



# Bonnet Plume Outfitters Yukon

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

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This written report to the commission is a follow-up to the meeting Chris McKinnon of Bonnet Plume Outfitters (concession #5) had with Brian Johnston in Whitehorse in April 7, 2006. Chris wants to make sure his interests and concerns are known to the commission. Chris will also be meeting with Mark O'Donohue in the near future to review key habitat and wildlife distribution in concession #5. Please contact Chris if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Chris & Sharron McKinnon



# Bonnet Plume Outfitters Yukon

WRITTEN REPORT TO THE PEEL WATERSHED PLANNING COMMISSION:

## History of Outfitting Concession

Bonnet Plume Outfitters is Hunting Concession #5 in the Yukon. The Outfit is currently owned and operated solely by Chris and Sharron McKinnon. Chris and Sharron purchased the area October 31, 2004. This area has been outfitted since 1947 by Louie Brown. It is a beautiful area and has a very healthy wildlife population (moose, caribou, dall sheep, grizzly bear, birds, etc.). Nearly 100% of the area is inhabited by moose and caribou. Chris and Sharron are looking forward to outfitting in the Bonnet Plume for many years and creating a great relationship with the local people and past & future hunters.

The area is very remote without any roads or access other than by airplane. Due to the remoteness of the concession there is virtually no residential hunting pressure for moose or caribou. It lies approximately 100 km North of Mayo to the Beaver River in the Southern end of the area. Then approximately 200 km North to where the Snake River, Bonnet Plume River and Wind River emerges from the mountains. Altitudes are 1500 asl to 8000 asl with average peaks being 6000 ft.

The size of the hunting concession is approximately 12000 square kilometers. The location of this area lies in the North East part of the Yukon. The Southern end being the Beaver River and extending to the mountains and join up with the border east of the Snake River.

This hunting concession is very mountainous with very wide open valleys. There are five main rivers running through it; the Beaver, Wind, Bonnet Plume, Bear and Snake. The Bonnet Plume River is the Canadian Heritage River.

There have been some mining exploration activities in the area in the last few years.

The area lies in the Na Cho Nyakdun boundaries.

There are some canoe outfitted trips on the Snake, Bonnet Plume and Wind Rivers.

Chris McKinnon has spent approximately 160 days in the hunting area. Chris has also spent approximately 700 hours in flying time to gain knowledge of the area.

We access the outfitting area by airplane and by horses. We have 40 head of horses, a SuperCub and a Cessna 206. We take about 45 to 50 clients per season. We specialize in Dall Sheep, Moose, Caribou and Grizzly Bear hunts. We are on a limited quota for Moose, Caribou and Grizzly Bears. We negotiate these quotas with the Mayo District Resource Council and the Department of Environment. We have numerous cabins throughout the hunting concession.

This area takes in just about the entirety of 12 Game Management Zones:

2-65 2-70 2-72 2-73 2-74 2-75 2-76 2-77 2-78 2-80 2-82 2-88

And parts of Game Management Zones 2-81, 2-83 and 2-66.



# Bonnet Plume Outfitters Yukon

## Local Jobs and Benefits

### MEAT DISTRIBUTION:

Approximately 18,000 lbs of Moose and caribou meat was distributed to the people in Mayo and area in 2005. A letter was sent to Bonnet Plume Outfitters thanking us for the abundance of meat and the good quality of meat. There was enough meat provided to the people of Mayo that some of the meat was shipped to Elders in Whitehorse, for which they were most appreciative for.

Strongly support the local trapper in hunting concession by selling a large number of his animal hides to our hunters.

Support the Yukon Child Find Magazine and Yukon Children's Safety Books. These books are distributed in Mayo at no cost to the residents.

There is a spin off from our hunters and guides when they spend time in Mayo. We encourage our hunters and guides to support Mayo businesses.

Have used approximately 15 businesses and services in Mayo in 2005.

Hired Yukon residents who applied for jobs in 2005.

Spent approximately \$150,000 plus on goods and services per year in the Yukon, and support local business as much as possible.

We bought land in Mayo to allow us to spend more time in Mayo, which will allow us to have more community involvement. We want to form a mutually beneficial relationship with the people of Mayo.

## Concerns and Issues

We purchased the Bonnet Plume Outfitters (concession #5) in October of 2004. We purchased the area partly because of the untouched remoteness and limited access of the area. We are a young couple who are looking forward to many years of Outfitting in the Bonnet Plume.

We feel as an outfitter we leave a small footprint on the area and would hope that other users of the area would leave the same small footprint. Our clients are in awe of the vast natural beauty of the area and the lack of human development. We love showing people that uninhabited places like this still exists in the world.

We are concerned that too much development in the area will affect the wildlife and the natural beauty of the area. This in turn could decrease the number of clients interested in visiting our area.

Outfitting in the Yukon is a substantial and consistent contributor to the economy in the Yukon. It brings new money and steady income to the Territory, local jobs and benefits year after year. The vast amount of supplies needed to run an Outfitting Concession brings huge dollars to local businesses. Outfitters also supply communities with large amount of meat. Outfitters are also conservationists that care about the land and the wildlife.

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BONNET PLUME OUTFITTERS

6538 •  
Outfitting  
Concession  
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BONNET PLUME RANGE

JECKE

MOUNTAINS

6557

7762

7160

6882 •  
Castro Mtn

Rackla  
Pass

Bonnet  
Plum  
Pass

6107 •  
Rusty Mtn

Nadakoan Mtn

NADALEEN RANGE • 6362

6600 •  
Mt Cameron

Mt Patterson  
6852 •

6769 •  
Mt Ortoll

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