



Energy, Mines and Resources
Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6



VUNTUT GWITCHIN GOVERNMENT

May 18, 2016

Chief Bruce Charlie
Vuntut Gwitchin Government
Box 94
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Honourable Scott Kent
Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources
Government of Yukon
Box 2703
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6

Dear Chief Charlie and Minister Kent:

Re: North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan 2015 Annual Report

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 the progress on implementation activities took place on January 21, 2016. The 2015 Annual Report is enclosed for your information.

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

Sincerely,

Pauline Frost
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs
Vuntut Gwitchin Government

Shirley Abercrombie
Assistant Deputy Minister
Energy, Mines and Resources

/Enclosure: 2015 Annual Implementation Report

North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan

Annual Implementation Report
2015

Yukon Government and
Vuntut Gwitchin Government

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Background

The North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan was approved by the Yukon and Vuntut Gwitchin governments 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. The parties also agreed to request the Yukon Land Use Planning Council undertake the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board proposed project conformity checks required under 12.17.1 of the Umbrella Final Agreement.

Report

This report of implementation activities progress during 2015 includes:

1. The year's implementation activities and issues;
 2. The Parties' priorities for the subsequent year;
 3. Plan amendment or review procedures and outcomes; and
 4. Cumulative effects reporting results.
- 1) **2015 Implementation Activities and Issues:** The activities and issues discussed during the quarterly reviews by Yukon and Vuntut Gwitchin governments are summarized in the Intergovernmental Implementation Framework table, which is included as Appendix 2. This table represents the current implementation work plan. It 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 2015 and the major project activities were:
- Research on the surface and linear disturbance levels determination and recovery rate projects as per recommendations 1.1 and 1.3 of the Plan;
 - Protected Area planning for the Whitefish Lakes as per recommendation 4.2.1 of the Plan. Work on the draft plan continues;
 - Agreeing to a boundary for the Summit Lake Bell River protected area and discussion are underway to determine which designation will be used for the area;
 - YG and VGG continued work towards access management planning for the Eagle Plain oil and gas basin as per recommendation 6.3 of the Plan.
- 2) **Parties' Priorities for 2016:** YG and VGG have determined that the priorities for 2016 are as listed below:
- i. Under section 11.3.3.5 of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation Final Agreement, YG and VGG will ask the Yukon Land Use Planning Council to undertake a pilot project with the parties, using satellite imagery to determine historic surface disturbance levels in North Yukon Land Management Unit 9 (Eagle Plains). If successful, the methodology could be used for the rest of the North Yukon Region, as well as have the potential to be used in future planning regions. (Recommendations 1.1 and 1.3);

- ii. Continue field research related to linear disturbance recovery and wildlife occupancy during 2015 (Recommendations 1.1 and 1.3);
- iii. Continue Whitefish wetlands management planning (Recommendation 4.2.1);
- iv. Continue work towards the designation of a Summit Lake – Bell River protected area within the proposed refined boundaries (Recommendation 4.2.2);
- v. Initiate access management planning in the Eagle Plain oil and gas basin (Recommendation 6.3); and
- vi. Continue to research caribou related issues, addressing concerns related to exploration activities in the Eagle Plain basin including the development of Best Management Practices as guidance to oil and gas activities and a process to establish safe operating distances and critical numbers for the Porcupine Caribou Herd.

Two additional areas previously acknowledged as ongoing priorities to keep on the radar include:

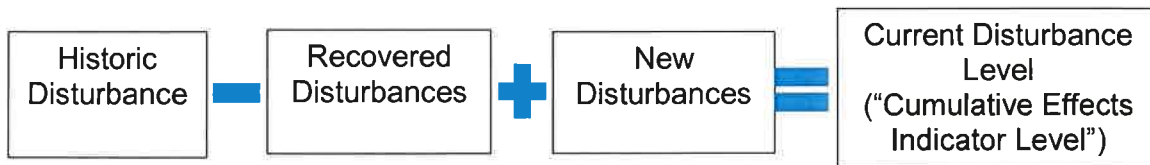
- Hydrological studies (Recommendation: 4.1 and Suggested Research Priority);
- Future aggregate source identification (Recommendation 6.5).

3) **Plan amendment and Plan review procedures and outcomes:** There were no plan amendments for 2015. At the summer 2016 Director’s meeting, the parties intend to discuss issues related to a Plan revision and review (Plan section 7.2). Section 6.5 of the MOU between the Parties, “No later than seven years after the initial approval of the Plan, the Parties shall determine whether they wish to undertake a plan review”.

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 2015:

- a. **Field research projects:** The 2015 field season consisted of two research studies related to linear disturbance recovery and wildlife occupancy of such features.
 - i. The linear disturbance recovery study expanded field work continued into additional study sites beyond LMU 9 (Eagle Plains) and are expected to confirm conclusions derived from past studies which were solely derived from within LMU 9.
 - ii. The wildlife occupancy study involves placing a series of remote motion-triggered cameras on and adjacent to existing linear disturbance study plots to record wildlife species and occupancy over a 12 month period. The cameras that were deployed in late October 2014 were revisited, the imagery collected and new memory chips were left in the cameras for an additional year of data gathering. The information collected will improve our understanding of variations between the types of sites and the dynamics of recovery.
- b. **Historical disturbance data update project:** During 2015 a technical working group involving YG, VGG and the Yukon Land Use Planning Council realized that the historical data that was being used was not producing the accurate historical picture desired for this project. The technical working group looked at the process being used by Environment Yukon to track surface disturbance by type, location and size, with a view to adapting the process to meet the goals of the North Yukon Plan recommendations. The group recommends using LMU 9 to test the proposed methodology and to request that the YLULPC coordinate the project.
- c. **Recovered disturbance levels project:** Once the historic disturbance project has been completed, the technical working group will continue its work to determine and integrate recovery rates for the various types and ages of disturbance found to exist in LMU 9, to determine current and ongoing disturbance levels. It is hoped that this will take place during the last half of 2016.

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

Projects assessed under YESAA within the North Yukon planning region are reviewed by the Yukon Land Use Planning Council for plan conformity. Four new projects began assessments in North Yukon during 2015. All of those projects either conformed to the Plan, occurred within an exempted area or created no new disturbance. These projects are summarized in greater detail in Appendix 2.

New disturbances occurring since the approval of the North Yukon Plan in 2009 until the end of 2015 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 2015.

The majority of the disturbances were associated with project activities occurring during the winter of 2013-14 as a result of the 3D seismic project (YESAA 2013-0067). None of the projects that were assessed in 2014 have resulted in any new additional disturbances to date. Of the six new projects, only the multi-well exploration program (YESAA 2014-0112) is expected to result in new disturbance, if approved.

Cumulative Effects Summary: There were no new cumulative effects in 2015.

Appendices:

1. Implementation Framework
2. Conformity Check Summary – 2015
3. Disturbances Report – 2009-2015
4. Annual North Yukon Implementation Meeting Notes

Appendix 1: Intergovernmental Implementation Table – North Yukon Plan – December 31, 2015

	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
<p>GOAL 1: Sustainable Development</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>1.1 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)</p>	<p><u>1.1.1 Surface and Linear Disturbance Tracking and Reporting</u></p> <p>a) 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.</p> <p>b) Initial research efforts in respect of existing and recovered disturbance levels will focus 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).</p> <p><i>Updates: Contract work done to show estimated surface disturbance. Analysis of data began Nov 2011 to review & determine if gaps exist in data (mostly LMU 9). Estimation of recovery rates continued into 2012. Presentation on research to-date given to VGG in Old Crow in November 2012. 2013 included further field work in preparation for the 2014 field season, and refined research findings. The 2014 field season consisted of seismic line recovery research and placing wildlife cameras in representative areas.</i></p> <p>2015 Update: Work continued on the recovery test sites and trail cameras with new memory chips being placed in the cameras this fall. Analysis of 2014 field data began in March and is ongoing. Environment completed their 2015 field work in August and EMR completed their additional disturbance recovery field work during July. A technical working group is looking at the possibility of utilizing YG, Environment's process for recording and tracking current surface and linear disturbances.</p> <p>c) VGG will track new surface and linear disturbance on Settlement Lands which are designated as Integrated Management Areas pursuant to the Plan. 2015 saw no new disturbances on VGG IMA zoned lands.</p> <p>d) The Parties will provide the cumulative effects reporting results to the Yukon Land Use Planning Council (YLUPC) on an annual basis.</p> <p><i>Updates: The 2011 annual report was provided to YLUPC on Sept 25th, 2012 and included a brief review of conformity checks and cumulative effects reporting.</i></p> <p><i>During 2012 six new projects were assessed under YESAA, and all passed their plan conformity checks.</i></p> <p><i>2013 saw five new YESAA projects: two were discontinued, two had their conformity checks and decision documents issued, and one was still in under review at year end. The Eagle plains 3D seismic (2012-0067) project field work began in November 2013. The Old Crow winter road (2013-0091) began in early 2014.</i></p> <p><i>2014 had six new projects enter the YESAA process and two carry over from 2013. All projects either conformed to the plan, or did not create new disturbances. The Northern Cross 3D Seismic program was completed in April 2014 and the final regulatory inspection was in July. The Old Crow winter road</i></p>	<p>Annual reports with cumulative effects reporting: completed annually.</p> <p>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</p> <p>As required</p> <p>Ongoing as a part of annual reporting.</p>

Appendix 1: Intergovernmental Implementation Table – North Yukon Plan – December 31, 2015

Results Expected / Status	Action Steps and Updates	Recommendations	
	<p>activities took place between January and March 2014. The road created no new disturbances as it used the same historic route within a 300-metre corridor.</p> <p>2015 update: Four new projects entered the assessment process 2015. No new disturbance was created in 2015 and one carried over from 2014. All projects conformed to the North Yukon Plan.</p>	<p>1.1 (Continued)</p>	<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>Information and recommendations to decision bodies.</p> <p>As triggered</p>	<p><u>1.1.2. Joint Technical Meetings</u></p> <p>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).</p>		
<p>MOU: COMPLETED</p>	<p><u>1.1.3. Memorandum of Understanding</u></p> <p>YG and VGG will develop a Memorandum of Understanding 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 the YLUPC in respect of the cumulative effects framework.</p>		
<p>Site closure and remediation plans as standard practices for project assessments and decision documents.</p> <p>As required, on a project by project basis.</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 to monitor on Settlement Lands.</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>Historical surface disturbance and linear density data: In Progress</p> <p>Satellite Imagery Capture/Interpretation: Completed Spring 2011</p> <p>Dempster Highway project (future): TBD</p>	<p><u>1.3.1 Bench-marking</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, YG will use 	<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>	

Appendix 1: Intergovernmental Implementation Table – North Yukon Plan – December 31, 2015

Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
<p>GOAL 1: Sustainable Development (Continued)</p>	<p>ground-truthed computer models to derive benchmark disturbance levels for these regions.</p> <p>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> <p><i>2013 Update: Based on current research and field study sites, it has been found that approximately a third of the historical disturbances could now be considered as fully recovered, and a second third would meet the current definition of "recovered" used in the Plan. Future discussion took place during 2014 to examine how and when to implement an update of current historical disturbance values (disturbance tracking and the subtraction of recovered areas) as per section 5.1.2 of the Plan. Also see related details as listed under 1.1.1 a).</i></p> <p><i>2015 update: The groundwork to update the past historic disturbances estimates and legacy data with field measurements began with a Jan 21st meeting (with VGG) to discuss the next steps required to complete the update our historic disturbance database for the North Yukon planning region. A draft schedule of next steps was created and discussed at the annual meeting in February 2015. Work proceeded until June when further significant errors identified in the old database made it obvious that a better process was required. The working group met with Environment on July 13th and Aug 4th to learn more about their satellite imagery based surface disturbance mapping process and see if it could be adopted to develop a more accurate data model for North Yukon. Currently reviewing the process internally, along with a review of EMR program data requirements. VGG input will also be required before making a decision and moving forward.</i></p> <p><i>Continuing past discussions on definitions, the Parties will look at the existing Plan definitions of "disturbance" and "recovered". How and when this review will proceed is to be discussed further, the Parties' principals kept informed and thought given as to the process to approve definition changes.</i></p>	<p>Ground-truthed information for Eagle plains region: Collected Summer 2011</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>1.4.1 Main-streaming climate change</p> <p>YG will implement this recommendation by fulfilling its obligation under the YG 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><i>Update: Yukon released an updated Climate Change Action Plan progress report during 2012 (http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/publications-maps/documents/ccap_progressreport_eng_2012.pdf), and released a report in 2015 (http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/air-water-waste/documents/ccap_progressreport_eng_2015.pdf).</i></p>	<p>Climate Change is considered in all project evaluation and planning exercises. On-going</p>

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	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
	<p>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)</p>	<p><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></p> <p><u>1.5.2 Manage Herd</u> Ongoing implementation of the Harvest Management Plan for the Porcupine Caribou Herd. <i>YG lead: all departments that manage land or review projects.</i></p>	<p>Approved Porcupine Caribou Herd Management Plan: Completed - Plan Approved July 2010</p> <p>Implementation of the management plan: On-going</p>
<p>GOAL 2: Wildlife Maintain terrestrial habitat in a condition required to sustain regional wildlife populations</p>	<p>The plan does not contain any recommendations in respect of this goal. It does, however, outline a number of best practices.</p>	<p><u>2.1 BMP Development</u> Government agencies and project review panels are continually developing and updating 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></p> <p><i>Updates: The "Flying in Caribou Country" booklet was updated in 2010 (http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/publications-maps/documents/flying_caribou_country.pdf), and "BMP for Works Affecting Water in Yukon" was released in 2011 (http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/publications-maps/documents/bestpractices_water.pdf).</i></p> <p>2015 updates: <i>A number of BMPs are currently under development and are expected to be ready for approval in the next two years including trappers, invasive plants, wetlands, wilderness tourism, heritage and caribou.</i></p>	<p>BMP's for areas of trappers, invasive plants, wetlands, caribou, Green House Gases: On-going</p>
<p>GOAL 3: Fish Maintain aquatic habitat in a condition required to sustain regional fish populations</p>	<p>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)</p>	<p><u>3.1.1 Over-wintering Research</u> YG will complete identification of in-stream and lake over-wintering habitat throughout the planning region. <i>Update: YG Environment produced the Community-Based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan for the Vuntut Gwitchin Traditional Territory for 2013-2018 (http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/publications-maps/documents/YGFNFWWP-20130327.pdf).</i></p> <p><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. DFO, Water Board and YESAA). <i>YG lead: all departments which manage land or review projects.</i></p>	<p>Prior over-wintering projects summarized: Completed Further work: Completed</p> <p>As required (No change). On-going</p>

Appendix 1: Intergovernmental Implementation Table – North Yukon Plan – December 31, 2015

	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
		<p>Update: No permits related to fish habitat were found for the North Yukon Region for 2011, 2012, 2014, or 2015.</p> <p>2013 update: Two DFO research permits were issued for the Porcupine river watershed for 2013. Both were for sonar and telemetry work in the Porcupine River approximately 2 km downstream from the town of Old Crow. Habitat related work was also done on the Fishing Branch and Miner River by EDI this season.</p> <p>2015 update: DFO noted that VGG are now being directly provided copies of the related applications in their traditional Territory for review and comment prior to any approvals for the season. The results for 2015 research are not yet posted on the DFO Fisheries Information Summary System "FISS" website.</p>	
	<p>3.2 Water withdrawals in sensitive fish over-wintering areas should be prohibited (5.2.4)</p>	<p><u>3.2.1 Water Withdrawal Prohibitions</u></p> <p>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 compliance to this recommendation may not always be practical. (Note: No prohibitions have been found issued in the North Yukon Region to date.)</p>	<p>As required (No change).</p> <p>On-going</p>
<p>GOAL 4: Wetlands, Lakes and Rivers</p> <p>Maintain the integrity of wetlands, lakes, rivers and sensitive permafrost areas</p>	<p>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)</p>	<p><u>4.1.1 Wetland Hydrology Research</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Updates: The wetland classification web page was posted on YG Environment's web site during 2012 (http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/animals-habitat/wetland-classification.php).</p> <p>2013 update: Wetland BMP's are underway and the drafting committee has been struck. Two new hydrometric monitoring stations were established by YG Water Resources in late summer 2013, located on Eagle River and McParlon Creek.</p> <p>2014 update: A review was done with YG Water Resources and the information received was forwarded to VGG. Data for many wells located in the Yukon can be found on the Groundwater Information Network. Any YG data goes to NRCAN who maintain the network registry. There were no wells recorded for the Northern Cross project area, however in the summer of 2014 an existing water well at the NCY camp on the Dempster Highway was instrumented with devices to record groundwater levels. Water Resources maintains several hydrometric monitoring stations and water quality stations located near the 3D seismic project area including at Eagle River at Dempster Hwy, McParlon Creek, and Dalglish Creek in order to collect water level and discharge information. Another hydrometric station in the area is located near Dalglish Creek (Peel River above Canyon Creek, Record: continuous, 1962 to Present). Additional future hydrometric stations are planned.</p>	<p>Wetland inventory, classification and assessment.</p> <p>Started: April 1, 2011</p>

Appendix 1: Intergovernmental Implementation Table – North Yukon Plan – December 31, 2015

	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
<p>GOAL 4: (Continued)</p>		<p>2015 update: The new YG hydrologist was contacted for details on their involvement with hydrology research related to the current NCY project application. October: Research application copy has been shared with VGG. For clarification, the Yukon component of the project involves groundwater and surface water quality work, but not flow monitoring. The hydraulic fracturing referenced in the application is related to other jurisdictions (Alberta) involved in the same study.</p>	
		<p>4.1.2 Permitting – Wetland Hydrology YG will fully consider wetland hydrology in the review and permitting of resource extraction and infrastructure projects. YG lead: all departments which manage land or review projects. <i>Updates:</i> No new related project activities or permits issued in region for 2011 or 2012, other than existing operations. No concerns raised. 2013 update: A 3D seismic project took place during the winter months of 2013 – 2014 but winter access was not expected to cause hydrology related issues. 2014 update: a longer term multi-well exploration project entered the YESAA process and is expected to need consideration of wetland hydrology. 2015 update: A third party BC and Yukon hydrology research project was undertaken, looking at groundwater and surface water quality, with data being collected in North Yukon during 2015. Details on any other hydrology research in the region will be sought and reported back when received by YG.</p>	<p>As required (No change). On-going</p>
	<p>4.2 Water withdrawals in ecologically sensitive wetland areas should be prohibited (5.2.5)</p>	<p>4.2.1 Withdrawal Prohibitions The recommendation is a guiding principle to be evaluated under specific circumstances by the Parties. <i>Updates:</i> No withdrawal prohibitions have been identified in the region to date.</p>	<p>As required (No change). When Triggered</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>5.1 Management guidelines for identified routes and sites within the Integrated Management area should be developed jointly by the Vuntut Gwitchin and Yukon governments (5:3.1.1)</p>	<p>5.1.1 Management Guidelines Most existing routes have been identified and management guidelines or BMPs are/will be jointly developed by the Parties as circumstances require. <i>Updates:</i> Heritage resource BMPs were developed for mineral exploration, placer mining and wilderness tourism during 2009 and 2010 (See http://www.fc.gov.yk.ca/bmp.html). There were no new BMPs for 2012 or 2013. 2014 update: The heritage management guidelines product "Best Management Practices – Found Human Remains and Burial Sites" was completed & posted online at : http://www.fc.gov.yk.ca/pdf/BurialSites_BMP_2014.pdf 2015 Update: No new releases for 2015.</p>	<p>Management guidelines or BMPs. On-going</p>

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	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
	<p>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>	<p><u>5.2.1 Permitting – Historic Sites and Resources</u> 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. Updates: During 2011, a permit was issued for the Heritage Resource Impact Assessment of the Proposed Old Crow Water Pump House. During 2012, two permits were issued for archaeological investigations in the Eagle Plains region for Northern Cross (Yukon) Limited's proposed drill sites and associated ancillary developments, and around Driftwood River and King Edward Spit for brief archaeological site inspections involving the VGFN Heritage Office. 2013 updates: Two archaeological research permits were issued in 2013 in the NY planning region: "Cameron - Retrieval of Wrecked Hiller 360 helicopter - SW of Old Crow", and "Mooney (Ecofor) Northern Cross 2013 Seismic work Heritage Resources Impact Assessment". 2014 updates: One new permit was issued under the Archaeological Sites Regulation for retrieval of a Hiller 360 helicopter wreck on the north slope (Yukon Transportation Museum). Otherwise, Ray Le Blanc (emeritus, U of Alberta), joined the VGFN Navigation Systems Project to revisit and update site location information for three archaeological sites (Scientists and Explorers Licence to Shirleen Smith, Consulting Anthropologist). Yukon government issued eleven Scientists and Explorers licences which involved activities or research within VG traditional territory. 2015 updates: There were 24 permits issued so far and a copy of the 2015 project list was provided at the October 13th 2015 meeting.</p>	<p>Management Guidelines development as required.</p> <p>Permitting of projects: On-going</p>
<p>GOAL 6: Economic 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>	<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)</p>	<p>To be re-evaluated at first plan review.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
	<p>6.2 An all-season access road to Old Crow is not required at this time (5.4.1.2)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Appendix 1: Intergovernmental Implementation Table – North Yukon Plan – December 31, 2015

	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
<p>GOAL 6: Economic (Continued)</p>	<p>6.3 In advance of significant levels of energy sector activity, an access management plan should be developed for the Eagle Plain oil and gas basin (5.4.1.3)</p>	<p><u>6.3.1 Access Management Plan</u> YG and VGG will jointly develop an access management plan for the Eagle Plain 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. <i>Updates: Main HPW contact retired during 2012, and new staff to be brought up to speed. VGG wishes to defer this planning until the Peel process has completed, and will inform Yukon when they are ready to proceed.</i> 2013 update: No change for this period. The current 3D seismic exploration program access is facilitated along the existing Chance Creek Road and through the terms and conditions of the land use permit. The future need for a management plan will be triggered by a clear development need by industry. 2014 update: Caribou related mitigations related to the recent seismic project were consolidated into a summary table that flagged project recommendations and permit terms where improvements could be made. A spin-off regulators group was created and met once during 2014 in anticipation of the new multi-well application. VGG and YG initiated work on creating a terms of reference for access management planning. 2015: TWG met again in late September and VGG and YG are doing some more internal work on the TOR. The subject remains a priority and further work to take place with the new VGG Natural Resources director. Noted that through the YESAB assessment, it has been requested that NCY submit an access management plan for their project area as a part of their current application requirements.</p>	<p>Terms of Reference: was to start in Fall 2010 (Deferred, await decision to proceed from VGG)</p>
<p>6.3 Access Management Plan (Continued)</p>	<p>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>	<p><u>6.4.1 CA Location</u> 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 5-km radius from the centre of Old Crow. The area is not expected to include lands across the Porcupine River from Old Crow. Update: VGG indicated during 2012 that the 5 km radius is adequate for now. No change for 2013, 2014 or 2015.</p>	<p>CA boundary delineation centered on the VGG admin building.</p>
<p>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>	<p>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>	<p><u>6.5.1 Aggregate Mapping</u> YG will continue to map potential aggregate resources in the North Yukon region in consultation with VGG. <i>Updates: YG checked for past aggregate research reports in the planning area during 2012 for information to share with VGG. Some field work for YG Highways also occurred along the Dempster Highway near Eagle plains during 2012 but the reports are not yet available.</i></p>	<p>Aggregate maps: On-going</p>

Appendix 1: Intergovernmental Implementation Table – North Yukon Plan – December 31, 2015

	Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
<p>GOAL 6: Economic (Continued)</p>		<p>2013 update: Minor sampling of aggregate sources by YG along the Dempster done summer 2013 between approximately km 120 and Eagle Plains. Results of the Yukon Exploration & Geology paper are expected in 2014.</p> <p>2014: Yukon Geological Survey was updated on VGG's interest in future aggregate source information. Will advise YG of future gravel needs. YGS did related community mapping of aggregate sources and terrain hazards around Old Crow during summer 2014, and will be returning for additional field work during 2015.</p> <p>2015 Update: Field work took place in July. Yukon Geological Survey staff worked in the community collaborating with researchers from University of Alberta and Yukon College. A surficial geology map for the community of Old Crow is expected to be completed and released by December. Copies of the map and associated digital files will be sent to VGG. Potential sources of aggregate were identified while mapping, but require future detailed work. VGG confirmed their interest in a new non-gravel bar source.</p>	
	<p>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>	<p><u>6.6.1 Community Forest Management Plan</u> VGG and YG will develop a Community Forest Management Plan for Old Crow as provided for in s.30 of the Forest Resources Act, to provide accessible forest use for local residents. Updates: The need for a community forest plan was raised as an issue within the community. Copies of YG Forestry maps and data were shared in 2011. 2015: No recent changes but VGG maintains an interest. The new VGG director will need to review this file.</p>	<p>Community Forest Management Plan: When capacity and resources permit</p>
	<p>6.7 Renewable energy options and solutions for the community of Old Crow should continue to be researched and promoted (5.4.9)</p>	<p><u>6.7.1 Energy Option Research and Promotion</u> 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. Updates: During 2012 there was work with the Energy Solutions Centre on a solar monitoring project at the John Tizya Arctic Research Centre, and the creation of a renewable energy resource database. There was also a biomass project with a solid waste management incinerator underway during 2012, and a proposal being considered for a wind/solar tandem system with a grid feed for the community. 2013 update: Work on the Old Crow "community energy plan" contract began in March 2014. It is to include strategic planning, a situation analysis, and potential improved efficiencies (insulation, improved efficiencies, energy from renewable, other options) and supply options such as from their proposed 330 kw solar array. The Sea Breeze application has been pushed back to the next fiscal year.</p>	<p>Energy options research report: When capacity and resources permit</p>

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Recommendations	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
	<p>2014 update: ESC has been working with VGG and the contractor. The inventory phase and situational analysis were completed, and report drafting is underway. Hoping to finish the project and a final draft for review and approval by Chief and Council by the end of this fiscal year pending staff capacity.</p> <p>2015 Update: the draft report has been written and VGG is currently reviewing it. Their input will be required prior to finalizing the report and the community energy plan.</p>	

Stand-Alone Item	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
<p>1</p> <p>Land Use Designation Recommendation 4.2.1 Whitefish Lakes: LMU 8A, Whitefish – Porcupine Lakes, a sub-unit of Whitefish Wetlands, should be designated as a Protected Area category.</p>	<p><u>i. Designations and Withdrawals</u> YG will withdraw (via OIC for 5 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. VGG will designate the Settlement Land portion of 8A as a protected area.</p>	<p>OIC withdrawal and VGG designation: Completed</p>
<p>1 Cont'd</p> <p>Land Use Designation Recommendation 4.2.1 Whitefish Lakes (Continued)</p>	<p><u>ii. Management Planning</u> VGG will lead the development of detailed management plan for the Whitefish Wetlands with YG involvement. Updates: YG Environment and VGG have started work on a fish and wildlife management plan. The final work plan was produced and distributed in March 2013. (http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/publications-maps/documents/VGFNFWWP-20130327.pdf) YG Environment and VGG continue to work together to define the type of protected area mechanism, under YG legislation, that will be applied to the area until such time as VGG develops a Lands Act that will enable VGG to designate the area (expected 5 year timeline). Working group members were selected in 2012 and the first WG meeting was deferred to 2013. 2013 update: There are two YG representatives on the Whitefish Wetlands HPA Working Group (WG). The terms of reference for the management planning work are completed and work is progressing well. Three WG/community meetings were held in Old Crow during April, July and October 2013. The WG is beginning to draft a vision for the area and has begun work on interests for Whitefish Wetland. 2014 update: Work on the draft plan continues. The working group met on Dec 10th in Whitehorse and received contracted heritage information that still needs to be reviewed and addressed by Environment. 2015 update: Work on the draft plan continues, but some delays related to staffing changes. A conference call took place in June 2015 to plan for a community review of draft plan recommendations. A planning team meeting was held in July. Next steps for the</p>	<p>Protected area management plan: Started: April 1, 2011</p>

Stand-Alone Item	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
<p>2</p> <p>Land Use Designation Recommendation 4.2.2 Summit Lake: LMU 4C, Summit Lake-Bell River, a sub-unit of the Northern Richardson Mountains and Foothills, should be designated as a Protected Area category.</p>	<p><i>working group will be to review comments and to discuss a possible community workshop in Old Crow.</i></p> <p><u>i. Withdrawal</u> 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.</p> <p><u>ii. Resource Assessment</u> YG will complete the resource assessments for the identified Summit Lake area. <i>Updates: Preliminary Archaeological Inventory in the Summit Lake-Bell River Region completed and report submitted 2010 (joint project with VGFN and TG). EMR YGS mineral potential assessment released in August 2011. The information was incorporated into YG Environment's internal review during 2011, and the YG interdepartmental boundary review in 2012.</i></p> <p><u>iii. Boundary Delineation</u> The Parties in consultation will delineate the finalized boundaries of the Summit Lake Area. <i>Updates: YG Environment developed and produced potential boundary scenarios during 2011. The YG interdepartmental review took place during 2012. Boundary configuration refinement is nearing completion and will continue into 2013, followed by final review with VGG. 2013 update: Discussion and review of boundary configuration with VGG is ready to begin in 2014. 2014 update: Dec 10th letter from Chief Linklater to Minister Dixon indicating VGG "supports the proposed boundary and the designation at a later date following working group meetings". 2015 update: Boundary delineation has been completed and a copy of the Dec 10, 2014 letter between Chief Linklater and Minister Dixon supporting the proposed boundary has been shared.</i></p> <p><u>iv. Memorandum of Understanding</u> The Parties will conclude an MOU regarding the legal designation of the finalized Summit Lake Area.</p> <p><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>Updates: Environment's Park Planning Unit received the Yukon Geological Survey report in August 2011 for review and analysis. Potential boundary scenarios were developed and vetted by their senior management. YG interdepartmental review and discussions on best potential scenarios took place through 2012 and will continue into 2013. Noted that VGG would become</i></p>	<p>OIC withdrawal: Completed</p> <p>Resource Assessment Reports: Completed Summer 2010 & 2011</p> <p>Boundary related research: During 2012 – 2013 Boundary discussions and agreement: Completed 2014-15.</p> <p>MOU: begin once boundaries are designated and finalized</p> <p>Protected area management plan: Boundaries were finalized and working group established during 2014. Draft Terms of Reference are currently under review.</p>

Stand-Alone Item	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
	<p>involved in the discussion on boundary refinement once YG has reached consensus on one or more potential scenarios.</p> <p>Yukon Parks let a contract in September 2011 to VGFN to ID cultural heritage values within the Summit Lake- Bell River study area to contribute to the boundary assessment work. The report work was completed March 31st 2012 and was funded through implementation funding allocation.</p> <p>2014 update: A working group has been established consisting of Brian Johnston for YG and David Frost for VGG. VGG will be providing input on terms of reference for the working group. The withdrawal orders for Placer/Quartz and Oil & gas were renewed in June 2014 and currently extends until June 2018.</p> <p>2015 update: A draft Terms of Reference has been proposed by YG and is under review by VGG. YG and VGG will discuss the appropriate Park designation. VGG would also like to incorporate traditional place names into the planning effort.</p>	
<p>3</p> <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 IMA Zone II will be applied to LMUs 2A, 3 and 4A.</p>	<p>Consultation plan and withdrawal orders: Completed</p>
<p>4</p> <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 (LMU) will not be classified as a zone I, II, or III similar to other LMUs 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><i>Update: The Committee of Managing Agencies did not meet during 2013, but is expect to do so in 2014. The acceptance and use of Cumulative Effects Indicators is scheduled to be tabled and discussed at the next meeting.</i></p> <p>Once the VG/TH 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>2012 Update: The Dawson Regional Planning Commission has been made aware of this item and will factor it into the development of the future Dawson Plan.</p> <p>2013 update: The "Dawson Planning Commission Plan Alternatives report" was released for review. The next steps for the commission were to review feedback, complete their boundary refinement and then work on the draft plan by next summer.</p> <p>2014 update: Related information on boundaries was expected to be incorporated into the draft Dawson plan, however the plan was temporarily suspended.</p> <p>2015 update: no new information or changes to note.</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>HPA boundary: Once overlap issue is resolved</p>

	Stand-Alone Item	Action Steps and Updates	Results Expected / Status
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>2013 update: It was decided by both parties that the plan's research priorities be scheduled as a discussion item for the 2013 annual meeting (which would take place in early 2014) as it is an important consideration for the next 5-year work plan. 2014 update: The Suggested Research Priorities listed under part A4-1 of the Plan were reviewed at the annual meeting held in February 2014. It was decided that it remains current and adequate for the near future.</i></p> <p>2015: The research priorities were reviewed at the annual meeting in February 2015 and it was felt that they remain current for now. The subject will be revisited at the next annual meeting.</p>	<p>Research timeline and products: June 2011-2014</p>
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>2013 update: Approvals were requested to post the annual reports on Yukon's Regional Land Use Planning web page in order to make the information in them more publicly accessible. This is expected to occur during 2014.</i></p> <p><i>2014 update: Annual reports are now maintained on YG's Regional Land Use Planning web page for public access at the following link: http://www.emr.gov.yk.ca/lands/myr/rlup.html.</i></p> <p>2015: The last update remains current.</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 Yukon and Vuntut Gwitchin governments 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>Updates: 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. The subject will be carried forward to the next annual meeting as a discussion item and for a decision by the Parties.</p>	<p>MOU: Completed</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. YG lead: all departments which manage land or review projects.</p> <p><i>Updates: There were no new BMP's released by YG during 2012. Several were in the works during 2013. A new Heritage Management Guidelines BMP was released in 2014. Also reference Action Steps 2.1 (BMP Development) and 5.1.1 (Heritage Management Guidelines) for further details, and web links to existing BMPs.</i></p> <p>2015 Update: No new BMP's released.</p>	<p>BMP's being developed on an ongoing basis. On-going</p>

<u>YESA A. #</u>	<u>Project Proponent</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Landscape Management Unit</u>	<u>Zoning</u>	<u>Conformity & Approval Date</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1	YG Highways and Public Works	Dempster Highway Erosion Protection - Cornwall Creek and Rock River	LMU 10B Rock River – Mount Joyal	IMA Zone II	Conformity check issued Jan 14, 2015. Decision Document issued March 16 th , 2015.	Project conforms to Regional Land Use Plan. Existing footprint, so no new disturbance.
2	YG Highways and Public Works	Km 245.2 Dempster Highway Culvert Replacement	N/A, in VGFN TT but within Dawson Planning Region	N/A	No Conformity check issued as project is within the Dawson planning region. Decision Document issued July 30 th , 2015.	N/A
3	International Boundary Commission, United States and Canada	IBC Camp on US/CA Border	LMU 2A Old Crow - Rampart House LMU 2B Bluefish River - David Lord Creek	IMA Zone II IMA Zone III	Conformity check issued June 3 rd , 2015. Decision Document issued June 29 th , 2015.	Project conforms to Regional Land Use Plan. The project as described is not expected to result in an increase of new disturbance.
4	Government of Yukon – Highways and Public Works	Sheep Creek Gravel Development Project, Km 433 Dempster Highway	LMU 10A South Richardson Mountains LMU 10B Rock River – Mount Joyal	IMA Zone II IMA Zone II	Conformity check issued June 4 th , 2015. Decision Document issued July 23, 2015.	Project conforms to Regional Land Use Plan. Disturbance is less than 4 hectares, and is exempt as it is within the Dempster ROW.
5	Northern Cross (Yukon) Limited	Eagle Plains Multi-well Exploration Program Survey	LMU 9 Eagle Plains	IMA Zone IV	Conformity check re-issued Dec 8, 2015. Note: Still in assessment at December 31, 2015.	Project conforms to Regional Land Use Plan.

(Abbreviations: CA = Community Area, IMA = Integrated Management Area, PA = Protected Area)

Appendix 3: New Disturbances from June 2009 – December 31, 2015

LMU	LMU sub-unit	Area (km ²) ¹	Land Use Category ²	IMA Zone †	New Surface Disturbance (km ²) since 2009 ††	New Linear Density (km/km ²) since 2009 ††
1. Old Crow Flats SMA	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 2015.

Appendix 3: New Disturbances from June 2009 – December 31, 2015

LMU	LMU sub-unit	Area (km ²) ¹	Land Use Category ²	IMA Zone †	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'iniinjik (Fishing Branch) SMA	12A. Ni'iniinjik 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 %)				

APPENDIX 4:
NORTH YUKON RLUP IMPLEMENTATION– ANNUAL MEETING NOTES, JANUARY 21, 2016

9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Room 2C, Elijah Smith Building, 300 Main Street,
Whitehorse, YT

Present:

- VGG:
 - William Josie, Director, Natural Resources & Heritage
 - Rosa Brown, Lands Manager
- YG
 - Manon Moreau, Director, EMR Corporate Policy & Planning
 - Jim Bell, Manager, Regional Land Use Planning
 - Renée Mayes, Sr. Land Use Planner
- Guests:
 - Pauline Frost, VGG
 - Jerome McIntyre, YG
 - Ron Cruikshank, YLUPC
 - Sam Skinner, YLUPC

1. Agenda

Agenda was reviewed and agreed to as presented.

2. Review October 13, 2015 Meeting Notes

Approved with minor changes

3. Review Implementation MOU and 2010 Conformity Check Letters

The Yukon government/Vuntut Gwitchin government Memorandum of Understanding to guide implementation of the North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan (NYRLUP) was reviewed, paying attention to the sections guiding the meetings and plan review and amendment sections. **ACTION:** Each government to review MOU and bring proposed changes to April 2016 meeting for discussion. **ACTION:** Plan amendment items to be tracked by both governments and discussed at June 2016 meeting. Identified Plan amendments include: Summit Bell boundaries and new name, and VG/TH contiguous boundary agreement be reflected in the plan once it is completed.

4. Conformity Check Challenges (Sam Skinner, YLUPC)

Challenges identified include:

- The discrepancy between Chapter 12, which requires a Commission to do a conformity check where an approved plan is in place, and the implementation of the North Yukon Plan that has the parties requesting the Council to undertake the conformity checks in North Yukon. The ongoing role of regional planning commissions is a topic being addressed at the Implementation Review Group table.
- The lack of confirmed disturbance levels makes it a challenge to fully complete the surface and linear disturbance levels of the conformity check. Having the results and the process for calculating disturbance available on line will help all participants in the process, including proponents, regulators and assessors.
- Feedback from the inspections process would help to assess new disturbances and should include things like type of mulching and width of trails. The issuance of land use permits in North Yukon requiring accurate reporting of actual disturbance arising from the project is in place. **Action:** YG to follow-up on: 1) whether there are inspection reports from the Northern Cross Project that collaborate the disturbance data provided by NCY and 2) the potential and options for sharing inspection reports with VGG, and for coordinating joint inspections with VGG staff.
- The definition of disturbance need to be clarified and should consider winter tree cutting, brush/vegetation clearing, ground disturbance and other types of disturbance. Currently the calculation of new disturbance is based on disturbance to 'forest class' only and does not consider disturbance to hydrology or soil.
- Having YG review project proposals and YESAB recommendations to confirm whether plan recommendations are considered would be helpful to the YESAA assessment process. **ACTION:** YG to take steps to ensure its input into the YESAA assessment process considers and reflects the direction provided by the regional land use plan, at both the project assessment stage and the issuance of a decision document when a YG agency is the Decision Body.

5. Disturbance Definitions

Moved to item 7.

6. Review Implementation Plan

The Table was reviewed, item by item. Most of the items in the Implementation Table have been covered elsewhere during the meeting. The updated Table will be attached to the Annual Report.

Climate change could play a larger role in a plan review than has previously been contemplated and will need to be taken into consideration when looking a plan review.

7. Action Plan for Shared Priorities for 2016

a. Surface Disturbance Project

The Directors discussed YLUPC undertaking the project. Items discussed included process, rationale, and responsibility. Steps to implement the process include determining historic disturbance, integrating vegetation recovery information and tracking new disturbance to arrive at current disturbance levels. **ACTION:** Send a letter from YG/VGG to YLUPC clarifying the project and requesting YLUPC to undertake the project under 11.3.3.5 of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation Final Agreement.

b. Eagle Plain Basin Access Management Plan

A draft Terms of Reference is in development by YG and VGG and much of the background information has been identified. It is agreed that the project should be undertaken by a third party and that the YLUPC should be approached. **ACTION:** A technical working group will prepare a TOR, define a process for moving forward, and produce a guidance document should YLUPC agree to undertake the project under 11.3.3.5. A request from the parties to the YLUPC for assistance in preparing an access management plan will be made concurrent to the action item above.

c. Caribou Best Management Practices

Development of caribou Best Management Practices, a process to establish safe operating distances and critical numbers for the Porcupine Caribou Herd remains outstanding implementation items. Contracting the work out was discussed. **ACTION:** Technical staff of the Vuntut and Yukon governments will develop recommendations for a collaborative approach to establishing Porcupine Caribou herd BMPs. develop a plan for moving forward with. Joint funding will be explored for 2016/17.

d. Disturbance Definitions

The disturbance and recovery related definitions in the NYRLUP need to be reviewed prior to finalizing a surface disturbance tracking process and prior to determining when a plan review should be undertaken. **ACTION:** YG to set up meeting for Technical Working Group to start disturbance definitions work with a report to be delivered at the April, 2016 meeting.

8. Plan Review

There are a number of items detailed in the Plan and in the MOU aimed at assisting the parties to determine if and when a plan review should be undertaken. In addition, items identified by the parties could include the TH/VGFN contiguous boundary. **ACTION:** The parties will bring their considerations to the June/July Directors' meeting for discussion and to