Permafrost thaw

Causes:

Geomorphic,

Vegetational,

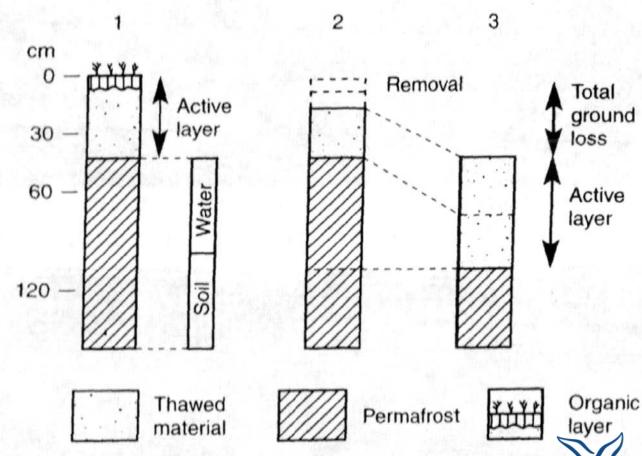
Climatic

Origins:

Natural,

Man





Permafrost thaw - Thermokarst



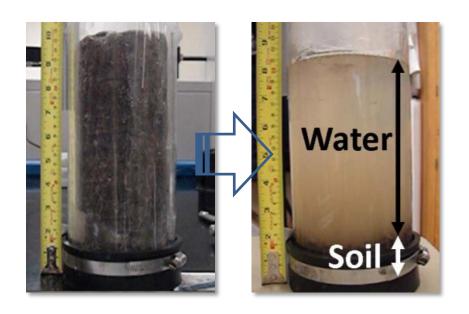








Ground Ice and subsidence



Thaw consolidation

Time-dependent compression resulting from thawing of frozen ground and subsequent draining of excess water.

> Simple to assess, yet quite destructive



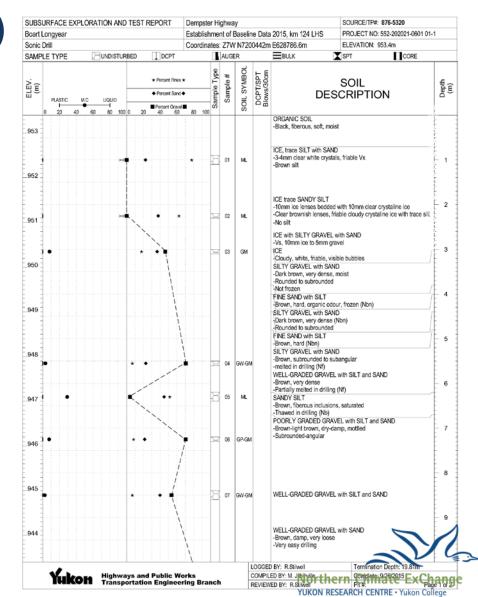
Geotechnical boreholes

Coring (texture, excess ice content)

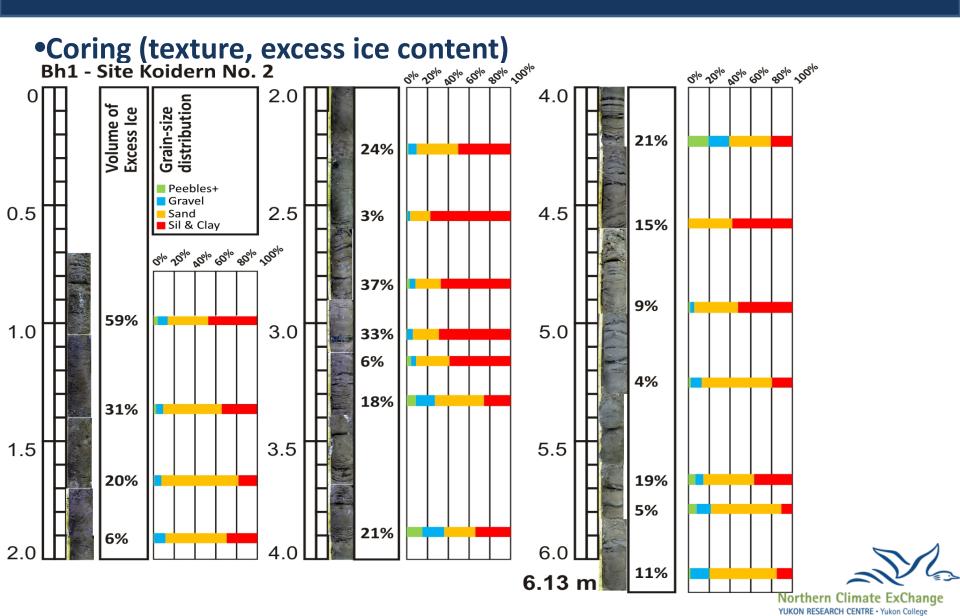








Geotechnical boreholes



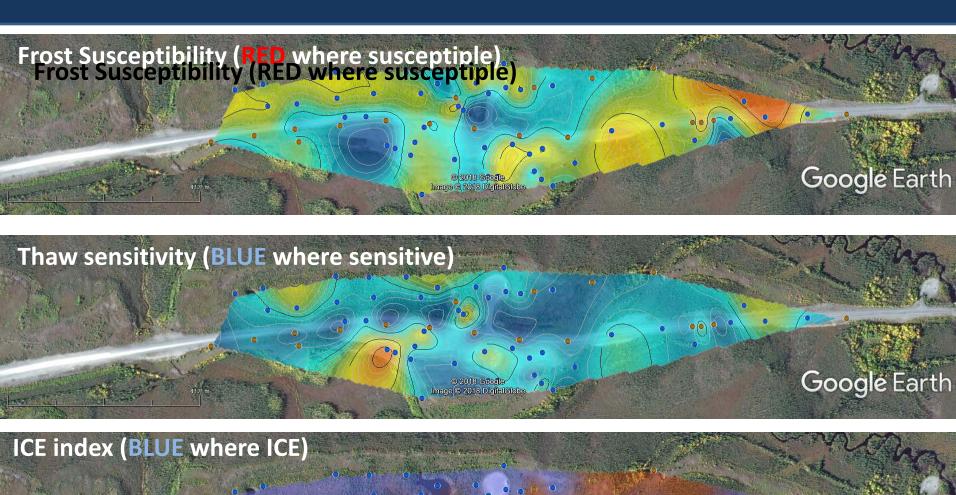
Dry Creek Area





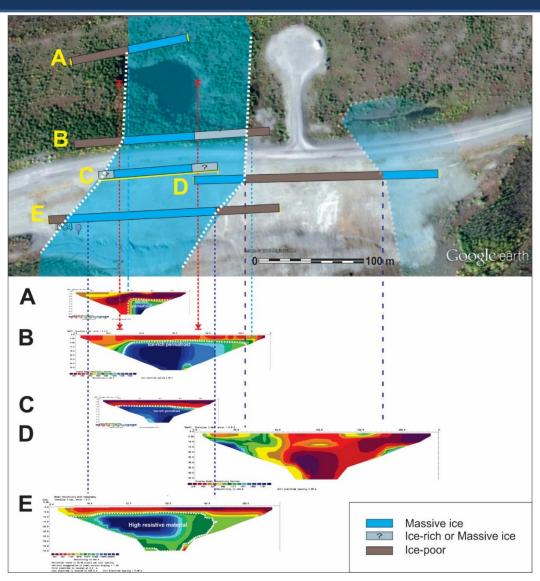


Dry Creek Area



Google Earth

Dry Creek Area



Boreholes missed the ice because:

- Drilled from the embankment
- Not deep enough (< 10 m)

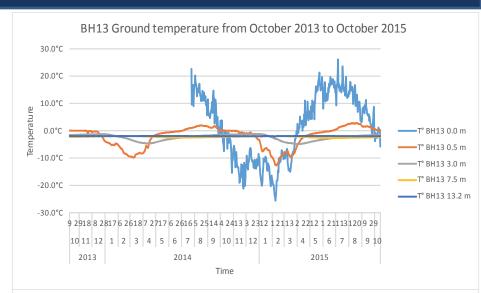
ERT helped to orient deeper borehole, that confirmed geophysical information.

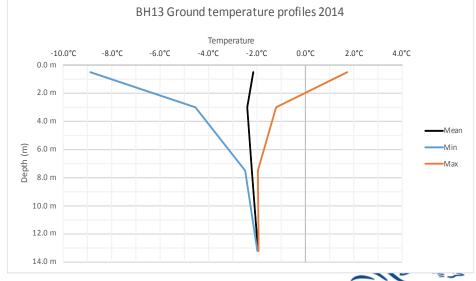
Ground temperature

•Ground Temperature monitoring

- Active layer thickness
- Ground thermal regime
- Long term trend
- Modelling





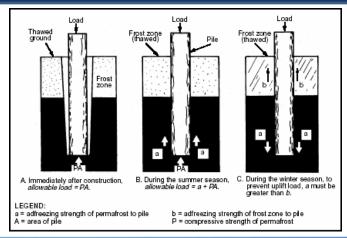


Temperature

Active layer thickening

- Frost jacking
- o thermokarst





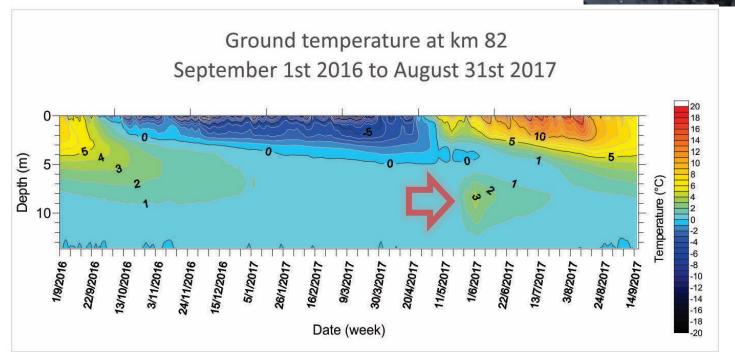


Temperature

Ground thermal regime

- o multi-sensor monitoring
- o long term monitoring
- **oCheap logging system (>\$500)**







Guides

Flat Loop Thermosyphon Foundations in Warm Permafrost

Prepared for Government of the NT Asset Management Division Public Works and Services

and

Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Canadian Council of Professional Engineers



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March 2008









Guides

GEOTECHNICAL SITE INVESTIGATION GUIDELINES FOR BUILDING FOUNDATIONS IN PERMAFROST



Prepared for:

Department of Public Works and Services Government of the Northwest Territories

I. Holubec Consulting Inc.
January 2010

