

5.0 Land Use Plan for the Future: Land Use Issues and Actions



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This chapter gives detailed direction for dealing with land use issues taking a broad view of land as being the whole environment. Goals, objectives and recommended actions are outlined for 11 different topic areas. Communities, Gwich'in, government, co-management and business groups have all contributed to the development of these recommended actions. The recommended actions apply across all land zones.

The 11 topic areas/issues are:

1. Community Involvement
2. Economic Development
3. Gwich'in Heritage Resources
4. Water and Air Resources
5. Renewable Resources
6. Non-Renewable Resources
7. Pollution and Waste Management
8. Transportation, Utilities and Communications
9. Tourism and Recreation
10. Transboundary Areas
11. Legislated Protected Areas

Land Use Issue I

Community Involvement

Our goal is to directly involve residents, communities, Gwich'in and designated Gwich'in organizations in land use planning and to build their capacity for participating in decision-making concerning the use, management and conservation of land, water and resources.



Gwich'in Land and Water Board

*Integrated Resource Management and Land Use Planning Workshop
March, 1997, Inuvik*

Based on Section 1.1.7 and 24.2.4 of the *Gwich'in Land Claim*

Objectives

- To build community understanding about their role in land, water, air and resource decision making.
- To improve the capacity for Gwich'in and community involvement in decision making about the use, management and conservation of land, water and resources.

Issues and Analysis

People in the local communities want to be more involved in decisions about land, water, air and resource management. As Gwich'in have a special relationship with the land and rely on the land for food, wood and other resources, they want to take care of the land properly.

The Gwich'in Land Claim and the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act provide the Gwich'in the right to participate in decision making about land, water and resources. But many people do not feel a part of the decision making processes and they do not think that their knowledge of the land is being taken into account. Presently at the community level there is not a clear understanding of how the regulatory and resource management system works or how the system is changing due to the Gwich'in Land Claim.

Many times resource management information and issues are not presented to the communities. Other times the information provided is not in plain language. People need to have a clear understanding of:

- what groups make decisions about land, water, air, wildlife and resources,
- what decisions these groups can make, and
- what role the communities play in making those decisions.

All groups need to review how and when they do community consultation. Community needs, values, knowledge and experience should be considered in all management decisions. Having the communities involved from the beginning of a research or development project, from its design to how it is monitored, is beneficial. Considering community knowledge and experience will help in making better management decisions. Community involvement at the beginning of processes also reduces conflicts between communities and groups proposing activities.

Action Items

1. The Planning Board recommends that all management and regulatory groups work with communities to improve the level of understanding of communities about decision making processes.
2. In order to improve communications in the future¹, the Planning Board recommends that all management and regulatory groups review on an ongoing basis:
 - i) when and how often they consult with communities, and
 - ii) how effective they are in involving communities in decision making.
3. The Planning Board recommends that co-management boards continue to develop an integrated management system to improve the level of involvement of Gwich'in, communities and representative organizations in decision making processes.
4. The Planning Board's Implementation Plan shall describe a process for involving Gwich'in, communities, and representative organizations in land use planning decision making.
5. The Planning Board as part of the Gwich'in Land Use Plan Review will conduct a survey on community involvement in decision making. The survey will evaluate how well groups have involved communities in decision making about land, water, air and resource management.

Land Use Issue 2

Economic Development

Our goal is to promote development of resources for the existing and future well being of the residents, communities and Gwich'in of the settlement area, having regard to the interests of all Canadians.

Based on section 24.2.4 of the *Gwich'in Land Claim*



Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board

Objectives

- To promote the development of a stronger, diverse economy.
- To promote land, water and resource activities that complement the skills of the Gwich'in, residents and communities of the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
- To promote economic stability in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
- To work towards the economic self-sufficiency of Gwich'in beneficiaries.
- To recognize and encourage the Gwich'in way of life which is based on the cultural and economic relationship between the Gwich'in and the land.

Issues and Analysis

Communities have strongly expressed their need for more employment and training.² New businesses need to be established in the Gwich'in Settlement Area and existing businesses need to be supported.

Communities would like to see more incentives for local commercial activities building on skills they possess and that are related to traditional activities. Areas where there is expertise in the Gwich'in Settlement Area include renewable resource harvesting and management, water and land transportation, oil and gas activities, construction, tourism and traditional arts and crafts. Taking advantage of the expertise found in the Gwich'in Settlement Area and improving skill levels will lead to economic self-sufficiency.

The Gwich'in traditional land uses should be encouraged as they provide an economic option other than the wage economy. Traditional activities include trap-

ping, hunting, fishing, vegetation harvesting, trail cutting, camp and cabin construction, making of traditional clothing as well as arts and crafts. Taking advantage of the expertise found in the Gwich'in Settlement Area and improving skill levels will lead to economic self-sufficiency. Traditional activities include trapping, hunting, fishing, vegetation harvesting, trail cutting, camp and cabin construction, making of traditional clothing, as well as arts and crafts. Traditional activities continue to be an important part of Gwich'in life and should be complemented by employment opportunities in the wage economy.

In the recent past, economic activity has not been stable in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. There was a boom time when the oil and gas industry was active, however as the oil and gas industry declined so did the overall economy. Land activities that provide a long term investment in the Gwich'in Settlement Area are needed.

Business groups may be hesitant to invest in the Gwich'in Settlement Area as they are unfamiliar with the new Land Claim system and changes to the regulatory system. Confidence in the Gwich'in Settlement Area and the new system needs to be built. Business groups need to know that there is a stable situation in areas where they are investing. They also need to know what the rules are for conducting activities.³ These rules include when to involve communities, what community expectations are, as well as government regulations. A Land Use Plan helps let business groups know what is expected of them when they enter an area and creates a greater understanding of the management system.

Action Items

1. The Planning Board recommends that the Planning Board with the assistance of the Gwich'in Land and Water Board produce a pamphlet about Gwich'in Land Use Planning and Land Use Permitting to describe steps businesses need to take to conduct land, water and resource activities in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
2. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council with the assistance of the Gwich'in co-management boards⁴ and government groups⁵ produce a map series for Gwich'in beneficiaries showing areas of high resource development potential for the settlement area.
3. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council and government promote economic activities and promote research and options for improving the economic self sufficiency of Gwich'in beneficiaries and communities.
4. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council with the involvement of the Designated Gwich'in Organizations develop a long term economic strategy.⁶
5. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council with the involvement of the Designated Gwich'in Organizations identify economic opportunities on Gwich'in Settlement Lands and develop economic plans for them.

Land Use Issue 3

Gwich'in Heritage Resources

Our goal is to protect and promote Gwich'in culture for present and future generations, through the protection and management of its heritage resources in a manner that is consistent with Gwich'in values, culture and beliefs.



Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute

Based on Sections 1.1.3, 24.2.4, and 25.1.4 of the *Gwich'in Land Claim*

Objectives

- To protect heritage resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
- To support the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute in their work to document, preserve, and promote Gwich'in culture.
- To develop and apply the concept of cultural landscapes.

Issues and Analysis

Heritage resources are important to the Gwich'in. Gwich'in heritage resources include locations considered to be of cultural value such as burial and sacred sites, archaeological sites, historic sites and associated artifacts, documentation and records related to Gwich'in culture and history.⁸ These resources need to be protected as they provide a record of Gwich'in use and knowledge of the land through time. Heritage resources reflect the close relationship between the Gwich'in, their culture and the land. It is important to the Gwich'in that their heritage resources be taken into consideration when any development is proposed in the Gwich'in Settlement Area and that they are managed in a way that is consistent with Gwich'in values and beliefs.

The Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute is the main group working to document, preserve and promote the practice of Gwich'in culture, language, traditional knowledge and values. The Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute's work is revealing that heritage resources are more than just archaeological sites or single sites but larger cultural landscapes. These areas share similar cultural characteristics. Giving recognition to cultural landscapes has been the focus of several recent

initiatives in the Gwich'in Settlement Area including the National Historic Site on the Mackenzie River and the designation of the Arctic Red River as a Canadian Heritage River. Some of these areas may merit more protection through legislative protection. In deciding what areas are protected in the Gwich'in Settlement Area the concept of cultural landscapes should be more clearly defined and protection options for cultural landscapes explored.

With the help of the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute and communities, the Planning Board has identified heritage sites of special value that are protected through the Gwich'in Conservation Zone designation. Other areas in the Gwich'in Settlement Area that are significant for heritage have been identified in Gwich'in Special Management Zones. In this zone before a development activity can take place certain land use planning conditions must be met (see Section 4.8: Special Management Zones and Planning Conditions).

The work of documenting heritage resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area by the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute is ongoing and not yet complete. They may in the future recommend to the Planning Board that other areas be placed in the Gwich'in Conservation Zone or Gwich'in Special Management Zone based on heritage resources. The Planning Board will consider these recommendations and may make changes to the zoning through exceptions to the Land Use Plan. These changes may also be made through amendments during the review of the Land Use Plan.

Action Items

1. The Planning Board shall consider recommendations by the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute for the addition of areas to the Gwich'in Conservation Zones or Gwich'in Special Management Zones during the life of the Land Use Plan.⁹
2. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute identify heritage areas or cultural landscapes meriting legislative protected area status in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Land Use Issue 4

Water and Air Resources

Our goal is to provide for the conservation of the environment including water and air and to develop and use these resources for the future well-being of the residents, communities and Gwich'in of the settlement area.

Based on Sections 1.1.8 and 24.2.4 *Gwich'in Land Claim*



Gwich'in Land and Water Board

Objectives

- To maintain and monitor water and air resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area for the overall health of the environment.
- To maintain the ability to drink safe water out on the land and eat healthy fish.
- To maintain water at levels that allow Gwich'in to conduct traditional activities.
- To limit the negative effects of water and air uses outside of the Gwich'in Settlement Area on water, air, wildlife and other resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Issues and Analysis

The potential for outside uses of water and air effecting the quality of the resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area is great. Every opportunity should be taken to influence decisions that effect water and air resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Water and air uses, in and outside the Gwich'in Settlement Area, include transportation, waste disposal, industrial activities, forest fire control, recreational activities and domestic use.

People are particularly concerned that water quality is becoming poorer in the Gwich'in Settlement Area and will continue to become poorer.¹⁰ Up to this point people in the Gwich'in Settlement Area have been able to go out on the land and drink untreated water and eat fish without documented health problems. They are concerned that this won't be the case in the future. They are aware that they are at

the bottom end of the water system and the water here carries contaminants from the south. Making sure water is safe to drink and that fish are healthy is a high priority for communities. They have said “we should do whatever possible to make sure water quality remains good”.¹¹

Concerns about water stem from lack of detailed information about the status of water quality and quantity.¹² People are concerned that water quality and quantity is not being monitored closely enough in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. The possible closing of water gauging stations due to budget cuts is adding to peoples' concerns.¹³ These water gauging stations have been in existence for decades and provide a valuable historical record of water resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. Water management groups should work together to keep water stations open and continue monitoring activities.

Some of the issues identified may be resolved by better communication between water management agencies and communities. More information about water quality and quantity needs to be available to communities and other interested groups in plain language. It is difficult to figure out what water testing and monitoring is taking place as there are so many different groups working on water related issues. These groups include municipalities, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Environment Canada, and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

All groups involved in water management and water related issues should provide some basic information in plain language to communities:

- Who is doing water related testing?
- What are the tests for?
- Where are they testing?
- When is it done?
- What are the results?
- Do the results confirm that water is safe to drink and fish are safe to eat?

As there are a number of groups working on water issues, a report on the state of water quality and quantity using all available information would be useful for communities and other resource management groups.

Water and air monitoring is needed and will continue to be needed to keep track of changes to water and air over time. A Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program is designed for the Gwich'in Settlement Area and the rest of the Northwest Territories. Co-management, Gwich'in and government groups are working with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development on this monitoring program. Communities are being involved in this process. Community concerns about water and air should be addressed by this monitoring program.

Action Items

1. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Land and Water Board develop a status report on water quality and quantity in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. The status report should look at community concerns with water and gaps in water monitoring.
2. The Planning Board recommends that water management groups provide communities with plain language information on water quality and quantity.
3. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Land and Water Board take the lead in developing strategies for maintaining water gauging stations.
4. The Planning Board recommends that the Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program:
 - i) deal with land, water and air quality concerns of all four settlement area communities; and
 - ii) involve communities in the actual monitoring of land, water and air resources.¹⁴
5. The Planning Board shall review the findings of the Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program with respect to land, water and air during each five year review of the Gwich'in Land Use Plan, and will integrate the Program's recommendations into the Plan.
6. The Planning Board recommends that resource management groups in the Gwich'in Settlement Area work together and develop a strategy for dealing with the effects of outside activities on resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Land Use Issue 5

Renewable Resources

Wildlife, Fish, Forests, Vegetation and Energy

Our goal is to provide for the conservation, development and use of renewable resources while:

- protecting and conserving wildlife and environment; and
- protecting and promoting the existing and future well-being of the residents, communities and Gwich'in of the settlement area.



Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board

Based on Sections 24.2.4 and 1.1.8 of the *Gwich'in Land Claim*

Wildlife and Fish Objectives

- To maintain biodiversity and to manage wildlife and fish populations for desired numbers and health.
- To protect critical and sensitive wildlife and fish areas through land zoning and management plans.
- To involve communities in decision making about wildlife and fish management.

Issues and Analysis

Overall there are no critical wildlife and fish issues in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. There are some local concerns about certain species such as Porcupine caribou, Bluenose caribou, grizzly bear, Dall's sheep and dolly varden charr. The main groups dealing with wildlife and fish are the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board, the Renewable Resource Councils and government wildlife management groups. In consultation with these groups, the Planning Board is protecting key wildlife and fish habitat areas through land zones (Gwich'in Conservation Zones and Gwich'in Special Management Zones). Activities are highly restricted in Gwich'in Conservation Zones. In Gwich'in Special Management Zones, conditions on activities have been placed by the Planning Board. The Planning Board will review these conditions on a regular basis and make changes to reflect traditional knowledge and new scientific information.

Wildlife and Fish Action Items

1. The Planning Board will review completed wildlife and fish management plans and consider how to integrate these plans with the Gwich'in Land Use Plan.
2. The Planning Board recommends that wildlife management groups produce plans for Dall's sheep and other wildlife with economic commercial potential.¹⁵
3. The Planning Board will review conditions placed on Gwich'in Special Management Zones with the assistance of appropriate groups taking into account traditional knowledge and scientific information.

Protecting wildlife and fish habitat through land zoning only partially deals with wildlife and fish concerns. Wildlife and fish uses such as harvesting are not being addressed though the Gwich'in Land Use Plan. For the fish species dolly varden charr over harvesting may be a critical issue. The Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board and local communities can deal with harvesting issues and may set harvesting quotas if necessary. Wildlife and fish management plans are

being developed by the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board and government fish and wildlife management groups. Wildlife and fish management plans will provide direction on issues such as harvesting. Other issues that may be addressed though wildlife and fish management plans are commercial activities such as sport hunting and outfitting.

Once wildlife and fish management plans are complete, the Planning Board will review them and consider how to integrate the wildlife and fish management plans with the Gwich'in Land Use Plan. The Planning Board may make changes to the Gwich'in Land Use Plan through exceptions and amendments or during the five year review of the Land Use Plan.

Forest and Forest Resources Objectives

- To practice sustainable forestry that places priority on subsistence uses.
- To maintain biodiversity.
- To support non-timber uses of the forest.
- To promote more community involvement in forest management.

Issues and Analysis

The main issue for forest management in the Gwich'in Settlement Area is sustainable use. All groups want to make sure there are healthy forests and trees available in the future. The issue of sustainable use of forests and all other issues will be addressed by the development of Forest Management Plans (Gwich'in Tribal Council and Renewable Resource Councils, Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development).

Forest and Vegetation Action Items

1. Planning Board will review completed Forest Management Plans and consider how to integrate them with the Gwich'in Land Use Plan.
2. The Planning Board recommends Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development continue to work together in reviewing and developing fire management policies and plans.

The communities will be directly involved in the development of Forest Management Plans. Some of the issues Forest Management Plans may address include:

- traditional uses and cultural values of forests and plants,
- forest fire management,
- non-timber forest uses,
- community forest harvesting zones, and
- a process for monitoring how much wood is being harvested and where.

Once Forest Management Plans are completed, the Planning Board will review the plans and consider how to integrate them with the Land Use Plan. The Planning Board may make changes to the Gwich'in Land Use Plan through exceptions and amendments or during the five year review.

The Gwich'in Land Use Plan does provide protection for some forest areas through land zoning. In the following areas, with significant forest resources, commercial forest harvesting is not allowed:

- Travaillant Lake, Mackenzie/Tree River Gwich'in Conservation Zone
- Jackfish Creek Gwich'in Heritage Conservation Zone
- Bernard Creek Gwich'in Heritage Conservation Zone

Communities listed forests specifically as a reason to protect these areas.

Energy Objectives

- To promote the use of alternative sources of energy for increased self-sufficiency.

Issues and Analysis

There are various reasons to use alternative sources of energy like solar power and wind power. The cost of fuels like oil and gas remain high in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. And in some communities there are few forest resources available nearby. Although not widely used, solar and wind power have been used successfully at a number of camps as a supplement to oil and wood fuels.

Energy Action Item

1. The Planning Board recommends that the Aurora Research Institute and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development continue to investigate and support the use of alternative sources of energy.

Land Use Issue 6

Non-Renewable Resources

Oil, Gas, Minerals, Sand, Gravel and Crushed Rock

Our goal is to provide for the conservation, development and use of non-renewable resources, while protecting and promoting the existing and future well being of the residents, communities, and Gwich'in of the settlement area having regard to the interests of all Canadians.



GNWT-RWED

Based on Sections 1.1.4, 24.2.4 of the *Gwich'in Land Claim*

Objectives

- To promote development of non-renewable resources for the benefit of people in the Gwich'in Settlement Area, and of all Canadians.
- To promote development of non-renewable resources in a way that maintains land, water, air, wildlife and heritage resources.
- To ensure there are rehabilitation plans for all non-renewable resource development sites including pits and quarries.

Issues and Analysis

People would benefit in many ways from the development of non-renewable resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. Benefits would include employment as well as new business and training opportunities.¹⁶ In addition, non-renewable resource developments provide materials required both within and outside of the settlement area.

At present, there is a resurgence of interest in exploration of the Mackenzie Delta-Beaufort Sea gas reserves. It is probable that a pipeline will be proposed in the next five years. There may be a small gas development in the Gwich'in Settlement Area on the border with the Sahtu Settlement Area. Four parcels of land have been awarded as oil and gas exploration licences to Grand River Resources and Foxboro Limited.¹⁷

The possibility of even a small gas development has raised many community concerns about oil and gas activities in the Gwich'in Settlement Area in general. Historically, oil and gas activities took place on Gwich'in traditional lands without the Gwich'in being compensated for the use of land or Gwich'in involvement in decision-making. Gwich'in today, due to the Gwich'in Land Claim, have the right:

- to be compensated for the use of lands and resources, and
- to participate in resource decision-making.

Communities want to directly benefit from non-renewable resource activities through employment, businesses, training, and compensation for the use of lands and resources.

Mineral development on a large scale is not expected to occur in the Gwich'in Settlement Area in the next five years. There is some prospecting taking place in the headwaters of the Arctic Red River.

There is an inadequate information base for mineral resources of the Gwich'in Settlement Area. This lack of knowledge makes it difficult to evaluate the pros and cons of proposed protected areas. The Board encourages government and industry to take steps to improve the information base so that the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Board can make informed decisions about the future well-being of residents. The Board will be pleased to review the Land Use Plan when new information on mineral resources is available.

Sand, gravel and crushed rock will continue to be in demand in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. Some current pits will need to be expanded and new pits opened to supply material for the widening and general maintenance of the Dempster Highway. The widening of the Dempster Highway will require a significant amount of material in the next five years. Sand, gravel and rock management plans are needed for Gwich'in Settlement Lands and for government lands (Crown land).¹⁸ The management plans should deal with:

- the demand for highway maintenance and construction materials and other materials (carving stone) in the Gwich'in Settlement Area,
- rehabilitation/restoration of abandoned and existing pits, and environmental impacts along the Dempster corridor.

The need for large land areas for non-renewable resource exploration has been one of the Planning Board's considerations in developing land zoning. Non-renewable resource activities are excluded only from 10% of the settlement area to protect resources identified by communities and management groups as having outstanding value. Clearly identifying where non-renewable resource activities are not allowed should make it easier for developers to focus activities in appropriate areas.

Action Items

1. The Planning Board recommends that with the consent of the landowners the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development initiate a review of oil and gas resources of the Gwich'in Settlement Area to promote the economic well being of the Gwich'in.¹⁹
2. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, in conjunction with other government agencies, and in consultation with the mineral industry, initiate a review of the mineral resources of the Gwich'in Settlement Area to promote the economic well being of the Gwich'in.
3. The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development prepare a sand, gravel and rock (crushed rock and carving stone²⁰) management plan for Crown lands in the Gwich'in Settlement Area that would include specific management plans for operating pits.
4. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council prepare a sand, gravel and rock (crushed rock and carving stone²¹) management plan for Gwich'in Settlement Lands in the Gwich'in Settlement Area that would include specific management plans for operating pits.²²
5. The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development plan for the clean-up of abandoned and old pits that have not been rehabilitated. This includes the installation of barriers to access.²³

Land Use Issue 7

Pollution and Waste Management



Gwich'in Land and Water Board

To protect and conserve... the environment of the settlement area for the well being of present and future generations

Based on Section 1.18 of the *Gwich'in Land Claim*

Objectives

- To identify and address waste sites in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
- To minimize air, water and land pollution and waste sites in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
- To take every opportunity for raising concerns nationally and globally about the effects of pollution on the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Issues and Analysis

Waste sites and pollution are concerns in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. The federal Action on Waste program began work on cleaning-up waste sites, but the program ended in 1997. The remediation of contaminated sites is now managed by the Contaminated Sites Office in Yellowknife. The program does not have dedicated funding, but manages to secure funding on a year-by-year basis. The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development is only focussing on sites with immediate health and safety concerns and liabilities. Communities want to see remaining waste sites identified, cleaned-up and sites restored to their natural state. Funding for the clean-ups should come from the groups responsible for creating the waste site. If it can not be determined which group is responsible for a waste site the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, as the responsible regulatory group when the waste site was created, should incur the cost of site clean up and restoration.²⁴

People do not want to see new unplanned waste sites and garbage problems created. Many times garbage can be seen along both ice roads and regular roads. There is also garbage and other wastes found at many camp sites. All sites with garbage in the settlement area should be cleaned-up. A policy or "code of good conduct" should be developed for all land users to ensure garbage is disposed of properly. An education campaign has been suggested as a possible strategy for instilling respect for the land.

Some of the pollution and waste found in the Gwich'in Settlement Area does not originate in the area. Pollutants are being transferred through air and water currents from different parts of the country and world. People are worried about the effect of these pollutants on their health and the environment. The Mackenzie Delta is a hot spot for the effects of global warming. Communities have noticed changes on the land that may be related to climate change (water and snow levels, waterfowl numbers, etc.). Communities want to see the level of contaminants monitored in the settlement area. Every opportunity should be taken to raise concerns nationally and globally about the effects of long range air and water pollutants on the people and environment of the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Action Items

1. The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development shall provide all available information on known waste sites for the Gwich'in Settlement Area to Gwich'in and co-management groups.
2. The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and appropriate industry groups develop strategies for the clean-up of remaining waste sites.
3. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council, Renewable Resource Councils, Designated Gwich'in Organization and co-management boards work together to develop a "Code of Good Conduct" for the disposal of garbage by all land users.
4. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council, Renewable Resource Councils, Designated Gwich'in Organizations, co-management boards, and appropriate government groups work together to develop a strategy for cleaning up camp sites, ice road garbage and other areas littered by garbage on the land. The Planning Board recommends that education on appropriate disposal methods for all types of garbage be a part of this strategy.²⁵
5. The Planning Board recommends that Gwich'in, community, co-management, government and circumpolar groups work together to develop strategies to reduce the transfer of long range air and water pollutants in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Land Use Issue 8

Transportation, Utilities and Communication



Gwich'in Land and Water Board

Our goal is to promote activities related to transportation, pipelines and communication for the existing and future well being of the residents, communities and Gwich'in of the settlement area and Canadians generally.

Based on Sections 1.1.4, 24.2.4 of the *Gwich'in Land Claim*

Objectives

- To improve networks supporting transportation, communication and utilities²⁶ (such as pipelines) for social and economic benefit.
- To promote continued use of traditional trails and transportation corridors.
- To promote transportation, communication and pipeline corridors which minimize environmental impacts.

Issues and Analysis

Transportation and communication networks play a significant role in the economy and life of the people of the Gwich'in Settlement Area.²⁷ Major transportation avenues include air travel with jet access to Inuvik, barging and boating on the larger rivers, as well as road access on the Dempster Highway. The Dempster Highway is open year round except for short periods in the spring and fall.

Widening and maintenance of the Dempster Highway will likely be the focus of transportation activities in the next five years. Another known activity is the installation of radio towers by NorthwesTel within the settlement area.

Other possible projects include an extension of the Mackenzie Highway and pipeline corridors. The Department of Transportation is reviewing the concept of an extension of the Mackenzie Highway into the Gwich'in Settlement Area. The

main corridor being looked at is north of the Mackenzie River, although a corridor south of the Mackenzie River is also possible. The corridor north of the Mackenzie River is acknowledged in the Gwich'in Land Claim and in this Gwich'in Land Use Plan. The Mackenzie Highway extension is therefore considered a permitted use in all land zones of the Plan. If the highway extension project moves forward within the five year life of the Land Use Plan, it could have significant implications for land use planning. The Planning Board will do more detailed planning along the proposed corridor.

The potential need for a pipeline connecting significant oil and gas reserves in the Mackenzie Delta – Beaufort Sea region with southern markets has been recognized since the 1970's. Given the current interest in gas reserves in the Delta – Beaufort region, it is probable that a pipeline will be proposed in the next five years. Possible alternative corridors have been raised by the oil and gas industry and examined in previous land use planning processes. The Planning Board recognizes the pipeline as a potential land use through the region, although the preferred routing has yet to be determined. The Planning Board will review alternative pipeline corridor proposals and make recommendations on a preferred corridor. The Planning Board will consider, with all other appropriate groups, a proposed pipeline. The preference of the Planning Board would be a pipeline and Mackenzie Highway aligned in the same corridor. If the proposed corridor is through a Gwich'in Conservation Zone, it is considered a permitted land use provided that it meets the conditions set out in section 4.2.4.

Action Items

1. The Gwich'in Land and Water Board will consider public and community concerns with respect to ferry landings at the Mackenzie and Peel Rivers during the review process for the water licences associated with the ferry landings.²⁸
2. The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Transportation with the involvement of co-management boards, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and community groups coordinate a study to address community concerns about the long term effects on fish and water resources of placing gravel in the rivers every year for ferry landings.²⁹
3. The Planning Board will conduct more detailed land use planning along the Dempster Highway and where new transportation and utility corridors are proposed. Potential corridors include the Mackenzie Highway extension and a Mackenzie pipeline corridor.

The development and impacts of new transportation and pipeline corridors should be addressed through the land use planning process. More detailed land use planning needs to occur in areas where new transportation, pipeline or communication corridors are proposed. The potential environmental, social and economic impacts of proposed transportation, pipeline and communications corridors needs to be evaluated.

A current transportation issue is the existing ferry landings on the Peel and Mackenzie Rivers servicing the Dempster Highway. Many people are worried about possible effects of the ferry landings on water resources and fish. A study on the possible effects of the ferry landings needs to be conducted. The dumping of gravel into the rivers for ferry landings every year is an ongoing issue for communities.

Land Use Issue 9

Tourism and Recreation



Gwich'in Land and Water Board

Our goal is to promote the use of tourism and recreation resources, and the development of the tourism industry, so as to protect and promote the existing and future well being of residents, communities and Gwich'in of the settlement area.

Based on Sections 1.1.4 and 24.2.4 of the *Gwich'in Land Claim*

Objectives

- To promote tourism activities in all communities.
- To promote local outfitters and the hiring of local people for tourist activities.
- To minimize the effects of tourism activities on the environment.
- To promote land and water based recreation by Gwich'in Settlement Area residents.

Issues and Analysis

More work needs to be done to draw tourists to the Gwich'in Settlement Area. Local and regional projects that encourage tourism should be supported. One example is the production of the "Western Arctic Handbook". Another is the development of the TransCanada Trail through the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Attention needs to be focused on areas of high tourism potential like the:

- Richardson and Mackenzie Mountains,
- Campbell Hills, and
- Mackenzie River and Delta.

Territorial parks are tools that can be used to draw tourists into the Gwich'in Settlement Area and should be considered in the future. More attractions and services along the Dempster Highway are needed to attract tourists. Each community has tourism plans that need to be implemented. Tourists are interested in cultural activities, opportunities to see wildlife and sport fishing and hunting.

Gwich'in want to be part of tourism operations in their area through activities such as guiding and local outfitting. In the Gwich'in Settlement Area, it is the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board that can establish policies around commercial harvesting and activities related to wildlife, including setting policies for guiding and outfitting and hunting, fishing and naturalist camps and lodges.

There is agreement that tourism activities should happen in an environmentally friendly and culturally sensitive way. There are concerns about the effects of tourism activities on the environment and traditional areas. Community concerns about the effects of tourism could be dealt with through a "Tourism Code of Ethics". A "Tourism Code of Ethics" would outline how tourists should conduct themselves out on the land. Direction could be given to tourists on issues such as heritage sites, garbage disposal, encounters with wildlife and access to Gwich'in Settlement Lands.

Action Items

1. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council in cooperation with the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development develop a regionally specific Tourism Code of Ethics for the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
2. The Gwich'in Tribal Council shall, with the assistance of the Planning Board, produce a management plan for the Campbell Hills that addresses the commercial tourism potential of the area and relationship to Gwich'in Territorial Park.³⁰
3. The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development develop, with the assistance of the Gwich'in Tribal Council and co-management boards, a tourism economic plan for the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Land Use Issue 10

Transboundary Areas



Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board

Our goal is to address transboundary issues so as to protect and promote the existing and future well-being of the residents, communities, and Gwich'in of the settlement area.

Based on Sections 1.1.4, 24.2.4 of the *Gwich'in Land Claim*

Objectives

- To work with neighbouring groups for the conservation, development and use of land, water, air and other resources and for the mutual benefit of all groups.
- To monitor non-renewable resource activities in the Peel River Watershed and the Mackenzie Valley.

Issues and Analysis

There are many transboundary issues with neighbouring areas of Gwich'in Settlement Area (Sahtu Settlement Area, Inuvialuit Settlement Region and the Yukon Territory). Shared resources amongst areas include land, air, water and wildlife. Groups have expressed interest in working together on protected areas, wildlife and water resources, however there are few processes established for cooperation with respect to land use planning. It is difficult to establish co-operative processes as all neighbouring groups are at different stages in managing resources. Both the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board and the Yukon Planning Council are beginning land use planning processes. The Planning Board hopes to work co-operatively with both these groups on planning issues. The Inuvialuit do not have a parallel planning process in place, however, the Planning Board does work with the Inuvialuit groups on various issues.

Communities are concerned about transboundary issues. Water quality is one of the communities' major concerns, and particularly the downstream effects of activities in the Peel River Watershed in the Yukon Territory and the Mackenzie River Basin on the Gwich'in Settlement Area. Wildlife issues are another area of concern. Caribou migrate, calve and over-winter in various jurisdictions and are of great importance to the Gwich'in. There are many other species that migrate into and out of the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Working together on issues will help avoid duplication of efforts and maximize products. Research and information should be shared amongst groups. The Planning Board as well as other co-management and Gwich'in groups are interested in monitoring activities outside the Gwich'in Settlement Area that may effect this area.

Action Items

1. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council and co-management boards work with transboundary groups to monitor activities in the Peel River Watershed in the Yukon Territory and the Mackenzie Valley.
2. The Planning Board will initiate discussions to establish cooperative planning processes. The Board will work with neighbouring groups, including the Yukon Land Use Planning Council, Joint Secretariat of the Inuvialuit and Sahtu Land Use Planning Board, on transboundary land use planning.
3. The Planning Board will work with local municipalities, the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, the Gwich'in Land and Water Board, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board and the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board on transboundary issues with respect to municipal boundaries.

Land Use Issue II

Legislated Protected Areas

Our goal is to support the establishment of legislative protected areas so as to protect and promote the existing and future well being of residents, communities and Gwich'in of the settlement area.

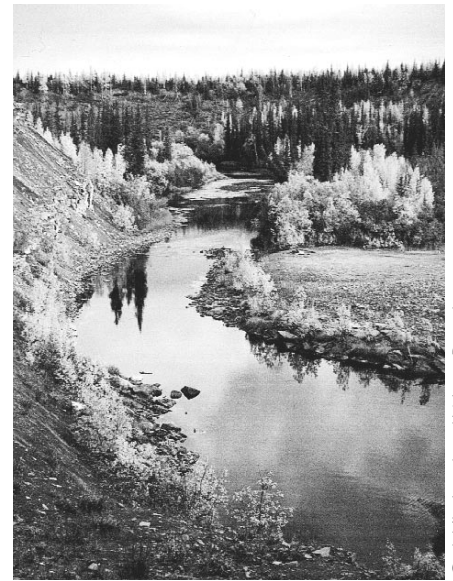
Based on Sections 16 and 24.2.4 of the
Gwich'in Land Claim

Objective

- To facilitate the establishment of community supported legislative protected areas in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Issues and Analysis

The Planning Board recognizes the potential for additional legislated protected areas in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. By a legislated protected area we mean a territorial park, national park or area with a similar type of government status that offers long term protection. Through nearly twenty years of planning work, the Gwich'in have identified environmentally and culturally significant areas. These important areas are recognized in the Gwich'in Land Zones, but these zones are very different from the legislated protected areas that are considered in the Northwest Territories Protected Areas Strategy. The Zones within the Land Use Plan do not have the same status as long term legislated protected areas.³¹ Exceptions and amendments may be made at any time to the rules of the Gwich'in Land Zones and all of the zones will be reviewed every five years. Although the areas identified in the Land Use Plan are very important to the Gwich'in, it is up to the communities and the Gwich'in Tribal Council to decide if they want to consider any of those areas for long term legislated protection. The NWT Protected Areas Strategy provides a framework to guide further work on identifying and establishing legislative protected areas.



Gwich'in Land and Water Board

Presently, less than 1% of the Gwich'in Settlement Area is committed to long term protection. The Planning Board supports additional long term protected areas in the Gwich'in Settlement Area because of their role in:

- protecting natural and cultural resources, ecoregions as well as wildlife and harvesting areas;
- recognizing, protecting and celebrating distinct cultural areas; and
- attracting and managing tourism and recreation.

Only one ecoregion, the Mackenzie Delta, is represented by the Gwich'in Territorial Park. Major ecoregions in the settlement area are the: Mackenzie Delta, British-Richardson Mountains, Great Bear Lake Plain, the Peel River Plateau, the Fort McPherson Plain and the Mackenzie Mountains. All these ecoregions are transboundary and may possibly be represented outside of the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Within the Gwich'in Settlement Area there are four bands deserving cultural recognition through protected areas: Ehdiitat Gwich'in (Aklavik), Gwichya Gwich'in (Tsiigehtchic), Nihtat Gwich'in (Inuvik), Teet'it Gwich'in (Fort McPherson). Protected areas that celebrate each of the band's culture and history are needed to reflect all of Gwich'in culture. Currently, the Gwichya Gwich'in are recognized through the Mackenzie River National Historic Site and the Arctic Red River heritage designation. The Teet'it Gwich'in have an opportunity to present their band's history at the Natainlaih Campground and at the town's visitor centre. However, a larger centre or cultural landscape designation would be appropriate. The Nihtat Gwich'in have opportunities for cultural promotion at the Western Arctic Regional Visitors Centre and Gwich'in Territorial Park. The Ehdiitat Gwich'in in Aklavik appear to be missing an opportunity to have their history recognized, despite the rich history associated with Aklavik.

The Planning Board has identified a few areas in the Gwich'in Settlement Area where legislated protected areas may be possible:

- Rengleng River
- Central Mackenzie Delta (east of the Peel Channel)
- Rat River Watershed
- James Creek Area
- Headwaters of the Arctic Red River
- Mackenzie River
- Jackfish Creek along the Arctic Red River

Of these, three are priority areas: James Creek Area, Rat River Watershed and the Mackenzie River. In the James Creek Area and Rat River Watershed there is an opportunity for a transboundary legislated protected area between the Yukon and Northwest Territories. On the Mackenzie River there is the opportunity to protect a section or all of the Nagwichoonjik (Mackenzie River) National Historic Site which presently does not have any true protection measures attached with it.

The Headwaters of the Arctic Red River may also be an area where a legislative protected area is appropriate. However, at the present time there is not enough scientific or traditional knowledge available to evaluate this area. More information needs to be collected during the life of the Gwich'in Land Use Plan.

The Planning Board also recognizes that some types of protected areas do not allow multiple use. Therefore, a legislated protected area would not conform to the Gwich'in Land Use Plan if it was established in a Gwich'in General Use Zone or a Gwich'in Special Management Zone. If a legislative protected area like a territorial park was proposed in a Gwich'in Special Management Zone or a Gwich'in General Use Zone, an amendment to the Gwich'in Land Use Plan would be required from the Planning Board. Non-restrictive types of legislative protected areas that make allowances for multiple use like National Historic Sites would not require an amendment to the Gwich'in Land Use Plan.

Action Items

1. The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development (Protected Areas Strategy Secretariat) with the full involvement of Gwich'in groups work with the appropriate Yukon agencies in investigating transboundary legislative protected areas.
2. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute and appropriate government groups investigate the possibility of legislated protected area that supports the Nagwichoonjik (Mackenzie River) National Historic Site. This work should be done within the framework set out in the NWT Protected Areas Strategy.
3. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, the Ehdiiat Gwich'in and government groups work together in identifying a cultural site to recognize and celebrate the Ehdiiat Gwich'in.
4. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council, government and co-management boards evaluate the potential for a tribal park within the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
5. The Planning Board recommends that Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development review the process for establishing and managing territorial parks and review the management of Gwich'in Territorial Park specifically.³²
6. The Planning Board recommends that scientific and traditional knowledge studies be conducted in the Headwaters of the Arctic Red River to determine if a legislative protected area or a Gwich'in Conservation Zone under the Land Use Plan should be established in the area.

Studies required include:

- i) wildlife, vegetation and other ecological inventories;
- ii) non renewable resource inventory and potential analysis; and
- iii) traditional use and heritage resource inventories.

Groups that should be involved in conducting studies include the Planning Board, the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board, the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, the Gwichya Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council, the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development.³³

7. The Planning Board recommends that groups and agencies working on establishing protected areas use the NWT Protected Areas Strategy as a framework to guide their identification and analysis of protected areas.

References

- ¹ Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, 1998, Comments on Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan.
- ² Minutes Community Land Use Planning Meetings, October, 1997
- ³ Minutes of Meetings between the Gwich'in Interim Land Use planning board and government and business groups, June, 1997
- ⁴ Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board, Gwich'in Land and Water Board and Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board.
- ⁵ Suggested groups at the April 17, 1999 Land Use Planning Briefing Session in Yellowknife were the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, National Energy Board, Geological Survey of Canada and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development.
- ⁶ Recommendation: Gwich'in Land Use Planning Workshop, March 15-16, 1999. Co-sponsored by the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board.
- ⁷ Recommendation: Gwich'in Land Use Planning Workshop, March 15-16, 1999. Co-sponsored by the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board.
- ⁸ Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, 1998, Comments on Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan.
- ⁹ Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, 1998, Comments on Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan.
- ¹⁰ Integrated Resource Management and Land Use Planning Workshop Report, Inuvik, 1997
- ¹¹ Minutes Tsiigehtchic Community Land Use Planning Meeting, October, 1997
- ¹² Minutes Community land Use Planning Meeting, October, 1997
- ¹³ Integrated Resource Management and Land Use Planning Workshop Report, Inuvik, 1997
- ¹⁴ Recommendation: Gwich'in Land Use Planning Workshop, March 15-16, 1999. Co-sponsored by the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board.
- ¹⁵ Recommendation: Gwich'in Land Use Planning Workshop, March 15-16, 1999. Co-sponsored by the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board.
- ¹⁶ Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, 1998, Comments on Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan.
- ¹⁷ Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, 1998, Comments on Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan.
- ¹⁸ Gwich'in Tribal Council, 1998, Comments on Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan.
- ¹⁹ As amended on April 27, 1999 at the Land Use Planning Briefing Session in Yellowknife.
- ²⁰ Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, April 28, 1999: Comments at Briefing Session in Yellowknife.
- ²¹ Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, April 28, 1999: Comments at Briefing Session in Yellowknife.
- ²² Recommendation: Gwich'in Land Use Planning Workshop, March 15-16, 1999. Co-sponsored by the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board.
- ²³ Department of Transportation, 1998, Comments on Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan.
- ²⁴ Nunavut Planning Commission, Draft West Kitikmeot Regional Land Use Plan, September, 1997
- ²⁵ Recommendation: Gwich'in Land Use Planning Workshop, March 15-16, 1999. Co-sponsored by the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board.
- ²⁶ Utilities refer to potential pipelines, communication lines, radio towers etc.
- ²⁷ NWT Chamber of Mines, 1998, Comments on Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan.
- ²⁸ Recommendation: Gwich'in Land Use Planning Workshop, March 15-16, 1999. Co-sponsored by the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board.
- ²⁹ Gwich'in Land and Water Board, 1998, Comments on Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan.
- ³⁰ Recommendation: Gwich'in Land Use Planning Workshop, March 15-16, 1999. Co-sponsored by the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board.
- ³¹ Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development, 1998, Comments on Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan.
- ³² Recommendation: Gwich'in Land Use Planning Workshop, March 15-16, 1999. Co-sponsored by the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board.
- ³³ Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, May 7, 1999. Recommendation for the addition of this Action Item. Yellowknife.

6.0 Procedures for Implementing the Land Use Plan

Conformity, Exceptions, Amendments, Review and Monitoring



Integrated Resources Management and Land Use Planning Workshop, Inuvik, 1997.

6.1 General Considerations

Land Use Plan implementation is a core responsibility of the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board. Co-management, government, Gwich'in, community and business groups will also play important roles in the implementation of the Land Use Plan.

The Planning Board has included an Implementation Plan Outline (see Chapter 7.0) in the Land Use Plan. A more detailed Implementation Plan will be prepared by the Board in conjunction with the planning partners. The Implementation Plan Outline lists recommended actions and outlines implementation responsibilities of the Planning Board, planning partners, and other groups. Groups will be consulted as the detailed Implementation Plan is developed.

The Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board has the following implementation responsibilities:

1. Prepare the implementation plan in consultation with planning partners.
2. Review applications for authorizations for conformity with the Land Use Plan.
3. Monitor the implementation of the Land Use Plan.
4. Review and consider requests for exceptions and amendments to the Land Use Plan.
5. Implement recommended actions of the Land Use Plan.
6. Review the effectiveness of the Land Use Plan in meeting its goals and objectives.
7. Prepare and conduct a comprehensive review of the Land Use Plan five years after it is approved.

6.2 Obligations for Implementation

When the Gwich'in Tribal Council approves the Land Use Plan, or any amendment to the Land Use Plan, they must notify the territorial and federal Ministers in writing. When the territorial Minister approves the Land Use Plan, or any amendments to the Land Use Plan, he or she must notify the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the federal Minister in writing. Upon approval by the federal Minister, the Land Use Plan, or any amendment to the Plan, takes effect.

Once the Land Use Plan is approved the Gwich'in, territorial and federal agencies take on the obligation to carry out their powers according to the Land Use Plan. This includes Gwich'in co-management boards and all departments, agencies and groups having authority to issue licences, permits, or other authorizations relating to the use of land, waters and the deposit of wastes. Applications for land and water activities must be in conformity with the Land Use Plan.

As well, the approval process imposes obligations with respect to "Actions" in the Implementation Plan Outline. Actions stating "shall" mean an obligation to carry out that action. Actions stating "recommended" mean that there is an obligation to make the best effort to carry out that action.

6.3 Conformity with the Land Use Plan

The Gwich'in Land Claim states that all groups, that issue land and water related authorizations, have to conform to the Land Use Plan. The Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act makes the same statement. Conforming with the Land

Use Plan will require groups to follow the zoning presented in Chapter 4 and implement the action items of each major land use issue section. Through the Land Use Plan the use of the word “shall” indicates an action that must be completed by the end of the life of the Land Use Plan. The use of the word “recommends” indicates an action that should be considered for completion over the life of the Plan by groups identified.

Regulatory groups can decide without consulting with the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board whether an application is in conformity with the Land Use Plan. In dealing with applications, regulatory groups should understand that they have the legal obligation to be in conformity with the Land Use Plan.

In Section 47 (1) of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act the relationship between the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board and regulatory groups is addressed:

A planning board shall determine whether an activity is in accordance with the land use plan where

- (a) the activity is referred to the planning board by a first nation or a department or agency of the federal or territorial government or by the body having authority under any federal or territorial law to issue a license, permit or other authorization in respect of the activity; or*
- (b) an application for such a determination is made by any person directly affected by an activity for which an application has been made for a license, permit or authorization.*

Proposals for activities should be formally referred to the Planning Board in cases where conformity with the Land Use Plan is not clear. In these cases the Planning Board will make the final decision on conformity.

6.4 Exceptions to the Land Use Plan

The Planning Board may grant an exception to the Land Use Plan. An exception will allow an activity to take place that is not in conformity with the Land Use Plan. When considering an application for an exception the Planning Board will make a decision based on the following criteria:

1. The exception must be a minor exception from the provisions of the Land Use Plan. If it is not a minor exception, the Planning Board may consider proposing an amendment to the Land Use Plan.

2. The exception must be desirable in the opinion of the Board for the appropriate development or use of the land. In determining whether or not the exception is desirable, the Board will consider:
 - a. whether it benefits the residents and communities of the Gwich'in Settlement Area;
 - b. whether it has the support of the Gwich'in Tribal Council, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada;
 - c. what the environmental, cultural and economic consequences of allowing the activity will be; and
 - d. what implications will it have for other activities that are occurring or will potentially occur in the area.
3. The general intent and purpose of the Land Use Plan must be maintained.

To obtain an exception to the Land Use Plan, applicants will have to apply directly in writing to the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board. Once the Planning Board has received in writing a request for an exception it will consider the application and make a decision within 30 days of receiving the exception application. A record of decision will form the Planning Board's response. Applicants may be asked to make a presentation to the Planning Board on the proposed exception.

A standard exception form will be part of the Implementation Plan. The exception form will outline:

1. applicant name and address,
2. summary of exception request,
3. summary of activity proposed,
4. location in settlement area,
5. land use planning zone,
6. summary of potential environmental and cultural effects, and
7. reasons justifying exception relating to benefits of the land use to the residents and communities of the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

6.4.1 Possible Exception for Commercial Renewable Resource Activities

In some cases communities have expressed an interest in commercial renewable resource activities within Gwich'in Conservation Zones. The Planning Board is prepared to consider exceptions for community sponsored commercial renewable resource activities that are sustainable and are supported by the local Renewable Resource Council, the local Designated Gwich'in Organization, the Gwich'in Tribal Council, the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board and the Gwich'in Land

and Water Board. The Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board has the authority to establish policies about commercial harvesting and activities related to wildlife. The Planning Board will only consider an exception, if the activity is consistent with the policies established by the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board.

6.5 Amendments to the Land Use Plan

Amendments can be made to effect long term changes to the Land Use Plan. The Planning Board, or another group, can propose an amendment to the Land Use Plan at any time, although amendments are most likely to occur as a result of the five year comprehensive reviews of the Land Use Plan.

The Planning Board may decide on its own to amend the Land Use Plan. However, approvals for a Land Use Plan amendment must go through the same process as for approval of the Land Use Plan (see Section 42 and 43 of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act). The requirements for an amendment therefore include:

- a published notice inviting interested persons to examine the proposed amendment,
- public hearings in relation to the proposed amendment (at the discretion of the Planning Board), and
- submission and approval of the proposed amendment by the Gwich'in Tribal Council, the territorial Minister and the federal Minister.

The above process is demanding, and suggests that there will not be frequent amendments to the Land Use Plan. However, an amendment may be considered at any time to address:

1. changes in land, water, wildlife or resource information,
2. an unconsidered land, water, wildlife or resource use,
3. concerns of Gwich'in Settlement Area groups, or
4. more specific management direction from other co-management, Gwich'in or government groups, and
5. changes in the socio-economic situation of the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

6.6 Comprehensive Reviews of the Land Use Plan

A formal Plan Review will occur five years after the Land Use Plan is approved. The Plan Review is an opportunity to make changes to the Land Use Plan by evaluating the success of the Plan in meeting its goals and objectives. Changes to the Land Use Plan should be expected, as the Planning Board will be monitoring land use information and issues throughout the life of the Plan. Land use planning is a

continuing cycle where up-to-date information and issues are considered in the process on an ongoing-basis.

As part of the Plan Review, there will be a consultation process. Communities, approval agencies and other groups will be asked to give their views on how well the Land Use Plan has addressed land use issues. By consulting with communities and other groups the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board should gain an understanding of whether the Land Use Plan is meeting land users' needs and expectations.

To be able to properly review the Land Use Plan in five years, a framework for review will need to be developed. The review should assess:

- if the Land Use Plan met the planning principles found in the Gwich'in Land Claim and the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act;
- if the Action Items were implemented and assess successes, failures and omissions;
- the requests for exceptions and amendments to the Land Use Plan;
- the number of applications for permits, licences and authorizations that were not in conformity with the Land Use Plan and why; and
- the accuracy of forecasts and the information base used in Land Use Plan production

The five year review of the Land Use Plan will provide information about the Gwich'in Settlement Area and the Land Use Plan. This data could provide information for the Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program for the Mackenzie Valley being coordinated by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development with other groups. Cumulative impact monitoring looks at the combined effects of activities on the environment. Land use planning in the Gwich'in Settlement Area should be linked to the Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program for the Mackenzie Valley.

Implementation Plan Outline

7.1 Introduction

The Planning Board will play a critical role in implementing the Plan. Overseeing the implementation of the Plan will be a challenging task as the Plan covers a broad range of issues such as water quality, tourism planning, conservation of heritage resources and economic development. The Gwich'in Land Use Plan, as much as possible, deals with these issues in an integrated way, which means that issues are considered together. The Planning Board will therefore be involved in many different areas facilitating, where possible, the resolution of issues identified in the Plan.

The Action Items for each issue area are concrete ways that have been recommended as a starting point for addressing issues. Throughout the life of the Plan, the Planning Board will work to see the Action Items implemented.

Grouping the Action Items into general topics, the Planning Board has identified the following areas as needing particular attention:

I. Continued Information Gathering

To keep improving the Plan, the Planning Board needs information to be gathered on a continuing basis. For this Plan, the Planning Board has used the best information available to make decisions. In all areas more information would be helpful for planning. In most cases, it looks likely that new information will be collected. In terms of heritage resources, Gwich'in groups are continuing to collect new information. Renewable resource groups like the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board will continue to do research on wildlife, fish and forests. One area where it is less certain that a concerted effort is being made to collect information is with non-renewable resources. The Planning Board will be encouraging the Gwich'in, government and industry to evaluate non-renewable resource development potential in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Specifically the Planning Board encourages information gathering in areas where there is community interest and a limited knowledge base. In the Gwich'in Settlement Area the following areas are of interest:

- i) the Mackenzie Mountains;
- ii) the Richardson Mountains; and
- iii) along potential transportation and pipeline corridors.

With new information the Planning Board will re-evaluate land zones and action items.

2. Focus on Economic Development

This Plan sets out clearly what areas are open for activities and what areas, due to community use, heritage resources, renewable resources and a number of other reasons, activities are restricted. From the community perspective, conservation measures needed to be looked at before economic issues could be fully addressed. In the next five years, the Planning Board has been given direction by communities, Gwich'in and government groups to focus on economic development opportunities. To this end the Planning Board will be working with these groups to assess economic opportunities. Areas that have been identified as possible opportunities include outfitting and other tourism ventures, oil and gas development as well as transportation. All possible opportunities will be looked at.

3. Focus on More Detailed Planning

The current Plan is a general one. In some cases more detailed land use planning may be required where there are more land uses or where a higher level of land use is expected. The Dempster corridor is an example of a high land use area where more detailed land use planning is needed. Potentially other areas include the Mackenzie Highway extension and Mackenzie pipeline corridor.

The Gwich'in Tribal Council may also be beginning land use planning on Gwich'in Settlement Land. Through the land use planning process, the Campbell Hills, an area owned by the Gwich'in, has been identified as an area requiring a more detailed land use and economic plan. The Planning Board is ready to assist the Gwich'in Tribal Council as needed in their land use planning work.

4. Focus on Monitoring

The Planning Board is mandated to monitor implementation of the Plan. The Planning Board will report annually on the monitoring process, and make recommendations as deemed necessary with respect to Plan Implementation. As the Plan requires all groups to conform with it, the Planning Board will make an effort to make sure groups are aware of the Plan, and facilitate its implementation.

7.2 Required and Recommended Actions

1. The Planning Board recommends that all management and regulatory groups work with communities to improve the level of understanding of communities about decision making processes.
2. The Planning Board recommends, to improve communications in the future, that all management and regulatory groups review on an ongoing basis:
 - i) when and how often they consult with communities, and
 - ii) how effective they are in involving communities in decision making.
3. The Planning Board recommends that co-management boards continue to develop an integrated management system to improve the level of involvement of Gwich'in, communities and representative organizations in decision making processes.
4. The Planning Board's Implementation Plan shall describe a process for involving Gwich'in, communities, and representative organizations in land use planning decision making.
5. The Planning Board as part of the Gwich'in Land Use Plan Review will conduct a survey on community involvement in decision making. The survey will evaluate how well groups have involved communities in decision making about land, water, air and resource management.
6. The Planning Board recommends that the Planning Board with the assistance of the Gwich'in Land and Water Board produce a pamphlet about Gwich'in Land Use Planning and Land Use Permitting to describe steps businesses need to take to conduct land, water and resource activities in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
7. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council with the assistance of the Gwich'in co-management boards and government groups produce a map series for Gwich'in beneficiaries showing areas of high resource development potential for the settlement area.
8. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council and government promote economic activities and promote research and options for improving the economic self sufficiency of Gwich'in beneficiaries and communities.
9. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council with the involvement of the Designated Gwich'in Organizations develop a long term economic strategy.

10. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council with the involvement of the Designated Gwich'in Organizations identify economic opportunities on Gwich'in Settlement Lands and develop economic plans for them.
11. The Planning Board shall consider recommendations by the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute for the addition of areas to the Gwich'in Conservation Zones or Gwich'in Special Management Zones during the life of the Land Use Plan.
12. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute identify heritage areas or cultural landscapes meriting legislative protected area status in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
13. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Land and Water Board develop a status report on water quality and quantity in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. The status report should look at community concerns with water and gaps in water monitoring.
14. The Planning Board recommends that water management groups provide communities with plain language information on water quality and quantity.
15. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Land and Water Board take the lead in developing strategies for maintaining water gauging stations.
16. The Planning Board recommends that the Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program:
 - i) deal with land, water and air quality concerns of all four settlement area communities; and
 - ii) involve communities in the actual monitoring of land, water and air resources.
17. The Planning Board shall review the findings of the Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program with respect to land, water and air during each five year review of the Gwich'in Land Use Plan, and will integrate the Program's recommendations into the Plan.
18. The Planning Board recommends that resource management groups in the Gwich'in Settlement Area work together and develop a strategy for dealing with the effects of outside activities on resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

19. The Planning Board will review completed wildlife and fish management plans and consider how to integrate these plans with the Gwich'in Land Use Plan.
20. The Planning Board recommends that wildlife management groups produce plans for Dall's sheep and other wildlife with economic commercial potential.
21. The Planning Board will review conditions placed on Gwich'in Special Management Zones with the assistance of appropriate groups taking into account traditional knowledge and scientific information.
22. Planning Board will review completed Forest Management Plans and consider how to integrate them with the Gwich'in Land Use Plan.
23. The Planning Board recommends Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development continue to work together in reviewing and developing fire management policies and plans.
24. The Planning Board recommends that the Aurora Research Institute and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development continue to investigate and support the use of alternative sources of energy.
25. The Planning Board recommends that with the consent of the landowners the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development initiate a review of oil and gas resources of the Gwich'in Settlement Area to promote the economic well being of the Gwich'in.
26. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, in conjunction with other government agencies, and in consultation with the mineral industry, initiate a review of the mineral resources of the Gwich'in Settlement Area to promote the economic well being of the Gwich'in.
27. The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development prepare a sand, gravel and rock (crushed rock and carving stone) management plan for Crown lands in the Gwich'in Settlement Area that would include specific management plans for operating pits.

28. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council prepare a sand, gravel and rock (crushed rock and carving stone) management plan for Gwich'in Settlement Lands in the Gwich'in Settlement Area that would include specific management plans for operating pits.
29. The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development plan for the clean-up of abandoned and old pits that have not been rehabilitated. This includes the installation of barriers to access.
30. The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development shall provide all available information on known waste sites for the Gwich'in Settlement Area to Gwich'in and co-management groups.
31. The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and appropriate industry groups develop strategies for the clean-up of remaining waste sites.
32. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council, Renewable Resource Councils, Designated Gwich'in Organizations and co-management boards work together to develop a "Code of Good Conduct" for the disposal of garbage by all land users.
33. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council, Renewable Resource Councils, Designated Gwich'in Organizations, co-management boards and appropriate government groups work together to develop a strategy for cleaning up camp sites, ice road garbage and other areas littered by garbage on the land. The Planning Board recommends that education on appropriate disposal methods for all types of garbage be a part of this strategy.
34. The Planning Board recommends that Gwich'in, community, co-management, government and circumpolar groups work together to develop strategies to reduce the transfer of long range air and water pollutants in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
35. The Gwich'in Land and Water Board will consider public and community concerns with respect to ferry landings at the Mackenzie and Peel Rivers during the review process for the water licences associated with the ferry landings.
36. The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Transportation with the involvement of co-management boards, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and community groups co-ordinate a study to address community concerns with the long term effects on fish and water resources of placing gravel in the rivers every year for ferry landings.

37. The Planning Board will conduct more detailed land use planning along the Dempster Highway and where new transportation and utility corridors are proposed. Potential corridors include the Mackenzie Highway extension and a Mackenzie pipeline corridor.
38. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council in cooperation with the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development develop a Tourism Code of Ethics.
39. The Gwich'in Tribal Council shall, with the assistance of the Planning Board, produce a management plan for the Campbell Hills that addresses the commercial tourism potential of the area and relationship to Gwich'in Territorial Park.
40. The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development develop, with the assistance of the Gwich'in Tribal Council and co-management boards, a tourism economic plan for the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
41. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council and co-management boards work with transboundary groups to monitor activities in the Peel River Watershed in the Yukon Territory and the Mackenzie Valley.
42. Planning Board will initiate discussions to establish cooperative planning processes. The Board will work with neighbouring groups, including the Yukon Land Use Planning Council, Sahtu Land Use Planning Board and Joint Secretariat of the Inuvialuit on transboundary land use planning.
43. The Planning Board will work with local municipalities, the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, the Gwich'in Land and Water Board, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board and the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board on transboundary issues with respect to municipal boundaries.
44. The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development (Protected Areas Strategy Secretariat) with the full involvement of Gwich'in groups work with the appropriate Yukon agencies in investigating a transboundary legislative protected areas.
45. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute and appropriate government groups investigate the possibility of legislated protected area that supports the Nagwichoonjik (Mackenzie River) National Historic Site. This work should be done within the framework set out in the NWT Protected Areas Strategy.

46. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, the Ehdiitat Gwich'in and government groups work together in identifying a cultural site to recognize and celebrate the Ehdiitat Gwich'in.
47. The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council, government and co-management boards evaluate the potential for a tribal park within the Gwich'in Settlement Area.
48. The Planning Board recommends that Gwich'in Tribal Council and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development review the process for establishing and managing territorial parks and review the management of Gwich'in Territorial Park specifically.
49. The Planning Board recommends that scientific and traditional knowledge studies be conducted in the Headwaters of the Arctic Red River to determine if a legislative protected area or a Gwich'in Protected Area under the Land Use Plan should be established in the area.

Studies required include:

- i) wildlife, vegetation and other ecological inventories;
- ii) non-renewable resource inventory and potential analysis; and
- iii) traditional use and heritage resource inventories.

Groups that should be involved in conducting studies include the Planning Board, the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board, the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council, the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development.

50. The Planning Board recommends that groups and agencies working on establishing protected areas use the NWT Protected Areas Strategy as a framework to guide their identification and analysis of protected areas.

Appendix A

Land Use Planning Consultation Groups

Aurora Research Institute
 Canadian Arctic Resource Committee
 Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers
 Canadian Heritage
 Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
 Deline Land Corporation
 Department of Education, Culture and Employment
 Department of Fisheries and Oceans
 Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Department of
 National Defense
 Department of Resources, Wildlife & Economic Development
 Department of Transportation
 Designated Gwich'in Organizations
 Diavik Diamond Mines Inc.
 Environment Canada
 Geological Survey of Canada
 Gwich'in Elder and Youth groups
 Gwich'in Land Administration
 Gwich'in Land and Water Board
 Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board
 Gwich'in Renewable Resource Councils
 Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute
 Gwich'in Tribal Council
 Interprovincial Pipelines Ltd.
 Hamlet of Aklavik
 Hamlet of Fort McPherson
 Inuvialuit Environmental Impact Screening Committee
 Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat
 Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
 Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
 Municipal and Community Affairs
 National Energy Board
 Natural Resources Canada
 Northern Transportation Company Limited
 Northwest Territories Water Board
 Northwestel

NWT Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists
NWT Chamber of Mines
Peel River Watershed Advisory Committee
Sahtu Renewable Resource Board
Sahtu Land Use Planning Board
Sahtu Land & Water Board
Town of Inuvik
Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation
Wildlife Management Advisory Council (Yukon North Slope)
World Wildlife Fund
Yukon Land Use Planning Council
Yukon Parks Service

List of Land Use Planning Meetings

February, 1994 – Issues Identification, Planning Board and four communities

October, 1995 – Information Gathering Meetings, Planning Board and four communities

December, 1996 – Mapping and Land Classification work. Planning Board, Gwichya Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Tsiigehtchic

December, 1996 – Mapping and Land Classification work. Planning Board, Nihtat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Inuvik

December, 1996 – Mapping and Land Classification work. Planning Board, Teet'it Gwich'in Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Fort McPherson

January, 1997 – Mapping and Land Classification work. Planning Board, Ehdiitat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Aklavik

March, 1997 – Integrated Resource Management and Land Use Planning Workshop, Inuvik.

June, 1997 – Plan Options Consultation. Planning Board and Federal Departments, Yellowknife

June, 1997 – Plan Options Consultation. Planning Board and Territorial Departments, Yellowknife

June, 1997 – Plan Options Consultation. Planning Board and Oil, Gas and Mineral interests, Yellowknife

June, 1997 – Mapping and Plan Options Review. Planning Board, Gwichya Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Tsiigehtchic

June, 1997 – Mapping and Plan Options Review. Planning Board, Nihtat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Inuvik

June, 1997 – Mapping and Plan Options Review. Planning Board, Teet'it Gwich'in Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Fort McPherson

June, 1997 – Mapping and Plan Options Review. Planning Board, Ehdiitat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Aklavik

October, 1997 – Forecasting and Issues. Planning Board, Gwichya Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Tsiigehtchic

October, 1997 – Forecasting and Issues. Planning Board, Nihtat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Inuvik

October, 1997 – Forecasting and Issues. Planning Board, Teetl'it Gwich'in Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Fort McPherson

October, 1997 – Forecasting and Issues. Planning Board, Ehdiitat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Aklavik

November, 1997 – Protected Areas Strategy for the Gwich'in Settlement Region, Inuvik

June, 1998 – Review of Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan, Gwichya Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Tsiigehtchic

June, 1998 – Review of Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan, Nihtat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Inuvik

June, 1998 – Review of Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan, Teetl'it Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Fort McPherson

June, 1998 – Review of Preliminary Draft Land Use Plan, Ehdiitat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Aklavik

July, 1998 – Presentation on Draft Land Zones at NWT Protected Areas Strategy meeting, Yellowknife

August, 1998 – Review of Draft Land Zones, Nihtat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Inuvik

August, 1998 – Review of Draft Land Zones, Gwichya Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Tsiigehtchic

August, 1998 – Review of Draft Land Zones, Ehdiitat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Aklavik

September, 1998 – Presentation on Draft Land Use Plan at the Gwich'in Annual General Assembly, Aklavik

November, 1998 – Presentation on Draft Land Use Plan and Land Zones at the GeoScience Forum, Yellowknife

November, 1998 – Information Session for Industry, Calgary

February, 1999 – Review of Draft Land Zones, Gwichya Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Tsiigehtchic

February, 1999 – Review of Draft Land Zones, Teetl'it Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Fort McPherson

March, 1999 – Review of Draft Land Zones, Nihtat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Inuvik

March, 1999 – Review of Draft Land Zones, Ehdiitat Gwich'in Renewable Resource Council and other community representatives, Aklavik

March, 1999 – Regional Workshop on Land Use Planning co-sponsored by the Gwich'in Land use Planning Board and the Gwich'in Tribal Council, Inuvik

April, 1999 – Information Session with Government Groups, Yellowknife

April, 1999 – Information Session with Industry Groups, Yellowknife

April, 1999 – Information Session with Government Groups, Inuvik

November, 2000 – Presentation on Draft Land Use Plan and Land Zones at the GeoScience Forum, Yellowknife

December, 2000 – Meeting with GTC and Minister Nault, Yellowknife

January, 2001 – Update of plan approval at Regional Renewable Resource Council meeting, Fort McPherson

December, 2001 – DIAND and GLUPB meeting to finalize plan wording, Calgary

February, 2002 – Update of plan approval at regional Renewable Resource Council meeting, Tsiigehtchic

June, 2002 – Update of plan approval at Inuvik Petroleum show, Inuvik

November, 2002 – Presented plan revisions for community approval, Inuvik

November, 2002 – Presented plan revisions for community approval, Aklavik

November, 2002 – Presented plan revisions for community approval, Tsiigehtchic

December, 2002 – Presented plan revisions for community approval, Fort McPherson

December, 2002 – Presented plan revisions at Gwich'in Tribal Council board meeting, Tsiigehtchic

January, 2003 – Update of plan approval at regional Renewable Resource Council meeting, Inuvik

February, 2003 – Discussed plan revisions at Gwich'in Tribal Council board meeting, Fort McPherson

April, 2003 – Final presentation of plan revisions to Designated Gwich'in Organization and Renewable Resource Council, Inuvik

April, 2003 – Final presentation of plan revisions to Designated Gwich'in Organization and Renewable Resource Council, Tsiigehtchic

April, 2003 – Final presentation of plan revision to Designated Gwich'in Organizations and Renewable Resource Council, Fort McPherson

April, 2003 – Final presentation of plan revisions to Designated Gwich'in Organization and Renewable Resource Council, Aklavik

April, 2003 – Motion made to approve Plan by Gwich'in Tribal Council board, Aklavik

June, 2003 – Update of plan approval at Inuvik Petroleum show, Inuvik

July, 2003 – Approval of revised Plan by GNWT, Yellowknife

August, 2003 – Approval of revised Plan by Government of Canada, Ottawa

