

Dawson Regional Planning Commission

Correspondence List

Dec 20, 2018 – April 23, 2019

Date	FROM	TO	Regarding	Response Required	Date Response Completed	TAB
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In Coming

Mar 5, 2019	YLUPC- Chair- Pearl L Callaghan	DRPC Commission Members	Appointments	N		
Mar 27, 2019	Environment Canada	Canadian Wildlife Service	Species at Risk	Y		

Out Going



YUKON LAND USE PLANNING COUNCIL

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March 5, 2019

Ms. Debbie Nagano
Box 255
Dawson City, YT
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Ms. Angie Joseph
Box 613
Dawson City, YT
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Ms. Alice McCulley
Box 1757
Dawson City, YT
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Mr. John Flynn
General Delivery
Dawson City, YT
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Mr. Dan Reynolds
Bag 108
Dawson, City, YT
Y0B 1G0

Mr. Art Webster
18 Antwerp St.
Whitehorse, YT
Y1A 3B7

Dear Commission Members:

Congratulations on your appointment to the Dawson Regional Planning Commission! You and your fellow members have challenging but rewarding work ahead of you. Regional plans are important documents that establish a vision for the future of a region based upon the Yukon First Nations Land Claim Agreements. This work will build upon the effort of the previous commission that operated between 2010 and 2014.

The Yukon Land Use Planning Council will assist with this effort, guided by the Terms of Reference that the Parties (Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Yukon Government) have approved. The three members on the Council are Dennis Zimmerman, Lois Craig and myself. The Council's Secretariat includes Ron Cruikshank, Director, Sam Skinner, Senior Planner, Heidi Hansen, Senior Financial Administrator and Joe Copper Jack, Senior Policy and Planning Advisor. Tim Van Hinte has been hired to act as your Senior Land Use Planner and we anticipate hiring a Land Use Planner this spring to help with plan production.

We will begin the work of producing a regional land use plan for the Dawson Region by having you participate in the *Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in 101* course and hosting a 2-day training and orientation in April. Ron Cruikshank and Tim Van Hinte will be in touch with you about the details associated with these initial events.

I look forward to meeting you all and working with you as you recommend a regional plan for the Dawson Planning Region.

Sincerely,

Pearl Callaghan,
Chair, YLUPC



Canadian Wildlife Service
Northern Region
91780 Alaska Highway
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5X7

March 27, 2019

RE: Pan-Canadian Approach to Transforming Species at Risk Conservation in the Yukon

Dear Potential Partner,

The Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) would like to share information with you about a new plan to protect species at risk and to prevent species from becoming at risk. CWS has access to resources to support this plan and we would like to discuss opportunities for future collaborative efforts.

In the 2018 Federal Budget specific commitments were made to improve outcomes for species conservation and species at risk recovery. As a result, CWS identified how to focus its resources by supporting a new plan to accelerate progress and align efforts to achieve meaningful conservation outcomes in the next 5 to 10 years across Canada. In June 2018, the new plan, called a “Pan-Canadian Approach”, was approved by Federal, Provincial and Territorial ministers.

Under the Canada Nature Fund, \$500 million in new funding was identified to support the protection of Canada’s ecosystems, landscapes and biodiversity including species at risk, over the next five years. This new funding will need to be matched for a total of \$1 billion. Within the fund there are two streams: Spaces and Species. The Priority Places initiative identified here is part of the Terrestrial component of the Species Stream.

(Note: recently there have been several other funding activities launched by the Federal government. For more information on those programs – please visit the Canada Nature Fund website – link on last page)

"A priority place may be described as a defined geographic area of high biodiversity value with a recognizable ecological theme and social relevance that may be intuitively identified as a distinct "place" by the people that live there and manage its infrastructure and renewable and non-renewable natural resources."

The principles guiding the "Priority Place" place-based concept are: multiple species, ecosystem-based approach, shared leadership, shared priorities, strengthened partnerships, Indigenous engagement and aligned investments in a defined area or "Priority Place". Conservation decisions will be based on evidence and efforts will be made to improve monitoring and reporting on the conservation outcomes.

"Priority Places" were selected based on criteria such as biodiversity values including the occurrence of numerous species at risk, unique ecosystems characteristics, development pressures and support from key interested parties and governments. Finding any areas meeting these criteria for the north was challenging and none were proposed for either the Northwest Territories or Nunavut after engagement with those territorial governments. However, for the Yukon, CWS is proposing the southern half of "Beringia" (see attached map) as a potential option. The area is approximately 89,000 km² and stretches from the Ogilvie Mountains in the north, south to Dezadeash Lake and Carcross.

"Yukon South Beringia" is of interest as a Priority Place because there are a number of species at risk present, there is active mining and exploration, fishing, hunting and tourism activities, and it is a definable area that is not unmanageably large. Perhaps most notably, it overlaps with the current Dawson Land Use planning process, providing an opportunity to leverage additional information and recommendations to that process (time-line permitting) that could result in meaningful conservation and sustainability outcomes.

ECCC has access to funding to support conservation planning and work in this area if partners agree that supporting this initiative will further our collective conversation action goals.

Please share this letter broadly within your organizations.

We would like to hear from you and are available to discuss opportunities for partnership. Paula Pacholek, our Senior Policy Analyst at 867-393-6844 (Paula.Pacholek@canada.ca), will follow up to see if you have any questions or comments. We can also arrange a meeting to discuss the Pan-Canadian Approach in the Yukon.

Sincerely,



Craig Machtans,
Manager, Northern Region
Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment and Climate Change Canada

Cc: Christine Cleghorn, Director, Yukon Government
Diane Wilson, Field Unit Superintendent, Parks Canada Agency

Attachments and related website links:

- *Map of Yukon South Beringia*
- *Canada Nature Fund*

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/nature-legacy/fund.html>

- *Pan-Canadian approach to transforming Species at Risk conservation in Canada*

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/wildlife-plants-species/species-risk/pan-canadian-approach.html>

<https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/eccc/documents/pdf/species-risk/pan-canadian-approach-transforming-species-risk-conservation-canada.pdf>

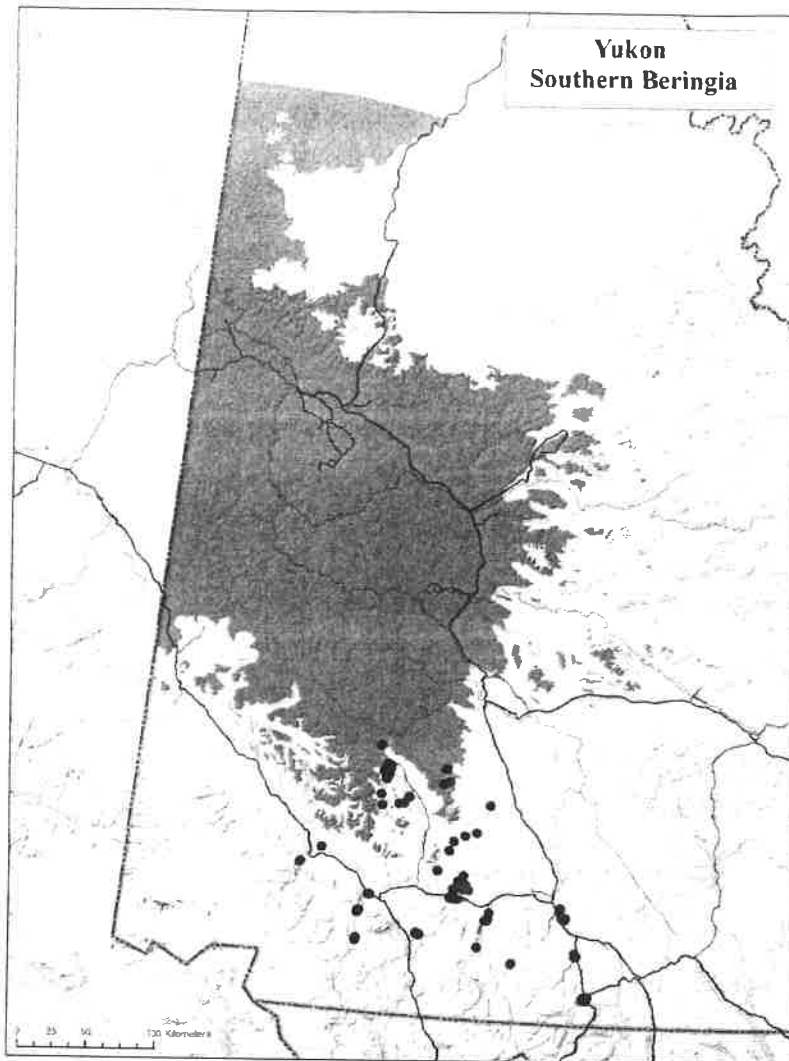


Figure 1: A map of the southern part of Beringia referred to this in this letter, trimmed to the northern boundary of the Dawson land use planning area. The dots are occurrences of Beringian refugia outside the main area that are too small to be visible if mapped using the above scale. This is the “priority place” identified for the Yukon, though early focus will be on the portion of this coloured area contained in the Dawson land use planning area.