

North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan

Annual Report

October 15, 2010



VUNTUT GWITCHIN GOVERNMENT

Yukon
Energy, Mines and Resources
Énergie, Mines et Ressources



VUNTUT GWITCHIN GOVERNMENT



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December 20, 2010

Chief Norma Kassi
Vuntut Gwitchin Government
Box 94
Old Crow, YT Y0B 1N0

The Honourable Patrick Rouble
Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources
Government of Yukon
Box 2703
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6

Dear Chief Kassi and the Honourable Patrick Rouble:

Re: North Yukon Land Use Plan Implementation Annual Report 2010

We are pleased to provide you with the North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan Annual Report for the implementation year ending August 2010.

The North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan was approved by the Parties in July 2009, followed by a Memorandum of Understanding for the Implementation of the Plan in January 2010.

Pursuant to the terms of the MOU, the Directors have prepared this annual report describing the following:

1. Past years implementation activities and issues,
2. Priorities for the coming year,
3. Plan amendment or review procedures and outcomes, and
4. Cumulative effects reporting results.

During the 2009/2010 year, Vuntut Gwitchin and Yukon governments made significant progress in a number of implementation areas, detailed in the attached report. Most notably, Orders-in-Council for the North Yukon and the Protected Areas withdrawals were approved in March 2010 and are being followed up with work towards defining and establishing the Whitefish Lakes, Summit Lake, and Bell River Protected Areas.

We wish to bring to your attention, two matters arising from implementation of the Plan. First, subsequent to completing the OIC's for the North Yukon protected areas, editorial changes to the Plan are required. This can be accomplished using the Plan Variance process outlined in section 7.2 of the Plan and in accordance with 6.1a) of the MOU.

Chief Norma Kassi and Honourable Patrick Rouble

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Secondly, during this year's implementation, it became evident that a process needed to be developed to address the Final Agreement clause pertaining to requests to a Planning Commission to determine if a project conforms to a plan. Since implementation is a responsibility of the Parties and in the absence of a continuing Commission for North Yukon, we jointly agreed to have the Yukon Land Use Planning Council check on Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) projects for conformity to the Regional Plan, on our behalf, on an interim basis.

Once the attached report is accepted by you, a copy will be forwarded to the Yukon Land Use Planning Council in accordance with the UFA and the MOU.

We look forward to continue working together under the MOU to implement the North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan.

Sincerely,



Hugh Monaghan
Coordinator, Intergovernmental Affairs



Angus Robertson
Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines and
Resources

/Attachments: North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan Annual Report 2010

bcc: Yukon Land Use Planning Council
Hugh Monaghan
Darlene Morgan ECPC files
Lance Nagwan, Complete file package (background attachments)

BACKGROUND

The North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan was approved by the Yukon and Vuntut Gwitchin governments, on June 29, 2009. The Parties then developed an implementation plan and signed the Memorandum of Understanding for the Implementation of the North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan on January 14, 2010. The MOU requires that an annual report be submitted to the principals. Over the past year, both Parties have worked at implementing the Plan with much progress being evident.

1) 2009/2010 IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES

The reported upon Goals, listed below, are contained within the North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan and the Intergovernmental Implementation Framework for the Plan. This section details those activities that have been and are being carried out to achieve those goals. They are presented in the order described in the Implementation Framework (attached)

Goal 1: Sustainable Development

1.1.1 Reporting

- The annual report has been prepared.

1.1.2 Joint Technical Meetings

- Have taken place either in person or by phone at regular intervals during the reporting year.

1.1.3 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Implementation of the North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan

- The MOU was signed by the Parties in January 2010.

1.2.1 Site Closure/Remediation Plans

- No activity was initiated during the reporting year.

1.3.1 Surface disturbance and linear density tracking and benchmarking

- No projects have been proposed for lands within any Integrated Management Areas during the past year; therefore, no tracking of new surface disturbance has been necessary.
- As part of the ongoing research into surface and linear disturbance measuring, satellite imagery was obtained for a large percentage of the area between the Dempster Highway and the Old Crow community area. Geo-referencing is expected to be complete by April 2011. Imagery for the remainder of this portion of the North Yukon Region is expected to be captured during the summer of 2011, pending available resources.
- The North Yukon Seismic Line Disturbance Recovery report was completed and submitted to MPERG.

- A consultant was obtained to compile information on vegetation recovery based on the North Yukon report above and a similar report for South East Yukon and other related data. This research will lead to a better understanding of these disturbances
- Ultimately, a major step will be to enter into a contract to use all existing data and some fieldwork to eventually create a disturbance baseline.

1.4.1 Mainstreaming Climate Change

- Climate Change is being considered in all project evaluation and planning exercises. This activity is ongoing.

1.5.1 Approve the Plan

- This activity was accomplished when the Plan was approved by the Parties in 2009. This recommendation can be removed from the implementation framework.
- Although not a recommendation in the Plan, it should be noted that the Porcupine Caribou Management Plan was signed by all eight Parties in Spring 2010.

Goal 2: Wildlife

- Best Management Practices Development (for mining, O&G, fish & wildlife, heritage and culture) is an ongoing activity.

Goal 3: Fish

- Because no permits have been applied for or issued in the North Yukon Region, no action has been taken on this goal.

Goal 4: Wetlands, Lakes and Rivers

- The Canadian Wetland Classification System was adopted by Yukon in 2009. This allows wetlands in the area to be classified when the inventory, classification and assessment takes place starting in April 2011.
- Because no permits have been applied for or issued in the North Yukon Region, no water withdrawal prohibitions have been necessary.

Goal 5: Heritage and Culture

- Management Guidelines development is ongoing.
- No heritage or culture permits were issued for the region during the reporting year.

Goal 6: Economic Development

- Aggregate Mapping – YGS
- Fieldwork was conducted during July 2010 with analysis and reporting expected to be completed by spring of 2011.

Stand Alone Items

- 1) Land Use Designation – Whitefish Lakes
 - The five-year withdrawal applicable to the portion on public lands was completed by Order-In-Council (OIC). A VGG General Assembly resolution is pending for the settlement land portion of the area designating it as a protected area. These will apply until a more detailed management plan is prepared for the area.
- 2) Land Use Designation – Summit Lake/Bell River
 - The five-year withdrawal applicable to the portion on public lands was completed by OIC. The withdrawal will apply until a final boundary is defined and a management plan is completed.
 - Fieldwork was performed in July 2010 and will form part of the resource assessment input into boundary discussions for the Summit Lake – Bell River Protected Area. Additional work will take place during the 2011 field season.
- 3) Land Use Designation – North Yukon Withdrawal
 - The OIC removing LMU's 2A, 3, and 4A from the existing North Yukon Land Withdrawal has been completed in accordance with the approved Letter of Transmittal from the North Yukon Planning Commission.
- 4) Fishing Branch Habitat Protection Area (HPA)
 - The Fishing Branch Committee of Managing Agencies recommends that the Dawson Regional Planning Commission consider how the southern boundary of the HPA is to be altered as part of that planning process, to encompass the Miner River watershed. The Committee also recommends that when the Plan is reviewed, the entire Miner River watershed be looked at for inclusion in the HPA.

Issues

During the past year an issue arose that required action outside of the Plan recommendations.

- 1) Conformity Checks
 - The process for performing conformity checks as required by Chapter 12 of the UFA and s.44 of YESAA has been agreed to by the Parties and will be performed by YLUPC on the Parties' behalf as an interim measure until such time as a permanent arrangement can be agreed upon.
 - The conformity checks concentrate on General Management Guidelines and specific Land Management Unit considerations. Surface and linear disturbances cannot be measured until benchmarking is achieved and agreed to. However, any relevant

disturbance information will continue to assist the Parties as guidance.

2. PRIORITIES FOR THE 2011-2012 Fiscal Year

1. EMR will continue gathering and analysis of satellite images, ortho photos, and data to create a surface disturbance and linear density baseline to aid in future cumulative effects management.
2. The Parties will continue working towards the formal establishment of the protected areas by defining boundaries for these areas and commencing management planning. This will involve both YG and VGG and will utilize the results of fieldwork from the 2010 and 2011 seasons.
3. EMR will work with DAP Branch in their process to compile a record of available Best Management Practices.
4. VGG will work with EMR, Forestry Branch towards development of a Community Forest Management Plan.
5. ENV and HPW will work with EMR to develop a process and format for gathering information about current access being utilized off the Dempster Highway.

3. PLAN AMENDMENT AND REVIEW PROCEDURES AND OUTCOMES

The Plan recommended that certain lands be withdrawn and form protected areas; that certain lands formerly part of the North Yukon Land Withdrawal be removed from the withdrawal area; and that the land status in those areas be changed. To complete the implementation of this recommendation, it is recommended that the Parties begin the process for amending section 4.4, Map 1, and LMU's 2A, 3, and 4A to reflect the changes in land status in those areas. The amendment process is described in the MOU.

4. CUMULATIVE EFFECTS REPORTING RESULTS

No additional disturbance was reported during the reporting year. Baseline disturbance levels continue to be developed. Background information is being gathered with the intent to create a snapshot of current disturbance levels that can be updated on an annual basis using development permits and inspection reports, as well as calculating when previous disturbances are to be considered recovered.

Joint meetings of the Directors will continue on a quarterly basis with technical meetings occurring when they are triggered by development proposals in North Yukon.

ATTACHMENTS:

Intergovernmental Implementation Framework: North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan

INTERGOVERNMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK: North Yukon Regional Land Use Plan

Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps	Results Expected	Start Date
<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 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 through the use of proponent-supplied information and computer-based modeling software. 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>b) VGG will track new surface and linear disturbance on Settlement Lands which are designated as Integrated Management Areas pursuant to the Plan.</p> <p>c) The Parties will provide the cumulative effects reporting results to the Yukon Land Use Planning Council (YLUPC) on an annual basis.</p>	Annual reports	June 2010
		<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>	Information and recommendations to decision bodies	As triggered
		<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>	MOU	COMPLETED

Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps	Results Expected	Start Date
<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>1.2 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 to monitor on Settlement Lands.</p>	<p>Annual report: section on site closure/remediation plans</p>	<p>On-going</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 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 ground-truthed computer models to derive benchmark disturbance levels for these regions. <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>Historical surface disturbance and linear density data</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Satellite imagery Capture/Interpretation: Spring 2011 – Dempster Highway project: Fall 2010 – Summer 2011
	<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 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>Annual report: section on climate change</p>	<p>On-going</p>

Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps	Results Expected	Start Date
GOAL 1: Sustainable Development (Cont.)	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. <u>1.5.2 Manage Herd</u> Ongoing implementation of the Harvest Management Plan for the Porcupine Caribou Herd	Annual report: section on Porcupine Caribou Herd habitat	Plan Approved July 2010 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, outline a number of best practices.	<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.	Annual report: BMP section	On-going
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. <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).	Over-wintering research	TBD
	3.2 Water withdrawals in sensitive fish over-wintering areas should be prohibited (5.2.4)	<u>3.2.1 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 compliance to this recommendation may not always be practical.	Annual report: section on withdrawal prohibitions	On-going

Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps	Results Expected	Start Date
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 the YG's work to develop BMPs for each wetland type, in consultation with VGG.	Wetland inventory, classification and assessment	April 1, 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.	Annual report: section on wetland hydrology	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.	Annual report: section on withdrawal prohibitions	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 and Yukon governments (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.	Management guidelines or BMPs	On-going
	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)	<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.	Annual report: section on heritage and culture permits	On-going

Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps	Results Expected	Start Date
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	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.	N/A	
	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)	<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.	Terms of Reference	Fall 2010
	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)	<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.	CA boundary delineation, centred on the VGG administration building.	When capacity and resources permit
	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)	<u>6.5.1 Aggregate Mapping</u> YG will continue to map potential aggregate resources in the North Yukon region in consultation with VGG.	Aggregate maps	On-going

Goal	Recommendations	Action Steps	Results Expected	Start Date
GOAL 6: Economic (Continued) 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	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)	<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 <i>Forest Resources Act</i> , to provide accessible forest use for local residents.	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)	<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.	Energy options research report	When capacity and resources permit

	Stand-Alone Item	Action Steps	Results Expected	Start Date
1	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.	<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.	OIC withdrawal and VGG designation	Completed
		<u>ii. Management Planning</u> VGG will lead the development of detailed management plan for the Whitefish Wetlands.	Protected area management plan	April 1, 2011
2	Land Use Designation Recommendation 4.4.2 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	<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.	OIC withdrawal	Completed
		<u>ii. Resource Assessment</u> YG will complete the resource assessments for the identified Summit Lake area.	Resource Assessment Reports	Summer 2010/2011
		<u>iii. Boundary Delineation</u> The Parties in consultation will delineate the finalized boundaries of the Summit Lake Area.	Boundary agreement	2012
		<u>iv. Memorandum of Understanding</u> The Parties will conclude an MOU regarding the legal designation of the finalized Summit Lake Area.	MOU	2012
		<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.	Protected area management plan	Between 2012 and 2014

	Stand-Alone Item	Action Steps	Results Expected	Start Date
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 IMA Zone II will be applied to LMUs 2A, 3 and 4A.</p>	<p>Consultation plan and withdrawal orders</p>	<p>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>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 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 the next Committee of Managing Agencies meeting, which is expected to occur during the winter of 2009/2010.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Winter 2009/2010</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>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>HPA boundary</p>	<p>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>Research timeline and products</p>	<p>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 annually.</p>	<p>Updated Intergov. Implementation Framework</p>	<p>On-going</p>

	Stand-Alone Item	Action Steps	Results Expected	Start Date
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>MOU</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Annual report: BMP section</p>	<p>On-going</p>