



Annual Report

2012–2013



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 18th year of operation of the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust (the “Trust”) for the 2012-13 fiscal year. Over the past eighteen 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’s 3.5 million-dollar endowment grows and remains into perpetuity. The spending policy formulates that a specific percentage of investments is dedicated to the continued funding of proposals and the management of the Trust.

The Trust held a call for proposals for the 2012-13 fiscal year and awarded \$95,990 to help fund nine projects throughout Yukon. Of the nine projects funded, eight were completed while one was canceled by the proponents for logistical reasons and the funding was returned. Feel free to take a look at the list of the projects funded on PAGE 10 of this report. The Trust predicts that next year there will be a call for proposals for approximately \$150,000.

The Trust encourages proposals from communities, community

groups, Renewable Resources 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.

Over 18 years, the Trust has made significant local investments in supporting the objectives, outlined in Chapter 27 of the Yukon First Nation Umbrella Final Agreement. Over the next few years, the Trust will continue to meet these objectives, and will also look to support broader research initiatives that impact Yukon’s fish, wildlife and their habitat. Yukon is becoming a leader in northern research and the Trust can be a large part of this.

In conclusion, I’d like to note that the Trust, as a charitable organization, is pleased 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 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

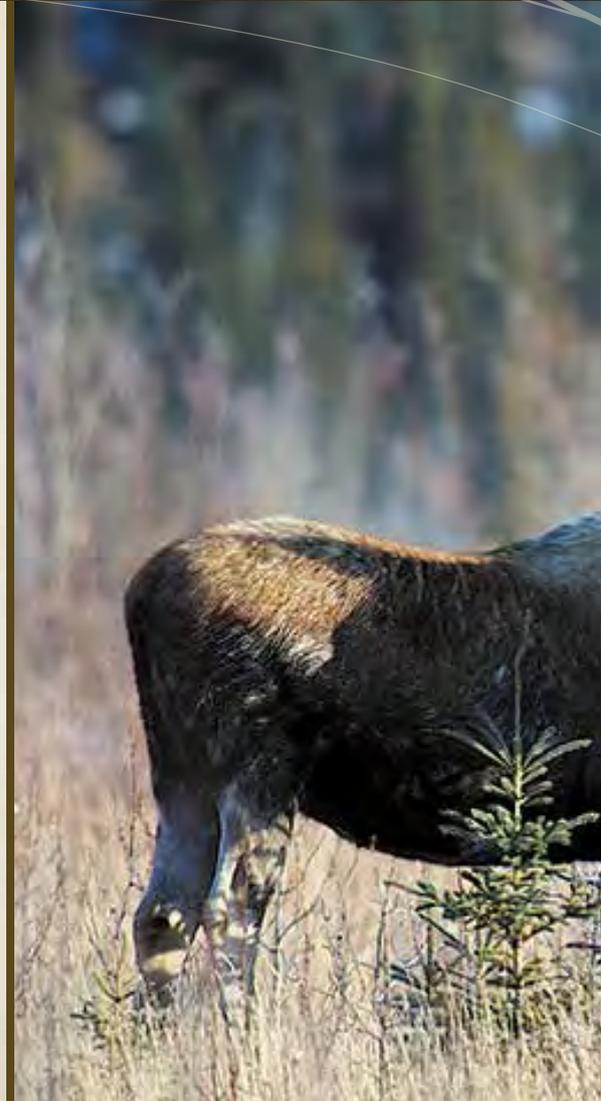
Chapter 27 of the Umbrella Final Agreement (the “UFA”) establishes the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust (the “Trust”). The Objective of the Trust is:

“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, 2013, was approximately 4.3 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 Manager.

The following Trustees made up the Trust's 2012 - 13 executive committee:

Trust Chair

Frank Thomas

Executive Committee Members

Terry Wilkinson
Rene Beaudry
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.

On the Trust's website, www.yfwet.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 Yukon 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 website or from the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board office.







Funded projects

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2012–13 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
DAWSON DISTRICT RENEWABLE RESOURCES COUNCIL (DDRRC)	2013 Dawson Fur Show	\$ 12,500.00	The goal of this project is to enhance and educate the trapping industry. The more that is known about trapping, the more responsibly it can be managed. The more knowledge that is available about trapping and the indirect benefits that trappers provide in the management of wildlife, the more wildlife species are protected and enhanced. We especially want to encourage youth participation, hence our youth fur categories.	
YUKON CONSERVATION SOCIETY (YCS)	Off Road Vehicle Terrain Analysis & Awareness Project	\$ 15,000.00	The goal of this project is to produce and distribute educational information to Yukon communities, governments and the public that promotes environmentally responsible ORV use and reduces impacts on habitat and wildlife.	

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2012–13 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
TR'ONDĚK HWĚCH'IN (TH)	First Trapper Education Program	\$ 8,990.00	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.	Project cancelled and funding returned
YUKON FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION (YFGA)	Turn In Poachers, Turn In Polluters Program – T.I.P.S.	\$ 6,000.00	As the T.I.P.S. program has been ongoing for many years it has been found to directly protect wildlife from poaching offences and polluting offences where public have received awards, anonymously, for turning in offenders that has led to convictions in court. Moreover, the advertising on signs, decals, commercials, and other products asking the public to be concerned for wildlife offences and report information keeps the importance of protecting Yukon fish, wildlife and habitat current and visible.	

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2012–13 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
YUKON OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION (YOA)	Wolf Pelt Handling Incentive Program	\$ 15,000.00	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.	
SOCIETY OF YUKON BIRD OBSERVATORIES (SYBO)	Teslin Lake Bird Observatory	\$ 15,000.00	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.	

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2012–13 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
YUKON FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION (YFGA)	Permanent Fresh-Water Springs	\$ 8,500.00	<p>The goal of this project is to protect Permanent Fresh Water Springs (PFWS), which are valuable and relatively rare habitats for fish and wildlife. We will do so by developing tools for staff of First Nations, municipal, territorial and federal agencies, consultants, and environmental, industrial and local communities. The tools will include a Fact Sheet and a Powerpoint Presentation. Both will be electronic and will be written in plain English so that they will be accessible to the general public. The tools will increase awareness of the values of PWFS and allow their field identification and mapping. We expect that this will result in consideration of protection of PFWS in current and future land and water use planning and development projects.</p>	

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2012–13 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
DAWNA HOPE	Here, There, nor ... Anywhere? Dolly Varden-Salvelinus malma; A Species of Special Concern or a Fish that has Fallen through the Gaps	\$ 6,000.00	Using traditional knowledge and methods, I will prove presence of Dolly Varden in the mainstem Yukon River, and build baseline data to gain better understanding of their distribution/presence in Yukon to ensure protection of key habitats from threats. I will also meet with local people to build traditional knowledge data set. This project and sampling methods can be repeated in time to assess changes that may occur in the area of study, especially taking into consideration their current listing as a species of special concern - SARA. There is little understanding of Dolly Varden in Yukon at present.	

Proponent organization	Project name	Amount awarded	2012–13 Trust contributed proposal summary	Status
MATT MCHUGH	Fish of the Dempster Country Project	\$ 9,000	The “Fish of the Dempster Country Project” will examine watersheds within the Dempster Highway Corridor, on the Yukon Territory section (Km14 to Km225) to document and identify fish species currently occurring throughout. This project will also incorporate data and knowledge obtained through previous study results (Yukon Environment Fisheries Section 2006/2007 & Beak Consultants Ltd. 1979), with direct regards to fish passage issues from culvert crossings (& erosion problems) from the Dempster Highway. The project will involve traditional and local knowledge from peoples who have lived or frequented these areas in the past and present, to better represent what fish species may or may not have occurred. The project will also develop a database for the region, with the intention of using the information for a management and educational tool.	

Total: **\$ 95,990.00**

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: ►

Recognizing our Donors

Thank you to our donors in 2012-13. 100% of your support went directly to funding Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust projects:

- Government of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation
- Nacho Nyak Dun Development Corporation
- Vuntut Gwitchin Development Corporation
- Skookum Asphalt
- Schmidt Mining Corporation
- White River First Nation

► The Yukon Fish & Wildlife Enhancement Trust

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