



GWICH'IN LAND USE PLANNING BOARD

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June 30, 2009

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

JUL 1 v RECD

RE: Comments on the April 2009 Draft Peel Watershed Land Use Plan

Dear Peel Watershed Planning Commission members,

Thank you for meeting to explain and discuss the draft land use plan for the Peel River Watershed. The Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board has compiled a few comments that we hope you find helpful in your efforts to meet the goals of your process and the betterment of land use planning in the Peel River

The Planning Board supports the level of protection in the Snake River area which is adjacent to the Arctic Red River Headwaters Special Management Zone. Serious attention to managing development is required in these areas and having complimentary zoning reinforces that.

The potential routing for an access corridor that overlaps the James Creek Conservation Zone should be adjusted. Infrastructure developments are not allowed in conservation zones so the route depiction in the Gwich'in Settlement Area, even though generalized, should be moved over to the adjacent special management zone for accuracy.

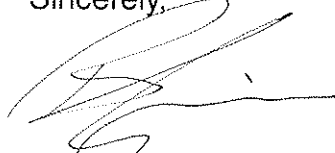
The access route from Fort McPherson to Snake River along the border is a concern. The potential escalation of resource development and recreation activities if an access road is constructed could have impacts on water quality/quantity and migratory animals that extend beyond the zoning.

Aberdeen Canyon as identified by zone 11d is in the primary use area only and not also in the secondary use area as noted on page 6-72 under Land Status.

The Gwich'in Land Use Plan general use zone is not identified on the maps in the Peel plan document. The Board asks that it be added for accuracy and completeness.

On behalf of the board and its staff I would like to reaffirm our support for the Peel Watershed Plan and planning process and wish you success in your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bob Simpson', written over a horizontal line.

Bob Simpson
Chair