


PEEL WATERSHED FINAL RECOMMENDED LAND USE PLAN CONSISTENCY CHECK	
YESAB Project #	2019-0140
Project Title:	Dempster Fibre Optics Project
Date:	January 29, 2020
Submitted to:	YESAB Dawson Designated Office Bag 6050, Dawson City, Y0B 1G0
Completed by:	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 70%;"> 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="width: 25%; text-align: center;">  <p>YUKON LAND USE PLANNING COUNCIL</p> </div> </div>
More information on PWFRLUP consistency checks:	http://planyukon.ca/index.php/resources/planning-regions-2/peel/60-final-recommended-peel-watershed-regional-land-use-plan-consistency-checks
Project is consistent to the Final Recommended Peel Watershed Regional Land Use Plan: (select one)	Yes

Background Information and Conformity Check Analysis

Affected Landscape Management Unit (LMU)(s): Map 2 and Section 5							
LM Unit #	2	LMU Name:	Kit Range / North Cache Creek				
Zoning:	SMA	Land Owner:	YG, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (R-19B, S-33B, S-180B1)				
LM Unit #	3	LMU Name:	Central Ogilvie				
Zoning:	IMA Zone III	Land Owner:	YG, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (S-146B1, S-149B1, S-150B, S-183B1, S-185B), Vuntut Gwitchin (S-44A, S-56A/D)				
LM Unit #	4	LMU Name:	West Hart River				
Zoning:	WA	Land Owner:	YG, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (S-124B1, S-202B1)				
LM Unit #	5	LMU Name:	Blackstone River				
Zoning:	IMA Zone III	Land Owner:	YG, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (S-147B1, S-148B1, S-180B1, S-181B1, S-183B1)				
Landscape Disturbance Indicators*:							
Surface Disturbance (ha):							
LMU	Cautionary Level	Critical Level	Current est. Level*	Project Estimate **	Total Estimate **	Notification Rqr'd***	Parties Notified
2	NA	NA	Not yet provided	Not determined	Not determined	No	No
3	1379	1838	Not yet provided	Not determined	Not determined	No	No
4	NA	NA	Not yet provided	Not determined	Not determined	No	No
5	1346	1795	Not yet provided	Not determined	Not determined	No	No
Linear Disturbance (km):							
LMU	Cautionary Level	Critical Level	Current est. Level*	Project Estimate **	Total Estimate **	Notification Rqr'd***	Parties Notified
2	NA	NA	Not yet provided	Not determined	Not determined	No	No
3	1379	1838	Not yet provided	Not determined	Not determined	No	No
4	NA	NA	Not yet provided	Not determined	Not determined	No	No
5	1346	1795	Not yet provided	Not determined	Not determined	No	No
<p>*Current estimated cumulative effects levels are to be provided by the Plan Parties.</p> <p>** this project will occur almost exclusively in the Dempster Highway right-of-way where surface disturbance has already occurred. Therefore, additional disturbance is considered to be negligible.</p> <p>***The YLUPC shall notify the Parties prior to submitting the conformity check to YESAB if they are concerned cautionary or critical levels may be reached.</p>							

Special Management Considerations: (Section 5, LMUs)

LMU	Special Management Consideration
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hart River caribou herd and Porcupine caribou herd core wintering areas overlap in this unit. • Subsequent Dempster Highway sub-regional land use plan may apply to eastern part of unit – Dempster Corridor to be managed consistent with SMA objectives.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsequent Dempster Highway sub-regional land use plan may apply to eastern part of unit – Dempster Corridor to be managed consistent with IMA Zone III objectives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Plan shows the Dempster Highway Corridor as a two-km-wide corridor for purposes of illustration only. ○ sub-regional planning should be completed for the Dempster Highway Corridor. The sub-regional planning area will be defined by the participating governments. ○ IMA Zone III = Integrated Management Area – Moderate Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Moderate ecological and heritage/cultural values within a moderately sensitive biophysical setting. ▪ Conservative levels of land use are consistent with Zone III objectives.
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive regionally rare overlap of winter core areas of two caribou herds. • Subsequent Dempster Highway land use plan may apply to northwestern part of unit.
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major River Corridor management directions apply along the Ogilvie and Blackstone Rivers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintaining the ecological and visual integrity of Major River Corridors is a key strategy for attaining both environmental and social Plan goals. • Dempster Corridor management directions apply near the Dempster Highway. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Plan shows the Dempster Highway Corridor as a two-km-wide corridor for purposes of illustration only. • Subsequent Dempster Highway land use plan may apply near the Dempster Highway.
Major River Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To limit potential effects on these rivers, new permanent infrastructure should not be allowed along them. • Maintaining the ecological and visual integrity of Major River Corridors is a key strategy for attaining both environmental and social Plan goals.

Affected Values and General Management Directions (GMD): (Section 4)

Only include values identified in LMU. If no GMDs exist or are relevant, do not include in this table.

Ecological Resources:	Corresponding GMD:
WILDLIFE and TERRESTRIAL HABITATS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce size, intensity and duration of human-caused physical surface disturbances (e.g., utilize low impact seismic, winter roads and principle of full reclamation). • Avoid or reduce activities in significant wildlife habitats during important biological periods (e.g., utilize timing windows). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Avoid sensitive sheep habitats and key areas, with emphasis on winter range avoidance (see Map 3, Appendix A for locations). ○ Porcupine Caribou are typically in the region during winter period (December – March) ○ Avoid concentrated woodland caribou use areas (see Map 3, Appendix A for locations) • Reduce other human land use-related disturbances such as noise, odours and light.
HYDROLOGY and AQUATIC HABITATS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize surface and vegetation disturbance in riparian areas. • Prohibit direct disturbance to sensitive over-wintering and spawning habitats. • Prohibit significant levels of winter in-stream water withdrawals in sensitive over-wintering fish habitat.
Heritage, Social, Cultural Resources:	Corresponding GMD:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid or minimize land use conflicts by avoiding or reducing the level of land use activities in important subsistence harvesting and current community use areas. • Avoid or reduce activities in significant heritage and current community use areas during important seasonal use periods (e.g.,utilize timing windows). • Where impacts to identified heritage and cultural sites and resources may occur, implement the following appropriate mitigation practices. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establish work camps associated with resource exploration and development activity near areas of resource production, and away from identified heritage routes, historic sites, and current community use areas. ○ Implement immediate stop work orders if evidence of heritage or cultural values is detected, to assess significance.
Economic Development:	Corresponding GMD:
Dempster Highway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where the Dempster Highway passes through Conservation Area land use designations (LMU #2 and #4), the corridor should be managed with a higher level of conservation focus. This may include limits on aggregate extraction and new above-ground infrastructure. • The scenic integrity of the entire highway corridor should be maintained at all times. • As with all human-caused disturbances, high standards of restoration should apply to all new surface disturbances within the corridor (e.g., gravel pits and telecommunications infrastructure).

Plan Recommended Best Management Practices:

Water	<p>Best Management Practices for Works Affecting Water in Yukon. Water Resources Branch, Yukon Environment. May 2011.</p> <p>Available online: http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/publications-maps/documents/bestpractes_water.pdf</p> <p>This document has a number of recommendations on culverts.</p>
-------	--

Additional Analysis or Comments:

- The Plan acknowledges that there is potential for the development of a fibre-optic line in the right-of-way of the Dempster Highway.
- Limiting the project largely to the ROW will place new disturbances in areas already disturbed by highway construction and maintenance. Therefore, there should be little net additional disturbance.
- This project falls within the Ogilvie and Blackstone Major River Corridors, where ecological and visual integrity are to be maintained. However, this project, as described, is unlikely to impact the visual integrity of the corridor. The proponent should site the camps and other activities to minimize these impacts.
- The Plan calls for sub-regional planning for the Dempster Corridor. However, since this project was anticipated in the plan and should not result in significant new disturbances, it has limited implications and requirements for sub-regional planning.
- The project occurs in a community use area likely related to harvesting Porcupine Caribou; therefore, this project should be timed as early as possible to avoid the fall migration and harvesting. If this is not possible, the proposed wildlife monitor and work cessation if caribou are within 1 km should adequately address this concern. Consult with the regional biologist. The project also falls near potential fish over-wintering habitat.
- The boundary between LMUs 3 & 5 and LMUs 2&4 is the Dempster Highway, and therefore both LMUs are implicated in this project. However, the management directions for LMUs 3 & 5 are very similar, while LMUs 2 & 4 should be managed with a higher level of conservation focus. This may include limits on aggregate extraction and new above-ground infrastructure.