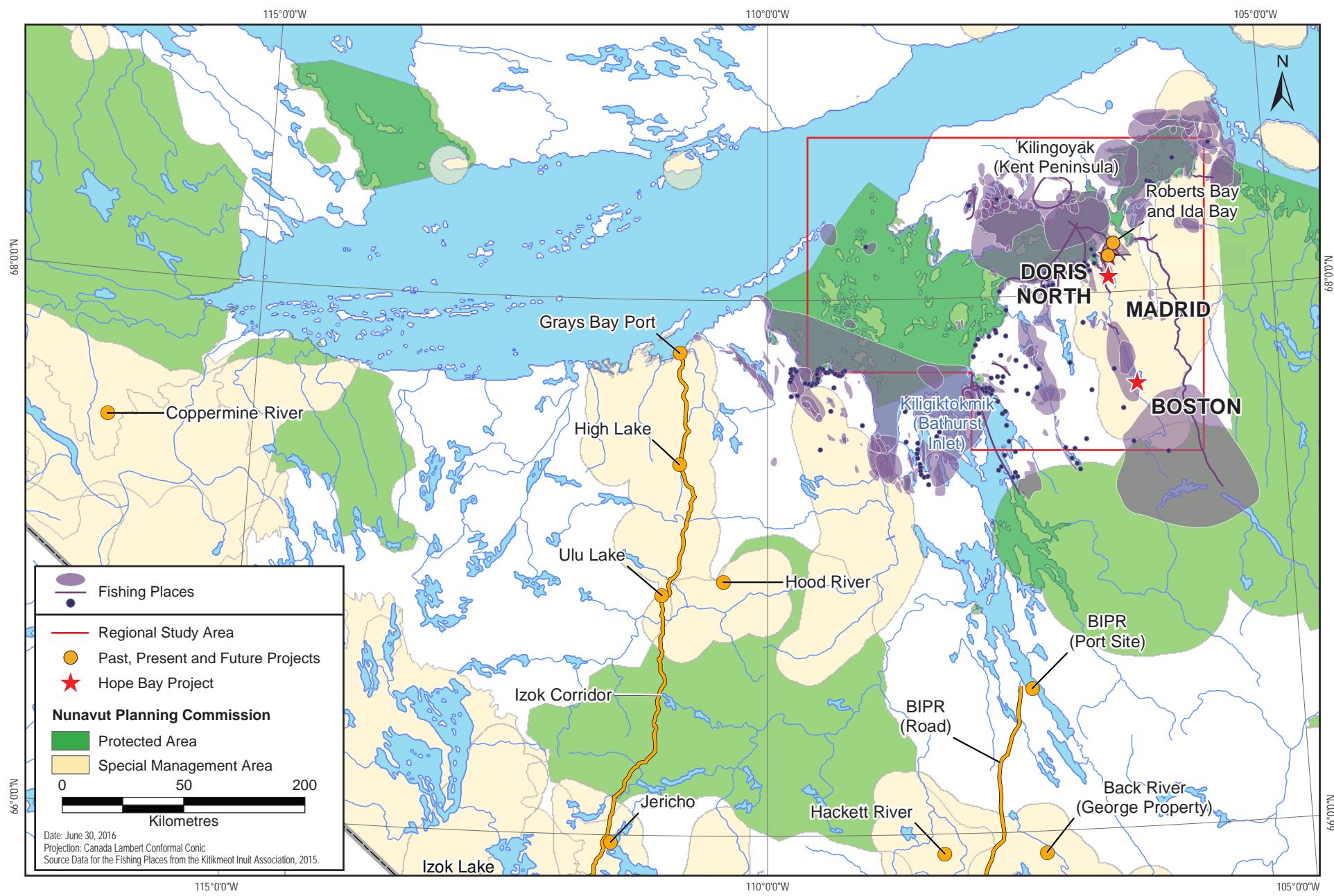
The EIS guidelines (NIRB) define transboundary effects as those effects linked directly to the activities of the Project inside the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA), which occur across provincial, territorial, international boundaries or may occur outside of the NSA (NIRB 2012a). Transboundary effects of the Phase 2 Project have the potential to act cumulatively with other projects and activities outside the NSA.

### 4.7.1 Methodology Overview

The following systematic process was used to determine which VECs or VSECs would be included in the transboundary effects assessment:

Figure 4.6-2

Cumulative Effects Assessment  
Study Area and Fishing Locations



- Identify any potential residual adverse effects of the Project (Phase 2 and the complete Hope Bay Project) on a VEC or VSEC, after mitigation measures are applied, that may result in transboundary effects.
- Determine whether the residual effects of the Project may operate cumulatively in a transboundary context with the environmental effects of projects or activities located in other jurisdictions. Assess whether the Project will interact cumulatively in a meaningful way (i.e., is “likely” to heighten effects).
- Describe mitigation measures, where feasible, that may be applied where measurable effects are described.

#### 4.7.2 Potential Transboundary Effects

The land use VSECs and effects examined in the transboundary assessment of the Phase 2 and Hope Bay Project were selected based on the potential interaction with the residual effects of the Project and informed through consultation, available TK information, review of projects in the region and professional expertise. Transboundary effects of the Phase 2 Project have the potential to act cumulatively with other projects and activities outside the land use RSA. Based on this information and in consideration of other potential transboundary effects in the EIS, potential transboundary effects for the land use VSEC focuses on caribou, and specifically potential change in harvesting success/harvesting practice of caribou.

The wildlife effects assessment (Volume 4, Section 9) identifies potential transboundary effects to caribou due to caribou movements across jurisdictional boundaries. TMAC identified transboundary communities and groups that potentially depend on caribou for livelihood and subsistence activities and, therefore, have potential to experience effects of the Phase 2 Project. Given the importance of caribou for land users in the Kitikmeot Region, and more broadly in the Northwest Territories, a transboundary effect of the Phase 2 Project on caribou has potential to affect the caribou harvesters.

The caribou CEA (Volume 4, Section 9) concludes that Phase 2 and the Approved Projects have potential cumulative effects due to habitat loss and disturbance for the Dolphin and Union, and Beverly/Anika, caribou herds. This determination is relevant to the assessment of transboundary effects of land users who depend on these herds.

- For habitat loss, the caribou CEA identified a not-significant residual cumulative effect as the affected area and proportion of this area within the seasonal and annual herd range is small, and extremely unlikely to result in measurable herd-level population changes. The effect is expected to be local and, therefore, not transboundary.
- Disturbance of other projects and activities (namely two proposed mines within the caribou CEA boundary: Izok Corridor Project and the Hope Bay Belt) is anticipated to be not significant. The effect is expected to be regional, but limited to ‘zones of influence’ surrounding the two projects. Potential effects are regional; however, the disturbances are not anticipated to result in changes to herd ranges. Therefore, cumulative effects to disturbance of caribou are not anticipated to be transboundary.

Overall, the results of the wildlife effects assessment finds that cumulative effects to caribou are not significant and no change in the abundance and distribution of wildlife regionally is expected (Volume 4, Section 9). Therefore, as no transboundary effects are anticipated for caribou population or distribution, it is unlikely that harvesters outside the Kitikmeot Region will experience a change in harvesting activities.

Section 4.6 of this chapter indicates that no cumulative effects are identified for changes in access to land use areas or to change in experience of nature for any land use activity. Therefore, it is not anticipated that land users outside of the Kitikmeot Region are likely to experience transboundary effects on land use access or changes in experience of nature while undertaking land use activities.

Overall, no transboundary effects are identified for land use VSECs.

#### 4.8 IMPACT STATEMENT

This assessment considered potential effects to the environment from Phase 2 and the Hope Bay Project that may result in effects on Commercial Land and Resource Use, and Traditional Activities and Knowledge VSECs. Commercial land uses include guided and HTO-led hunting and the tourism industry/outdoor recreation. Land uses include hunting, trapping, fishing and use of cultural sites and travel routes.

Potential effects for land and resource use include:

- change in access to land and resource use areas
- changes in harvesting success/harvesting practice; and
- change in experience of nature.

Mitigation measures were identified through a review of best management practices from similar mining projects in the Arctic, comments from community members during scoping meetings, formal review by the KIA, scientific literature and professional experience. Mitigation measures to address potential effects on VECs and VSECs were considered with respect to avoiding or minimizing changes to the environment and resources that land users rely on. Mitigation measures described to address effects to air quality (Volume 4, Section 2), noise (Volume 4, Section 3), soil and landforms (Volume 3, Section 7), terrestrial wildlife and wildlife habitat (Volume 4, Section 9), aquatic environment (Volume 5, Section 6, 10 and 11), and heritage resource (Volume 6, Section 2) are all relevant to reducing potential effects to Commercial Land and Resource Use and Traditional Activities and Knowledge VSECs.

Additionally, there are specific measures to mitigate effects to land and resource use. These include:

- minimizing the Project Development Area to reduce habitat loss for wildlife;
- facilitating access to facilities and roads, as described in the IIBA;
- establishing an Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee; and
- implementing a Community Involvement Plan.

After the application of mitigation measures, the assessment identified one residual effects for the Traditional Activities and Knowledge VSECs; no residual effects were identified for the Commercial Land and Resource use VSEC.

For the Traditional Activities and Knowledge VSEC, one residual effect was identified relating to **change in harvesting success/harvesting practice for fishing**. There is potential for a residual effect to fishing practices due to avoidance of Aimaokatalok, a frequented harvesting area, associated with perceived environmental effects. This residual effect is determined to be **Not Significant**.

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