

Table 3-1. Justification for Selection of VECs

Valued Environmental Components	Relative Abundance or Status	Public Concern	Professional Concern	Economic Importance	Regulatory Concern	Comments
Valued Ecosystem Components						
Geology/ Soils		√	√		√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project infrastructure integrity Effect of road on local steep slopes
Hydrology and Surface Water Quality		√	√		√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alberta <i>Water Act</i> Federal <i>Navigable Waters Protection Act</i>
Vegetation (including wetlands) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native vegetation Special Status Species 	√	√	√		√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alberta <i>Water Act</i> Federal <i>Species at Risk Act</i> Edmonton Corporate Tree Management Policy C456 Alberta Interim Wetland Policy Natural Areas policies
Wildlife <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat Movement Corridors Special Status Species 	√	√	√		√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal <i>Species at Risk Act</i> Federal <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i> Alberta <i>Wildlife Act</i>
Fish <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat Special Status Species 		√	√		√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal <i>Fisheries Act</i> Federal <i>Species at Risk Act</i>
Valued Socio-economic Components						
Land Disposition and Zoning					√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alberta <i>Public Lands Act</i> <i>Big Lake ASP</i>
Outdoor Recreation		√	√			
Visual Resources		√	√			
Valued Heritage Components						
Historical Resources		√	√		√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alberta <i>Historical Resources Act</i>