



Gwich'in Social & Cultural Institute

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Helga Harlander
Gwich'in Land and Water Board
Box 2018
Inuvik NT X0E 0T0
Via email: H_Harlander@glwb.com

May 8, 2014

Dear Helga,

Re: Land Use Permit Application– G14E002

We have reviewed the above application against our heritage databases, and have the following information and concerns.

A management plan for the Gwich'in Territorial Park is currently being developed. The Department of Transportation should ensure they are aware of the conditions of this plan, and should inform the parties drafting the plan of any development which may impact the planning process.

The GSCI supports all recommendations by the Assessment Archaeologist Glen MacKay for archaeological assessment of existing and potential quarry locations along the Dempster Highway. The GSCI recommends further assessment of the location of the boundary of MiTr-1 in Tsiigehtchic, which may be impacted by the winter road alignment.

The GSCI is unclear if this application is only for ten or twelve quarries, or for any existing or potential quarries along the Dempster. Furthermore, it is difficult to properly assess these developments as the plans do not include season or length of use, type of use (stockpiling, excavation, or blasting, for example) nor whether the quarries will be impacting previously undisturbed ground. The table below summarizes some concerns the GSCI has with the quarries, but notes that more specific mitigation may be recommended for these, or other pits, based on further information. The GSCI requests that a full assessment of impacts to traditional use and heritage values be conducted, perhaps during the archaeological assessment, for all existing and proposed quarries.

Quarry	Issues: ground-altering impacts at site *	Issues: trucks, dust, noise and other disturbances relating to traditional use around the site
KM 6 INAC		<p>Within range of the porcupine caribou herd. Seasonal bald eagle habitat Spring, summer, and winter grayling and trout fishing in the area Caribou hunting area Seasonal grizzly bear habitat (Species at Risk)</p>
KM23-9	<p>Within major trail corridor, increases likelihood of unrecorded archaeological materials at site.</p>	<p>Within range of the porcupine caribou herd. Within major trail corridor: traditional use of the highway and surrounding area for hunting should be protected. Seasonal bald eagle habitat Caribou hunting area Seasonal grizzly bear habitat (Species at Risk)</p>
KM 28-8	<p>Within major trail corridor, increases likelihood of unrecorded archaeological materials at site.</p>	<p>Near to berry-picking areas. Dust and traffic may impact the ability to use berry harvesting sites. Within range of the porcupine caribou herd. Within major trail corridor: traditional use of the highway and surrounding area for hunting should be protected. Seasonal bald eagle habitat Caribou hunting area Seasonal grizzly bear habitat (Species at Risk)</p>
KM 141	<p>Within major trail corridor, increases likelihood of unrecorded archaeological materials at site.</p>	<p>There is a cabin ~500m from this site. If in active use, this cabin's owner must be engaged about mitigation. 2003 owner: L. Jerome. Boreal woodland caribou (Species at Risk) calving area about 750m from the site. Within close proximity to named place Theetoh Nin', a trail between Tsiigehtchic and Fort McPherson. Within traditional beaver, muskrat, and mink trapping area for Tsiigehtchic residents Near traditional fishing areas Traditional moose hunting area</p>
KM 166-3		<p>Boreal woodland caribou frequently sighted along the highway and in the general area (Species at risk) Within swan habitat Within habitat/hunting areas for black bear, caribou, moose.</p>
KM 173-8		<p>Area used for harvesting wood by Inuvik and Aklavik Boreal woodland caribou frequently sighted along the highway and in the general area (Species at risk) Within habitat/hunting areas for black bear, caribou, moose.</p>
KM178-1	<p>Trails and place names nearby increase likelihood of unrecorded archaeological remains.</p>	<p>Boreal woodland caribou frequently sighted along the highway and in the general area (Species at risk) Pit is located on traditional Gwich'in named river Khajilajii (Rengleng River) Coal extraction by Tsiigehtchic nearby. Within habitat/hunting areas for black bear, caribou, moose.</p>

KM193-7		Traditional trapping area for Tsiigehtchic Within habitat/hunting areas for black bear, caribou, moose, grizzly.
KM211-2	Trails nearby.	Active hunting/trapping area (Tom Wright). Within habitat/hunting areas for black bear, caribou, moose.
KM230-2		Tentframe camp in this location. If active, owner/user should be engaged about mitigation. Within berry-picking area. Dust and traffic may impact the ability to use berry harvesting sites. Within habitat/hunting areas for black bear, caribou, moose.
KM 251	Unrecorded but known archaeological remains. Site must not be developed further until this is rectified.	Within habitat/hunting areas for caribou and moose.
KM 235	Within major trail corridor, increases likelihood of unrecorded archaeological materials at site. Numerous archaeological sites nearby. (Note: Arch assessment done)	Within fishing area Within habitat/hunting areas for black bear, caribou, moose.

As with any application, if archaeological or heritage materials are encountered during the development within the Gwich'in Settlement Area, all work must cease immediately as required by law, and the GSCI and the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife must then be contacted.

Sincerely,



Sharon Snowshoe
Executive Director, GSCI

c.c. Tom Andrews and Glen MacKay, PWNHC