

## **7. Plan Implementation and Revision**

---

The implementation of a land use plan is a crucial stage in the planning process. It is during implementation that the guiding principles, goals and objectives of the Plan are put into action. Periodic monitoring of Plan implementation activities provides an opportunity to evaluate its effectiveness, to determine if goals and objectives are being met, and to determine whether the Plan has been used in land and resource decision-making processes. If land use circumstances change in the region, changes to the Plan may be necessary.

### **7.1 Plan Implementation**

The Parties to the Plan, the Yukon and Vuntut Gwitchin governments, will make best efforts to implement the Plan in its entirety. However, Plan implementation is at the discretion of the Parties. Nothing in this Plan diminishes the ability of the Parties to make land and resource decisions under their current authority. This Plan provides a framework and tools that enable the Parties to make well-informed land and resource management decisions. The Plan also provides guidance to land and resource users when developing project proposals, and when conducting land use activities in the region.

The Parties will develop a detailed Plan implementation strategy concurrently with, or subsequent to, the approval of a Final Land Use Plan.

#### **7.1.1 Implementation Responsibilities**

The Yukon and Vuntut Gwitchin governments are the Parties to the North Yukon Land Use Plan; they have primary responsibilities for its implementation. Implementation responsibilities may also involve other groups, including the following:

- North Yukon Planning Commission (NYPC);
- Yukon Land Use Planning Council (YLUPC);
- Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB);
- Government of Canada; and,
- UFA boards and committees.

Until an agreement between the Parties has been reached, implementation roles and responsibilities for other groups are undetermined.

## 7.2 Plan Revision

This Plan is intended to be a living document, open to change and revision at periodic intervals, as agreed to by the Parties. The VGFN Final Agreement provides for these revisions. Periodic changes to the Plan can incorporate new research findings and contribute to improved decision-making. A process for reviewing and changing the Plan supports the adaptive management approach.

Changes to the Plan may be required when:

- New land management concepts emerge;
- New land and resource information becomes available;
- Knowledge about land use impacts is advanced;
- Land management values that the Plan is based upon change; or,
- Demand for land and resources in the region changes.

There are three ways to accommodate changes to the Plan:

- Plan Variance: when minor changes to the Plan are required;
- Plan Amendment: when alterations to management strategies presented in the Plan are required; and,
- Plan Review: a formal process when the entire Plan is re-evaluated, usually when major changes and revisions to the Plan are deemed necessary.

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.

### 7.2.1 Plan Review Check-list

The status of Plan recommendations should be evaluated in future Plan Reviews. When preparing the Plan, NYPC received comments regarding research or management items for additional consideration. Some have been deferred for future consideration. Table 7.1 lists suggested items for consideration in future Plan Reviews.

**Table 7.1.** Suggested items for consideration in future Plan Reviews.

Task	Actions
<b>Plan Review</b>	
<b>1. Evaluate success of Plan in achieving goals and objectives.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine if recommendations from Plan were successfully implemented.</li> <li>• Determine if goals and objectives are still relevant.</li> <li>• Consider if the goals and objectives of Plan were met and/or if they are still achievable.</li> <li>• If required, revise Plan content.</li> </ul>
<b>2. Evaluate need for Old Crow all-season road.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review need for Old Crow all-season road as per VGFN Final Agreement Specific Provision 11.10.0.</li> </ul>
<b>3. Develop and implement additional indicators.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider inclusion of focal species habitat targets for specific LMUs.</li> <li>• Consider indicators of aquatic habitat integrity and water quality (e.g., stream crossing index, CCME water quality index, etc.) to complement current terrestrial indicators.</li> <li>• Consider inclusion of regional sustainability indicators (see Table 7.2 for suggested list).</li> </ul>
<b>3. Consider refining boundaries and zoning system for Major River Corridors.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider refining boundaries of Major River Corridors to better reflect topography and river valley features.</li> <li>• Consider Major River Corridor zoning system that is complementary to the existing land designation system proposed in the Plan.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Consider zoning system for Dempster Highway Corridor.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider Dempster Highway Corridor zoning system that is complementary to the existing land designation system proposed in the Plan.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Refine application of cumulative effects indicators and indicator levels.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider weighting of linear disturbance impacts within different habitat types (e.g., floodplains versus upland habitats).</li> <li>• Incorporate new information on re-vegetation rates and standards for surface disturbances, if required.</li> </ul>

**Table 7.2.** Potential regional indicators for sustainable development.

<b>Indicator-Type</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Current Indicator Status</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Socio-Economic</b>	<b>Old Crow Population</b>	270 people (2005 census)	Provides measure of Old Crow population trend – reflective of general social and economic conditions. Reported by Yukon Bureau of Statistics.
	<b>Old Crow resident time-on-the-land</b>	From ABEKC reports	Provides measure of resident participation in subsistence economy and traditional pursuits. Reported by Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-op (ABEKC).
	<b>Availability of Current Use Areas</b>	From VGG Natural Resources Dept.	Provides measure of loss/gain of current use areas for subsistence harvesting and cultural purposes as a result of other land use activities. Not currently reported but current use areas were documented in this Plan.
	<b>Number of Old Crow residents receiving social assistance</b>	From VGG Social Services	Provides measure of self-sufficiency of individuals – reflective of general social and economic conditions. Reported by VGG Social Services.
	<b>Regional Gross Domestic Product (GDP)</b>	From Yukon Economic Development	Provides measure of regional economic activity and production.
	<b>Median Household Income</b>	\$28,224 (120 households)	Provides measure of household monetary wealth / wage income. Reported by Canada Census.
	<b>Median Individual Income for Women</b>	\$14,667 (105 females)	Provides measure of individual female (15 yrs and older) monetary wealth / wage income. Female vs. male income levels should be tracked to establish gender wage-based equity. Reported by Canada Census.
	<b>Median Individual Income for Men</b>	\$15,232 (105 males)	Provides measure of individual male (15 yrs and older) monetary wealth / wage income. Reported by Canada Census.

**Table 7.2** (cont'd). Potential regional indicators for sustainable development.

<b>Indicator-Type</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Current Indicator Status</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Ecological</b>	<b>Porcupine Caribou Herd population status</b>	Estimated at 110,000 animals	PCH is the most important ecological and social value to Vuntut Gwitchin residents. Barren ground population declines in neighbouring Canadian herds are being experienced. Reported by YG/Alaska Department of Fish and Game/PCMB.
	<b>Regional habitat integrity</b>	Annual Regional Assessments	Regional assessment of terrestrial habitat conditions, including “hot spot” identification. Surface disturbance and linear density indicators provide measure of habitat integrity.
	<b>Landscape Management Unit habitat integrity</b>	Annual Regional Assessments	Assessment of terrestrial habitat conditions by LMU. Surface disturbance and linear density indicators provide measure of habitat integrity.
	<b>Regional aquatic habitat integrity</b>	Annual Regional Assessments	Regional assessment of aquatic habitat conditions, including “hot spot” identification. Stream crossing index and water quality suggested as future indicators.
	<b>Landscape Management Unit (or watershed) aquatic habitat integrity</b>	Annual Regional Assessments	Regional assessment of aquatic habitat conditions by LMU or watershed. Future indicator. Stream crossing index and water quality suggested as future indicators.

<Blank Page>