

NORTH YUKON REGIONAL LAND USE PLAN CONSISTENCY OPINION	
YESAB Project #	2025-0100
Project Title:	Chum Salmon Restoration Trial - Fishing Branch River
Date:	April 7 th , 2026
Submitted to:	YESAB Dawson Designated Office Bag 6050, Dawson City, Y0B 1G0 (via YOR)
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More information on NYLUP consistency opinions:	https://planyukon.ca/north-yukon-consistency-opinions/
Project conforms to Regional Land Use Plan: (select one) Yes	

Background Information and Conformity Check Analysis

Affected Landscape Management Unit (LMU)(s): (insert rows as needed for additional LMUs) Map 1 and Section 6							
LM Unit #	12A	LMU Name:	Ni'iinlii'njik (Fishing Branch) SMA: Ni'iinlii'njik Protected Area				
Zoning:	Protected Area	Land Owner:	Yukon public land (Fishing Branch Ecological Reserve) and VGFN Settlement land (VG R-05A S-3A)				
Landscape Disturbance Indicators: Table 3.2, sections 3.3.1.1, 5.1.1							
Surface Disturbance (ha):							
LMU	Cautionary Level	Critical Level	*Current est. Level	Project Estimate	Total Estimate	Notific-ation Rqr'd**	Parties Notified
12A	NA***	NA	371	0	371	No	No
Linear Disturbance (km):							
LMU	Cautionary Level	Critical Level	*Current est. Level	Project Estimate	Total Estimate	Notific-ation Rqr'd**	Parties Notified
12A	NA	NA	503	0	503	No	No
*current cumulative effects levels based disturbance data produced by Yukon Government based on 2020 1.5m imagery. It does not consider recovery of legacy disturbances. YLUPC analyzed these data and published the disturbance amounts per LMU in their interactive mapping application .							
** the YLUPC shall notify the Parties prior to submitting the conformity check to YESAB if they are concerned cautionary or critical levels may be reached							
***No levels were identified for Protected Areas							

Designations:

(Section 3, Plan Concepts) – these are typically high-level directions applied to all LMUs of the same designation. Ones especially relevant for this opinion are **bolded**.

LMU	Designation	Description
12A	Protected Area	Legally designated land areas withdrawn from surface and subsurface rights issuance. Oil and gas, mining and other industrial land uses are not allowed. Examples include Vuntut National Park and Ni'iinlii'njik (Fishing Branch) Wilderness Preserve and Ecological Reserve.

Special Management Considerations: (Section 6, LMUs)

LMU	Special Management Consideration
12A	<i>See</i> Ni'iinlii'njik (Fishing Branch) SMA Management Plans (Yukon Department of Environment and Vuntut Gwitchin Government, 2004a,b) [and 2010 update].

Affected Values and General Management Directions (GMD): (Section 5)

Only GMDs that are relevant to the project and/or values identified in the LMUs are included here.

	Corresponding Recommendation:
Wildlife	<p>2.1.1 Reduce size, intensity and duration of human-caused physical surface disturbances (e.g., utilize low impact seismic, winter roads and enhanced reclamation).</p> <p>2.1.2 Reduce other human land use impacts such as noise, smell and light.</p> <p>2.3. Minimize potential habitat avoidance that results from human features and activities.</p> <p>2.3.1 Avoid or reduce activities in significant wildlife habitats during important biological periods (e.g., utilize timing windows).</p>
Fish	<p>3.1.1 Minimize surface and vegetation disturbance in riparian areas.</p> <p>3.3.1 Avoid direct disturbance to sensitive over-wintering habitats.</p> <p>3.3.3 Avoid or reduce activities in fish habitat during important biological periods or seasons (e.g., utilize timing windows).</p> <p>3.3.4 Avoid or reduce winter in-stream water withdrawals in sensitive over-wintering fish habitat.</p>
Heritage and Culture	<p>5.1.1 Minimize land use impacts in the vicinity of identified heritage and historic resources.</p>

Plan Recommended Best Management Practices: (Section 5 following each value)	
Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid or minimize the size, extent, duration and level of activities in concentrated seasonal use areas. • Use appropriate operational timing-windows in significant wildlife habitats to minimize activities, whenever possible, during periods of wildlife use.
Porcupine Caribou	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid using or crossing seasonal migration corridors with new access routes. • Define and implement safe operating distances from the herd. • Consider the following seasons when determining appropriate operational timing-windows (seasons when Porcupine caribou occupy the region) <p> Winter: December 1 to March 31 Spring migration: April 1 to May 31 Early summer: July 1 to July 15 Mid to late summer: July 16 to August 7 Fall migration: August 8 to October 7 Rut: October 8 to November 30 </p>
Wetlands, Lakes and Rivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface disturbance and land use activities within and adjacent to Major River and other riparian corridors should not result in diminished water quality, quantity or flow.
Heritage, Social, Cultural Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA
Transportation and Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA

Plan Recommendations: (Section 5 following each value)

Fish Habitat

NA

Additional Analysis or Comments:

This project proposes no new surface disturbance in the North Yukon Region.

Though the Plan does not speak to management of fish populations or egg incubation, much of the Plan is focused on the maintenance of fish habitat, as indicated in one of 6 plan goals: Goal 3:

Maintain aquatic habitat in a condition required to sustain regional fish populations.

Further, considering that Chum salmon are considered a cultural resource, another plan goal applies: Goal 5:

Recognize, conserve and promote the heritage and cultural resources and values of the Vuntut Gwitchin, other affected First Nations, and the Yukon.

Finally, the only special management consideration for LMU 12A is to support the Ni'inlii'njik (Fishing Branch) SMA Management Plans which in turn support the stewardship of chum salmon. **For these reasons, this project is in conformity with the Plan.**

However, given the location and timing of the project, disturbance to fish habitat of disturbance to wildlife (e.g., bears) are possible and should be considered throughout the project. These concerns are largely mitigated in the project proposal.