



Annual Report

2011–2012



We're working to
enhance Yukon's fish,
wildlife and natural
habitats...

but we need your
support.



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Message from the Chair

On behalf of the Trustees, it is with great pleasure that I report and summarize the 17th year of operation of the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust (the “Trust”) for the 2011–12 fiscal year. Over the past seventeen years, the Trust has contributed towards a wide variety of projects having a significant benefit to the continuing enhancement, restoration and protection of fish and wildlife and their habitat throughout Yukon.

The Trust’s investment and spending policies have a progressive formula to ensure that Trust 3.5 million dollar endowment grows and remains into perpetuity. The spending policy formulates that up to 80% of the net gains from the investment portfolio, based on a three year running average, is spent on Trust activities. Trust activities include funding of proposals and the management of the Trust.

The Trust held a general call for proposals for the 2011–12 fiscal year and awarded \$97,000 to help fund 12 projects throughout Yukon. Of the 12 projects funded, nine were successful in completing their tasks while three were canceled by the proponents for logistical reasons and the money was returned. Feel free to take a look at the list of the projects funded on page 12 of this report. The Trust predicts that next year

there will be a call for proposals for up to approximately \$100,000 to \$110,000.

The Trust encourages proposals from communities, community groups, renewable resource councils, non-profit groups, businesses, and individuals. The Trust Manager will be happy to assist proponents in providing proposal preparation advice. The Trust has put recent year’s project reports on its new website, along with the Trust’s application guidelines. Please see a detailed list of the projects funded at www.yfwet.ca.

The Trust is developing a fundraising marketing campaign to help increase resources to help meet its objective, outlined in Chapter 27 of the Yukon First Nation Umbrella Final Agreement. Check out our new look and our donor wall on our new website; and, while there, consider donating to help us enhance and protect Yukon’s fish and wildlife populations.

In conclusion, I like to note that the Trust, as a charitable organization, is happy to provide tax receipts for gifts such as bequests, charitable gift annuities, publicly-traded securities, and gifts of residual interest. By planning charitable donations and making “tax-smart” gifts one can significantly save money now and when the time comes to settle one’s estate. The Trust solicits donations to help fulfill its objectives and grow. A minimum of 3.5% of all the Trust assets are spent annually to fulfill its objectives. The Trust will guarantee 100% of cash donations will go towards funding projects.

I encourage everyone who has an interest in the well being of Yukon fish, wildlife, and their habitat for now and for future generations to submit a proposal to the Trust during our call for proposals and/or make a contribution.

Sincerely,



Frank Thomas, *Trust Chair*



Trust structure

Chapter 27 of the Umbrella Final Agreement (the “UFA”) establishes the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust (the “Trust”). The Objective of the Trust is:

“to restore, enhance and protect fish and wildlife populations and their habitat in the Yukon, so as to achieve the objectives of Chapter 16 (Fish and Wildlife) of the UFA including initiating, sponsoring, funding, directing and carrying out measures to achieve those objectives”.

The Council for Yukon First Nations, the Yukon Territorial Government and the Government of Canada contributed to the Trust pursuant to an Indenture Agreement signed by these parties and the first Trustees as directed by Chapter

27 of the UFA. The total Trust investment portfolio as of March 31, 2012, was just over four million dollars. These funds are invested according to the Trust’s investment policy and only a portion of the net annual gain and returns is used to fund Trust approved projects. Funds are allocated through a public call for proposals.

The Trust Indenture Agreement sets out the legal, financial and administrative rules and practices that the Trustees must follow. Investments are made on behalf of the Trustees through a certified investment management firm and the Trust’s investment policy statement provides specific investment guidelines for that firm. Decisions regarding the distribution of project funds are determined by policy and consensus among the Trustees.



Trustees

Twelve trustees make up the members of the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust. These Trustees also act as the Board of Directors for the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board however the Trust and the Board are separate legal entities. The Board of Trustees elects the Trust Executive Committee which is made up of the Trust Chair and a minimum of two other Trustees. This committee is tasked with providing direction to the Trust and its one part-time staff.

The following Trustees made up the Trust's 2011–12 executive committee:

Trust Chair

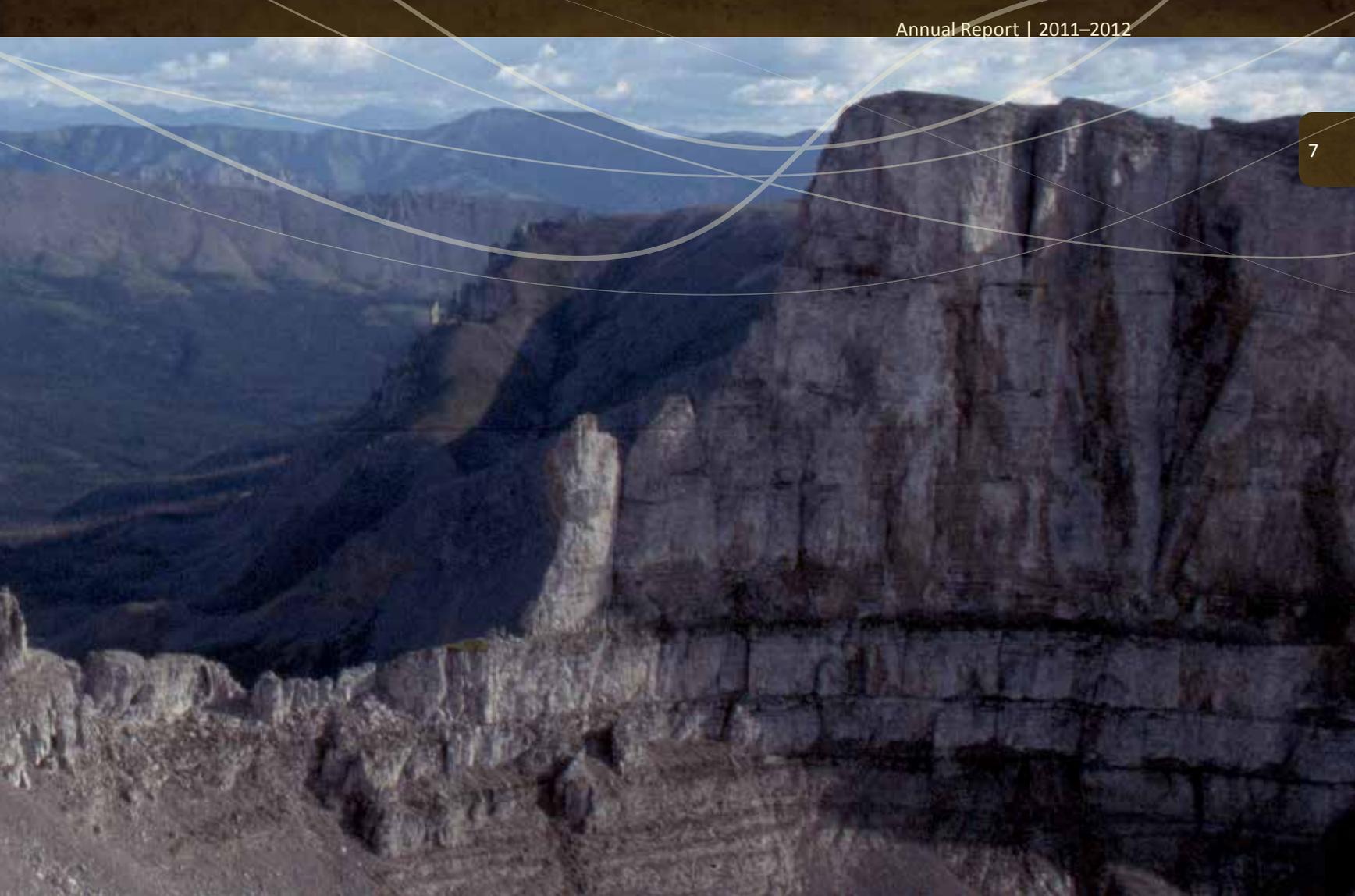
Shirley Ford
(past Chair)

Executive committee members

Bob Dickson
Terry Wilkinson
Frank Thomas
Wayne Jim







Applying to the Trust

The Board of Trustees is always interested in any project that restores, enhances, or protects Yukon fish, wildlife and/or their habitat. In the past the Trust has funded a variety of projects ranging from caribou recovery programs to education and awareness campaigns.

Recipients of Trust funding have included First Nation Governments, Renewable Resources Councils, researchers, non-profit organizations, independent contractors and community groups.

The Trust's updated web site, www.yfwmb.ca, you will find application forms, proposal guidelines, final report guidelines and a proposal coversheet that must accompany all applications. Interested parties can print or download these documents from the webpage and e-mail or fax in their application to our office. The timeline for proposal intake and funding allocations are listed below.

JANUARY–FEBRUARY— Call for proposals

The official call for proposals goes out January 1st of each year and the

intake for proposals remains open until March 1st. Proposals submitted after the intake cutoff date will not be considered.

Proposal preparation notes

- The Trust staff is available throughout the year to assist any applicant with the submission of a proposal.
- It is highly recommended that proposals follow the application guidelines provided through our webpage. The guidelines can also be mailed, faxed, e-mailed, or picked up from the Fish and Wildlife Management Board office throughout the year.
- All applications must have a Trust Application Cover Sheet attached to the proposal submission.
- Proposals are not guaranteed to be funded. A technical committee shall rate and make recommendations to the Trustees, who make final allocation decisions.

MARCH—Technical review of proposals

Every proposal that is submitted to the Enhancement Trust goes through a technical review process to ensure that the project is technically viable. Our technical review panel is made up of Trustee members, the Trust Manager and any outside expertise that may be required.

APRIL—Proposal selections

The final selection of projects is conducted in April by the Board of Trustees. Each proposal is scrutinized by the technical review committee, rated according to the objectives of the Trust, and the Board of Trustees determines which projects will receive funding for the year. Projects may receive full or partial funding and the Trustees may request some applicants to alter their proposals in order to obtain funding.

MAY—Project funding and monitoring

By the end of May all applicants will be sent a letter regarding the success of their application. Those who are successful must sign a contribution agreement with the Trust that includes the proposal, work plan, timeline and the funding contribution amount. Each successful project will then be monitored until the end of the project.

Final report and publications

All projects that are funded by the Trust must submit a final report outlining various aspects of the project as well as demonstrating that the funding has been spent in accordance with their proposal. Final reporting guidelines can be found on the webpage or from the Fish and Wildlife Management Board office.







Funded projects

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2011–12 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
CARCROSS/ TAGISH FIRST NATION (CTFN)	Youth Mentoring Program for Environmental, Ecology, and Climate Change Adaptation.	\$ 9,802.13	The purpose is to protect fish & wildlife populations and their habitat located in the Southern Lakes area while providing mentoring and educational opportunities to youth. This is achieved by conducting monitoring activities and data collection. Under direct supervision of the Natural Resources Manager, youth participants will work with Environmental & Ecological Monitors and Youth Mentors to gain knowledge about CTFN Settlement Land and the CTFN Final Agreement, and learn practical skills and achieve certifications to conduct field work. Data relating to the above activities, ecological or environmental changes, and unusual sightings will be recorded. All monitor sightings of wildlife will be recorded.	Completed

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2011–12 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
TA'AN KWÄCH'ÄN COUNCIL (TKC)	McIntyre Creek Fish and Wildlife Interpretive Sign	\$ 4,000.00	<p>This project proposes to develop, design and install an interpretive sign near the confluence of McIntyre Creek and the Yukon River, at the site of the former City of Whitehorse dump at Range Road. The location is within the Traditional Territory of the Ta'an Kwäch'än people and was the site of a traditional Chinook salmon fish camp. The sign will discuss wildlife that utilizes this wetland/riparian area.</p> <p>Traditional knowledge from Ta'an Kwäch'än members will be synthesized and integrated with scientific knowledge related to bird, mammal and amphibian species that inhabit the area. Consultation will also be conducted with the City of Whitehorse, the Yukon Government (YG) Environment Branch (i.e. wildlife viewing section) and other stakeholders. The design and installation of an interpretive sign will provide educational opportunities to local elementary and high school students as well as the general public. By incorporating the sign into the existing foot trails in the area, the installation will also help shift public perception of the area from a dumping ground to an important wildlife habitat.</p>	Completed

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2011–12 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
TA'AN KWÄCH'ÄN COUNCIL (TKC)	Ta'an Kwäch'än Council Beaver Trapping Program for Youth	\$ 7,795.00	The objectives of this project include restoring fresh water fish habitat and fish populations (grayling) to Fox Creek. This will be accomplished by managing the number of beaver in the creek, and their dams which block upstream fish migration and contribute to increased sedimentation and deterioration of fish habitat. Equally important to this project is the educational component which will teach TKC youth the biology and life history of beaver, how to trap beaver, pelt handling and use of the fur.	Contract signed and project was cancelled

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2011–12 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
YUKON CONSERVATION SOCIETY (YCS)	Off Road Vehicle Terrain Analysis & Awareness Project	\$ 10,000.00	<p>The goal is to create useful information about off-road vehicle (ORV) impacts to the Yukon environment, and highlighting information about when and where to travel and what areas to avoid. To achieve this, as funding permits, we will work with a project team that will collect and analyze information about popular ORV trails, and provide recommendations about preferred trails for ORV types, impacted or sensitive areas to be avoided, and other ORV rider information such as outdoor ethics and environmental education, all of which will be compiled for public information. We will use Tread Lightly® principles for the basis of our environmental ethics material, and draw on local resources to make it Yukon-relevant. We will also create a media (brochure/radio/newspaper/ORV training manual) plan to promote the information to ORV riders/ sellers, partner and community groups, land managers and government bodies.</p>	Contract signed and completed

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2011–12 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
TR'ONDĚK HWĚCH'IN (TH)	First Trapper Education Program	\$ 8,620.00	TH is inspired to organize it's first ever "First Trapper Education Program" for all TH Youth and other youth living in Dawson City, with the expected achievement of high interest and participation for a continuous program. Elders and commercial trappers will be recruited to provide their expertise and traditional knowledge and biologists or wildlife field technicians will provide their knowledge of fur bearers habitat within TH Traditional Territory.	Contract signed and completed
YUKON FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION (YFGA)	Turn In Poachers, Turn In Polluters Program—T.I.P.S.	\$ 7,500.00	Encourage the public to "turn in poachers/polluters" by reporting wildlife and fisheries violations through a toll free number. To provide cash rewards through a partnership which was formed with the Department of Environment, Yukon Fish and Game Association and the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust Fund. \$2,750 was paid out in 2009 by the YFGA for rewards. To purchase \$10,000 of promotional material and program advertising for the T.I.P.S. program for the Department, YFGA, and other groups/Boards/programs to hand out throughout the year, throughout the Yukon. The Program is currently out of materials for these purposes.	Contract signed and completed

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2011–12 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
CARMACKS RENEWABLE RESOURCES COUNCIL	TEAM Program (Trappers Education And Monitoring Program)	\$ 4,750.00	The goal of this project is to provide an incentive for trappers and their assistants to get back to their traplines in these times of low trapping activity. The objective is for the trapper to pass their skills and knowledge of the land to the younger generation and to report back on their experience. Meeting after meeting people talk about the importance of monitoring our lands and this project addresses this need.	Contract signed and project cancelled
YUKON OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION	Wolf Pelt Handling Incentive Program	\$ 10,000.00	The Wolf Pelt Handling Incentive Program will stimulate trappers to be more active on their traplines as they target wolves for this incentive program. This program supports recognized scientific and traditional knowledge of reduced predation increasing ungulate survivability.	Contract signed and completed
SOCIETY OF YUKON BIRD OBSERVATORIES	Teslin Lake Bird Observatory	\$ 10,000.00	The primary goal of this project is to collect migration monitoring data for migratory birds in the Teslin region; this will be completed through the standardized operation of the Teslin Lake Bird Observatory during the fall migration season. The secondary goal of this project is to provide educational/ interpretive opportunities for the Yukon public with respect to migratory birds and to include school children and summer students/interns in these activities.	Contract signed and completed

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2011–12 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
TESLIN TLINGIT COUNCIL (TTC)	Moose Harvest Management Plan for the Nisutlin River Region	\$ 10,000.00	<p>The objective of the project is to develop a Moose Harvest Management Plan for the NRR through active participation from Teslin Tlingit Citizens, youth and the Teslin Renewable Resources Council (Teslin RRC). The Plan will incorporate moose harvest management guidelines to be integrated into a work and implementation plan that achieves a sustainable harvest limit for the NRR moose population with full community and Yukon Government Department of Environment support. The Plan will provide for an updated and adaptive policy for moose management and identifies community goals, guiding principles, objectives, action items, implementation plan and key strategies that will help ensure moose continue to be managed sustainably now and into the future.</p>	Contract signed and completed

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2011–12 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
TESLIN RENEWABLE RESOURCES COUNCIL (TRRC)	Take a Kid Trapping	\$ 14,516.00	The 10 day camp would provide youth an opportunity to reconnect to the land and a traditional heritage activity. Modeled after the North West Territories Take a Kid trapping program, youth participants will explore the many aspects of wildlife management and what it looks like on the ground. It would also introduce participants to the: Trapping Training Program; Trapping and Snaring; Wilderness Survival; Navigation in the Backcountry Safety; and Natural History. This program will also introduce young people to a diversity of other relative and engaging programming. The Land Based Camp will serve as a stepping stone to land stewardship and engagement providing TTC, TRRC and the YFWMB with the advocates, stewards and wildlife managers of the future.	Contract signed and project cancelled
		Total:	<u>\$ 96,983.13</u>	

Donating to the Trust

The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust is a registered charitable organization. All donations receive a charitable tax receipt and donors will receive correspondence regarding the funded projects.

The Trust shall recognize all donors on the Trust's website; annual report; and through various other publications such as the widely distributed free annual calendar. The Trust solicits donations to help fulfill its objectives and grow. A minimum of 3.5% of all the Trust assets are spent annually to fulfill its objectives. Upon request of the donor, the Trust will



guarantee 100% of their cash donations will go towards funding projects. We encourage all who have an interest in the protection, enhancement and restoration of fish, wildlife or habitat for future generations to contribute what they can. We encourage planned gifts and corporate donations. Talk to your

financial planner on the best approach for you or give us a call so we can refer you to an advisor.

To give a gift to the Yukon Fish & Wildlife Enhancement Trust please contact our office, or fill out a form on our website and mail donations to: ►



► The Yukon Fish & Wildlife Enhancement Trust

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