

# STONEY TRAIL AGGREGATE RESOURCE

BLV GROUP

## Community Newsletter

January 2024

### Overview of STAR Pit

The Stoney Trail Aggregate Resource (STAR) is one of six existing gravel operations in this area. These operations supply critical aggregate needs throughout Calgary and the surrounding area.

These lands are owned by the province and the STAR Pit is operated by the BLV Group, which is a joint venture of three of Calgary's most experienced sand and gravel pit operators, under a contract with Alberta Transportation (AT).

STAR site is a significant source of low cost, environmentally sustainable, high quality aggregates with an estimated future reserve life of 25 plus years.



### Alberta Transportation Projects

In 2024, it is expected that several Alberta Transportation Contractors will continue to utilize the STAR site to supply Aggregate and Asphalt for major provincial highway upgrades in the Calgary area. The additional onsite crushers and Portable Asphalt Plants for these projects are expected to meet STAR's high level of standards.

Throughout 2023, the STAR site supplied aggregate and asphalt for projects including Highway 566 widening east of Balzac plus Highway 567 & Highway 772 maintenance and upgrades. In addition, the STAR site will continue to support both the Cochrane interchange upgrades and sections of the Deerfoot Trail Widening.



### 2023 Site Activity: Review of a Busy Year

Calgary area's growing demand for aggregate has led to 2023 trending to finish with a ~15% increase of overall volume provided from the STAR site compared to prior year.

2024 will utilize offsite crushing of material at alternate locations to reduce the amount of material processed in pit compared to 2023. Among this activity, 16.5 Ha of reclaimed area is planned to be utilized for UoC live-stock grazing along southern edge of STAR site starting in 2024.

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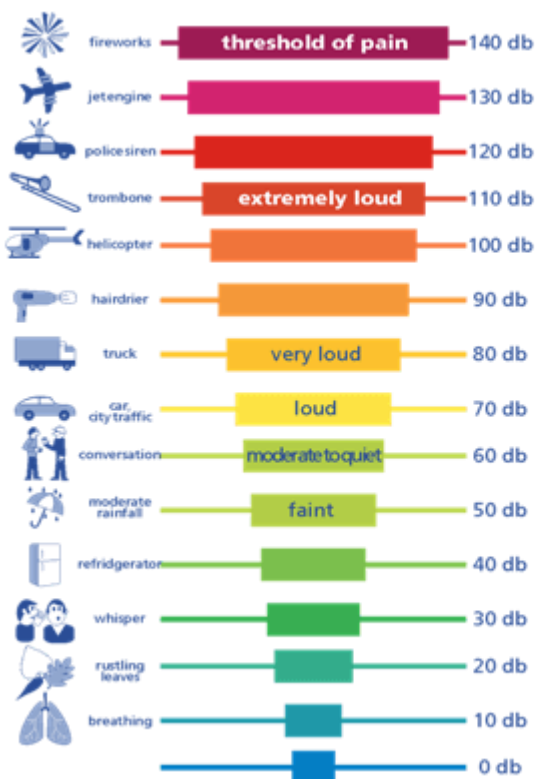
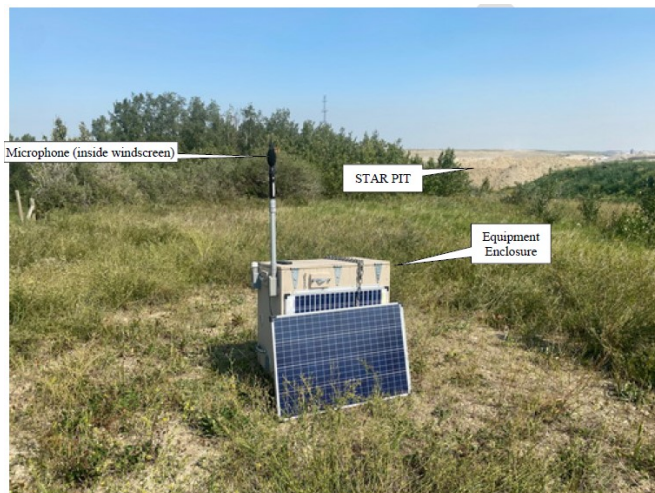
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## A Modern Touch of Sound Technology

Utilizing a combination of on-foot sound measurements of operational equipment and site wide topography from modern drone surveys, sound professionals have built a sound model for the STAR site and surrounding area.

This tool will create the ability to work directly with sound professionals to determine strategic improvements for maintaining favorable sound levels through the use of mitigation techniques such as additional sound berms, operational equipment configurations, and enclosures.



## Monitoring & Equipment Upgrades

Sound and air monitors are utilized to provide guidance on site performance. 2023 saw a complete upgrade of all monitoring equipment on site at both portable and stationary locations.

One change was the addition of a second meteorological station within the portable monitoring trailer to further improve accuracy on all measurements with respect to environmental influences such as wind speed, wind direction, and precipitation levels.

Utilizing this upgraded technology, the portable monitor trailer was also moved closer to operations at only 200m away from the nearest crushing source to have the best indication of sound levels generated within the existing sound berm. In addition, two separate week long sound studies using temporary portable monitors (seen above) were utilized during peak season on and off site to quantify the effectiveness of the current sound mitigation techniques.

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## Sound

- The mining sequence has been developed to allow for crushing operations to occur at points which are much lower than original ground level. This combined with perimeter berms and the orientation of product stockpiles creates natural barriers to limit sound for our neighbors.
- In addition, equipment that is used at STAR is kept in good operating condition and utilizes night time back up strobes instead of audible alarms. Care is taken in plant configuration, generators have specialized exhaust systems and the plants employ sound reduction technologies, such as enclosing pieces or lining components to further limit sound created at the source.



## Air

- Dust is kept to a minimum through the seasonal use of full time water trucks, reclamation of unused areas, application of dust suppression products to internal gravel haul routes and the paving and sweeping of key roadway areas at the entrance of the site.
- Crushing plants have dust suppression systems utilizing water sprays at key drop points, utilize specialized stacking conveyors, and all crushing ceases if wind speeds exceed a specified limit.



## Traffic

- BLV Group and Alberta Transportation are working with the City of Calgary and other industry participants to improve traffic flow in the area. This includes special focus on limiting the times haul traffic can utilize the critical intersection at 112th Avenue and Country Hills Blvd shared by gravel trucks and the community.
- The STAR site contributed close to 1.5 million dollars in 2023 alone to the City of Calgary through a Community Aggregate Payment (CAP Levy) Bylaw. These funds are intended to be used for haul route maintenance and improvements for those communities most affected.
- Currently the CAP Levy funds nighttime sweeping of NW haul routes and the repaving of some truck routes throughout the City. The BLV Group together with the gravel industry continue to advocate for projects to improve the critical haul routes in the NW area.



For more information and updates visit our Website at:  
[www.stoneytrailpit.ca](http://www.stoneytrailpit.ca)

**What is “Aggregates”?** The naturally occurring non-renewable resource of sand & gravel, which is essential to build and maintain the communities we live, work and play in. Gravel operations are tightly regulated in Alberta and, to limit environmental impacts and the cost to taxpayers, are ideally located as close to where the product is required as Mother Nature allows.

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