

## RECREATION

### Concern

#### **Disturbance by river travellers to wildlife, wildlife habitat, and fish camps is increasing along the Yukon River.**

Residents have seen an increase in river travellers in recent years. Travellers have left garbage behind and some fish camps have been damaged, drying poles burned, and fish nets destroyed. River travellers need to understand the local concerns and values along the river corridor, and be made aware of sensitive habitat areas so as to avoid disturbing fish and wildlife at important times of the year. LSCFN summer crews who travelled the 400-kilometre stretch of the Yukon River in the LSCFN traditional territory and documented campsites, the condition of the sites, and carried out visitor surveys have documented most of the information currently known.

### Solution

#### **Map important habitats along the Yukon River, identify and publicize designated camping spots in areas with the least potential for disturbance, and get information to river travellers about how to minimize their impacts.**

### Commitment

By who? By when?

**LSCFN, YTG**  
EARLY IN PLAN

Map the important fish and wildlife habitats along the Yukon River. [62]

To manage impacts of the river travellers and identify sensitive areas, more information is needed about important fish and wildlife habitats along the river corridor. There is good local knowledge about key salmon spawning areas, moose calving areas and other wildlife habitats that has not yet been mapped.

**LSCFN, YTG**  
EARLY IN PLAN

Identify existing camping areas and publicize preferred sites to reduce the impact of heavy river traffic. [63]

Through the summer work of the LSCFN crews travelling the Yukon River corridor, 57 sites were identified. Since these sites are established, it would minimize further disturbance if the sites that are not near key wildlife habitat were publicized and used instead of new sites continually being established. YTG Parks and Recreation has offered to assist LSCFN with planning any further design of the preferred existing sites.

**CRRC, YTG**  
EARLY IN PLAN

Recommend that the YTG Tourism & Culture website provide information to river travellers about respecting the Yukon River corridor. [64]

Travellers who are not guided on their river trips are the hardest to reach with information about how to camp and travel respectfully along the Yukon River corridor. The YTG Tourism & Culture web site may provide an opportunity to reach these people. The CRRC, YTG Parks and Recreation Branch, and YTG Tourism need to discuss what the message to these travellers should include.