

Implementing the Gwich'in Land Use Plan: A FIVE YEAR WORK PLAN (2003 TO 2008)

February 2005 Revision



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A. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The Gwich'in Land Use Plan (the Plan) was fully signed and approved on August 7, 2003. This document (the Strategy) will guide the Planning Board's activities over the life of the Plan. It will also help guide our planning partners, such as DIAND, Gwich'in Tribal Council (GTC), Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board (GRRB), and the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) in their roles and responsibilities in implementing the Plan.

Procedures for implementing the Plan are found in Chapter 6 of the Plan (pg.148). The Planning Board will play a critical role in implementing the Plan. It 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 Plan, as much as possible, deals with these issues in an integrated way, which means that issues are considered together. The Planning Board will be involved in many different areas facilitating, where possible, the resolution of issues identified in the Plan.

This Strategy is available to everyone. While the Planning Board is responsible for overseeing and monitoring the Strategy, it needs to work with its planning partners in implementation. This document takes into consideration our discussion with the communities and our other planning partners. We expect these discussions are just the beginning of how we will implement the Plan. Given that, we see this Strategy as a "living document", and expect changes to it over the next five years. However, it describes our starting point.

1.2 Description of the Strategy

Section C

The Land Use Plan has a series of recommendations and actions, outlined according to issues (Chapter 5 of the Plan pg-118). There are 50 issues outlined in the Plan, according to eleven topic areas:

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. Legislative protected areas

For each action, a time frame for completing the action is given. In some cases, detailed steps are given to address the actions; in some, general ideas are given regarding monitoring how other organizations are doing at addressing the issues they are responsible for in the Plan. Given the lengthy approval process, in some cases actions have already been taken to towards completing the item. On the other hand, we have also added, where appropriate,

additional action items that have come up during the approval process and creation of the implementation strategy. All actions are outlined in *Section C*.

Note that procedures for dealing with conformity, exceptions and amendments to the Plan are also outlined in Chapter 6 of the Plan. These are further outlined in the Planning Board's policies and procedures manual, not in this document.

Section B

In addition to the actions identified in the Land Use Plan, there are others that fall under topics that are specific to the Plan implementation and continuing planning process, namely:

- 1.0 Communications
- 2.0 Working with Others (Integrated Resource Management)
- 3.0 Conditions for Plan Approval
- 4.0 Conformity Process
- 5.0 Continued Information Gathering
- 6.0 5-Year Review

These items are outlined in *Section B: Planning Process Actions*.

Section D

The *Timeframe/Work Plan* summarizes this Strategy, by integrating actions from Sections B and C of the Strategy.

B. PLANNING PROCESS ACTIONS

1.0 COMMUNICATIONS

What do we need to say?

Communicating with a wide range of groups is important to:

- Promote the vision set out in the Plan
- Promote understanding of its contents
- Help implement the Plan
- Monitor our progress in implementing the Plan.

Communities need to fully understand their role in land use planning, and continue to refine their vision for the Gwich'in Settlement Area. Planning partners need to understand their roles and responsibilities in managing human action and influences on the land. Regulatory authorities, communities and businesses need to be given clear instructions regarding procedures for determining conformity, exceptions and amendments.

We also need to be able to learn from experience, acknowledge problems with the Plan, and collectively discuss and resolve issues and problems arising.

To deal with these many communications needs, a variety of communications procedures and methods are planned. These are intended to meet the needs of the wide range of interest groups, including Gwich'in beneficiaries, industry and business, signatories, boards, and interest groups. Evaluating our communications will be done on an ongoing basis, but a specific evaluation of communications is also expected prior to the 5-year review.

We also have some legal requirements for communications. Public notice of the draft plan was given as required by the MVRMA 42 (1). Other legal requirements for notice or public hearings need to be checked through our legal advisor.

Who are we communicating with?

Different groups will have different needs in terms of obtaining information about the Plan. Following are the major groups or audiences, along with the main methods proposed for communication.

Communities: see "Community Involvement" section

Signatories: annual meetings as a minimum, website, annual reports, newsletters

Gwich'in Boards: annual meetings as a minimum, website, annual reports, newsletters

Mining and hydrocarbon industries: website; displays; pamphlets

Other industries and businesses: website; pamphlets

Non-government agencies: website

Adjacent jurisdictions: see "Transboundary" section

How will we communicate?

We want to get accurate information to people and groups when they need it. A variety of media are planned as outlined below.

1.1 Annual Report

The Planning Board is committed to producing and distributing an annual report. The annual report will provide an integrated summary of the previous year of land use planning and management in the Settlement Area. It will summarize what has been done in the year and outline what can be expected in the future. The annual report may also include recommendations for further actions by the Board or planning partners (these recommendations will be added to future revisions of this work plan document). The annual report will be our primary instrument to record, monitor and communicate Plan implementation activities that are described in this document.

The report will include:

1. Board and staff update
2. Land Use Planning Board Activities
3. Summary of requests for permits and status of permits. This is intended as a quick reference to land use activities requiring authorisations, and will include:
 - a. applications for permits/licences for activities conforming to the Plan and permitted
 - b. applications for permits/licences for activities conforming to the Plan but not permitted
 - c. Non-conforming applications
4. List of requests for exceptions or amendments, including status of application
5. Land use issues. Discussion of any issues arising from activities which need to be addressed, including recommendations for further actions
6. Implementation Review: Brief status report on implementation items undertaken by the Board and by other planning partners (a report on the progress of the work plan in this document)
7. Planning Board review of CIMP for application to Boards' purpose/mandate
8. Work Plan for the upcoming year
9. Financial Statements

The annual report will be completed each year in July. The format of the report will be consistent each year to make it easier to compare the reports and to see the progress made each year.

The report will be distributed to each community of the GSA, and to the three signatory governments. We would ask the signatories to review the report, and send a letter of any comments to the Board. Any other agency or board listed in the Strategy will either be sent a copy or advised when the new report is posted on the Planning Board website.

Timeframe

Initial annual reports have been done. The first official report following signing will be produced in July 2004. By March 2004, the Planning Board will consult with the above listed groups, to ensure that the format of the report meets the needs of as many groups as possible.

1.2 Website

The Planning Board has a website www.gwichinplanning.nt.ca. The Plan is on the website, including background reports - *The Process of Land Use Planning in the GSA* and *Plan Options: Gwich'in Settlement Area Land Use Plan*. In addition, the site contains a description of the Board, the Region, the annual reports, links to other sites, and contact information.

The Planning Board will continue to update the website with any changes in members or staff, each new annual report, any newsletters, and any requested or accepted exceptions or amendments. Other information, such as the process for the 5 year plan review, will be added at the appropriate time.

A record of questions coming to the Board will be kept. In the fall of each year, a section on Frequently Asked Questions will be added to the website or amended. Consideration to including a "guest book" will be given. Links to other applicable websites, particularly the signatories, will be investigated (both in terms of our links to other sites, and how DIAND and the GNWT might link the Land Use Plan webpage to their sites).

Timeframe

Updates ongoing, including:

- Posting of This Strategy
- Annual July posting of Annual Report
- Annual fall review of "Frequently Asked Questions" section
- Full review of website in about 2 years

1.3 Pamphlets and Brochures

A pamphlet on the Gwich'in Land Use Plan and a pamphlet "Requesting an Exception to the Gwich'in Land Use Plan" have been produced.

A more detailed pamphlet to be produced jointly with the Gwich'in Land and Water Board (GLWB) and Gwich'in Lands and Resources (GLR) to describe the current regulatory system will be considered. It is intended to have wide distribution to the mining and hydrocarbon industries.

The need for other pamphlets or brochures will be evaluated over the 5-year cycle.

The pamphlets will be given out during conferences that the Planning Board attends, such as the Inuvik Petroleum Show and the Yellowknife Geoscience Forum. They will be made available to agencies that might wish to display them; for example, the regional and Yellowknife offices of DIAND and the GNWT, and the office of the NWT/Nunavut Chamber of Mines. The Board also hopes to send the pamphlets to the mining industry through DIAND when it does the second round of CMR consultations as a good way to get information to a significant proportion of that industry.

Timeframe

- 2004: work with DIAND to get pamphlet to mining industry during CMR review
- Joint pamphlet with GLWB and GLR produced November 2004
- Annual assessment of need for pamphlets/brochure done in the Annual Report

1.4 Newsletters

We are planning to publish at least one newsletter annually. This is directed to the communities, to keep them up-to-date on activities. It will also be distributed to the signatory agencies and Gwich'in boards, and posted on the website.

Timeframe

- November 2004 (summary of Strategy work plan)
- Winter 2005 and then annually

1.5 Media releases

The Board has published one media release, following the formal approval of the Plan. Though not a large part of the communications plan, media release will be done for other major events. This will help get information out to groups other than the main audiences listed.

Timeframe

- Ongoing as situations arise

1.6 Direct Communications

Meetings with the signatories will need to be done on an ongoing basis to update this Strategy and to work together on the Plan implementation. The Board wants to ensure everyone is up-to-date, and there are not large, unexpected issues arising at the 5-year review stage.

A formal notification of the Plan's approval will be sent to all Gwich'in, Boards, the Aurora Research Institute, the National Energy Board, and any other non-signatory regulatory authorities. The notification will include a brief summary of what the Plan means in terms of the regulation of land and water use in the Settlement Area, and the need to work together on implementation of the Plan.

Required and recommended actions from the Land Use Plan will be reviewed with the signatories and other planning partners.

DIAND have said it would be useful to have regular updates on the Plan and current activities. These would be approximately quarterly updates (or more often if a particular milestone is reached), about 2 pages in length, including background to each activity or issue. The Board would send copies to the GNWT as well, to assist in keeping the appropriate Ministers briefed on the implementation of the Plan.

With all regulatory authorities, a specific process for conformity checks must be established. This will be done directly with each authority.

Letters or face-to-face meetings will also be done for specific items. For example, the airline and tourism companies need to be told of the flying restrictions in certain Special Management Zones. The most efficient way to do this will be by letter to each business, with follow-up meetings as required.

The Inuvik and the NWT Chambers of Commerce will be given the opportunity for face-to-face meetings if they wish.

Timeframe

Early 2004

1.7 Video/Other non-written communications

More consideration to non-written communication methods needs to be given. An option is a video with other Gwich'in co-management boards regarding the roles and responsibilities of each of the boards, and the roles and responsibilities of beneficiaries. Various agencies may be interested in supporting such an endeavour.

Another method is ongoing radio shows, or special radio shows.

Timeframe

- Discuss joint projects with other Gwich'in co-management boards in summer 2004
- Look for opportunities to use radio on an ongoing basis

1.8 Beneficiaries outside the GSA

It is the role of GTC to inform beneficiaries of matters of concern and importance to them. The Board is willing to, if suitable to the GTC, notify beneficiaries outside the GSA in writing of the plan, and provided them with a copy or CD upon request.

Timeframe

-dependent upon GTC

1.9 Evaluation of Communications

- Assess if website is meeting needs of industry
- Measure website use (set up a guest book or a "hits" recorder)
- Possible survey to assess communications
- Compare annual reports to other agencies (such as Independent Monitoring Agencies)

2.0 WORKING WITH OTHERS (INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT)

The Gwich'in Land Use Plan, as much as possible, deals with land use issues in an integrated way, which means that issues are considered together. This needs to be done at a series of levels:

- a) Within the Planning Board activities themselves
- b) Within the GSA (between regional Boards)
- c) Within the Mackenzie Valley region (e.g., CIMP, CEAM, MVLWB, MVEIRB)
- d) Within the boreal context (Canadian/global)

This section is to give a sense of the "fit" between the Planning Board and its planning partners, and a strategy for working together at various levels.

2.1 Working with Gwich'in Boards

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.

This is an ongoing recommendation. There are specific steps being taken at this stage that should be built upon.

The Gwich'in Integrated Geographic Information System (GIGIS) project has been set up as a GIS services partnership between the GTC, GRRB, GLWB, and the GLUPB. The Board sees this project as one of the tools for integrating resource management and a way to prevent the duplication of efforts for spatial data collection and management. There is a central database for GIS information and a technician that provides GIS services to the partners. This allows all maps and related data bases to be updated at the same time, and cross-referenced. Maps can also be produced jointly between boards through this position. It is recommended that this approach continue.

The Land and Water Board has an Integrated Resource Manager (IRM) position which at this point is not filled. Resource management groups in the Gwich'in Settlement Area will need to work together and develop a strategy for dealing with the effects of outside activities on resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. This could be a priority of the GLWB IRM position. Currently, the GLWB is contributing the funding for this position to the GIS Project for the technician's salary. Continuing to seek an Integrated Resource Manager is recommended, therefore, the GIS Project partners will have to investigate options to fund the technician position.

In the past, the GTC Implementation Coordinator and the chair and a staff member of the GRRB, GLWB, GLUPB, and GSCI have met to provide updates on current activities to one another. These meetings have been sporadic. Establishing a routine of meetings would help to:

- Integrate visits to communities
- Integrate and improve communications to the communities and industry
- Integrate research programmes
- Share website resources
- Discuss planning issues
- Discuss education and training, and
- Discuss similar integrated resource management concerns.

Note that these meeting should always include the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute. While it is not a board established under the Claim, it an institute that we need to co-ordinate activities with since they are the primary body responsible for collecting and managing traditional knowledge and cultural information.

Timeframe

- At least annual meetings with other Gwich'in boards
- Initiate "Code of Good Conduct" for the disposal of garbage by all land users with other boards by September 2004

- Integrated GIS project ongoing
- Integrated Resource Manager position filled in 2004

2.2 Working with Other Planning Partners

For working with GTC, the Planning Board will work directly with the Lands, Resources and Implementation section, which includes the Gwich'in Land Administration.

When working on implementation issues relevant to the specific mandates and interests of various departments of the GNWT, the Board will work directly with the appropriate departments in the Inuvik Region. If central services are required, RWED Policy, Legislation, and Communications will be used to assist in identifying appropriate contacts. Departments to work with include the Department of Public Works (gravel sources), Department of Transportation (roads, ferries), RWED (forestry, wildlife, PAS, environmental assessment, mineral, oil and gas, tourism, and the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline group), Education Culture and Employment (PWNHC, Aurora Research Institute) and Aboriginal Affairs.

For working with the Federal Government, the Planning Board will work through the Mackenzie Valley Land Use Planning Co-ordinator with the Environment and Conservation Division of DIAND. The MVLUP Co-ordinator will co-ordinate comments and information from DIAND to the Planning Board. He will not co-ordinate comments and information from other Federal Departments, but will arrange for meetings with those Departments in conjunction with DIAND meetings.

Generally, the Planning Board will follow-up with the following:

DFO

Environment Canada (including Parks Canada, Water Resources, and CWS)

DIAND (Land Administration Division, Contaminants Division, Communications, Environment and Conservation Division, Water Resources Division, NWT Geoscience Office (formerly called the C.S. Lord Northern Geoscience Centre), Pipeline Preparedness Office, and Claims Implementation)

The Planning Board received specific comments from DIAND during the review period of the Land Use Plan that the Board will address over the next five years. All points have been included in this Strategy.

2.3 Integrated Planning within the Mackenzie Valley region

The Board wants to do our part to ensure planning in the Mackenzie Valley region is integrated. *Section C: 10 Transboundary Areas* discusses working with the Sahtu (and others) regarding planning.

Land use planning is also an important part of the cumulative effects assessment process. The Board should take into consideration work under the NWT Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program (CIMP) and Audit as part of the Cumulative Effects Assessment and Management (CEAM) strategy and framework. We will work with DIAND and the GTC in keeping up to date on these initiatives. We will keep in mind project cumulative effects assessments (which should allow some "environmental room" for future development of current industries and other industries) as well as regional cumulative effects. Progress on

the NWT CIMP will be reviewed annually in the Planning Board report with respect to our purposes/mandate.

We will work with other Boards (e.g., MVLWB) as appropriate. One method for learning and co-ordination will be to participate in 'All-Board Forums' as suitable. Valley-wide, on-line conformity checks may become possible, depending on the interest of other Boards to work to this end. We will evaluate this if it is initiated.

2.4 Planning within the Boreal Context

Canadian and global issues also affect the Gwich'in Settlement Area. We trust that our planning partners will bring forward relevant national and international commitments that may affect planning in the GSA.

3.0. CONDITIONS LEADING TO LAND USE PLAN APPROVAL

The Plan was approved by the GTC, Territorial Government and DIAND. (On behalf of the Federal Government) in August 2003. DIAND's approval came with certain conditions. This section outlines these conditions, and how they will be implemented and monitored.

3.1 Changes to the Canada Mining Regulations (CMR)

The Canada Mining Regulations at present do not allow for land use plans in general, or the Gwich'in Land Use Plan specifically, to inhibit prospecting and the subsequent approval of mines in areas sensitive to this type of land use. However, all parties agreed that Land Claim Agreements, and approved land use plans under those agreements, do take precedence over the Canada Mining Regulations. Therefore, changes are needed to the CMR to recognise the authority of land use plans to identify where mining activities are and are not appropriate.

Until the changes are made, the Conservation Zones and the Heritage Conservation Zones of the Plan have been withdrawn from subsurface use by an Order in Council, which places restrictions on mining (see 'Land Withdrawals' section below for more details).

DIAND has commenced the changes to the CMR, which must be completed, approved and gazetted by January 2008 at the latest. The next changes are expected to go out for consultation in May 2004. It will be DIAND's responsibility to ensure that the changes to the CMR do recognise the authority of the Land Use Plan and that any other changes to the CMR do not contradict this authority. The Planning Board will monitor the changes to the CMR in terms of content and timetable.

Timeframe:

May 2004: review next draft of CMR changes and ongoing as needed

3.2 Land Withdrawals

All of the Conservation Zones and Heritage Conservation Zones needed to have subsurface withdrawals completed prior to the Land Use Plan being approved, to allow time for the CMR changes to be made. The areas, totalling 591, 050.9 hectares, were withdrawn May 15, 2003, and the withdrawal is in effect until January 31, 2008 (unless all parties agree to

alter the Order in Council). Only subsurface withdrawals (not surface) were made. The Planning Board will monitor the progress of the CMR changes, to ensure no changes need to be made to the closure date for the withdrawals.

Once appropriate changes to the CMR have been made and the withdrawals have lapsed, DIAND will need to show the Conservation Zones (including Heritage Conservation Zones) as areas of 'no development' on their maps. To date, they use OIC information for showing withdrawals. A new method will be needed before the withdrawals lapse.

Timeframe:

January 2007: follow-up with DIAND (Land Administration and Mining Records Office) to ensure they have an effective system and accurate mapping in place for checking the Plan Zoning when dealing with a rights issuance once the land withdrawals lapse

3.3 Mineral and Hydrocarbon Resource Assessment

The Plan was done with the best available information found by the Board or provided to the Board by its planning partners. Both DIAND and the Planning Board agreed that there is little detailed information on mineral and hydrocarbon resources.

As part of the land withdrawals, DIAND committed to completing a "Phase 1 and Phase 2" assessment of the mineral and hydrocarbon resources of all withdrawn lands by January, 2008. Phase 1 assessments are a review of existing data. This was completed, but no report available. However, this has given DIAND the information needed to plan the Phase 2 assessment. Phase 2 assessments involve new data collection, focussing on areas of highest potential for mineral or hydrocarbon extraction. The Planning Board asked that tourism potential of mineral occurrences is also included in the evaluations (e.g., Norman Wells 'fossil hunt'; Arizona turquoise 'hunts'). The NWT Geoscience Office (formerly called the C.S. Lord Geosciences Centre) has been contracted by DIAND to do the Phase 1 and Phase 2 work, including economic potential evaluation.

DIAND is responsible for ensuring this work is completed to the satisfaction of the Federal Government and the Planning Board, so that an informed decision on the retention and boundaries of the Conservation Zones/Heritage Conservation Zones can be made from a mineral/hydrocarbon economic perspective. As part of their responsibility, DIAND will ensure that the work is peer reviewed, and meets the current standards used for non-renewable resource assessments in other jurisdictions in Canada. They will also ensure that the work meets requirements set out under the Protected Areas Strategy (PAS), so that if desired, the conservation zones/heritage conservation zones could go through the PAS process for full legal protection without additional geosciences work. The NWT Geoscience Office will be responsible for providing the Planning Board with timely reporting on their annual work, and plans well in advance of each field season of their proposed work. They are also required to have meeting with the affected communities, in a manner agreed to between the NWT Geoscience Office Centre and the Planning Board.

The Planning Board is responsible for participating in the communications meeting with the NWT Geoscience Office staff, providing timely comments on the work plans and reports, and integrating the information into the 5 year review.

Timeframe

While all these items only need to be completed by January 31, 2008, we will be pushing that changes to the CMR are completed by August 2006. We will expect reporting from the NWT Geoscience Office Centre on their work in at least February of each year.

4.0 CONFORMITY PROCESS

The Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (Section 47) states that Regulatory Authorities do the initial conformity check unless the responsibility is referred to the Board. The conformity check consists of assessing if the activity described in an application to a Regulatory Authority (RA) is allowed under the Land Use Plan, and what conditions from the Plan should be attached to any authorizations issued. The Board must be on all referral lists to keep track of all applications and licenses/authorizations issued, do our own conformity checks as necessary, and evaluate Plan implications.

At least initially, the Board wishes to do all conformity checks. This serves three purposes:

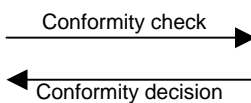
1. It will provide the RA's with some examples of Plan interpretation and application for when they make the decision on conformity.
2. It allows for the development of a strong working relationship between the Board and Regulatory Authority through discussion of individual applications. This relationship is important to both the regulatory and planning processes.
3. The discussion of individual applications will increase the Board's understanding of RA process and decision making, which will help when evaluating the Plan's effectiveness during the five year review.

We will work on a letter of understanding with each agency as to process for the conformity check. The general process, to be determined with input from each authority, is sketched out on the following page.

GENERALIZED BEST PRACTICES PROCESS REGARDING CONFORMANCE OF PROPOSED ACTIVITIES WITH THE LAND USE PLAN

1. Application submitted to Regulatory Authority (RA) by project proponent
2. RA assigns file number to application/enters into database

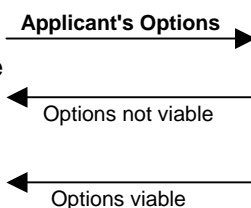
3. RA uses internal standards to determine completeness of application. A check for conformity with LUP is done at this time



RA sends copy of the application to GLUPB, GLUPB issues RA with assessment of conformity. A final decision may be delayed until step 9 when stakeholder comments are reviewed.

4. RA sends Applicant a letter of notification

- a) that application is incomplete and / or activity does not conform to Land Use Plan; **application rejected**
- b) that application is complete and conforms to Plan; will **continue with process**



- bring application up to RA standard of completeness
- alter proposed activity/timeline so that it conforms with Plan and RA regulations
- apply to GLUPB for Exception or Amendment to Plan. Copy of this application also to be given to the RA

5. RA prepares and sends copy of the application for referral to stakeholders (DGO's, RRC's, GSCI, DFO, Environment Canada, MVEIRB, etc.)

6. RA Tracks and Reviews responses from stakeholders

7. RA drafts recommendation

8. Recommendation reviewed as required internally by RA or w/ other agencies

9. RA makes decision on application

- a) to request changes or additional information to address concerns; might include a referral to an Environmental Assessment/Review,
- b) to reject application, or
- c) to issue authorization

10. RA inputs the permit into its public registry and in GIS or data base format.

RA sends copy of authorization or notification of rejection to Planning Board

11. Any applications submitted to the RA for amendments to an authorization need to be reviewed for conformity with the Land Use Plan. Sent to Planning Board for decision.

NOTE: legislation requires an up-to-date public registry database. The Planning Board will use both the RA and public registry to summarize activities for our annual report. Some applications will not trigger a land use permit, none-the-less, we will require details on these proposed activities and co-ordinates for our annual report.

12. Update all files with changes (RA and Planning Board need to co-ordinate GIS file updates)

The Board will set up meetings with each of the following regulatory authorities, to fine tune this process with each agency:

Gwich'in Land and Water Board
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Review Board
National Energy Board
Aurora Research Institute
Gwich'in Land Administration
DIAND
DFO

And any other agency doing preliminary screening under Schedule 2 of the MVRMA

Insurance and Penalties

Exceptions to the Land Use Plan can be expected. These will only be given by the Board if we believe the activity will have minimal negative impacts, will provide benefits (particularly to the Gwich'in), and are temporary in nature. Even with these process assurances, we would like additional monetary security for any exceptions made. In our meetings with regulatory authorities early in 2004, we will discuss insurance levels and performance/security deposits. Levels of insurance and deposits can be expected to be higher in special management zones and in conservation zones.

Conditions

Conditions in the Special Management Zones will form part of land and water authorizations in those zones. We want to make sure these conditions are effective and enforceable. The Board will review these conditions with the assistance of appropriate groups, including the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board and the community Renewable Resource Councils, to take into account the most up-to-date traditional knowledge and scientific information. The review should include a legal assessment to ensure the clauses conform to "best practices", are clear to proponents and regulatory authorities, and are enforceable.

This review should include a review of "Mobile Caribou Protection Measures" drafted by the Nunavut Planning Commission in the (draft) West Kitikmeot Land Use Plan. These measures are to offer protection that moves with the caribou (i.e., they are in addition to any protected area measures). The Board will work with the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board to determine the suitability of these "mobile measures" in the Gwich'in Land Use Plan (Note: RWED sits on the GRRB and will participate from this role). Included in the review would be whether these measures should be associated with any particular areas, or should be addressed in some other way within the Plan.

Timeframe

Ongoing: the Board will get copies of the terms and conditions set in each authorization, and reports from the environmental and wildlife monitors.

Discussions with GRRB over the mobile caribou protection measures will be initiated in 2004.

A process for the review will be presented in 1-2 years.

Results from the review will be noted in the 3rd annual report.

5.0 CONTINUED INFORMATION GATHERING

For this Land Use Plan, the Planning Board has used the best information available to make decisions. To keep improving the Plan, the Planning Board needs information to be gathered on a continuing basis. In all areas/issues more information would be helpful for planning, and research by various organizations is often ongoing. For instance, the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute is continuing to collect new heritage resources information. The Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board will continue to do research on wildlife, fish and forests. The Western NWT Biophysical Study (RWED) and CIMP/CEAM programs (DIAND) should provide additional material on the existing biophysical environment and on changes occurring to the environment.

To date non-renewable resources information is only being collected in the Conservation Zones (the areas where communities least want non-renewable resources industries to occur). The Planning Board encourages the Gwich'in, government, and industry to evaluate non-renewable resource development potential particularly in the General Use Zones, and specifically along the potential transportation and pipeline corridors.

The Planning Board also needs to look closely at what other items need to be researched in anticipation of land use pressures in the next five years. The Planning Board will develop a research plan to evaluate where there are gaps in the information we need to improve the Plan in the 5-year review.

The Planning Board will also look at adding recent permafrost information (e.g., http://sts.gsc.nrcan.gc.ca/permafrost/index_e.html, GSD Bulletin on the physical Environment of the Mackenzie: Dyke, L.D. and Brooks, G.. 2000. The Physical Environment of the Mackenzie Valley, Northwest Territories: A Baseline for the Assessment of Environment Change. Geological Survey of Canada Bulletin 547, 208 pages + maps), and monitoring if permafrost is considered in issuance of permits and licenses

Timeframe

- Addition of new information to the Plan in ongoing
- Monitoring licenses is ongoing
- Develop draft research plan by May 2004
- Review of permafrost information by 2006

6.0 5-YEAR REVIEW

Issues will emerge over the next five years that will need to be addressed in the 5-year review. These will be tracked in the Annual Report. In addition, we will need to establish if any changes are required to the Plan resulting from:

1. The CMR review (e.g., what changes to conservation zone procedures may be needed)
2. CIMP audit (e.g., possible establishment of baselines or standards, changes to the conditions in Special Management Zones, include in Chapter 3 the obligations under the Claim and MVRMA for CIMP and audit)

3. Any management plans produced by GRRB (e.g., changes to the conditions in Special Management Zones, locations of Special Management Zones, changes to boundaries of Conservation Zones)
4. The NWT Geoscience Office non-renewable resource assessments (e.g., changes to boundaries of Conservation Zones)
5. Pipeline review
6. Land use plans in adjacent areas (e.g., changes to rationalize or harmonize cross-boundary management)
7. Any other research over the next 5 years

The Plan will include an assessment of the recommendations and actions, a revised list of those items still (or now) requiring action, and any changes necessary to the agencies recommended for a particular action (i.e., more agencies may be involved than are shown for some recommendations; other agencies may not be the most suitable lead agency)

The review will include community consultations, as well as at least one regional workshop. The regional workshop will include communities, government and industry to facilitate understanding of the Plan between all parties and sectors. A survey on community involvement in decision-making will be part of the 5-year review.

Timeframe

2005:

Draft survey for assessing community involvement

Begin detailed discussions with planning partners about the five-year review process

2006:

Complete survey for assessing community involvement

Have finalised agreement with partners for process for 5-year review

Begin compiling and integrating ongoing plans and studies into the 5-year review

2007:

Present revised plan for approval

2008:

Plan approval

2009:

Plan distribution

Revised Strategy

C: ISSUES-RELATED ACTIONS

1.0 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Community involvement has been key to the planning process. The permitting process continues to rely heavily on input from communities. The Planning Board will again require input from the communities during the five year review. Therefore, ongoing and continuous community involvement is critical to the successful implementation of the Land Use Plan.

A series of recommendations for the Board and planning partners are listed below. More details on many of these are given in the Communications section (Section B.1)

- 1.1** 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.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 1.2** In order to improve communications in the future, the Planning Board recommends that all management and regulatory groups review on an on-going basis:
- a) When and how often they consult with communities, and
 - b) How effective they are in involving communities in decision-making.

Timeframe

Ongoing

At least annual meetings between Gwich'in Boards

- 1.3** 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.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 1.4** The Planning Board's Strategy for implementing the Plan shall describe a process for involving Gwich'in, communities, and representative organizations in land use planning decision-making.

Process

Gwich'in, communities and regional organizations have been involved throughout the Plan's development. They will continue to be involved in the implementation of the Plan by:

1.4.1 *Reporting on How the Plan Affects Land Use*

The Planning Board will visit each community to discuss the approved Plan.

The Planning Board will also produce a brochure, with the Gwich'in Land and Water Board and the Gwich'in Land Administration, showing how the Plan fits in with the current regulatory framework. Gwich'in and regional organizations that received copies of the Plan will also be given a list of amendments made during the approval process.

Gwich'in, communities and regional organizations must also be aware of how the Plan is affecting proposed land use in the Settlement Area over time. This includes knowing which land use applications conform to the Plan and have been approved or have continued through the regulatory process.

In their review of land use applications, most regulatory authorities consult with Gwich'in, communities and regional organizations, giving them an opportunity to see which applications conform to the Plan and are preceding through the regulatory process. In the annual report, the Planning Board will also provide a summary list of applications in the previous year that have conformed to the Plan. This will provide a quick overview of how the Plan is working to guide land use.

It is also important for Gwich'in, communities and regional organizations to see which permits were not authorized because they did not conform to the Plan. Again, it is an indication of how the Plan is affecting land use, and the economy, in the Settlement Area over time. The annual report will be used to share this information. The report will include a list of proposed land/water uses that were not authorized because they did not conform with the Plan.

Gwich'in, communities and regional organizations should also know if the Planning Board has considered any exceptions to the Plan. Requests for exceptions to the Plan will be summarized in the annual report, along with the Planning Board's decision.

The annual report will allow Gwich'in, communities and regional organizations to see how the Plan is working. The information will certainly be available throughout the year, if someone requests it, but the report will summarize and present the information each year.

A newsletter specifically directed to the communities will be published annually. Items will vary depending on what issues are most pressing. However, each newsletter will contain a brief explanation of the Plan, and where we are in the implementation process.

At least one staff and Board member will attend the Gwich'in Annual Assembly. Whenever possible, we will set up with the GTC a time slot for a brief presentation regarding the Plan. If GTC requests a presentation, both staff and Board will be involved.

Since we need to work closely with other Gwich'in Boards in implementing the Plan, and since many issues are common between the Boards, we will explore other ways to produce communications materials. An example is possibly doing a video regarding the roles of the different Boards, and how communities are involved in Board activities. Another option is to have a community radio programme to explain the implementation of the Land Claim in general (including implementation of the Land Use Plan).

1.4.2 Working Together to Change the Plan

The Planning Board is committed to doing more detailed planning, particularly along proposed highway and pipeline corridors. The Planning Board may also consider amending the Plan. Gwich'in, communities and regional organizations will be fully involved in the consultation process as they were in the development of the Plan.

In doing more detailed planning or considering plan amendments, the Planning Board will research and put together land use information. The information will be shared with Gwich'in, communities and regional organizations. They will be asked for their feedback and will be asked to contribute additional information. Any draft amendments or decisions based on more detailed planning will be reviewed by Gwich'in, communities and regional organizations and will require the approval of the GTC (before submitting to the GNWT and DIAND for their approval).

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 1.5** 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.

Process

We would like to have the survey completed prior to finalizing the procedures for Plan review. Hence, we are suggesting a draft survey be completed in 2005, with the survey to be completed in 2006. This will allow us to integrate information from the survey into our review process.

Timeframe

September 2005: Draft survey for assessing community involvement

2006: Survey completed

1.6 Other initiatives

The Planning Board will target youth in the communities for educating them regarding the Land Use Plan and the land use planning process.

Timeframe

September 2004: schedule of activities for promoting youth involvement in planning

2.0 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 for outfitting and other tourism ventures, oil and gas development as well as transportation. All possible opportunities will be looked at.

- 2.1** The Planning Board recommends that the Planning Board with the assistance of the Gwich'in Land and Water Board and Gwich'in Lands and Resources department (GTC) produce a pamphlet about the Gwich'in Land Use Plan and the Licencing /Permitting/ Authorisation requirements to describe steps businesses need to take to conduct land, water and resource activities in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

The pamphlet will include a map of the land use zones and the steps necessary to conform to the Plan. It will also mention other land use authorisation processes such as leases, quarry permits, or mineral claims issued by the federal government.

Additional Steps

Ensuring businesses are aware of, and fully understand, land use planning and permitting in the Settlement Area is an extremely important part of the initial phase of implementing the Plan. Since approval of the MVRMA, businesses have had to adjust to changes to the way land and water use are regulated.

The Planning Board, on its own, will produce and distribute a pamphlet describing the Plan/Board after the Plan is approved. The pamphlet will also inform businesses that the Planning Board will consider exceptions and amendments to the Plan, and will provide some details about those processes. A separate pamphlet with a more detailed description of the exception and amendment process will also be developed and distributed. This pamphlet will include an application form for exception requests.

Expanding the Planning Board website to have the land use zones in more detail (1:250 000 scale) and a description the regulatory process should also be considered in the near future. The web site will benefit businesses, organizations and regulatory authorities.

Timeframe

Planning Board Pamphlets: November 2004

Jointly Produced Pamphlet: November 2004

Website: November 2004

- 2.2** 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.

The Gwich'in Integrated GIS project will be a very useful tool for this work. The GTC will be the lead organization.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 2.3** 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.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 2.4 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.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 2.5 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.

Timeframe

Ongoing

3.0 GWICH'IN HERITAGE RESOURCES

- 3.1 The Planning Board shall consider recommendations by the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute for the addition of areas to the Gwich'in Conservation Zone or Gwich'in Special Management Area zones during the life of the Land Use Plan.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 3.2 The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute (GSCI) identify heritage areas or cultural landscapes meriting legislative protected area status in the Gwich'in Settlement Area.

Timeframe

May 2004: Meet with the GSCI to review their research programmes regarding heritage and protected areas

Continue to be updated on their progress during annual Gwich'in board meetings

4.0 WATER AND AIR RESOURCES

- 4.1 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.

Process

The GLWB is listed as the recommended agency given their requirement for this information when evaluating possible impacts of proposed activities. Co-operation between

the GTC, Environment Canada, DIAND and the GNWT will be necessary, given governments' existing legal obligations, mandate and programmes under various legislation. Various hydrological overviews are available. The NWT CIMP may also be a resource for this action.

Timeframe

March 2005

- 4.2 The Planning Board recommends that water management groups provide communities with plain language information on water quality and quantity.

Process

Co-operation between the GTC, Environment Canada, DIAND and the GNWT will be necessary given governments' existing legal obligations, mandate and programmes under various legislation.

Timeframe

July 2005

- 4.3 The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Land and Water Board take the lead in developing strategies for ensuring that appropriate water gauging stations are active or installed within the Gwich'in Settlement Region.

Process

Again, the GLWB is listed as the recommended agency given their requirement for this information when evaluating possible impacts of proposed activities. Co-operation between the GTC, Environment Canada, DIAND and the GNWT will be necessary given governments' existing legal obligations, mandate and programmes under various legislation. Certain water gauging stations may be part of a national network or part of an ongoing project or watershed specific project.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 4.4 The Planning Board recommends that the NWT Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program:
- i) Address 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.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 4.5 The Planning Board shall review the findings of the NWT 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 Programs' recommendations into the Plan.

Timeframe

5-year review

- 4.6 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 (e.g. climate change)

Discussion: this could be related to the IRM position that is vacant with the GLWB. Once that position is staffed, this should be one of the priorities. The NWT CIMP and CEAM initiatives could also be potential resources for this action.

Timeframe

Commence January 2005

- 4.7 Other Initiatives

The Land Claim and the Mackenzie Valley Act require a program of environmental monitoring and audit be established for the Mackenzie Valley. Impacts of outside activities on the resources of the Settlement Area should be addressed within the context of this program. A NWT Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program (CIMP) and Audit Working Group has been established to develop the monitoring program and environmental audit. Resource management groups in the Settlement Area should work closely with members of the Working Group in order to contribute to the development and implementation of the NWT CIMP Program.

Timeframe

Immediate

The NWT CIMP and its progress will be reviewed annually in the Planning Board report for implications on our purposes/mandate

5.0 RENEWABLE RESOURCES

- 5.1 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.

Timeframe

May 2004: Review Coney Management Plan, Rat River Biodiversity and Cultural Assessment Report, Moose Management Plan, Porcupine Caribou Herd Management Plan and draft Grizzly Bear management plan

Ongoing: review other plans as they are produced

- 5.2 The Planning Board recommends that wildlife management groups produce plans for Dall's sheep and other wildlife with economic commercial potential.

Timeframe

May 2004: Review with GRRB their plans for other species with economic commercial potential

July 2005?: Dall's sheep plan

- 5.3 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.

Timeframe

September 2005: Finalize process for review of conditions in Special Management Zones

- 5.4 The Planning Board will review the completed Forest Management Plan and consider how to integrate it with the Gwich'in Land Use Plan.

Timeframe

May 2004: review draft plan. Determine if the location and recommendations for old growth forests have been included in the management plan, and if not, ask for them to be included.

Review final plan when complete

- 5.5 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.

Timeframe

Ongoing

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

Timeframe

October 2004: Meet with Aurora Research Institute, RWED, and other energy related agencies concerning progress on alternative energy sources

Ongoing: follow-up on progress

- 5.7 Other Initiatives

A multi-partied NWT Biodiversity Team continues to work on the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan (NWT BAP). The NWT BAP includes a report on current activities related to biodiversity in the NWT, a web-page (www.nwtwildlife.rwed.gov.nt.ca/Biodiversity/default.htm) with access to the Companion of the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan, background material in an archive, and information on the NWT Biodiversity Team, including schedule and meeting notes, and the Matrix: a searchable list of NWT based activities and initiatives related to biodiversity. The list can be used to quickly find and compare commitments to what is already being accomplished and proposed priorities for the future. Included in a future report will be a gap analysis, recommendations, and proposed future actions. The NWT is linked to the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy whose goals are to improve the understanding of ecosystems and resource management capabilities, education and awareness, incentives and legislation that support the conservation of biodiversity, and improved international cooperation. The Planning Board will ensure that information regarding the Land Use Plan is accurate and up-to-date. We will also monitor the progress of the Action Plan, to determine if any changes to our Strategy are appropriate.

The Federal Species at Risk Act (SARA) comes into effect June 2004, and so will be an item of consideration in the Plan. We will discuss implications on the Plan with the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) and other.

Timeframe

June 2004: Meet with the NWT Biodiversity team (facilitated by RWED) for update on Biodiversity Action Plan, and possible implications on research in GSA

June 2004: Meet with CWS regarding planning implications of Species at Risk Act

6.0 NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

- 6.1 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.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 6.2 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.

Process

Research is being done by the NWT Geoscience Office on non-renewable resource potential within conservation zones as part of the plan approval process. Unfortunately, these are the areas that the communities *least* want to develop, rather than the areas they most want to develop (it is federal government policy to ensure that for the interest of all Canadians, important economic considerations are taken into account before land is permanently withdrawn. Even though these lands are not permanently withdrawn, DIAND decided to extend the policy to the Gwich'in Conservation Zones). Research needs to be expanded to take in areas that are not conservation zones, i.e., the areas that the communities *most* want to develop.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 6.3 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.

Discussion: This recommendation has become more critical with the pipeline discussions. A regional approach to developing granular resources is needed. Community concerns regarding distance to granular resources must be included in the plans. DIAND has Granular Resource Management Plan in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, were an MOA to work together was signed by IRC and DIAND's NWT Regional Director General. GTC has

indicated some interest in a similar process. It appears there is granular resource information both with GNWT and DIAND in Ottawa.

Timeframe

August 2004: Develop a process for granular resource planning with GTC, GNWT and DIAND

- 6.4** 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.

Additional Steps

In addition to potentially looking at granular resources on a regional basis, the GTC is currently working on several site-specific plans. The GTC circulated the "Willow Creek (site 467) Development and Reclamation" (pit management plan) in 2002. The GTC is trying to get funding for additional work on the plan. A review of the methodology, recommendations, and ability to meet Special Management zone conditions is needed. A template for developing management plans could possibly be developed from a solid assessment of this plan.

Timeframe

March 2005: further review of site 467 complete

March 2006: draft management plans for other operating pits on Gwich'in Settlement Lands

- 6.5** 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.

Timeframe

2005: draft plan

2006: final plan

- 6.6** Other initiatives:
DIAND to check that their pamphlets and other information regarding mineral exploration, surface dispositions etc. include appropriate information regarding the Land Use Plan and in particular the requirements under the zone system.

NRCan maps do not show the withdrawal/zone system. The Planning Board will evaluate with NRCan how this information might be conveyed to land users. An option is posting a list at NRCan map outlets.

Timeframe

June 2004: completion of check of DIAND minerals/surface information

August 2004: revise pamphlets etc. published if necessary

August 2004: discussions w/ NRCan regarding providing information on zones to land users

7.0 POLLUTION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 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.

Timeframe

2004

- 7.2 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.

Discussion

DIAND considers this an ongoing departmental responsibility. How it is being addressed needs to be better understood by the Board, including timeframes, industry involvement and issues regarding unregulated fuel storage.

Timeframe

2005: Board and DIAND discussion regarding this recommendation

- 7.3 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.

Timeframe

2004: draft

2005: final

- 7.4 The Planning Board recommends that the Gwich'in Tribal Council, Renewable Resource Councils, Designated Gwich'in Organizations and co-management boards and appropriate government groups work together to develop a strategy for cleaning up camp sites, hunting and fishing 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.

8-Mile is a heritage conservation zone that gets a lot of use. Garbage is building up there, and particular attention may need to be paid to that area.

Timeframe

June 2005: Draft strategy for clean-up of on-the-land garbage sites

November 2005: Final strategy for clean-up of on-the-land garbage sites

- 7.5 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.

Additional Steps

As with the issues of outside activities affecting the Settlement Area (see Water and Air Resources, Issue 3), strategies for dealing with the transfer of both long and short range air and water pollutants should be addressed through the Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program and environmental audit.

The program and the audit are currently being discussed through a working group. The GTC is represented on the working group. Organizations should work with the GTC to ensure strategies to reduce both long and short-range pollutants are developed as an integral part of these strategies.

Timeframe

Ongoing

8.0 TRANSPORTATION, UTILITIES AND COMMUNICATION

- 8.1** 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.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 8.2** The Planning Board recommends that the Department of Transportation with the involvement of co-management boards, Department of Fisheries and Oceans and community groups 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.

Additional Steps

Two studies were completed by DOT in October 2003 concerning the ferry landings: Aquatic Effects Study for the Mackenzie and Peel River Ferry Crossings, and Structural Alternatives Study for the Mackenzie and Peel River Ferry Crossings. The Planning Board will review the studies, to determine if the issue of the redistribution of the granular material was adequately addressed (i.e., is the gravel changing the course of the river), and any other recommendations that need to be taken into consideration in the Plan.

Timeframe

April 2004

- 8.3** 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.

Additional Steps

The Planning Board will only conduct more detailed planning along new transportation and utility corridors when those corridors are proposed.

The Planning Board will conduct more detailed land use planning along the existing Dempster Highway. Most of the currently permitted land use activities in the Settlement

Area are taking place along the highway. The Planning Board will encourage the Tribal Council, with the assistance of the Planning Board, to develop land use and management plans for the Settlement Lands along the highway. Management plans for sand, gravel and crushed rock pits are particularly important. The Planning Board will also work closely with and encourage DIAND to develop management plans for the sand, gravel and crushed rock pits on Crown land.

Communities, organizations and industry will also be asked for their input about critical areas along the highway and any issues or concerns. This will be supported by a complete review of the information collected by the Planning Board about the highway corridor.

If the Planning Board feels it is necessary to amend the Plan based on the additional planning work, all of the stakeholders will be invited to provide comments on the proposed amendments.

Pipeline

When the Claim was being negotiated, there was an acknowledgement of the possibility of a pipeline written into the Claim. This was then written into, and elaborated on, in the Plan in section 4.2.4 Rules for a Pipeline. At that time, the pipeline was still only a general idea; we are now at the point of various investigations being undertaken to assess the actual construction of a pipeline.

The “Plan for Public Involvement in the Environmental Assessment of the Proposed Mackenzie Valley Gas Pipeline in the NWT”, February 2003 has no mention of the role of the Land Use Planning Board. Now that the Plan is approved, our role will need to be spelled out. As a Board, we need to well informed as to our role and responsibilities in the assessment process. We will set up a workshop early in 2004 with regulatory authorities and industry. The purpose is for the Board to gain a better understanding of how a pipeline is built, what the ‘best practices’ procedures are for planning a route, and our role in the regulatory process.

As part of this, the need for planning of granular resources associated with the pipeline. This should be done in a regional manner (not case-by-case basis), involving industry, DIAND, the Planning Board and other.

Timeframe

March – July 2004: for board training

July 2004: understanding regarding Board role in granular resources planning and pipeline approval process

9.0 TOURISM AND RECREATION

- 9.1** 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.

- 9.2 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.

Additional Steps

The Gwich'in Tribal Council is mandated to address this issue, because Campbell Hills in private lands. The Planning Board will provide assistance and support. The GTC may address this issue at any time within the life of the Plan.

Timeframe

5 years

- 9.3 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.

Additional Steps

The GNWT Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development has a mandate in Parks and Tourism. The Planning Board will work with GNWT and appropriate agencies, such as NWT Arts and Tourism, to determine how best to develop a tourism economic plan. This issue may be addressed at any time within the life of the Plan.

Timeframe

5 years

10.0 TRANSBOUNDARY AREAS

The legislation guiding the Planning Board provides direction regarding its involvement in transboundary area planning. Essentially, the Planning Board can participate in developing cooperative, transboundary land use plans with organizations from the Sahtu, Inuvialuit and Yukon regions. As well, the Planning Board will co-operate in municipal plans within the GSA.

For reference, these are the relevant parts of the legislation that guide the Planning Board's involvement in transboundary planning:

Land Claim

24.2.11 The Planning Board may liaise and co-ordinate its plan, or co-operate in land use planning, with the appropriate land use planning bodies for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, the Sahtu Settlement Region and the primary use area described in appendix C. Any co-operative land use plans are subject to the approval of the relevant federal and territorial ministers as may be provided in legislation.

Land Claim, Appendix C

- i. If any land use planning body is established for an area including any part of the primary use area, it shall include at least one nominee of the Tetlit Gwich'in.

- ii. Any nominee of the Tetlit Gwich'in shall be included within the entitlement of the First Nation of Na'cho N'y'ak Dun to nominate members to a land use planning body.
- iii. Any regional land use planning commission or other planning agency described in 7.1.1 shall consult with the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board in order to make use of land use planning that has been done with respect to the Peel River watershed by the Mackenzie Delta Beaufort Sea Land Use Planning Commission and to discuss ongoing co-operative land use planning activities.

Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act

45(1) the planning board for a settlement area may cooperate with any body responsible for land use planning in any other area, either within or outside the Northwest Territories, that is adjacent to the settlement area.

(2) A planning board may, in conjunction with a body referred to in subsection (1), prepare a land use plan for the settlement area and an adjacent area of the Mackenzie Valley which shall be subject to the requirements of this Part in respect of the portion of the plan relating to the settlement area.

Transboundary Area Actions Identified in the Plan:

- 10.1** 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.

Additional Steps

The impacts of activities in the Peel Watershed in the Mackenzie Valley will be monitored by the Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program and will be managed through direction given in the environmental audit. In the Mackenzie Valley, GTC must work closely with the Sahtu and Mackenzie Valley-wide co-management boards to see which activities have been proposed and which activities have been approved. An annual report published jointly by the regulatory authorities, reporting on activities for the year, may be a good way to ensure the information gets out to regional organizations and communities.

In the Yukon, GTC are working as part of the advisory group to establish the Development Assessment Process. The process should include reporting/communication mechanisms to ensure that regional organizations and communities know what activities are taking place, particularly in the Peel Watershed.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 10.2** 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 and the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board, on transboundary land use planning issues.

10.2.1 *Peel River Watershed*

The Peel River Watershed is a priority area for discussing cooperative transboundary planning. The importance of planning and managing the Peel River's transboundary watershed is recognized in both the Gwich'in Land Claim and the Na'cho N'y'ak Dun Final

Agreement. Both agreements required a Peel River Watershed Advisory Committee be established to consider and make recommendations on the establishment of a regional land use planning commission in the Yukon for the watershed.

Peel River Watershed Advisory Committee Recommendations

Recommendations of the Peel River Watershed Advisory Committee (1996) on the establishment of regional land use planning commissions, include:

1. The PRWAC recommends that a regional land use planning commission be established to develop a regional land use plan for an area that includes at least the entire Peel River Watershed. The main reasons for establishing a regional land use planning commission include:

- To provide communities with a mechanism to have direct input into land use planning decisions
- To facilitate ecosystem-based management of renewable and non-renewable resources
- To coordinate land use planning decisions within the region
- To provide a linkage to water management processes
- To maintain the distinct characteristics that define the Peel River Watershed
- Information to support land use planning activities is currently available.

2. The PRWAC recommends that priority be given to the Peel River Watershed for establishing a regional land use planning commission and that affected First Nations be consulted regarding the timing for initiating the process.

3. The PRWAC recommends that a member of the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board sit as the Tetlit Gwich'in representative on the regional land use planning commission.

Peel River Watershed Planning Commission

Following the PRWAC recommendations, and under the Yukon Land Use Planning Council, a Peel River Watershed Planning Commission is being set up. A General Terms of Reference for the commission has been completed. Membership on the commissions includes a representative of the GTC. It is expected the commission should be formally established by the summer, 2004.

The Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board role with the commission is not yet defined, but the sections from the Land Claim that reference our role in the Peel River are mentioned in the General Terms of Reference. The Board's role will need to be outlined in the Detailed Terms of Reference (to be completed within 6 months of the establishment of the commission).

Basically, the Planning Board supports a cooperative planning process for the entire Peel River Watershed, including the part of the watershed that is in the Northwest Territories. Cooperative planning will mean reviewing, collecting and considering information for the entire watershed. The Yukon Planning Commission has suggested they will assist in a joint data base project, which we will evaluate to see if it can meet our needs. Cooperative planning may also mean amending the Gwich'in Land Use Plan.

The GSCI had put forward a recommendation for a National Historic Site along parts of the Peel River. This is on hold now but needs to be considered during the land use planning.

Timeframe

April 2004: Informal discussions with Yukon planners on role of Gwich'in Planning Board with respect to the Peel River Watershed regional land use plan

April – October 2005: input into the detailed Terms of Reference for the Peel River Watershed regional land use Planning Commission (related to the Primary Use Area)

May 2004: Input into the Yukon 10-year Final & Self-Government Agreements as necessary

May 2004: Review draft North Yukon Planning Commission detailed Terms of Reference (related to the Secondary Use Area)

June 2004: Work with Yukon Planning Commission staff on potential joint data base

10.2.2 Sahtu Land Use Plan

A preliminary draft Sahtu Land Use Plan was issued in January 2003. The plan proposes a similar land zoning system to the Gwich'in Land Use Plan, listing:

- Conservation areas
- Special management areas
- Multiple use areas

The Planning Board will comment on the draft plan, paying particular attention to the zoning and conditions placed on areas adjacent to the GSA. Copies of comments will also be sent to DIAND, GNWT and GTC. It is in the interests of the integrated resource management that a Land Use Plan be established in the Sahtu, and the Planning Board will continue to monitor the progress of the plan. If deemed necessary, a joint meeting of the Sahtu and Gwich'in Land Use Planning Boards will be requested.

The Planning Board will also send the Sahtu Planning Board each annual report and a copy of this Strategy.

Timeframe:

April 2004: Submit comments on preliminary draft Sahtu Land Use Plan

August 2004: review revised draft (when received)

Late 2005: review final plan (when received)

10.2.3 Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR)

The Inuvialuit have Community Conservation Plans rather than a regional land use plan. The Community Conservation Plans are not legally binding, as the Gwich'in Land Use Plan is.

The most obvious area of transboundary issues between the Inuvialuit and the Gwich'in is Parcel A. This block (also known as the 700 block) has over 200 square miles of surface and subsurface Gwich'in private lands within the ISR. The Community Conservation Plan for Aklavik covers Parcel A. Though this community plan is not a legally binding document, it is intended to provide guidance to all who have an interest in planning and

using the area. Originally done in 1993, the community plan was updated in 2000, with a recommendation for review every 2 years.

In addition to the interests of Gwich'in in the ISR, the Inuvialuit also have traditional interests within the GSA. The Planning Board will need to work on a plan to plan basis with the Inuvialuit, particularly with the Inuvialuit Game Council, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, and the Aklavik Community Corporation. Quota species and other wildlife issues will need to be addressed based on reciprocity.

The Planning Board will initiate discussions for the review of the community plan.

The Planning Board will also send the Aklavik Community Corporation, the Inuvialuit Game Council and the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation each annual report and a copy of this Strategy.

Timeframe:

May 2004: distribute this Strategy to Aklavik Community Corporation, Inuvialuit Game Council and Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

September 2004: informal discussions with Aklavik regarding overlap issues

November 2004: meeting with Aklavik/Inuvialuit regarding timeframe for review of the Aklavik community plan

- 10.3** The Planning Board will work with local municipalities and the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs on transboundary issues with respect to municipal boundaries.

The municipal plans are generally done on a rotational basis, set out by MACA. The Planning Board will contact MACA to determine the Gwich'in community planning schedule and process.

Other Initiatives

The Planning Board will send the Community Planning Section of MACA each annual report and a copy of this Strategy.

Some residents of Fort McPherson have suggested that the community boundaries should go down to the ferry crossing.

Timeframe

Ongoing

December 2004: initiate discussions with MACA regarding Fort McPherson boundaries

- 10.4 Mackenzie River Basin Board**

A report by the Mackenzie River Basin Board is due in the fall of 2004. The Planning Board will use the report to evaluate if additional transboundary steps are necessary.

Timeframe

October 2004: review Mackenzie River Basin Board report for implications on Plan

11.0 LEGISLATED PROTECTED AREAS

The Planning Board does not have the power to create long term legislative protected areas. The Plan offers protection for the Conservation Zones in the Plan. The Plan, and the Conservation Zones, will be reviewed every five years. The Conservation Zones in the Plan may be amended.

Legislated protected areas, such as territorial or national parks, give long term protection to areas. The Planning Board supports the establishment of long term protected areas in the Settlement Area and suggests three priority areas for consideration: the James Creek Area, the Rat River Watershed and the Mackenzie River.

Before any area is proposed for legislative protection, more work needs to be done to review how areas can be protected by legislation, and what protected areas mean for the entire Settlement Region.

Any protected area that is established through federal, territorial or Gwich'in Tribal Council legislation will have to conform to the Plan, or the Plan will have to be amended.

- 11.1** The Planning Board recommends that the Protected Areas Strategy Secretariat (DIAND and GNWT Department of Resources, Wildlife, and Economic Development) with the full involvement of Gwich'in groups work with the appropriate Yukon agencies in investigating a transboundary legislative protected areas.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 11.2** 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 Nagwichoonyik (Mackenzie River) National Historic Site. This work should be done within the framework set out in the NWT Protected Areas Strategy.

Discussion

Parks Canada has noted that section 42 of the Canada National Parks Act allows for more protection, but Parks Canada is not seeking this. A Commemorative Integrity Statement is being produced between the GSCI and Parks Canada. This statement should include recommendations on whether or not higher degrees of protection are need for certain areas. Territorial Park legislation is another possibility, as there have been revisions to allow for Cultural Conservation Parks.

The Board needs to review with the GSCI how all the Heritage Conservation Zones that do not become legislated protected areas are to be managed. More detailed management plans for all these zones is likely needed. 8-Mile is an example of a Heritage Conservation Zone that needs some immediate management work. A process for GSCI developing such plans, and how they relate to the Land Use Plan, is needed.

Timeframe

July 2004: Review the GSCI the Commemorative Integrity Statement for Nagwichoonyik National Historic Site; assess any implication for Plan

September 2004: Discuss with GSCI the management of all Heritage Conservation Zones
Ongoing: development of timelines for Nagwichoonjik National Historic Site and other
Heritage Conservation Zones as necessary

- 11.3** 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.

Timeframe

Ongoing

- 11.4** 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.

What are Tribal Parks?

The level of protection a tribal park offers, and how it is managed, can vary a great deal. There is no specific legislation for the creation of tribal parks. Tribal parks have been established in British Columbia and the western United States.

In 1989, the Department of Renewable Resources reviewed the concept of tribal parks and its application in the Mackenzie Delta/Beaufort Sea region. From that review:

“Tribal parks are areas of land which are administered under special conservation and management regimes. They have four defining characteristics or goals:

- (1) They are created to conserve some component of the natural and cultural heritage of an aboriginal people.
- (2) They provide a central role for aboriginal people in the management of this heritage. Decisions regarding the designation, planning and management of tribal parks are made either by an aboriginal body, or by an aboriginal body jointly with the relevant departments of government.
- (3) They are managed primarily according to aboriginal principles and values. Conservation is usually defined by the aboriginal group.
- (4) They are of direct benefit to the local population” (Nesbitt: 1989).

On surface and sub-surface Gwich'in-owned lands, it would be the Gwich'in Tribal Council's decision to create a tribal park. Lands on which the Crown maintains sub-surface rights and the Gwich'in have surface rights, any decision to establish a tribal park would have to be negotiated jointly with the relevant government department and the Tribal Council.

A tribal park may be managed by the Gwich'in, by the government or jointly. Because the level of protection also varies, a tribal park may or may not restrict commercial access.

Additional Steps

Evaluating the potential for a tribal park in the Settlement Area must be a top priority. The Protected Area Strategy is currently being implemented in the NWT. Tribal parks are one tool for protecting areas. Although there is no specific legislation dealing with tribal parks, it may be possible to create tribal parks through some of the existing legislation. A thorough study of how tribal parks can be used in the Settlement Area needs to be done.

The study will give us a better understanding of what a tribal park is and how it can be implemented in the Settlement Area. With this understanding, the Planning Board can work with Tribal Council, communities and government to consider creating a tribal park in the Settlement Area.

Since the idea of Tribal Parks is potentially relevant to other areas of the NWT, the Planning Board will initiate the discussions with the Protected Areas Strategy Secretariat as well as the GTC to have tribal parks reviewed.

Timeframe

June 2004: initiate discussions with GTC and PAS Secretariat

- 11.5** 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.

Additional Steps

The PAS Secretariat held a session in Inuvik with the GTC, RRC's and Planning Board staff regarding protected areas in general. Follow-up to this more directly on Territorial Parks and Gwich'in Territorial Park could potentially be done in conjunction with a review of tribal parks. The PAS Secretariat is to write to the community RRC's summarizing the PAS, to allow further discussion in the communities. Each RRC is to meet with their communities regarding long-term protection. A regional PAS working group may be considered. (GTC stretched)

Timeframe

Ongoing, both from community and regional perspective

- 11.6** 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:
- Wildlife, vegetation and other ecological inventories;
 - Non-renewable resource inventory and potential analysis, and;
 - 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 and Northern Affairs Canada and the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development.

Additional Steps

The Planning Board will initiate discussions with all the recommended contributing groups. A small workshop to look at what information exists, what research is currently being done and how organizations can best contribute to future studies may be organized. Evaluating the aquatic state of knowledge for the river in general is also needed. In particular, the fish spawning areas are not well known. How the work relates to this as a Heritage River needs to be kept in mind. This is the one main river solely within the GSA so needs particular attention.

The Planning Board will inform the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board of our interest in research in this area, particularly to determine if there is an interest in collaborative research.

Potential support for the studies may be available through the implementation of the Protected Areas Strategy.

Conducting good studies in an area takes a considerable amount of time. Although the Planning Board will take steps to initiate discussions immediately, the research process will likely extend over the five years of the Plan.

Timeframe

September 2004: literature review including outfitter diaries

October 2004: Develop draft research plan (in conjunction with other research needs), including discussions with Yukon and Sahtu on potential joint Arctic Red River Headwaters research

2004-2006: conduct research and consultations regarding status of headwaters

2007: revised boundaries, conditions or designation for headwaters

- 11.7** 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.

Discussion

The Protected Areas Strategy has 2 goals: protection of areas of particular cultural importance, and representation of the ecoregions of the Northwest Territories. The community-based planning process has ensured that areas of greatest interest and concern to the communities have been included as Conservation Zones. There was no assessment done concerning ecoregion representation. Wiersma's research (PhD candidate, U of Guelph) in the Yukon suggests that rare animals need to be taken into consideration in determining core-protected areas. While representation is important, it does not match with species richness. It is easier and quicker to take rare animals into consideration, yet as effective, as taking a full slate of biodiversity into consideration.

The Planning Board will approach the PAS Secretariat to do an analysis of the Plan according to ecoregion representation, ecological viability, watershed protection, and rare animal protection. This is to assist in more detailed planning concerning legislated protected areas, and the 5-year plan review.

Timeframe

December 2004: draft terms of reference with PAS Secretariat for review

December 2005: review complete

11.8 Other Initiatives

The Board needs to review with the GSCI how the Heritage Conservation Zones that do not become legislated protected areas are to be managed. More detailed management plans for these sites is likely needed. 8-Mile is an example of a Heritage Conservation Zone that needs some management work. A process for GSCI developing such plans, and how they relate to the Land Use Plan, is needed. The GSCI is anticipating hiring an Executive Director at an Inuvik office. This type of work will hopefully be in the GSCI 5-year plan and the new Executive Director's work plan.

Timeframe

September 2004: discuss with GSCI in conjunction with discussions on Nagwichoonjik National Historic Site management.

D: TIMEFRAME/WORK PLAN

This timeframe/work plan summarizes the Strategy. It is based on the actions and recommendations from the Gwich'in Land Use Plan, along with additional information we have gathered. Costs are not given, as they are either dependent on another agency, or are part of the Board's standard operating costs. In some instances, costs may need to be sought out by the Board to complete items shown.

Notes:

1. This Strategy prioritizes as much as possible our 'need to do' work compared with our 'nice to do' work. Items such as assessments for conformity, exceptions or amendments are not listed in this work plan, as we have no control over when these come in. They will take priority over many of the items listed in the work plan, so dates may not be accurate.
2. A number of items related to the Mackenzie Gas Project have been added to the original timeframe/work plan. This has pushed other tasks back to later dates.

FEBRUARY 2005

- Board Meeting in Tsiigehtchic and Ft. McPherson, Feb 15-17
- Presentation in Tsiigehtchic on ARR research to date
- Finalize MOU with NWT Geoscience Office regarding NRR assessments (B 3.3)
- Publish/distribute Annual Report (B-1.1)
- Final Report from NWT Geoscience Office on 2003 field work, and informal report on 2004 field work (B-3.3)
- Contract to review overlap issues (GSA/Inuvialuit) (written agreements and phone interviews) (C -10.2.3)
- Letter to Peel Watershed Planning Commission (PWPC) concerning community meeting in Ft. McPherson; include time for joint PWPC and Board meeting (C-10.2)
- Apply to Implementation Committee for funding for analysis of land use issues associated with Mackenzie Gas Project
- Add revised work plan to website (C-2.1)
- **Meet with NWT Geoscience Office on our schedule for 5-year review, their required input for CMR schedule, and their schedule of submissions (B-3.3)**
- Get status report from MACA re: planner/giving Plan + strategy to MACA/ schedule of community plans (C -10.3)
- Letter to RWED Minister Brendan Bell re: who will be Minister responsible for Land Use Planning
- Letter to Beaufort Delta Education Council (BDEC) regarding education packages for Gr 4, 7 and 10 lesson plans
- Letter to CIMP auditor regarding water quality and air quality report (C-4.1)
- Letter to stakeholders/agencies re: SMZ and Campbell Hills contracts
- Initiate framework/best practices for gravel pit development/restoration (C-6.4)
- Attend meeting with other co-management boards and GTC regarding MGP

MARCH 2005

- Ask GL&WB re: status report on water quality and air quality (C-4.1)
- Print brochure about Plan
- Letter to Yukon Planning Commission requesting proposal on joint data base
- Meet with DFO (Inuvik first, Yellowknife after) re: best practices process for conformance checks (B-4.0)
- Letter to DIAND Minister regarding CMR obligations and our schedule (B-3.1)
- Arctic Red River Cultural Assessment Phase I report (C-11.6)
- Arctic Red River Ecological Assessment Phase I draft report (C-11.6)
- Chair to develop discussion paper re: obligations for planning in the GSR/meet with Norman Snowshoe/Abe Wilson on this
- Follow-up with GSCI re: their 5-year plan concerning the management of all Heritage Conservation Zones (C-11.2/11.8)
- Possible youth/elder meeting in Aklavik; present educational lesson plans

APRIL 2005

- Review “Frequently Asked Questions” from website, and add appropriate FAQ section as needed (B)
- Board meeting in Inuvik/Aklavik April 4-6 (includes presentations by consultants on SMZ, Campbell Hills, Travaillant, MGP; presentation by NEB/JRP on MGP; CIMP presentation/discussion)
- Finalize input into the detailed terms of reference for the Peel River Watershed regional land use plan (C-10.2 / 10.2.1)
- Distribute brochures to DIAND Ottawa, DIAND Yellowknife, and GNWT central and regional offices, Chamber of Mines (B-1.3)
- Arrange with Mining Recorder’s Office for brochure about the Plan to go out with the CMR consultation package to mining industry (B-1.3)
- Meet with DIAND to revise their pamphlets and other information as necessary to give accurate picture of Plan (C-6.6)
- Discuss w/ NRCan ways of providing information on zones to land users (C-6.6)
- Draft research plan for ARR; including developing partnerships (e.g., Yukon, Sahtu, GRRB) on possible joint research (C-11.6); how to present to/discuss with partners
- Letter to new GNWT Minister responsible for regional land use planning (introduction to Board, Plan, workplan, and upcoming issues)

May 2005

- Meet with GRRB regarding any possible economic species studies, planning issue studies and co-ordination of research (C-5.2)
- Discuss workshop for review of Special Management Zones with stakeholders and enforcement agencies (B-4.0)
- Review updated CMR
- Review outcome of CIMP Environmental Audit
- Funding application to PAS for follow-up work on initiated projects, and ecoregion and rare species representation (C-11.7)
- Review GSCI Traditional Knowledge Project (related to Mackenzie Gas Project)

June 2005

- Annual publication and posting of Annual Report (for year April 2004-March 2005)
- Board Meeting; including presentation of results from Mackenzie Gas Project review and GSCI TK project
- Chair to attend Canadian Institute (Northern Development) meeting in Calgary June 27/28 and meetings with MGP proponents/NEB
- Attend Inuvik Petroleum Show

July 2005

- Quarterly update to GNWT and DIAND
- Plain language summary of water/air quality report (C-4.2)
- Draft GRRB Dall's sheep management plan available for review? (C-5.2)
- Revise implementation strategy/work plan to include Mackenzie Gas Project requirements (C-2.1)
- Add information to website on Planning Board role in Mackenzie Gas Project

August 2005

- Attend Gwich'in Annual Assembly
- Education lesson plan 'in-service'

September 2005

- Workshop regarding conditions in Special Management Zones (C-5.3)
- Draft survey for assessing community involvement in 5-year review (B-6.0/C-1.5)
- Begin discussions with planning partners about the five year review (B-6.0)
- Review revised draft Sahtu Land Use Plan when received (C-10.2 / 10.1.2)
- Discuss joint communications projects with other Gwich'in co-management boards (B-1.7)

October 2005

- Quarterly update to GNWT and DIAND
- Draft strategy for the clean-up of all abandoned and old pits (C-6.5)
- Board Meeting
- Peel Watershed Planning Commission Precise Terms of Reference in draft final for review (C-10.2 / 10.2.1)
- PWPC major public consultations; determine best ways to participate

November 2005

- Final strategy for clean-up of on-the-land garbage sites (C-7.4)
- Review final Sahtu Land Use Plan (C-10.2 / 10.1.2)

December 2005

- Complete review of ecoregion and rare species representation (C-11.7)

January 2006

- Community newsletter
- Commence TOR for strategy for dealing with the effects of outside activities on resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area (C-4.6)

February 2006

- Review of 2004 Non-renewable resource assessment work
- Evaluate effectiveness of the educational lesson plans
- Draft review of new Special Management Zones conditions
- Board discussion on integration of results of various Board, GRRB and NWT Geoscience Office reports to date into Plan (C 5.1)

March – December 2006

- Develop schedule activities for broader youth involvement
- Develop tourism study TOR with GTC and GNWT and appropriate agencies, such as NWT Arts and Tourism
- Begin compiling and integrating ongoing plans and studies into the 5-year review
- Review most recent permafrost information and assess licenses/permits for appropriate mention of permafrost
- Complete survey for assessing community involvement (C-1.5)
- Attend Gwich'in Annual Assembly (Aklavik)
- Produce and publish annual report
- Draft management plans for all operating gravel pits on Gwich'in Settlement Lands (C-6.4)
- Final strategy for the clean-up of all abandoned and old pits (C-6.5)
- Continue research and consultations regarding status of headwaters (C-11.6)
- Overhaul of website
- Agree with partners to process for 5-year review
- Changes to CMR complete; ensure no changes to OIC Land Withdrawal are required
- Board/DIAND discussions regarding clean-up of industrial waste sites (C-7.2)

2007

- Finalize review of Special Management Zones
- Produce revised boundaries, conditions or designation for Arctic Red River headwaters (C-11.6)
- Commence TOR for strategy for dealing with the effects of outside activities on resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area (C-4.6)
- Meet with Aurora Research Institute, RWED, and other energy related agencies concerning progress on alternative energy sources (C-5.6)
- Attend Gwich'in Annual Assembly, produce and publish annual report
- Draft tourism study completed
- January 2007: follow-up with DIAND (Land Administration and Mining Recorders Office) to ensure they have an effective system and accurate mapping in place for checking Plan Zoning when dealing with a rights issuance once the land withdrawals lapse (B-3.2)
- Produce an updated Land Use Plan for presentation to communities, including a regional meeting
- Present the final revised Gwich'in Land Use Plan to all partners for approval

- Discuss with GTC and others re: evaluating the potential for a tribal park within the Gwich'in Settlement Area (C-11.4)
- Initiate "Code of Good Conduct" brochure/information for the disposal of garbage by all land users (C-7.3)

2008

- January 31 Order-in-Council subsurface withdrawal slated to be lifted
- Attend Gwich'in Annual Assembly, produce and publish annual report
- Obtain approval for revised Plan
- Final code of good conduct pamphlet with other boards (C-7.3)

2009

- Print and distribute revised Plan
- Attend Gwich'in Annual Assembly, produce and publish annual report
- Produce revised implementation strategy
- Participate in 2nd CIMP environmental audit

E: LIST OF ACRONYMS

CMR:	Canada Mining Regulations
CIMP:	Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program
CEAM:	Cumulative Effects Assessment Management
CWS:	Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada
DFO:	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
DIAND:	Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
DOT:	Department of Transportation (GNWT)
GLR:	Gwich'in Lands and Resources
GLWB:	Gwich'in Land and Water Board
GNWT:	Government of the Northwest Territories
GRRB:	Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board
GSA:	Gwich'in Settlement Area
GTC:	Gwich'in Tribal Council
IRM:	Integrated Resource Manager or Integrated Resource Management
ISR:	Inuvialuit Settlement Region
MVL&WB	Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
NRCan	Natural Resources Canada
PAS:	NWT Protected Areas Strategy
PWPC:	Peel Watershed Planning Commission
PRWAC:	Peel River Watershed Advisory Committee
RWED:	Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development (GNWT)
UFA:	Umbrella Final Agreement (Yukon)