



# Grande Cache Coal Corporation

## Rare Plant Rescue

### Environment

Rare plant mitigation program includes plant rescue, cultivation and revegetation of *Saxifraga odontoloma* at Grande Cache Coal's No. 7 Mine.

#### **Objective:**

To salvage, cultivate, propagate and re-introduce *Saxifraga odontoloma* ("stream saxifrage") for reclamation use at Grande Cache Coal's No. 7 Mine.

#### **Background:**

The distribution of stream saxifrage in Alberta is very localized and the plant is considered a rare species. Grande Cache Coal's Environmental Impact Assessment identified a population that has been affected by the No. 7 Mine portal. Mitigation plans were established in 2004, starting with the salvage of individual plants, laboratory and greenhouse propagation, and transplant trials in the field.

#### **Approach:**

Stream saxifrage was collected and cuttings were taken and transplanted into pots. Seeds were also collected for germination trials. Grande Cache Coal initiated field trials to determine the feasibility of reestablishing stream saxifrage as part of future mine reclamation.

#### **Progress:**

Salvage and propagation of the stream saxifrage has been very successful. Grande Cache Coal's Environmental department maintains and monitors the transplant program.



Saxifraga Seedlings



Saxifraga on Both Sides of Upstream Two Camp Creek