


<b>NORTH YUKON REGIONAL LAND USE PLAN CLASS 1 CONFORMITY CHECK</b>	
<b>YESAB Project #</b>	Q2021-0229
<b>Project Title:</b>	Dempster Vanadium
<b>Date:</b>	June 16, 2021
<b>Submitted to:</b>	Land Planning Branch, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, Yukon Government
<b>Completed by:</b>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>           Sam Skinner            Yukon Land Use Planning Council            201-307 Jarvis St            Whitehorse, Yukon            Y1A 2H3            1-867-667-7397            sam@planyukon.ca         </div> <div style="text-align: center;">             YUKON LAND USE            PLANNING COUNCIL         </div> </div>
<b>More information on NYLUP conformity checks:</b>	<a href="http://planyukon.ca/index.php/resources/planning-regions-2/north-yukon/59-north-yukon-conformity-checks">http://planyukon.ca/index.php/resources/planning-regions-2/north-yukon/59-north-yukon-conformity-checks</a>
<b>Project conforms to Regional Land Use Plan: (select one)      Yes</b>	

## Background Information and Conformity Check Analysis

<b>Affected Landscape Management Unit (LMU)(s):</b> (insert rows as needed for additional LMUs) Map 1 and Section 6							
LM Unit #	10A	LMU Name:	South Richardson Mountains				
Zoning:	IMA – Zone II	Land Owner:	YG				
<b>Landscape Disturbance Indicators:</b> Table 3.2, sections 3.3.1.1, 5.1.1							
Surface Disturbance (ha):							
LMU	Cautionary Level	Critical Level	*Current est. Level	Project Estimate**	Total Estimate	Notification Rqr'd	Parties Notified
10A	117	156	Not yet provided	4.2		No	No
Linear Disturbance (km):							
LMU	Cautionary Level	Critical Level	*Current est. Level	Project Estimate**	Total Estimate	Notification Rqr'd	Parties Notified
10A	117	156	Not yet provided	13.5		No	No
*current <u>estimated</u> cumulative effects levels are to be provided by the Plan Parties							
** The majority of this project falls within 1km of the Dempster Highway – an area exempted from disturbance evaluation. In addition, most of the project will not involve tree cutting or significant ground disturbance – therefore most of the project footprint estimated above would not count as disturbance by the Plan.							

<b>Special Management Considerations:</b> (Section 6, LMUs)	
LMU	Special Management Consideration
10A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining the visual quality of mountain and sub-arctic viewsapes along this segment of Dempster Highway is a management priority.</li> <li>• Important Porcupine Caribou Herd concentrated use area during fall, winter and spring periods.</li> <li>• Potential new all-season access roads into LMU #10A from Dempster Highway corridor require careful assessment and management.</li> <li>• Telit Gwich'in Secondary Use Area and Na-cho Nyak Dun Traditional Territory.</li> </ul>
<b>Affected Values and General Management Directions (GMD):</b> (Section 5) Only include values identified in LMU. If no GMDs exist or are relevant, do not include in this table.	
	<b>Corresponding Recommendation:</b>
<b>Wildlife</b>	<p>2.1.1 Reduce size, intensity and duration of human-caused physical surface disturbances (e.g., utilize low impact seismic, winter roads and enhanced reclamation).</p> <p>2.1.2 Reduce other human land use impacts such as noise, smell and light.</p> <p>2.2. Minimize habitat fragmentation as a result of human features.</p> <p>2.2.1 Coordinate, manage and minimize new road and trail access.</p> <p>2.3. Minimize potential habitat avoidance that results from human features and activities.</p> <p>2.3.1 Avoid or reduce activities in significant wildlife habitats during important biological periods (e.g., utilize timing windows).</p>
<b>Wetlands, Lakes and Rivers</b>	<p>4.1.1 Avoid or minimize industrial land use activities in wetlands and riparian areas.</p> <p>4.1.3 Reduce surface and vegetation impacts in riparian and sensitive permafrost areas.</p>

<b>Heritage and Culture</b>	<p>5.1.1 Minimize land use impacts in the vicinity of identified heritage and historic resources.</p> <p>5.1.2 Minimize land use conflicts by avoiding or reducing the level of land use activities in important subsistence harvesting and current community use areas.</p> <p>5.1.3 Avoid or reduce activities in significant heritage and current community use areas during important seasonal use periods (e.g., utilize timing windows).</p>
<b>Economic Development:</b>	6.3.3 Manage location, scale and intensity of land use.

<b>Plan Recommended Best Management Practices:</b> (Section 5 following each value)	
<b>Wildlife</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid or minimize the creation of new access roads and trails; utilize existing routes unless their use will cause additional long term environmental impacts (e.g., permafrost degradation).</li> <li>• Avoid or minimize the size, extent, duration and level of activities in concentrated seasonal use areas.</li> <li>• Use appropriate operational timing-windows in significant wildlife habitats to minimize activities, whenever possible, during periods of wildlife use.</li> </ul>
<b>Porcupine Caribou</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define and implement safe operating distances from the herd.</li> <li>• Consider the following seasons when determining appropriate operational timing-windows (seasons when Porcupine caribou occupy the region)</li> </ul> <p>Winter: December 1 to March 31  Spring migration: April 1 to May 31  Early summer: July 1 to July 15  Mid to late summer: July 16 to August 7  Fall migration: August 8 to October 7  Rut: October 8 to November 30</p>
<b>Sheep</b>	Avoid sensitive sheep habitats and key areas, with emphasis on winter range avoidance (see Map 2, Appendix 1 for locations).

<b>Wetlands, Lakes and Rivers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surface disturbance and land use activities within and adjacent to Major River and other riparian corridors should not result in diminished water quality, quantity or flow.</li> </ul>
<b>Heritage, Social, Cultural Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid and/or mitigate exploration and development activities and impacts in areas with known heritage or historic resource values, where such areas or sites are not otherwise protected through existing land withdrawals (see Map 3, Appendix 1).</li> </ul>

<b>Plan Recommendations:</b> (Section 5 following each value)	
N/A	

<b>Additional Analysis or Comments:</b>
<p>The majority of this project falls within 1km of the Dempster Highway – an area exempted from disturbance evaluation. In addition, most of the project will not involve tree cutting or significant ground disturbance – therefor most of the project footprint estimated above would not count as disturbance by the Plan.</p> <p>The project may involve moving machinery over short distances off trail. This could result in unintentional disturbance to fragile alpine vegetation. The operators should attempt to minimize this disturbance by minimizing the repeated use of the machines in any area, avoiding riparian areas, and avoiding moving machines when soil is wet.</p> <p>With little lasting new disturbance to habitat, one of this project’s primary effects is direct impacts to wildlife. These may be minimal if the work is done on foot.</p> <p>Porcupine caribou should be absent from the area for much of the year. However, fall migration and overwintering may bring caribou into the project area. The proponent should therefor attempt to finish the project before fall migration and/or be in contact with the Regional Biologist to minimize the chance of disturbing the movements of Porcupine caribou.</p> <p>A number of archeological sites are documented near the project area. The proponent should be familiar with and avoid archeological features typical of the area. The proponent is therefore encouraged to seek advice from the Yukon Archaeology Program and review YG’s “Handbook for the Identification of Heritage Sites and Features”.</p>