

Review Comment Table

Board:	GLWB
Review Item:	Town of Inuvik - Solid Waste Disposal Facility - Fencing Plan (G17L3-001)
File(s):	G17L3-001
Proponent:	Town of Inuvik
Document(s):	Fencing Plan (882 kb)
Item For Review Distributed On:	
Reviewer Comments Due By:	June 19, 2019
Proponent Responses Due By:	July 3, 2019
Item Description:	In accordance with Water Licence G17L3-001 Part D, the Town of Inuvik has submitted to the Gwich'in Land and Water Board for approval a Fencing Plan for its Solid Waste Disposal Facilities in Inuvik. The Gwich'in Land and Water Board is considering this management plan, and invites reviewers to provide comments or recommendations on the above document.
General Reviewer Information:	The Board encourages reviewers to submit comments and/or recommendations on SWDF Fencing Plan through the Online Review System, no later than Wednesday June 19, 2019. Note that all documents that have been uploaded to this review are also available on our public registry. If you have questions or require assistance with the ORS, please contact Board staff identified below.
Contact Information:	AlecSandra Macdonald 867-777-4954

Comment Summary

GNWT - ENR - EAM: Central Email GNWT			
ID	Topic	Reviewer Comment/Recommendation	Proponent Response

6	General File	<p>Comment (doc)(Submitted after Due Date) ENR Letter with Comments and Recommendations</p> <p>Recommendation</p>	
1	Topic: Bears and Wildlife Utilizing the Landfill Area	<p>Comment(Submitted after Due Date) The current situation, because it has gone on for a long time, means there are many bears utilizing this large anthropogenic food source. ENR did DNA hair snag work in 2017 and results showed a minimum of 20 individual bears using the landfill. Drone images showed 13 bears in one image night in the landfill. Females continue to bring their young here. This is a hazardous situation for the public and the bears. ENR has been working with the TOI and other partners to try to deal with the situation. ENR would like to recognize that the Tol has taken some actions - bear proof garbage bins, closing the landfill to pickers, locking the landfill at night, posting no trespassing signs, and brushing of roadsides for visibility. However, ENR has been raising the bear landfill issues with MACA and Tol for over 10 years. Action is needed to remove this major attractant in Inuvik (and other communities). The plan as submitted has no decision on the design of the fencing (2 options are provided with no rationale as to how the final decision will be made). The Tol should have decided what option they propose to use prior to submitting the plan. The plan should have at minimum included a budget showing the costs of the two options for consideration. The Plan has no timeline for implementing - likely linked to finding funding but the Tol had two years to work on this. Plan mentions clearing a 6m width path for fence which means areas of bush will be left within the fenced area. -Wildlife will likely get into the dump at some point and it will be very difficult to remove safely. ENR strongly suggests that all brush within the fence be cleared for safety reasons.</p> <p>Recommendation 1) When the fencing happens there will likely be additional short-term stress on the Officers responding to bear complaints. ENR will need to be prepared for this additional workload.</p>	
2	None	<p>Comment(Submitted after Due Date) None</p> <p>Recommendation 2) ENR emphasizes that immediate action is needed to ensure bears and wildlife are not utilizing the landfill as it is major attractant to bears and wildlife in Inuvik (and other communities).</p>	

3	None	Comment (Submitted after Due Date) None Recommendation 3) The plan as submitted has no decision on the design of the fencing (2 options are provided with no rational as to how the final decision will be made). The ToI should have decided what option they propose to use prior to submitting the plan. ENR recommends the plan should have, at minimum, included a budget showing the costs of the two options for consideration.	
4	None	Comment (Submitted after Due Date) None Recommendation 4) The Plan mentions clearing a 6m width path for fence which means areas of bush will be left within the fenced area. Wildlife will likely get into the dump at some point and it will be very difficult to remove safely. ENR strongly recommends that all brush within the fence be cleared for safety reasons.	
5	None	Comment (Submitted after Due Date) None Recommendation 5) Timing for the fencing implementation is important. Bears that frequent the landfill and are habituated to humans will likely come into town. ENR will likely have to destroy more bears the year the fence is put up. If ENR knows the fencing is going to be in place soon, it might be prudent to put down bears that are unafraid of humans to prevent issues in town. Discussions of these ideas and planning should include co-management partners (GRRB, IGC, IHTC, NRRC, WMAC) as well due to quota implications and the need for effective communications.	
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1	General File	Comment (doc) ENR Letter - No Comments or Recommendations at this time. Recommendation	
ID	Topic	Reviewer Comment/Recommendation	Proponent Response
1	Human/bear encounters	Comment This fencing will result in a lot of human/bear encounters during the first couple of years. Recommendation The town should notify GRRB as soon as practicable when they have a date for construction.;We will have to react beforehand in terms of bear tags and defense of property	
2	GRRB technical staff comments	Comment It is good that they are providing a template for generating standardized water licences. This will streamline GRRB's ability to provide useful comments on water licence applications as part of the public review process.	