

## CONCERNS, SOLUTIONS AND COMMITMENTS

### ACCESS

Year-round access provided by the Mount Nansen road contributes to increased hunting of moose and caribou, as well as increased disturbance of wildlife.

The Mount Nansen road is a secondary access road to the BYG mine site and is maintained by the Yukon Government's Department of Highways and Public Works. The road provides access to the BYG mine site, enabling ongoing water quality monitoring at the site, as well as access to other mining claims in the area (Figure 2). The year-round access (suitable for all vehicles) results in a lot of summer traffic that peaks in late August and early September, probably relating to hunting activities. Winter snow machine traffic is also high, particularly in March of each year during a permitted harvest of the Aishihik wood bison herd.

With no regular monitoring of the area, there are many questions in the community about the actual levels of traffic and how activities in the area are affecting wildlife. The LSCFN has in the past monitored traffic and activities along the road, and are currently considering how a Game Guardian program could improve monitoring of hunting activities, and provide reports to the community about people's activities in the area. Once there is better information, people would like to consider ways to minimize impacts on wildlife.

*Elders' river trip*



**Solution** Gather more information about traffic and activities in the area, make people aware of how they can reduce the impact of their activities in this area, and consider ways to manage access.

**Commitment**

By who? By when?

**LSCFN**  
EARLY IN PLAN

Consider hiring a LSCFN Game Guardian to provide information about what is happening along the Mount Nansen road. [1]

There is currently no Game Guardian program in this area and the LSCFN is looking at how to create an effective, long-term program. This program would provide a valuable opportunity to provide information about the activities in the area of the Mount Nansen road back to the community. In the meantime, the LSCFN is encouraging people on the land to report what they are seeing.

**CRRC, LSCFN**  
2004-2009

Use education and awareness to reduce impacts of activities on the Mount Nansen road. [2]

The community and LSCFN newsletters should provide information in the spring and fall about ways to reduce disturbance in the Mount Nansen area. Developing an education program for young people is also recommended. A map showing areas of high seasonal use may be a good way to show where heavy use occurs.

**CRRC**  
EARLY IN PLAN

Present Mount Nansen issues to the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board Access Working Group. [3]

The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board’s “Access Working Group” considers territory-wide access issues. The CRRC will contact the working group and ask for a presentation at one of their meetings to highlight the community’s concerns about the Mount Nansen road.

**YTG, LSCFN, CRRC**  
EARLY IN PLAN

Hold a meeting of plan partners and stakeholders to examine feasibility of not plowing the Mount Nansen road until late winter. [4]

This suggestion reflects the idea stated at the planning workshop that anything to reduce traffic would benefit the wildlife in the area. Since a total closure of the road would not likely be supported, this is an alternative the plan partners wanted to consider. The proposed meeting would have to consider the environmental monitoring requirements at the BYG mine site. Representatives from Yukon Government’s Departments of Highways and Public Works and Energy, Mines and Resources would need to attend this meeting.