



Figure 3-32: Example of Reclaimed Right-of-Way (Before and After Reclamation)

Operations Activities

The pipelines and facilities will be designed for safe operations. Emergency shutdown systems will be designed for remote or manual operation if an unsafe condition is detected.

Operation of the gathering and processing facilities will be continuously monitored and controlled from the Inuvik area facility. Operation of the gas and NGL pipelines will be continuously monitored and controlled from the MCC in Calgary. The gas compressors will be started up and shut down remotely from this location. Emergency shutdown of the pipelines or pumping or compressor stations will be initiated from the MCC, if required, or locally when personnel are on site.

Pipeline operations work will require that crews travel to various locations along the pipeline. Scheduled operations and maintenance visits outside the Inuvik area facility will be done primarily by helicopter. Crew sizes are estimated to range from two to five people. Most routine travel will be to appurtenance sites, such as valve sites, for a short period (e.g. one to two days). Travel to most locations is expected to be infrequent, likely two or three times a year.

Maintenance Activities

Pipeline and right-of-way inspection and repair programs will be planned and executed to ensure a safe and reliable operation and to reduce any adverse environmental effects. Air, water and ground transportation will be used, depending on the location, need and season.

An aerial surveillance program will include scheduled inspections and be incorporated with routine operation and maintenance flights. Aerial surveillance will be conducted weekly during initial operations. This frequency is expected to be reduced, depending on right-of-way performance and industry activity along the pipeline corridor. Ground surveillance will also be implemented, at intervals that are yet to be determined. Vegetation, such as trees and shrubs will be controlled along the right-of-way and near facilities to maintain visibility during patrols and to facilitate access during maintenance.

Over the project life, non-routine maintenance activities will be undertaken, where required, along the pipeline and at facility sites. Mitigation might be required to address the effects of thaw settlement, frost heave, slope movements and erosion. Site-specific plans will be developed using data from operating conditions, trend analyses, and engineering assessments.

When practical, major work activities will be planned to occur in winter to facilitate access to the site. Crews of up to 20, and several pieces of equipment, might be mobilized to the site.

