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**Yukon Protected Areas Strategy
Work Plan
1999 & 2000**

Introduction:

This work plan identifies implementation priorities for the Yukon Protected Areas Strategy for 1999 and 2000. It identifies seven key points for action:

- 1) Establishing the Yukon Protected Areas Secretariat.
- 2) Amending the Yukon *Parks Act*.
- 3) Establishing formal linkages with other jurisdictions for co-operation on transboundary issues.
- 4) Establishing new protected areas in ecoregions that are not adequately represented and where land claim agreements are completed.
- 5) Protecting wetlands where land claims are completed.
- 6) Implementing Special Management Areas where land claims are completed.
- 7) Implementing Special Management Areas which are subject to the settlement of land claims.

Work Plan Monitoring and Review:

The work plan, which guides the implementation of YPAS, will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis and submitted to the Yukon Minister of Renewable Resources for review.

This report will identify the work, progress and products completed to date, identify key issues and concerns, and set work plan priorities for the next year. It will be prepared by the YPAS Secretariat in consultation with all agencies and teams actively involved in implementation.

In addition, brief progress summaries will be prepared every three months for review by the Minister.

Yukon Protected Areas Strategy Work Plan: 1999 and 2000

Tasks	Protected Areas Work Plan Targets			
	March 1999	Sept 1999	March 2000	Sept 2000
1. Establish the Yukon Protected Areas Secretariat	<i>Establish Secretariat office</i> <i>Established linkages with other agencies to coordinate implementation</i>			→
	<i>Implementation of Work Plan</i>			→
2. Amend the Yukon Parks Act	<i>Draft Amendments approved to proceed with public review</i>	<i>Public review completed</i> <i>Preparation of final draft</i> <i>Introduction to the Fall Legislature for <u>Proclamation</u></i>	<i>Implementation</i>	→
3. Establish formal linkages with other jurisdictions to coordinate implementation	<i>Inter-jurisdictional Accords with NWT and B.C. to coordinate the establishment of transboundary protected areas.</i>			

Tasks		Protected Areas Work Plan Targets			
4. Establish representative protected areas where land claims are settled.		March 1999	Sept 1999	March 2000	Sept 2000
Ecoregions	Key/Known Areas of Interest				
2: British Richardson Mtns ✓ 6. Eagle Plains	<u>Arctic Circle / Dempster Hwy</u>	<i>Study Areas Approved</i>	<i>Protected Areas Approved</i>	<i>Three or more Designations</i>	<i>Management Planning</i>
5. North Ogilvie Mtns ✓	<u>Fishing Branch expansion</u>				
7. Peel River Plateau ✓ 8. Ft. McPherson Plain	Lower Peel River tributaries				
9. Mackenzie Mtns. ✓	Peel River headwaters: <u>Source Peaks, Snake River, others</u>	<i>Areas of Interest Identified & Local Planning Team Established</i>	<i>Study Areas Approved</i>	<i>Protected Area Approved</i>	<i>One or more Designations</i>
11. Yukon Plateau (North) ✓ 12. Yukon Plateau (Central)	<u>McArthur / Ddhaw Ghro expansion, others</u>	<i>Areas of Interest Identified</i>	<i>Study Areas Proposed</i>	<i>Study Area Approved</i>	<i>Protected Area(s) Approved</i>
17. Yukon Southern Lakes 20. Pelly Mtns.	<u>Wolf Lake Area</u>	<i>Areas of Interest Identified</i>	<i>Local Planning Team Established or Parks Canada Feasibility Study</i>	→	
22. Highland Highland 23. Muskwa Plateau	* Unidentified – in progress	<i>* Areas of Interest Identified</i>	<i>* Study Areas Proposed</i>	<i>* Study Areas Approved</i>	<i>* Protected Areas Approved</i>
* Land claims are not settled in Ecoregions 22 and 23. However, assessments will continue to identify key areas for protection in the face of development pressures. Target dates may be delayed pending completion of land claims.					

7. Implement SMAs, subject to land claims settlement.		March 1999	Sept 1999	March 2000	Sept 2000
	Klutlan White Mtn. /Tarfu-Snafu Coal River Others..	<i>Implementation will be scheduled as land claim agreements are completed.</i>			

Tasks

Protected Areas Work Plan Targets

5. Protect wetlands where land claims are settled.		March 1999	Sept 1999	March 2000	Sept 2000
	Horseshoe Slough HPA	<i>Management Planning</i>	<u><i>Designation</i></u>		
	Nordenskiold HPA	<i>Management Planning</i>	<u><i>Designation</i></u>		
	Lhutsaw HPA	<i>Management Planning</i>		<u><i>Designation</i></u>	
	Needlerock HPA	<i>Management Planning</i>		<u><i>Designation</i></u>	
	Other important wetlands	<i>Finalize strategic framework to identify priority wetlands</i>	<i>Consultation on priority wetlands</i>	<u><i>Designation of priority wetlands</i></u>	
6. Implement negotiated SMAs where land claims are completed.					
	Tombstone Territorial Park	<i>Protected Area Proposal</i>	<u><i>Designation</i></u>	<i>Management Planning</i>	<i>Management Plan Approval</i>
	Fishing Branch Ecological Reserve	<i>Management Plan completed and</i> <u><i>Designation</i></u>			
	Tatshenshini Heritage River	<i>Management Plan completed</i>	<u><i>Designation</i></u>		
	Numerous Other SMAs	<i>At various stages of implementation, involving management planning, designation, and land transfers.</i>			

WORK PLAN

REVIEW OF THE YUKON PROTECTED AREAS STRATEGY (YPAS) IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

Prepared by the Yukon Protected Areas Strategy Steering Committee

Approved August 16, 2000

- 9/10 Technical Papers - Sept. 18th → submitted to Joe + Eric
- Summaries in on previous ^{following} week
- Options Paper - put together by facilitator
- Cabinet → mid Nov.
- Public Advisory Committee → late Nov / early Dec
- Internal analysis
- Cabinet on Feb → legislate
- Contact w/ stakeholders → hasn't happened to happen soon

- Technical Paper - Sept. 18
- Summary - end of Sept
- Assess work continuing in Arctic Dempster

Background/Context:

- After the Yukon Protected Areas Strategy (YPAS) was approved in December 1998, the government wanted to demonstrate its commitment to implementing the strategy, and therefore fast tracked the Fishing Branch protected area initiative.
- The Fishing Branch planning process took 8 months. The YPAS process requires normally 3 levels of planning and approvals over a 18-24 month period to establish a protected area boundary.
- The Yukon Protected Areas Secretariat was established in January 1999 to coordinate the implementation of the strategy and to assist in Special Management Area (SMA) establishment and planning under final First Nation land claim agreements.
- The accelerated time frame also did not provide the Secretariat and other territorial departments the time to: 1) prepare resource, ecological and socio-economic values assessment procedures, 2) make amendments to the *Yukon Parks Act* in order to implement YPAS, and 3) develop clear terms of reference to define the roles and responsibilities of participants in the establishment process (i.e. stakeholders, government, Local Planning Teams, etc...).
- The accelerated timeframe led to a considerable amount of stakeholder and public criticism related to the YPAS process not being followed, the need for interim protection, the impact of protected area planning on the Yukon resource economy, the need to establish a “cap” or land quantum target for the Yukon and the excessive size of protected areas. In response to these concerns, government committed to undertaking a review and refinement of YPAS and involving key stakeholders in that review. The review was initiated in March 2000 and put on hold during the election.
- During the election the Liberal Party expressed general support for YPAS, committed to getting the minerals industry “back to the table” and promised to undertake a review of the strategy.

Current Situation:

- On May 16, 2000, as one of the new government's immediate priorities, Cabinet reviewed and provided clear direction on the next steps related to the review of the YPAS process:
 - Terminate the current YPAS review process started in March 2000 by the former government.
 - Immediately reconvene the interdepartmental YPAS Steering Committee to develop a YPAS options and recommendations paper by Fall 2000 on three key issues
 - Direct the Department of Renewable Resources, in conjunction with other departments, to submit to Cabinet for approval the YPAS options and recommendations paper prior to the YPAS Public Advisory Committee review in the fall.
 - Immediately commit to the stakeholders to reconvene the YPAS Public Advisory Committee in Fall 2000 to provide comments on the YPAS options and recommendations paper developed by the Steering Committee.
 - Propose a meeting be set up between the Ministers of Economic Development and Renewable Resource and the Chamber of Mines to discuss the Chamber's involvement in the process.
 - Suspend any new Goal 1 YPAS (ecoregion representation) public planning initiatives until the review of the YPAS options and recommendations paper has been completed. Internal research and fieldwork will continue.
 - Direct the Department of Renewable Resources, in conjunction with other departments, to identify the next Goal 1 YPAS planning initiatives for Cabinet consideration in fall 2000.

- On June 15, 2000 Minister Eftoda sent out to YPAS Public Advisory Committee members letters explaining the government's approach to the review of the YPAS process. In his correspondence he stated that...
 - the YTG remains committed to the fundamentals of the strategy
 - the government is committed to a balanced approach to planning protected areas and development
 - the Fishing Branch initiative demonstrated that refinements are required to the YPAS process
 - the new government has heard the concerns of stakeholders as a result of the Fishing Branch experience
 - Cabinet wants to move to practical solutions expeditiously prior to starting the next YPAS planning initiative
 - an options and recommendations paper will be developed to address the three key areas described above
 - the government is committed to working in partnership with stakeholders, therefore, the YPAS Public Advisory will be invited to participate in the review of the options and recommendations paper this coming fall

Goals of the YPAS Steering Committee:

- To prepare a draft options and recommendation paper by, November 6, 2000 that addresses the three key issues related to refining the YPAS process in terms of:
 - I) preparing resource, ecological and socio-economic values assessments;
 - II) legislating the Yukon Protected Areas Strategy; and
 - III) clarifying the roles and responsibilities in the YPAS process to ensure it is implemented fairly and transparently
- To reconvene the YPAS Public Advisory Committee to review and comment on the draft options and recommendations in paper in fall 2000 through a facilitated consultative process.
- To submit a final recommendations paper to Cabinet for review and approval by January 29, 2001.
- To commence implementing the refinements to the YPAS process after approval by Cabinet

1) Make-up of steering committee?
 2) final recommend to cabinet
 Jan 2001 →
 identify area of interest afterwards?
 3) consultants → UNBIASED

Roles and Responsibilities:

- **YPAS Steering Committee:** operating under its terms of reference, the committee will oversee and coordinate the overall review and refinement of the YPAS process including the preparation, review and submission of the options and recommendations paper.
- **YPAS Technical Working Group:** operating under its terms of reference, the working group will prepare the necessary reports and analysis required to prepare the options and recommendations paper.
- **YPAS Public Advisory Committee:** operating under its terms of reference, the public advisory committee will be invited to participate in the review of the draft options and recommendations paper.
- **YPAS Secretariat:** will provide secretariat/administrative support services to the YPAS Steering Committee, will co-chair the YPAS Technical Working Group with the Department of Economic Development and will administer and coordinate consultants preparing the report and facilitating consultations with the YPAS Public Advisory Committee.
- **Consultants:** one or more consultants will be engaged to 1) consolidate the various technical assessment reports and legislative requirements analysis into the draft report, 2) prepare, in consultation with government, an analysis of and responses to the issues associated with the roles and responsibilities of participants in the YPAS process and recommend approaches to streamlining and clarifying the YPAS process, 3) prepare the overall draft report for consultation, 4) facilitate the consultations with the YPAS Public Advisory Committee, and 5) prepare the final report for submission to the Steering Committee.

WORKPLAN - REVIEW OF THE YPAS IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

RR → Renewable Resources; PP → Renewable Resources-Policy and Planning; POR → Parks and Outdoor Recreation Branch; YS → YPAS Secretariat;
 ED → Economic Development; T → Tourism; HB → Heritage Branch; JK → Justice Yukon YDC → Yukon Development Corporation
 YTWG → YPAS Technical Working Group; YSC → YPAS Steering Committee; YPAC → YPAS Public Advisory Committee; Con → Consultant;
 INAC – Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Milestone	Current Status	Required Action	Responsible Lead	Date Required
1.0 Finalize Work Plan & Terms of References	Draft prepared & tabled for review	YSC reviews & finalize at next meeting	YS	Aug 2
2.0 Prepare Analytical Requirements for Values Assessments:				
2.1 Mineral	draft presentation prepared describing data, resources & timelines for the 3 YPAS steps requiring resource values information	prepare technical & summary papers	ED (Shirley Abercrombie)	Sept 18
2.2 Oil & Gas	draft presentation prepared describing data, resources & timelines for the 3 YPAS steps requiring resource values information	prepare technical & summary papers	ED (John Masterson)	Sept 18
2.3 Forestry	A 3 phase planning process is used: 1) region selection (reconnaissance, timber value assessment & landscape plan), 2) consultations (environmental impact, traditional values, etc...), & 3) detailed assessment of & consultations on critical issues	prepare technical & summary papers	INAC/ED/ RR (Jeff Monty)	Sept 18
2.4 Hydroelectric		prepare technical & summary paper	YDC(Duncan Sinclair?)	Sept18

<p>2.5 Ecological <i>to DFO for water</i></p>	<p>a draft technical report describing the representation and ecological parameters used for this assessment will be prepared by Aug 3</p>	<p>finalize technical & summary paper</p>	<p>YS (John Meikle)</p>	<p>Sept 18</p>
<p>2.6 Socio/Cultural /Heritage</p>		<p>prepare technical & summary paper</p>	<p>HB (Ruth Gothardt)</p>	<p>Sept 18</p>
<p>2.7 Recreational</p>	<p>Developed in 87/88, the Recreational Features Inventory technique will be used to assess the potential for an area to attract users. Terrain units are classified by 23 recreational feature categories and the data is being put on GIS.</p>	<p>prepare technical & summary paper</p>	<p>POR (Afan Jones)</p>	<p>Sept 18</p>
<p>2.8 Tourism</p>	<p>Tourism assessment related to protected areas being prepared</p>	<p>prepare/refine technical & summary paper</p>	<p>T (Robert Clark)</p>	<p>Sept 18</p>
<p>2.9 Other Economic</p>		<p>prepare technical & summary paper that consider methods for incorporating other economic values (trapping, agriculture, other commercial activities, monetary/non-monetary values of ecosystem processes, public sector costs & revenues, traditional activities and economic benefits related to protected area establishment and operations (wages, employment, contracting, etc...)</p>	<p>ED (Toby Sanger)</p>	<p>Sept 18 Aug 3</p>
<p>Support material to prepare assessments</p>		<p>YS will provide the YPAS WG a summary of YPAS planning requirements and a template for the summary paper to assist in preparing these reports</p>	<p>YS (Katie Hayhurst)</p>	<p>Aug 7</p>

<p>3.0 Prepare Multiple Accounts Assessment – how are all the values integrated and accounted for</p>	<p>YPAS Technical Paper provides a general description of the approach</p>	<p>A process paper is required to identify the steps/process and tools for such an assessment</p>	<p>YTWG (Scott, Milton Erik.Val) Con</p>	<p>Sept 18</p>
<p>4.0 Assess legal options to legislate YPAS</p>	<p>Initial analysis and assessment of needs completed by PP-RR</p>	<p>Needs need to be clarified in order to review initial assessment. Report needs to be revised and finalized accordingly.</p>	<p>YTWG PP-RR JY Con (Michael White Shelley Gellatly)</p>	<p>Sept 18</p>
<p>5.0 Clarify Roles and Responsibilities</p>	<p>The consultant who facilitated the Fishing Branch initiative prepared an initial inventory of stakeholder issues and responses related to the YPAS process.</p> <p>Draft terms of references that take into account these responses have been prepared for Fishing Branch Management Planning.</p> <p>A draft chronology of events contrasted against the YPAS process for the Fishing Branch initiative was prepared by YS.</p>	<p>Based on what already has been prepared, a comprehensive analysis and assessment is required of the issues related to roles, responsibilities and the YPAS process as identified by stakeholders and government The assessment should include input from government when options are considered for responses to the identified issues. The results of the assessment need to be consolidated in a draft report that is submitted to the YSC for comment and then finalized.</p>	<p>YTWG YSC Con YS (Erik.Val Joe MacGillivray Christiane Boisjoly)</p>	<p>Oct 20</p>
<p>6.0 Prepare Draft Report</p>	<p>No activity</p>	<p>The technical values assessment reports, the legal needs analysis and the roles and responsibilities review must be consolidated in a draft options and recommendation report that will be used as the basis to engage the YPAC in consultations</p>	<p>YTWG Con YS (Erik Val Joe MacGillivray)</p>	<p>Oct 31</p>
<p>6.1 Review Draft Report</p>	<p>No activity</p>	<p>YPAS SC will review the draft prior to submitting it to Cabinet</p>	<p>YSC YS</p>	<p>Nov 3</p>

<p>7.0 Cabinet Review and approval of Draft Options and Recommendations Paper</p>	<p>Cabinet provided original direction on May 16, 2000 to complete report</p>	<p>Prepare the required Cabinet submission in order to present report for review and approval</p>	<p>YSC YS</p>	<p>Nov 10</p>
<p>8.0 Conduct Consultations</p>	<p>Ministerial letters sent outlining the process</p>	<p>A summer update letter should be sent to YPAC as invitations to consult in the fall from the Minister of RR</p> <p>Engage YPAC in consultations (workshop, focus group, bilaterals...)</p>	<p>YS YS Con</p>	<p>August 1 August 30</p> <p>Nov 15-Dec 20</p>
<p>9.0 Prepare Final Report</p>	<p>No activity</p>	<p>Final report prepared based on input from consultations</p>	<p>YS Con</p>	<p>Jan 12</p>
<p>10.0 Submit Final Report</p>	<p>No activity</p>	<p>Review and finalize consultant's report by YSC Submit to Cabinet for review and approval</p>	<p>YSC YS</p>	<p>Jan 15-26 Jan 29</p>
<p>11.0 Implement the Report</p>				