



October 17, 2018

Honourable Ranj Pillai
Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources
Government of Yukon
Box 2703
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6

Chief Bruce Charlie
Vuntut Gwitchin Government
Box 94
Old Crow, YT Y0B 1N0

Dear Minister Pillai and Chief Charlie:

Re: North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan Annual Implementation Report 2017

We are pleased to provide you with this annual update on implementation activities for the North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan. The related annual meeting between our two governments to review implementation activities took place on March 7, 2018. The North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan Annual Implementation Report 2017 is enclosed for your information.

Implementation highlights for 2017 include:

- A community meeting in Old Crow in conjunction with one of the Implementation Directors' quarterly meetings.
- Progress toward Sustainable Development Objectives 1.1 and 1.3 with continuing research of vegetation recovery rates, and an accurate measurement of the current surface and linear disturbance levels in the Eagle Plains area;
- Protected Area planning continued, with development of a draft management plan for the Ch'ihilii Chik Habitat Protection Area (Whitefish Wetlands, Recommendation 4.2.1), and draft vision statement and guiding principles for Dàadzàii Vàn Territorial Park (Summit Lake Bell River, Recommendation 4.2.2);
- Access management planning for the Eagle Plain oil and gas basin, (Recommendation 6.3); and,

Honourable Ranj Pillai
Chief Bruce Charlie
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- Collaborative work toward developing draft guidelines for oil and gas activity in the range of the Porcupine Caribou herd.

For 2018, the Directors have agreed to continue to strengthen their working relationship with the community of Old Crow, and to undertake an evaluation of the North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan. The evaluation will look at how implementation activities have addressed plan recommendations and will recommend a time for a plan review to take place.

We look forward to our continuing work together to implement the North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan under the *Memorandum of Understanding for the Implementation of the North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan*.

Sincerely,



Manon Moreau
Assistant Deputy Minister
Energy, Mines and Resources
Yukon Government



Kris Statnyk
Intergovernmental and
Implementation Coordinator
Vuntut Gwitchin Government

Enclosure: NYRLUP Annual Implementation Report 2017



October 17, 2018

Manon Moreau
Assistant Deputy Minister
Sustainable Resources
Energy, Mines and Resources
Box 2703 (K-315)
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6

Kris Statnyk
Intergovernmental and
Implementation Coordinator
Vuntut Gwitchin Government
PO Box 94
Old Crow, YT Y0B 1N0

Dear Ms. Moreau and Mr. Statnyk:

Re: North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan Implementation Annual Report for 2017

We are pleased to provide you with the annual update on implementation activities for the North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan (NYRLUP). The related annual meeting, between our two governments, to review the progress on implementation activities took place on March 7, 2018. The NYRLUP Annual Implementation Report 2017 and transmittal letter for presentation to Chief Charlie and Minister Pillai are enclosed for your joint signatures.

We look forward to continuing our work together under the *Memorandum of Understanding for the Implementation of the NYRLUP*. If you have any questions related to the information within this report, or require further details, please contact us.

Sincerely,



Jerome McIntyre
Director of Land Planning
Energy, Mines and Resources



William Josie
Executive Director
Vuntut Gwitchin Government

Enclosures: Letter of Transmittal to the Principals
NYRLUP Annual Implementation Report 2017

North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan

Annual Implementation Report 2017



The Government of Yukon and the Vuntut
Gwitchin Government

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Background

The North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan was approved by the Government of Yukon and the Vuntut Gwitchin Government in 2009. In 2010, the Parties entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to implement the plan and developed an implementation table to guide their activities through the years.

The Government of Yukon and the Vuntut Gwitchin Government work together to implement recommendations made in the approved North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan, meeting quarterly to discuss the projects, the implementation activities and the current conditions in the Region.

Once each year, the Parties review their implementation priorities, recognizing limitations and current conditions, and update the timing for implementing each recommendation.

Report

This report on the progress of implementation activities during 2017 includes:

1. the year's implementation activities and issues;
2. the Parties' priorities for 2018;
3. plan amendment or review procedures and outcomes; and
4. cumulative effects reporting results.

1) 2017 Implementation Activities and Issues

The activities and issues discussed during the quarterly reviews by the Government of Yukon and the Vuntut Gwitchin Government are summarized in the Intergovernmental Implementation Framework table, which is included as Appendix 1. This table represents the current implementation work plan and lists the specific activities agreed to by the Parties to address the goals and recommendations of the North Yukon Plan. In general, steady progress continues to be made on plan recommendations and their related action items. There were no significant issues with plan implementation during 2017 and the major project activities were:

- a) progress toward Sustainable Development Objectives 1.1 and 1.3 with continuing research of vegetation recovery rates, and an accurate measurement of the current surface and linear disturbance levels in the Eagle Plains area;
- b) protected Area planning with a focus on the development of a draft management plan for the Ch'ihillii Chik Habitat Protection Area (Whitefish Wetlands, Recommendation 4.2.1), and draft management plan for Dàadzàii Vàn Territorial Park (Summit Lake Bell River, Recommendation 4.2.2);
- c) access management planning for the Eagle Plains oil and gas basin continued through a working group comprised of Government of Yukon, Vuntut Gwitchin Government and the Yukon Land Use Planning Council representatives;
- d) collaborative work toward Best Management Practices for oil and gas activity in the range of the Porcupine Caribou Herd is on-going through the Department of Environment; and

- e) the Parties took the opportunity this year during their fall meeting in Old Crow to host a community lunch to meet with the residents and discuss plan implementation activities. The event was a success and there are plans to hold more events in the community.

2) Parties' Priorities for 2018

The Vuntut Gwitchin Government and Government of Yukon collaboratively determined the 2018 implementation priorities as listed below:

- continue to work with the Yukon Land Use Planning Council to determine historic surface disturbance levels in North Yukon Land Management Unit 9 (Eagle Plains) and agree to a methodology to track linear and surface disturbance in other Land Management Units designated as Integrated Management Areas in the North Yukon Region (Recommendations 1.1 and 1.3);
- continue research and analysis related to linear disturbance recovery and wildlife occupancy (Recommendations 1.1 and 1.3);
- complete and approve a management plan Ch'ihilii Chik Habitat Protection Area (Recommendation 4.2.1);
- continue to develop a management plan for Dàadzàii Vàn Territorial Park (Summit Lake – Bell River) (Recommendation 4.2.2);
- finalize the framework for access management planning in the Eagle Plains oil and gas basin (Recommendation 6.3); and
- continue to research caribou related issues, addressing concerns related to exploration activities in the Eagle Plains basin including the development of Best Management Practices as for oil and gas activities in the range of the Porcupine Caribou Herd (including a process to establish safe operating distances and critical numbers).

Additionally, the Parties identified two new implementation priorities for 2018:

- strengthen relationships with residents of Old Crow through engagement activities coordinated with Directors' meetings in the community;
- undertake an evaluation of the plan to look at how effectively the plan has been implemented to date and determine when a plan review should be recommended.

Two additional areas previously acknowledged as on-going priorities to address at a future date include:

- Hydrological studies (Recommendation: 4.1 and Suggested Research Priority); and
- Future aggregate source identification (Recommendation 6.5).

3) Plan Amendment and Plan Review Procedures and Outcomes

There were no Plan amendments for 2017. The Directors' plan to revisit the discussion of issues related to the need for a Plan revision or review, on annual basis (Plan section 7.2). Section 6.5 of the MOU between the Parties states that "No later than seven years after the initial approval of the Plan, the Parties shall determine whether they wish to undertake a plan review".

To prepare for upcoming plan review discussions, the Directors agreed that a plan evaluation should be undertaken in 2018. The evaluation will look at how the plan

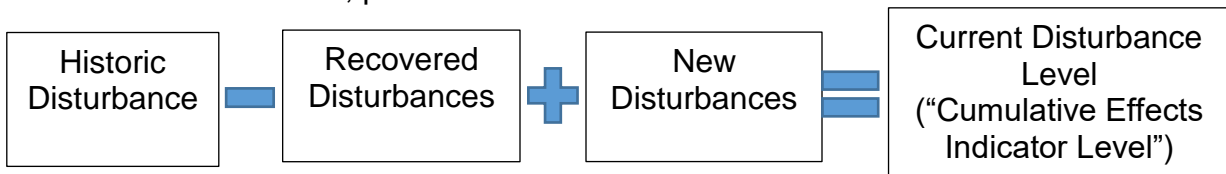
implementation activities have supported the plan. It is hoped that a plan evaluation will provide benefits to future regional plans by illustrating how performance indicators can be included in the plans to aid in future plan evaluations and reviews.

4) Cumulative Effects Reporting

This component of the annual report is an important tool for monitoring the functional disturbances and potential impacts of activities within the planning area at the Landscape Management Unit level.

There are two metrics utilized to report on functional disturbance: surface area and linear density. Both of these cumulative effects indicators are defined and discussed in greater detail in Section 3.3.1.1 of the Plan.

The annual current disturbance level reflects the historic disturbance values, less updated recovered disturbances, plus new disturbances.



The following is an overview of cumulative effects indicator related activities that took place during 2017:

1. **Historical disturbance data update project:** During 2017 the Yukon Land Use Planning Council, undertook a pilot project to comprehensively measure existing disturbances in LMU 9 (Eagle Plains Basin). A final report on the total disturbance level and the methodology is expected in 2018.
2. **Recovered disturbance levels project:** Once the existing disturbance quantifying project has been completed, the technical working group will continue its work to determine and integrate processes to monitor, measure and record on-going disturbance levels.

The following summary provides an overview of cumulative effects and functional disturbances being tracked and monitored within the North Yukon planning region:

1. **Projects assessed under YESAA** within the North Yukon planning region are reviewed by the Yukon Land Use Planning Council for plan conformity. Three new projects underwent assessment in North Yukon during 2017. The projects all conformed to the Plan and are detailed in Appendix 2.
2. **New disturbances** occurring since the approval of the North Yukon Plan in 2009 until the end of 2017 have been summarized in the table included as Appendix 3. Note that this table does not list the historical disturbances from before 2009. Those values are currently being reviewed and updated as discussed above, and once finalized (see projects above) will need to be approved by the Parties before becoming official.

Since Plan approval in 2009, there has been an estimated total of 637 hectares of new surface disturbance in the North Yukon planning region. There were no new disturbances reported in 2017.

Cumulative Effects Summary: There were no new disturbances in 2017.

Appendices:

1. Implementation Framework
2. Conformity Check Summary – 2017
3. Disturbances Report 2009 - 2017

Appendix 1: Implementation Framework

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON – VUNTUT GWITCHIN GOVERNMENT INTERGOVERNMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION TABLE: North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan - 2017 Update			
Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
GOAL 1: Sustainable Development Promote Sustainable Development by ensuring that social, cultural, economic and environmental policies are applied to the management protection and use of land, water and resources in an integrated and coordinated manner	1.1 As a general guideline for decision makers and land users, in the Integrated Management Area the amount of surface disturbance in a landscape management unit should be maintained below the cumulative effects indicator levels indicated in the plan (5.1.1)	<u>1.1.1 Surface and Linear Disturbance Tracking and Reporting</u> a) Government of Yukon (YG) will track new surface and linear disturbance on public land designated as Integrated Management Areas pursuant to the Plan. Specifically, YG will track existing, new, and recovered disturbance levels in these areas. b) Initial research efforts to determine existing and recovered disturbance levels is focused on identified areas off the Dempster Highway, as well as the Eagle Plains, Whitefish River-Cathedral Rocks, and Richardson Foothills eco-regions (see also item 1.3.1). 2017 Update: The Yukon Land Use Planning Council (YLUPC) undertook a project, building on 2016 work to determine and test a methodology, to acquire existing and new digital imagery and hire a contractor to interpret it, measuring width and length of existing disturbance as well as estimating regrowth based on observed vegetation. The project will use a combination of higher imagery and georeferenced photographs to verify the accuracy of the both the disturbance and recovery findings. YLUPC anticipates having a report for Eagle Plains Basin Landscape Management Unit (LMU 9), completed by early 2018. c) Vuntut Gwitchin Government (VGG) will track new surface and linear disturbance on Settlement Lands designated as Integrated Management Areas pursuant to the Plan. d) The Parties will provide the cumulative effects reporting results to YLUPC on an annual basis.	Annual reports with cumulative effects reporting: completed annually. Refined current surface disturbance estimates (i.e. Gap identification in current data, refine current recovery rate estimates, and fill in gaps & set bench marks): in progress. On-going as a part of annual reporting. On-going and part of annual reporting.
		<u>1.1.2 Joint Technical Meetings</u> The Parties will meet if a proposed cautionary indicator level is reached. These meetings serve as a forum for sharing information and formulating recommendations to assist respective governments' management of public and Settlement Lands in compliance with the approved Plan. The Parties may, in consultation, adopt management actions to minimize and mitigate impacts on key ecological values within the target Land Management Unit (LMU).	Information and recommendations to decision bodies: as triggered.
		<u>1.1.3 Memorandum of Understanding</u> YG and VGG will develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) governing the joint technical meetings referred to in 1.1.2. The MOU will define clear guidelines and process links to the Yukon Environmental Socio-Economic Assessment Board (YESAB) and YLUPC in respect of the cumulative effects framework.	Memorandum of Understanding: completed January 2010.

**GOVERNMENT OF YUKON – VUNTUT GWITCHIN GOVERNMENT INTERGOVERNMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION TABLE:
North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan - 2017 Update**

Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
<p>GOAL 1: Sustainable Development (Continued)</p> <p>Promote Sustainable Development by ensuring that social, cultural, economic and environmental policies are applied to the management protection and use of land, water and resources in an integrated and coordinated manner</p>	<p>1.2 Site closure/remediation plans should be developed, implemented and monitored for large-scale industrial and/or infrastructure projects that create significant surface disturbance (5.1.2.1)</p>	<p><u>1.2.1 Site Closure/Remediation Plans</u></p> <p>In consultation with VGG, YG will implement site closure and remediation plans as per standard practices for review and permitting of resource extraction and infrastructure projects requiring such site closure and remediation plans. YG to monitor the applicable site closure/remediation plans on public lands. VGG will monitor on Settlement Lands.</p>	<p>Site closure and remediation plans as standard practices for project assessments and decision documents: as required, on a project by project basis</p>
	<p>1.3 To provide a benchmark for the monitoring of cumulative effects indicator levels, the status of existing surface disturbances should be documented (5.1.2.1)</p>	<p><u>1.3.1 Benchmark Cumulative Effects Disturbance Levels</u></p> <p>The Parties will quantify existing linear and surface disturbance throughout the region. Initial research efforts to this end will be focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas that have the highest possibility of experiencing future disturbance. • Areas where existing disturbances are providing winter access for hunters off the Dempster Highway. Specifically, the Parties will conduct fieldwork to document disturbance levels in this area, excluding the 2km Dempster Corridor established by the Plan. • The Eagle Plains, Whitefish River-Cathedral Rocks, and Richardson Foothills eco-regions. Specifically, in consultation with VGG and YG, (with assistance from YLUPC) will use satellite imagery and ground-truthed modelling to derive benchmark disturbance levels for these regions, starting with LMU 9 (Eagle Plains Basin). • Prior to deriving benchmark disturbance levels, the Parties will utilize existing and available data regarding historical surface disturbance and linear density throughout the region. 	<p>Historical surface disturbance and linear density data: in progress see 1.1.1.</p> <p>Dempster Highway project (future): TBD.</p> <p>Satellite Imagery Capture/Interpretation: completed Spring 2011, 2015 and 2016 for most of LMU 9.</p> <p>Ground-truthed information for parts of Eagle Plains Basin collected Summer 2011-2016.</p> <p>Surface disturbance measuring report expected in Spring 2018.</p>
	<p>1.4 In the North Yukon Planning Region, potential climate change impacts should be considered in all land management decisions (5.1.3)</p>	<p><u>1.4.1 Main-streaming climate change</u></p> <p>YG will implement this recommendation by fulfilling its obligation under the Yukon Government Climate Change Action Plan. The Parties may work in partnership with the Climate Change Secretariat and Northern Climate ExChange to fulfill this recommendation, and will apply best scientific knowledge and adaptive management tools to incorporate climate change considerations into land management decisions in the region.</p>	<p>Climate Change is considered in all project evaluation and planning exercises.</p> <p>Implemented as on-going practice of government.</p>

**GOVERNMENT OF YUKON – VUNTUT GWITCHIN GOVERNMENT INTERGOVERNMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION TABLE:
North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan - 2017 Update**

Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
GOAL 1: Sustainable Development (Continued)	1.5 Due to the potential cumulative effects of climate change and land use impacts, sensitive wetland habitats and Porcupine Caribou Herd habitats at risk of significant change should be managed more cautiously, and with a high level of conservation focus (5.1.3)	<u>1.5.1 Approve Plan</u> By approving the Plan, sensitive wetlands and critical Porcupine Caribou Herd habitat, included in zone I and II, will be managed with a high level of conservation focus. <i>The Porcupine Caribou Herd Management Plan was signed in 2010 by all eight Parties.</i>	Approved Porcupine Caribou Herd Management Plan: completed July 2010.
		<u>1.5.2 Manage Herd</u> On-going implementation of the Harvest Management Plan for the Porcupine Caribou Herd. <i>YG lead: all departments that manage land or review projects.</i>	Implementation of the management plan: on-going.
GOAL 2: Wildlife Maintain terrestrial habitat in a condition required to sustain regional wildlife populations	The plan does not contain any recommendations in respect of this goal. It does, however, include a number of best practices.	<u>2.1 Best Management Practices Use and Development</u> Government agencies and project review panels are continually developing and updating Best Management Practices (BMPs). The Parties acknowledge that consideration is given to the BMPs identified in the Plan, noting that some practices may be surpassed in future, but will not require plan revision. <i>YG lead: all departments which manage land or review projects.</i>	On-going. Porcupine Caribou Herd Guidelines expected to be developed in 2018.
GOAL 3: Fish Maintain aquatic habitat in a condition required to sustain regional fish populations	3.1 To minimize potential impacts to regional fish populations, in-stream and lake over-wintering habitat should be identified in advance of the assessment process for large-scale industrial and/or infrastructure projects (5.2.4)	<u>3.1.1 Over-wintering Research</u> YG will complete identification of in-stream and lake over-wintering habitat throughout the planning region.	Prior over-wintering projects summarized: completed.
		<u>3.1.2 Permitting - Fish Habitat</u> YG will implement as per current practices for review and permitting of resource extraction and infrastructure projects. Impact on fish is a consideration in project assessment conducted by the responsible agencies (i.e. Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Water Board and YESAA). <i>YG lead: all departments which manage land or review projects.</i>	As required (no change to date). On-going.
	3.2 Water withdrawals in sensitive fish over-wintering areas should be prohibited (5.2.4)	<u>3.2.1 Water Withdrawal Prohibitions</u> This is a consideration in existing project assessment and is to be considered collaboratively by all orders of government with jurisdiction in the North Yukon region. The Parties will implement as a matter of practice noting that	As required (no change to date). On-going.

**GOVERNMENT OF YUKON – VUNTUT GWITCHIN GOVERNMENT INTERGOVERNMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION TABLE:
North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan - 2017 Update**

Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
		compliance to this recommendation may not always be practical. (Note: <i>No prohibitions have been found issued in the North Yukon Region to date.</i>)	
GOAL 4: Wetlands, Lakes and Rivers Maintain the integrity of wetlands, lakes, rivers and sensitive permafrost areas	4.1 To minimize potential impacts to regional wetlands, an assessment of wetland hydrology and connectivity should be conducted in advance of the assessment process for large-scale industrial and/or infrastructure projects (5.2.5)	<u>4.1.1 Wetland Hydrology Research</u> YG will apply the Canadian Wetland Classification System to assess hydrology and connectivity of wetland systems within the planning region. This research will inform future YG work to develop BMPs for each wetland type, in consultation with VGG. <i>Updates: The wetland classification web page was posted on YG Environment's website in 2012. (See: http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/animals-habitat/wetland_classification.php)</i> YG is undertaking development of a wetland strategy.	Wetland inventory, classification and assessment: started April 2011.
		<u>4.1.2 Permitting – Wetland Hydrology</u> YG will fully consider wetland hydrology in the review and permitting of resource extraction and infrastructure projects. <i>YG lead: all departments which manage land or review projects.</i>	As required (no change to date): on-going.
	4.2 Water withdrawals in ecologically sensitive wetland areas should be prohibited (5.2.5)	<u>4.2.1 Withdrawal Prohibitions</u> The recommendation is a guiding principle to be evaluated under specific circumstances by the Parties. <i>Updates: No withdrawal prohibitions have been identified in the region to date.</i>	As required (no change to date): when triggered.
GOAL 5: Heritage and Culture Recognize, conserve and promote the heritage and cultural resources and values of the Vuntut Gwitchin, other affected First Nations, and the Yukon	5.1 Management guidelines for identified routes and sites within the Integrated Management area should be developed jointly by the Vuntut Gwitchin Government and the Government of Yukon (5.3.1.1)	<u>5.1.1 Management Guidelines</u> Most existing routes have been identified and management guidelines or BMPs are/will be jointly developed by the Parties as circumstances require. <i>Update: Heritage resource BMPs were developed for mineral exploration, placer mining and wilderness tourism (See http://www.tc.gov.yk.ca/bmp.html).</i> <i>2014 Update: Developed the heritage management guidelines “Best Management Practices – Found Human Remains and Burial Sites”</i> <i>2016 Update: The Heritage Stewardship Guide was developed by VGG and other Yukon First Nations.</i> <i>2016 Update: The Vuntut Gwitchin Heritage Act was passed.</i>	Management guidelines or Best Management Practices: on-going.

**GOVERNMENT OF YUKON – VUNTUT GWITCHIN GOVERNMENT INTERGOVERNMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION TABLE:
North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan - 2017 Update**

Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
	5.2 Known historic camps/cabins, historical fish trap locations, archaeological sites and other heritage resources should be identified prior to exploration and development activities, and protected from disturbance (5.3.1.2)	<p><u>5.2.1 Permitting – Historic Sites and Resources</u></p> <p>YG will implement as per current practices for review and permitting of projects which address known historic sites and resources. This item to be reassessed at the first plan review.</p> <p><i>Updates: VGG is involved in heritage research and identification of heritage sites on an on-going basis. VGG Heritage Department maintains and populates databases to track place names, cultural sites and areas, navigation systems and oral history.</i></p>	<p>Management guideline development: as required.</p> <p>Permitting of projects: on-going.</p>
<p>GOAL 6: Economic</p> <p>Facilitate economic development opportunities and activities that results in socio-economic benefits to the community of Old Crow, other affected First Nations and Yukon as a whole, and that meet the sustainable development criteria established by this Plan</p>	6.1 In recognition of the strategic importance of the Dempster Highway and its designation as a Northern and Remote route under the National Highway System, surface disturbance and linear density indicator reporting and evaluation are exempt within a distance of 1 km on each side of the highway centre line (2-km total corridor width) (5.4.1.1)	To be re-evaluated at first plan review.	N/A
	6.2 An all-season access road to Old Crow is not required at this time (5.4.1.2)	To be re-evaluated at first plan review. (Note: the Old Crow Winter Road currently operates under a 30-year license which allows for the road to be constructed up to 10 times during that period. The project was reviewed under YESAA (2013-0091) as a 260 kilometre x 5 metre route within a defined 300-metre corridor.	N/A
	6.3 In advance of significant levels of energy sector activity, an access management plan should be developed for the Eagle Plains oil and gas basin (5.4.1.3)	<p><u>6.3.1 Access Management Plan</u></p> <p>YG and VGG will jointly develop an access management plan for the Eagle Plains oil and gas basin. Within two years of the Plan being approved, the Parties will draft the terms of reference establishing the factors to be considered in developing the access management plan for this area.</p> <p><i>2016 Update: Memorandum of Understanding to proceed and terms of reference agreed to in principle</i></p> <p><i>2017 Update: A draft document is under review by YG and VGG.</i></p>	Terms of Reference: draft under review.

**GOVERNMENT OF YUKON – VUNTUT GWITCHIN GOVERNMENT INTERGOVERNMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION TABLE:
North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan - 2017 Update**

Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
GOAL 6: Economic (Continued)	6.4 To support maintenance and growth of Old Crow, the Community Area (CA) should be exempt from surface disturbance and linear density indicator monitoring (5.4.2)	<p><u>6.4.1 Community Area (CA) Location</u></p> <p>VGG, in consultation with YG, will determine exact location of the CA. Until such time that the Parties finalize the CA location, the CA shall be defined as a five kilometre radius from the centre of Old Crow. The area is not expected to include lands across the Porcupine River from Old Crow.</p> <p><i>Update: VGG indicated during 2012 that the five kilometre radius is adequate for now. This area should be included in any mapping updates.</i></p>	CA boundary delineation centered on the VGG admin building.
	6.5 To mitigate potential impacts to significant and/or sensitive ecological or cultural resources and values, the identification and mapping of potential sources of aggregate should be undertaken in advance of the assessment process for large-scale industrial and/or infrastructure projects (5.4.7)	<p><u>6.5.1 Aggregate Mapping</u></p> <p>YG will continue to map potential aggregate resources in the North Yukon region in consultation with VGG.</p>	Aggregate maps: on-going.
	6.6 A future Old Crow Forest Management Plan should maintain community fuelwood and forest harvesting opportunities within the identified fuelwood and forest harvesting area shown in Map 3, Appendix 1 (5.4.8)	<p><u>6.6.1 Community Forest Management Plan</u></p> <p>VGG and YG will develop a Community Forest Management Plan for Old Crow as provided for in s.30 of the <i>Forest Resources Act</i>, to provide accessible forest use for local residents.</p>	Community Forest Management Plan: when capacity and resources permit.
	6.7 Renewable energy options and solutions for the community of Old Crow should continue to be researched and promoted (5.4.9)	<p><u>6.7.1 Energy Option Research and Promotion</u></p> <p>VGG will lead the energy options research initiative, with initial focus on improving the energy efficiency of existing and new houses and government buildings in Old Crow and the use of heat energy from Yukon Electrical Company's power generators to support other community infrastructure. In consultation with VGG, YG will conclude a technical analysis of renewable energy options for Old Crow.</p> <p><i>2016 Update: VGG and YG Energy Branch have prepared a draft Energy Plan for Old Crow.</i></p>	Energy options research report: when capacity and resources permit.

**GOVERNMENT OF YUKON – VUNTUT GWITCHIN GOVERNMENT INTERGOVERNMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION TABLE:
North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan - 2017 Update**

Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
		<p><i>2016 Update: VGG is developing a high penetration solar PV project for Old Crow. The project has advanced through the concept development, pre-feasibility and feasibility stages.</i></p> <p>2017 Update: VGG advanced the Old Crow Solar Project through final design and engineering stages and began negotiation of a power purchase agreement with ATCO Electric Yukon.</p> <p>VGG worked with the Yukon Research Centre to research the viability of using fast growing willow to displace diesel fuel for heat in Old Crow (the Old Crow Biomass Project).</p>	

Stand-Alone Item	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
<p>1</p> <p>Land Use Designation Recommendation 4.2.1 Whitefish – Porcupine Lakes (Ch’ihilii Chik):</p> <p>LMU 8 Whitefish Wetlands – Sub-unit 8A Whitefish - Porcupine Lakes should be designated as a Protected Area category.</p>	<p><u>i. Designations and Withdrawals</u></p> <p>YG will withdraw (via OIC for five year term) the public land portion of LMU 8A and manage the land in accordance with the Plan until a more detailed management plan for the Whitefish wetlands is undertaken and adopted within the term of the OIC.</p> <p>VGG will designate the Settlement Land portion of 8A as a protected area.</p>	<p>OIC withdrawal and VGG designation: completed.</p>
	<p><u>ii. Management Planning</u></p> <p>VGG will lead the development of detailed management plan for the Whitefish – Porcupine Lakes with YG involvement.</p> <p><i>Terms of reference for the Habitat Protect Area (HPA) management planning were drafted in 2013 and planning was commenced by the working group and continued through 2016. The Parties formally adopted the name Ch’ihilii Chik HPA.</i></p> <p><i>2016 Update: The Ch’ihilii Chik HPA Management Plan is at the final draft stage. It has been reviewed by the Parties and is slated for presentation to the community of Old Crow.</i></p> <p>2017 Update: The Working Group continued to advance the draft management plan. Public engagement activities in Old Crow included a public meeting in February, and presentation of poster series and distribution of a newsletter at the annual Caribou Days (May 2017). Maps for the management plan were completed.</p>	<p>Protected area management plan: started April 2011: underway.</p>
<p>2</p> <p>Land Use Designation Recommendation 4.2.2 Summit Lake:</p>	<p><u>i. Withdrawal</u></p>	<p>OIC withdrawal: completed.</p>

	Stand-Alone Item	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
2 (Cont.)	LMU 4C, Summit Lake-Bell River, a sub-unit of the Northern Richardson Mountains and Foothills, should be designated as a Protected Area category.	YG will withdraw (via OIC for 5 year term) the proposed study area until final boundaries are defined and management plan is completed. After the management plan is complete, area within redefined Protected Area will be permanently withdrawn.	
		<u>ii. Resource Assessment</u> YG will complete the resource assessments for the identified Summit Lake area.	Resource Assessment Reports: completed Summer 2010 and 2011.
		<u>iii. Boundary Delineation</u> The Parties in consultation will delineate the finalized boundaries of the Summit Lake Area. <i>Consolidated Updates 2011 – 2014: Work to finalize a planning boundary was completed over this period culminating in a letter from Chief Linklater agreeing to the boundary and to determining the type of designation at a future date (For complete 2011-2014 updates see 2015 Annual Implementation Report).</i> <i>2016 update: Preliminary boundary delineation has been completed and work between YG and VGG is on-going.</i>	Boundary related research: undertaken during 2012 and 2013. Boundary discussions and agreement: on-going
	Land Use Designation Recommendation 4.2.2 Summit Lake (Continued):	<u>iv. Memorandum of Understanding</u> The Parties will conclude an MOU regarding the legal designation of the finalized Summit Lake Area.	MOU: to begin once boundaries are designated and finalized.
	LMU 4C, Summit Lake-Bell River, a sub-unit of the Northern Richardson Mountains and Foothills, should be designated as a Protected Area category.	<u>v. Protected Area Planning</u> The Parties will undertake protected area planning within the term of the OIC. Protected area planning to include options for an access corridor to the North Slope. During the interim period, management direction will rely on the Regional Land Use Plan. <i>Consolidated Updates: 2011-2015: YG Environment and VGG worked to develop and finalize a park boundary. A report was completed in 2012 identifying Cultural and Heritage values within the study area. The Placer/Quartz and Oil & Gas withdrawal orders were renewed for the period 2014 – 2018. A working group representing VGG and YG was formed to draft the Terms of Reference for the planning process and to lead the planning process.</i> <i>2016 Update: Terms of Reference for the working group were completed in March 2016. The Parties formally adopted the name Dâadzâii Vàn Territorial Park and agreed on the designation of natural environment park. The working group met with a target group of local knowledge holders to inform a draft Vision Statement and Guiding Principles.</i> 2017 Update: A draft vision statement and guiding principles were prepared by the Working Group, and an early draft of the management plan was completed in 2017. A planning update was presented to residents of Old Crow in February, a poster was prepared for presentation at Caribou Days, and a newsletter was	Protected area management plan: 2016 planning underway.

	Stand-Alone Item	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
		<i>distributed to residents of Old Crow and Fort McPherson. A website was developed: www.daadzaiivanpark.ca.</i>	
3	<p>Land Use Designation Recommendation 4.4 North Yukon Withdrawal:</p> <p>Should the applicable authorities decide to lift the North Yukon Land Withdrawal at a future date, LMU 2A and LMU 4A should be considered for Integrated Management Area Zone III designation.</p>	<p>The Parties will develop a consultation plan in respect of the North Yukon Land Withdrawal. Pursuant to the consultation plan, YG will amend the existing withdrawal order so as to remove LMUs 2A, 3, and 4A from the order, and extend the order to apply to the study area for the proposed protected areas (Summit lake – Bell River and Whitefish wetlands). The land use designation Integrated Management Area (IMA) Zone II will be applied to LMUs 2A, 3 and 4A.</p>	<p>Consultation plan and withdrawal orders: completed.</p>
4	<p>Landscape Management Unit #12B Fishing Branch HPA</p> <p>a. The Fishing Branch Committee of Managing Agencies should consider applying the land use designation concepts and criteria used in this Plan to the Fishing Branch HPA at the next HPA management plan review</p> <p>b. Further delineation of the Fishing Branch HPA southern boundary should also be considered during the next HPA management plan review.</p>	<p>The Committee of Managing Agencies conducted a review of the HPA management plan in 2009. This recommendation was tabled and discussed. It was determined that the Landscape Management Unit will not be classified as a zone I, II, or III similar to other LMU's in the planning region. Rather, the management plan will take precedence regarding activities and land use options contained within since it provides a much more focused description and explanation of land use parameters. The acceptance and use of Cumulative Effects Indicators was not discussed but will be tabled at a future meeting of the Committee of Managing Agencies.</p>	<p>Completed.</p>
		<p>Once the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Traditional Territory overlap is resolved, the Fishing Branch Committee of Managing Agencies will work to establish a watershed-based boundary for the southern part of the HPA.</p> <p><i>Consolidated Updates 2012 – 2015: The Dawson Regional Planning Commission was made aware of the watershed based HPA boundary proposal and was expected to incorporate it.</i></p> <p>2017 Update: Restarting the Dawson planning process will include addressing if and how the overlap will be planned. Resolution is expected in 2018.</p>	<p>HPA boundary: once overlap issue is resolved.</p>
5	<p>Suggested Research Priorities, Appendix 4</p>	<p>Appendix 4 of the Plan provides a summary of various research suggestions made throughout the Plan. The Parties will review, agree to, and develop a timeline for undertaking research priorities commensurate with available resources.</p> <p><i>Updates: the main research focus has been bench marking and baseline research during 2011 and 2012. See further details under Goal 1, recommendations 1.1 and 1.3.</i></p> <p><i>Consolidated Updates 2012 – 2015: The Suggested Research Priorities listed under part A4-1 of the Plan were discussed at the annual meeting held in 2012 through 2015. It was confirmed that priorities remain current and adequate for the near future.</i></p> <p><i>2016 update: Suggested research priorities were confirmed. A study to explore the cause and effect of land use activities and cumulative effects indicators on barren grounds caribou is underway.</i></p>	<p>Research timeline and products: June 2011-2016.</p>

	Stand-Alone Item	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
6	<p>Plan Implementation, section 7.1</p> <p>The Parties will develop a detailed Plan implementation strategy concurrently with, or subsequent to, the approval of a Final Land Use Plan.</p>	<p>The YG and VGG will update the Intergovernmental Implementation Framework table annually.</p> <p><i>Annual reports are maintained on YG's Regional Land Use Planning web page for public access.</i></p>	<p>Updated Intergovernmental Implementation Framework: on-going with annual updates.</p>
7	<p>Plan Revision, section 7.2</p> <p>Plan Reviews will occur on an agreed-upon schedule, or whenever the Government of Yukon and Vuntut Gwitchin Government agree it is required. Methods and timelines for changing the Plan will be developed as part of the detailed implementation strategy.</p>	<p>VGG and YG will jointly develop a Memorandum of Understanding detailing the plan revision schedule and triggers thereof. The Memorandum of Understanding will address whether such reviews are mandatory or discretionary, and shall clarify any applicable public review processes.</p> <p>The MOU requires a decision by the Parties under section 6.7 to “determine whether they wish to undertake a plan review” within 7 years of the initial plan approval. A decision by the Parties is required by June 2016.</p> <p><i>2016 Update: After reviewing the plan review indicators in the Final Plan, the Parties agreed that a plan review was not warranted at this time.</i></p>	<p>MOU: completed. On-going consideration.</p>
8	<p>Best Management Practices</p>	<p>Government agencies and project review panels are continually developing and updating BMPs. The Parties acknowledge that consideration is given to the BMPs identified by the Plan, noting that some practises may be surpassed in future, but will not require plan revision.</p> <p><i>2016 Update: The Parties are working to develop guidelines or BMPs for industrial activity (oil and gas) in the winter range of the Porcupine Caribou Herd. This work includes a literature review and recommendations based on western science and traditional knowledge.</i></p> <p><i>2017 Update: Porcupine Caribou Herd Guidelines development continues and are expected to be developed in 2018.</i></p>	<p>BMP's being developed on an on-going basis.</p>

Appendix 2: Conformity Check Summary 2017

YESAB Assessed Projects 2017						
YESAA #	Project Proponent	Project Description	Landscape Management Unit	Zoning	Conformity & Approval Date	Comments
2017-0137	Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation	Porcupine River Chum Salmon Restoration Project	LMU 12 Ni'inlii'njik (Fishing Branch HPA))	SMA	Conformity check issued August 7, 2017. Decision Document issued September 8, 2017.	Project conforms to Regional Land Use Plan. This proposal raises no concerns at a regional scale.
2017-0088	YG-Highways & Public Works	Culvert Replacement– Km 227 and Km 237 Dempster	LMU 3 (Central Ogilvie) & LMU 5 (Blackstone River)	IMA Zone III	Conformity check issued May 4, 2017. Decision Document issued May 29, 2017.	<p>This project will be on previously disturbed areas and therefore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ this project shouldn't result in any additional linear or surface disturbances; ○ shouldn't affect the ecological and visual integrity of the Ogilvie River Corridor. <p>The Plan recognizes the importance of the Dempster Highway, and thus it can be implied that maintenance of the highway is supported by the Plan.</p> <p>The Plan calls for sub-regional planning for the Dempster Corridor. However, since this project is not a new land use and is of limited extent, it has limited implications and requirements for sub-regional planning.</p> <p>The project occurs in a community use area likely related to harvesting Porcupine Caribou; therefore, this project should be timed as early as possible to avoid the fall migration and harvesting. Consult with the regional biologist. The project also falls on or near potential fish over-wintering habitat.</p> <p>The boundary between LMUs 3 & 5 is the Dempster Highway, and therefore both LMUs are implicated in this project. However, the management directions for these LMUs are very similar.</p>
2017-0033	YG-Community Services	Old Crow Wastewater Facility	2A (Old Crow – Rampart House)	CA (Community Area)	Conformity check issued March 13, 2017. Decision Document issued June 7, 2017.	<p>Many of the Strategies and Best Management Practices described in the North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan are not directly applicable to urban development in the Old Crow Community Area. This proposal raises no concerns at a regional scale, and directly supports a plan recommendation (...<i>support maintenance and growth of Old Crow...</i>) and should result in an improvement in water quality.</p> <p>The constructed wetland in Phase II potentially could be the largest new disturbance to riparian/wetland vegetation. For this reason, it is good that this part of the project will happen only if necessary.</p>

Appendix 3: Disturbances Report 2009 - 2017

New Disturbances from June 2009 – December 31, 2017						
Landscape Management Unit (LMU)	LMU sub-unit	Area (km ²) ¹	Land Use Category ²	Integrated Management Zone (IMA) †	New Surface Disturbance (km ²) since 2009 ††	New Linear Density (km/km ²) since 2009 ††
1. Old Crow Flats Special Management Area	1A. Vuntut National Park	4,374 (8%)	PA	N/A	0	0
	1B. Old Crow Flats Core Wetlands	4,504 (8%)	PA	N/A	0	0
	1C. Old Crow Flats West	726 (1%)	PA	N/A	0	0
	1D. Old Crow Flats East	2,518 (5%)	PA	N/A	0	0
	LMU total	12,122 (22%)			0	0
2. Lower Porcupine River	2A. Old Crow – Rampart House	1,525 (3%)	IMA**	Zone II	0	0
	2B. Bluefish River – David Lord Creek	3,083 (6%)	IMA	Zone III	0	0
	2C. Bluefish – Cadzow Lake Wetlands	980 (2%)	IMA	Zone I	0	0
	LMU total	5,588 (11%)			0	0
3. Driftwood River – Salmon Cache	none	2,876 (5%)	IMA**	Zone II	0	0
4. North Richardson Mountains and Foothills	4A. Bell – Waters River	2,126 (4%)	IMA**	Zone II	0	0
	4B. LaChute River	1,331 (2%)	IMA	Zone II	0	0
	4C. Summit Lake – Bell River	1,525 (3%)	PA	N/A	0	0
	LMU total	4,982 (9%)			0	0
5. Bluefish Lake – Keele Range	none	2,066 (3%)	IMA	Zone III	0	0
6. Ahvee and Sharp Mountains	none	2,714 (5%)	IMA	Zone III	0	0
7. Johnson Creek	none	3,230 (6%)	IMA	Zone IV	0	0

¹ Percentage of total plan area occupied by each LMU or sub-unit is shown in brackets

² Land Use Category: PA=Protected Area (existing or proposed), IMA=Integrated Management Area, ** = under North Yukon Land Withdrawal, *** = Fishing Branch HPA Land Use Category for LMU 12B to be determined.

† Cumulative effects indicators (cautionary level % of LMU) for the four IMA zones are: Zone I = 0.075%, Zone II = 0.15%, Zone III = 0.375%, Zone IV = 0.75%

†† Surface Disturbance and Linear Density values: Most project related disturbances during the defined time period occurred in either LMU 2A (Old Crow community area) or in LMU 9 (Eagle Plains). The 2014 Old Crow winter road project utilized the pre-existing licensed route through LMU 2A, 2B, 2C, 6, 7, 8C and 9 and therefore is not considered a new disturbance by the Plan. Historic disturbances from before 2009 have not been included in the reported values. Note that the new disturbance values listed are the raw values which do not yet reflect any deductions based upon the definition of functional disturbance and exempt activities as described by the Plan (See definition of Functional Disturbance, pg.3-2, North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan, June 2009). There was no new disturbance in 2017.

New Disturbances from June 2009 – December 31, 2017

Landscape Management Unit (LMU)	LMU sub-unit	Area (km ²) ¹	Land Use Category ²	Integrated Management Zone (IMA) [†]	New Surface Disturbance (km ²) since 2009 ^{††}	New Linear Density (km/km ²) since 2009 ^{††}
8. Whitefish Wetlands	8A. Whitefish – Porcupine Lakes	468 (1%)	PA	N/A	0	0
	8B. Eagle – Bell River	1,124 (2%)	IMA	Zone I	0	0
	8C. Porcupine River	302 (1%)	IMA	Zone I	0	0
	LMU total	1,894 (4%)			0	0
9. Eagle Plains	none	6,415 (11%)	IMA	Zone IV	3.17 km ²	0.181 km/km ² (= 1161.2 km)
10. South Richardson Mountains and Foothills	10A. South Richardson Mountains	780 (1%)	IMA	Zone II	0	0
	10B. Rock River – Mount Joyal	2,374 (4%)	IMA	Zone II	0	0
	LMU total	3,154 (5%)			0	0
11. Whitestone River	none	1,740 (3%)	IMA	Zone III	0	0
12. Ni'iinlii'njik (Fishing Branch) Special Management Area	12A. Ni'iinlii'njik Protected Area	5,524 (10%)	PA	N/A	0	0
	12B. Fishing Branch Habitat Protection Area	980 (2%)	***	N/A	0	0
	LMU total	6,504 (12%)			0	0
13. Kandik River	none	2,266 (4%)	IMA	Zone IV	0	0
TOTALS		55,548 (100 %)				

¹ Percentage of total plan area occupied by each LMU or sub-unit is shown in brackets

¹ Land Use Category: PA=Protected Area (existing or proposed), IMA=Integrated Management Area, ** = under North Yukon Land Withdrawal, *** = Fishing Branch HPA Land Use Category for LMU 12B to be determined.

[†] Cumulative effects indicators (cautionary level % of LMU) for the four IMA zones are: Zone I = 0.075%, Zone II = 0.15%, Zone III = 0.375%, Zone IV = 0.75%

^{††} Surface Disturbance and Linear Density values: Most project related disturbances during the defined time period occurred in either LMU 2A (Old Crow community area) or in LMU 9 (Eagle Plains). The 2014 Old Crow winter road project utilized the pre-existing licensed route through LMU 2A, 2B, 2C, 6, 7, 8C and 9 and therefore is not considered a new disturbance by the Plan. Historic disturbances from before 2009 have not been included in the reported values. Note that the new disturbance values listed are the raw values which do not yet reflect any deductions based upon the definition of functional disturbance and exempt activities as described by the Plan (See definition of Functional Disturbance, pg.3-2, North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan, June 2009). There was no new disturbance in 2017.