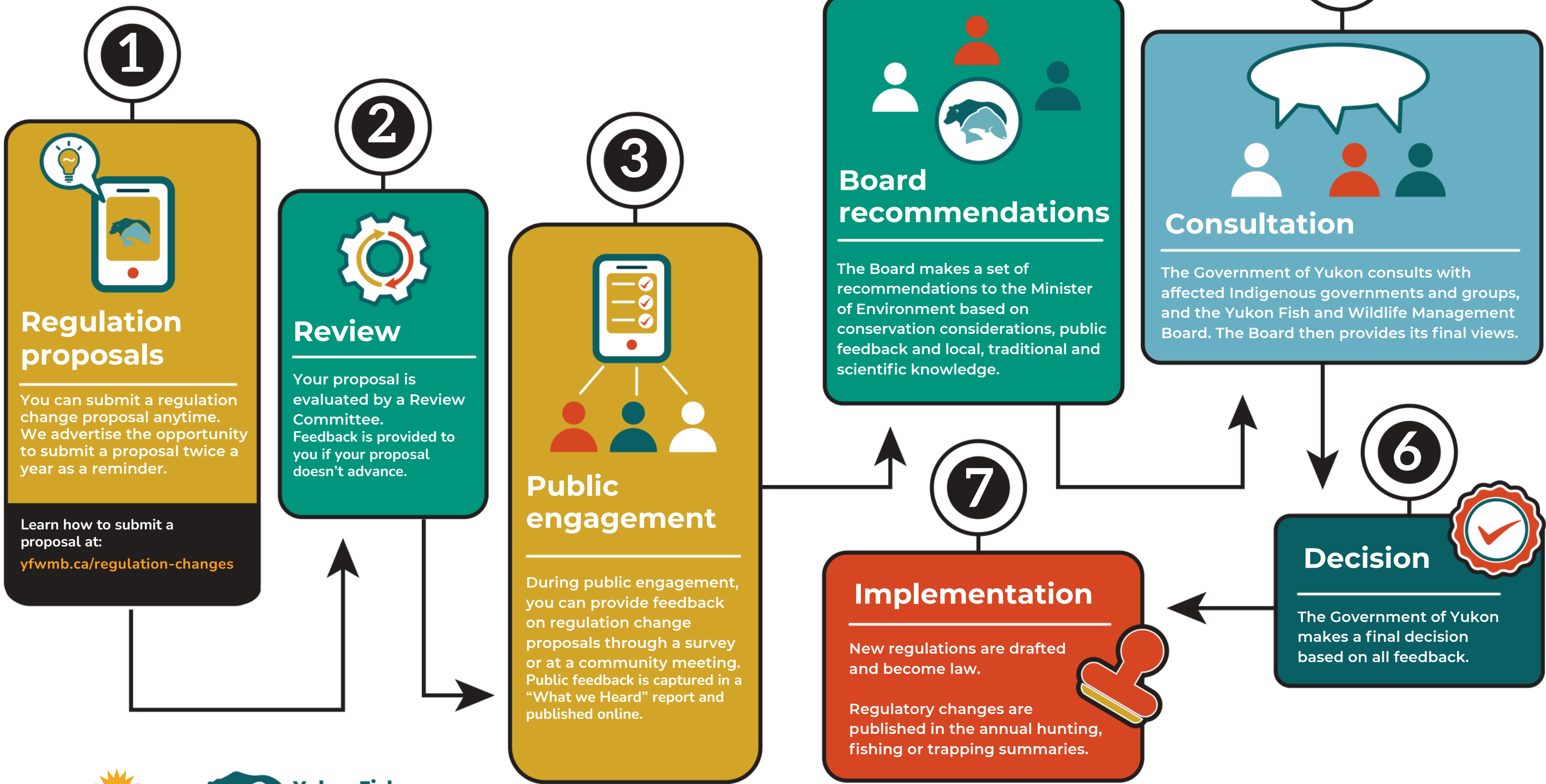


Fish & Wildlife Regulation Change Process

2026 Proposal Summary Booklet



How fish and wildlife regulation changes are made



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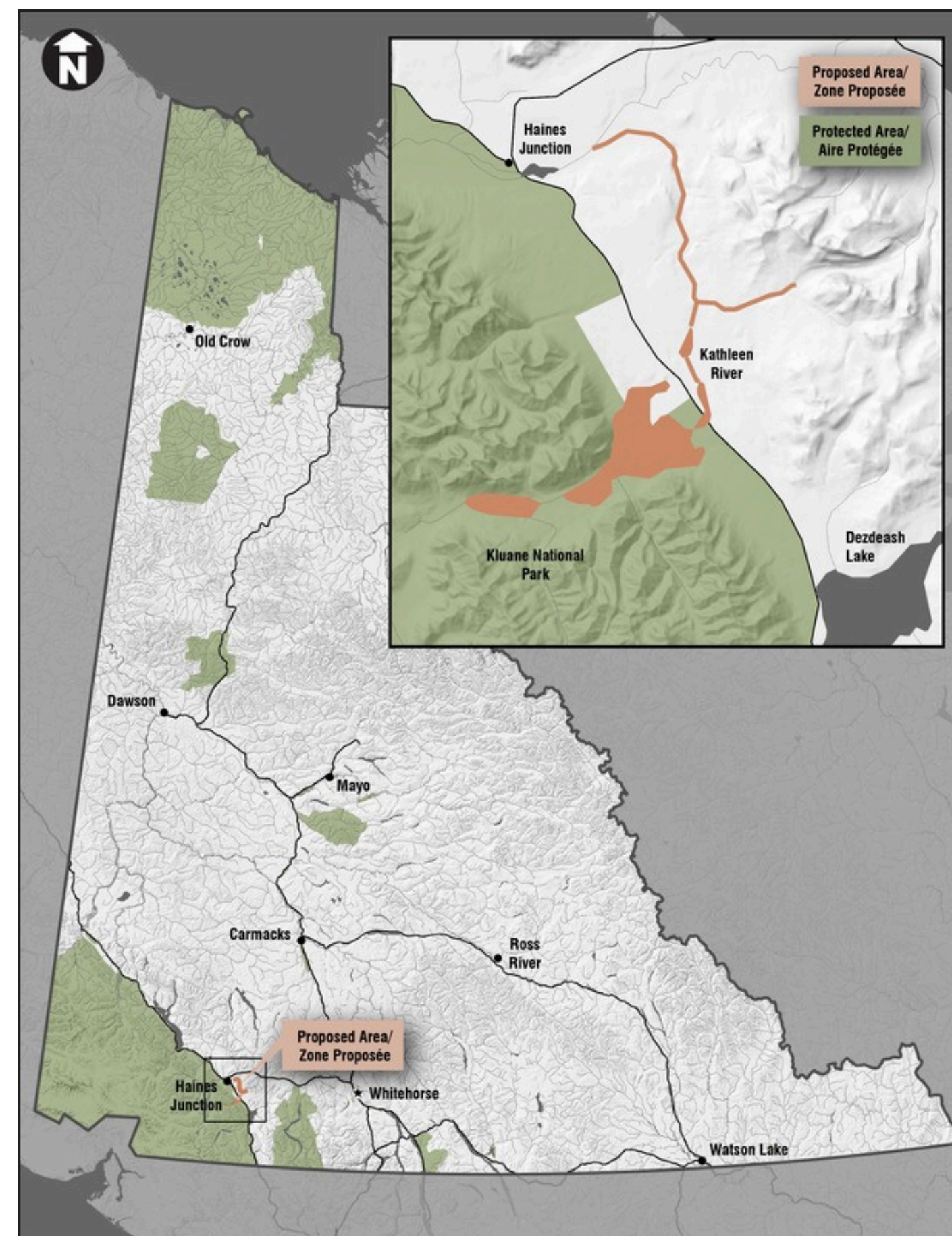
Section 1:

Fishing Proposals

Proposal 1:

Zero Retention of Kokanee Salmon in the Kathleen River System

Submitted by:
Alsek Renewable
Resources Council



Proposal 1: Kokanee Retention in Kathleen River

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- Kokanee in the Kathleen Lake and River system are extremely vulnerable.
- For many years, the Kluane National Park and Reserve has recognized the issue of low numbers of Kokanee and the need to protect adults in hopes of enhancing spawning success and increasing the population.
- Parks Canada has imposed a regulation banning the retention of Kokanee Salmon within KNPR and discourages anglers from targeting Kokanee as a catch-and-release species.
- The regulation change proposed herein is for the YG regulation to conform with the KNPR regulation regarding Kokanee.
- This change would send a strong message regarding the vulnerability of the Kokanee in all waterways connected to the Kathleen Lake system.
- The regulation change would align the scientific findings with conservation actions and would honour the request of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations in protecting this species.
- Collaborative management is a powerful tool and consistency in regulating the capture and retention of Kokanee Salmon in all of their habitat and under all 'jurisdictions' is a wise and clear next step in responsible conservation/enhancement of the species.

Proposal 1: Kokanee Retention in Kathleen River

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

- 2024-25 Yukon Fishing regulations, as in other years, state that the limits for general waters (this excludes stocked lakes) for kokanee are a daily limit of 5 and possession of 10. This regulation creates the perception that wild kokanee are abundant with no conservation concern. Unfortunately, this is not the case for the following reason.
- There are only two known wild populations in Yukon, the most northern populations in Canada. One is in Kathleen-Sockeye Lakes in Kluane National Park and Reserve and the other is in Frederick Lake.
- Frederick Lake has been believed to be extirpated since the 1980s. There is traditional knowledge regarding the Kokanee Salmon (distinct from the Kathleen Lake Kokanee) in the 1970's and 1980's however there are no recent accounts of Frederick Lake sustaining a population of Kokanee.
- The Kathleen Lake population has been weak and the opportunity to catch and retain Kokanee in the Kathleen River (an outflow from the lake) is contrary to conservation efforts within the Lake.

Proposal 1: Kokanee Retention in Kathleen River

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

- The wild population in Kluane National Park underwent a severe population collapse in the early 2000s where spawners did not exceed 200 fish for eight consecutive years and reached as low as 20 fish in 2009. Even though there was a rebound in 2015-2016, the subsequent low numbers, particularly in 2022 and 2023, when fewer than 900 spawners were counted, support conservation concerns.
- Further, an extreme "one in 100-year" flooding event in October 2022, which may have eliminated the return cohort from that year and negatively impacted spawning habitat for 2023 spawners, we should expect very low returns from 2022 and 2023 spawners.
- Possession of kokanee in National Park waters has not been allowed since the early 2000s under a Superintendent's Order. Given the high variability in the population, the recreational fishery in the National Park will not open in the future. Champagne and Aishihik First Nations have supported these efforts by asking citizens not to catch kokanee. The only possible place to catch kokanee in Yukon waters is in the lower Kathleen River, which drains out of Kluane National Park and Reserve.
- From local knowledge holders and anglers it is very uncommon to catch kokanee in the lower Kathleen River even when numbers were high (reference: Yukon Angler surveys, Cameron Sinclair). Thus, there will be negligible lost opportunity for anglers from this regulation change.
- The Alsek Renewable Resources Council is concerned that the Kathleen River is under pressure by anglers for a number of species and is aware that communication, education and enforcement of regulations is challenging in this area. Making this regulation change regarding the Kokanee is a symbolic and simple step to aid one particularly vulnerable and unique species.
- Parks Canada supports changing this regulation to daily limit and possession of 0 and creating congruence between what is permissible in the lake and in the river is important.

Proposal 1: Kokanee Retention in Kathleen River

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

- This regulation change will make the conservation messaging consistent across National Park waters and Yukon waters for the same water body (Kathleen Lake -Kathleen River water system).
- Clear messaging and consistent regulations are required because infractions of the ban on kokanee possession have occurred in National Park waters. It's important that anglers understand the significance of refraining from targeting this species and from retaining any.

PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS: Is the proposal supported by other organisations? (i.e., First Nation governments, RRCs, other stakeholders)

- No, Alsek RRC is the sole proponent of this proposal.

RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Proposal 1: Public Discussion

Guiding Questions

- Do you support the proposed changes to the regulation to support zero Kokanee salmon retention in the Kathleen River system?
- Is there anything else the Board should consider?



Section 2:

Trapping Proposals

Proposal 2: Purchasing Pelts and Sales Changes

Submitted by:
Yukon Trappers
Association



Proposal 2: Purchasing Pelts and Sales Changes

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- **Part 1: Financial restrictions for non-residents purchasing raw pelts.**
 - The current regulation allows non-residents to buy the pelts of fur-bearing animals and black bears from a licensed Yukon trapper (or assistant trapper) for their personal use.
 - However, the total value of those pelts may not exceed \$2,000 (CAD) per licensing year (as per page 30 of the Trapping Regulations).
 - **Proposed change:** Remove this financial restriction.
- **Part 2: Manufactured Products - you need a licence to sell manufactured products.**
 - A “manufactured product” is a completed final product (e.g. a tanned pelt, as per page 32 of the Trapping Regulations).
 - **Proposed change:** Remove the licence requirement for a licensed trapper to sell furs within Canada.

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

- **Part 1:** What is the purpose of a financial restriction on a trapper’s sales? At present, buyers are few and far between - it serves no one to restrict sales.
- **Part 2:** As with the previous restriction, this is unnecessary and just adds paperwork. This serves no purpose for conservation or management; a record of species and number caught already exists with pelt tagging and reporting. Sale outside of Canada would still require documentation to fulfill CITES requirements.

Proposal 2: Purchasing Pelts and Sales Changes

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

- None provided by the proponent.

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

- **Part 1:** Removal of unnecessary financial restrictions.
- **Part 2:** Reduction of bureaucratic paperwork and increased ability of trapper to sell their product.

RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Proposal 2: Public Discussion

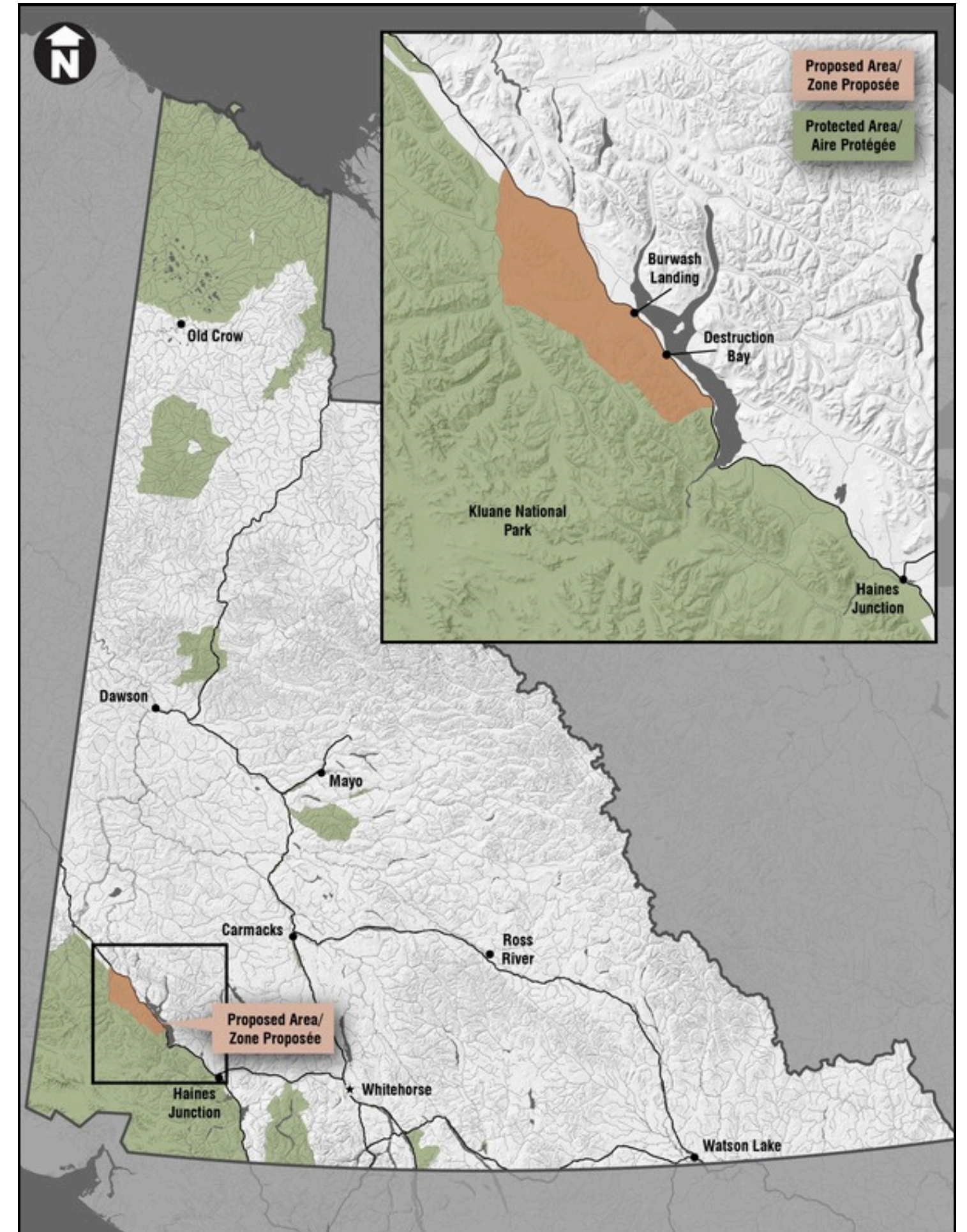
Guiding Questions

- Do you support the proposed changes to the financial and administrative process within the current Trapping Regulation?
- Is there anything else the Board should consider?



Proposal 3: Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary – KFN Trapping Concession

Submitted by:
Kluane First Nation
Government



Proposal 3: Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary Trapping Concession

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- **The proposed change is intended to address Kluane First Nation's ("KFN") interest in:**
 - Enabling commercial trapping opportunities for KFN Citizens in Game Management Subzones ("GMS") 608 and 609, continuing an important cultural and economic activity and supporting Mäy (Thinhorn sheep) conservation efforts through predator control;
 - Allowing application for one or more Registered Trapping Concessions in the Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary ("KWS"), where all trapping, including commercial trapping, is currently prohibited by section 37(1) of the Wildlife Act; and
 - Aligning commercial trapping opportunities in the KWS with those emerging within Kluane National Park and Reserve ("KNPR").
- For Yukon to implement this proposal would require the enactment of a regulatory exception to the Act's section 37(1) prohibition on trapping wildlife in a wildlife sanctuary. Section 37(2) of the Wildlife Act anticipates such exceptions, and section 192(c) enables the Commissioner in Executive Council to make regulations "prescribing an area to be a wildlife sanctuary and measures for the management, operation and regulation of activities in a wildlife sanctuary".
 - It would also require a regulation to create one or more new Registered Trapping Concessions within the Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary areas described below.
 - The exception would apply only to holders of any future Registered Trapping Concessions that may be established in GMS 608 and GMS 609. For clarity, KFN is not proposing to create an exception that would apply to resident hunters or holders of outfitting concessions.
- KFN also does not propose to open the entire KWS to applications for new registered trapping concessions. Instead, the commercial trapping prohibition would be removed for the part of the KWS within KFN traditional territory east of the Donjek River. This area is shown on the map titled "KFN Proposed Commercial Trapping Area within the Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary (Game Management Subzones 608 and 609)," attached to this proposal as Appendix 1. The changes would not apply to two parts of the KWS in Champagne-Aishihik First Nations' Traditional Territory.

Proposal 3: Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary Trapping Concession

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

1. The proposal aligns with the following objectives of Chapter 16 of the Kluane First Nation Final Agreement (“KFNFA”):

- [16.1.1.2] to preserve and enhance the renewable resources economy;
- [16.1.1.3] to preserve and enhance the culture, identity and values of Yukon Indian People;
- [16.1.1.9] to honour the Harvesting and Fish and Wildlife Management customs of Yukon Indian People and to provide for the Yukon Indian People’s ongoing needs for Fish and Wildlife;
- [16.1.1.11] to enhance and promote the full participation of Yukon Indian People in renewable resources management.

2. Enabling the issue of new trapping concessions in the KWS would remove barriers to full KFN participation in the renewable resources economy, and would support KFN Citizens’ cultural activities, connection with the land and transmission of traditional knowledge.

- As the Kluane National Park and Reserve Management Plan explains:
 - [2] Many of the vital connections that Dän [“the People”] had to this place were severed when the Alaska Highway was built in 1942. In a misguided effort to protect wildlife along the highway, the government established the Kluane Game Sanctuary in 1943. With the stroke of a pen, Dän were evicted from their homeland – they could no longer live off the land by hunting and trapping. With the removal of Dän from their lands, the health of the land and people declined.”
- This history is summarized in a 2007 report of the Indian Claims Commission (pp 545-560). As Kluane Citizen Mary Easterson told the Commission in 2002:
 - [W]e grew up a generation of young people afraid of the law. A way of life, a way of thinking, and a way of our ancestors, became criminal in every manner. Hunting, which was a way of life for my mom and dad, became a criminal activity. As a child, I can still remember hiding in the bushes whenever anyone from the village shot a moose “on the park side,” as the elders referred to the game sanctuary. (ICC report, p 566)

Proposal 3: Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary Trapping Concession

RATIONALE: (continued)

2. Enabling the issue of new trapping concessions in the KWS would remove barriers to full KFN participation in the renewable resources economy, and would support KFN Citizens' cultural activities, connection with the land and transmission of traditional knowledge (cont'd).

- KFN has been working for many years to reverse this displacement from various parts of Dań Keyĩ, including the KWS:
 - R. v. Michel, a 1983 Yukon Court of Appeal decision, overturned the convictions of two men, including a KFN Citizen, who were charged for hunting a bull caribou within the KWS. The court ruled that a pre-Wildlife Act ban on hunting within the KWS “does not apply to Indians or Eskimos hunting for food on unoccupied Crown land” (para 22).
 - In 1997, KFN filed a specific claim against Canada in relation to the creation of Kluane National Park and Reserve (“KNPR”) and the KWS, and the prohibition on subsistence harvesting by our Citizens within those boundaries. Although Canada refused to negotiate in 1999, the previously mentioned Indian Claims Commission inquiry followed, and was only terminated at KFN’s request after as the claim was resolved by the ratification of the KFNFA and a 2003 side agreement with the Government of Canada.
 - More recently, KFN has been working with the federal government to enable KFN Citizens to trap commercially in the KNPR itself, and in January 2025 Canada accepted a recommendation to establish an initial KFN commercial trapping area in the KNPR.

Proposal 3: Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary Trapping Concession

RATIONALE: (continued)

3. The proposed change has the potential to help conservation generally by allowing the creation of new commercial interests dependent on healthy wildlife populations

- Registered Trapping Concession holders' livelihoods depend on an accurate, field-tested information about furbearer populations within their concessions. This both incentivizes them to harvest responsibly, and to communicate any concerns to the Dań Keyĩ Renewable Resources Council so that wildlife managers have the information they need to ensure that conservation objectives are met.

4. The proposed change has the potential to help ungulate conservation efforts through predator management

- Mountain caribou and thinhorn sheep are species of special concern for Kluane First Nation and GMS 608 and 609 are critical year-round habitat for both species (see Wildlife Key Area maps in Appendix 2).
 - Voluntary closures of subsistence hunting for the Kluane Northern Mountain Caribou herd have been in place for nearly 30 years. Licenced harvest of this herd is also closed, and despite these closures, herd recovery has been limited.
 - Recent declines in thinhorn sheep (Mäy) populations have resulted in an emergency hunting closure in one Kluane region sheep management unit, and voluntary closures in others.
 - Under a June 2024 MOU with Yukon Government, Parks Canada, the Fish and Wildlife Management Board, affected First Nations and Renewable Resources Councils, the parties have been working to protect vulnerable and declining Mäy populations in Dań Keyĩ by, among other things, developing a management plan by 2026 and examining predator management as a potential tool.

Proposal 3: Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary Trapping Concession

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

- Kluane First Nation trappers, hunters, and knowledge keepers are observing increases in predator populations and decreases in ungulate populations in the region.
- These observations are supported by sheep surveys that have shown significant declines in thinhorn sheep (Mäy) populations, including lambs (see Figure 1 and Table 1). Steep declines in sheep populations are suspected to be driven by climate factors, but are exacerbated by hunting, predation and disturbance.

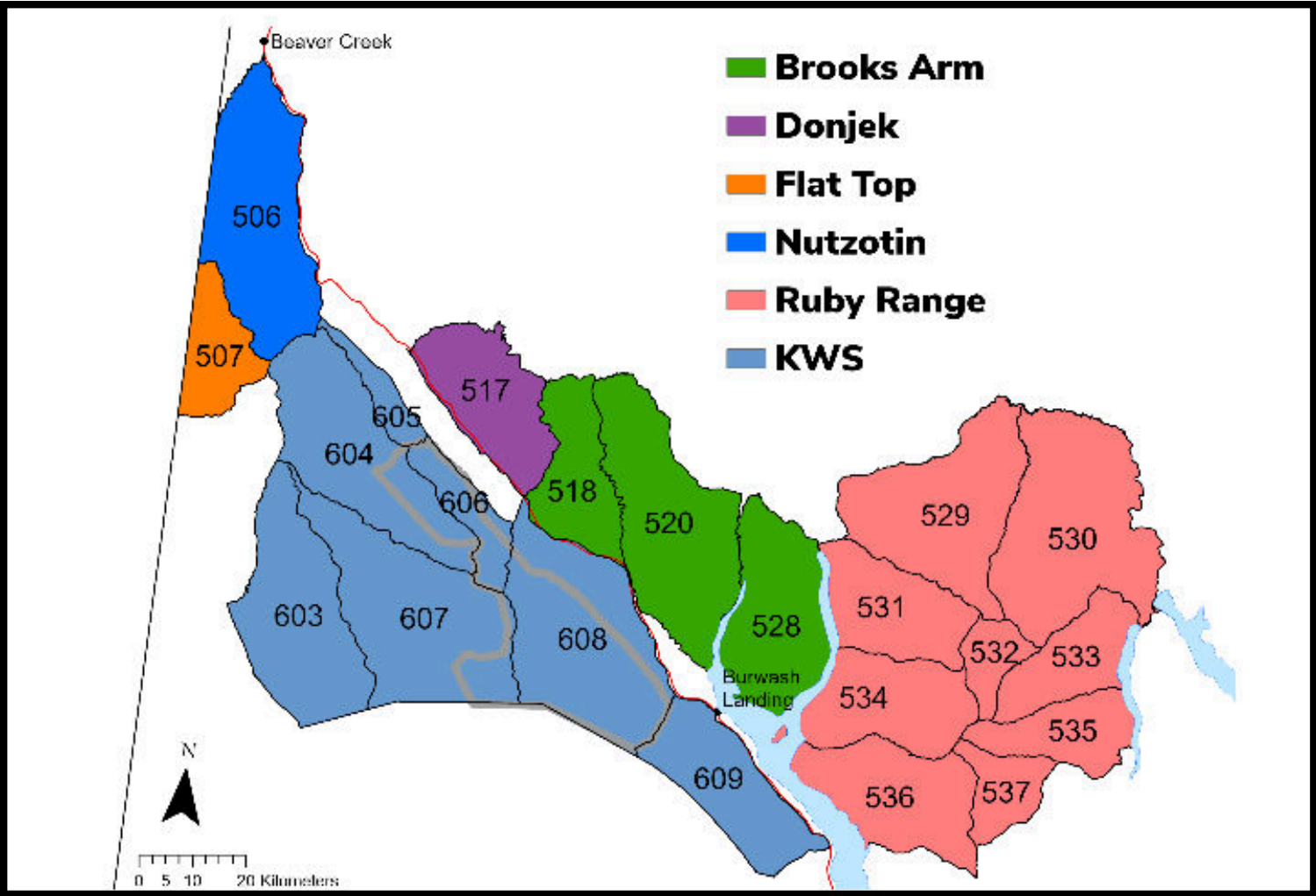


Figure 1 (left): Map of southwest Yukon and the Game Management Subzones (GMS) within each of the colour-coded Sheep Management Units (SMUs) and the Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary (KWS; light blue). This proposal is considering GMS 608 and 609.

Table 1 (below): Changes in thinhorn sheep population for the Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary (KWS - highlighted) and nearby Sheep Management Units between 2011 and 2023.

SMU	Non-lamb (2023)	Non-lamb (previous)	Prev survey year	Total pop change	Percent pop change
Donjek	30	82	2015	-52	-63%
Nutzotin	121	292	2016	-171	-59%
KWS (GMS 604, 606, 607, 608)	246	567	2011	-171	-57%
Flat Top	173	337	2016	-164	-49%
Brooks Arm	157	207	2015	-50	-24%
Ruby Range	675	803	2016	-128	-16%

Proposal 3: Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary Trapping Concession

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: (continued)

- Population and composition surveys of the Kluane mountain caribou herd (Table 2) demonstrate their continued need to be protected from all harvest (as per Yukon Government’s science-based guidelines). Despite an increasing trend in herd size, bull to cow and calf to cow ratios have been in steady decline, which is consistent with low recruitment rates noted in moose and caribou populations throughout the Kluane region.
- The re-introduction of commercial trapping in the Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary is expected to contribute to ungulate conservation efforts through predator control. Additionally, qualitative observations by trappers can contribute greatly to existing knowledge surrounding body condition, composition, and habitat use.

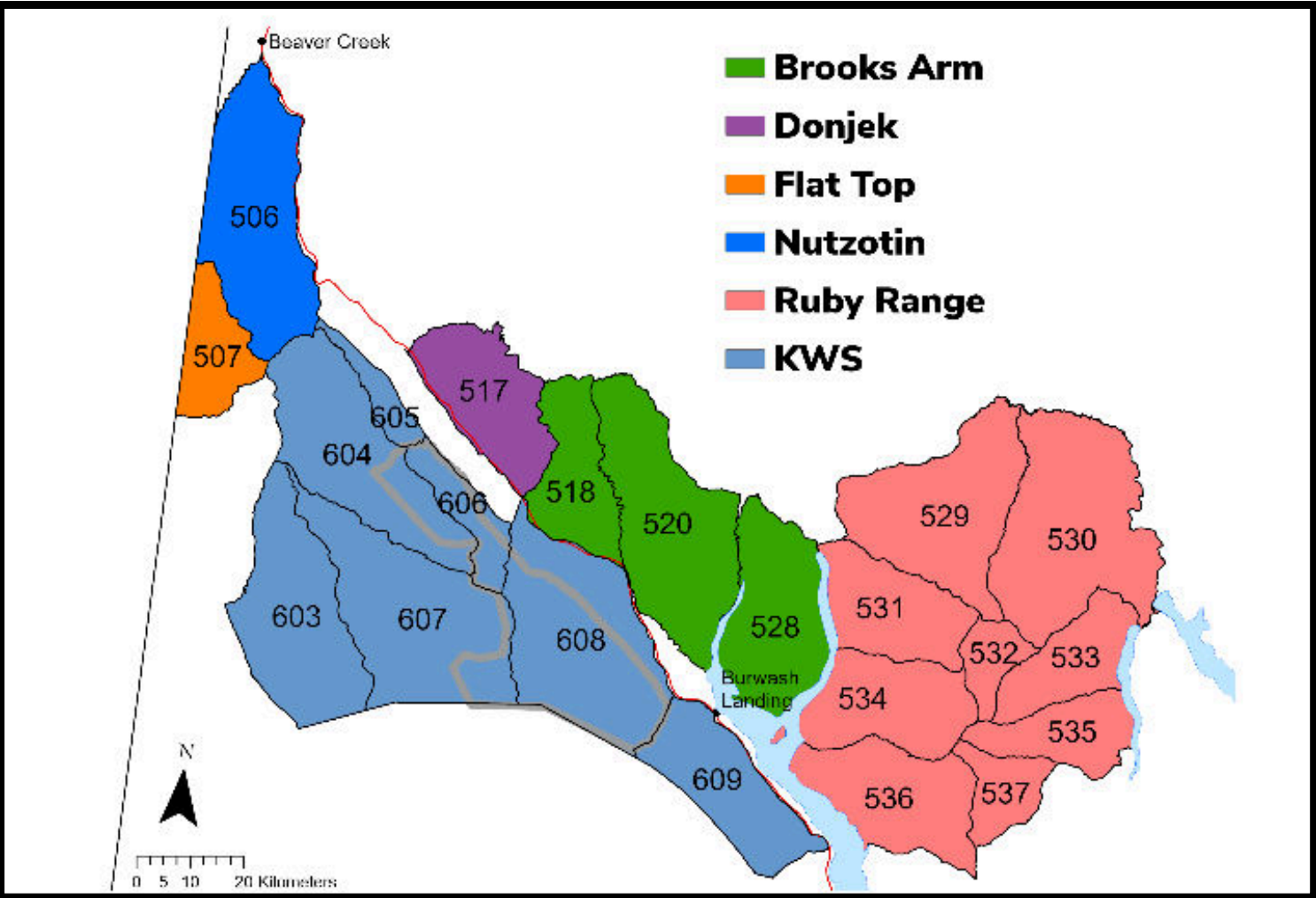


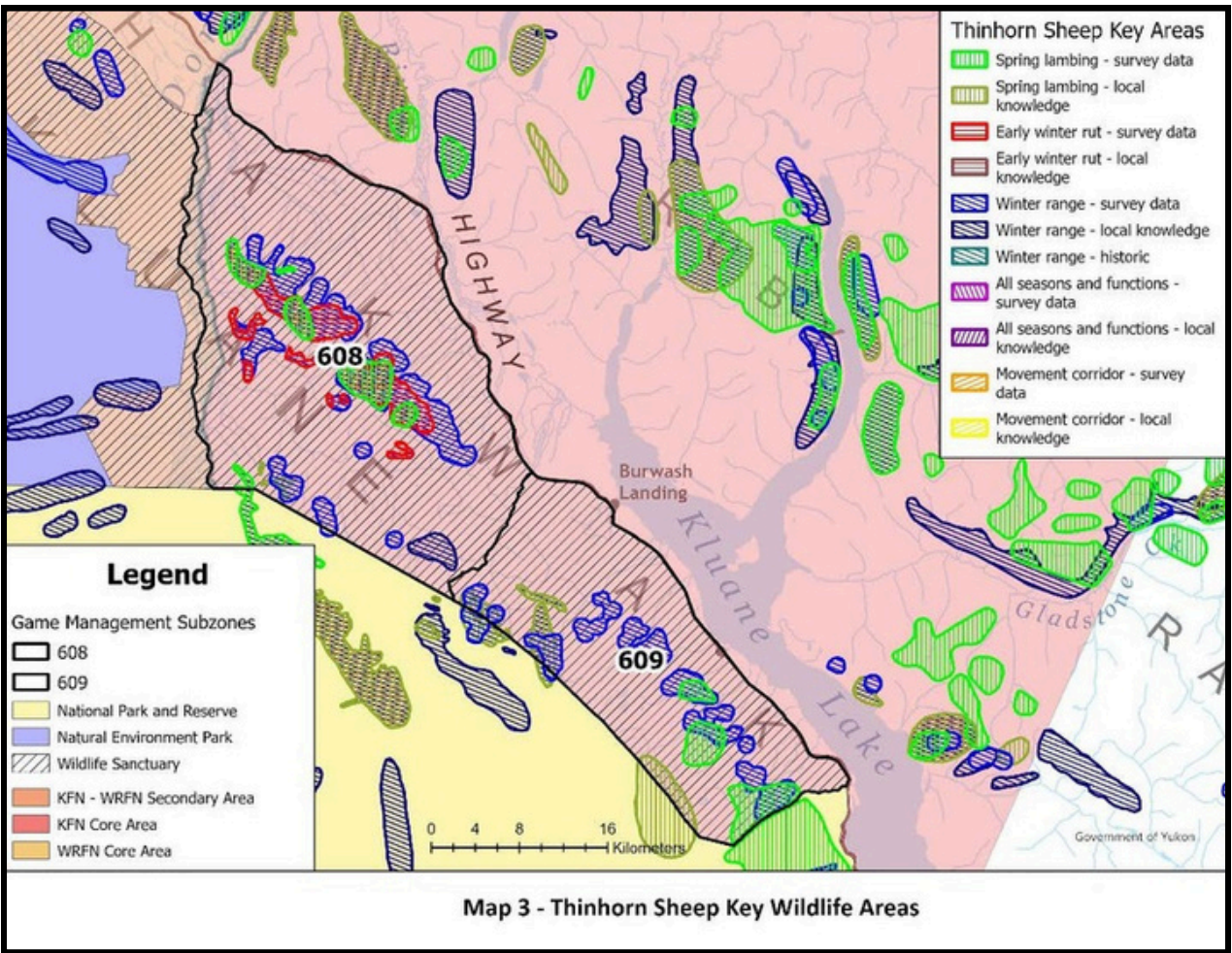
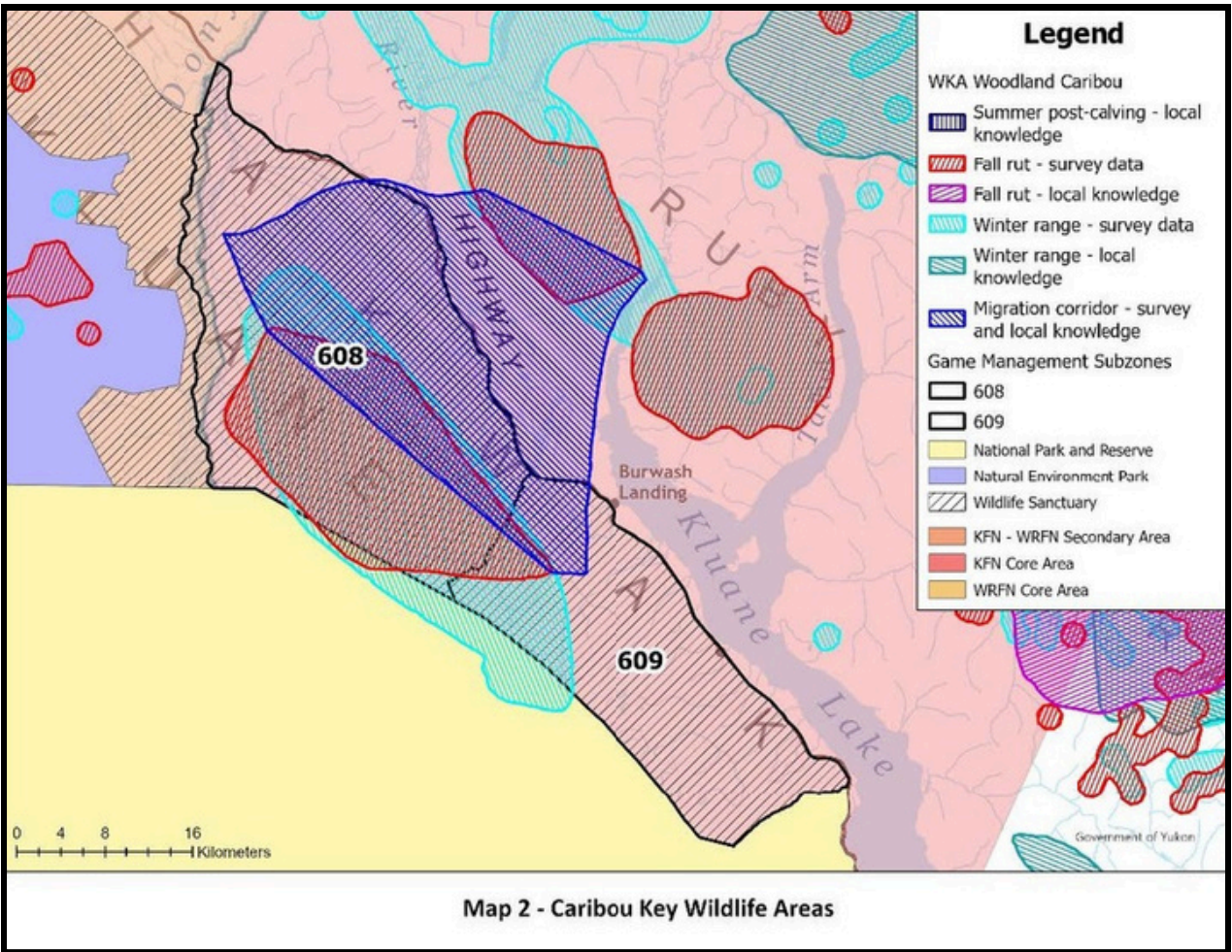
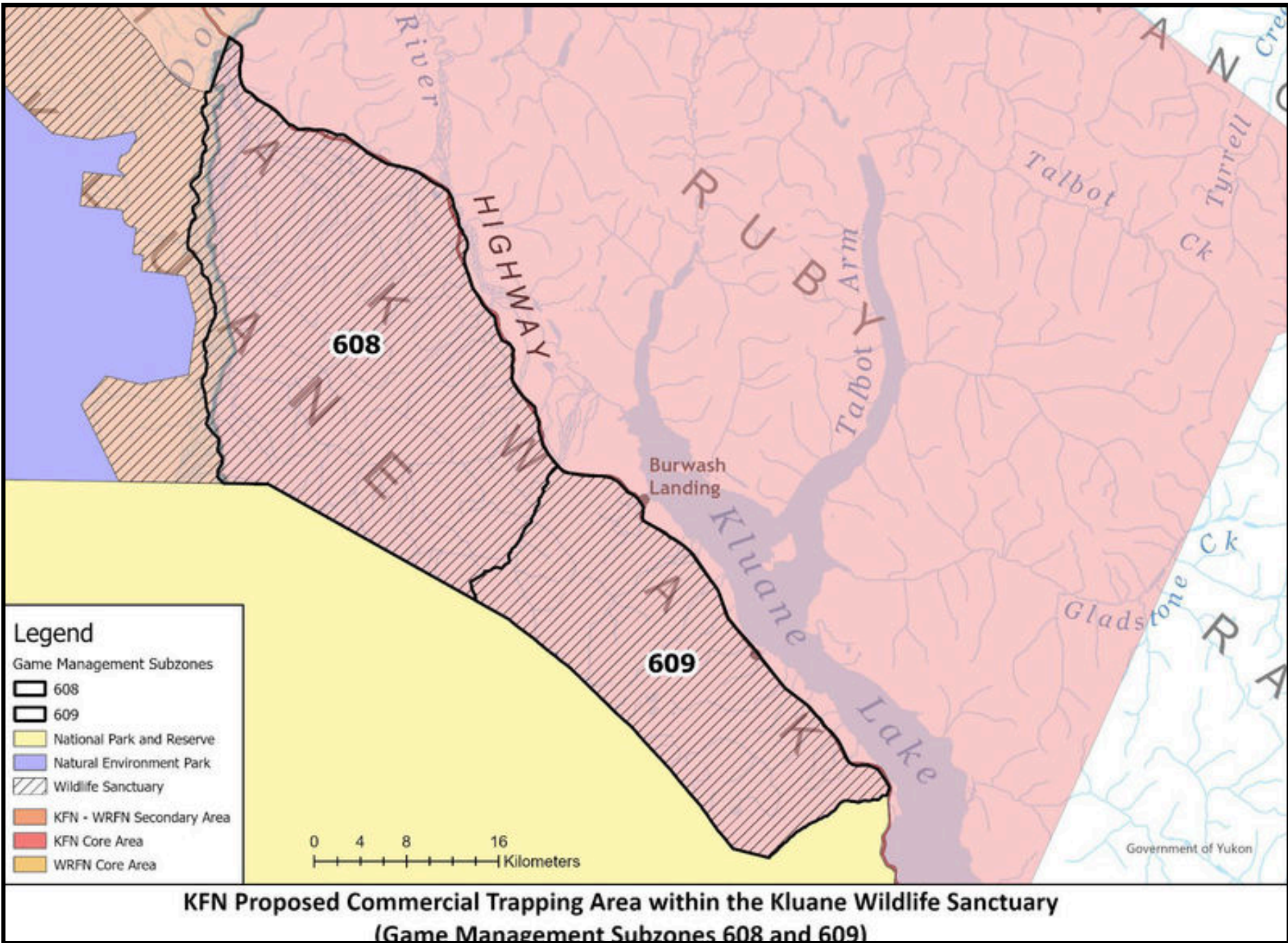
Table 2 (below): Results of surveys conducted in the Kluane Mountain Caribou Herd range from 2015- 2018. Ratios of 20-25 calves per 100 cows and 30 bulls per 100 cows are considered healthy.

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total minimum count	203	249	356	364
Calves/100 Cows	24	37	17	12
Bulls/100 Cows	64	55	51	43

Proposal 3: KWS Trapping Concession

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: (continued)

Additional Maps to support proposal:



Proposal 3: Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary Trapping Concession

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

- In the medium-to-long term, KFN intends to take advantage of the partial removal of the trapping prohibition by applying for one or more new Registered Trapping Concessions within GMS 608 and GMS 609, expanding access to commercial opportunities for KFN Citizens.
- KFN's total exclusion from the KWS from the 1940s until the mid-1980s devastated the traditional economy and interfered with the transmission of traditional knowledge and stories about the area. KFN continues to feel the impacts of the historical total ban and the ongoing prohibition of commercial trapping.
- As the Indian Claims Commission report noted in 2007 (at p 566):
 - Whether through fear or a respect for the law, the Kluane people mostly stayed out of the game sanctuary. The old trails became overgrown and difficult to find, and the stories and legends that belonged to these trails became lost as elders grew old and forgot, and then died, never able to pass on their knowledge to their children and grandchildren.
- Approval of a regulatory exception for commercial trapping in the KWS would also chip away at KFN Citizens' reluctance to resume harvesting in areas from which they were historically evicted, reviving ties to the KWS and increasing local knowledge about the area.
- This is likely to benefit wildlife management in the KWS generally, as KWS trappers would be in a position to provide detailed information and observations to the Dän Keyi Renewable Resources Council, giving it a clearer picture of the condition of wildlife populations within the KWS.

RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

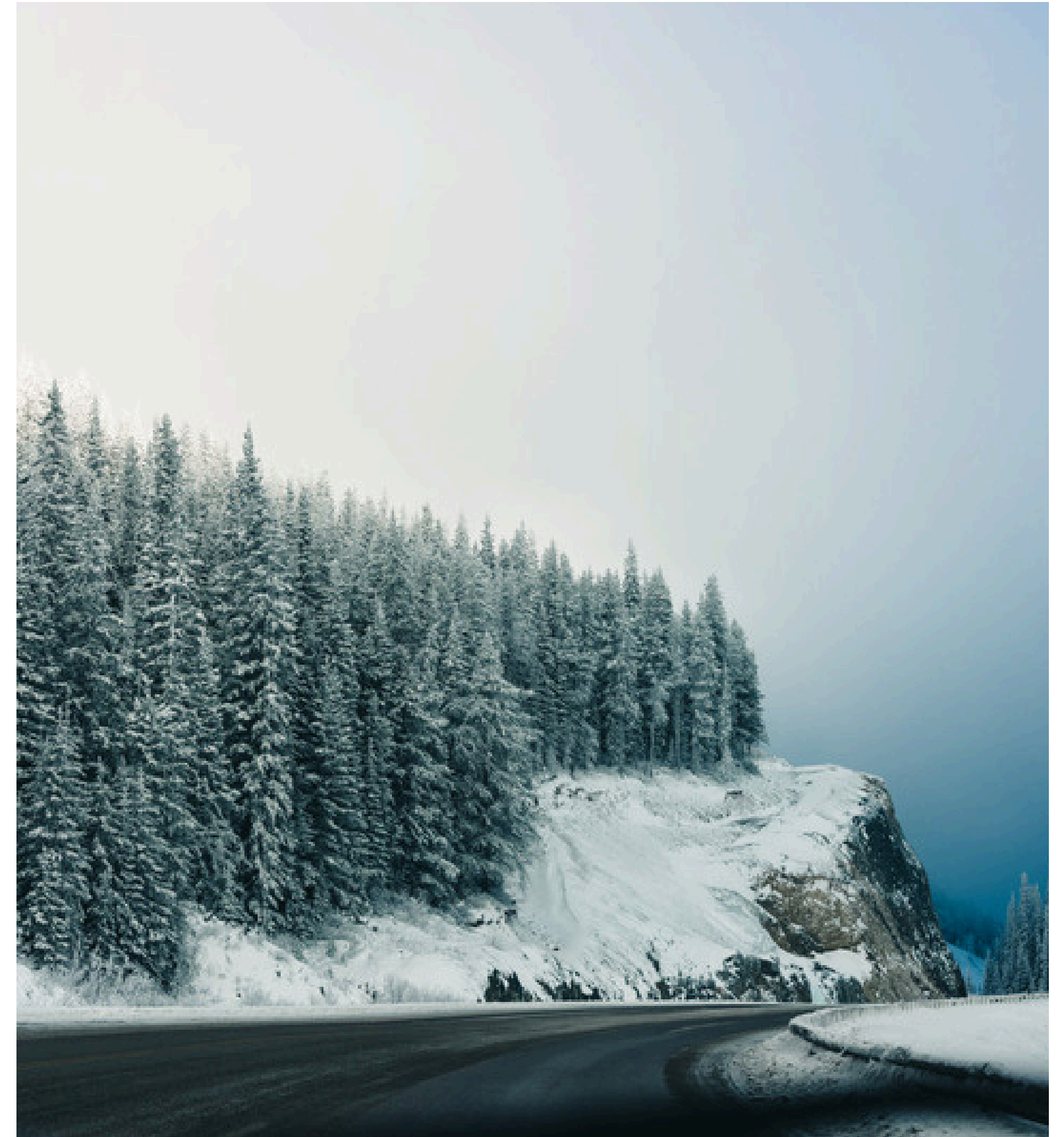
- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Proposal 3:

Public Discussion

Guiding Questions

- Do you support the proposed regulation change to allow for KFN commercial trapping opportunities in Subzones 608 and 609?
- This regulation would allow applications for Registered Trapping Concessions in the Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary, where this activity is currently prohibited by section 37(1) of the *Wildlife Act*.
- This regulation would align commercial trapping opportunities in the Kluane Wildlife Sanctuary with those emerging within Kluane National Park & Reserve
- Is there anything else the Board should consider?



Section 3:

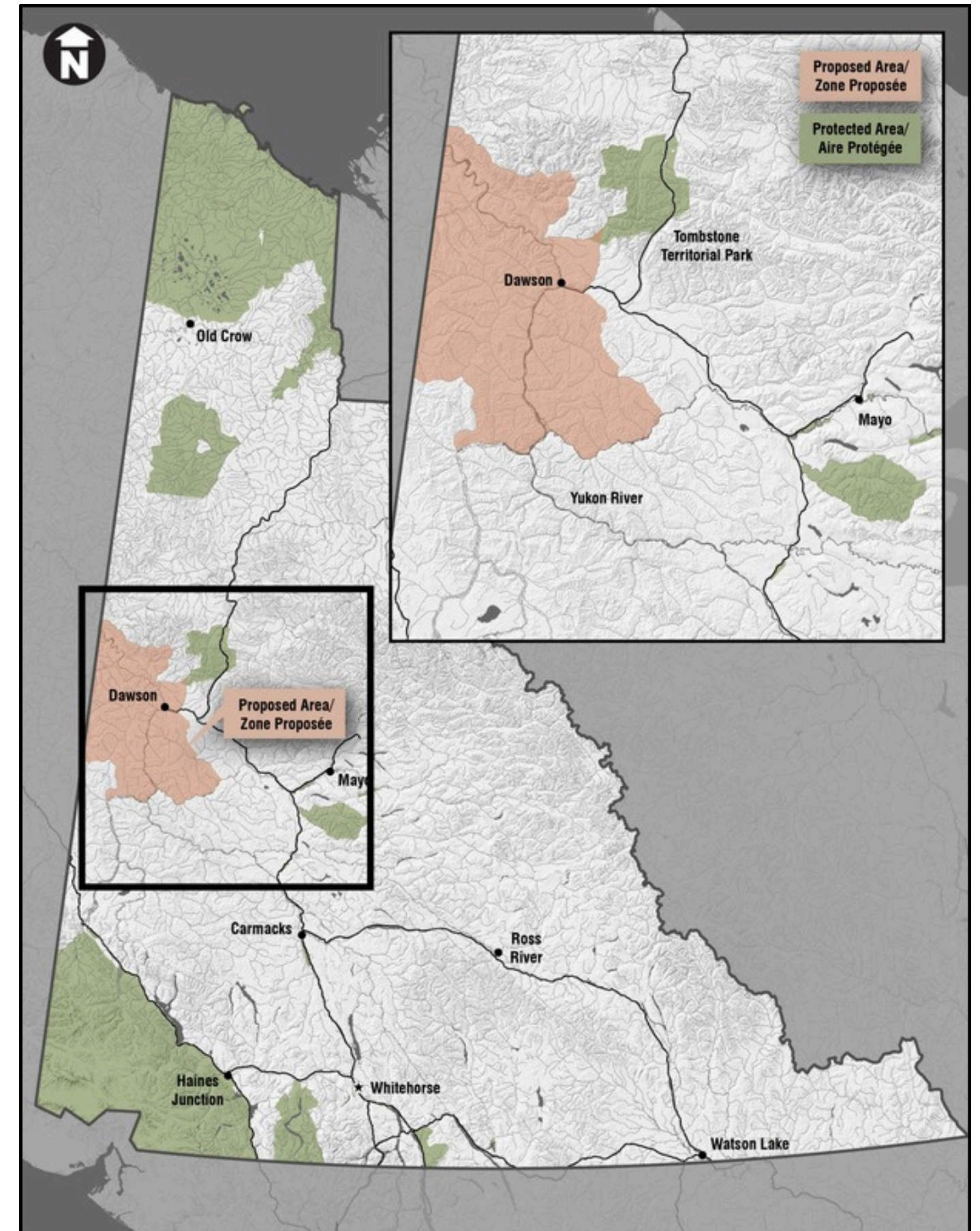
Hunting Proposals

Proposal 4:

Bag Limit Changes for the Fortymile Caribou Herd

Submitted by:

Dawson District Renewable
Resources Council



Proposal 4: Bag Limits for the Fortymile Caribou Herd

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- The *Fortymile Caribou Harvest Management Plan* was signed and completed in 2020 and included several regulation change recommendations (see Appendix 7) that were signed off by the two government parties (Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (TH) and the Government of Yukon (YG)) and supported by the Dawson District Renewable Resource Council (DDRRC).
 - These recommendations and changes were intended to be included in the next regulation change cycle.
- The following recommendation from the plan is enabling. It may or may not be implemented on an annual basis by the Minister of Environment, based on recommendations from the Fortymile Harvest Management Committee, which is responsible for annually reviewing the status of the herd and hunts in the Yukon:
 - Recommendation 1: "Enable an adaptive management approach that allows the Minister to set the bag limit up to 2 caribou. This would require the bag limit of Schedule B, Part 1, 13.(2)(c) to be amended to allow up to 2 caribou to be harvested each licensing year as determined by the Minister."
- This issue is specific to the Fortymile Caribou Herd's range.

Proposal 4: Bag Limits for the Fortymile Caribou Herd

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

- The recommended change was identified in 2019 as part of the drafting of the Fortymile Harvest Management Plan but has not been able to move forward since, as the regulation change process was not occurring.
- The plan was based on extensive consultation between the DDRRC, the community of Dawson, TH Citizens, TH, and YG.
- The recommended change requests implementation of a suggested change from that plan that is supported by the DDRRC and the two government parties (TH and YG).
- The change is needed to help YG fulfill its harvest management obligations on the herd and to offer greater opportunity for harvest by licensed hunters while continuing to meet subsistence needs and conservation of the Fortymile Caribou Herd.

Proposal 4: Bag Limits for the Fortymile Caribou Herd

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

- The sustainable range wide annual allowable harvest for the Fortymile caribou herd is set each year by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and the Government of Yukon (YG (in collaboration with TH through the Harvest management committee).
- Yukon receives an allocation of those caribou (35%) that is then shared between subsistence harvesters (e.g., Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in) and licensed hunters.
- Following 5 years of harvest in the Yukon since the implementation of the herd's harvest management plan, Yukon has often not taken over half of its allocation in almost all years, and there are greater opportunities for licensed hunters while remaining well within sustainable harvest limits for the herd.
- Support to harvest Yukon's share of the overall allocation will help support Yukon's continued management of the herd and maintenance of its range wide allocation.
- Adaptive management is required to allow managers to adjust harvest based on hunter success, herd size, and herd movements. Migratory caribou herds are prone to change quickly in both population size and distribution and the Fortymile caribou herd is a perfect example of this.
- The herd is currently in decline and careful management of harvest will be required including the ability to vary the bag limit annually based on the pre-hunt population size, and First Nations and hunter success.

Proposal 4: Bag Limits for the Fortymile Caribou Herd

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

- The specific goal of this regulation is to put the adaptative management tools in place to allow wildlife managers to increase harvest opportunities for licensed hunters in the Yukon while ensuring First Nation needs are met and the overall harvest of the herd is sustainable.
- These bag limit changes would be as directed by the Fortymile Caribou Harvest Management Committee.

PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS: Is the proposal supported by other organisations? (i.e., First Nation governments, RRCs, other stakeholders)

- Yes, the following parties have been identified as collaborators and/or partners to this submission:
 - Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation
 - Government of Yukon

RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Proposal 4: Public Discussion

Guiding Questions

- Do you support the proposed changes to the regulation to support:
 - Adaptive management approaches to set bag limits to 2 caribou annually in support of the *Fortymile Caribou Management Plan*
- Is there anything else the Board should consider?



Proposal 5:

Red Squirrel Hunting Under Small Game Licence

Submitted by:
Fabian Schmitz



Proposal 5: Red Squirrel Hunting

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- Current regulations only support harvest of red squirrel for licenced trappers via hunting or snare methods.
- Proposed change would be to allow for red squirrels to be harvested via hunting or snaring under the small game hunting licence.

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

- Red squirrel are plentiful and not endangered in the Yukon, these changes would also open up another species under the small game hunting licence year-round.
- The addition of red squirrels under the small game licence would allow young hunters to practice hunting skills year-round.
- Given their abundance, red squirrel could make for an easily harvested game meat on wilderness trips.
- This regulation change would allow for residents to better deal with nuisance squirrels on their property and around a dwelling.

Proposal 5: Red Squirrel Hunting

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

- Red squirrel aren't currently classified as an endangered species in the Yukon.
- They are currently classified by the Yukon Government as a G5 and S5 conservation status, with no concern for the species.
- Currently, harvest by licenced trappers is allowed.
- Minimal anticipated harvest conflicts with Yukon trapper's given: high red squirrel abundance and the likelihood of low overall licenced hunting pressure.

RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Proposal 5: Public Discussion

Guiding Questions

- Do you support the addition of red squirrels as small game under the licensed small game hunting regulation?
- What factors should be considered regarding season and timing, bag limits, etc?
- Anything else the Board should consider?

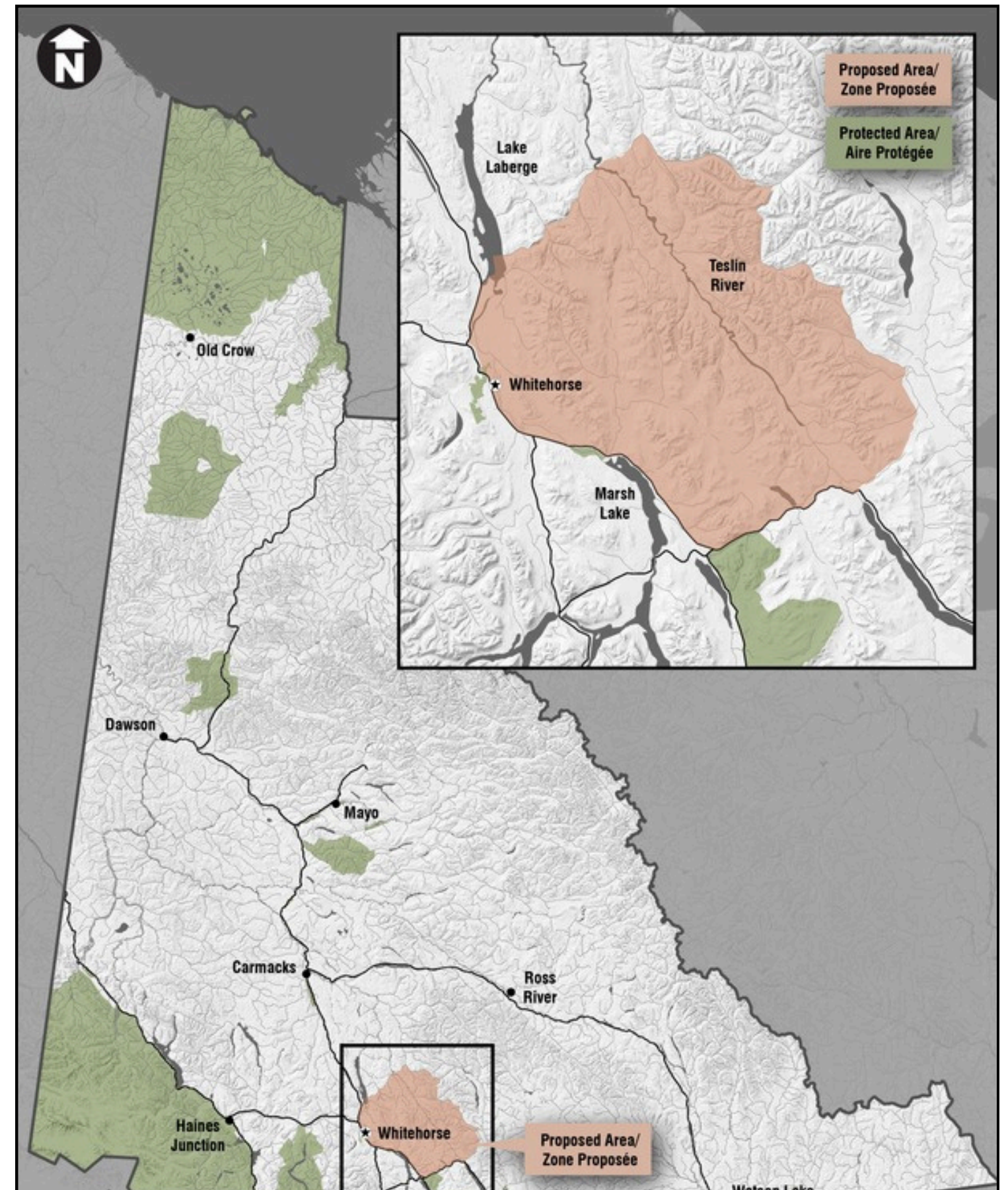


Proposal 6:

Teslin River Moose Management Unit – Harvest Management

Submitted by:

Teslin Tlingit Council



Proposal 6: Teslin River MMU Harvest Management

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- This proposal aims to reduce the current levels of licensed harvest to ensure that total harvest—by all user groups—remains within biologically sustainable limits, and to enable management tools that allow more timely and responsible management actions in the future.
- To achieve this, we are proposing a regulation change for the Teslin River MMU that would:
 - Enable Permit Hunt Authorizations (PHA);
 - Enable Wildlife Act Permit options (WAP);
 - Remove the Special Guiding Permit option.
- This proposal recommends two options to reduce licensed harvest, with the preferred approach and option 1 being the implementation of a rut-season closure from September 15 to October 31, and option 2 being the only other option available to the Yukon Government to manage resident licensed moose harvest: a Permit Hunt Authorization.
- Both options would also remove the Special Guide Permit option for this MMU, as this would also help reduce licensed harvest. The proponents expect that details of the proposed changes, including the suggested rut closure dates, would be fully developed and adjusted as needed with input from all stakeholders through this engagement process.

Proposal 6: Teslin River MMU Harvest Management

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

Why are we concerned:

- A population survey conducted by the Yukon Government in 2021 indicated that moose numbers have declined dramatically in the Teslin River MMU. Licensed harvest alone has been at or near the sustainable harvest level for this population for many years.
 - The 2021 survey results are already 4 years old, and no regulation changes will be implemented for another 2 years at the earliest.
 - There is general agreement among the collaborating partners that something needs to be done.
 - Our Game Guardians and local hunters have been identifying concerns with moose populations in this area for many years now, and harvest management is still not in place.
 - Areas with high accessibility are continually at risk of unsustainable levels of harvest without management actions.
- This is why we are also asking to enable the above regulatory tools, as they will provide the Renewable Resources Councils and management partners with the flexibility to adapt harvest regulations in response to future consultation outcomes and harvest data in a timely manner.
 - Specifically, changes can happen within a year instead of the 2-3 years through this process.

Proposal 6: Teslin River MMU Harvest Management

RATIONALE: (continued)

Rut Closure:

- The proposed rut closure would still allow full hunting opportunities to all resident licensed hunters until September 14, as opposed to restricting the number of licenses using a Permit Hunt Authorization.
- We have selected September 15, as it aligns with the start of the rut in this area.
- We have chosen to extend the closure past the end of the rut (October 15) to the end of October because Traditional Knowledge tells us that bulls are still recovering from the rut and the meat quality remains poor.

Urgency:

- It should be noted that due to the release of the summary report of the 2021 survey results on April 24, 2025, we have had limited time to develop this regulation change and will therefore be relying on the Fish and Wildlife Management Board engagement process to fully develop the details of the regulation change with input from and collaboration with all stakeholders.

Proposal 6: Teslin River MMU Harvest Management

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

Population Status:

- The 2021 Survey found that:
 - Moose density was close to the average across the Yukon. However, the total number of moose for areas counted in the previous 3 surveys had declined by ~ half since 2011
 - The 2021 Bull: Cow ratio is currently lower than both the 1999 and 2011 surveys, indicating pressure has been above sustainable levels. This is supported through available harvest data.
 - Both yearling and calf ratios were lower than the 2011 survey - these can be highly variable year to year.

Harvest:

- The 2021 Survey found that:
 - The Teslin River Moose Management Unit (MMU) sustainable harvest level for this population is 35 bulls per year.
 - The average licensed harvest over the five years preceding the survey (2017–2021) was 36 bulls per year.
 - This level of licensed harvest represents the entirety of the sustainable harvest, without accounting for harvest by First Nation citizens.
 - More recent licensed harvest has been below the sustainable level but still represents the majority of the available annual harvest:
 - **39 bulls in 2022**
 - **28 bulls in 2023**
 - **26 bulls in 2024**

Proposal 6: Teslin River MMU Harvest Management

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: (continued)

Local Observations:

- In addition to the above survey results, the our Game Guardians and local hunters have been reporting seeing fewer moose, and sustained higher numbers of hunters on Teslin River in recent years.
- Hunting access has been observed to exist in several Game Management Subzones within the MMU, and are being accessed from areas in addition to Teslin River. Some examples are Byng Mountain area, Squanga Lake, and numerous access roads and trails off of the Alaska Highway and South Canol.
- Proportionally, areas with these higher levels of access are experiencing the highest harvest levels in the MMU, and are at risk of continuing to exceed sustainable harvest.
- The Teslin River MMU encompasses a number of highly accessible high-quality moose range areas. In order to be responsibly managed, we require the ability to implement management actions in a timely manner in response to new harvest and population information as it becomes available.

Proposal 6: Teslin River MMU Harvest Management

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

- The goal of this proposal is to ensure that the licensed moose harvest within the Teslin River Moose Management Unit is reduced so that total harvest by all hunters is managed at or below sustainable harvest levels to allow the population to rebuild.
- A secondary goal is to enable tools other than, and in addition to, the PHA to be implemented as necessary to manage harvest of this sensitive moose population in a timely and responsible manner.

PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS: Is the proposal supported by other organisations? (i.e., First Nation governments, RRCs, other stakeholders)

- Yes, the following parties have been identified as collaborators and/or partners to this submission:
 - Ta'an Kwäch'än Council
 - Carcross/Tagish First Nation
 - Carcross/Tagish Renewable Resources Council

RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been previously submitted?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Proposal 6:

Public Discussion

Guiding Questions

- Do you support the proposed changes to the regulation that would allow for the implementation of alternative management tools for harvest within the Teslin River MMU?
- Are there other tools not mentioned below that should be considered?
 - Enable Permit Hunt Authorizations (PHA)
 - Enable Wildlife Act Permit options (WAP)
 - Remove the Special Guide Permit option
 - Rut-season closure (Sept 15 to Oct. 31st)
- Is there anything else the Board should consider?

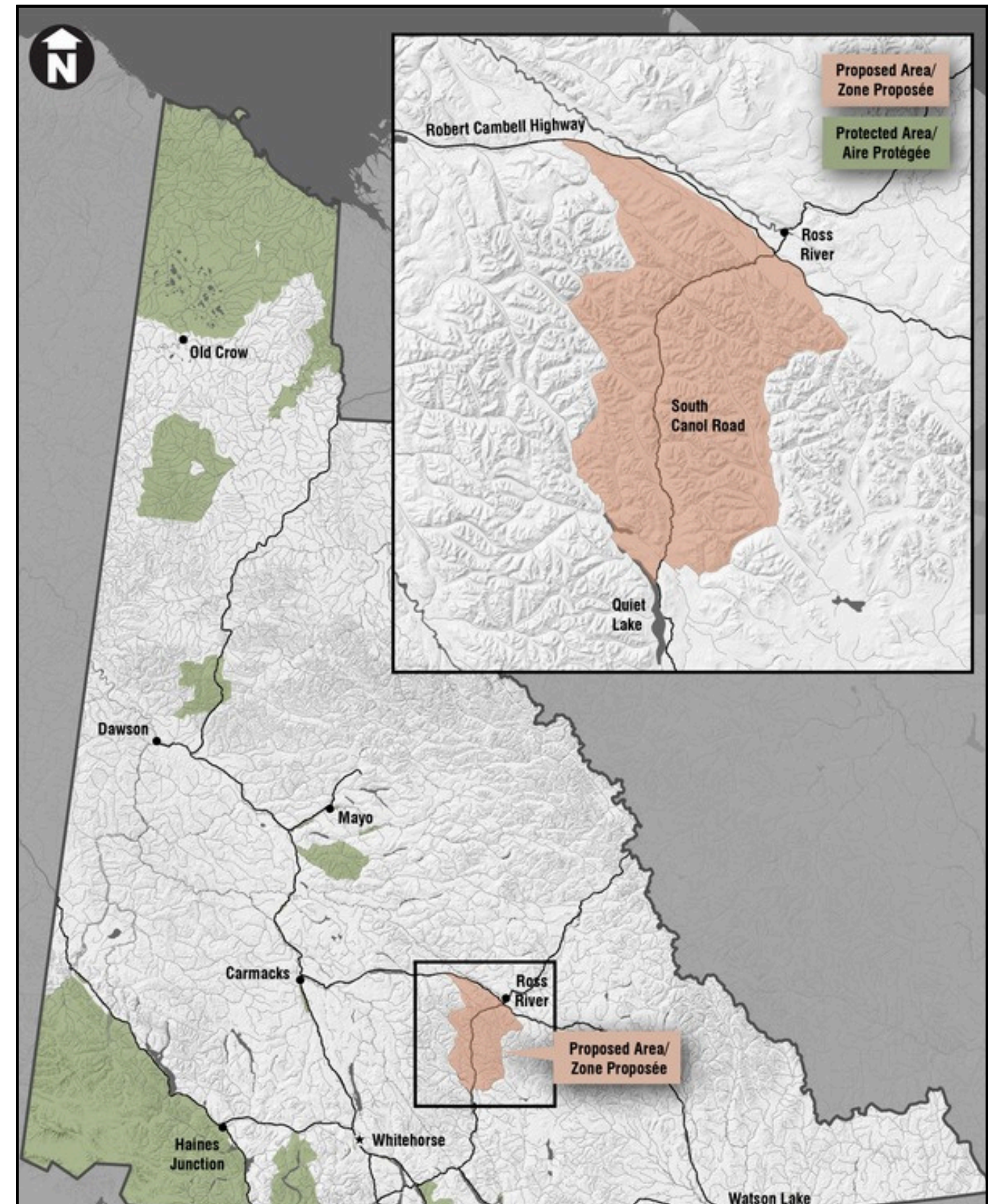


Proposal 7:

Removal of Permit Hunt
Authorization in South
Canol Moose Management
Unit

Submitted by:

Yukon Fish &
Game Association



Proposal 7: South Canol MMU (Remove PHA)

TOPIC: What do you propose to Change?

- The Yukon Fish & Game Association is proposing to remove the Permit Hunt Authorization (PHA) for moose that is in place in the South Canol Moose Management Unit (MMU).
 - The Association's position is that the PHA unnecessarily restricts hunting and limits opportunities for licensed resident hunters.
- The YFGA supports the use of *Wildlife Act* permits as an adaptive management tool for moose in the South Canol MMU. These permits would be kept **inactive** initially, but could be used to address future conservation concerns, should they arise.
 - Enabling the regulatory tool of *Wildlife Act* permits for moose in the South Canol will provide the Minister of Environment, Renewable Resources Council (RRC) and various other management partners with the flexibility to quickly and efficiently adapt harvest regulations in response to arising conservation concerns following population and harvest data and consultation outcomes.

Proposal 7: South Canol MMU (Remove PHA)

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

From the YFGA Proposal:

- The PHA for moose in the South Canol was implemented in 2022 against the recommendation of the Yukon Fish & Wildlife Management Board (YFWMB), which is the primary instrument of fish and wildlife management in the Yukon, clearly laid out in Section 16.7.1 of the Umbrella Final Agreement. The Yukon Fish & Wildlife Management Board recommended delaying implementation of the PHA until a new population survey is conducted and a public engagement process is completed.
 - This PHA was implemented without the support of the YFWMB, YFGA, and the majority of the Yukon hunting community.
- The Department of Environment has clearly stated in the two most recent South Canol moose population surveys (2013, 2022) that First Nation harvest levels are unknown in the South Canol MMU.
 - It is important to note that First Nations harvest was estimated to be 1.4x to 2.0x that of resident harvest in the 2013 survey, and equivalent to resident harvest in the most recent 2022 survey.
- Upon review from the Department of Environment technical staff, it appears that First Nation harvest was overestimated in the South Canol MMU in the 2013 survey (pers. comm. with Department of Environment technical staff). As stated in the 2022 survey summary, there has been no significant change in estimated moose abundance since the 2013 survey.
 - The total harvest between 2013 and 2022 has since been deemed sustainable by the Department of Environment.
- The PHA was implemented due to concerns about increasing harvest levels and possible overharvest. The 2022 survey data suggest that harvest was within sustainable limits and that there are no signs of population decline. The justification for the PHA no longer exists under current conditions.

Proposal 7: South Canol MMU (Remove PHA)

RATIONALE: (continued)

- The South Canol MMU, including areas along the South Canol road outside of the MMU, is an important hunting area for Yukon resident moose hunters.
 - The implementation of the PHA in 2022 prevented many Yukon residents from travelling to the South Canol to harvest moose. Hunting parties that regularly hunted moose in the South Canol started hunting in other regions.
- This has resulted in increased hunting pressure in other areas of the Yukon, as documented by various RRCs. Indeed, RRCs in other areas of the Yukon (as far away as Dawson, YT) have noted an increase in moose hunting pressure after the PHA was implemented for moose in the South Canol.
- The removal of the PHA in the South Canol is a good opportunity to support conservation in other areas of the Yukon by alleviating hunting pressure on other moose populations.
- The addition of *Wildlife Act* permits for moose in the South Canol is a good opportunity to support conservation in other areas of the Yukon by alleviating hunting pressure on other moose populations. Allowing more Yukon residents to access this popular hunting area will have little risk to the South Canol moose population.

Proposal 7: South Canol MMU (Remove PHA)

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports your proposal?

- The YFGA has been working collaboratively with the Department of Environment technical staff on this file. Recently, the YFGA met with Catherine Pinard (Wildlife Harvest Biologist), Traci Morgan (Liard Fish & Wildlife Biologist), and Tyler Ross (Program Project Biologist for Moose, Elk & Deer) to discuss ways to improve resident moose hunting opportunities in the South Canol MMU. In this meeting, the YFGA was informed that new survey data clearly indicated that the moose population in the South Canol MMU could support increased resident harvest.
- The YFGA would like to see the removal of the PHA and the restoration of general resident harvest under open season, with continued monitoring to ensure long-term sustainability. We strongly believe the data support this regulation change.
- A comparison of the 2013 and 2022 moose surveys for the South Canol Moose Management Unit (MMU) shows a clear improvement in population status and harvest sustainability, indicating that increased resident licensed harvest could sustainably occur.

1. The moose population has increased since the 2013 survey:

- 2013 estimate: 516 moose
- 2022 estimate: 686 moose
 - Approximately a 33% increase in the estimated population. This suggests either actual population growth or better survey accuracy.

2. Bull-to-Cow ratio remains strong:

- 2013: 57 bulls per 100 cows
- 2022: 66 bulls per 100 cows
 - Both well above the Yukon minimum threshold of 30, ensuring adequate breeding potential.

Proposal 7: South Canol MMU (Remove PHA)

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports your proposal?

3. Calf recruitment and yearling survival support population growth:

- Calves per 100 cows: Slight decrease from 26 (2013) to 24 (2022), but still within sustainable range.
- Yearlings per 100 cows: Significant increase from 7 (2013) to 23 (2022). This indicates strong recruitment and survival, which is key to long-term population health.

4. Harvest

- Results from the 2022 survey indicate that there has been no significant change in estimated moose abundance since the 2013 survey. The total harvest between 2013 and 2022 has since been deemed sustainable by the Department of Environment, according to the 2022 survey summary (link below). The PHA was implemented due to concerns about increasing harvest levels and possible overharvest. The most recent data no longer support the original justification for the PHA.
- Recent survey results show that the moose population can support increased licensed harvest.

Data received from:

- 2022 Population Survey: Early-Winter Moose Survey, November 10-15, 2022
 - <https://yukon.ca/sites/default/files/2025-04/env-south-canol-mmua-early-winter-survey-2022-summary.pdf>
- 2013 Population Survey: FONTAINE, A.J., T. MORGAN, AND S. WESTOVER. 2016. Moose survey: South Canol Moose Management Unit, early-winter 2013. Yukon Fish and Wildlife Branch Report SR-16-03, Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada
 - https://open.yukon.ca/sites/default/files/south_canol_early_winter_2013_2.pdf

Proposal 7: South Canol MMU (Remove PHA)

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes do you intend to achieve?

- The Association supports implementing *Wildlife Act* permits, which would be left inactive but utilized in the future if needed.
 - Removing the PHA and implementing *Wildlife Act* permits will increase the access and opportunity for licensed resident hunters to harvest moose in the South Canol MMU.
 - This will directly increase sustainable hunting opportunities in a very popular area cherished by many Yukoners.
 - This regulation change would be consistent with the Minister's stated goal of improving resident licensed hunting opportunities.
- The desired outcome is to have the South Canol MMU available to Yukon resident moose hunters.
 - The removal of the PHA will increase the access and opportunity for licensed resident hunters to harvest moose in the South Canol MMU.
 - This will directly contribute to increased sustainable hunting opportunities in a very popular area that is cherished by many Yukoners.
- This regulation change would be consistent with the Minister's stated goal of growing resident licensed hunting opportunities.

Proposal 7: South Canol MMU (Remove PHA)

PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS: Is the proposal supported by other organisations? (i.e., First Nation governments, RRCs, other stakeholders)

- YFGA is the sole proponent of this proposal.
 - However, this proposal was developed with technical assistance by the Government of Yukon.

Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Proposal 7:

Public Discussion

Guiding Questions

- Do you support the proposed change to the regulation to support:
 - Removal of current PHA management tool for the South Canol MMU
- Is there anything else the Board should consider?

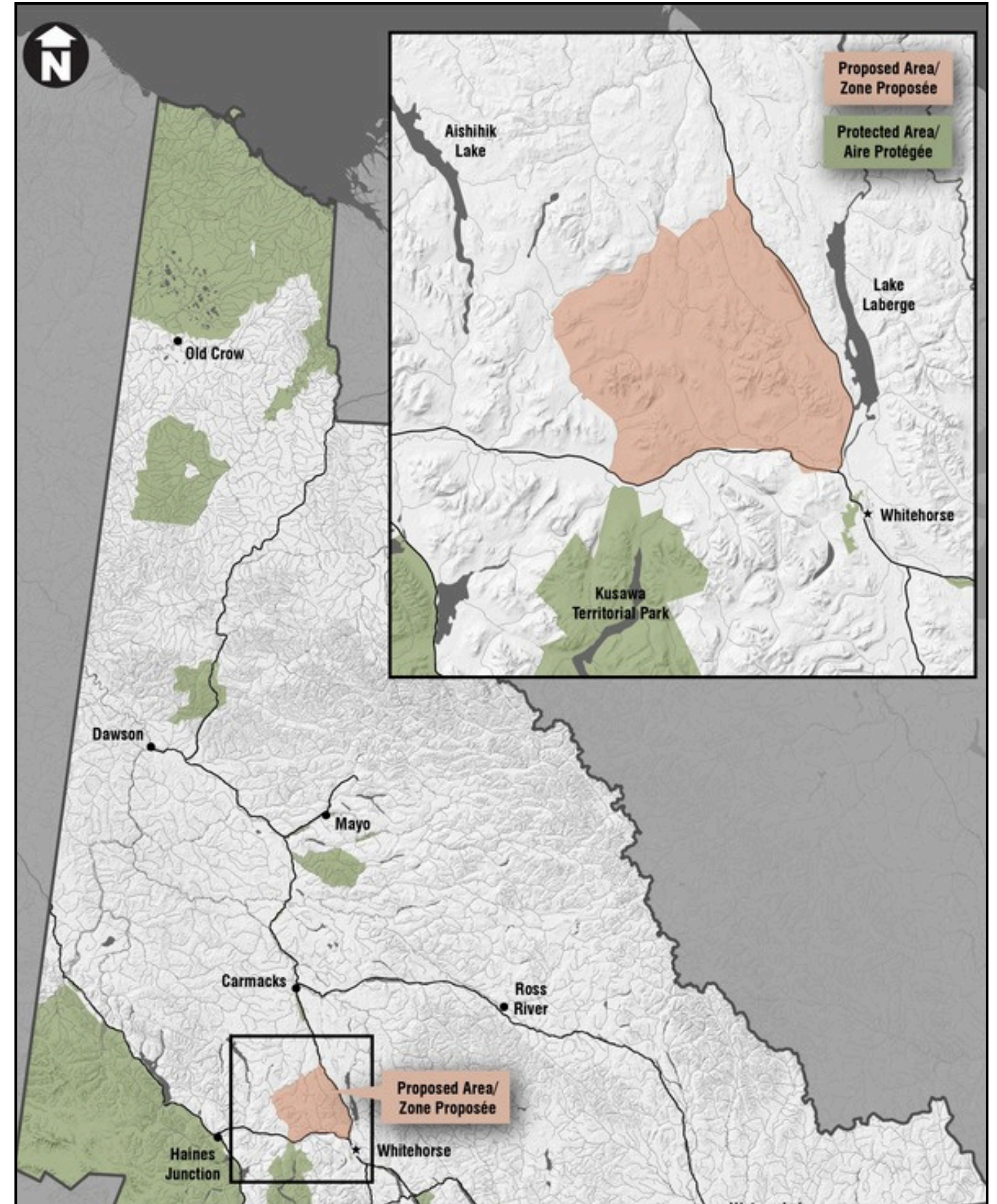


Proposal 8:

Removal of Permit Hunt
Authorization for Sifton-
Miner's Range Moose
Management Unit

Submitted by:

Yukon Fish &
Game Association



Proposal 8: Sifton Miner's Range MMU (Remove PHA)

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- Removal of the Permit Hunt Authorization (PHA) currently in place for the Sifton-Miners Range Moose Management Unit.
- Permit Hunt Authorizations have been in place for the Sifton-Miners Range Moose Management Unit since April 1, 2022.
- The YFGA believes that the data support the removal of the PHA.
- The YFGA supports the use of Wildlife Act Permits as an adaptive management tool for moose in the Sifton Miner's Range MMU. These permits would be kept inactive initially, but could be used to address future conservation concerns, should they arise.
 - Enabling the regulatory tool of *Wildlife Act* Permits for moose in the South Canol will provide the Minister of Environment, Renewable Resources Council (RRC) and various other management partners with the flexibility to quickly and efficiently adapt harvest regulations in response to arising conservation concerns following population and harvest data and consultation outcomes.

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

- The most recent report on the moose population in the Sifton-Miners Range Moose Management Unit (MMU) indicates a positive trend.
 - This increase was based on recent survey results showing that the moose population is higher than previously estimated.
- After consulting with the Yukon Fish & Game Association and other stakeholders, the Government of Yukon doubled the number of Permit Hunt Authorizations (PHAs) from 12 to 24 permits in response to data that indicated that the moose population is higher than previously estimated, and hunter success was very low.
- However, even though the PHA permit allotment was increased, hunter success remained very low.

Proposal 8: Sifton Miner's Range MMU (Remove PHA)

RATIONALE: (continued)

- The data suggests that a growing moose population, combined with a low hunter success of PHA hunt authorizations, indicate that the PHA is not required. The YFGA believes the PHA is not the proper tool for managing resident moose harvest in this MMU at this time.
- The Permit Hunt Authorization (PHA) currently in place for the Sifton-Miners Range appears to be unsuitable given the specific conditions of the area.
 - The region is extremely remote, with limited road access, no highway infrastructure, and rugged terrain that naturally restricts hunting activity. There are no major drainages or easy travel routes, further reducing the number of hunters who can access the area.
 - As a result, there is a very low level of moose harvest and virtually no crowding or conflict among harvesters—one of the main issues PHAs are designed to manage. While the PHA may have been implemented with crowding concerns in mind, the data show that such concerns are not applicable here.
- The presence of any PHA also raises issues within local communities, including concerns about displacing hunters from Whitehorse into smaller, more remote communities, and pushing hunting pressure into other areas with existing industrial activity and easier access. These unintended consequences may actually undermine broader conservation and management goals.
- Furthermore, available information suggests that the moose population in the Sifton-Miners Range is stable or growing, supporting the possibility of increased, sustainable hunting opportunities without the need for a PHA. Given these factors—low harvest levels, limited access, no major development, and a stable moose population—the removal of the PHA would be a reasonable step.
 - Doing so would help address community concerns while aligning management decisions with the actual conditions in the region.

Proposal 8: Sifton Miner's Range MMU (Remove PHA)

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

- The most recent moose population survey in the Sifton-Miners Range Moose Management Unit (MMU), conducted in early winter 2021, indicated a higher-than-expected moose population. This positive trend informed subsequent management decisions, including the doubling of Permit Hunt Authorizations (PHAs) from 12 to 24 for the 2023–2024 hunting season. The Sifton-Miners Range MMU, which includes Game Management Subzones 5-48 to 5-50, appears to support a stable or growing moose population, suggesting that sustainable harvest opportunities could be increased.
- However, despite the increase in PHA permits, hunter success rates remain very low. This means that much of the allowable harvest of bull moose remains unharvested. Since bull moose cannot be stockpiled and low harvest does not contribute meaningfully to population growth through recruitment, the underutilization does not support conservation gains. In this context, the PHA appears to be overly restrictive, unnecessarily limiting hunting opportunities without delivering clear conservation benefits. Its continued use is out of step with both the biological data and the Government of Yukon's stated goals for supporting resident hunting access and opportunity.
- Survey highlights from the 2021 Sifton-Miners Range Overview Census Results:
 - Total Moose: 928 (range: 863-1015).
 - Density in Moose Habitat: 278 moose per 1,000 km².
 - Composition: 198 mature bulls, 366 cows, 23 yearling bulls, 47 calves
 - Population Composition:
 - Calves: 17 calves per 100 adult cows (below Yukon average).
 - Yearlings: 12 per 100 adult cows (below Yukon average).
 - Adult Bulls: 50 per 100 adult cows (above minimum recommended).
 - Harvest Statistics Sustainable Harvest: 26 bulls.
- **Data retrieved from:**
 - <https://yukon.ca/sites/default/files/env/env-sifton-miners-mmu-moose-survey-early-winter-2021-info-sheet.pdf>

Proposal 8: Sifton Miner's Range MMU (Remove PHA)

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

- Removal of the PHA for moose in the Sifton-Miners Moose Management Unit.
- The 2021 population survey in the Sifton-Miners Range Moose Management Unit indicates a healthy and growing moose population, with numbers exceeding previous estimates.
 - This growth is likely due to a combination of low access, limited harvest, and overall favourable habitat conditions under the current management framework.
- Given this positive trend, there is a strong rationale for removing the current PHA, which restricts the opportunity for resident hunters and discourages hunters from even attempting to access these remote areas.
 - Shifting to a more open hunting framework would provide increased opportunity for resident hunters while still supporting sustainable harvest levels based on current data.
- Continued monitoring through harvest surveys and in-season checks can help ensure conservation goals remain a priority.
 - If concerns such as crowding or site-specific impacts emerge, they can be addressed with more targeted adaptive management tools available through enabling *Wildlife Act* permits. This adaptive management tool offers more flexible options to address future conservation concerns, rather than broad access limitations like a PHA.

Proposal 8: Sifton Miner's Range MMU (Remove PHA)

PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS: Is the proposal supported by other organisations? (i.e., First Nation governments, RRCs, other stakeholders)

- YFGA is the sole proponent of this proposal.
 - However, this proposal was developed with technical assistance by the Government of Yukon.

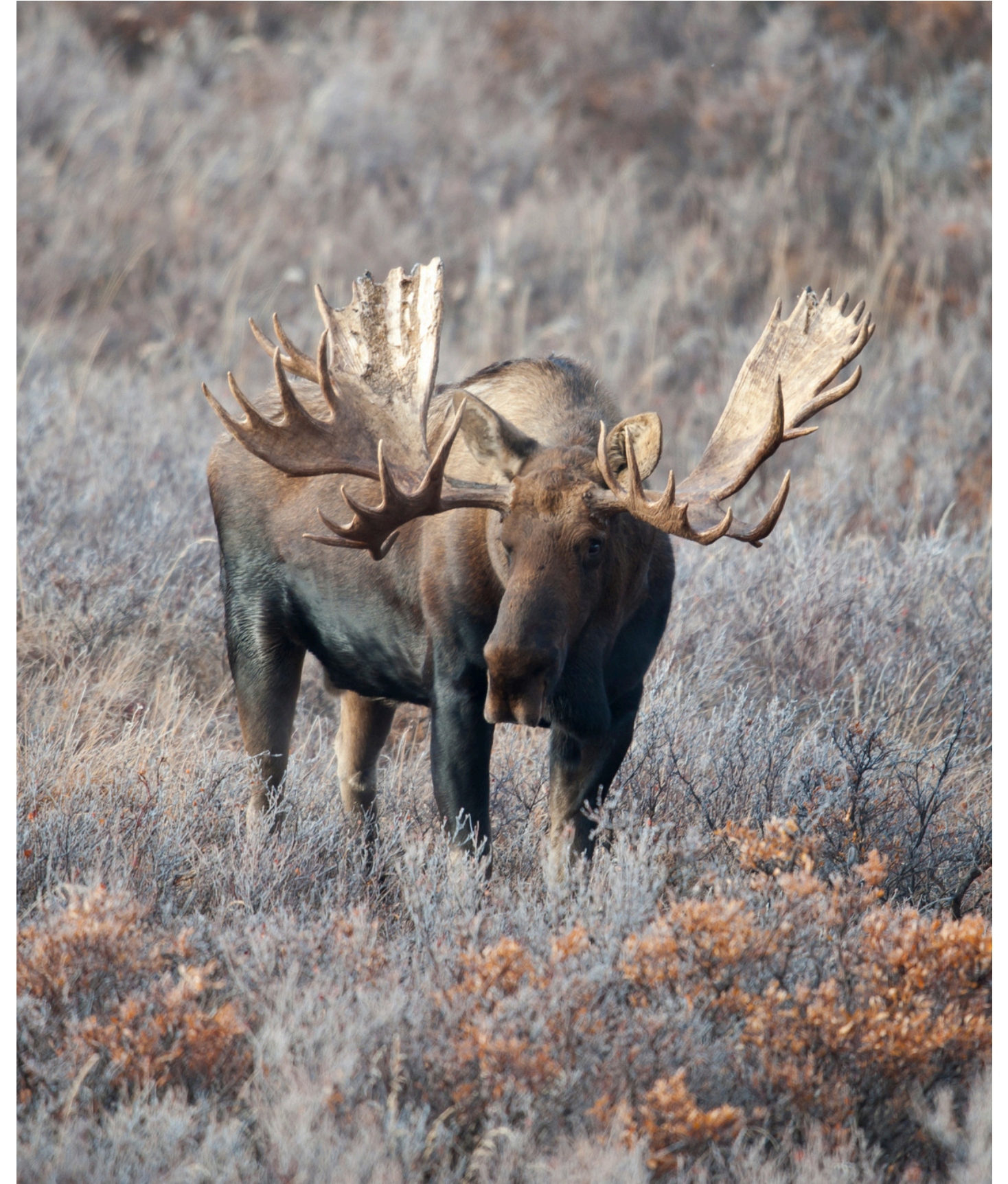
RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Proposal 8: Public Discussion

Guiding Questions

- Do you support the proposed changes to the regulation to support:
 - Removal of the current PHA management tool for the Sifton-Miners Range MMU
- Als there anything else the Board should consider?

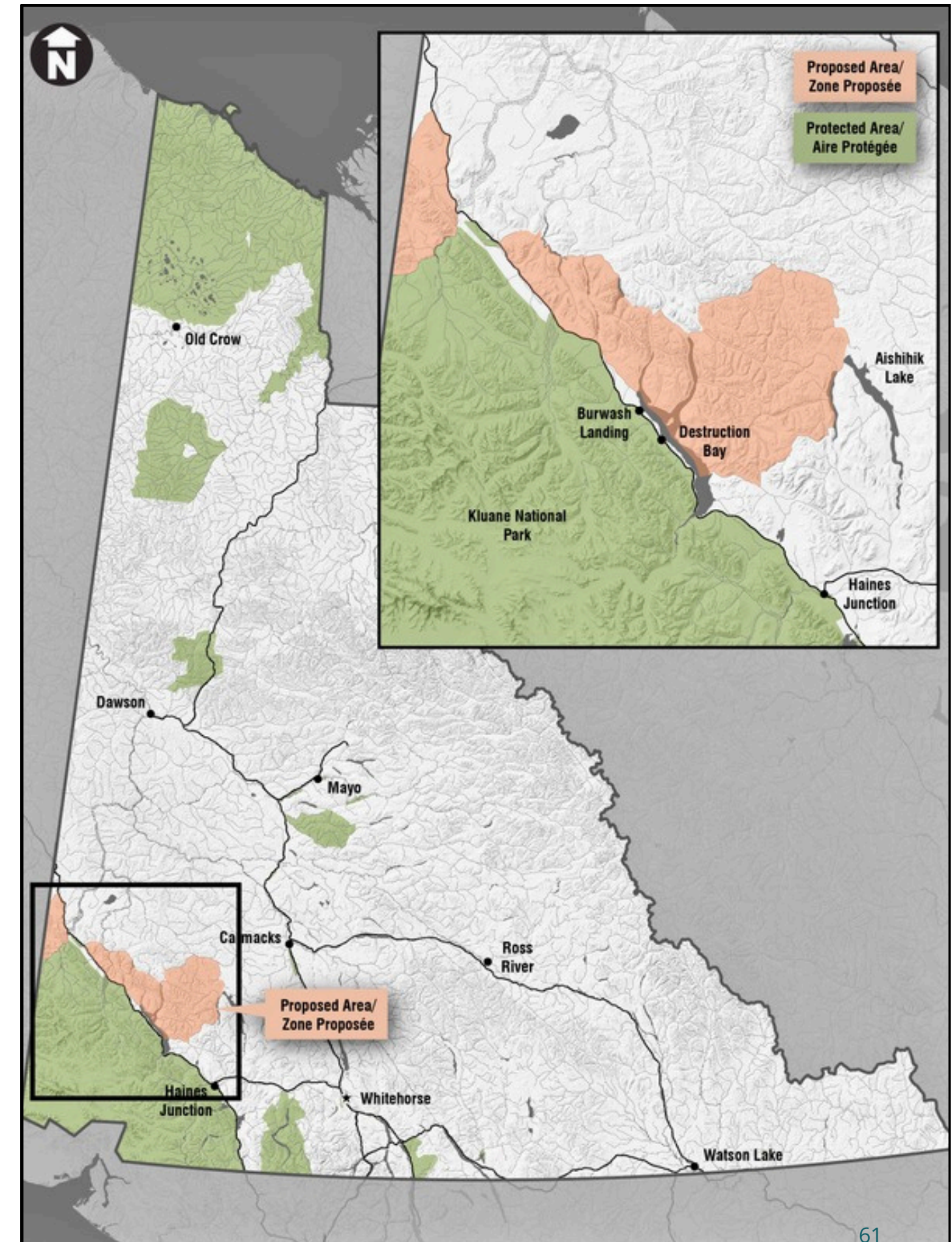
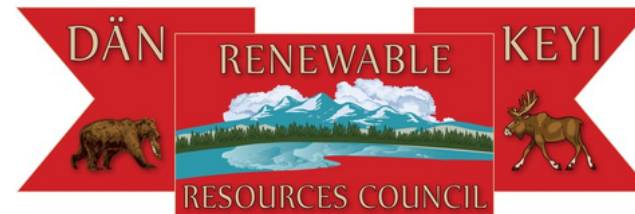


Proposal 9:

Kluane Area Sheep Hunting Regulation Proposal

Jointly submitted by:

Kluane First Nation Government,
Champagne & Aishihik First Nations,
White River First Nation &
Dan Keyi Renewable Resources Council



Proposal 9: Kluane Area Sheep Hunting

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- This proposal addresses the Sheep Management Units (SMUs) of concern for the Southwest May Working Group (SMWG):
 - Donjek (GMS 517)
 - Nutzotin (GMS 506)
 - Flat Top (GMS 507)
 - Brooks Arm (GMSs 518, 520, and 528)
 - Ruby Range (GMSs 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, and 537)
- The Partners propose an amendment to the *Wildlife Act* Regulations to enact both permit hunt authorizations (PHA) and *Wildlife Act* permit conditions (WAP) for the Donjek, Nutzotin, Brooks Arm, Flat Top, and Ruby Range sheep management units (SMUs).
 - Upon enactment, these tools will be dormant, without any terms or conditions.
 - Terms and conditions will be described in the sheep management plan currently under development.
 - Recommendations for activating and/or removing management tools will be included in the plan.
- This regulatory change is a foundational step required to enable Yukon's science-based guidelines for sheep management.
 - Currently, there is no regulatory mechanism to support the full implementation of these guidelines.

Proposal 9: Kluane Area Sheep Hunting

TOPIC: (continued)

The management plan will:

1. Recommend conditions for activating and deactivating PHAs and WAPs in these management units;
2. Provide that each SMU will be evaluated individually;
3. Describe the options and conditions for PHAs;
4. Describe options and conditions for WAPs;
5. Enable co-management partners to recommend which tools are appropriate for enacting, should conditions warrant;
6. Identify the process for recommending management actions, including public consultation;
7. Provide review periods for any established management actions.

Proposal 9: Kluane Area Sheep Hunting

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

- Enacting Wildlife Act Permits (WAPs) and Permit Hunt Authorizations (PHAs) will allow for flexible harvest management and provide a mechanism for timely responses to factors such as extreme weather events and successive years of low lamb recruitment.
- *The Science-Based Guidelines for Management of Thinhorn Sheep in Yukon* lay out conservation criteria for ensuring the sustainable harvest of thinhorn sheep in Yukon, but lack a regulatory framework and cannot currently be applied.
 - A new regulatory framework for all Sheep Management Units in the region ensures that existing and future sheep management guidelines can be implemented when required.
- Specific criteria to guide the application of PHAs and WAPs are being developed by members of the Southwest Mäy Working Group as part of ongoing management planning, and will be submitted for public consultation and review prior to being recommended to the Minister of Environment

Proposal 9: Kluane Area Sheep Hunting

RATIONALE: (continued)

Additional reasons for the proposed change:

- Between 2015/16 and 2023, sheep populations declined in all five Sheep Management Units (SMUs) being considered for regulatory change. In the Donjek, Nutzotin, and Flat Top SMUs, declines were severe, ranging from 49% to 63%. In the Brooks Arm and Ruby Range SMUs, declines ranged from 16% to 24%.
- On August 1st, 2024, an emergency hunting closure was enacted in the Donjek SMU, which saw the most severe declines (63%). The closure will remain in place until October 31, 2026. This closure is intended to protect the estimated 30 Mäy remaining in the Donjek SMU while co-management partners work towards a long-term management plan.
- An emergency closure is the only management tool available because current regulations don't allow for limits to harvest of legal rams (through PHAs) or conditions on hunting (through WAPs). Emergency closures are intended as a last resort and have a significant negative impact on harvest opportunities for all Yukoners.
- Hunting is an important part of the Yukon culture and connection to the land. Sustaining hunting opportunities for all Yukoner's requires proactive management of wildlife. This proposal is a step toward aligning the *Wildlife Act* Regulations with the provisions of the First Nation Final Agreements regarding conservation, sustainability, and long-term optimum productivity of natural resources for all Yukoners.
- Climate factors such as annual snowfall are key population drivers for sheep. These patterns impact the availability and quality of forage for sheep and affect lamb survival and recruitment. An increase in the irregularity of climate and weather patterns driven by effects from climate means that sheep populations may experience challenging conditions more frequently than before. Regulatory tools should reflect this change.

Proposal 9: Kluane Area Sheep Hunting

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

Yukon Government data:

- Thinhorn sheep population counts (Table 1 and 2; Figure 1) were recorded using aerial surveys. Over the approximately 8-year period between 2015/16 and 2023, sheep populations declined in all five Sheep Management Units (SMUs). In the Donjek, Nutzotin, and Flat Top SMUs, declines were severe and ranged from 49% to 63%. In the Brooks Arm and Ruby Range SMUs, declines ranged from 24% to 16%..

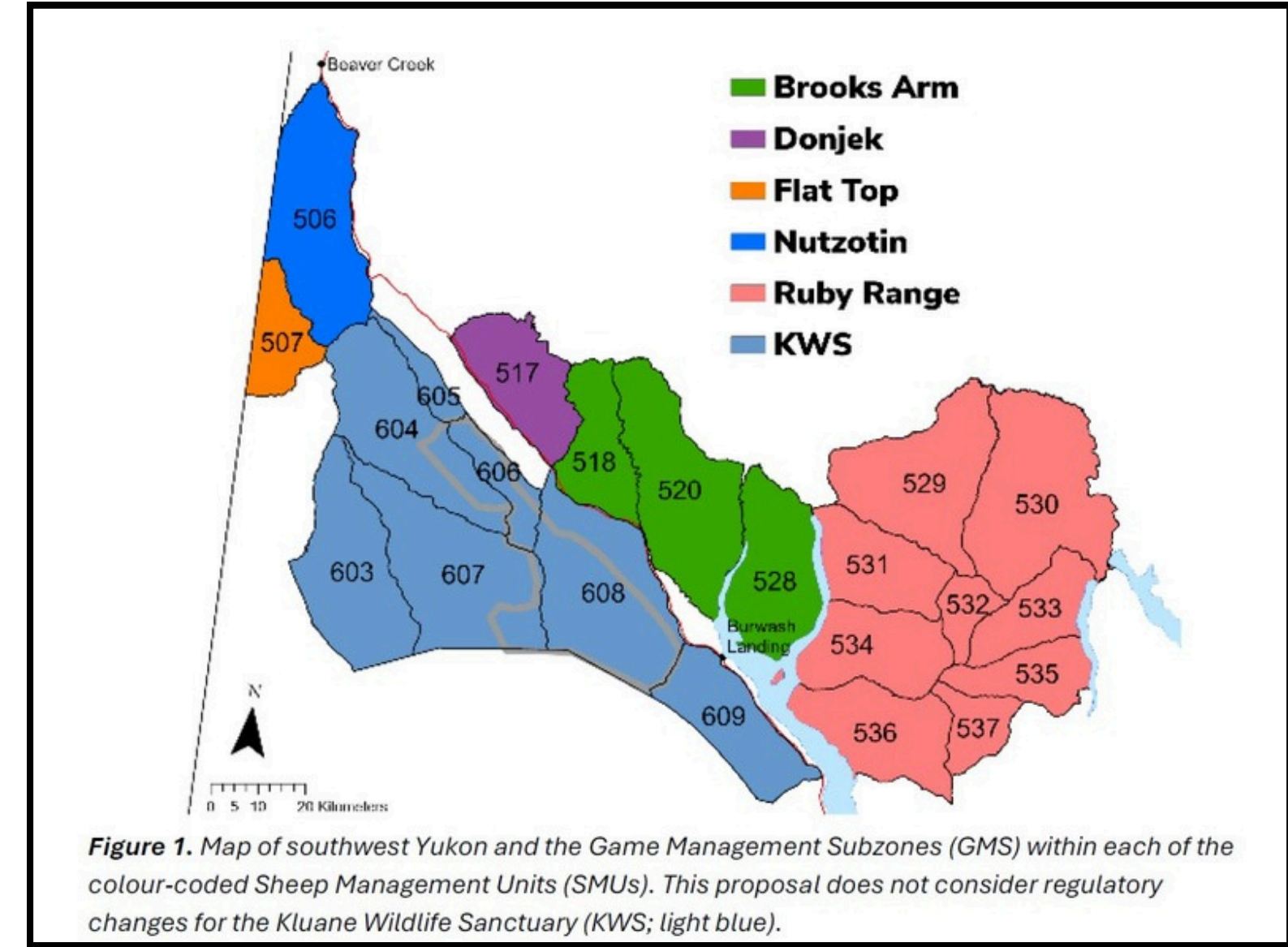


Table 1. Changes in thinhorn sheep population for each SMU between 2015/16 and 2023.

SMU	Non-lamb (2023)	Non-lamb (previous)	Prev survey year	Total pop change	Percent pop change
Donjek	30	82	2015	-52	-63%
Nutzotin	121	292	2016	-171	-59%
Flat Top	173	337	2016	-164	-49%
Brooks Arm	157	207	2015	-50	-24%
Ruby Range	675	803	2016	-128	-16%

Table 2. Thinhorn sheep population ratios for each SMU, calculated from 2023 survey results.

Sheep Management Unit (SMU)	Lamb:100 Nursery	Ram:100 Nursery
Sustainable standard	25	50
Donjek	50	67
Nutzotin	28	81
Flat Top	14	54
Brooks Arm	10	50
Ruby Range	33	57

In addition to population size and trend, lamb recruitment and adult sex ratios are used to measure population health:

- Lamb recruitment** measures the number of lambs per 100 nursery sheep, with stable populations remaining at or above 25.
- Adult sex ratios:** For a lightly harvested population of sheep, an adult sex ratio of 50 rams per 100 nursery sheep is considered typical (Environment Yukon 2019).
- According to the 2023 surveys (Table 2), lamb recruitment was low in the Flat Top and Brooks Arm SMUs.

Proposal 9: Kluane Area Sheep Hunting

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: (continued)

- Yukon Government’s *Science-based Guidelines for Management of Thinhorn Sheep* state that a full curl ram harvest rate of no more than 4% of the non-lamb population is considered sustainable for populations that have been surveyed. Yukon Government sheep harvest records (Table 3) demonstrate that this has been exceeded in the Nutzotin SMU in recent years.
- However, the Guidelines also state that “there should be no harvest of populations that are very small or are believed to be in serious decline”. The population decrease observed in the Donjek, Nutzotin, Flat Top, and Brooks Arm SMUs can all qualify (see Table 1).

Western scientific knowledge

Considerations for managing sheep populations:

- Lamb recruitment is strongly influenced by the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) and other climatic systems. Extreme and unpredictable weather events are becoming more frequent with climate change.
- While regional declines in sheep populations are likely driven by environmental factors, imposing hunting regulations can help sheep recover more quickly.
- In every healthy sheep population, it’s important to have ewes and rams of all age classes – this is known as a balanced “age structure”. Age structure should be one of the criteria considered when introducing or removing a PHA.
- Taking too many rams out of a sheep population and leaving only a handful for breeding negatively impacts genetic diversity in sheep populations.

Table 3. Sheep harvest records from 2015 to 2023. Harvest rate was calculated based on sheep population survey data from 2023.

SMU	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	5-year average	Harvest rate
Donjek	5	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	2	0.8	2.7%
Nutzotin	4	6	3	8	6	12	6	8	5	7.4	6.1%
Flat Top	0	1	5	2	2	0	6	4	3	3.0	1.7%
Brooks Arm	13	8	6	7	7	7	2	4	4	4.8	3.1%
Ruby Range	19	14	20	28	25	15	23	23	23	21.8	3.2%

Table 1. Changes in thinhorn sheep population for each SMU between 2015/16 and 2023.

SMU	Non-lamb (2023)	Non-lamb (previous)	Prev survey year	Total pop change	Percent pop change
Donjek	30	82	2015	-52	-63%
Nutzotin	121	292	2016	-171	-59%
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Brooks Arm	157	207	2015	-50	-24%
Ruby Range	675	803	2016	-128	-16%

Proposal 9: Kluane Area Sheep Hunting

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: (continued)

Local knowledge:

- Reports on the terrain, human activity and sheep populations within the SMUs:
 - Local hunters report that there are fewer sheep on the Flat Top hillsides, and the decline began before 2015.
 - There has been more human activity and higher hunting pressure in the Ruby Range in recent years.
 - Resident hunters frequently report that the quality of their hunt is being affected due to congestion.
 - Details about the geography and accessibility of each SMU in terms of hunting and recreational land use were shared.
 - Mining activity has increased significantly in the area, especially in the Ruby Range SMU. The associated increase in helicopter use greatly disturbs sheep in this area.

Proposal 9: Kluane Area Sheep Hunting

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

The primary goals of this proposal are to:

1. Provide a regulatory mechanism for sheep management beyond just emergency closures;
2. Support the existence of sustainable and resilient sheep populations in the Donjek, Nutzotin, Flat Top, Brooks Arm, and Ruby Range SMUs, and;
3. Ensure sheep hunting opportunities in these areas remain available.

Proposal 9: Kluane Area Sheep Hunting

OUTCOMES: (continued)

The specific goals of this combined permit hunt and permit conditions proposal are:

Adaptability:

- Harvest numbers can be set (adaptable) each year based on the most environmental conditions and recent sub-population information. Harvest opportunities can be adapted to follow natural fluctuations in population (e.g., the 10-year Pacific decadal oscillation cycle, widely seen as a key driver of sheep population cycles).
- Harvest numbers can also adapt quickly to unprecedented conditions and the unknowns of climate change (i.e. adapt every year instead of waiting for a regulatory change cycle).

Sustainability:

- Total licensed harvests are set to sustainable limits as identified in the Science-based Guidelines for Thinhorn Sheep Management in the Yukon.
- This is different from the current system, which only limits harvest using the “full curl rule”.

Context:

- Considering regional sheep management units together means that pressure is not being diverted from one sheep management unit to the adjacent units.

Harvest sharing:

When activating a permit hunt system for residents, the allocations for non-resident (outfitter) harvesting are automatically triggered.

Proposal 9: Kluane Area Sheep Hunting

PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS: Is the proposal supported by other organisations? (i.e., First Nation governments, RRCs, other stakeholders)

- Yes, the following parties have been identified as collaborators and/or partners to this submission:
 - Champagne and Aishihik First Nation (CAFN)
 - White River First Nation (WRFN)
 - Dan Keyi Renewable Resources Council (DKRRC)

RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Proposal 9:

Public Discussion

Guiding Questions

- Do you support the proposed changes to the regulation to support:
 - Enactment of a Permit Hunt Authorization (PHA) and *Wildlife Act* permit conditions (WAP) as management tools for the Donjek, Nutzotin, Brooks Arm, Flat Top and Ruby Range SMUs?
- Is there anything else the Board should consider?



Section 4:

Licensing Proposals

Proposal 10: Standardize Eligibility for Guide Licences

Submitted by:
Government of Yukon



Proposal 10: Standardize Eligibility for Guide Licences

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- Eligibility requirements for the Yukon's outfitter guide licenses and special guide licenses are not consistent.
 - Special guides are eligible for a guide license at the age of 19. In contrast, outfitter guides can be 18 years of age.
 - Special guides are required to be Hunter Education and Ethics Development certified, while outfitter guides are not.
- Special guides are required to be eligible to hold a hunting license, while outfitter guides are not. This inconsistency creates a situation in which outfitter guides are held to a lower standard than resident special guides.
- This proposal would amend the Wildlife Regulation by amending Sections 55 and 57 to:
 - Reduce the age requirement for the special guide licence from 19 to 18.
 - Require outfitter guides to hold a Hunter Education and Ethics Development certification or the equivalent in another jurisdiction.
 - Require outfitter guides to be eligible to hold a hunting licence to ensure consistency and fairness in how the Yukon regulates individuals guiding in the Yukon, and to strengthen licence requirements for outfitter guides.

Proposal 10: Standardize Eligibility for Guide Licences

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

- Application requirements for outfitting guide licences and special guide licences are not consistent which imposes a regulatory unfairness on special guide licence holders.
 - Minimum ages, Hunter Education and Ethics Development (HEED) training requirements, and hunting licence eligibility requirements differ for each type, with the barriers to application lower for an outfitting guide than for a special guide.
- We are proposing that the regulation be amended to align the requirements for outfitting guide licences and special guide licences.
 - This would make 18 years old the minimum age to be eligible for each licence type, require the applicant to have successfully completed HEED training or equivalent, and require all holders to be eligible to hold a hunting licence in the Yukon.
- Requiring outfitter guides to be HEED certified or equivalent ensures that there is some consistency for hunting licensing requirements across the board. It ensures a baseline level of education for all guides.
 - Requiring HEED or equivalent for outfitting guides is the most basic level of training that is required for hunters. Outfitter guides are currently not required to be able to hold a hunting licence.
 - Ensuring eligibility to hold a hunting licence means the department can reject guide licence applicants if they have their licence revoked or suspended in other jurisdictions.
 - As the legislation is currently written, an outfitter guide can guide in the Yukon even if they are suspended or prohibited from hunting in the Yukon or any other jurisdiction, unlike outfitting concession holders and special guides.

Proposal 10: Standardize Eligibility for Guide Licences

RATIONALE: (continued)

- Other Canadian jurisdictions require guides to have passed certain training requirements, hold licences and not have suspensions in other jurisdictions. For example:
 - British Columbia:
 - Must pass the Assistant Hunting Guide Certification Exam (to ensure all guides have consistent and adequate knowledge of wilderness safety and laws/regulations)
 - Must not be under a hunting licence suspension as a result of a conviction for an offence under the *Wildlife Act* or any similar Act/ Regulation from another Province or Territory.
 - Northwest Territories:
 - Complete the online hunter education course
 - Obtain a valid Northwest Territories hunting licence (resident or non-resident, depending)
 - Must not be under a hunting licence suspension as a result of a conviction for an offence under the Wildlife Act or any Act/Reg from another Province or Territory.
 - Manitoba:
 - Complete the Hunters Education Course
 - Complete a written exam or complete a Manitoba department guide training course
 - Qualify for a hunting licence
 - Must not be under a hunting licence suspension as a result of a conviction for an offence under the Wildlife Act or any Act/Reg from another Province or Territory.

Proposal 10: Standardize Eligibility for Guide Licences

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

- Anecdotally, the Conservation Officer Services Branch has received complaints from special guide licence applicants about the difference in standards for outfitter guides and special guides.
- Conservation Officers have also observed the benefit of outfitting guides holding HEED certification.
 - Not all outfitter guides are from the Yukon; the HEED courses provide a baseline for outfitter guides to understand the Yukon's wildlife legislation and our unique values.
- On occasion, outfitter guides have been identified as having a suspension or prohibition from hunting in other jurisdictions.
 - Having a suspension or prohibition in another jurisdiction disqualifies special guide licence applicants, as they must be holders of a Yukon hunting licence; however, outfitter guides do not have this requirement and are therefore able to continue guiding.

Proposal 10: Standardize Eligibility for Guide Licences

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

- Making this change would result in consistency across guide licence types and eliminate regulatory unfairness.
- The current differences between requirements in the regulations could be seen as arbitrary; aligning requirements for both guide licence types removes some of the arbitrary characteristics.
- Requiring a HEED-certification or equivalent ensures baseline education requirements for hunting guides in the Yukon across the board.
- Requiring outfitter guides to be able to hold hunting licences in the Yukon will allow the Yukon government to not issue outfitting guide licences if applicants have a revoked or suspended licence in another jurisdiction.

Proposal 10: Standardize Eligibility for Guide Licences

PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS: Is the proposal supported by other organisations? (i.e., First Nation governments, RRCs, other stakeholders)

- No, this is an internal proposal from YG only.

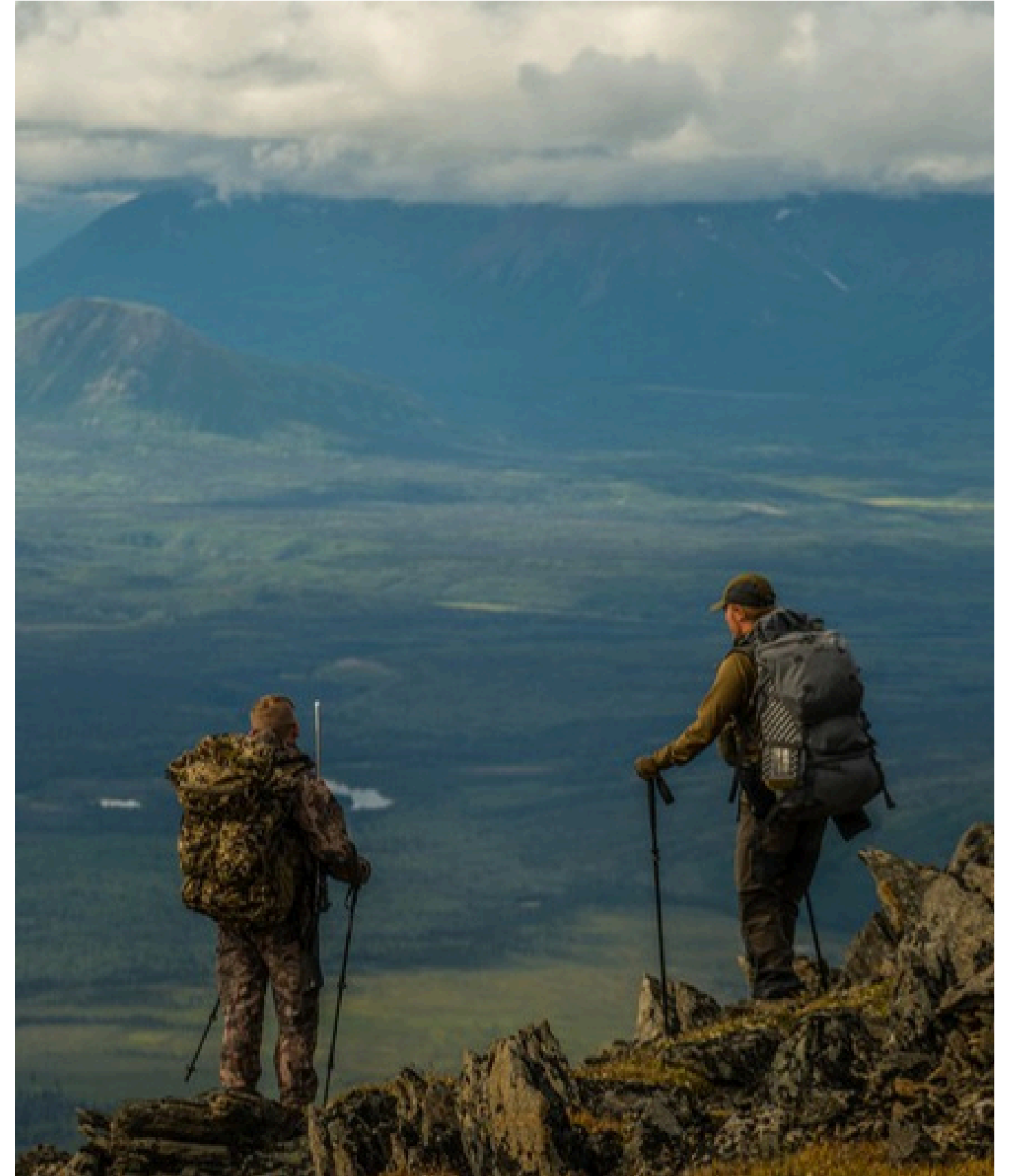
RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Proposal 10: Public Discussion

Guiding Questions

- Do you support the proposed changes to the Wildlife Regulation regarding the standardization of eligibility for guide licences?
- Is there anything else the Board should consider?

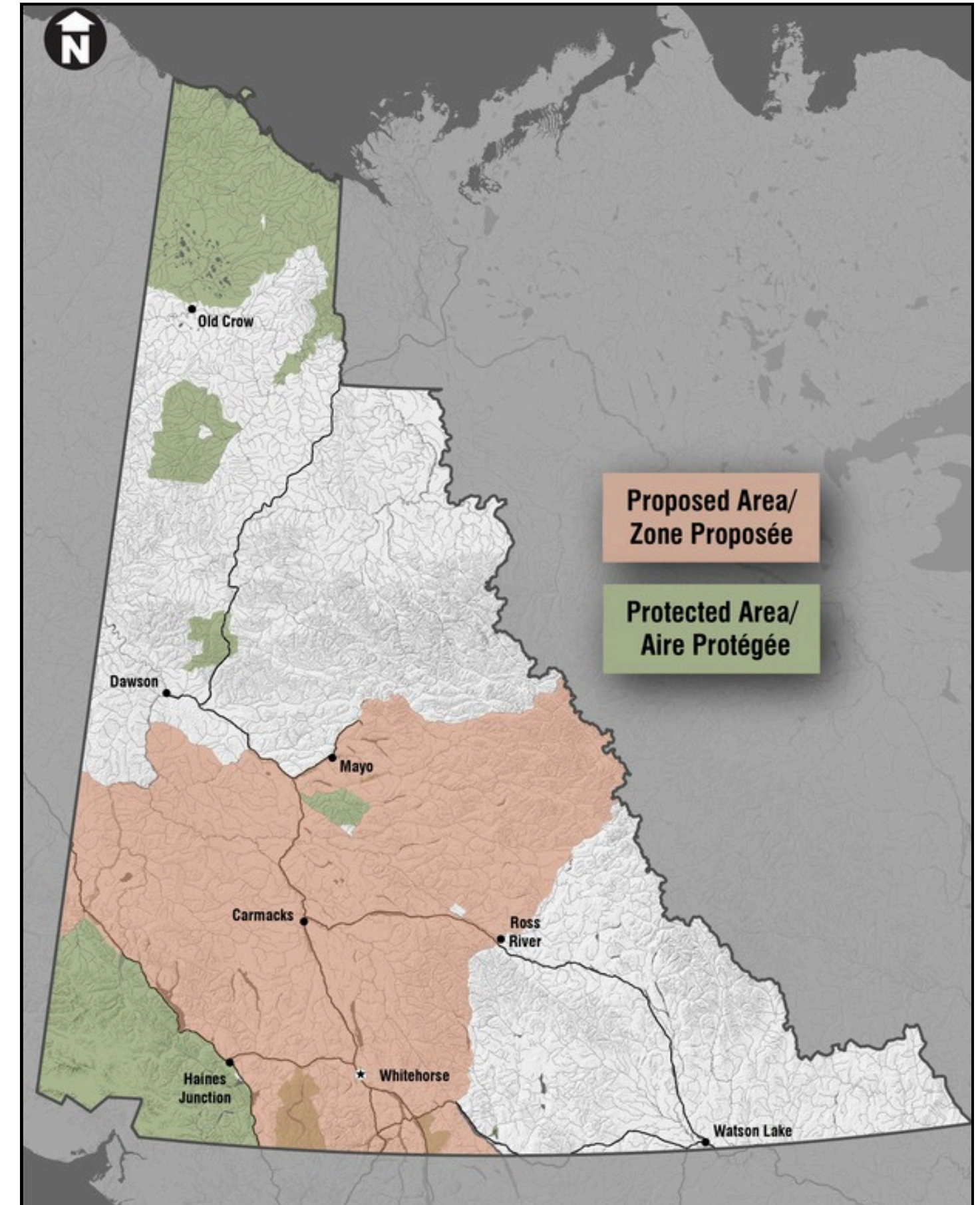


Proposal 11:

Standardize Non-Resident Bison Harvest Fees

Submitted by:

Government of Yukon



Proposal 11: Standardize Non-Resident Bison Harvest Fees

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- Return to a standard, non-resident harvest fee for male (bull) and female (cow) wood bison.
- In the existing Wildlife Regulation, cow bison have a non-resident harvest fee of \$150.00 and bull bison have a non-resident harvest fee of \$500.00.
- Cow fee reductions were implemented over a decade ago to encourage cow harvest to reduce the size of the Aishihik herd in southwestern Yukon.
 - At that time, wood bison were viewed as an invasive species, and there was concern about the environmental impact of the herd's rapid population increase.
- Currently, wood bison management is focused on maintaining an ecologically and culturally restored herd. Removing the financial preference for cow harvest would help to dispel the notion that wood bison are a problem species and align with current management practices.
- The Department of Environment is proposing a restoration of the original fee of \$500 for male and female bison.
- This proposal would only affect a limited number of non-resident hunters (approximately 25 each year) and apply throughout the Yukon. It focuses on section 50 of the existing Wildlife Regulation and would amend its associated Schedule E(3).

Proposal 11: Standardize Non-Resident Bison Harvest Fees

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

- The non-resident harvest fee for wood bison should be standardized and not sex specific.
 - While hunters can choose to shoot either male or female bison, there should no longer be any financial incentive to choose cows over bulls.
- The incentive does not align with the Department of Environment's 2024 management plan, "A Conservation and Action Plan for the Aishihik Bison (Bison bison) Population."
 - The current plan supports managing wood bison as a restored species and promotes hunting to increase public awareness, appreciation and value of the wood bison population.
- The return to the original standardized fee signals that the bison are a respected species within the Yukon that are managed in a similar manner to other large game species.

Proposal 11: Standardize Non-Resident Bison Harvest Fees

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

- The Department of Environment 2024 management plan, "A Conservation and Action Plan for the Aishihik Bison (*Bison bison*) Population" supports an adaptive management approach to bison management.
 - It regulates licensed hunting based on annual population numbers. Bull-to-cow harvest numbers are linked in the plan to the population size.
- Lower population numbers result in a higher bull-to-cow ratio harvest. An increased cow-to-bull ratio harvest might be contemplated as part of future management if population increase warrants it, but it is not currently being considered for licensed hunters.
 - Changing the non-resident harvest fees makes them consistent with the approach to managing licensed harvest.
- The plan also seeks to promote public awareness of the ecological and cultural value of the wood bison population. Unnecessary financial incentives to harvest cow bison do not support this objective.
 - Front counter staff at the Department of Environment regularly encounter this inconsistency in messaging.
- When Special Guide Licence hunters are presented with the current fee chart, they often ask if the department prefers them to select cows over bulls to reduce herd size.
 - Staff must explain that this is not the case and that fees do not reflect the department's current wood bison management approach.

Proposal 11: Standardize Non-Resident Bison Harvest Fees

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

- The goal of this change is to support the Department of Environment's ongoing wood bison management plan by making harvest fees consistent with the plan's philosophy of wood bison as a respected ecologically and culturally restored species.

PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS: Is the proposal supported by other organisations? (i.e., First Nation governments, RRCs, other stakeholders)

- No, this is an internal proposal from YG only.

RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Proposal 11: Public Discussion

Guiding Questions

- Do you support the proposed changes to the regulation to regarding:
 - Standardizing the non-resident harvest fee for wood bison across both sexes.
- Is there anything else the Board should consider?



Proposal 12: Restrict Hunting Licence Eligibility for Individuals Suspended in Other Jurisdictions

Submitted by:
Government of Yukon



Proposal 12: Licence Eligibility

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- The Government of Yukon currently does not issue hunting licences to individuals who are prohibited or suspended from hunting in any other jurisdiction.
 - This policy approach is based on reciprocal agreements with other jurisdictions not to issue licences to individuals whose privileges are suspended or revoked.
- - This policy intends to discourage situations in which hunters shop around for hunting opportunities after being convicted of an infraction and having their licence suspended or revoked elsewhere.
- The department currently relies on the Minister's authority in section 122 of the Wildlife Act to not issue, cancel or suspend a licence for any cause that seems sufficient to the Minister.
 - However, there is no specific provision in either the *Wildlife Act* or the Wildlife Regulation that prohibits the issuance of hunting licences to persons serving a hunting ban or suspension in another jurisdiction.
- This approach places a significant administrative burden on the Conservation Officer Services Branch and is difficult to enforce.
- The Department of Environment is proposing an addition to the Wildlife Regulation relying on section 192(1)(l) of the Wildlife Act to create an explicit restriction for licence eligibility in the Wildlife Regulation for individuals whose licence privileges are revoked or suspended in another jurisdiction.

Proposal 12: Licence Eligibility

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

- Conservation Officers are encountering licence applicants with revoked or suspended licences in other jurisdictions more frequently.
- While the Department of Environment currently does not issue licences to individuals who have revoked or suspended licences in other jurisdictions, the process for doing so is administratively burdensome.
- Under the current process, Conservation Officers have to go through process to determine sufficient cause, which can include a lengthy appeal process.
- An explicit prohibition in the regulation would allow Conservation Officers to immediately not issue, revoke or suspend licences when they identify individuals who have revoked or suspended licences in other jurisdictions.

Proposal 12: Licence Eligibility

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

- This proposal is based on the Conservation Officer Services Branch's experience in implementing this departmental policy in the past.
- The lengthy and overly administrative process has frustrated efforts to not issue, revoke or suspend licences for individuals who have revoked or suspended licences in other jurisdictions.

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

- This proposal will formalize the Department of Environment's existing policy of not issuing licences to individuals who have revoked or suspended licences in other jurisdictions.
- It will reduce the administrative burden on the Conservation Officer Services Branch and speed up the process for not issuing, revoking or suspending licences for individuals who have revocations or suspensions in other jurisdictions.

Proposal 12: Licence Eligibility

PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS: Is the proposal supported by other organisations? (i.e., First Nation governments, RRCs, other stakeholders)

- No, this is an internal proposal from YG only.

RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Proposal 12: Public Discussion:

Guiding Questions

- Do you support the proposed changes to the regulation?
- Is there anything else the Board should consider?



Section 5:

Administrative Proposals

Administrative Proposal 1:

Special Guide License availability in the
Mayo Threshold Hunt Area

Submitted by: Government of Yukon

Administrative Proposal 1: SGL in Mayo Moose Threshold

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- The Department of Environment is proposing to make the following change to Schedule D, Section 1 of the Wildlife Regulation:
- Add GMS 2-56, 2-58, 2-59, 2-62, 2-63 and 4-04 to 4-06 for moose as an exception under the GMZ/GMS column.
- This would add the sub-zones that make up the Mayo threshold hunt area as excepted from Special Guide Licence (SGL) allocations.
- It is departmental policy that special guide licences are not permitted in threshold hunt areas; not including the Mayo threshold hunt GMS in this list was an oversight when the regulation was last amended to enable the Mayo threshold hunt.

Administrative Proposal 1: SGL in Mayo Moose Threshold

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

- The department has restricted special guide licence availability in the Faro threshold hunt area in recognition that this limited opportunity should be prioritized for resident hunters.
- Amending the regulation to restrict special guide licence availability in the Mayo threshold area would ensure consistency with departmental policy and with the issuance of special guide licences across other threshold hunt areas.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

- The Department of Environment has consistently excepted special guide licence allocations in areas where resident harvest is restricted.
- Schedule D of the Wildlife Regulations currently includes other threshold hunts where special guide licences have been excepted.

Administrative Proposal 1: SGL in Mayo Moose Threshold

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

- This proposed regulation change is intended to except special guide licence availability in the Mayo threshold hunt area to ensure preference for this restricted harvest is provided to Yukon resident hunters.
- Making this change would align departmental policy and the regulation, which will ensure the rule can continue to be applied consistently in the future.

PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS: Is the proposal supported by other organisations? (i.e., First Nation governments, RRCs, other stakeholders)

- No, this is an internal proposal from YG only.

RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Administrative Proposal 2:

Create a definition of an “antler point” for
all antlered game

Submitted by: Government of Yukon

Proposal Overview: Definition of “Antler Point”

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- Yukon issues *Wildlife Act* permits to hunt elk with five points or less but there is no definition of antler point in the *Wildlife Act* or regulations.
- The lack of an agreed upon definition for antler configuration could lead to disagreements about antler point totals and difficulties in enforcement and compliance.
- In the future, the Yukon may wish to further manage harvest for certain species based on antler configuration. Future antler related hunting rules would need to be submitted through the fish and wildlife regulation change process before being adopted and implemented.
- This proposal would create a definition for antler point in the Wildlife Regulation that would apply to all antlered game. Creating this definition is enabled by section 192(1)(ff) of the *Wildlife Act*. At this stage, this regulation change proposals would only apply to Elk.

Proposal Overview: Definition of “Antler Point”

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

- There is currently no agreed upon definition of antler point in the Yukon.
 - This lack of clarity could lead to instances where Conservation Officers and hunters disagree on the antler points when they are hunting under a permit with antler configuration restrictions (e.g. the five points or less Takhini elk hunt).
- This definition would also support conversations about potential harvest opportunities based on antler configuration conditions for any antlered game.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

- The 5-point or less elk hunt in the Takhini Valley is relatively new, and Conservation Officers have not encountered any enforcement and compliance issues where there was disagreement on antler points.
- However, the Conservation Officer Services Branch anticipates this being a potential issue in the future and is seeking the clarity that a definition would provide.

Proposal Overview: Definition of “Antler Point”

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

- Create a definition of antler point for all antlered game, to provide certainty to hunters and Conservation Officers for hunts that include antler configuration conditions.

PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS: Is the proposal supported by other organisations? (i.e., First Nation governments, RRCs, other stakeholders)

- No, this is an internal proposal from YG only.

RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Administrative Proposal 3:

Adopt Criminal Code of Canada Prescribed Forms

Submitted by: Government of Yukon

Administrative Proposal 3: Adopt *Criminal Code* Forms

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- The *Criminal Code of Canada* prescribes the required forms for various judicial authorizations available to peace officers.
 - The forms prescribed in the *Wildlife Act* are old and restrict Conservation Officers to using out of date templates which often conflict with *Criminal Code* templates.
- This proposal would amend the Wildlife Regulation to remove schedule F, Form of Warrant to Search and Information to Obtain Search Warrant and replace it with a reference to the equivalent *Criminal Code of Canada* forms.

RATIONALE: Why is this change being proposed?

- The current forms in the Wildlife Regulation are out of date and Yukon courts have said that they will not recognize the current forms. Courts have directed the Conservation Officer Services Branch to use the *Criminal Code of Canada* equivalent forms rather than those set out in the Wildlife Regulation.
- Conservation Officer Services Branch has been using Criminal Code of Canada forms for several years now; making this change would formalize current departmental practices.
- The Conservation Officer Services Branch brings these forms before the courts regularly, and believes that the Regulation should reflect the branch's practices.

Administrative Proposal 3: Adopt *Criminal Code* Forms

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: What evidence or experience supports the proposal?

- This proposal is based on the Conservation Officer Service Branch's interactions with the courts.

OUTCOMES: What specific outcomes are intended?

- Replace the existing Form of Warrant to Search and Information to Obtain Search Warrant and replace it with a reference to the equivalent *Criminal Code of Canada* forms.
- This would reflect current practices and ensure that if changes are made to the *Criminal Code of Canada* forms the forms used by the Conservation Officer Services Branch remains current.
- *Criminal Code* forms undergo regular renewals in keeping with case law, so Conservation Officer Services Branch would always have access to the most up to date forms.

Administrative Proposal 3: Adopt *Criminal Code* Forms

PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS: Is the proposal supported by other organisations? (i.e., First Nation governments, RRCs, other stakeholders)

- No, this is an internal proposal from YG only.

RESUBMISSION: Has this been proposal been submitted before?

- No, this proposal has not been submitted previously.

Administrative Proposal 4:

Correct spelling mistakes

Submitted by: Government of Yukon

Administrative Proposal 4: Correct Spelling Mistakes

TOPIC: What is the proposed change?

- The Department of Environment is proposing the following amendments in the Trapping Regulation and Wildlife Regulations:
- Trapping Regulation:
 - 4.(1)(e) - it says “ha” when it should say “has”.
 - 4.[3] –should be 4.(3) with round brackets rather than the one square bracket.
 - Part 3 of the Trapping Regulations uses the language – ‘Small Game Animlas’
- Wildlife Regulation:
 - Section 38.1.b: French translation is incomplete (mule deer missing in the French language portion of the regulation).
 - Schedule A part 1 gives the scientific names for the big game species, Elk is listed as *Cervus elaphus*, update it to *Cervus canadensis* to be in keeping with departmental naming convention.

Questions & Closing Remarks

For more information on the **Fish & Wildlife Regulation Change Process**, or on specific proposals, please contact us or visit our website, email, or call us.

Website: yfwmb.ca

Email: communications@yfwmb.ca

Phone: (867) 667-3754



Appendix A:

Wildlife Management Tools

Wildlife Management Tools

- The following list of wildlife management tools are referenced in the regulation change proposal summary booklet and survey.
- The list of tools is not exhaustive. It is intended to help Yukoners better understand the context of each proposal and allow them to make informed decisions while participating in the regulation change process.
- **The tools listed in the summary booklet include:**
 - Permit Hunt Authorizations
 - Threshold hunts
 - Registration hunts
 - *Wildlife Act* permits
 - Varying season dates

Permit Hunt Authorizations

What is a “PHA”?

- Permit Hunt Authorizations sets a limit for the number of permits for a given area. Permits are then distributed to hunters by lottery.
- The number of available permits can be listed in the regulation, or the Minister of Environment can be given the authority to adjust the number of permits from year to year by Ministerial Order.
- **Permit hunts are currently in place in select areas for various species, including:**
 - Moose
 - Caribou
 - Sheep
 - Elk
 - Deer
 - Goat

Threshold Hunts

What is a threshold hunt?

- Threshold hunts set a sustainable harvest threshold for a given area.
- Once that threshold is met, the Minister of Environment closes the hunting season.
- Any licensed hunter can hunt in a threshold hunt area until the hunt is closed.
- **The department currently administers 4 threshold hunts:**
 - Faro moose threshold hunt
 - Mayo moose threshold hunt
 - Nelchina caribou threshold hunt
 - Fortymile caribou threshold hunt

Registration Hunts

What is a registration hunt?

- Registration hunts set a limited number of *Wildlife Act* permits that must be returned after a predetermined time period (e.g., one week) if hunts are unsuccessful.
- The permits are then reissued to a new group of hunters.
- **The Department of Environment currently administers one registration hunt:**
 - Fortymile caribou summer/winter registration hunt

***Wildlife Act* Permits**

What is a *Wildlife Act* permit?

- *Wildlife Act* permits can be issued in a variety of circumstances and allows the Minister of Environment to place conditions on certain harvest opportunities (e.g. reporting requirements).
- ***Wildlife Act* permits are necessary to successfully implement other hunts, such as:**
 - Threshold hunts
 - Registration hunts

Varying Season Dates

What are varied season dates?

- Season dates can be varied to restrict harvest during certain times (e.g., the proposal for a rut closure in the Teslin River MMU).
- Season dates can be set in the regulation, or the Minister of Environment can be given the authority to adjust season dates by way of a Ministerial Order.