



May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2005

Peel Watershed Planning Commission  
# 201-307 Jarvis Street  
Whitehorse, Yukon  
Y1A 2H3

Dear Sirs,

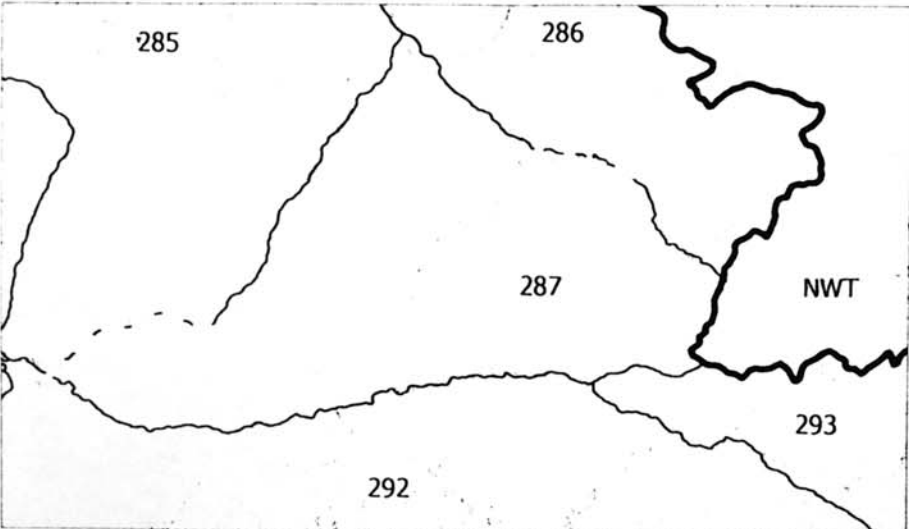
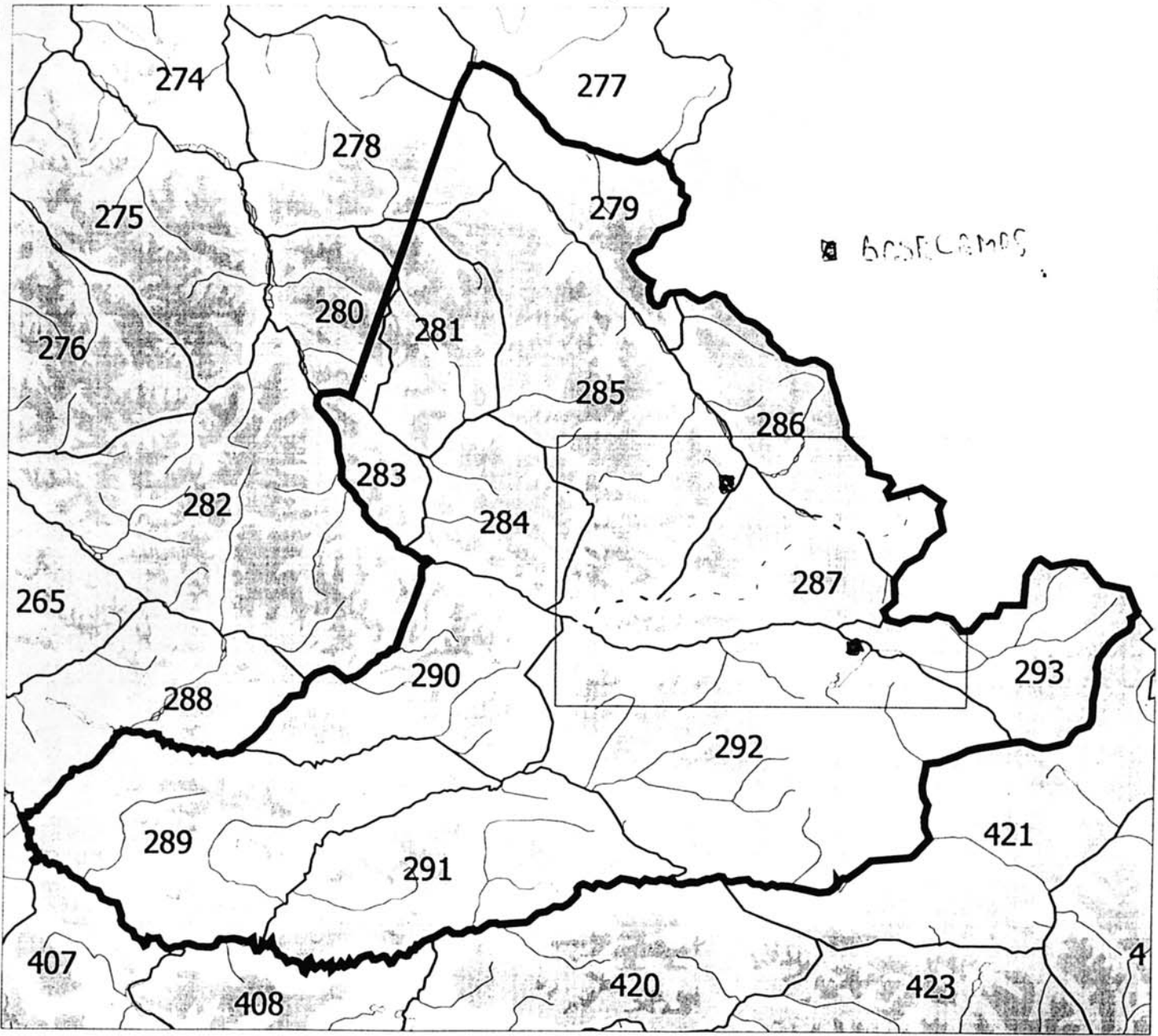
Please find enclosed a written report to the commission. I do not really have time to make the Mayo community meeting, but wanted to make sure that my interests and concerns are known to the commission. If you have any questions, just give me a call.

Yours Truly,



Chris Widrig

Outfitting Area #6  
and Game Management Areas





## WRITTEN REPORT TO THE PEEL WATERSHED PLANNING COMMISSION

### History and Interest in Area-

Yukon Outfitting Area # 6 is located within the extreme headwaters of both the Snake & Bonnet Plume Rivers. The enclosed map outlines the concession boundaries and about 5000 square kilometers lies within the Peel Watershed Planning area. This is a big game outfitting business and has been owned and operated by long time Yukoner, Chris Widrig since 1986. There has been continuous outfitting activity within this area since the early 1960's.

The Outfitting Concession has two base camps under lease; a 2.25 hectare lease at Bonnet Plume Lake and a .86 hectare lease at Goz Lake, near the Snake River. There is substantial infrastructure at both camps, with 14 cabins, docks, corrals, boats, etc (see enclosed photo's). In addition we utilize approximately 55 spike camp locations throughout the area, which are basic tenting sites with minimal development. We operate 26 head of horses and use about 500 miles of horse trails within the area. The Outfitting company has one aircraft and an Air Charter Service based at Bonnet Plume Lake for transporting clients within the area.

Our Outfitting business takes between 27-30 clients per season. We specialize in Dall sheep, moose caribou and grizzly hunting. We are on a limited quota for moose, caribou and grizzly. This is negotiated every five years with the Mayo District Resource Council and the Department of Environment. We offer a high quality, low volume, sustainable, wilderness hunting experience. Our economic contribution to the Yukon economy is in excess of 500,000.00 each year.

As the "hands on" owner of this business for 19 seasons I have acquired substantial knowledge of the entire Snake & Bonnet Plume River headwaters region. I have over 3500 hours of flying within the area and have also walked, ridden, climbed and camped within every drainage and mountain range. In the past I have submitted reports of wildlife habitat, including mineral licks, population estimates, recent fire killed areas, etc, to both the Department of Environment and



the Mayo R.R.C. I would also be willing to share such information within the context of the Peel Watershed Management Plan.

### CONCERNS AND ISSUES

The only major concern I have is that the "wilderness characteristics" of the Peel Watershed headwaters be maintained. I say this because my business is based on the unfettered use of wilderness, but also because I like most others who visit there have been profoundly struck by the unique natural beauty of the area. After spending many seasons out there I subscribe to a very simple equation; healthy wildlife, clean water, clear air, natural vegetation = wilderness = the lack of people. Therefore any human development such as roads, mines, large camps, gas wells or an influx of tourists above a saturation point, will have a negative impact on the wildlife, the water, the land and incidentally on my business. The Peel Watershed is true wilderness and deserves to be left largely in its present state.