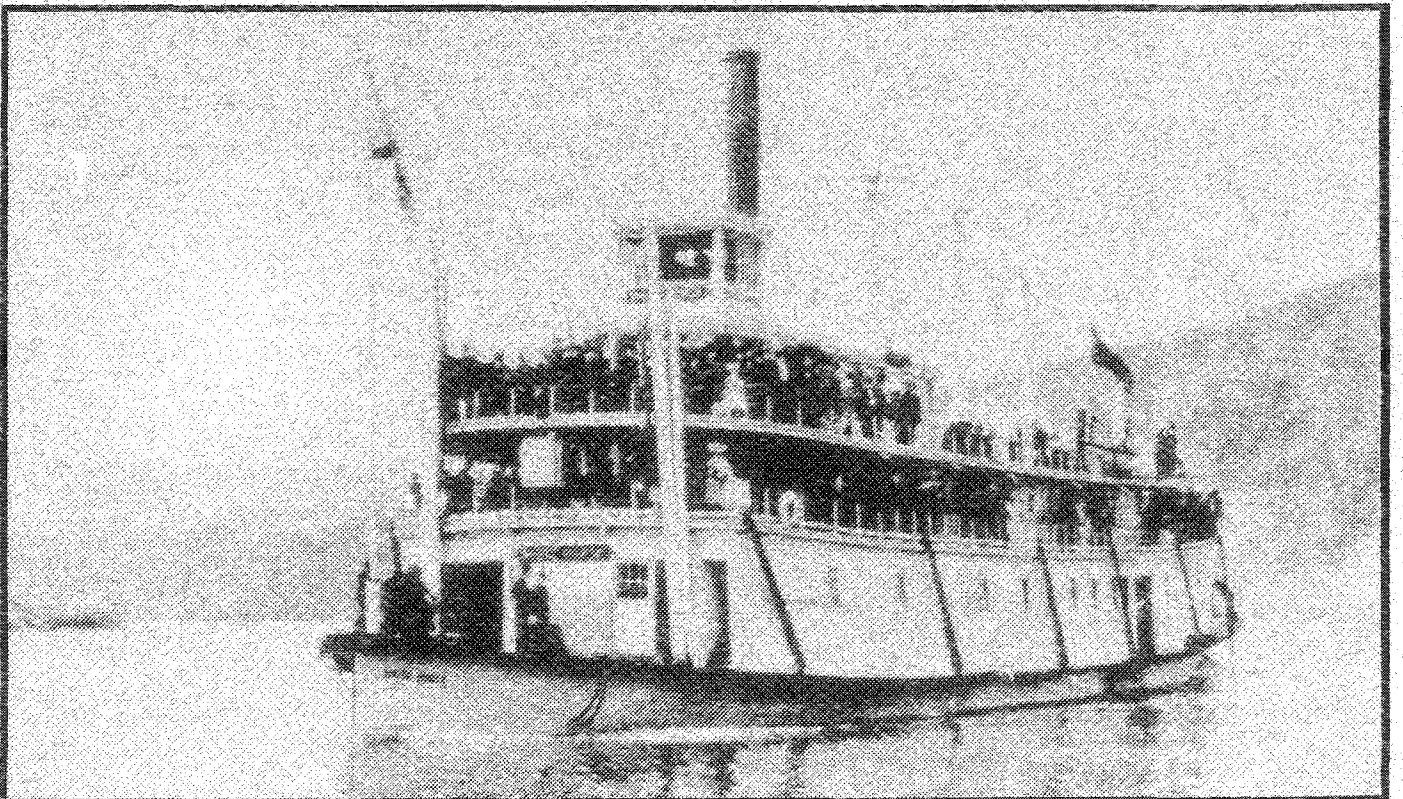




YUKON RIVER: THIRTY MILE SECTION
A CANADIAN HERITAGE RIVER MANAGEMENT PLAN



Cover Photos:

Upper Photo:

Indian people and non-native traders at Lake Laberge, 1894. (Yukon Archives).

Lower Photo:

Steamer plying the waters of the Yukon River.(Yukon Archives).



Recycled Paper



YUKON RIVER: THE THIRTY MILE SECTION

MANAGEMENT PLAN

prepared by

J.S. PEEPRE AND ASSOCIATES

with

Jackson and Johnson Heritage Research Ltd.
and
John Keay, Architect

for

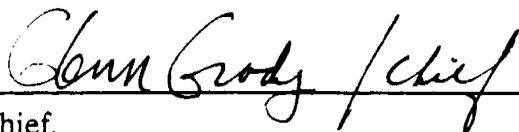
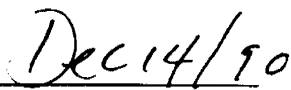
Department of Renewable Resources; Parks, Resources and Regional Planning
Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
Ta'an Kwach'an Council

November, 1990

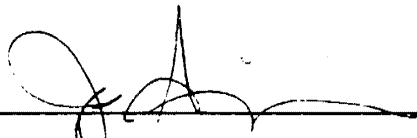
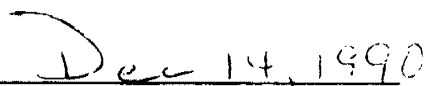
YUKON RIVER: THE THIRTY MILE SECTION MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Management Plan for the Yukon River, Thirty Mile Section as a Canadian Heritage River is:

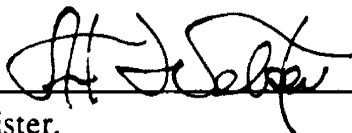
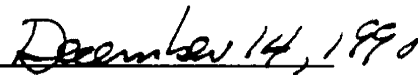
Approved by,


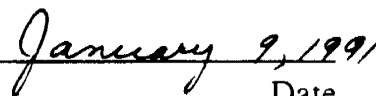
Chief, Date
Ta'an Kwach'an Indian Band

Chairperson, Date
Council for Yukon Indians

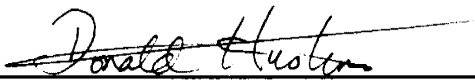
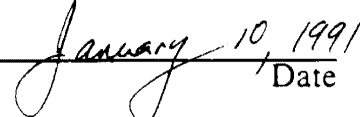
 

Minister, Date
Department of Renewable Resources and Department of Tourism
Yukon Territorial Government

Minister, Date
Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
Government of Canada

And received, on behalf of the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board by,

Chairperson, Canadian Heritage Rivers Board Date

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PART 1: BACKGROUND INFORMATION SUMMARY

1.0	HERITAGE RIVERS	1
2.0	MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY	1
3.0	PLANNING SUMMARY	3
4.0	BACKGROUND SUMMARY	4
4.1	NATURAL HERITAGE	4
4.2	CULTURAL HERITAGE	6
4.3	RECREATION USE	8
4.4	LAND USE	11

PART 2: THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

5.0	GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	12
6.0	MANAGEMENT APPROACH	16
7.0	MANAGEMENT AREAS	19
7.1	MANAGEMENT AREAS DESCRIPTION	21
8.0	MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	25
8.1	NATURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES	25
8.1.1	Environment and Landscape	25
8.1.2	Wildlife and Vegetation	26
8.1.3	Land Use	26
8.2	CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES	28
8.2.1	Introduction	28
8.2.2	Heritage Buildings and Related Structures	30
8.2.3	Archaeological Sites	40
8.2.4	Steamboat Remains, and Related Machinery	42
8.2.5	Cemeteries and Grave Sites	42
8.2.6	Heritage Trails, Routes, and Named Places	42
8.2.7	Artefacts	43
8.2.8	Documentary Sources	44
8.2.9	Oral Traditions	44
8.2.10	Access for Researchers	45

8.3	VISITOR USE	47
8.4	RECREATION SERVICES AND FACILITIES	48
8.4.1	Camping	48
8.4.2	Commercial Services	49
8.4.3	Safety And Rescue	50
8.5	ACCESS AND TRAILS	51
8.6	WATER QUALITY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT	51
8.6.1	Water	52
8.6.2	Visitor Waste	53
8.7	INFORMATION, INTERPRETATION	54
8.7.1	Interpretive Features and Themes	54
8.7.2	Interpretive Options	63
8.8	MARKETING	65
8.9	ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	66
8.9.1	Administration	67
8.9.2	Operations And Maintenance	69
8.10	EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND APPRENTICESHIP	71
8.10.1	Heritage And Site Management	71
8.10.2	Interpretation	72
9.0	IMPACTS OF DEVELOPMENT	72
9.1	SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS	72
9.2	IMPACTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE RESOURCES	72
9.3	MONITORING AND REVIEW	73
PART 3: IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK		75
<hr/>		
10.0	MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK	75
11.0	PRIORITIES AND COSTS	76

APPENDIX

1.	LIST OF PARTICIPANTS, CONTACTS, AND PLAN REVIEWERS	90
2.	FEDERAL MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (A Matrix Of Development Type And Regulatory Authority In The Yukon)	92
3.	CANADIAN HERITAGE RIVER WATER QUALITY TESTING PARAMETERS	94

LIST OF MAPS AND TABLES

MAPS

1.	Location Map	Preface
2.	Boundary Map	2
3.	Natural Heritage Features	5
4.	Cultural Heritage Features	7
5.	Visual Features	9
6.	Existing Facilities and Land Use	10
7.	Regional Context	18
8.	Management Areas	20
9.	Lower Laberge	33
10.	17 Mile Wood Camp	36
11.	Hootalinqua	37
12.	Shipyard Island	41

TABLES

1.	Matrix of Management Options	17
2.	Regional Context of the Thirty Mile	19
3.	Management Areas	19
4.	Summary of Commercial Opportunities	50
5.	Thirty Mile Interpretive Framework	55
6.	Natural Heritage Interpretive Features	59
7.	Cultural Heritage Interpretive Features	61
8.	Management Responsibilities and Tasks	77
9.	Implementation Priorities and Costs	81

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The study team acknowledges the Steering Committee, with members from the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Canadian Parks Service, Yukon Territorial Government, Council for Yukon Indians and the Ta'an Kwach'an Indian Band. The assistance of the Ta'an Kwach'an Council in reviewing management options was appreciated. The Canadian Heritage Rivers Secretariat reviewed the draft plan. A full list of participants is included in the Appendix 1.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Yukon Government

Department of Renewable Resources; Parks, Resources, and Regional Planning Branch
Department of Tourism; Heritage Branch

Federal Government

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development; Water Resources, and
Environment and Conservation
Department of Environment, Canadian Parks Service

Ta'an Kwach'an Council

Council for Yukon Indians

MANAGEMENT PLAN ASSISTANCE AND REVIEW

John Keay, Architect
Hector Mackenzie, Wilderness Guide
(See Appendix 1 for full list)

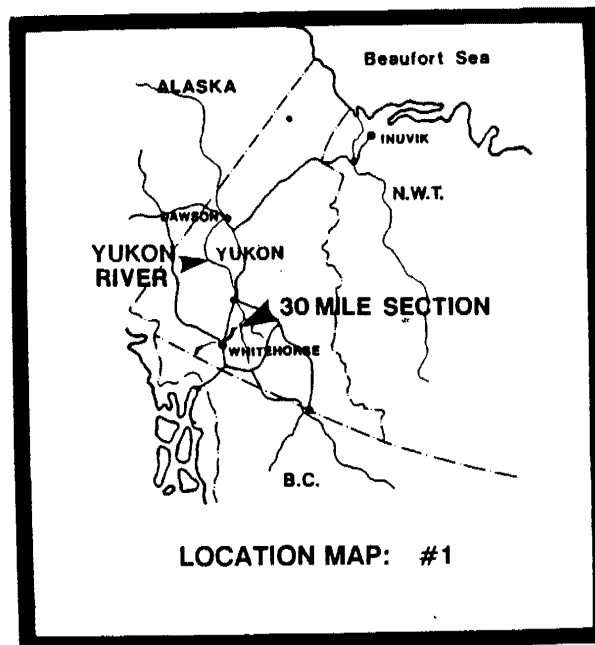
PREFACE

This report is **Volume III** of the management planning work undertaken for the Thirty Mile Section of the Yukon River, from 1988-1990.

Volume I has background information on natural and cultural resources, as well as land and recreation use within the study area. A bibliography is found in this report. Terrain and forest cover maps at a scale of 1:30,000 were also prepared to assist with management.

Volume II, an interim report, summarizes the background information, outlines planning methods and planning issues, describes goals and objectives and presents a range of planning options. An example of these options is provided in the Management Plan. Volume II was condensed into a Public Information Tabloid that was used during the public meetings.

Volume III is the Management Plan. Readers should refer to Volume I for detailed background natural and cultural heritage resource information. **All references in the Management Plan to the Umbrella Final Agreement and the Yukon First Nations Final Agreements apply upon final approvals being reached.**





Party of recreational boaters on lower part of the Thirty Mile.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

(i) INTRODUCTION

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System is a cooperative program, supported by the parks agencies of federal, provincial, and territorial governments, in conjunction with native organizations, local communities and interest groups. The program ensures that rivers with outstanding natural features, a significant role in Canadian history, or outstanding recreation, are conserved while allowing for public use and enjoyment. It gives national recognition to the important rivers of Canada.

The Thirty Mile, located north of Whitehorse, is an attractive section of the Yukon river with outstanding natural and cultural heritage features. It extends from the north end of Lake Laberge at the historic Lower Laberge site, downstream to Hootalinqua and Shipyard Island at the confluence of the Teslin River. The river is used by Ta'an Kwach'an Band members for hunting, trapping, fishing and a variety of other harvesting or family activities. Tourists and local residents use the river for recreation, sport fishing, hunting, and heritage interpretation.

The Thirty Mile Section of the Yukon River was nominated by the Yukon Government and Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to become part of the Canadian Heritage Rivers System. After public review and approval by the responsible ministers of the Yukon and Federal Government, the Ta'an Kwach'an Council and Council for Yukon Indians, this plan will be lodged with the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board. The Thirty Mile will then be designated a Canadian Heritage River and managed according to the objectives of the plan.

(ii) PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT CONTEXT

The participating parties agree to recognize any rights and responsibilities bestowed upon aboriginal peoples with regard to water, land, heritage, and renewable resources management and that may accrue from land claims settlements with the Yukon First Nations and Ta'an Kwach'an Council. The Umbrella Final Agreement Sub-agreements for Special Management Areas, Heritage Resources, and Fish and Wildlife Conservation and Use have particular relevance to managing the Thirty Mile, and will be applied as appropriate and when finally approved. Specific actions for managing the Thirty Mile are set out in this plan.

The Canadian Heritage River **boundary** generally follows the river floodplain. It encompasses the northern and north-eastern shore of Lake Laberge, and continues downstream past Hootalinqua to Shipyard Island. This boundary is needed to assist in the management of water, land, heritage and renewable resources and to maintain the integrity of the river and its status as a Canadian Heritage River. The plan shows how Management Area prescriptions will be used to guide recreation and resource uses.

Public opinion on the management alternatives for the Thirty Mile was an important part of planning. During March of 1990, five public sessions were held in the communities of Whitehorse, Carmacks, Teslin and Deep Creek. Newsletters on the Thirty Mile were distributed to interest groups, public libraries and other institutions. Written comments on the background information and alternatives were received and considered in the plan.

The Ta'an Kwach'an Council was consulted, and the Band was represented on the Steering Committee. Results of a separate economic development study conducted by the band are incorporated in the plan. Local employment and economic development opportunities are important aspects of the plan.

(iii) HERITAGE RIVER MANAGEMENT

This Management Plan for the Thirty Mile Canadian Heritage River reflects a cooperative agreement between the Yukon Government, the Ta'an Kwach'an Council, the Council for Yukon Indians and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. The management goals and objectives are based on the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board guidelines. These guidelines were adapted to Yukon conditions and the special cooperative arrangements needed to implement the plan.

As with all Canadian Heritage River management plans, it is a framework for protecting the Thirty Mile. The environment, people, and heritage resources must always be considered together. Each planning step needs to be considered with respect to the over-all management goal and objectives. This plan will guide management of the Thirty Mile for some time to come. As conditions change, development or protection priorities may need to shift and the plan will be reviewed.

The overall goal for managing the Thirty Mile is to:

Protect the outstanding landscape, natural features, and cultural resources of the Thirty Mile Section of the Yukon River, and provide a high quality recreational and educational experience in a Canadian Heritage River setting.

The main objectives for managing the Thirty Mile River are to:

- *Maintain the integrity of the river valley ecosystem,*
- *Protect cultural heritage resources,*
- *Provide visitors with the opportunity to discover and experience a distinctive region and river in the Yukon,*
- *Allow existing social and compatible economic activities in the Thirty Mile corridor and surrounding lands to continue,*
- *Manage land uses to be compatible with the objectives for conserving natural and cultural heritage resources,*
- *Provide a way to monitor land uses to ensure that water quality, and other natural and cultural heritage resources are maintained according to Canadian Heritage River guidelines.*

(iv) SUMMARY OF THE MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The management approach retains the Thirty Mile in a natural setting and conserves natural and cultural heritage resources, while providing the necessary services for safe and enjoyable public use. This management plan supports a low to moderate level of recreational use and development, consistent with the pace of growth determined by the Management Group. It allows for a moderate degree of intervention and support in preserving heritage resources including structures, artefacts and oral traditions.

The plan allows for ongoing traditional activities by Ta'an Kwach'an Band members and local people as set out in the land claims agreements. It accommodates future compatible resource development, but aims to limit disturbance of the immediate river flood plain and viewshed. Retention of the existing Thirty Mile water quality is essential, and a monitoring program will be implemented. All aspects of management will depend on existing legislation, regulations and policy. Where legislation does not exist or is pending, the plan calls for a cooperative approach using voluntary compliance and public education. All management decisions will be subject to the terms of land claims agreements, once these agreements are approved.

(v) MANAGEMENT AREAS

The delineation of **Management Areas** is a way to help guide the use of the Thirty Mile. Compatible activities and development in each area will aid in the protection of heritage resources. Allowing for some flexibility is important, since site development and heritage protection needs may change in the future. Each Management Area has an objective defined in the plan by activities and land use:

MANAGEMENT AREAS AND GUIDELINES
(Overall river use and development)

River Corridor Area
Natural Area
Heritage Preservation Areas
Recreation Use and Services Areas

Existing legislation, policy, regulations, native rights and the land claims final agreements will provide the authority for management of these areas (See also Appendix 2). Education and voluntary compliance will be required where legislation or land claims agreements do not provide the authority to regulate. The *Thirty Mile Management Group* will be the main advisory and coordinating body, with the Parks, Resources and Regional Planning Branch of the Yukon Renewable Resources Department taking the lead administrative role. Their responsibilities are set out in the plan.

(vi) SCOPE OF PLAN

The Management Plan sets policies and actions for:

<p>NATURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES Environment and Landscape Wildlife and Vegetation Land Use</p> <p>CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES Heritage Buildings and Related Structures Archaeological Sites Steamboat Remains, and Related Machinery Cemeteries and Grave Sites Heritage Trails, Routes, and Named Places Artefacts Documentary Sources Oral Traditions Access for Researchers</p> <p>VISITOR USE, SERVICES AND FACILITIES Camping Commercial Services Safety And Rescue Access and Trails</p> <p>INFORMATION, INTERPRETATION, MARKETING</p> <p>WATER QUALITY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT</p> <p>ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE</p> <p>EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND APPRENTICESHIP</p> <p>IMPACTS OF DEVELOPMENT, MONITORING AND REVIEW</p>

(vii) INFORMATION, INTERPRETATION, MARKETING

Information, interpretation and marketing are described in the plan. Printed materials, information at visitor reception centres, and a kiosk at Deep Creek are proposed. *Thirty Miles of Magic* captures a possible marketing approach.

The Thirty Mile Section has many engaging interpretive features. The *Yukon Thirty Mile: River of Changes* is suggested as an overall framework for interpretation. This main theme encompasses the sense of continuing evolution through time which both the river and people living here have undergone in the past, and which will carry into the future.

Flowing from this way of thinking about the Thirty Mile as a *River of Changes* are several potential interpretive themes described in the plan:

Overall Interpretive Framework

The Thirty Mile: A River of Changes

Interpretive Themes

River Cutting Through the Ages

A Boreal Mosaic

An Enduring Larder

River on the Move

(viii) PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The Canadian Heritage River designation for the Thirty Mile, as set out in this plan, does not bestow any special park or other legal administrative status. Administration will be carried out in a cooperative way, using a variety of organizations, agencies, legislation and regulations to achieve the objectives of the Management Plan. This cooperative, multi-agency approach will need a coordinating lead group, and a stable source of core funding as described below.

The key implementation actions are:

- **Establish an advisory Thirty Mile Management Group with representation from the Yukon Parks and Outdoor Recreation Planning Section, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Ta'an Kwach'an Council and the Council for Yukon Indians.**
- **Designate the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section of the Yukon Department of Renewable Resources as the lead coordinating agency. Assign the lead role in heritage research, preservation and development to the Department of Tourism, Heritage Branch. (Other federal and territorial agencies will carry out their normal administrative and regulatory functions as they apply to the Thirty Mile Management Plan).**
- **Use existing legislation, policy, regulations and native rights to implement the management plan, with adjustments based on land claims final agreements.**
- **Place a Thirty Mile Heritage River map notation on federal and territorial land status and land use maps to ensure the special management objectives are recognized. Ensure the Ta'an Kwach'an are recognized as a party to the notation and that it does not prejudice their land claims agreement.**
- **Implement the management plan gradually, as resources permit. Use management agreements in cooperation with local users, native organizations, business and non-profit groups.**
- **Monitor the water quality of the Thirty Mile on an annual basis, with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development taking the lead role.**
- **Conduct annual maintenance and improvement work on a cooperative basis, with participation by the Ta'an Kwach'an Council, commercial enterprises, or non-government organizations as appropriate.**
- **Encourage affirmative action employment, contracting and training opportunities.**
- **Identify long-term, diversified sources of financial assistance for the Thirty Mile. Consider cost recovery programs on the Thirty Mile.**

(ix) IMPLEMENTATION PHASING AND COSTS

The plan sets out a five year schedule for implementation, along with order of magnitude costs. Implementation will depend on several different agencies, programs, private enterprise, volunteers and non-government organizations. Responsibilities are outlined in the plan.

(x) PRIORITIES AND COSTS SUMMARY

TASK	CAPITAL	O&M	RESPONSIBILITY*
YEARS 1-2 (HIGH PRIORITY)			
Inventories and Assessments	25,000		PORS, HB
Heritage Site Evaluation and Preservation	40,000		HB
Ethnographic Materials	5,500		HB, Ta'an
Campsites	18,000		PORS
Waste	15,000		PORS
Water Quality	-	15,000	DIAND
Trails	-	-	-
Information and Education	37,000		PORS, HB, Ta'an
Promotion	existing programs		Tourism and Private
Administration	-	2,500	PORS
Operations and Maintenance	3,500	15,000	PORS

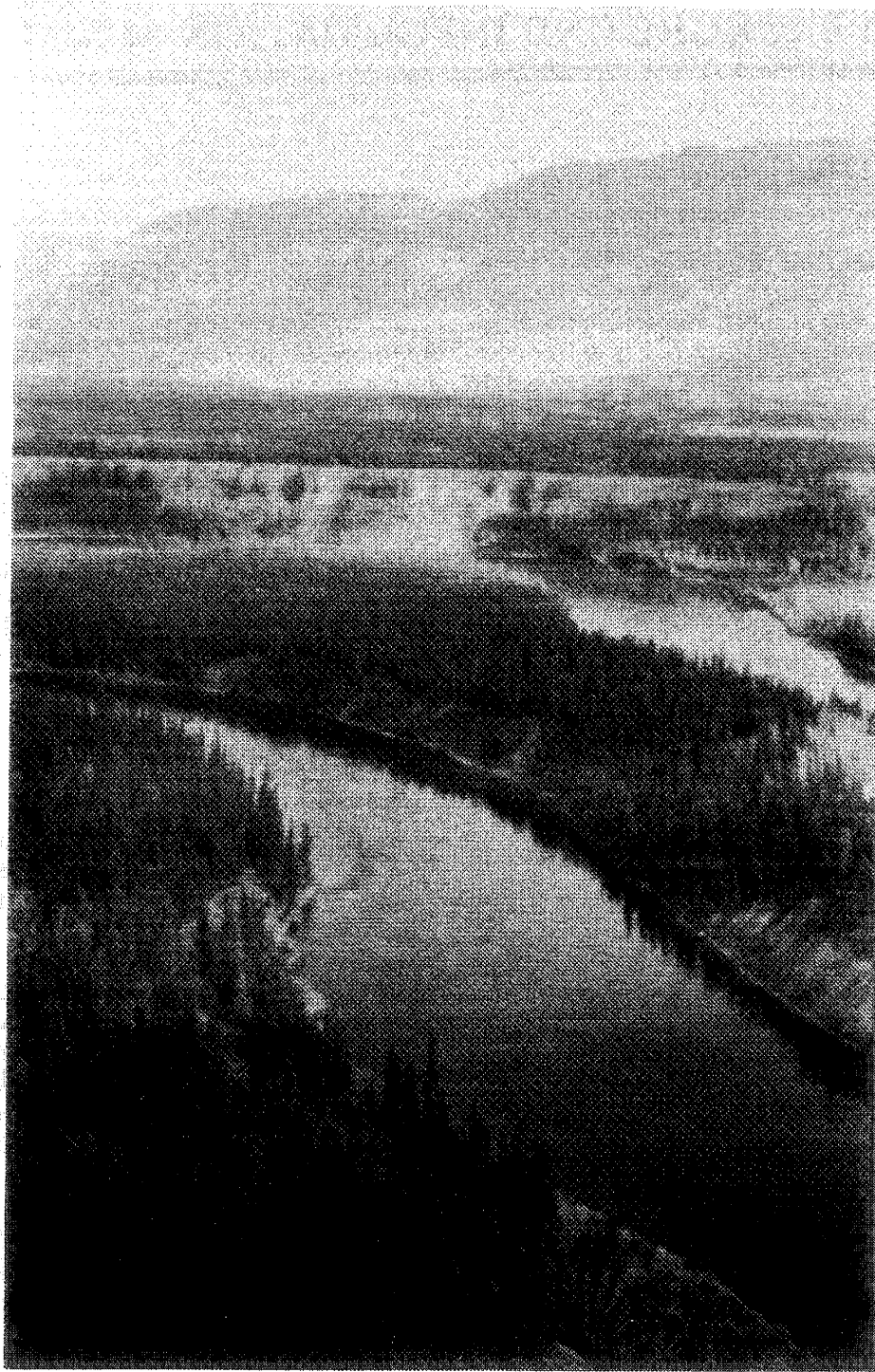
YEARS 3-5 (SECOND PRIORITY CAPITAL & ON-GOING MAINTENANCE)

Inventories and Assessments	15,000		PORS, HB
Heritage Site Evaluation and Preservation	20,000		HB
Ethnographic Materials/Oral Traditions	no estimate		HB, Ta'an
Campsites	15,000		PORS
Waste	2,500		PORS
Water Quality	-	15,000	DIAND
Trails	24,500	2,000	PORS
Information and Education	70,000	1,000	PORS, HB, Ta'an
Promotion	existing programs		Tourism and Private
Administration	-	2,500	PORS
Operations and Maintenance	-	17,500	PORS

FUTURE OPTIONS

Inventories and Assessments	no estimate		PORS, HB
Heritage Site Evaluation and Preservation	20,000		HB
Ethnographic Materials	no estimate		HB, Ta'an
Campsites	-	see maintenance	PORS
Waste	-	see maintenance	PORS
Water Quality	-	15,000	DIAND
Trails	30,000		PORS, Ta'an
Information and Education	no estimate		PORS, HB, Private, Ta'an
Promotion	no estimate		Tourism and Private
Administration	-	2,500	PORS
Operations and Maintenance		20,000	PORS

* Yukon Renewable Resources, Parks (PORS); Yukon Tourism, Heritage, (HB); Dept. of Indian Affairs & Northern Development (DIAND)



Aerial view of U.S. Bend, looking north. Note steep bluffs on the bend and the broad terraces in the background.

PART 1: BACKGROUND INFORMATION SUMMARY

1.0 HERITAGE RIVERS

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System is a cooperative program, to give national recognition to the important rivers of Canada. It is administered by federal, provincial, and territorial governments, in conjunction with native organizations, local communities and interest groups. The program ensures that rivers with outstanding natural features, a significant role in Canadian history, or outstanding recreation, are conserved, while allowing for public use and enjoyment.

The Thirty Mile Section of the Yukon River was nominated by the Yukon Government and Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to become part of the Canadian Heritage Rivers System. The Thirty Mile has outstanding natural and cultural heritage features in an attractive recreation setting. After public review and approval by the responsible ministers of the Yukon and Federal Government, and the Ta'an Kwach'an Council, this plan will be lodged with the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board. The Thirty Mile is to be formally designated a Canadian Heritage River in early 1991 and managed according to the objectives of the plan.

Planning and Management Context

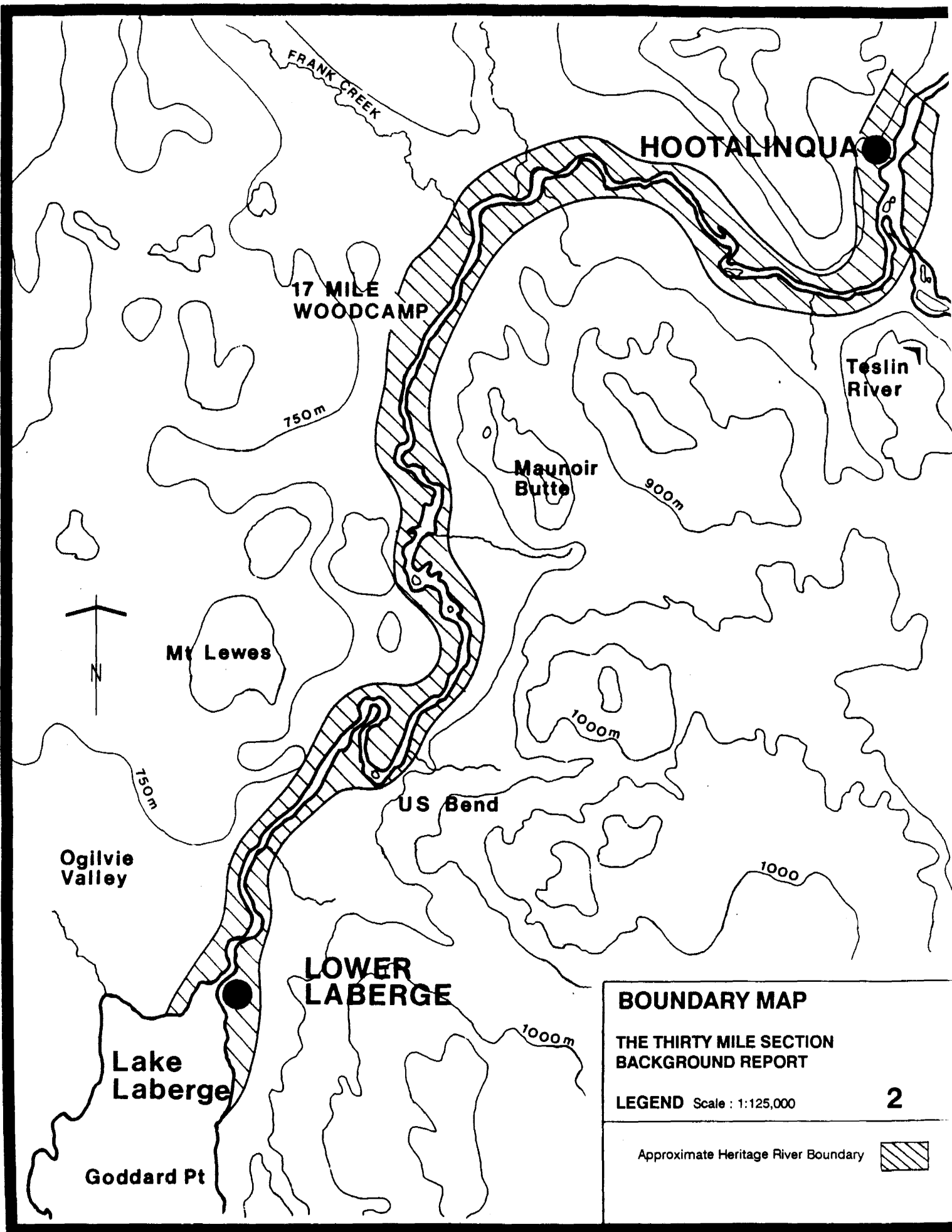
The participating parties agree to recognize any rights and responsibilities bestowed upon aboriginal peoples with regard to water, land, heritage, and renewable resources management or that which may accrue from land claims settlements with the Yukon First Nations and Ta'an Kwach'an Council.

Planning, designation and management of the Thirty Mile as a Canadian Heritage River will be subject to the terms and conditions of the Umbrella Final Agreement. The sub-agreements for Special Management Areas, Heritage Resources, and Fish and Wildlife Conservation and Use will have particular relevance to managing the Thirty Mile, and will be applied as appropriate. The plan is based on the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board guidelines, adapted to Yukon conditions. Specific actions which will be used to manage the Thirty Mile are set out in this plan.

The Thirty Mile is a small part of the Yukon River. The Management Plan deals only with this short section, but should be integrated with other Yukon River planning and regional tourism, land use or resource management initiatives. This regional context is outlined in the plan.

2.0 THE MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY

The Thirty Mile, located north of Whitehorse, is an attractive section of the Yukon river with outstanding natural and cultural heritage features. It extends from the north end of Lake Laberge at the historic Lower Laberge site, downstream to Hootalinqua and Shipyard Island at the confluence of the Teslin River. The river is used by Ta'an Kwach'an Band members for hunting, trapping, fishing and a variety of other harvesting or family activities. Tourists and local residents use the river for recreation, sport fishing, hunting and heritage interpretation.



HOOTALINQUA

**17 MILE
WOODCAMP**

**Teslin
River**

**Maunoir
Butte**

Mt Lewes

US Bend

**Ogilvie
Valley**

**LOWER
LABERGE**

**Lake
Laberge**

Goddard Pt

BOUNDARY MAP

**THE THIRTY MILE SECTION
BACKGROUND REPORT**

LEGEND Scale : 1:125,000

2

Approximate Heritage River Boundary



Boundary (See Map #2 & 7)

Existing land ownership does not change with Canadian Heritage River designation or boundaries. Land claims agreements will influence parts of the study area and Canadian Heritage River status and management will be compatible with these claims agreements. The Heritage River boundary shows the core area (approximately 45 sq. km.) where the river and floodplain will be managed to meet the objectives of the plan. Existing ways to manage land will be applied on either side of the river, until such time as the provisions of final land claims agreements will be applied. The plan encourages compatible land uses within the river viewshed.

The Canadian Heritage River boundary will help ensure management of the entire river valley in a manner consistent with the objectives of the plan. All land ownership, regulations, and use will remain under existing authorities or, in future, as determined by land claims settlements, or pending legislation.

The Canadian Heritage River *boundary* is based on:

- *the Thirty Mile floodplain, which varies in width, from Lake Laberge to Hootalinqua and Shipyard Island,*
- *a minimum corridor width extending 250m back from each river bank, where the floodplain is very narrow and includes only the river's edge due to steep cliffs or banks,*
- *significant natural and cultural heritage features associated with the Thirty Mile.*

The boundary encompasses portions of the northern and north-eastern shores of Lake Laberge, continuing downstream past Hootalinqua to Shipyard Island. Management Areas within these lands prescribe ways to manage water, land, heritage and renewable resources to maintain the integrity of the river and its status as a Canadian Heritage River.

3.0 PLANNING SUMMARY

A management plan must be prepared for the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board (CHRB). Upon receipt of the plan, the Board recommends to the minister responsible for Parks Canada and the Minister of the nominating agency(ies) that the candidate river now be formally designated a Canadian Heritage River.

Background information on the Thirty Mile was collected in 1988/89 and recorded in a separate report (*Thirty Mile Section, Background Report*, J.S. Peepre and Associates et al). Based on this information, a range of management alternatives were prepared.

Public opinion on the management alternatives for the Thirty Mile was an important part of planning. During March of 1990, five public sessions were held in the communities of Whitehorse, Carmacks, Teslin and Deep Creek. About 1,400 newsletters on the Thirty Mile were distributed to interest groups, public libraries and other institutions. Written comments on the background information and alternatives were received and considered in the plan.

The Ta'an Kwach'an Council was consulted, and presentations were made to the members of the band. The results of a separate economic development study conducted by the band are incorporated in the plan. Local employment and economic development opportunities are important aspects of the plan.

The plan will be implemented on a cooperative basis. Participants will include the federal and territorial governments, the Ta'an Kwach'an Council, and the Council for Yukon Indians. Local residents, commercial enterprises or cooperating associations (for example, the Yukon Underwater Divers Association) may also participate in the plan review or aspects of corridor management as set out in the plan and as encouraged by the Management Group.

4.0 BACKGROUND SUMMARY

4.1 NATURAL HERITAGE

(Refer to Map #3)

The Thirty Mile has some of the best examples of natural heritage features on the Yukon River. Lake Laberge and the Thirty Mile are typical of the upper Yukon River. The lake allows sediments to settle, creating the clear, green-blue water. The fast current and unusual river erosion patterns are interesting features of this section of river.

Bedrock exposures seen as bluffs and outcrops along the river are part of the complex geology of the Yukon Plateau. Good examples of 1,200 year old White River volcanic ash deposits are visible, and glacial landforms of river terraces, moraines and eskers are interesting features. The Thirty Mile provides a good chance to view the vegetation and soils associated with discontinuous permafrost.

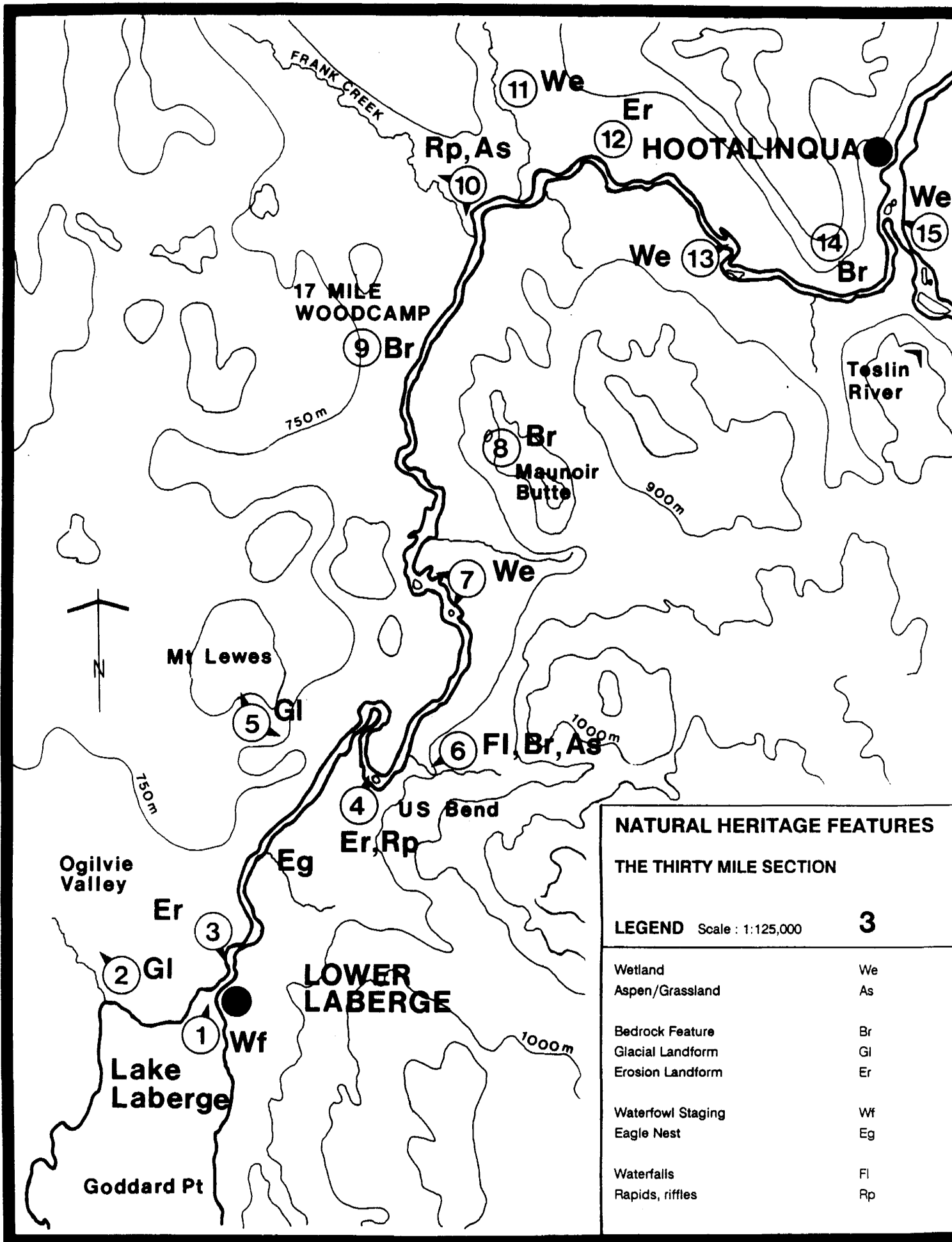
The tall spruce, wetland shrubs and herbs which grow along the river banks provide food and cover for wildlife. Aspen and sage grassland on south-facing slopes create an attractive contrast with the spruce forest. A profusion of woodland and meadow wildflowers may be seen in the summer. One of the unusual features of the Thirty Mile is the pattern of new vegetation growth resulting from earlier wood-cutting operations.

Birds of prey and bald eagle nests can be found along the Thirty Mile. The Lake Laberge outlet is a regionally significant staging area for migrant waterfowl. Fish spawning beds are located in gravel bars. The study area also supports large wildlife species including moose, black bear and grizzly bear. Aquatic habitat found along the river and in adjacent wetlands supports many smaller mammals.

NATURAL HERITAGE FEATURES MAP (See Map #3)

LEGEND SUPPLEMENT

1. Waterfowl staging area, year round open water.
2. Yukon River channel was originally in Ogilvie Valley and to the west of Mt. Lewes. Glaciation changed the drainage pattern.
3. White River volcanic ash deposit visible here and in several other locations on the Thirty Mile Section.
4. US Bend was created by the river cutting down through glacial deposits. Channel may also be controlled by bedrock.
5. Mt. Lewes has a large terminal moraine to the south and several eskers are located within walking distance of the river. This moraine is felt to control the water level of Lake Laberge by maintaining the river gradient.
6. Conglomerate bedrock exposure, very attractive canyon and waterfalls. Open aspen stands and meadows allow pleasant hiking.
7. Series of islands and bays are notable for their wetland vegetation and likelihood of supporting wildlife species dependent on this habitat.
8. Maunoir Butte has a prominent exposure of limestone bedrock on the northwest side. Fossils are reported in this area and to the south.
9. Limestone bedrock exposure behind 17 Mile Wood Camp is a prominent feature. Rusty colour is caused by oxidation.
10. Frank Creek is a major drainage emptying into the Thirty Mile. Attractive aspen and meadow ridges allow pleasant hiking with good views. The creek has many rapids in the lower portion.
11. Area of wetland located north of the Thirty Mile Section. Likely good habitat for furbearers.
12. Cape Horn. Prominent bluffs and erosion features, with modest hoodoo development. One visual highlight of the river.
13. Wetland area created by low islands and back channels. Islands may be used for moose calving.
14. Bedrock exposures along ridge indicate change in rock types. Igneous intrusions such as dykes found in area.
15. Wetland area at confluence with Teslin River.



FRANK CREEK

11 We

Er

Rp, As

12

HOOTALINQUA

10

We

13

14

Br

We

15

17 MILE
WOODCAMP

9

Br

750 m

Teslin
River

8

Br

Maunoir
Butte

900 m

7

We

Mt Lewes

5

Gl

1000 m

6

Fi, Br, As

US Bend

4

Er, Rp

Eg

Ogilvie
Valley

Er

3

2

Gl

LOWER
LABERGE

1

Wf

Lake
Laberge

1000 m

Goddard Pt

4.2 CULTURAL HERITAGE

(Refer to Map #4)

One of the striking features of the Thirty Mile is the evidence of past and present human activity. Boat and cabin remains, scattered artefact deposits, clearings, foot trails, roads, underwater archaeological sites, navigational markings, wood lots, remnants of the historic telegraph line, fish camps and scientific monitoring devices are visible along the river.

Archaeological, documentary and oral information, can be used to describe pre-contact times to the present. Yukon Indian people have a rich mythological tradition which offers many stories about creation. There are some narratives about Crow and Beaverman which make reference to the Yukon River (Cruikshank 1978 and Ta'an Kwach'an Cultural History Project 89).

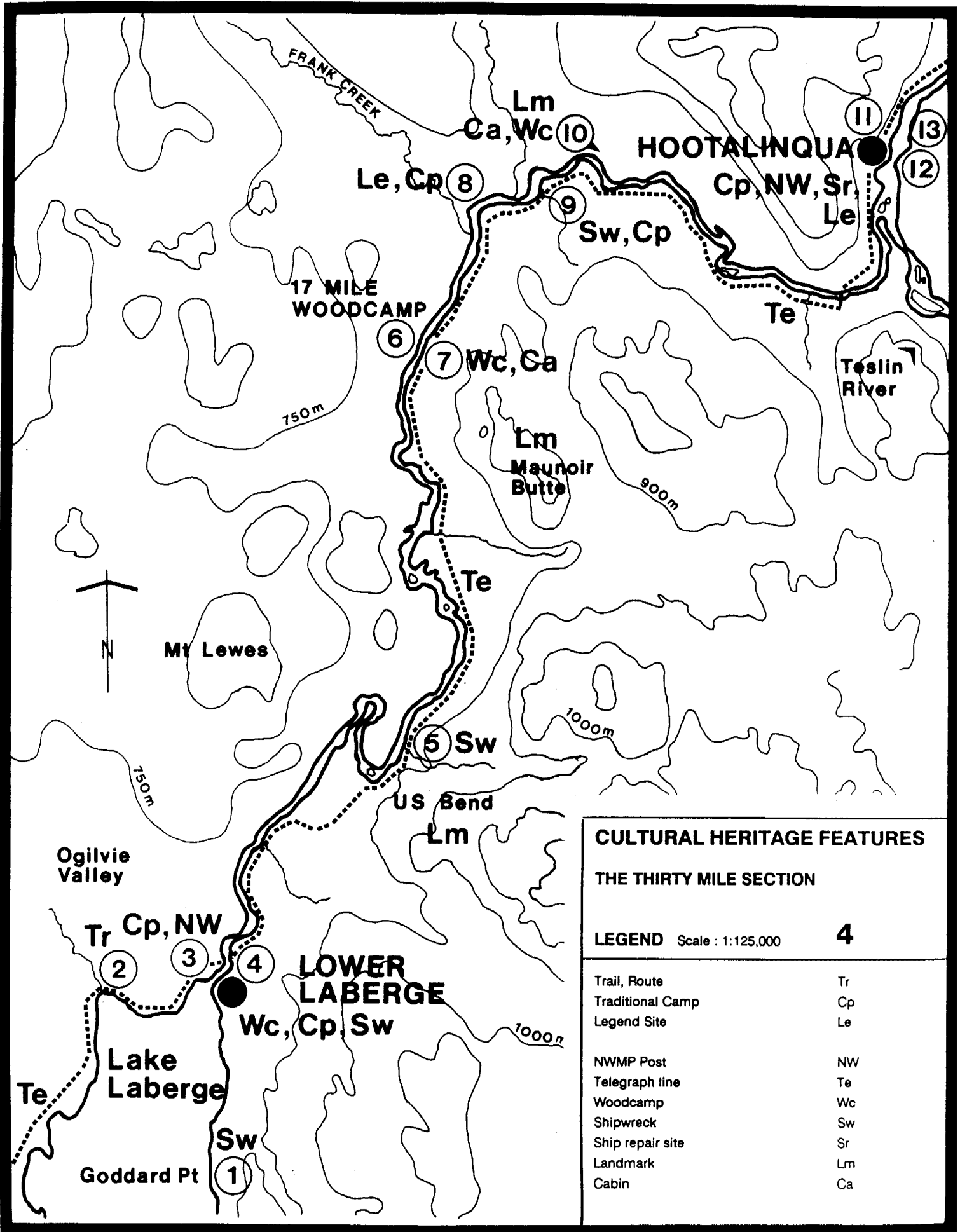
Archaeological assessment of the Thirty Mile has not been done, but there is evidence of earlier cultures in the southwest Yukon dating from about 8,000 years ago. Two major volcanic eruptions occurred in the St. Elias Mountains about 1,900 and 1,300 years ago spreading ash over this region. The ash is an important marker for dating archaeological sites and it has cultural heritage interpretive potential.

More recent oral traditions and archaeological evidence document extensive trade between the interior Yukon Indians and the coastal Tlingits who maintained control over the southern mountain passes. Ta'an Kwach'an elders relate stories about their ancestors who traded with the Tlingits at Lake Laberge. Other Ta'an stories describe their seasonal subsistence rounds using fish, game and plants at Lake Laberge, along the Thirty Mile and in surrounding areas. Place names provide linguistic evidence of the travel and land use patterns of Ta'an, Northern Tutchone and Inland Tlingit people in this region.

Euro-Canadian fur trade, exploration and mining activities began after 1880 when the Tlingits allowed prospectors and miners to travel over the passes to search for gold in the Yukon. Surveyors and explorers soon followed. Among the most notable were Frederick Schwatka, William Ogilvie and George Dawson. Ta'an stories describe early meetings with "the cloud people" as they called these newcomers.

The most significant event on a world scale to occur in the Yukon was the Klondike Gold Rush, the culmination of several decades of feverish prospecting throughout the Yukon Valley. The hazards of Lake Laberge and the Thirty Mile were encountered by thousands of goldseekers en route to the Klondike. Ta'an Chief Jim Boss and other Indian people were involved with the stampede at Lake Laberge. In 1900, Chief Boss asked the Canadian Government for compensation in response to the influx of goldseekers.

As a result of the gold rush a new transportation, supply and service network developed rapidly to connect the goldfields to the outside world. By 1901 the White Pass and Yukon Route railroad was operating between Skagway and Whitehorse. The Thirty Mile was part of the long transportation and communication corridor linking Whitehorse and Dawson City. In summer steamboats transported mail, supplies, and passengers, replaced in winter by dog teams and horse drawn stages. The Yukon Telegraph Line, North West Mounted Police posts, roadhouses, woodcamps, and trading posts established along the Yukon River were vital parts of this network.



**CULTURAL HERITAGE FEATURES
THE THIRTY MILE SECTION**

LEGEND Scale : 1:125,000

4

Trail, Route	Tr
Traditional Camp	Cp
Legend Site	Le
NWMP Post	NW
Telegraph line	Te
Woodcamp	Wc
Shipwreck	Sw
Ship repair site	Sr
Landmark	Lm
Cabin	Ca

The boom years were short-lived and the Yukon experienced a rapid decline in population after 1902. Fewer steamboats were needed to transport the smaller numbers of travellers and quantities of freight in summer. The Overland Trail was improved for winter travel between Whitehorse and Dawson City. It bypassed the Thirty Mile which meant that there was less traffic along the river in that season too.

Few people lived year round along the river. Some non-native families and single men resided briefly at Lower Laberge, Seventeen Mile and other woodcamps, or Hootalinqua, working as telegraph operators, wood contractors, and freighters. Despite the many changes that had occurred in the region, Indian families from Lake Laberge, Big Salmon and other areas continued to travel, trap, hunt, and fish along the Thirty Mile and at nearby lakes and creeks. Many Indian people took advantage of wage employment, particularly at wood camps and on the steamboats. This work was integrated with their subsistence activities. Some families did a little prospecting and mining too, especially around Livingstone Creek. This slower paced economy and mix of people and lifestyles continued for another forty years.

World War II brought another major boom to the Yukon with the construction of the Alaska Highway and Canol Pipeline. Supplies were freighted down the Thirty mile and up the Teslin to construction camps. New developments led to many changes along the Thirty Mile. In the 1950s, year round highways were completed to Mayo and Dawson eliminating the need for the steamboat supply network. Indian families, in response to new government policies and programs, moved into communities in order for children to attend school. The use of the Thirty Mile by both native and non-native people decreased as jobs associated with the steamboat industry disappeared.

The recent history of the river includes continued subsistence activities such as trapping, fishing, hunting and gathering, plus new tourism and recreation uses. Ta'an Kwach'an people have identified areas of interest as part of their land claim selections. In the past, the Thirty Mile was part of discussions about an International Gold Rush Park and now it has been nominated as a Canadian Heritage River.

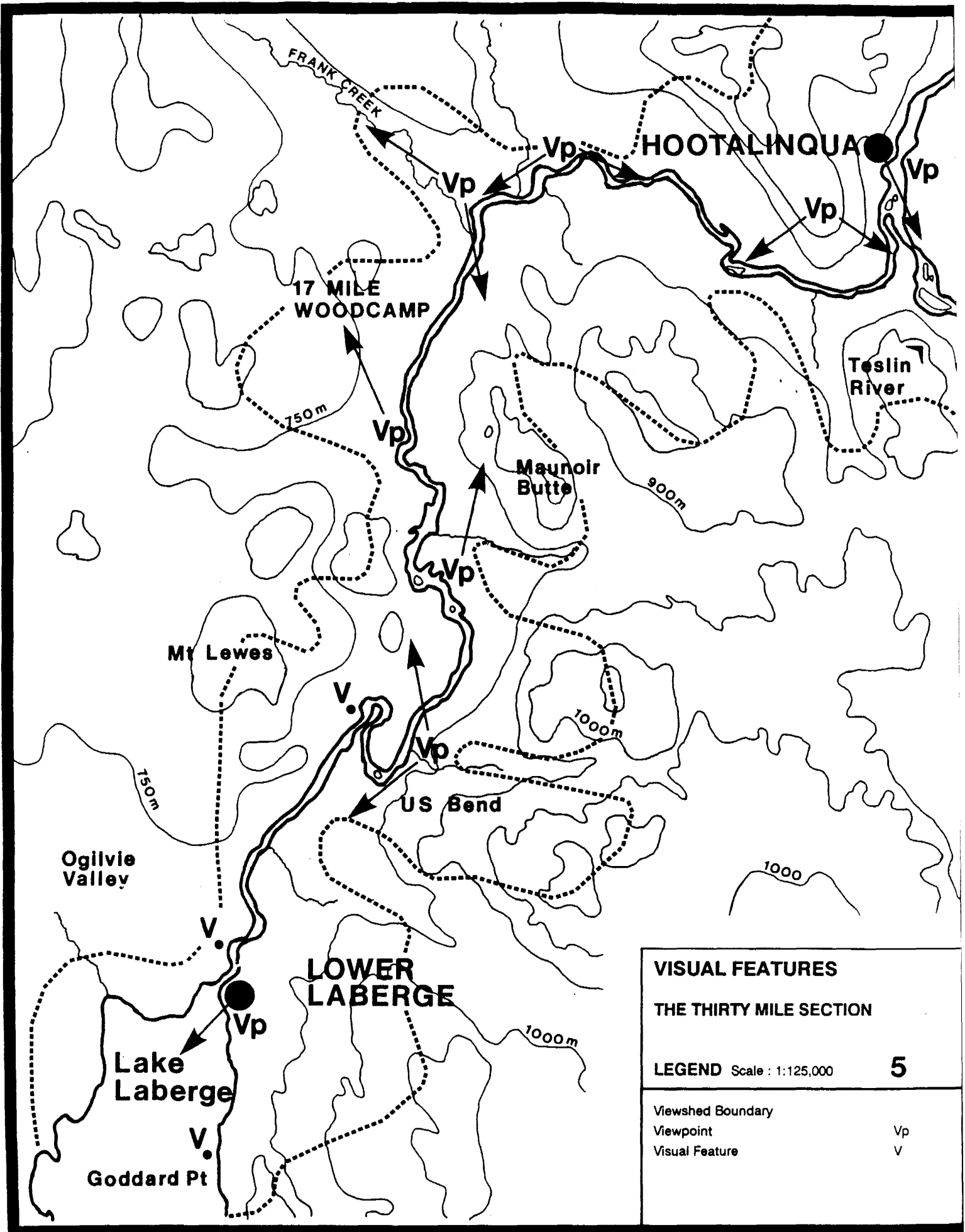
4.3 RECREATION USE

(Refer to Maps #5 & 6)

The Thirty Mile section of the Yukon River is one of the most scenic and pleasant parts of the long journey downstream from Whitehorse to Dawson and beyond. Recreation features are what make the river attractive to travellers. The recreation highlight of the Thirty Mile is the opportunity for viewing and interpreting outstanding cultural heritage features in a wilderness setting.

More than 1,000 people from the Yukon and around the world travel down the Yukon River and its tributaries every summer. Several hundred people use the Thirty Mile section. Increased use, at a pace determined by the Management Group, could be encouraged once the management plan is in place.

Present recreation facilities include rustic campsites, pit toilets and interpretive signs.



VISUAL FEATURES

THE THIRTY MILE SECTION

LEGEND Scale : 1:125,000 **5**

Viewshed Boundary	
Viewpoint	Vp
Visual Feature	V

CULTURAL HERITAGE FEATURES (See Map #4)

LEGEND SUPPLEMENT

1. Goddard Point. Schwatka camp, 1883. Vidette wreckage visible.
2. Ogilvie Valley. Ta'an travel route. Old winter road from Steamboat days.
- 3&4. Lower Laberge. Traditional camp and trade site for Ta'an people. NWMP post. Telegraph line, station. Shipwreck site.
5. Domville Bar. Boat wreck visible.
6. 17 Mile Woodcamp. Woodcamp buildings, clearings. Most interesting woodcamp on Thirty Mile.
7. Wickstrom woodcamp on east bank.
8. Frank Creek. Ta'an and Northern Tutchone names and camps.
Travel route on Frank Creek.
9. La France Creek, wreck at Twelvemile Rock. Fat Fish Creek on opposite bank. Ta'an traditional use site.
10. Cape Horn. Woodcamp nearby.
11. Hootalinqua. Tlingit, Ta'an, Northern Tutchone names, stories.
Gold rush and steamboat post, NWMP. Many occupation sites, artefacts, graves.
12. Cabin site from gold rush and steamboat era.
13. Shipyard Island. Major shipyard remains. Steamer Evelyn/Norcom.

4.4 LAND USE

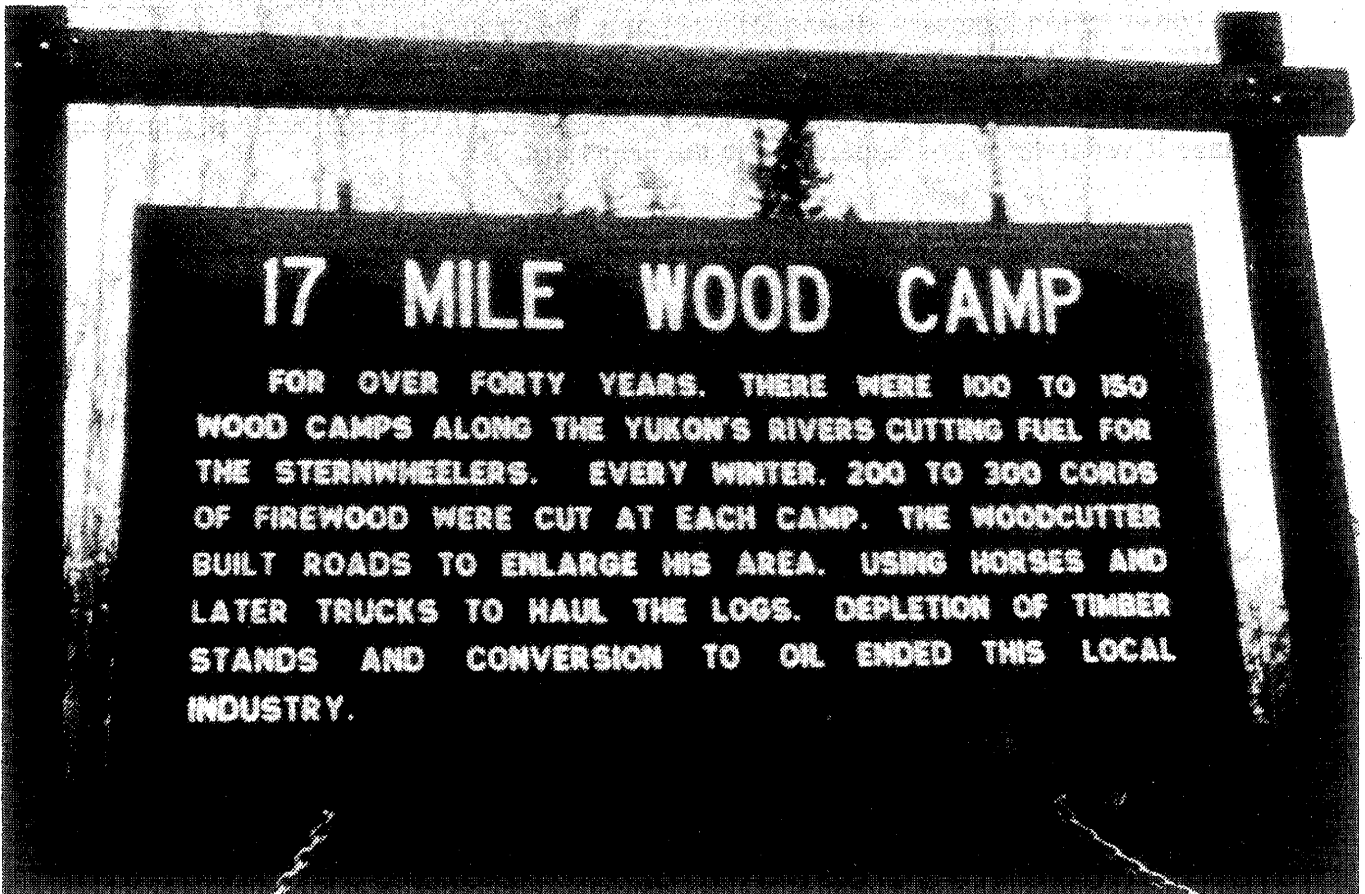
(Refer to Map #6)

The Thirty Mile section of the Yukon River has a long tradition of human use which continues today. Ta'an Kwach'an Band members and other local residents hunt, fish, trap and pursue a variety of other activities. There are three traplines in the study area.

There are no roads in the valley. Resource use activity includes one block of mining claims at Cape Horn. Several other older claims in the area have now lapsed. There is no forest harvesting or agriculture and the economic potential for these land uses is considered low for the foreseeable future.

There are no titled private lots in the study area. One commercial lease is located at Hootalinqua and band members live at Lower Laberge on lands selected (with interim protection) for claims settlement. Portions of The Thirty Mile management area are included in the present land claims negotiations for the Ta'an Kwach'an Council. The provisions of the Umbrella Final Agreement, and in particular sub-agreements on heritage, land use, and renewable resources will apply to the Thirty Mile upon final approvals. The Thirty Mile Section also lies within the area managed under the Hootalinqua District Plan.

There is a hydro reserve in effect throughout the length of The Thirty Mile, which could, if power consumption increases substantially, result in the consideration of water control structures on Lake Laberge. These controls could affect the Thirty Mile. Such developments, if considered, would be more than a decade away. Any such scheme would include or affect large downstream sections of the Yukon River and affect several Yukon First Nations. Canadian Heritage River status is not jeopardized in the near term.



Typical management activities could include structural restoration, provision of new interpretive signs, or site clean-up.

PART 2: THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

This Management Plan for the Thirty Mile Canadian Heritage River reflects a cooperative agreement between the Yukon Government, the Ta'an Kwach'an Council, the Council for Yukon Indians and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. The plan embodies the need for heritage resource protection on the Thirty Mile, along with continued recreational use and heritage appreciation. The aspirations and traditional uses of the Ta'an Kwach'an Indian people and other local people are integral to the plan. Canadian Heritage River management guidelines are embodied in the plan.

As with all Canadian Heritage River management plans, this is a framework for protecting the Thirty Mile. The environment, people, and heritage resources must always be considered together. Each planning step needs to be considered with respect to the over-all management goal and objectives. The plan looks to the future, yet sets some priorities for action now. All plans need to be flexible if they are to remain useful. This plan will guide the management of the Thirty Mile for some time to come, but as conditions change, development or protection priorities also may shift.

Where the need for decisions is identified, the advisory Thirty Mile Management Group will make recommendations to the lead agencies, as described fully in Section 8.9, Administration, Operations and Maintenance. Related authorities, agreements and procedures such as territorial and federal government agencies, the Umbrella Final Agreement, Renewable Resource Councils, and the Canadian Heritage Resources Board are identified where appropriate (See also Appendix 2). The Thirty Mile Section is within the area addressed in the Hootalinqua District Plan. The Thirty Mile Section will be managed separately, but in conjunction with the District Plan.

5.0 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal defines the *purpose* of the plan and the objectives show the *ways to achieve* this goal. Types of objectives range from culture and heritage resource management to recreation, land use and administration. The goal and objectives, reflecting those set for Canadian Heritage Rivers, are the basis for the Management Plan. These statements also reflect community views and discussions with the steering committee and government agency staff.

The goal and objectives of the plan will be achieved within existing legislation, policy, regulations and procedures as they apply to settlement and non-settlement lands. Each objective will further be attained under the terms of the Umbrella Final Agreement, and the sub-agreements such as those on Special Management Areas, Fish and Wildlife Conservation and Use, Heritage Resources, and Land Use Planning, once these agreements are finally approved. The ways to implement the objectives and the responsible organizations are described in the management plan, Sections 8.0 through 11.0.

Cultural heritage in this plan refers to the continuum of human use on the Thirty Mile. It embodies early times, the history of transportation, settlement and present use. This plan will help protect the natural and cultural heritage resources yet allow for continued development and use of the river.

The overall goal for managing the Thirty Mile is to:

Protect the outstanding landscape, natural features, and cultural resources of the Thirty Mile Section of the Yukon River, and provide a high quality recreational and educational experience in a Canadian Heritage River setting.

The objectives for the Thirty Mile River are outlined below:

NATURAL HERITAGE

Main Objective:

- to maintain the integrity of the river valley ecosystem.

Achieved by:

- maintaining the wilderness character of the corridor,
- maintaining or enhancing the existing water quality,
- preserving views of the river valley in their present condition,
- minimizing effects of human use on the natural environment,
- providing a way of encouraging future adjacent land use, roads or resource development to be consistent with the Thirty Mile management objectives, (There is no direct legislation now, but the objective could be achieved in part by inter-agency cooperation and possibly through land claims agreements, or pending land use legislation and environmental screening processes),
- completing research necessary to manage natural resources.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Main Objective:

- to protect cultural heritage resources.

Achieved by:

- allowing for investigation, conservation and interpretation of all cultural resources,
- allowing for continued preservation, stabilization, and maintenance of heritage structures, sites and artefacts in the corridor; and allowing for restoration of selected structures after the need is established,

- ensuring that site improvements and new buildings are consistent with the guidelines set to protect the heritage character of the Thirty Mile,
- providing educational opportunities related to cultural heritage, and managing heritage resources for interpretive purposes.

RECREATION AND TOURISM

Main Objective:

- **to provide visitors with the opportunity to discover and experience a distinctive region and river in the Yukon.**

Achieved by:

- providing a high quality and safe recreation experience,
- ensuring the level of use is compatible with management objectives for natural and cultural heritage features,
- providing opportunities for interpretation of the natural and cultural heritage features,
- allowing for a range of compatible recreational activities.

LOCAL USE

Main Objective:

- **to allow for existing social and compatible economic activities in the Thirty Mile corridor and surrounding lands to continue,**

Achieved by:

- allowing for compatible economic development,
- providing opportunities for education, research and training.

LAND USE

Main Objective:

- **to manage land uses in a manner compatible with the objectives for conservation of natural and cultural heritage resources,**

Achieved by:

- allowing for compatible and sustainable economic activity within the corridor.
- ensuring that land use decisions in the corridor are made with public participation as allowed for in existing legislation and policy, and in the operating procedures of boards and agencies (See Appendix 2 on Regulatory Authorities).
- monitoring mineral exploration in the area and minimizing the impacts of these land uses, (Impact mitigation is possible only through voluntary compliance and public education now, but may be feasible under future environmental screening process; See also Appendix 2 on Regulatory Authorities).
- ensuring that all land uses are managed to keep a high water quality in the Thirty Mile (See Appendix 2 on Regulatory Authorities).
- linking land use decisions on the Thirty Mile with the overall objectives of the Hootalinqua District Plan, and territorial initiatives such as the Yukon Conservation Strategy.

ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

Main Objective:

- **to provide a way to monitor and manage land uses and ensure the natural and cultural heritage resources are maintained.**

Achieved by:

- establishing a cooperative Thirty Mile Management Group using existing legislation, policy, regulations, and land claims agreements as necessary to advise on plan implementation,
- writing regulations under the Area Development Act to allow a legislated base for departmental responsibilities and decisions,
- managing with the least intrusive methods, mitigating impacts by using pending environmental screening processes,
- allowing for continued public involvement in management plan reviews, and allowing for cooperative management and participation by the private sector and non-profit organizations,
- ensuring that the management plan is consistent with regional and territorial objectives and plans, such as the Yukon Land Claims final agreements, the Yukon Conservation Strategy, the Tourism Action Plan, the Yukon Economic Strategy, pending transboundary water agreements, and regional or sub-regional Land Use Plans.

6.0 MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The plan objectives are the guiding principles by which the Thirty Mile will be managed. These objectives will be implemented in a variety of ways.

Table 1 outlines a range of recreational settings and management approaches that were considered for the Thirty Mile. The table shows typical recreation and land use, facilities, services and management strategies that could be adopted within this range of choices. The management plan includes a combination of options.

The public response to these alternatives, and discussions with the Ta'an Kwach'an Council and project Steering Committee led to the conclusions on the preferred management approach described below:

The management approach retains the Thirty Mile in a natural setting and conserves natural and cultural heritage resources, while providing the necessary services for safe and enjoyable public use. This management plan supports a low to moderate level of recreational use and development, consistent with the pace of growth determined by the Management Group. It allows for a moderate degree of intervention and support in preserving heritage resources including structures, artefacts and oral traditions.

The plan allows for ongoing traditional activities by Ta'an Kwach'an Band members and local people as set out in the land claims agreements. It accommodates future compatible resource development, but aims to limit disturbance of the immediate river flood plain and viewshed. Retention of the existing Thirty Mile water quality is essential, and a monitoring program will be implemented. All aspects of management will depend on existing legislation, regulations and policy. Where legislation does not exist or is pending, the plan calls for a cooperative approach using voluntary compliance and public education. All management decisions will be subject to the terms of land claims agreements, once these agreements are approved.

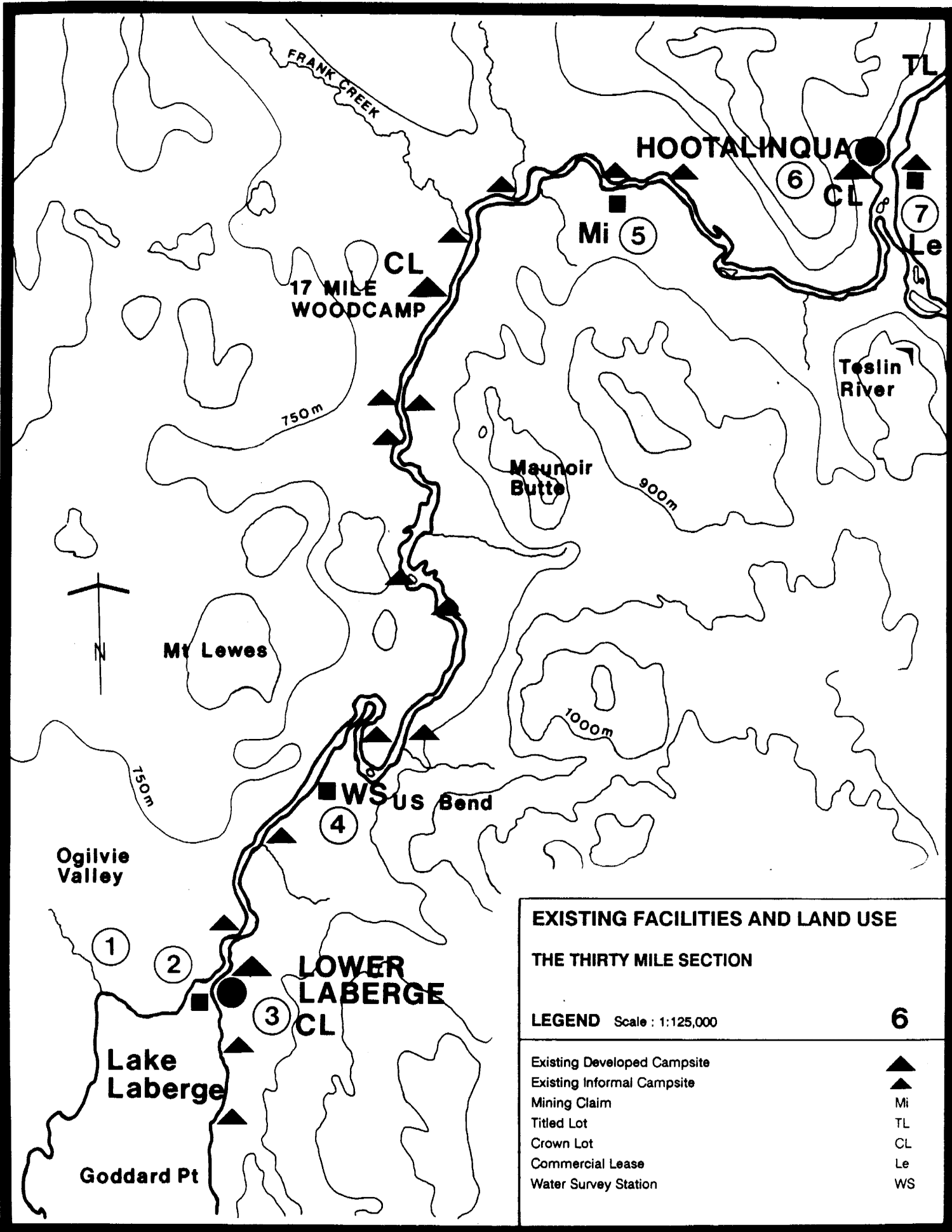
Regional Context (See Map #7)

The Thirty Mile is a small part of the Yukon River, but represents some of it's best natural and cultural heritage features. Although the management plan addresses only the area within the Canadian Heritage River boundary and buffer area, the plan will be integrated with tourism or resource management initiatives on the rest of the river. For example, information and interpretation, river put-in and take-out points, marketing and community plans en route are best considered in their regional setting.

The national promotion of the Thirty Mile River, as carried out in consultation with the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board, will be complementary to regional marketing plans, and the Thirty Mile marketing strategy. In this way river users will be assured of consistent and accurate information. The plan addresses these concerns where appropriate. See also Table #2, titled Regional Context.

TABLE #1: MATRIX OF MANAGEMENT OPTIONS (Refer to Management approach text)

MANAGEMENT COMPONENT	INCREASING USE, SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>		
Recreation Use	-low to moderate use -wilderness experience	-moderate to high use -natural environment experience	-high use, tourism -promotion and marketing
Facilities Services	-primitive campsites, -minimum facilities and services	-mix of campsites -possible tent frames and huts	-developed campsites -possible lodge or huts
Interpretation	-empl.asis on self discovery -brochures and maps	-increased use of signs -possible resident interpreter at Laberge	-interpretive centre at Lower Laberge, resident interpreter
Recreation Management	-periodic river patrols -no on site staff during summer	-regular river patrols -possible resident warden	-regular river patrols -resident warden
Cultural Heritage Management	-least intervention to preserve cultural heritage	-moderate level of intervention to preserve cultural heritage	-high degree of intervention to preserve cultural heritage
Natural Heritage Management	-least intervention in fish and wildlife management, habitat and population	-moderate level of intervention to protect fish and wildlife or enhance habitat and	-high degree of intervention may be required to maintain populations
Land Use	-emphasis on preserving wilderness -stringent controls on resource uses to maintain water quality and visual integrity of corridor -no roads in corridor	-wilderness character retained in most of corridor -stringent controls on resource uses to maintain water quality and visual integrity of corridor -no roads in corridor	-mix of land uses could be permitted -stringent controls on resource uses to maintain water quality and visual integrity of corridor -roads may be considered



FRANK CREEK

HOOTALINQUA

17 MILE WOODCAMP

Teslin River

Maunoir Butte

Mt Lewes

WS us Bend

Ogilvie Valley

LOWER LABERGE

Lake Laberge

Goddard Pt



1

2

3

4

Mi 5

6

7

750m

900m

1000m

750m

TL

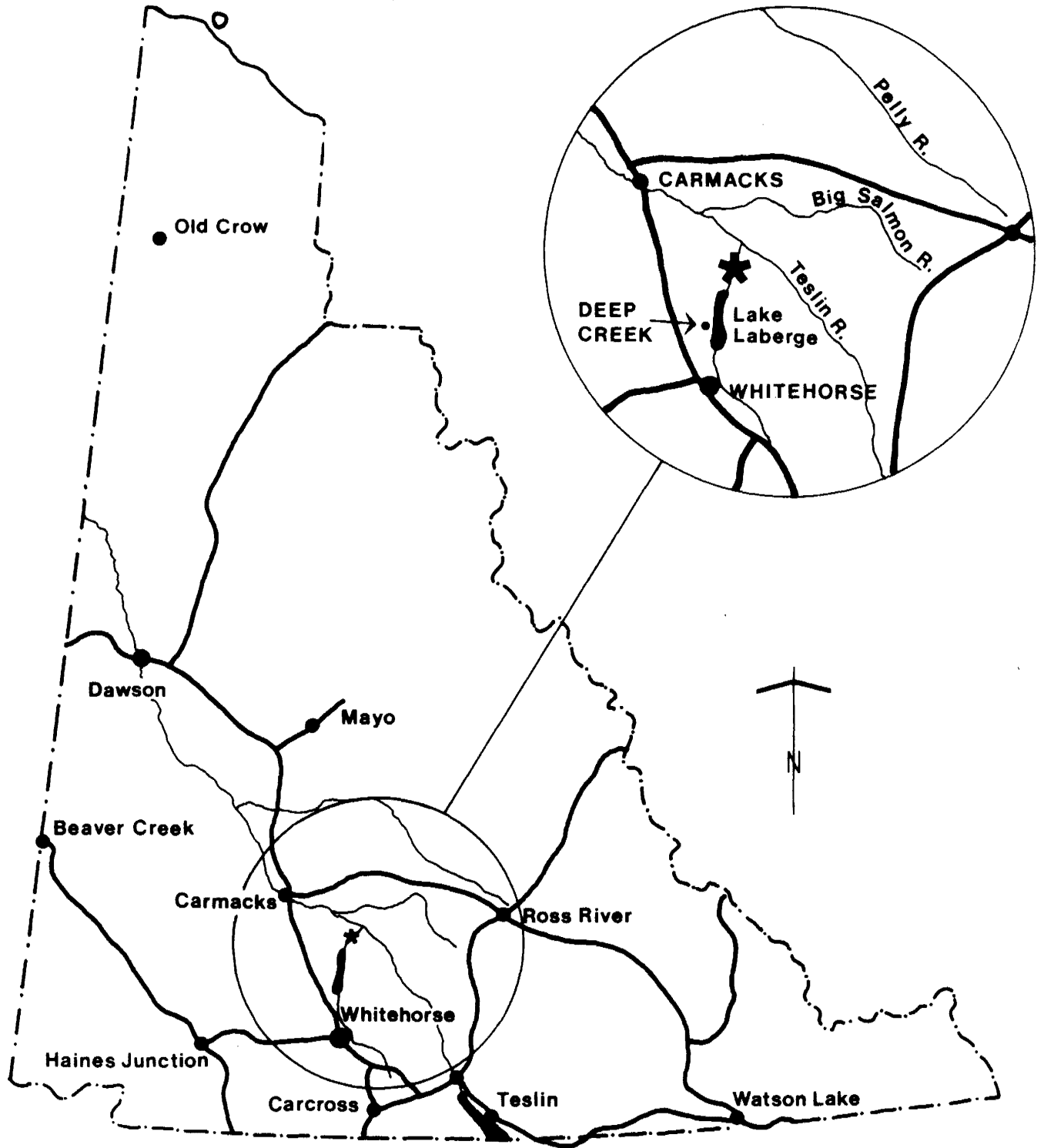
CL

Le

EXISTING FACILITIES AND LAND USE MAP (See Map #6)

LEGEND SUPPLEMENT

1. Old winter road to Lake Laberge from Braeburn.
2. Department of Renewable Resources has a map notation at north end of Lake Laberge and downstream on the Thirty Mile to indicate migratory bird staging area.
3. Lower Laberge Crown Lots were originally owned by the NWMP. A 1985 Order-in-Council transferred lots to YTG as a Heritage Site. There are cabins seasonally occupied by trappers. 17 Mile Wood Camp Crown Lot transferred to YTG as a Heritage Site in 1985.
4. The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development hold a reserve for water survey purposes at this site.
5. A hard rock mining claim is located near Cape Horn. Other claims in the area have lapsed.
6. Hootalinqua Crown Lot originally owned by NWMP, now under application to YTG as a Heritage Site. One cabin seasonally occupied.
7. Commercial lease and campsite opposite Hootalinqua. Titled lots are held downstream of Hootalinqua.



REGIONAL SETTING

MAP #7

THE THIRTY MILE SECTION *

Table #2 Regional Context of Thirty Mile Planning

Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Territorial, Private Companies, - Canadian Heritage Rivers Board
Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Territorial, e.g. brochures, guides - Regional, e.g. information kiosks - Community, e.g. information kiosks, museums - River access points, e.g. Deep Creek - Canadian Heritage Rivers Board
Resource Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional Resource Councils - Regional Land Use Plans - Hootalinqua District Plan - Government Agencies
Recreation/ Tourism Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional, and along length of Yukon River - Sites, e.g. Hootalinqua, Ft. Selkirk - Canadian Heritage Rivers Board

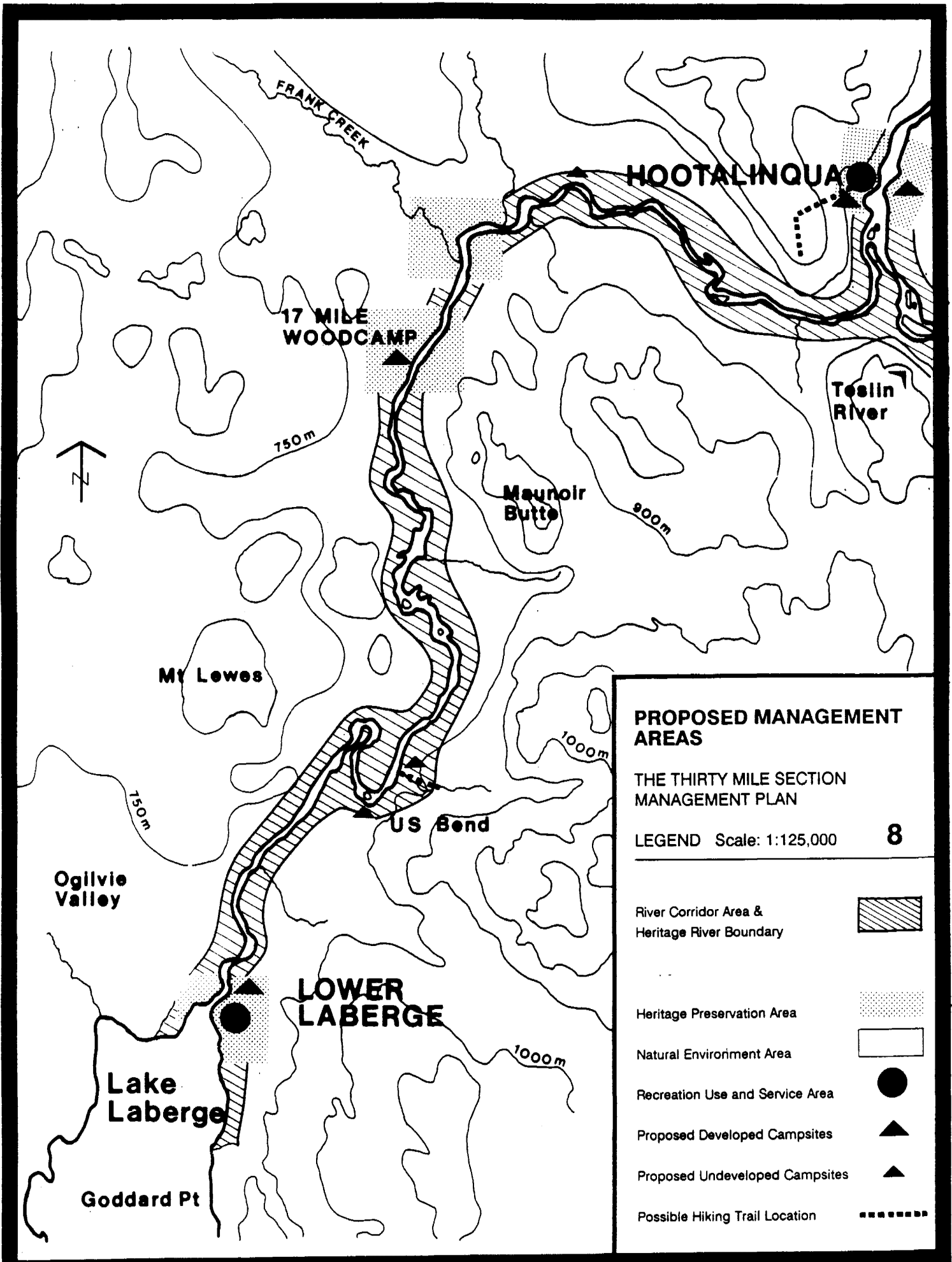
7.0 MANAGEMENT AREAS

(Refer to Map #8)

The delineation of **Management Areas** is a way to help guide the use of the Thirty Mile. Compatible activities and development in each area will aid in the protection of heritage resources. Allowing for some flexibility is important, since site development and heritage protection needs may change in the future. Each management area has an objective defined by activities and land use guidelines. These guidelines will help to implement the overall plan objectives as described in Section 5.0.

Table #3 Management Areas

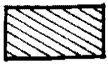

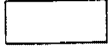




<p>MANAGEMENT AREAS AND GUIDELINES (Overall river use and development)</p> <p>River Corridor Area Natural Area Heritage Preservation Areas Recreation Use and Services Area</p>



PROPOSED MANAGEMENT AREAS

THE THIRTY MILE SECTION MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND Scale: 1:125,000 **8**

- River Corridor Area & Heritage River Boundary 
- Heritage Preservation Area 
- Natural Environment Area 
- Recreation Use and Service Area 
- Proposed Developed Campsites 
- Proposed Undeveloped Campsites 
- Possible Hiking Trail Location 

7.1 MANAGEMENT AREAS DESCRIPTION

Management Area guidelines are shown below. Further detail on specific types of development and activities follow in Section 8.0. Map #8 shows the location of each of these Management Areas. Note that there are Ta'an Kwach'an Band member inholdings, subject to land claims settlement, that would be exempt from the provisions of these Management Areas, except as agreed to voluntarily.

Limitations to Management Areas

The authority for use and development of these Management Areas will be in accordance with existing legislation, policy, regulations, native rights and the land claims final agreements, (once they are approved). Education and voluntary compliance will be encouraged where legislation or land claims agreements do not provide the authority to regulate. The Thirty Mile Management Group will be the main advisory and coordinating body, with the lead administrative role carried out by the Parks, Resources and Regional Planning Branch of the Department of Renewable Resources. The (future) Regional Land Use Plan will provide additional guidelines and authority where appropriate. These responsibilities are set out in Section 8.9 Administration, Operations and Maintenance and Part 3: Implementation Framework. See also Appendix 2 outlining the territorial land use regulatory authorities.

RIVER CORRIDOR AREA

Objective: *To provide maximum protection from incompatible human activity in the immediate river environment including, river banks, floodplain, and islands.*

Potential Uses and Actions:

- Encourage camping at designated sites.
- Continue renewable resource harvesting such as fishing, collecting, hunting, and trapping under current regulations.
- Avoid construction of new structures within 100 metres of the river's edge, with the exception of camps and shelters erected for subsistence trapping or fishing purposes by native band members (See Appendix 2).
- Consider withdrawing critical wildlife habitat areas, and sites with demonstrated heritage value or archaeological potential from mineral exploration and development.
- If mineral exploration is undertaken, screen exploration activities such as testing sites or temporary camps from view by a treed border not less than 100 metres in width, (There is no legislation now, but voluntary compliance and public education can be used until mitigation is possible through environmental screening processes and or legislative changes).
- If forest harvesting is planned, discourage camps or landings within view of the river's edge, or establish a minimum 100 metre set-back, (There is no legislation now, but mitigation may be possible through pending environmental screening processes).
- Avoid inappropriate promotion, on interpretive maps or in river guides, about sensitive wildlife habitat such as nesting sites.

Authority (See also Appendix 2):

Thirty Mile Management Group advises on all recreation related guidelines.

Authorities when established by land claims final agreement on settlement lands, such as the Renewable Resource Council.

Federal Land Use Advisory Committee for development applications on non-settlement lands, and guidelines flagged by map notation and inter-agency referrals.

Request may be made for Order(s)-in-Council to remove lands from claim staking on specific critical habitat areas

Regulations may be written under the Area Development Act.

Pending environmental screening processes may be used to help mitigate impacts.

HERITAGE PRESERVATION AREA

Objective: *To provide maximum protection for heritage sites, structures and artefacts by controlling visitor activities and using guidelines for conservation and development.*

Potential Uses and Actions:

- Preserve cultural heritage features with special management practices outlined in the plan.
- Complete archaeological mitigation work prior to any development.
- Locate campsites away from sensitive sites.
- Consider withdrawing Heritage Preservation Areas, and sites with demonstrated archaeological potential from mineral exploration and development.

Authority:

Request may be made for Order(s)-in-Council to remove heritage sites on non-settlement lands from claim staking.

Authorities established by land claims final agreement on settlement lands, such as the Canadian Heritage Resources Board.

Yukon Heritage Branch on non-settlement lands reserved as Heritage Sites.

RECREATION USE AND SERVICE

Objective: *To allow for appropriate visitor services and to help direct visitors to designated camping spots.*

Potential Uses and Actions:

- Permit campsites, lodges, or huts, provided design and use guidelines are followed.
- Permit boat launches or landings.
- Permit related recreation services provided design and use guidelines are followed.
- Develop toilets, waste disposal methods, and other services as required.

Authority:

The Thirty Mile Management Group will advise on all recreation related guidelines; the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section has the lead role. Regulations may be written under Park Act and Area Development Act.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AREA

Lands in this area may lie within the Canadian Heritage River boundary, or in the river viewscape. Management methods will be the same as those established for the areas within the designated boundary. Legislation needed to achieve some objectives is not in place now; inter-agency co-operation, land claims agreements, future pending legislation, and voluntary compliance together will help achieve these objectives.

Objective: *To protect the Thirty Mile viewscape and help maintain the water quality, while allowing for compatible resource use.*

Potential Uses and Actions:

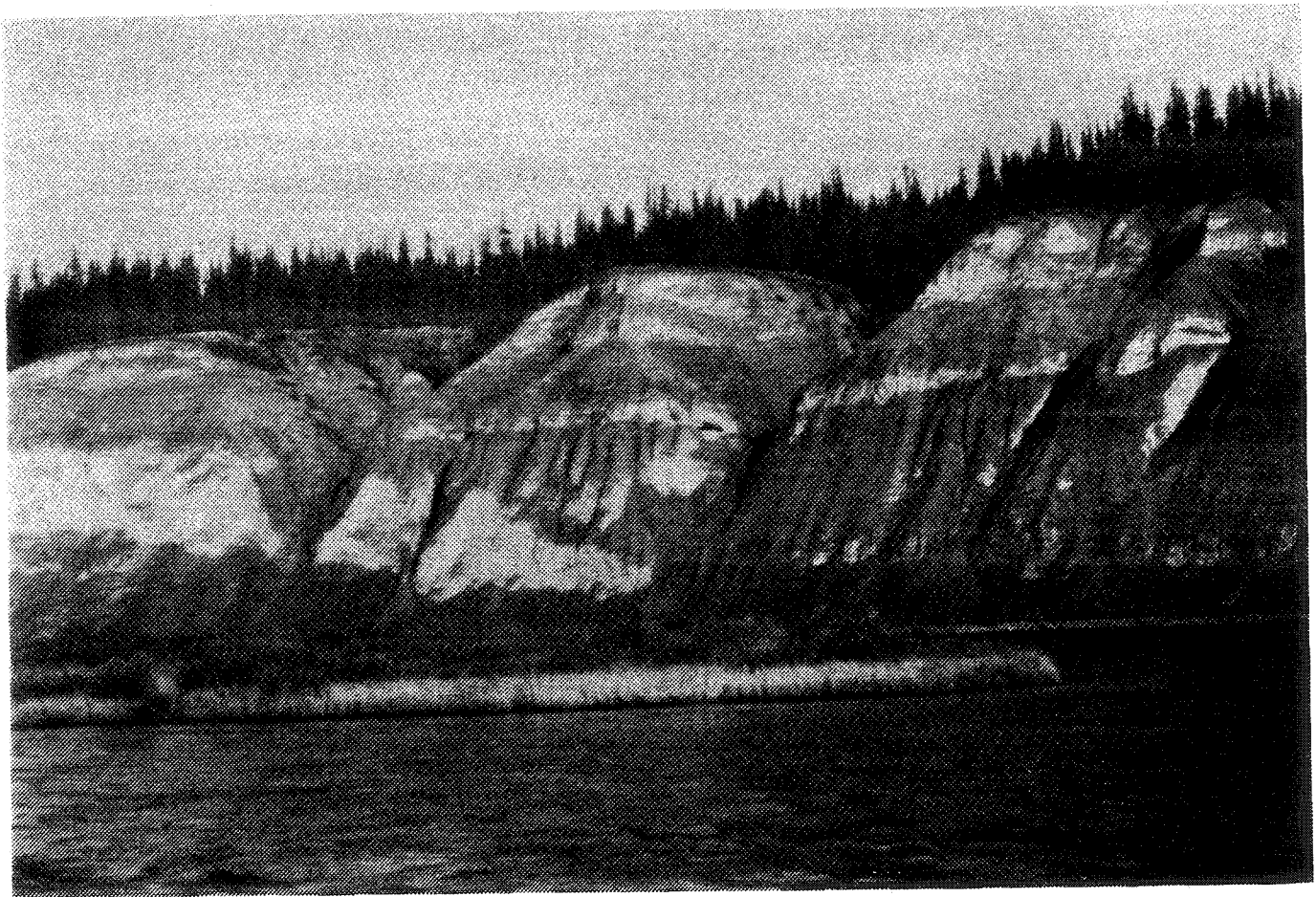
- Permit dispersed camping.
- Develop trails to points of interest.
- Continue renewable resource harvesting such as fishing, collecting, hunting, or trapping, under current regulations.
- If limited forestry or other harvesting activities are undertaken, minimize visual and environmental effects that may adversely affect Canadian Heritage River management objectives (possible now only through voluntary compliance and public education, visual criteria could be incorporated into environmental screening processes or harvesting permits in the future).
- Review proposed resource developments according to existing government screening and environmental impact evaluation processes,

Authority (See also Appendix 2):

Thirty Mile Management Group advises on all recreation related guidelines.

Authorities established by land claims final agreement on settlement lands, such as Renewable Resource Council.

Federal Lands Advisory Committee for development applications on non-settlement lands, guidelines flagged by map notation and inter-agency referrals. Development Assessment Process on territorial lands. Regulations may be written under the Area Development Act.



The eroding bluffs in the Cape Horn vicinity are typical of the lower portion of the Thirty Mile. Note also the island in the foreground with wetland vegetation.

8.0 MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Management tasks are shown by category, for example natural and cultural resources or visitor use. The first priority actions will be considered in the short term, that is, the next few years. The second level of actions could be implemented in the future. The Implementation Framework, Part 3, summarizes these steps and provides approximate costs by year. *Some actions are not fully supported by legislation now, but will remain as long term objectives.* Environmental screening criteria are now being developed as are possible changes to land use legislation.

8.1 NATURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES

8.1.1 ENVIRONMENT AND LANDSCAPE

Actions:

- **Maintain the natural environment in its present condition with minimum intervention.**

All natural environments change. The objective is to manage any change to minimize the human disturbance of the natural environment. The methods for management will be those requiring the least possible intervention in ecological processes.

- **Maintain the water quality at a high standard, with existing aesthetic and potability qualities.**

Existing water quality on the Thirty Mile appears to be pristine, with the influence of man largely unnoticeable. Yet there may still be some pollutants present. Water quality is influenced by global conditions, hence it is unrealistic to try and manage the Thirty Mile with no change to water quality. Recreation use may alter the water quality, and it will be important to monitor these changes and control use to minimize any water quality degradation. See also Section 8.6 Water Quality and Waste.

- **Manage the viewscape as seen by river travellers, as part of the natural heritage and preserve it according to guidelines in the plan.**

For resource uses such as forestry or mineral exploration, assess visual impacts and encourage measures to minimize disturbance of the viewscape. Use existing or future permitting, planning and environmental assessment measures to influence resource development. Voluntary compliance and public education are the only means to implement this now. Mitigation of impacts may be possible through pending environmental screening processes.

- **Establish a 100 metre natural area along both river banks where no resource uses other than traditional cultural pursuits (such as hunting and trapping) will be permitted.**

There is no legislation to implement this action now. It could, if appropriate, be implemented after land claims agreements are in place. For example, the Ta'an Kwach'an may wish to adhere to a visual buffer on any lands under their management. The Development Assessment Process or EARP for major development proposals may be used to help influence plans in favour of a visual buffer.

8.1.2 WILDLIFE AND VEGETATION

Actions:

- **Manage hunting, trapping, fishing and other harvesting activities using the existing responsible agencies with current policies, regulations, or agreements.**

The local Renewable Resources Council in conjunction with the Fish and Wildlife Branch will be responsible for all matters related to fish and wildlife. The Thirty Mile Management Group will be consulted on issues related to the Thirty Mile.

- **Inventory critical wildlife habitat such as predatory bird nests, on the Thirty Mile.**

The objective of the inventory would be to aid interpretation of natural features and to minimize impacts of human use on wildlife and vegetation. No new campsites or other facilities such as trails will be developed until this inventory is completed.

- **Avoid campsite development near bird nesting or moose calving sites, or other critical wildlife habitat.**
- **Include education on wildlife viewing in river information materials.**
- **Encourage commercial guides to teach clients appropriate wildlife viewing methods.**
- **Manage forest fires according to current policies and priorities.**

8.1.3 LAND USE

Actions:

- **Use existing permitting and licensing procedures for resource and land use applications. Make map notations showing the Canadian Heritage River designation on the Thirty Mile.**

Map notations showing the Canadian Heritage River boundary will be placed on D.I.A.N.D. and other appropriate land status maps. This will help ensure permits are approved after referral to the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section of the Yukon Department of Renewable Resources, as well as the advisory Thirty Mile Management Group. (See also Appendix 2).

- **Discourage resource and land use applications not compatible with the objectives of the plan. Mitigate impacts using pending environmental screening processes.**

Land use and development applications are approved by the Federal Land Use Advisory Committee and other regulatory bodies (See Appendix 2). Once a map notation (an indication on lands maps that there is a special interest in the area) showing the Thirty Mile boundary is established, applications within the management area would be reviewed to see if they conflict with the plan objectives. The Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section, the advisory Thirty Mile Management Group and other agencies will receive referrals on all development applications. Major development proposals will be referred to a higher authority, such as the Regional Environmental Review Committee.

- **Manage land use and development proposals on settlement lands according to Land Claims Final Agreements.**
- **Monitor mineral exploration and encourage appropriate techniques not disruptive to the aesthetic quality of the river setting.**

Mineral potential in the area is considered low to moderate (See Background Report). Access for exploration and testing in the immediate river corridor could be by aircraft or boat. Trenching could be screened where it would be visible from the river. Legislation does not support these initiatives now, although changes to the Placer Mining and Quartz Act are being considered. Use public education and voluntary compliance as needed in the interim, mitigate impacts using pending environmental screening processes.

The Water Board will make decisions on placer or quartz operations affecting the Yukon River. Public notification of applications is made. Larger operations will be subject to the Environmental Assessment and Review Process.

- **Permit limited forestry activities according to existing regulatory mechanisms. Mitigate impacts after environmental screening.**

The management plan allows for future small scale forestry operations that would not conflict with heritage management objectives (See Background Report for forestry values). Forest harvesting plans could be required to show how operations would minimize visual impacts and soil erosion. For example, visual quality standards, as widely practiced elsewhere in Canada, could be set as part of environmental screening criteria. Road access for forest harvesting should not be visible to river travellers. Alternate harvesting methods and smaller annual volumes of cutting to reduce visual impacts should be evaluated. Existing or pending regulatory or screening processes will be used to manage forestry. Legislation does not support controlling visual impacts now. Use public education and voluntary compliance as needed in the interim.

- **Discourage agricultural land use applications within the Thirty Mile Heritage River boundary.**

Agricultural potential on the Thirty Mile appears to be very limited due to soil and climate constraints, although no detailed assessment has been done (See Background Report). Small gardens at Lower Laberge or Hootalinqua would be compatible, and would reflect historical uses of these sites. Existing regulatory processes will be used. The (future) Regional Land Use Plan will also address agricultural use of the area.

- **Take measures to avoid noise pollution during the summer season.**

Industrial activities, too many power boats, generators, or frequent aircraft overflights could affect the quality of recreation on the Thirty Mile. Noise will be considered during the review of all land use, recreation or resource management activities. An adjustment to the times and frequency when noise generating activities are carried out can reduce the adverse affects on those seeking quiet solitude. Public education and voluntary compliance are the only means to implement this action now.

8.2 CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES

8.2.1 INTRODUCTION

The Thirty Mile is a swift flowing river with a mosaic of natural resources and landforms along its course. This dynamic quality is likewise reflected in the long and varied history of human use of the river. Evidence of this multi-faceted history exists in numerous forms, needing effective, balanced preservation and interpretation programs.

The river, its tributary creeks, and resources have been an important part of the sustenance of Indian people for generations. These resources continue to be significant to them today, and as a future heritage for their descendents. However the evidence of aboriginal travel and harvesting activities is mainly to be found in oral traditions, and potentially in archaeological sites which have not yet been investigated. Early explorers left only maps and reports as evidence of their travels on the Thirty Mile, although a number of place names document Frederick Schwatka's quick passage downstream. The brief era of the goldrush stampeder is likewise not readily apparent in the physical remains along the river. The exception is the telegraph line, police posts and other buildings which can be interpreted as subsequent developments necessitated by the gold rush. The post gold rush history of steamboats, woodcamps, and sporadic non-native settlement is the most strongly represented in terms of visible resources for visitors to experience first hand. The many small metal artefacts in particular are evocative of the ingenuity and practicality required of those who lived along this river in times of isolation and economic decline. Archival photographs and films are available to help interpret the gold rush and later periods. Oral traditions are an important resource for understanding all of these eras and lifestyles.

This cultural heritage presents an intriguing challenge to interpret and preserve the changing lifestyles of the many different people who have lived or travelled in this area over thousands of years. Section 8.2 considers the requirements for the various types of cultural heritage resources related to the Thirty Mile. While every type of heritage resource has certain unique characteristics that require special protection and treatment methods, there are some common strategies that apply to all. The basic processes for all resources can be categorized generally as:

*Identification/Inventory,
Selection/Priorization,
Acquisition, if appropriate
Protection/Preservation,
Organization/Conservation,
Access/display, Interpretation.*

Heritage resources on the Thirty Mile include oral traditions, buildings and related structures, cemeteries, archaeological sites, shipwrecks and ruins, trails, routes and a wide variety of artefacts. Each type of resource needs some level of protection and treatment. The following sections outline treatment strategies for:

Heritage Buildings and Related Structures
 Archaeological Sites
 Cemeteries and Grave Sites
 Shipwrecks or Ruins
 Heritage Trails, Routes and Named Places
 Artefacts
 Oral traditions
 Documentary sources

The Umbrella Final Agreement of the Yukon Indian Land Claim includes a Heritage Sub-agreement which, when finally approved, will establish new provisions for the ownership and management of heritage resources. This may have some bearing on the Thirty Mile Canadian Heritage River Management Plan. The final agreements will be reviewed to determine what provisions apply to the Thirty Mile. Heritage resource management on the Thirty Mile will be carried out under the terms of the Heritage Resources sub-agreement of the Land Claims Final Agreement. The provisions of the sub-agreement shall supersede this plan, but are expected to be complementary to the Canadian Heritage River designation.

General Actions:

- **Preserve the integrity of cultural heritage resources on the Thirty Mile.**

The appropriate long term level of intervention would be chosen after considering the cultural significance, the condition and integrity of sites or structures, and the use of physical, human and economic resources available for the Thirty Mile. Consider oral traditions as an integral part of cultural resources related to Thirty Mile.

- **Withdraw the Heritage Preservation Areas of Lower Laberge, 17 Mile Wood Camp, Frank Creek and Fat Fish Creek confluence, Hootalinqua, and Shipyard Island from claim-staking and mineral exploration or development; assess the need to withdraw other sites.**

Request the use of an Order-in-Council as enacted by the Governor-in-Council upon the recommendation of the Minister of DIAND. This is the only means to protect such areas not on settlement lands. It is not possible at this time to assess the amount of land required for withdrawal, since the jurisdiction over many heritage sites will depend on land claims agreements.

- **Avoid development of any campsite, commercial enterprise, or related recreation use, where heritage resources would be endangered or in conflict with the proposed use.**

Complete an evaluation of archaeological and other heritage resources prior to any development.

- **Undertake cultural heritage preservation work with the cooperation of the Yukon Heritage Branch, and the Heritage Resources Board as provided for in the Land Claims Final Agreement.**

Heritage sites on the Thirty Mile may include lands on settlement and non-settlement lands. A variety of means will be needed to manage heritage resources, pending mechanisms that will be established in the land claims agreement.

- **Work with the Ta'an Kwach'an Council, and other Yukon Indian organizations as appropriate, to identify, inventory, and evaluate cultural heritage resources related to the Thirty Mile, to assist in developing a preservation strategy.**
- **Complete cultural heritage inventory work and appropriate mitigation measures before developing new campsites or other facilities.**
- **Stabilize critical heritage sites and structures as identified in the plan to prevent further deterioration and ensure public safety.**
- **Provide preventative education to discourage artefact collecting, site vandalism, and use of heritage materials for firewood while camping.**
- **Provide safety warnings on hazardous structures in printed materials and on signs, consider additional security measures such as fencing as warranted.**
- **Monitor cultural heritage sites and take appropriate regular maintenance measures to ensure the longevity of the resources and public safety.**
- **Control occupation of historic structures by using guidelines established in the plan for use of such structures.**

Structures and sites now occupied by Ta'an Kwach'an Band members will be exempt from these provisions. Band members could be encouraged to adopt the spirit of the Management Plan by adhering to guidelines for new structures or renovations. Financial assistance from government agencies or other funding sources will be considered to help retain the historic context of occupied buildings, where such buildings are to be altered.

8.2.2 HERITAGE BUILDINGS AND RELATED STRUCTURES (See Maps #9-12)

8.2.2.1 General Guidelines

Background

The few heritage buildings and other structures along the Thirty Mile make a very strong impression on visitors. Clustered together at Lower Laberge, 17 Mile Woodcamp, and Hootalinqua these simple log structures and outbuildings convey a vivid picture of the isolation, hard work, and reliance on the resources of the land which were part of both native and non-native lifestyles on the Thirty Mile. The telegraph station and telegraph wire, road house, police posts, and cabins evoke an image of a period when the river was busy with transportation and communications activity. The quiet ruins raise questions of why the people abandoned these buildings.



The top photo shows Ship Yard Island with the remains of the steamer, Evelen/Norcom. The lower photo shows a sod roofed cabin at 17 Mile Wood Camp. Note collapsed roof section at rear.

The outbuildings such as dog houses, smokehouses, and tent frame foundations will need interpretation in order for visitors to understand what they are seeing. The fact that some Ta'an people are still trapping and living at Lower Laberge adds to the intriguing mix of stories related to the river.

Shipyard Island presents another very interesting experience for visitors, as it is the only shipyard remaining in the Yukon, complete with some of the larger "tools of the trade" such as the forge. With the ship remains at Lower Laberge and on Shipyard Island visitors can readily imagine the days of steamboat transportation on the river. The ghostly remains speak volumes about changing times and economic circumstances.

A few short term projects have been directed towards documenting and stabilizing some of the buildings along the Thirty Mile. Parks Canada surveyed the Thirty Mile in the early 1970s producing site plans, basic drawings and photographic documentation for most structures. In the late 1970s some brushing out of the main settlement sites was done by the Yukon Government. In the early 1980s stabilization efforts were focussed on replacing roofs, and ensuring the structural safety of the main cabins at Lower Laberge, 17 Mile Woodcamp, and Hootalinqua. Very rudimentary stabilization was done on the S.S. Evelyn, mainly the placement of timbers at the sides of the boat to prevent it from toppling over. However it is decaying at a rapid rate as documented by photographs taken over the past fifteen years.

Approach

Section 8.2.2 describes buildings and related structures. Shipwrecks, trails, archaeological sites and other heritage resources are described in following sections. The methods used to assess buildings could be applied to ship remains such as the S.S. Evelyn.

The main goal in dealing with historic structures is to maintain the integrity of each site. By preserving the settlement sites as a cohesive whole with a stable environment that allows for appropriate uses, the importance of the Thirty Mile to both native and non- native cultures can be realized and enhanced.

The heritage structures on the Thirty Mile will be evaluated using a set of criteria as outlined below. The intent is to develop a framework allowing decisions on possible use as interpretive displays, or other functions. These decisions need to be made with full consideration of the variety of emotional, symbolic, and physical elements which are a part of any heritage structure.

The management plan identifies the appropriate building categories, but the actual review of each building and its placement into a particular category is beyond the scope of this plan. The Thirty Mile managers will need to collaborate on an in-depth evaluation of sites. Inevitably, in this process, some of the buildings will readily fit the categories, others will not. As well, values for a particular structure may change over time, as additional information becomes available. Where there is any doubt, it is always best to select a category for a building which involves a lower level of intervention or use. At the same time, if a use is programmed which proves inappropriate, it should be possible to remove this activity with no damage to the fabric of the structure.

8.2.2.2. Methods

Actions:

- **Evaluate existing historic structures to determine their condition and significance, and to assist in developing a preservation strategy.**
- **Continue periodic stabilization and restoration of the heritage structures.**

The stabilization program will ensure that each structure's cultural potential is maximized, and that proper maintenance is carried out. This proposed program would be based on the Heritage Canada Guidelines, summarized as:

- *The greater the significance of a structure, the less alteration should be done to it. Work on a building will always involve changes to the fabric of the structure, thus lessening its value as an architectural archive. Increased use will also result in more wear and tear on an historic structure and its components.*
- *Original materials and techniques will be used to the maximum extent possible during restoration or stabilization work.*
- *Changes to an historic structure, if unavoidable, should be reversible; historic structures should not be moved.*

- **Use stages in the conservation program including:**

Documentation:

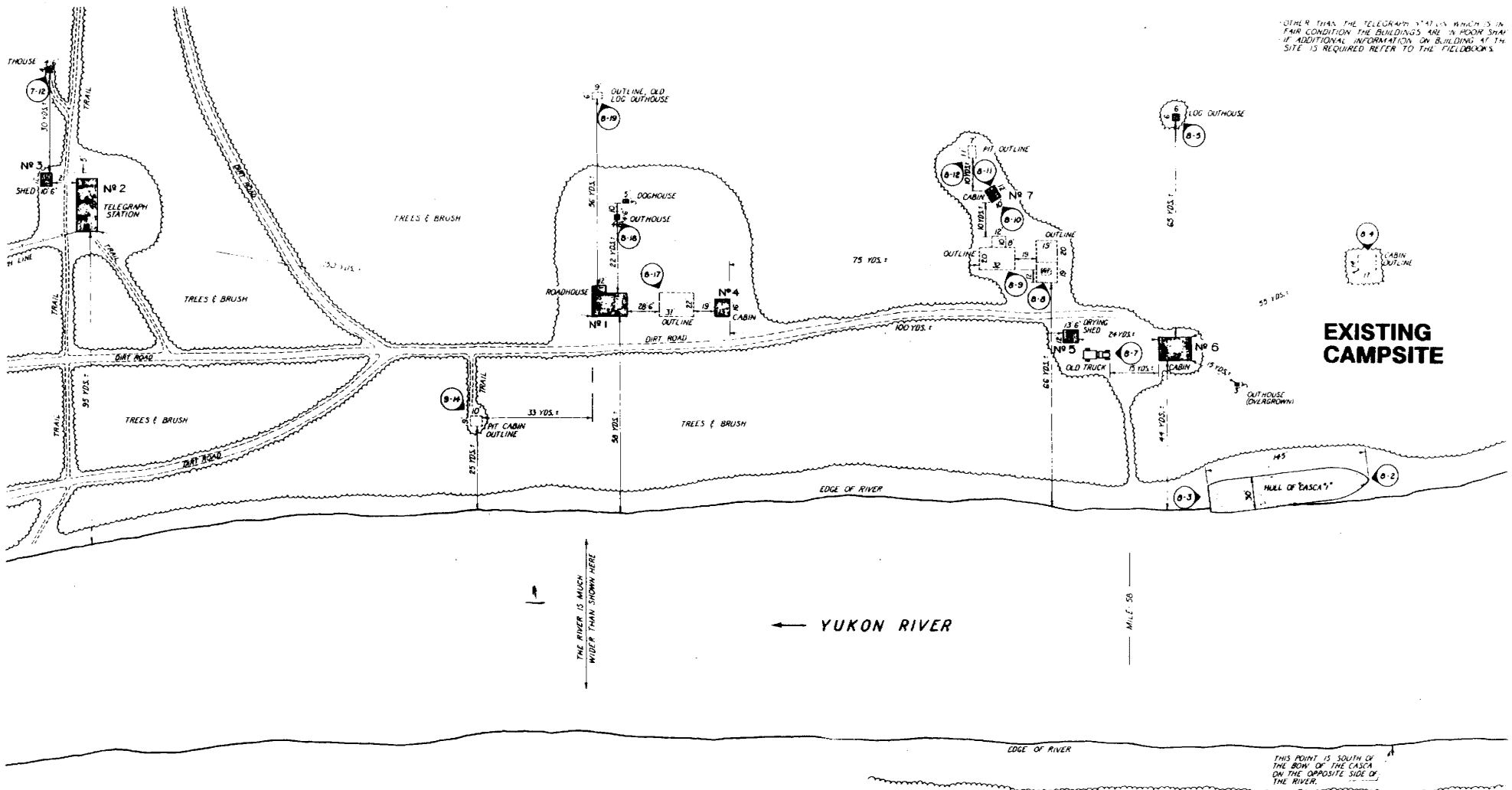
- *Develop a file for each structure on site, including archival information, oral histories, stabilization reports and photographs, maintenance reports, Yukon Waterways Sites Survey drawings and information.*
- *Some structures are of such significance that they should be properly recorded, and such drawings would allow for reconstruction in case of fire. Produce measured drawings, using accurate photogrammetric survey procedures.*
- *Establish benchmark elevations for each structure, to determine deflection or settlement over time.*

Evaluation:

To determine whether a proposed use or course of action is appropriate for a particular building, it will be evaluated using set criteria.

- *Cultural significance: consideration of the structure's importance to preserving the heritage context of the Thirty Mile, and within the context of the Yukon generally,*
- *Architectural significance: consideration of factors such as design, construction techniques, condition, use of materials, age, changes and alterations,*
- *Site location: the structure's siting and its physical relationship to other surrounding structure's or preservation areas, and where the structure was located originally.*

OTHER THAN THE TELEGRAPH STATION WHICH IS IN FAIR CONDITION THE BUILDINGS ARE IN POOR SHAPE. IF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON BUILDINGS AT THE SITE IS REQUIRED REFER TO THE FIELDBOOKS.



EXISTING CAMPSITE

← YUKON RIVER

THE RIVER IS MUCH WIDER THAN SHOWN HERE

MILE 50

THIS POINT IS SOUTH OF THE BOW OF THE CASCA ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE RIVER.

LOWER LABERGE SITE PLAN

THIRTY MILE SECTION

9



- *History: original and subsequent uses, owners and occupants, including relating these to the cultural, economic and social life of the Thirty Mile,*
- *Contemporary use possibilities: examination of the structure in terms of requirements for site facilities, and whether the structure can accommodate these requirements with a minimum of alteration and intervention.*

8.2.2.3 Types of Structures and Priorities

Lower Laberge, 17 Mile Wood Camp, Frank Creek, Fat Fish Creek and Hootalinqua lie in the Heritage Preservation Areas described in the above section. Other sites may be included following discussions with the Ta'an Kwach'an Council, other Yukon Indian organizations and other interests as appropriate. This designation will guide overall site use and development. Each structure or group of structures in the Thirty Mile has historic, cultural and architectural significance. Different uses could occur in some buildings, provided heritage protection objectives are met. The primary use for most will be low key, passive interpretation, yet some are well suited for more intensive interpretation and potentially for the provision of visitor services.

- **No work beyond structural stabilization will be done without documentation, research and evaluation of the structure.**
- **Assess heritage structures and place in categories as follows:**

HERITAGE STRUCTURE CATEGORIES
(Specific guidelines for structures)

Landmark
Interior Restoration
Supporting Structure
Reconstruction of Documented Building
New Construction

Few buildings and related structures remain along the Thirty Mile. It is unlikely that all of the above categories will be needed. Although most structures could be classified as either Landmark or Supporting Structures, the remaining categories are included to present the full range of choices, and to allow more intensive management or restoration work in the future should the need or funding be established.

1. LANDMARK:

The most important structures will have work done only after thorough on site and archival research. Stabilization will re-use existing materials to the maximum extent possible, and will always use original materials and construction techniques. Restoration will only be contemplated if adequate documentation is available. No alterations or live-in occupancy should be considered, although in some cases some special events might be appropriate. Where occupancy already exists, a modified approach to these Landmark structures would be needed to accommodate their ongoing use. Interpretation in buildings not occupied could be by free standing display. Examples of this category are:

Lower Laberge:

A number of buildings at Lower Laberge on both the east and west bank could be considered in the Landmark category but more research is needed to evaluate the buildings first. Some of these buildings on the east bank are currently used by the Broeren brothers (telegraph office on east bank, garage, perhaps other structures), while Alice Sam's family has an interest in some buildings on the west bank. The landmark status may be inappropriate for some of these buildings. More discussions need to be held with Ta'an Kwach'an Council, the Broerens and the Sam family on this matter. A preliminary list of possible landmark structures includes: the telegraph office, road house, and NWMP building, on the east shore; the old NWMP post and related structures on the west shore.

17 Mile Wood Camp :

The main cabin at this site would probably qualify as a landmark, as well as some of the other smaller structures, such as dog houses and tent frame foundations, on the site because of their significance for documenting the lifestyle and functions of a major Yukon River woodcamp from the steamboat era.

Hootalinqua:

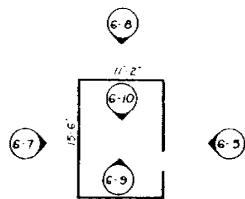
The telegraph office and outbuildings at this site are likewise of considerable significance and are examples of possible landmark status.

The S.S. Evelyn remains at Shipyard Island are beyond repair without substantial and costly intervention. Such intervention is not warranted in view of the many other river boat restoration projects accessible to the public. Nevertheless, the remains of this structure, although not a "building", could qualify as a Landmark.

2. SUPPORTING STRUCTURE:

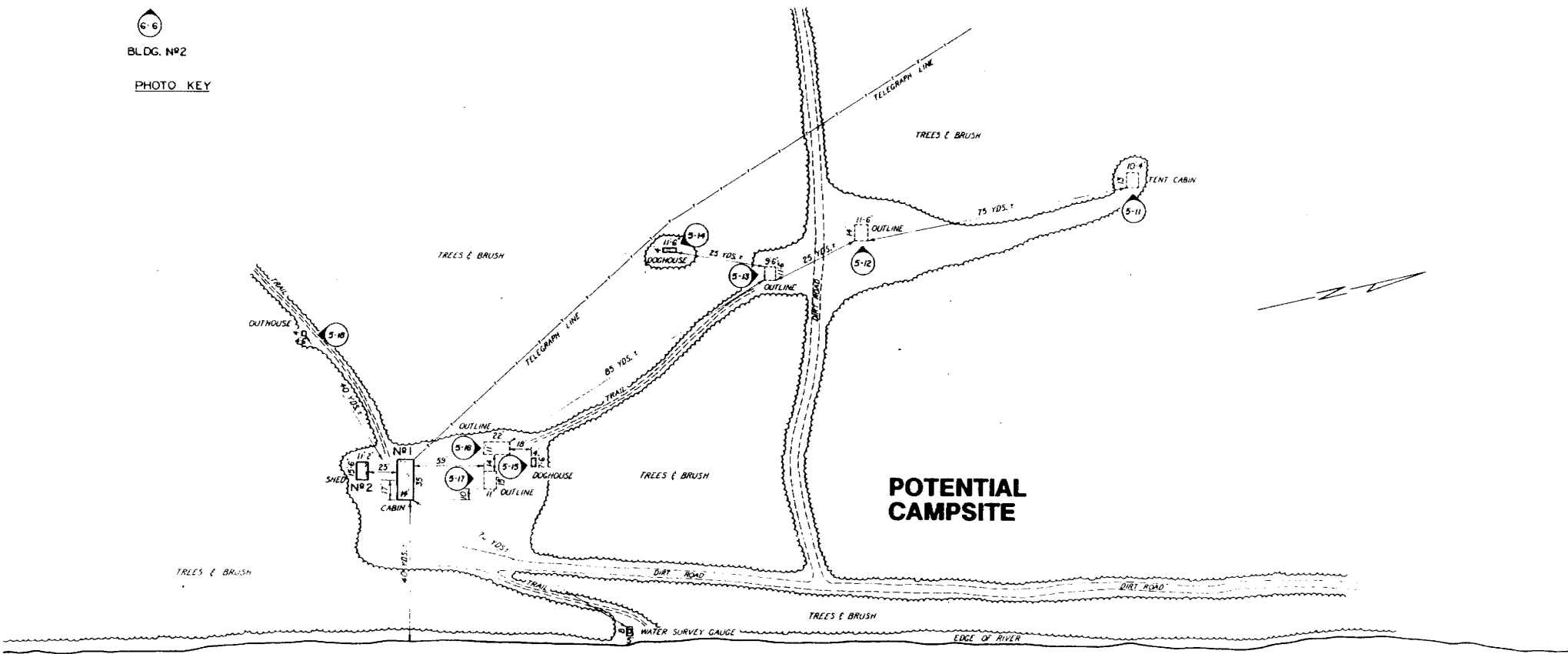
Exterior rehabilitation as far as practical, with interior reconstruction or sympathetic adaptation would be allowed. Commercial use or other type of occupancy would be acceptable. Various types of interpretive programming would be suitable, for example talks or displays. Overnight accommodation could be considered, although such adaptations could be very costly.

Structural stabilization of features such as outhouses, doghouses, caches, some sheds, smokehouses, or unusable cabins is also appropriate to preserve and conserve site character. Many such structures are found on the Thirty Mile. Most of the buildings on the Thirty Mile would fall into either the Landmark or Supporting Structure category. Examples of this are: cabins at Lower Laberge and Hootalinqua, Shipyard Island.



6-6
BLDG. Nº2

PHOTO KEY

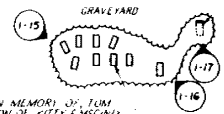


17 MILE WOOD CAMP SITE PLAN

YUKON RIVER →

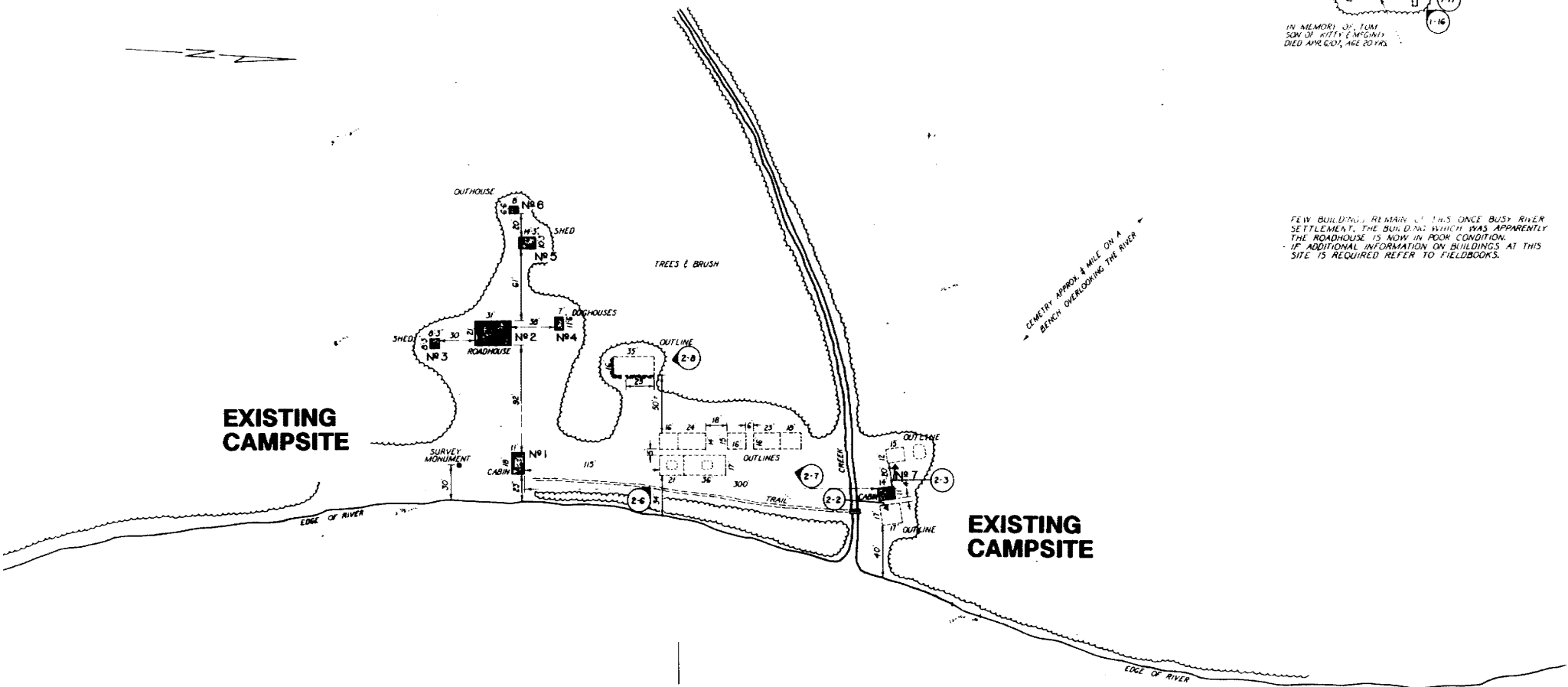
THIRTY MILE SECTION

FREDRICK & ARMSTRONG
OCT. 31, 1900



IN MEMORY OF TOM
SON OF PATTY EMGINA
DIED APR 6/01, AGE 20 YRS

FEW BUILDINGS REMAIN AT THIS ONCE BUSY RIVER
SETTLEMENT, THE BUNK DOME WHICH WAS APPARENTLY
THE ROADHOUSE IS NOW IN POOR CONDITION.
IF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON BUILDINGS AT THIS
SITE IS REQUIRED REFER TO FIELDBOOKS.



**EXISTING
CAMPSITE**

**EXISTING
CAMPSITE**

HOOTALINQUA SITE PLAN

YUKON RIVER →

THIRTY MILE SECTION 11

3. INTERIOR RESTORATION:

This category would allow stabilization and exterior restoration, and future interior reconstruction for interpretive or other use. No commercial use or occupancy would be considered, however, temporary occupancy to assist in interpretation or education programs would be acceptable. For example, period displays could be appropriate in the future at a site that is seasonally occupied such as Hootalinqua or Lower Laberge. Interior restoration is expensive and requires documentation that may not be readily available; for this reason this category of building may not be feasible in the short term due to financial constraints. In future, however, through independent funding an interior restoration project may become desirable and feasible.

Some of the buildings listed above for potential Landmark status could be considered in this category if their use for interpretation is considered appropriate/feasible.

Lower Laberge: the road house or NWMP post

Hootalinqua: telegraph office

4. RECONSTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTED BUILDINGS:

Where adequate information is available, and a decision is made to increase the level of intervention at any site, reconstruction of a building could be considered. This option is unlikely in the near term on the Thirty Mile due to the scarce information on historic structures and high cost of the reconstruction work. In future, however, if river use and interpretation requirements grow, there may be a need for such reconstruction.

Documentation of existing structures is a priority in case of destruction by fire. If a documented building is destroyed there is the possibility of accurate reconstruction.

5. NEW CONSTRUCTION:

Design guidelines will be used to control building size, material, roof pitch, windows/door sizes and materials. Buildings under this category would be those required for tourist accommodation, seasonal rangers or work crews.

8.2.2.4 Design Guidelines For New Construction

The objectives for the Thirty Mile state that, while new construction may be compatible, it will be directed into particular locations, with guidelines on the use of appropriate materials. In considering new construction, the example of a summer cabin, of very simple design and with minimum servicing requirements, will be kept in mind. Waste, water and seasonal power requirements would need to be addressed. As well, the option of temporary structures, such as tent frames, will be considered. The guidelines would permit the construction of structures which complement those already on site and which reflect historic uses.

Actions:

- **Avoid constructing new structures at Lower Laberge, 17 Mile Wood Camp, Shipyard Island and Hootalinqua without full consultation with the Yukon Heritage Branch and the Ta'an Kwach'an Council.**

- **Build only in suitable areas indicated by the management area plan and only after archaeological assessment and mitigation as appropriate.**
- **Design the buildings:**
 - to incorporate roof slopes to match existing buildings,
 - to keep the buildings generally small in scale, using single story structures of one or two rooms. Extra space can be built by means of rear additions, as was done traditionally,
 - using window sizes and proportions which appear elsewhere on the river.
- **Construct new buildings using sympathetic materials as follows:**
 - logs, with notch types as used on the Thirty Mile,
 - wood framed windows, with wood framed storm windows or shutters if required,
 - roof materials: cedar shingles, galvanized corrugated metal roofing, roll roofing, sod, board and batten. Use metal chimneys,

8.2.2.5 Heritage Structures Maintenance Program

Structures which are identified as significant during the evaluation process and which have not been treated previously, will be stabilized, using accepted standards and techniques. Following this, an on-going program of review and maintenance will provide for preserving the buildings in stable condition. The periodic review program will be thorough enough so that crisis situations are avoided and so that realistic maintenance budgets are established. This in turn will require visual examination of exterior surfaces, regular sampling of foundations and sod roofs, and a review of traffic and wear areas.

Actions:

- **Maintain heritage structures and sites.**

Maintenance procedures are part of the management plan. Although high use levels are not recommended, increased site use may affect structure components for example, door and window hardware, flooring, some corners and wall surfaces. Protective measures - mats, reproduction carpet runners and so on - should be used in certain areas.

Once stabilized, structures will require ongoing care to monitor deterioration and ensure public safety. Maintenance depends on ongoing examination of the resource by people trained in building conservation techniques. As well, guides and caretakers will be trained to observe the sites and to report any signs of change or deterioration. Periodic reviews of particular components, will indicate problem areas.

Particular areas of concern are

- moisture, ensuring that water is controlled and directed away from the building
- stability: ensuring that the building is not "on the move". Elevations will be established from a fixed point and checked on a regular basis.
- finishes: the durability of finishes can vary widely, depending on the condition of the surface, exposure, moisture content, preparation, previous finishes, etc.

8.2.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

Actions:

- **Conduct archaeological investigations prior to any site development or land disturbance.**

Since parts of the Thirty Mile may have been used for thousands of years, and no systematic assessment of sites along the river has been made to date, archaeological investigation must precede any activity that will disturb the land surface.

- **Conduct a reconnaissance survey to identify, inventory and evaluate terrestrial archaeological sites;**

No comprehensive archaeological work has been done on the Thirty Mile. A survey and assessment of potential archaeological sites along the river would assist in long-term planning and management of these resources. Archaeological investigations could also provide new information about earlier human uses of this area. Ta'an Kwach'an elders have identified several important fishcamp sites (Frank Creek, and Lu Natthana Chu or Fat Fish Creek below Frank Creek are two examples) which might yield significant data for interpreting the river's history and cultures.

- **Assess existing inventory of underwater archaeological sites to determine if additional future research is needed.**

The existing inventory of underwater archaeological sites is sufficient for near term interpretation and management tasks. In future, the need for additional research or documentation will be assessed.

Several shipwrecks lie underwater at different points along the Thirty Mile and are visible to varying degrees depending upon light and water conditions. Some of these shipwrecks received only cursory attention in the first inventory of underwater archaeology sites conducted by the Yukon Underwater Diving Association. Some sites may warrant further research, photo documentation or signs for interpretive purposes.

- **Allow for collaborative archaeological and other cultural research with Ta'an Kwach'an and other organizations as appropriate.**

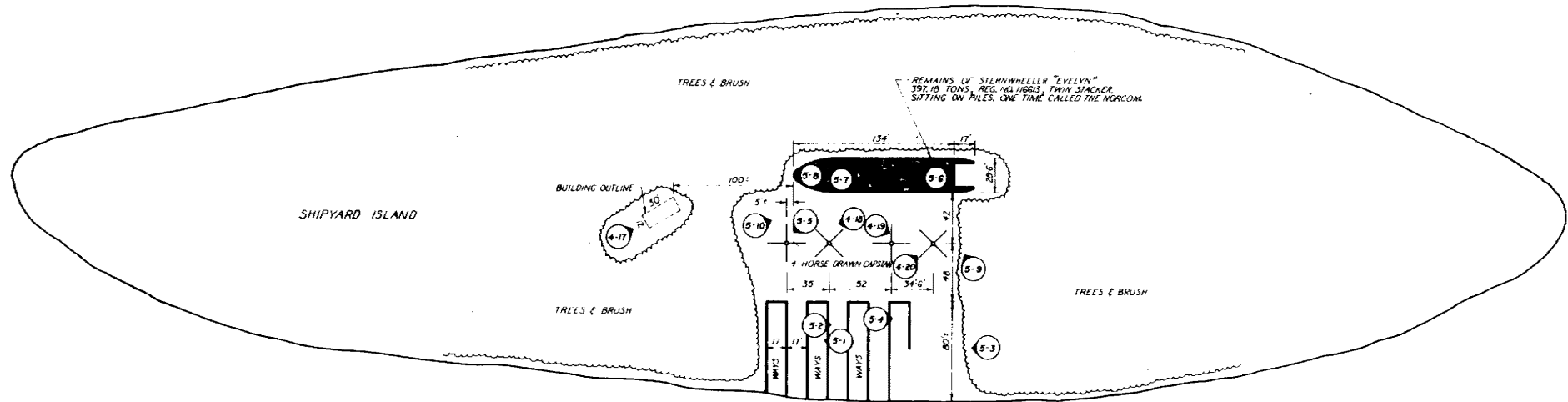
The archaeological sites along the Thirty Mile are non-renewable resources requiring careful management. When research is done it offers a valuable opportunity to involve local people as informants, as trainees in various heritage disciplines, and as laborers or expeditors. Use local community resources to the maximum extent possible in future archaeological and cultural heritage research.

The results of such research will be displayed or communicated to the Ta'an Kwach'an Council and other organizations, the Yukon Archives, and other institutions as appropriate.



YUKON RIVER →

THE SUPERSTRUCTURE OF THE STEELER IS IN POOR CONDITION WITH THE UPPER DECKS BEING INCOMPLETE TO WALK ON. MOST OF THE MECHANICAL PARTS HAVE BEEN REMOVED LONG AGO. THE CAPSTANS & WAYS STILL GIVE A GOOD INDICATION OF THEIR ORIGINAL STAFF. IF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON CAPSTANS & WAYS IS REQUIRED REFER TO FIELD BOOKS.



SHIPYARD ISLAND SITE PLAN

YUKON RIVER →

THIRTY MILE SECTION

8.2.4 STEAMBOAT REMAINS, AND RELATED MACHINERY (See Map #12)

Notable ship remains lie at Lower Laberge (S.S. *Casca*) and at Shipyard Island (S.S. *Evelyn/Norcom*). These boats bear testimony both to the Thirty Mile as a transportation corridor and the difficulties of navigation on this river. The ways, capstans, steambox and forge at Shipyard Island are the only remaining evidence of steamship maintenance technology along the entire Yukon River corridor. As such they warrant special attention.

Actions:

- **Assess the ship remains and the Shipyard Island site to determine the appropriate level of documentation and preservation methods.**

Use existing documentation completed by the Yukon Underwater Diving Association as a starting point. Place Shipyard Island into the context of the Yukon River as a whole. Consider additional research and oral history to document this important aspect of Yukon River transportation history.

8.2.5 CEMETERIES AND GRAVE SITES (See Map #11 & 12)

Actions:

- **Restore and maintain selected grave sites and assess the feasibility of stabilizing or restoring the cemetery at Hootalinqua.**

Grave sites and cemeteries are an important part of the Thirty Mile's heritage. The Ta'an Kwach'an Council will make all decisions on restoration, public access and interpretation related to native grave sites identified by elders at Lower Laberge, Frank Creek and elsewhere.

8.2.6 HERITAGE TRAILS, ROUTES AND NAMED PLACES (See Map #8)

Actions:

- **Survey and map heritage trails.**
- **Conduct oral histories as required to locate routes.**
- **Maintain, mark, and interpret existing heritage trails.**
- **Brush out and maintain existing local trails at Lower Laberge, 17 Mile Wood Camp and Hootalinqua.**

Trails and routes are a part of the human heritage. They could become an integral part of the Thirty Mile experience for both visitors and local people. Walking routes would be popular with visitors.

- **Use Southern Tutchone place names to complement English names on maps, interpretive literature, and guide books.**

Refer to Information and Interpretation section.

8.2.7 ARTEFACTS

The Heritage sub-agreement of the Land Claims Umbrella Final Agreement, once finally approved, will address procedures for ownership or repatriation of artefacts related to the Thirty Mile. Existing legislation pertaining to archaeological resources requires that all prehistoric archaeological artefacts collected in the course of investigations in the Yukon be sent to the Archaeological Survey of Canada (ASC) in Hull for preservation. Such artefacts can be retained on loan in the Yukon at an accepted research facility such as the Yukon Heritage Branch or Yukon College for analysis and study. Artefacts recovered from Lake Laberge and Yukon River sites during early archaeological investigations are at the ASC.

Archaeological collections at various institutions will be analyzed to determine what would be most useful for interpretive programs that might be developed for the Thirty Mile. Casts could be made as appropriate, along with information kits for those who will use them.

Throughout the Thirty Mile there are scattered artefacts from historic times, including many metal objects, such as saw blades, tin cans, "modified" tin can implements, wire, bottles, and some wooden items like sleds. While many of these items are of minimal value, they are important as part of the overall context of Thirty Mile heritage appreciation. These artefacts are necessary for effective interpretation of river lifestyles past and present.

No specific artefacts have been documented that pertain to pre-contact lifestyles of Indian people along the Thirty Mile, for example snowshoes, fish traps or nets. Such artefacts would enhance interpretive efforts by providing a more complete picture of early life. This gap needs to be addressed as outlined below.

Actions:

- **Locate and copy (or acquire for a permanent collection in a secure facility off the river), ethnographic materials related to Lake Laberge and Thirty Mile region.**

On a limited basis these might be displayed as part of an interpretive program at Lower Laberge or Hootalinqua, or at a museum or interpretive centre located elsewhere such as at the Ta'an Kwach'an Community Centre (or other future tourism facility) at Horse Creek.

A wide variety of ethnographic materials related to the Yukon exists at numerous museums in the Yukon and elsewhere in Canada, the United States and abroad. Although it may be difficult to identify items specifically from Lake Laberge or Thirty Mile, an attempt will be made to locate such items and to assemble photographs, plus descriptions of these materials. 'Searching For Our Heritage: A Review of Artefact Collections Outside of the Yukon' (Heritage Branch, 1989), has an inventory of ethnographic items pertaining to Yukon's First Peoples held in museums outside of the Yukon. The catalogue for the National Museums of Canada exhibit *Strangers of the North* offers a good perspective on the types of things to be found in museums - everything from sewing kits, fishnets, snowshoes, to skin clothing, etc. The Canadian Museum of Civilization also has a computer generated list of artefacts in their collections which identifies those which originated in the Yukon.

- **Consider replication projects.**

Numerous Ta'an Kwach'an members or other people could replicate certain items for use in displays, such as snowshoes, rafts, fishtraps, snares, etc. The replication process itself will be recorded for potential interpretive or educational purposes.

- **Arrange for appropriate inventory, conservation, display and storage of Thirty Mile artefacts.**

Currently there is no inventory of the many artefacts scattered at sites all along the Thirty Mile. An inventory will be completed as soon as possible. Consideration will be given to developing criteria to identify which artefacts are most valuable and/or at risk. For these items procedures will be established to provide secure storage to prevent theft and vandalism.

- **Determine ways to prolong the life of selected site artefacts.**

A conservator will assess the artefacts after completion of the inventory (and participate in the inventory process if possible), to determine what measures would be feasible and appropriate to conserve artefacts along the Thirty Mile.

- **Reproduce selected artefacts if such actions are appropriate and contribute to the interpretive opportunities on the Thirty Mile.**

For example, ways or other equipment at Shipyard Island could be reproduced.

8.2.8 DOCUMENTARY SOURCES

Actions:

- **Develop a Thirty Mile Bibliography.**

For the most part, documentary resources on the Thirty Mile are already in archival facilities where they are preserved in acceptable conditions. For the purposes of ongoing research and development, consider a Thirty Mile Bibliography. This will be relatively easy to accomplish given the number of studies on the area that include partial or specialized Bibliographies. Identify additional sources, arrange for copying this documentation at the National Archives of Canada, and other institutions. Make this information available to researchers in Whitehorse (either at the Heritage Branch or Yukon Archives).

8.2.9 ORAL TRADITIONS

Oral traditions, including native and non-native place names, legends, and oral histories are important resources for understanding and interpreting the Thirty Mile.

Actions:

- **Continue to preserve oral traditions about the Thirty Mile.**

Ta'an Kwach'an elders and people from other bands, as well as a number of non-native long time residents have many stories to tell about the Thirty Mile. The Ta'an Kwach'an Council (perhaps in conjunction with the Yukon Historical and Museums Association or other heritage society) might consider sponsoring a Thirty Mile "story telling" event at Lower Laberge and bring together as many of these people as possible to talk about the river. The event will be recorded (on video and audio tapes) to form a permanent record for archival purposes, and which could also be used in interpretive programs.

- **Review and assess all existing taped material to identify gaps in the record.**

The continuation of oral history recording programs, including some video recording, will receive high priority because of the advancing age of the people who have lived along, travelled, and used the Thirty Mile. The various technologies associated with Ta'an Kwach'an lifestyles, trapping, telegraph and woodcamp operations, steamboat operation and maintenance will be documented as completely as possible as a resource for the future. Key people will be identified for the next phase of oral history work, as indicated following the assessment of existing tapes. A video record of these people would be a valuable resource for future interpretation programs.

Material gathered in oral history programs could be used to identify cultural sites that lack an obvious built heritage, but that have particular significance to native people. These sites in turn may need special protection and could be used to enrich interpretation programs.

- **Assess storage conditions for existing audio and video tapes.**

Security copies of all material will be made and located in a fire proof, environmentally controlled facility such as the Yukon Archives.

8.2.10 ACCESS FOR RESEARCHERS**Actions:**

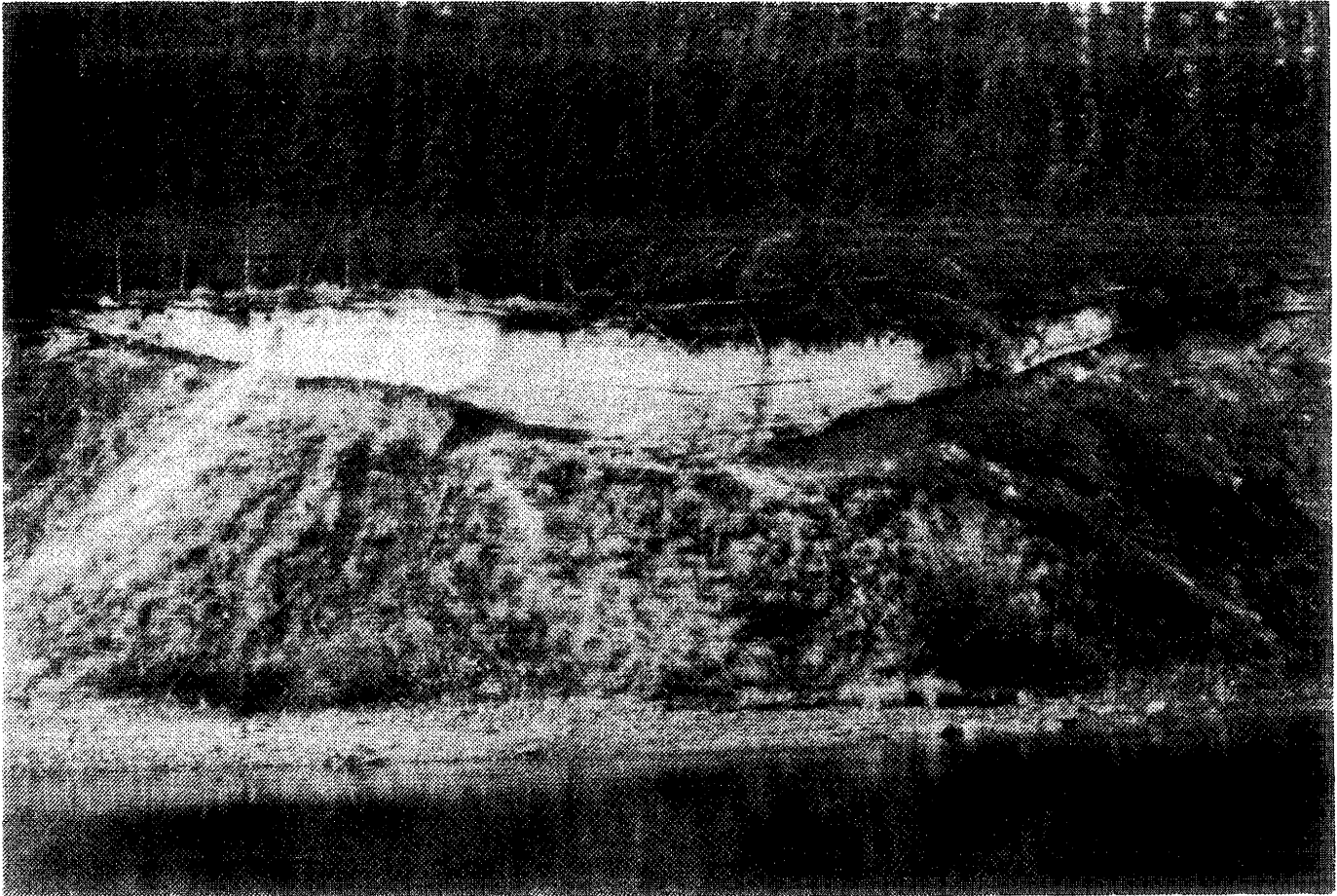
- **Use current permit procedures.**

A variety of researchers including anthropologists, archaeologists, geologists, historians and linguists have visited Thirty Mile and will want to work in the area in future. For those whose work requires land disturbance (i.e. digging test pits etc.) a site use permit system (such as the current federal Yukon Archaeological Sites Regulations) will be in place to ensure that only qualified researchers using appropriate techniques are allowed to carry out such activities. It is expected that the existing regulations will be superseded by new regulations issued pursuant to a new Yukon Historic Resources Act.

Other scientific research is regulated under the Scientists and Explorers Act. These in turn, may be replaced in the future by a new Yukon Science Act.

- **Assess research proposals.**

Proposed research will be assessed in light of the probability of success and usefulness of contributions to understanding the Thirty Mile region. Archaeological resources in particular are non-renewable and a conservationist approach to them will help maximize the long term possibilities for research. Researchers who propose to use the site for an extended length of time will also contact the Thirty Mile Management Group in advance so that their activities do not adversely affect other programs or visitors. By notifying the Management Group in advance, researchers can identify any special needs they may have, and the committee may be able to offer assistance in contacting elders, guides, etc. Copies of all research findings and reports will be made available to the committee.



White River volcanic ash deposits are prominent above U.S. Bend and visible throughout the Thirty Mile.

8.3 VISITOR USE

Visitor management is a key part of this plan. The number of visitors, where and how they camp, how waste is handled, and their interaction with heritage sites or wildlife need to be considered. Band members and other local people also use the river and their needs must also be part of the plan.

About 200 tourists per year use the Thirty Mile Section now, with perhaps an additional 100-200 using Hootalinqua after paddling down the Teslin River (for a total of roughly 300+ in the Heritage River area). A moderate and sustainable use level, provided management actions are implemented, would be in the order of 500-600 per year. This means roughly 6-8 people departing per day in summer.

If the Thirty Mile Management Group agrees to increase visitation through promotion, three market groups offer good potential:

European wilderness adventure travellers (mainly from German speaking countries now),

Canadian wilderness adventure travellers (mainly from B.C., Alberta, or Ontario now),

Tourists passing through Whitehorse, looking for a two day adventure as part of their holiday or package trip,

Greater promotion of the Thirty Mile Section will be done in conjunction with promoting the Yukon River as a whole. Increased use of the site could be stimulated by providing boat tours from Deep Creek or Horse Creek or other locations such as Whitehorse.

The Thirty Mile could be promoted separately as one, two or three day excursions from Whitehorse. There is a large potential market to draw upon nearby. Each summer 145,000 tourists visit the Whitehorse area. A small portion of these tourists could be attracted to Thirty Mile. Lower Laberge or Hootalinqua could be the destinations.

If moderate increases in use are encouraged, then the waste disposal, camping and toilet facilities would need to be upgraded. Increased use will only be promoted after appropriate facilities and maintenance procedures are in place.

The actions consistent with low to moderate use levels on the Thirty Mile are:

- **Consult with local users and Ta'an Kwach'an Council on appropriate river use levels.**
- **Encourage moderate increases in use at a pace consistent with the development aspirations of the Ta'an Kwach'an Council.**
- **Promote tourist use of the Thirty Mile at a level consistent with managing for a wilderness experience on the river.**

Ensure that national efforts by the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board to promote the river are consistent with the use objectives of the Management Plan, and in keeping with the pace of growth desired by the Thirty Mile Management Group. Monitor use levels by installing a self-registration station at Deep Creek.

- **Allow for commercial services including guiding, transportation or ferrying services to Lower Laberge or Hootalinqua after consultation with local users and Native organizations.**

The Ta'an Kwach'an Economic Evaluation of the Thirty Mile identified a number of commercial opportunities. These included guided boat trips, canoe rental, ferrying services, and overnight accommodation. The plan allows for and supports these types of initiatives by the Ta'an Kwach'an Council.

- **Encourage day or two day tour boat excursions.**

Many tourists passing through Whitehorse are looking for short side trips, particularly the so-called 'soft adventure' trips, for which the Thirty Mile is well suited.

8.4 RECREATION SERVICES AND FACILITIES *(See Map #6 & 8)*

Recreation services and facilities go hand in hand with the level of visitor use and the marketing, information and interpretation programs. These actions meet the objective of managing for a recreation experience in a natural backcountry setting. A Parks and Outdoor Recreation Policy, under the Park Act, is pending and would be used where appropriate on the Thirty Mile. The pending federal Green Plan and territorial Environment Act may help support waste management on the Thirty Mile.

8.4.1 CAMPING

Actions:

General

- **Provide recreation facilities and services at a level consistent with a recreation experience in a natural river setting.**

Most tourists perceive the Yukon River as wilderness, even though there is much evidence of past and present use by man. The setting today is natural, if not true wilderness, and is distinguishable from other less remote camping opportunities by the lack of road access and facilities.

- **Assess potential impacts on heritage resources prior to any campsite development.**

Group Camping

- **Permit group camping at Lower Laberge, 17 Mile Wood Camp (or other selected site such as Cape Horn mid-route) and Hootalinqua on designated sites.**

Implement this policy with signs at Deep Creek boat launch and in educational and interpretive brochures.

- **Develop site plans for the three designated group campsites.**

Allow for 10-12 tent sites at Lower Laberge and Hootalinqua and 5-6 at 17 Mile Camp. Locate a pit toilet at 17 Mile camp.

- **Relocate existing campsites and fire-circles that endanger heritage structures or sites.**

Assess conflicts with heritage structures or sites in consultation with the Heritage Branch.

- **Clean up the two existing main campsites, brush out as needed.**

- **Install steel fire circles, one for every two tent sites.**

Wilderness Camping

- **Permit wilderness camping at 4 designated sites along the length of the Thirty Mile.**

Use existing campsites. No facilities would be provided, except pit toilets. Information on low impact camping methods would be provided at Deep Creek and in educational and interpretive brochures.

- **Provide one pit toilet at each wilderness campsite.**

Locate pit toilets out of view from the river and at least 30m from the riverbank.

- **In the near term, avoid using steel fire circles at these sites; assess use in two years.**

These sites are intended to be the most primitive along the Thirty Mile, providing an alternative to the larger more developed campsites. Educational materials will encourage campers to leave the stone fire circles clean, for example by removing all garbage and ashes. Experience on other rivers where fire circles are not provided, show that informed users seeking a wilderness experience leave clean sites.

8.4.2 COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Actions:

- **Assess the feasibility of commercial ventures to provide employment and training opportunities on the Thirty Mile.**

The Ta'an Kwach'an Economic Evaluation of the Thirty Mile recommended several possible ventures. Existing operators already use the Thirty Mile for guided trips. See list of possible additional operations below, Table #4.

- **Avoid developing private or commercial recreation structures within the river corridor between Lower Laberge and Hootalinqua.**

The number of structures along the Thirty Mile will be limited to retain the natural character of the route. New structures will be located at existing historic settlement sites.

- **Obtain agreements from commercial operators on use of the corridor.**

Commercial tours use the Thirty Mile. Management tasks such as waste clean-up may be increased with these large groups. Arrangements to offset these costs and to help provide positive visitor experiences may be required in the future.

Table #4 Summary of Commercial Opportunities

<p>Adventure tours, geared to families and seniors Accommodation for tourists on short or long trips Sale of information booklets, river guides, food, supplies Group camping and interpretive programs for a fee Guided historical interpretation tours, or to show traditional life-styles Ferry services across Lake Laberge Canoe rental</p>
--

8.4.3 SAFETY AND RESCUE (See also Operations and Maintenance)

Actions:

- **Provide relevant safety and rescue information to river users.**

Voluntary patrols, staff at seasonally occupied sites such as a possible overnight lodge at Hootalinqua could assist with rescues. Rescue will be undertaken according to normal policies and procedures used in the Yukon, since the Thirty Mile is not a territorial or national park. Additional safety and rescue needs and policies will be assessed if use increases beyond 500-600 per year. Ensure all river users are aware of rescue obligations and costs.

- **Encourage river users to check in and out with the RCMP.**

This is a normal wilderness travel procedure in the Yukon, and will be encouraged for Thirty Mile users. A self-registration box at Deep Creek may be installed to help monitor river use and provide an additional measure of safety. The cost of staffing such a registration box on a regular basis, however, and the problem of tourists failing to check out may create an administrative headache. The registration box could be billed as a "guest book" to ensure that no misunderstanding on rescue or safety obligations arises.

- **Provide information on bears and campsite cleanliness.**

Ensure information is posted at Deep Creek as well as other normal tourist information outlets. Include wildlife safety information in any printed information on the Thirty Mile.

- **Provide information on boating safety and the safe use and storage of marine fuel.**

Post boat and fuel handling safety information at Deep Creek. Provide information in any printed material on the Thirty Mile.

- **Restrict the discharge of firearms at organized campsites and heritage sites.**

Use provisions of Wildlife Act to prevent the unsafe use of firearms at organized campsites and heritage sites.

8.5 ACCESS AND TRAILS

Access is an important question on the Thirty Mile. If use is to be managed at moderate levels, then the ease of access can be used as a management tool. Roads to the start of the river would encourage very high levels of use. On the otherhand, a ferry service to Lower Laberge would remove an obstacle to potential moderate use levels.

People like to get off the river to view features such as waterfalls, or gain a view of the river valley. Trails can meet this need.

Actions:

- **Allow for continued public summer access to the Thirty Mile by boat.**

- **Allow for float plane landings at Lower Laberge and Hootalinqua.**

Recreational road access will not be provided to the Thirty Mile. Encourage commercial enterprises to provide transportation services to Lower Laberge.

- **Develop hiking trails to points of interest along the Thirty Mile.**

Consider trails at a point just below U.S. Bend to a creek canyon waterfall, and to a ridge viewpoint west of Hootalinqua. These trails will be developed in consultation with trappers, fishermen and other local users. Refer to Map #8.

- **Avoid construction of trails for mechanized use within the corridor.**

Non-motorized use of trails is most consistent with the management objectives of the Thirty Mile. Horse and bicycle use of some trails could be considered.

8.6 WATER QUALITY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Protection of water quality, and natural features such as vegetation, wildlife, or scenery are an important part of the plan. So-called "environmentally friendly" use by visitors, for example by taking out unburnable garbage, can contribute to maintaining the river corridor in a natural state. The pending federal Green Plan and territorial Environment Act may provide support for some water quality and waste management initiatives.

8.6.1 WATER

The water quality of the Thirty Mile appears to be pristine, with the influence of man unnoticeable (Regional Water Resources, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development). Yet global atmospheric conditions resulting from distant industrial activities can contribute to water pollution in remote settings. The Thirty Mile is not exempt from this possibility. Methods for analyzing water quality are improving, and what is not detectable today may be measurable in the future.

Designation of the Thirty Mile as a Canadian Heritage River will increase recreation use. One objective of recreation management will be to maintain the aesthetic qualities and potability of the Thirty Mile water. The main objective of water quality monitoring will be to establish the baseline of existing water quality and to measure any changes brought about by increased use.

Actions:

- **Maintain the existing water quality of the Thirty Mile within current laws and permitting procedures, and in accordance with Canadian Heritage River guidelines.**

Canadian Heritage River designation does not mean new laws or regulations on the Thirty Mile. Existing means to maintain the water quality must be used.

- **Issue permits for water licenses within the watershed adjacent to the Thirty Mile only upon approved measures to either prevent direct waste water discharge into the river or where waste water discharge is permitted, maintain stringent effluent standards within current regulations and with the objective of sustaining water quality.**

The Yukon Water Board is the regulating authority. The Canadian Heritage Rivers Board has established guidelines for water quality on designated Heritage Rivers. The Thirty Mile Management Group will advise the Water Board on water licence applications through the normal public hearing process. The Water Board is not bound to the advice of the Thirty Mile Management Group.

- **Monitor the water quality of the Thirty Mile on an annual basis.**

A reconnaissance water sampling program once per year during the July peak use season will help determine the effects of recreation or other land uses on the Thirty Mile water quality. A reach by reach sampling program would be optimum, for example near the Lake Laberge outlet, downstream near 17 Mile Wood Camp, and before the confluence with the Teslin River. Water quality testing parameters may change over time, but initially will focus on the river's sanitary quality. (See Water Quality Testing Parameters in Appendix 3).

Water quality testing will be part of the core operating budget. The pending Canada-Yukon Water Quality Monitoring Agreement will be the means of carrying out the testing program. When instituted, it will be jointly administered by the federal and territorial governments as stipulated in the agreement.

- **Establish a water quality monitoring station on the Thirty Mile.**

A routine water quality monitoring station will be established on the Thirty Mile, possibly in the vicinity of the existing water survey station used to measure flow volumes. This monitoring station may be operated by lay people, (in an arrangement with the responsible agency), living or working on the Thirty Mile. Water sampling could be done

on a monthly basis. The pending Canada-Yukon Water Quality Monitoring Agreement, jointly administered by the federal and territorial governments, will be the means of establishing the testing program.

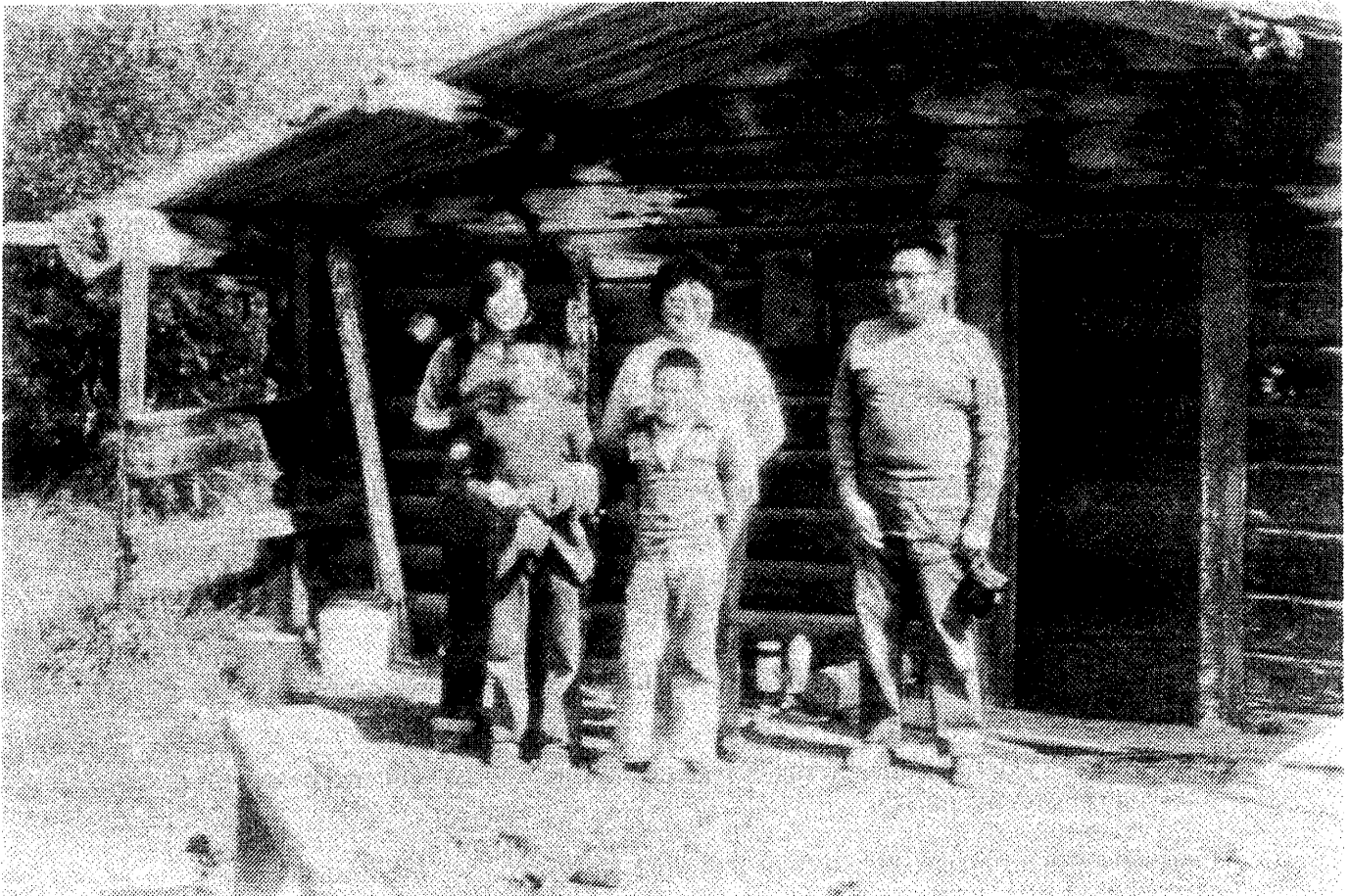
8.6.2 VISITOR WASTE

Actions:

- **Encourage tourists to take their non-combustible waste with them to deposit at Carmacks.**
- **Encourage local users to take their non-combustible waste with them.**
Develop a policy and education program of 'pack out what you pack in', supported by information at Deep Creek and brochures.
- **Locate pit toilets a minimum of 30 metres from the Yukon River or any creeks flowing into the Thirty Mile.**
- **Install one pit toilet at 17 Mile Wood Camp, and at each of the proposed wilderness campsites.**
- **Collect campground waste from the Lower Laberge and Hootalinqua sites in covered bear-resistant drums, painted dark brown.**
- **Provide waste pits or drums at Lower Laberge and Hootalinqua for burning waste collected from the campsites.**
- **Locate any waste/burning pit at least 50 metres from any water sites, with no runoff draining towards the campsite.**
- **Assess future waste requirements if seasonal or year round use increases; prepare waste management policy.**

Bears are not a chronic problem at this time, although they are known to visit campsites. Basic incineration facilities (such as a steel drum) are superior to a pit alone, and will be considered in the future, particularly if overnight accommodation is developed at Hootalinqua. The volume of waste generated in the near future could be accommodated by burning in a pit, provided fire safety precautions were taken.

Collect waste from the three organized campsites regularly and burn at a pit site outside each respective **Heritage Preservation Area**. Collect waste from remote campsites seasonally and burn at designated pits. Non-combustible materials will be returned to the landfill site nearest Deep Creek.



Norman and Emma Shorty and family visit familiar places on the Thirty Mile. Many sites are also used today for trapping, hunting or fishing camps.

8.7 INFORMATION, INTERPRETATION

8.7.1 INTERPRETIVE FEATURES AND THEMES

The Thirty Mile was selected as a Canadian Heritage River in part because it shows many of the best features of the Yukon River as a whole. The Thirty Mile Section has many engaging interpretive features. The original river route to the west of Mount Lewes is unusual, and the deeply cut river banks reveal a complex glacial history. Human use of the river has been long and colourful. Oral traditions from early times and evidence of more recent use as a busy transportation corridor stir the visitor's imagination. These potential interpretive themes are described in detail in the background report. Natural and cultural features will be combined for interpretation, since they almost always influence each other. Interpretive features and their relative importance are summarized in Table #6 & 7.

Transportation is often suggested as the main theme for the Thirty Mile. Yet, a fundamental difference is apparent between the ways aboriginal people used or thought about the Thirty Mile, and the uses of non-native people. From Ta'an oral traditions it would seem that the river was not really a "travel route" to resources in the sense that later explorers, prospectors, stampeders and steamboats used it. Instead, the river and adjacent areas were and are a "larder" for Indian people (Irene Adamson's phrase). While transportation is an important link between the two cultures, and is one of the key sub-themes, it does not capture the essence of the Ta'an Kwach'an perspective.

The *Yukon Thirty Mile: River of Changes* is the overall framework for interpretation. It provides a means of focussing on the central characteristics of the Thirty Mile. This main theme encompasses the sense of continuing evolution through time which both the river and people living here have undergone in the past, and which will carry into the future. The river flow changes constantly, altering the landscape it passes by. It cuts through deep layers of glacial, volcanic, and river deposits, giving the visitor a vivid feeling for changing geological conditions through the ages.

The river has been home to many different peoples for thousands of years. As habitat, natural resources and other conditions have changed, people too have had to evolve new ways of living in this area. Some groups have moved on, to be replaced by new cultures, bringing more changes with them.

Change is a central theme in a number of legends told by Indian people about creation and the preparation of the world for inhabitation. Stories about how Crow created rivers and lakes, and how giant people-eating animals were transformed into the smaller sizes they are today are part of this interpretive framework for the Thirty Mile.

Even the pace of change has not been constant. Some events have unfolded slowly while others such as volcanic eruptions have been more sudden and dramatic. The gold rush, World War II, and the end of the steamboat era are more recent examples of abrupt changes. The Thirty Mile is still evolving today as visitors seek new types of adventures in the wilderness. Ta'an people continue to use the river and surrounding areas as a "larder", while thinking about new economic opportunities as well.

Flowing from this way of thinking about the Thirty Mile as a *River of Changes* are several potential interpretive themes outlined below. All of the themes are connected in some way.

For example, *The Boreal Mosaic* was a resource to people using the *River on the Move* for transportation. *An Enduring Larder* is also part of the *Boreal Mosaic*, and legends are often related to the geological history as depicted in the theme *River Cutting Through the Ages*. These themes could each be used to organize a number of stories related to the various natural and cultural features of the Thirty Mile. Each theme could have many different stories, as suggested in the theme descriptions and in Table #6 & 7 showing interpretive resources of the Thirty Mile.

Table #5 Thirty Mile Interpretive Framework

<p>Overall Interpretive Framework</p> <p>The Thirty Mile: A River of Changes</p> <p>Interpretive Themes</p> <p>River Cutting Through the Ages A Boreal Mosaic An Enduring Larder River on the Move</p>
--

River Cutting Through the Ages

The steep cut banks and exposed bedrock along the Thirty Mile reveal an ancient geological history still changing, still shaped by water, wind and ice. To the observer paddling or boating downstream, these natural features pass by slowly, with time to see and interpret their many expressions.

A complex mix of volcanic, metamorphic, and intrusive rocks trace the origins of the Yukon Plateau. These are visible at Manoir Butte, or the rocky ridges near Hootalinqua. At the rivers edge, eroded by the moving water, lie blocks of conglomerate rock, while in the hills nearby fossils reveal strange life forms of ages past. The Thirty Mile geology was first untangled by Bostock in 1938, but long before then gold and other minerals were sought along its banks and tributary creeks.

Volcanoes are intertwined with the native legends of the Yukon, and along the Thirty Mile, much of the bedrock has volcanic origins. More recently the river has cut through layers of ash deposited about 1,200 years ago, now overlain by windblown sand and a carpet of boreal plants.

But the Yukon River did not always carve its way through this valley. The original route of the river was likely to the west of Lewes Mountain, with today's valley shaped between the great ice ages. Evidence of immense ice movement is shown by the crushed and ground rock

deposited in deep layers as glacial till. Snake-like eskers nearby show how water carried rock and debris beneath the ice.

The bluffs along the Thirty Mile have been cut out of the till, speaking of the era before the river flowed here. Layers of till, lake deposited silt, sand and gravel, volcanic ash, and windblown sand all speak of different ages, each revealing to the traveller a new story. Today's age shows permafrost, mudslides, changing islands and gravel bars, all linked with the past and the life of the *Boreal Mosaic*.

Suggested story topics for *River Cutting Through the Ages* are:

At the Beginning of Time: Crow and Beaverman Transform the World
Yukon Plateau: Forming a Landscape
Volcanoes and Fossils
River Bluffs and the Ice Ages
Changing a River Course
Wind, Water, and Ice
Bostock: Untangling the Geology
Lake Laberge and Clear Waters on the Thirty Mile

Boreal Mosaic

The great northern forests of Canada are not unique to the Thirty Mile. Yet, to the visitor, the spruce and pine stands laced with aspen and open grassy meadows is the heart of the Canadian wilderness, the best place to experience the boreal mosaic. This same mosaic, with its variety of mammals, fish, birds and edible plants is part of the *Enduring Larder*, a perspective deeply rooted in the culture of the native peoples.

Mosaic is literally described as 'a picture made by setting small coloured pieces'. The boreal mosaic is anything but a still life picture, but the image of countless inter-connected pieces making up the whole is true to the landscape of the Thirty Mile. What appears at first to be gentle forest scenery is broken by a patchwork of fire scars, splashes of flowered slopes, and a retreating moose, antlers still dressed with greenery from feeding at rivers edge.

To understand the mosaic, the traveller must also see each part, whether it be muskrat, eagle, butterfly or buffaloberry. Each piece is connected to the rest of the picture. The Thirty Mile landscape at once represents the Yukon boreal forest, yet there are many interesting stories about its inhabitants. The migrant waterfowl at Lake Laberge, Chinook salmon eaten by grizzly or black bear, moose calving on the river's many islands, or the eagle watching for furry prey, are stories not easily seen or interpreted once off the river.

The boreal forest is familiar, yet is apt to surprise. Travelling down the river and intersecting its many moods, it offers a setting to interpret the human history, as described by the *Enduring Larder* or *River on the Move* themes.

Suggested story topics for *The Boreal Mosaic* are:

Forest and Meadow
Forest Patterns: Fires and Woodcutters
Wildlife and Rivers Edge
Birds of Prey
Clear Waters and Spawning Salmon
Mammals and Man: Part of An Enduring Larder
Waterfowl and Lake Laberge
Geology, Soils and Boreal Plants

An Enduring Larder

This theme incorporates stories related to the interdependence of natural resources and human use of the Thirty Mile. The idea of the Thirty Mile as a "larder" came from Ta'an Kwach'an elder Irene Adamson. The Oxford Dictionary defines a larder as "a room or closet in which meat and other provisions are stored". Mrs. Adamson said she thinks of the Thirty Mile as a storehouse where there are sufficient natural resources to sustain her family and their descendents forever, just as it has done for her ancestors in the past. She noted that there are several varieties of fish, big and small game, furbearers, berries, wood, and other resources along the river and at nearby lakes and hills. Native place names such as Fat Fish Creek convey this sense of the area as important for food harvesting. Native names for mammals, fish, or plants will be incorporated into this interpretive theme. It is very important to Ta'an people that this "larder" be preserved so that the resources are available to future generations.

The concept of preserving the Thirty Mile's resources is important to many other people both in the Yukon and elsewhere too. For non-native residents, the resources were an important part of their ability to survive here during the period of economic decline following the gold rush. The Canadian Heritage River designation is one means of drawing attention to the special qualities of the river to ensure that it receives appropriate protection in the future.

Suggested story topics for *An Enduring Larder* are:

Fat Fish Creek
Stones and Bones: Survival Technologies of the Past and Present
Fishcamps, Woodcamps and Mining for Gold- Integrated Lifestyles Along the Thirty Mile
Settling in Together: Families of the Thirty Mile Area

River on the Move

As part of the Yukon River the Thirty Mile is connected to more than fifteen hundred miles of water and land stretching from the headwaters in the Coast Mountains of the southern Yukon

to the Bering Sea. It provides a natural travel corridor on its main stem and tributaries for much of the Yukon and Alaska. The river has been a moving home to migrating salmon for thousands of years. Oral traditions and archaeological evidence suggest that aboriginal people have been travelling and trading along its course for a very long time too, although they may not have made extended journeys up or downstream.

In more recent memory it was used by Tlingit traders to travel downstream at least as far as Fort Selkirk. Later explorers and prospectors followed the same route north while other traders and miners travelled upstream from the Bering Sea. During the Klondike Gold Rush tens of thousands of stampedeers followed the Yukon looking for gold. Regularly scheduled travel between Whitehorse and Dawson City became the summer mode of transport soon after, forming a social and economic link that lasted until the construction of year round highways shut down the steamboats in the 1950s. Now visitors travel the river, retracing these many connections to the past and to the oceans beyond. The river also connects Yukoners to issues of worldwide concern since international policies and fishing practices affect the salmon that are part of the "larder" and contribute economic benefits to many Yukoners.

Suggested story topics for *River on the Move* are:

The Kohklux Map- Documenting Tlingit Travel and Trade
Frederick Schwatka, U.S. Army Expedition, 1883
The Canadian Yukon Expedition, 1887
The Klondike Stampedeers- Sudden Boom
From Rafts to Sternwheels: Yukon River Travel
The Steamboat Era- Busy summers, Slow Winters
The Yukon Telegraph Line : Words on the Wire
From Oceans to Streams : Salmon Lifecycles on the Yukon

TABLE #6 NATURAL HERITAGE INTERPRETIVE FEATURES ON THIRTY MILE

Natural Heritage Category	Representative Themes and Features	Management/ Interpretive Importance
Hydrology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - lake and river dynamics - representative of upper Yukon River - river erosion patterns - river velocity - water level stability 	<p>high</p> <p>moderate</p> <p>moderate</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - links to transportation themes 	high
Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - clear, green-blue water - role of Lake Laberge as a settlement basin 	<p>high</p> <p>moderate</p>
Geology and Surficial Geology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - volcanic ash deposits - glacial landforms of complex river terraces, moraines and eskers 	<p>high</p> <p>high</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - geological history of river formation and channel changes 	high
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - visible conglomerate formations 	low
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - fossils - bedrock exposures as part of complex geology of Yukon Plateau 	<p>low</p> <p>moderate</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - erosion features on river embankments and islands 	moderate
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - discontinuous permafrost 	low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - links to oral traditions 	high	

Natural Heritage Category	Representative Themes and Features	Management/ Interpretive Importance
Vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - riparian vegetation - aspen and sage grassland on south-facing slopes - wildflowers - burn areas and succession - second growth characteristics after wood-cutting operations in early part of century - spruce forest - links to food gathering, hunting and trapping - links to transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> high high moderate low moderate low high
Fish and Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - birds of prey, bald eagle nests - migrant waterfowl, staging area for ducks and swans at Laberge outlet - fish spawning beds - wildlife habitat in riverine environment - big game species including moose, black bear and grizzly bear - furbearer habitat - links to hunting, trapping, vegetation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> high high low moderate/ high moderate moderate/ high high
Ecological Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - relationship of water quality to wildlife habitat and species - overall ecological characteristics of corridor - links to human ecology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> high high

TABLE #7 CULTURAL HERITAGE INTERPRETIVE FEATURES ON THIRTY MILE

Heritage Site	Representative Themes and Features	Management Interpretive Importance
Goddard Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ta'an names - Schwatka camp 1883 - Lake winds/Vidette wreckage visible; Goddard wreck nearby - links to climate 	moderate
Ogilvie Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ta'an name; uses - George Dawson place name; Yukon Expedition 1887 - old winter trail circa 1899-1902; - links to glacial history, geology 	moderate
Lower Laberge (West Bank)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ta'an name, uses; Hootalinqua Sam camp - NWMP post, other buildings - links to hydrology, wildlife 	high
Lower Laberge (East Bank)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ta'an name; uses; culture; leaders - Tlingit name and trade; Kohklux map 1869 - Dall map/Michel Laberge 1867 - Early contacts with white man, cloud people stories, - Wilson photo 1894 - Gold Rush stampeders on Lake Laberge - early steamboats; Lake problems/Thirty Mile hazards - Canadian Development Co. post #3 & mail route to Dawson - telegraph line construction & operation - wood camps, community life; Boutillier road house & mining - World War II freighting to Teslin Lake and Alaska Highway - post war, end of steamboat traffic - later years, trapping and tourism 	high
Domville Bar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wreck visibility (Rourke, 1986; Easton, 1989) - other wrecks nearby - Canyon Creek possible archaeological site, lithic source - links to hydrology 	moderate
Wood Camp (unidentified)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rourke, no details - links to vegetation 	low
View of Red Stained Mountain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - possible Ta'an place name and legend - Schwatka Report 1883 - links to geology 	moderate

Heritage Site	Representative Themes and Features	Management Interpretive Importance
Wickstrom Woodcamp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cabin and tent frame remains, roads, wood piles - grave of Marion Davies 1915 - links to vegetation 	low
17 Mile Woodcamp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - most interesting woodcamp in corridor for interpreting woodcamp operations, lifestyle; native and non-native economic interaction - links to vegetation 	high
Frank Creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ta'an name; uses - Northern Tutchone name; story of Ts'andlia Man (Tom 1987) - many scattered occupation sites, artefacts - links to fish and wildlife, vegetation 	high
Split Rock Creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ta'an name, fish and beaver campsite - possible woodcamp (saw blade) - trail to Frank Creek 	low
La France Creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wreck at Twelvemile Rock 	low
Cape Horn Woodcamp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cabin, metal artefacts - links to vegetation and geology 	moderate
Hootalinqua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indian names --Tlingit, Ta'an, N.Tutchone - Dawson report; early miners, contact stories - later steamboat, NWMP, telegraph, trade themes - route to Livingstone Creek - many occupation sites, artefacts, graves - links to hydrology, geology 	high
Shipyard Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - major shipyard remains: ways, capstans, forge, steam box - Steamer Evelyn/Norcom - graves - cabin remains, artefacts 	high
Teslin River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - aboriginal uses, names - early contact period, prospecting and mining - World War II transportation to Alaska Highway construction 	moderate
Livingstone Creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ta'an /Tlingit/N. Tutchone names, uses - early prospecting, mini-rush, Ta'an mining 	low
Ts'andlia Man	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Northern Tutchone place names, uses (Tom 1987) 	low

8.7.2 INFORMATION AND INTERPRETATION OPTIONS

(See also Marketing)

Information about the Thirty Mile will enhance the visitor's experience be they tourists or local people. Public education and interpretation will help achieve several of the goals and objectives for this management plan. The options are organized as on-site or off-site.

On-site options are those which occur on the Thirty Mile or at the departure points of Deep Creek, or Horse Creek (south of Deep Creek). **Off-site** options are those which occur elsewhere, for example, in schools or in Visitor Reception Centres. Information and interpretation facilities and programs for the Thirty Mile will complement regional tourism and recreation services.

Actions:

Planning and Approach

- **Establish Deep Creek as the information focus for the Thirty Mile.**

Improve parking and day use facilities to accommodate increased use, and allow for unhindered parking, boat launching, and viewing of interpretive information.

Improve road through Deep Creek to boat launch to minimize disruption to the community resulting from possible increased tourist traffic.

- **Prepare information and interpretive materials for the Thirty Mile.**

Prepare appropriate thematic and story outlines for interpretive signs and printed material. Use the framework developed in this plan as a guideline. Develop text and graphics for on-site and off-site information sources, as detailed below.

- **Use Southern Tutchone, Northern Tutchone and Tlingit names (to complement, or in some cases replace English names) as much as possible in printed material and on signs describing people, places and their traditional culture.**
- **Focus interpretation of the Thirty Mile on self-discovery, supported by signs, brochures, booklets, or maps.**

The Thirty Mile is relatively remote, accessible only by boat or airplane. Guided interpretation will likely be available only on commercial trips. The bulk of visitors will rely on signs or printed material.

- **Encourage commercial guides to promote the interpretive features of the Thirty Mile, and to help provide interpretive information.**
- **Supplement existing commercially available maps and guides with new printed material, well balanced in cultural heritage interpretation.**
- **Consider opportunities for private or joint government-private financing of interpretive materials such as an historical atlas of the Thirty Mile (and/or the entire Yukon River), or audio cassettes to be used by visitors on the river.**

On site

- **Provide highway sign at Deep Creek turn-off to direct visitors to information and interpretive kiosk on the Thirty Mile Canadian Heritage River.**

Use distinctive Canadian Heritage Rivers logo on the highway sign.

- **Provide an information kiosk at the Deep Creek boat launch.**

Information on safety, low impact camping methods, campsites, and backcountry etiquette will be available. Use distinctive Canadian Heritage Rivers logo on the information kiosk. Include self-registration box at the kiosk.

- **Install an interpretive sign as part of the kiosk at Deep Creek to orient users to the cultural and natural heritage of Lake Laberge and the Thirty Mile.**

Prepare design and text for interpretive sign(s) that introduces the main Thirty Mile themes as outlined in this plan. Focus on a balanced cultural and natural heritage message.

- **Develop related day use facilities to support increased use of Deep Creek as information focus for Thirty Mile.**

Allow for parking of 10 vehicles, picnicing, and additional room for boat launch turn-around and parking. Set information kiosk in attractive location separate but visible from the parking area.

- **Replace existing interpretive signs at Lower Laberge, 17 Mile Wood Camp, and Hootalinqua, to reflect a balanced cultural heritage message.**

Locate new interpretive signs where they do not interfere with the site character. Design the signs as low standing structures with illustrated text. Use thematic outline described in the plan as a guideline for the text.

As a short term alternative, failing funding to install new signs, existing site signs at Lower Laberge, 17 Mile Camp and Hootalinqua, will be relocated to less obtrusive positions. The sign at Hootalinqua, for example, blocks the view out from the heritage site.

- **Design a cairn and install Canadian Heritage River plaque at Lower Laberge; Consider a cairn and plaque at Hootalinqua as well. Use standard CHR plaque design.**

Design cairn in harmony with the heritage setting. Select a modest scale so that the cairn is not an imposing feature on the landscape. Locate cairn where it is accessible and visible but does not detract from the heritage context of the site.

Off-site

- **Provide information on the Thirty Mile at the Watson Lake, and Whitehorse Visitor Information Centres.**

Information on self-guided canoe trips, commercially guided canoe or motorized trips, and shorter boat excursions to Hootalinqua and back will be provided.

- **Provide information on low impact camping methods at Deep Creek and in general Yukon brochures available at Visitor Reception Centres and other outlets.**
- **Develop an interpretive slide (and/ or video) presentation for viewing at the MacBride Museum, Visitor Information Centres, communities, libraries or other suitable locations.**

The presentation would be used by people wishing to travel the route, and also by those seeking more information but not necessarily planning to participate.

- **Mention the Thirty Mile as a Canadian Heritage River in the general Yukon tourism vacation planning guide.**

Wilderness travel and the Yukon River are profiled in the tourism guide now. If desired, the mention of the Thirty Mile as a Canadian Heritage River could help direct tourists to further information sources.

- **Develop an interpretive guide to the Thirty Mile.**

This is a non-government organization or private business opportunity. Existing information sources will be evaluated to determine the focus of the interpretive brochure. Existing materials do not provide a balanced cultural perspective on the Thirty Mile.

- **Consider a private or joint venture to prepare an historical atlas of the Thirty Mile (or the entire Yukon River).**

Evaluate market for either glossy hard cover book or an illustrated weather proof fold-out map on the Thirty Mile.

- **Encourage a private or joint venture to prepare an interpretive audio cassette for the Thirty Mile.**

This audio cassette could be used by visitors on the river to bring to life the history and personalities at such places as Lower Laberge, Hootalinqua, and 17 Mile Wood camp.

8.8 MARKETING

(See also Visitor Use and Information above.)

Marketing is linked to the information and interpretation program outlined above. The marketing strategy is an important management tool, to either increase or stabilize use levels. National, territorial and regional marketing efforts will influence the type of person attracted to the Thirty Mile, as well as the total number of users. Marketing efforts will be complementary and reflect the objectives of the Management Plan.

Actions:

- **Promote the Thirty Mile at a level geared to desired visitation and the level of operations.**

Options to increase use could include:

- distribution of a color brochure on the Thirty Mile in Whitehorse and Carmacks, through businesses renting canoes and boats, and through sporting goods stores,
- advertising the Thirty Mile in separate guiding or adventure travel company promotions,
- mentioning the Thirty Mile in the Yukon tourism guide, particularly if one or two day return excursions are offered to Hootalinqua,
- supporting widespread promotion of the Thirty Mile by the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board.

If higher levels of visitation are desired, promotional efforts could be increased. Magazine advertising targeted toward adventure travellers and those interested in cultural aspects of tourism could be explored. Collaboration with Yukon Tourism, the Tourism Industry Association of the Yukon, local tourism associations, and national organizations to develop a cooperative approach to promotion could result in cost savings.

- **Use distinctive Thirty Mile themes as part the marketing message.**

Thirty Miles of Magic might be a starting point that could lead to more description of River of Change theme with the various sub-themes outlined in the Interpretation Section.

8.9 ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

The Canadian Heritage River designation for the Thirty Mile does not bestow any special park or other legal administrative status. Under existing legislation and the Umbrella Final Agreement for land claims, Special Management Areas, Heritage Sites, Reserves, or other means could be used as overlapping designations to strengthen the protection of parts of or the entire the Thirty Mile area. Regulations could, if needed, be written and applied under the territorial Area Development Act. Pending environmental screening processes will provide an additional way of reviewing development proposals and monitoring land use. (See Appendix 2 on existing regulatory authorities)

Administration will be carried out in a cooperative way, using a variety of organizations, agencies, legislation and regulations to achieve the objectives of the Management Plan. For this reason the administrative framework is complex, and the development, operations and maintenance programs will likely have to rely on a variety of funding sources. This cooperative, multi-agency approach will need a coordinating lead group, and a stable source of core funding as described below.

Successful operations and maintenance will require consideration of facilities, staffing or contract maintenance requirements and administration. Tourists will benefit from information and services, even if they are provided at a basic level. Campsites and heritage areas will need ongoing maintenance and protection. Archaeological investigation and mitigation will be needed prior to any future site development.

8.9.1 ADMINISTRATION

Actions:

- **Designate the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section of the Yukon Department of Renewable Resources as the lead coordinating agency. Assign the lead role in heritage research, preservation and development to the Department of Tourism, Heritage Branch. (Other federal and territorial agencies will carry out their normal administrative and regulatory functions as they apply to the Thirty Mile Management Plan).**

A lead agency is needed to monitor land use, receive and process referrals from other agencies, host meetings, and to initiate and carry out the implementation process in conjunction with the Thirty Mile Management Group (described below). Inter-agency cooperation will be needed for most land use decisions. One of the main advisory and decision making roles of the Thirty Mile Management Group will be in the area of recreation use, development, and maintenance. The Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section, acting under the authority of the Park Act, is the logical lead agency to coordinate this work. The PORS will convene a Thirty Mile Management Group meeting twice per year, once in October-November and once in April-May.

- **Establish a cooperative Thirty Mile Management Group with representation from the YTG Parks and Outdoor Recreation Planning Section, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Ta'an Kwach'an Council and the Council for Yukon Indians.**

The Thirty Mile Management Group will work with the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section to initiate implementation of the Management Plan. The Group will act in an advisory capacity to all senior agencies or boards regarding land use in the designated Canadian Heritage River area (See Table #8.). The Thirty Mile Management Group will play a key advisory role on recreation use, development and maintenance. The Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section will carry out the implementation and routine administrative tasks, under the authority of the Park Act.

The Thirty Mile Management Group will be bound by all legislation, policy and regulations affecting the Thirty Mile as they are administered by territorial and federal agencies. The provisions of the Umbrella Final Agreement will be binding on the management of the Thirty Mile. The decision-making and advisory bodies such as the Yukon Heritage Board and Renewable Resources Councils will liaise with the Thirty Mile Management Group on issues of common interest.

The two government and two native organization members will be nominated by the appropriate authority and appointed by the Yukon Minister of Renewable Resources. Members of the public could be invited by the Management Group to participate on an ex-officio basis from time to time or where specific cooperative ventures are undertaken with non-government organizations.

Liaison with the Yukon Heritage Branch, on all matters related to cultural heritage resources, will be through a permanent advisory role and ex-officio membership of the Branch on the Thirty Mile Management Group. The Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section, as the lead agency, will refer heritage resource issues to the Heritage Branch, and provide notification of meetings and meeting minutes.

- **Liaise with the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board.**

A Yukon person will liaise with the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board. (This person may or may not be an employee of the Department of Renewable Resources). An annual report on the Thirty Mile, prepared by the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section in conjunction with the Thirty Mile Management Group, will be submitted to the Board. The PORs will liaise with the Canadian Heritage Rivers Secretariat.

- **Use existing legislation, policy, and regulations (including those related to existing native rights) to implement the management plan, with adjustments based on land claims final agreements.**

Many of the land use decisions on the Thirty Mile will be made by agencies and organizations senior to the Thirty Mile Management Group. The Thirty Mile Management Group will advise these agencies through established referral processes. No new legislation or policies are needed to implement the Management Plan (See Table #8). New regulations could be written under the Area Development Act, or as provisions of Special Management Areas if appropriate.

- **Place a Thirty Mile Canadian Heritage River map notation on federal and territorial land status and land use maps to ensure the special management objectives are recognized.**

Map notations have no legal standing, but will ensure that all land use applications are referred to the Thirty Mile Management Group for consideration. The Management Group may then liaise with the Federal Land Use Advisory Committee or other regulatory bodies to ensure that the heritage management objectives are recognized. *Ensure that the Ta'an Kwach'an Indian Band is acknowledged as a party to the map notation and that the notation does not prejudice land claims negotiations.*

- **Implement the management plan gradually, as resources permit. Use management agreements in cooperation with local users, native organizations, business and non-profit groups.**

The Management Plan calls for cooperative planning and management. The Thirty Mile Management Group will seek cooperative arrangements with a variety of groups to help implement the plan. These arrangements may include financial commitments, volunteer time, river monitoring or patrols, promotion or marketing, heritage preservation, or any other aspect of river management.

- **Conduct annual maintenance and improvement work on a cooperative basis, with participation by the Ta'an Kwach'an Council, commercial enterprises, or non-government organizations as appropriate.**

- **Encourage equal opportunity (and affirmative action, where appropriate) employment, contracting and training opportunities.**

This general policy applies to all Yukoners. Consideration of employment opportunities for Ta'an Kwach'an Indian Band members will be part of the land claims settlement, and will be incorporated into the Thirty Mile Management Plan.

- **Identify long-term, diversified sources of financial assistance for the Thirty Mile.**

As part of future site developments or heritage conservation programs, secure funding sources need to be established. Government cutbacks and their ability to fund only certain types of activities, means that other funding sources need to be explored.

Private foundations could be approached. A "Friends of The Thirty Mile" group to raise funds could be set up. Government funding sources could be diversified: consider the Community Development Fund, Northern Studies Fund, Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Yukon Department of Education in addition to Yukon Tourism and Renewable Resources. Cooperative programs with universities or other agencies will be explored.

- **Consider cost recovery programs on the Thirty Mile, for example through camping or river permit fees.**

Increased tourist use of the Thirty Mile will result in development and maintenance costs. A modest cost recovery program directed at the users could be considered. Campground fees, for example at potential private Band-owned sites, or Yukon River use permit fees would be acceptable to most tourists. Cost information should be available in advance, and transactions made easy. The cost of such a recovery program would need to be weighed against the revenues, and the desirability of user pay in a wilderness setting would need to be assessed in the context of related parks and protected area policies.

8.9.2 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Actions:

Site Supervision and Management

- **Initiate maintenance contract(s) to carry out annual campsite and heritage conservation tasks as outlined in the plan.**

The Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section will carry out operations and maintenance tasks. Heritage site and building maintenance will be coordinated by the Heritage Branch. These tasks will be part of the Management Plan implementation, and will be guided by the Thirty Mile Management Group. A portion of operations and maintenance tasks could be carried out on a contract basis. Some tasks may be carried out on a volunteer or expenses-paid basis. In summary these annual tasks are:

Campsite clean-up and repair, brushing
 Removal and burning of garbage
 Sign repair or replacement
 Building inspection and reporting, site brushing
 Exterior stabilization work, as required
 Pit toilet inspection and periodic relocation
 Removal of hazards such as wire
 Water quality monitoring

- **Use periodic summer season patrols to assist in management activities such as education, enforcement, and waste control.**

Such patrols could be part of ongoing maintenance work noted above. Voluntary patrols or host programs could also be initiated on the Thirty Mile, for example at Lower Laberge or Hootalinqua. Such arrangement could be similar to existing campground host programs. Gasoline expenses may be eligible for reimbursement under such a program on the Thirty Mile.

Safety And Security

Users of the Thirty Mile must be self-sufficient. If river use grows, problems of safety or security may get more difficult and may require staff involvement. Access to the Thirty Mile will be by river for the foreseeable future, whether from points upstream on the Yukon River or from the Teslin River.

Safety and security relates to buildings, artefacts, visitor activities, medical emergencies, and work crews.

Actions:

- **Review all buildings or boat wrecks from the points of view of structural and safety requirements.**

This requires analysis of each building in order to weigh the impacts of protective measures on the heritage resource against life safety considerations. Access may be restricted from some areas, such as the ruins of the S.S. Evelyn. Coordinate this work with the Heritage Branch.

- **Provide and maintain a radiotelephone for site emergencies, if either Lower Laberge or Hootalinqua are seasonally occupied.**
- **Ensure there are First Aid supplies at any work camps, and staff trained in First Aid.**
- **Review artefacts on the Thirty Mile from the point of view of security.**

There are, at this time, few major significant artefacts of a portable nature.

- **Train any seasonal staff or contracted help to observe visitors and assist in security.**

Observation is the best security at a remote site.

Fire Protection

Fire is a primary threat to the Heritage Preservation Areas, while natural fires in the remainder of the river valley are an acceptable normal event. The Thirty Mile heritage resources have been vulnerable to fire before, and if river use grows, the risk of fire will also increase.

Actions:

- **Suppress forest fires along the Thirty Mile according to existing policy and priorities.**
- **Develop a fire fighting policy for each of the Heritage Preservation Areas.**

If a forest fire threatens heritage buildings, then a higher level of response would be warranted. If Hootalinqua or Lower Laberge are occupied on a seasonal basis, fires at campsites or in structures could be suppressed more readily.

- **Supply water barrels, buckets and other related hand fire equipment at Lower Laberge and Hootalinqua; Supply necessary tools: shovels, buckets, axes. Store in secure locations.**

8.10 EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND APPRENTICESHIP

Education, training, and apprenticeship are essential parts of all activities and development on the Thirty Mile. These are best described in one place for ease of reference. All aspects of training and apprenticeship related to heritage buildings, sites, artefacts or oral traditions will be coordinated with the Heritage Branch.

8.10.1 HERITAGE AND SITE MANAGEMENT

Actions:

- **Use all aspects of site operation and maintenance as opportunities for training and employment.**
- **Use required new construction as a training opportunity.**
- **Use any restoration or stabilization programs for training to enable workers to maintain and upgrade their knowledge.**

This information could be offered at a workshop before the work season and include a review of the management guidelines for each site. The Heritage Branch could provide technical expertise with a Restoration Craftsperson for instruction as required. The aim of the workshop will be to develop technical skills so that local people can undertake both restoration and maintenance work required on heritage structures at each site.

- **Develop programs for heritage management skills.**

Archaeological or cultural projects associated with the Thirty Mile could provide youth with introductory skills in several heritage management fields (archaeology, archival research, oral history, replications, conservation techniques).

8.10.2 INTERPRETATION

Actions:

- **Make training for interpretation a component of all training or apprenticeship programs undertaken with respect to the Thirty Mile.**
- **Decide on appropriate ways and means for developing Thirty Mile programs under the guidance of the Thirty Mile Management Group, and by looking at examples of programs from elsewhere.**

9.0 IMPACTS OF DEVELOPMENT

9.1 SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Actions:

- **Complete planning work and community consultations before any major development proceeds on the river; use the Thirty Mile Management Group for this task.**

Planning will help to ensure that developments are well thought out and are staged to provide maximum economic benefits. Loading too much work into one season may mean that jobs that could be provided to local people go to others. Training for jobs at the site requires lead time and needs to be built into the plans if benefits of development are to go to local people.

- **Use the Thirty Mile for social as well as economic purposes.**

The potential economic benefits of the Thirty Mile as a Canadian Heritage River should not be ignored. Economic opportunities for local people are scarce and the Thirty Mile could provide some seasonal jobs and opportunities for businesses.

9.2 IMPACTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE RESOURCES

See also 8.6, Water Quality and Waste Management

Actions:

- **Use a sustainable development approach to all activities and services on the Thirty Mile.**

Any development should not exceed the capacity of the environment or heritage resources to sustain use. Any increase in use should be in harmony with the environment.

- **Ensure that potential environmental effects of any proposed development or land use are assessed by the Thirty Mile Management Group prior to final decisions and implementation. Where appropriate, ensure that the Development Assessment Process or Federal Environmental Assessment and Review Process are used to mitigate any development that may affect the integrity of Canadian Heritage River status.**

Effects on water quality, fish or wildlife, waste disposal methods, changes in vegetation, and impacts on views will be considered. Obtain information on present water quality in order to evaluate any impacts of future use (as stipulated in 8.6 water quality and Waste Management).

- **Ensure that the effects of use on heritage resources is determined by the Thirty Mile Management Group prior to any new developments.**

Potential deterioration of heritage resources will be assessed. The ability of structures to sustain higher use levels or changes in use will be determined prior to any decisions.

9.3 MONITORING AND REVIEW

Actions:

- **Prepare an annual report on the Thirty Mile.**

These reports will chart the progress of plan implementation and will serve as a yardstick for monitoring Canadian Heritage River status. The report will be prepared by the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section in conjunction with the Thirty Mile Management Group. Submit the report to the Canadian Heritage Rivers Secretariat.

- **Monitor the effects of new developments or use levels on the environment and on heritage resources.**

This task will be carried out by the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section. The condition of buildings and campsites, vegetation, and the aesthetic quality of the river environment may be assessed from time to time. Water quality will be monitored by other agencies on an annual basis as stipulated in Section 8.6 of this plan.

- **Monitor water quality on an annual basis as described in Section 8.6. Use any other environmental legislation such as the pending territorial Environment Act or federal environmental statutes to support monitoring efforts.**

- **Review the Management Plan in 5 years.**

This plan is a framework for the development and use of the Thirty Mile. As with all plans, it will be flexible enough to accommodate changing priorities as well as be adaptable to unforeseen circumstances. In five years, a measure of the plan's use and success will be taken. If necessary, revisions will be made at that time.

- **Ensure public involvement in the Management Plan review.**

The public participated in the preparation of this management plan. Since the general public is not represented on the Thirty Mile Management Group, a public review process is essential to ensure user concerns are heard.

PART 3: IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

Overview

The Thirty Mile Canadian Heritage River Management Plan will be implemented according to the actions outlined in the plan. A gradual, cooperative implementation schedule will be used to ensure that the pace of development is in keeping with the organizational and funding capacity of the participating government agencies, the Thirty Mile Management Group and the Ta'an Kwach'an Indian Band.

As outlined in the plan, the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section, in conjunction with the Thirty Mile Management Group, will initiate implementation of the plan. The roles and responsibilities of the Management Group and other agencies and boards are outlined in Section 8.9, Administration, Operations and Maintenance. As noted, existing legislation, policy, and regulations, along with the terms of the Land Claims Final Agreement and the specific Band agreement will determine how decisions affecting the Thirty Mile are made. The general direction of the Management Plan and its compatibility with Canadian Heritage River management guidelines will remain feasible regardless of future land claims or institutional arrangements.

The feasibility and advantages of designating the Thirty Mile Section a "Special Management Area" according to the Land Claims Final Agreement will be investigated. "Special Management Area" status could co-exist with the Canadian Heritage River designation.

10.0 MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Refer to Table #8.

Continued Canadian Heritage River designation for the Thirty Mile will be contingent upon sustaining the management standards set out in the plan. The plan will be reviewed in five years.

The Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section, Yukon Department of Renewable Resources will be the lead agency in implementing, administering and coordinating the Management Plan. The Thirty Mile Management Group, meeting twice per year, will advise the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section and make decisions within its mandate as appropriate.

The Yukon Heritage Branch will carry out all tasks within its mandate related to cultural heritage resources, as stipulated in the plan. Liaison with the Canadian Heritage Rivers Secretariat will be by means of an annual report submitted by the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section, in conjunction with the Thirty Mile Management Group. Liaison with other territorial and federal agencies is shown in Table #8.

The Ta'an Kwach'an Council are members of the Thirty Mile Management Group. The Management Plan does not prejudice future land claims agreements. Many objectives of the plan are, however, achievable regardless of the specifics of future land claims or institutional agreements.

11.0 PRIORITIES AND COSTS

Refer to Table #9.

In order to facilitate budget planning and complete the most important tasks first, the plan actions are summarized, along with order of magnitude costs and responsibilities in Table #9. The Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section of the Department of Renewable Resources will be the lead agency for plan implementation and routine administration striving to:

- **Provide core funding for recreation development and operations on the Thirty Mile through the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section.**
- **Provide the nominal funding for the Thirty Mile Management Group through the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section.**
- **Dedicate one person year in the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section to the planning, administration, and liaison tasks required to implement the plan.**
- **Support cooperating agencies such as the Heritage Branch, Tourism Development Branch, and federal Water Resources Branch in their efforts to obtain funding.**
- **Use volunteers, non-government organizations or private commercial operations as appropriate to carry out specific management or recreation service tasks.**
- **Investigate means of supporting Management Plan implementation through programs related to the federal Green Plan, Environmental Partners Program or pending territorial Environment Act.**

TABLE #8 THIRTY MILE RIVER MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY AND TASKS

Primary Management Responsibility

ORGANIZATION	RESPONSIBILITY or METHOD	ROLE, TASKS
Thirty Mile Management Group*	Membership from: Yukon Renewable Resources D.I.A.N.D. Ta'an Kwach'an Council C.Y.I. (Heritage Branch as advisor)	Implements plan; meet twice per year, coordinating role Reviews plan; review and update every five years Example activities: - recreation management, site development, apply to funding sources, monitoring, - heritage site management, review development proposals, advise senior agencies
<p>* The decision making authority of the Management Group will focus on river use and recreation development aspects, with a key advisory role in land use and resource extraction permitting procedures. All land use or resource development decisions will be made by higher authority and according to land claims agreements. The YTG Parks and Outdoor Recreation Section will carry out day to day management and operations tasks according to its mandate and policies.</p>		
Yukon Department of Renewable Resources	Parks & Outdoor Recreation Section	Project management, lead agency. Secretariat to Thirty Mile Management Group. Liaison with Canadian Heritage Rivers Board.
Ta'an Kwach'an Indian Band	Council	Recommends actions to Management Group, through its representatives; Makes decisions about Band owned lands, in consultation with Management Group. Proposes economic development opportunities, provides input to Renewable Resource Councils.



ORGANIZATION**RESPONSIBILITY OR METHOD****ROLE, TASKS**

**Renewable
Resources
Councils**

Directs management of wildlife and fish resources according to mandate of UFA and sub-agreements,
Consults with Thirty Mile Management Group, to receive advice on issues related to Thirty Mile.

**Heritage
Board**

As mandated by Heritage sub-agreement of the land claims UFA

**Yukon
Dept. of Tourism**

Heritage Branch

Provides technical advice, support, specifically in Heritage Preservation Areas.
Administers archaeological and heritage sites on crown lands.
Implements required heritage research, or heritage resource protection.
Implements heritage aspects of management plan, reviews plan every 5 years.

ORGANIZATION**RESPONSIBILITY OR METHOD****ROLE, TASKS**

**Renewable
Resources
Councils**

Directs management of wildlife and fish resources according to mandate of UFA and sub-agreements,
Consults with Thirty Mile Management Group, to receive advice on issues related to Thirty Mile.

**Heritage
Board**

As mandated by Heritage sub-agreement of the land claims UFA

**Yukon
Dept. of Tourism**

Heritage Branch

Provides technical advice, support, specifically in Heritage Preservation Areas.
Administers archaeological and heritage sites on crown lands.
Implements required heritage research, or heritage resource protection.
Implements heritage aspects of management plan, reviews plan every 5 years.

ORGANIZATION	RESPONSIBILITY or METHOD	ROLE, TASKS
Secondary Management Assistance and Responsibility		
Yukon Dept. of Tourism	Marketing Branch	Assists with marketing and promotion.
	Development Branch	Assists with regional integration of tourism facilities, signs or infrastructure.
Yukon Renewable Resources	Fish and Wildlife Branch	Conducts its normal management tasks. Consults with Thirty Mile Management Group as required. Management Group advises on special needs for Thirty Mile.
	D.A.P.	Development Assessment Process used where territorial lands are affected by development proposals.
	Regional Land Use Planning	Incorporates management objectives of Thirty Mile plan into regional plans. Advises Thirty Mile Management Group as needed.

ORGANIZATION	RESPONSIBILITY or METHOD	ROLE, TASKS
Secondary Management Assistance and Responsibility		
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA		
Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development	Water Resources	Conducts water quality monitoring.
	Yukon Territory Water Board	Approves water licences. Gives public notification of applications.
	Land Resources	Administer federal crown lands, provides advice to Thirty Mile Management Group.
	Federal Land Use Advisory Committee	Receives applications for land use permits. Has Map Notation for Canadian Heritage River on file. Consults Thirty Mile Management Group. Approves or rejects land use permit applications.
	Forest Resources	Conducts forest resource inventories. Provides fire detection and suppression.
	Northern Land Use Planning	Prepares regional plans, of which the Thirty Mile would be a part.
	Order-in-Council requested by DIAND Minister	Transfers control of specific sites to YTG. Reserves specific sites from claim staking.
EARP	Screens disposition applications for environmental and related socioeconomic impacts. (Environmental Assessment and Review Process)	
Canadian Heritage Rivers Board	(Inter-agency committee)	Reviews plans, annual reports, provides national direction for Heritage River guidelines. Promotes CHRS and individual rivers. Recommends designation of candidate rivers to the CHRS, by the Minister of Environment.
Environment Canada	Canadian Parks Service	Provides technical and financial assistance for CHRS projects.

TABLE #9 IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES AND COSTS*

TASK ¹	PRIORITY ²	CAPITAL	O&M	RESPONSIBILITY ³
¹ Tasks are summarized from the plan.				
² Priorities are: 1 for years 1-2, 2 for years 3-5, and 3 for future options.				
³ Responsibility of key agencies is shown. T.M.M.G. indicates Thirty Mile Management Group, P.O.R.S. is Parks and Outdoor Recreation Planning Section				
* Capital costs are separated from Operations and Maintenance (O&M) costs. Operations and maintenance costs are incurred annually or periodically to maintain the management program. Capital costs include such items as site developments, heritage stabilization or restoration programs, information and interpretation facilities and materials. The figures are the total estimated cost over the 5 year period.				

Inventories and Assessments

● Conduct archaeological investigations prior to any site development or land disturbance.	1	5,000 per site	-	Heritage Branch or Project proponent T.M.M.G.
● Conduct a reconnaissance survey to identify, inventory and evaluate terrestrial archaeological sites;	1	20,000	-	Heritage Branch T.M.M.G.
● Assess the ship remains and the Shipyard Island site to determine the appropriate level of documentation and preservation methods.	2	10,000	-	Heritage Branch T.M.M.G.
● Inventory critical wildlife habitat such as predatory bird nests, on the Thirty Mile.	2	5,000	-	P.O.R.S. T.M.M.G.

TASK¹	PRIORITY²	CAPITAL	O&M	RESPONSIBILITY³
Heritage Structure Evaluation, Stabilization and Preservation				
● Provide preventative education to discourage artefact collecting, site vandalism, and use of heritage materials for firewood while camping.	1	See information section	-	P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G. Heritage Branch
● Evaluate and document existing structures to determine their condition and significance, and to assist in developing a preservation strategy.	1	40,000	-	Heritage Branch
● Stabilize critical heritage sites and structures as identified in the above evaluation to prevent further deterioration and ensure public safety.	2	20,000	Periodic	Heritage Branch T.M.M.G.
● Continue periodic stabilization of the heritage structures.	3	20,000	Periodic/annual	Heritage Branch T.M.M.G.
● Restore and maintain selected grave sites and assess the feasibility of stabilizing or restoring the cemetery at Hootalinqua.	2	20,000	See maintenance	T.M.M.G. Heritage Branch Ta'an Kwach'an Council

TASK ¹	PRIORITY ²	CAPITAL	O&M	RESPONSIBILITY ³
--------------------------	------------------------------	----------------	----------------	------------------------------------

Ethnographic Materials

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|----------------------------|
| ● Develop a Thirty Mile Bibliography. | 1 | 2,000 | - | T.M.M.G.
Ta'an Kwach'an |
| ● Review and assess existing taped material to identify gaps in the record. | 1 | 2,500 | - | T.M.M.G.
Ta'an Kwach'an |
| ● Locate and copy (or acquire for a permanent collection in a secure facility off the river), ethnographic materials related to Lake Laberge and Thirty Mile region. (Under authority of UFA Heritage sub-agreement). | 2 | Depends on scale of project. No estimate. Land Claims Agreement funding or other sources could be used. | | Ta'an Kwach'an |
| ● Assess storage conditions for existing audio and video tapes. | 1 | 1,000 | - | Heritage Branch |

TASK ¹	PRIORITY ²	CAPITAL	O&M	RESPONSIBILITY ³
-------------------	-----------------------	---------	-----	-----------------------------

Improve and Develop Campsites

- | | | | | |
|--|-----|--------|-----------------|---------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop layout plans for the three designated group campsites. Allow for 8 tent pads at Lower Laberge, 10 at Hootalinqua, and 4 at 17 Mile Camp. Change and expand existing layouts as needed. | 1 | 3,000 | - | P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Relocate existing campsites and fire-circles that endanger heritage structures or sites. | 1,2 | 30,000 | - | P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clean up the two existing campsites and vicinity at Hootalinqua and Lower Laberge, brush out as needed. | | | See maintenance | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Install steel fire circles, one for every two tent sites. | | | See maintenance | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Permit informal camping at 4 designated primitive sites along the length of the Thirty Mile. Select and maintain these sites. | 1 | | See maintenance | P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide one pit toilet at each primitive campsite. | 1 | 15,000 | See maintenance | P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G. |

TASK ¹	PRIORITY ²	CAPITAL	O&M	RESPONSIBILITY ³
Waste and Water Quality				
● Monitor the water quality of the Thirty Mile on an annual basis.	1		15,000	D.I.A.N.D.
● Annually collect campground waste by boat and dispose at designated sites.	1		See maintenance	P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G.
● Provide waste pits or drums at Lower Laberge and Hootalinqua for burning waste collected from the campsites.	1	2,500	-	P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G.

TASK ¹	PRIORITY ²	CAPITAL	O&M	RESPONSIBILITY ³
Trails				
● Survey and map heritage trails.	2	3,000	-	P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G. Ta'an Kwach'an Heritage Branch
● Conduct interviews as required to locate routes.	2	1,500	-	Ta'an Kwach'an
● Maintain, mark, and interpret existing heritage trails.	2	20,000	2,000	P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G.
● Brush out and maintain existing local trails at Lower Laberge, 17 Mile Wood Camp and Hootalinqua.				
● Develop hiking trails to points of interest along the Thirty Mile.	3	30,000	2,000	P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G.

TASK ¹	PRIORITY ²	CAPITAL	O&M	RESPONSIBILITY ³
Information and Education				
● Prepare printed information and interpretive materials for the Thirty Mile.	1	12,000	Periodic Updates	P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G. Heritage Branch
● Provide an information kiosk at the Deep Creek boat launch.	1	15,000	1,000	P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G.
● Install an interpretive sign(s) as part of the kiosk at Deep Creek to orient users to the cultural and natural heritage of Lake Laberge and the Thirty Mile.	1	10,000	Periodic	P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G. Tourism Development Branch
● Replace existing interpretive signs at Lower Laberge, 17 Mile Wood Camp, and Hootalinqua, to reflect a balanced cultural heritage message.	2	30,000	Periodic	P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G. Heritage Branch
● Provide information on the Thirty Mile at the Watson Lake, and Whitehorse Visitor Information Centres.	1	Existing facilities	Periodic replacement of materials	Tourism Development Branch P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G.
● Provide information on low impact camping methods at Deep Creek and in general Yukon brochures available at Visitor Reception Centres and other outlets.	1	Use YTG general information		Renewable Resources Tourism Development Branch
● Develop an interpretive slide or video presentation for viewing at the MacBride Museum, Visitor Information Centres, communities, libraries or other suitable locations.	2	20,000	1,000	P.O.R.S. / T.M.M.G. Tourism Development Branch

TASK ¹	PRIORITY ²	CAPITAL	O&M	RESPONSIBILITY ³
--------------------------	------------------------------	----------------	----------------	------------------------------------

Information and Education cont'd

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--------|---|---------------------------|
| ● Facilitate the development of an interpretive guide to the Thirty Mile. | 2 | 20,000 | - | Private or Ta'an Kwach'an |
|---|---|--------|---|---------------------------|

Promotion

- | | | | | |
|--|---|------------------|---|-------------|
| ● Mention Thirty Mile as a Canadian Heritage River in the general Yukon Tourism vacation planning guide. | 1 | Existing program | - | YTG Tourism |
|--|---|------------------|---|-------------|

TASK¹	PRIORITY²	CAPITAL	O&M	RESPONSIBILITY³
Administration				
● Establish the cooperative Thirty Mile Management Group with representation from government and the Ta'an Kwach'an Council.	1		1,500	P.O.R.S.
● Host two meetings annually of the Management Group, one in the spring and one in the fall.	1		1,000	P.O.R.S.
Operations and Maintenance				
● Initiate maintenance contract(s) to carry out annual campsite and heritage conservation tasks as outlined in the plan.	1		15,000	P.O.R.S. Heritage Branch
● Supply water barrels, buckets and other related hand fire equipment at Lower Laberge and Hootalinqua; Supply necessary tools: shovels, buckets, axes. Store in secure locations.	1	3,500		P.O.R.S.
● Use periodic summer season patrols to assist in management activities such as education, enforcement, and waste control.	3		5,000	P.O.R.S.
● Use periodic volunteer patrols to undertake specific monitoring or maintenance tasks. Pay expenses, eg. gas, oil, garbage bags, hand tools.	2		2,500	P.O.R.S.

APPENDIX 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS, CONTACTS, AND PLAN REVIEWERS

Yukon Government

Department of Renewable Resources

Jim McIntyre, (Parks, Resources and Regional Planning Branch)
Finlay McRae, (Parks, Resources and Regional Planning Branch)
Ian Robertson, (Parks, Resources and Regional Planning Branch)
Walter Bilawich, (Policy and Planning Branch)

Federal Government

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

Claude Bugslag, (DIAND Land Use Planning and Conservation Division)
Rick Janowitz, (Northern Affairs Program)
Jack Nickel, (Northern Affairs Program)
Kirstie Simpson, (Northern Affairs Program)
Gerry Whitley, (Northern Affairs Program)

Ta'an Kwach'an Council:

Chief Glenn Grady
Ta'an Kwach'an Council Members
William Asp
Simon Mason-Wood
Ron Berdahl

Council for Yukon Indians:

Patrick James

Department of Tourism, Yukon, Heritage Branch:

Doug Olynyk

Department of Environment, Canadian Parks Service:

Mike Greco
Nick Coomber

STUDY TEAM AND CONTACTS FOR BACKGROUND REPORTS, 1989.

Project planning and management:

J.S. Peepre and Associates
Jackson and Johnson Heritage Research & Consulting Ltd.

Subconsultants for Background Report:

Norm Easton, N.A. Easton and Associates
Nancy MacPherson, MacPherson Research and Consulting Ltd.
Kate McEwen, Northern Biomes Ltd.
Hector MacKenzie, Mountain and River Expeditions Ltd.
Karen McKenna, Vegetation Mapping
David Murray, Terrain Mapping
Daniel T'len, Linguist

Members of the Ta'an Kwach'an Band including:

The late Chief George Dawson
Irene Adamsom
Dennis Smith
Frances Woolsey

APPENDIX 2: FEDERAL MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Appendix 2 is taken from *Natural Resource Development in Yukon: Requirements, Procedures and Legislation*, Northern Affairs Program, Department of Indian Affairs Northern Development, Dec. 1989. The information was current as of early 1990, but it does not include any pending new legislation or procedures that may be changed after a land claims agreement.

DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

	Authority						
	Land Use Permit	Water Use Authorization or Licence	Drilling Authority	Land Tenure Agreement or Licences	Timber Permit	Quarrying Permit	Prospecting Permits
Airstrip	●	● *		● *		● *	
Cottage lot				●	● *		
Trail, road, highway	●	● *		● *		● *	
Hydro-electric development	● *	●		●			
Lumbering	● *	● *		● *	●		
Mine development and operations	●	●		●			●
Mineral exploration	●	● *					●
Oil & Gas operations:							
Offshore exploration well			●	● *			
Onshore exploration well	●	●	●			● *	
Pipeline	●	●		●		●	
Production well (onshore)	●	●	●	●			
Power line	● *			●	● *		
Research project	● *	● *					
Resort		● *		●			
Rock and gravel quarrying	●					●	
Seismic operation (onshore)	●	● *					
Staging areas	●	● *		● *			

* May not be required

PERTINENT LEGISLATION

The following is a description of the important acts and regulations governing the actions of land use operators in Yukon.

Forests

Forest Protection Ordinance provides authority to prosecute individuals for the careless handling of open fires and the deliberate setting of fires. It also allows for the conscription of members of the general public in times of forest fire crises. A permit is required during the fire season (normally May 1 to September 30) for any open fire other than a small fire for cooking or warmth.

Territorial Timber Regulations control the harvesting of the timber resources of Yukon by requiring operators to obtain permits for cutting trees.

Lands

Canada Lands Surveys Act governs the specifications regarding methods of survey, accuracy, stakes, and plans of survey relating to all legal surveys of federal Crown land made under the instructions of, or subject to, the approval of the Surveyor General.

Land Titles Act and Regulations govern the procedures for registering, recording and transferring documents related to titled lands in Yukon, through land titles offices. The regulations specify that a land titles office be located in Whitehorse.

Public Lands Grants Act provides for the disposition of Crown lands not covered under the Territorial Lands Act or other legislation. Leasing of offshore land under the Arctic Ocean, for such purposes as construction of artificial islands, is done under this act.

Territorial Lands Act provides for the administration and protection of northern Crown lands all of which are under the direct control of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Territorial Land Use Regulations provide for the issuance of land use permits controlling all activity involving the use of heavy vehicles, establishment of large camps, extensive use of explosives and clearing of lines, trails and rights-of-way. Such activities include all well drilling, seismic operations, mineral exploration, and construction of access roads.

Territorial Lands Regulations provide procedures for the sale or lease of territorial lands and set out the applicable fees.

Territorial Quarrying Regulations govern the use of Crown owned limestone, granite, slate, marble, gypsum, loam, marl, gravel, sand, clay, volcanic ash, or stone on territorial lands in Yukon. The regulations specify lease requirements, permits, applications, fees and royalties, and other procedures.

Mining

Yukon Quartz Mining Act contains provisions similar to the Canada Mining Regulations as they concern lode (that is, bedrock) minerals in Yukon.

Yukon Placer Mining Act is similar to the Yukon Quartz Mining Act except that it concerns placer minerals (that is, those that can be washed out from sand or gravel) in Yukon.

Territorial Dredging Regulations govern the disposition of rights to dredge for minerals in the beds of rivers.

Territorial Coal Regulations govern the disposition of rights to coal in Yukon.

Mine Safety Ordinances and Rules set out standards of safety for mining operations in Yukon.

Yukon Blasting Ordinance provides standards of safety for underground blasting operations, and storage and handling of explosives.

Water

Northern Inland Waters Act and Regulations provide for the conservation, development and use of the water resources of Yukon, and for the establishment of Water Boards to licence all such water usage and waste disposal.

Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act and Regulations govern development and shipping activity in Arctic waters adjacent to the mainland and islands of the Canadian Arctic, to ensure the continuing welfare of the residents of the area, and to protect the ecological balance in water, ice and land areas.

Dominion Water Power Act and Regulations apply to any water power facilities on public lands that are the property of Canada. The legislation governs two activities: the administration of existing developments and the survey and investigation of undeveloped water power.

APPENDIX 3: WATER QUALITY TESTING PARAMETERS

The plan calls for annual water quality monitoring on the Thirty Mile. Testing would be carried out by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. The specific testing objectives and methods will be set as one of the first action priorities following designation. This Appendix outlines the general approach adopted for Canadian Heritage Rivers and includes an example of possible testing parameters.

The *Canadian Heritage Rivers System: Objectives, Principles and Procedures* (Parks Canada, 1984), sets procedures for monitoring the status of Canadian Heritage Rivers. These are expanded on in the CHRS guidelines dated January, 1990. Section 5 of the guidelines describes the procedures for monitoring designated rivers. The monitoring of designated rivers will entail the regular collection of information on the condition of their heritage and recreational resources, and their integrity. In monitoring the integrity of designated rivers, particular attention will be paid to changes in water quality. It is expected that two schedules of water quality parameters will be drawn up as a first priority of this plan. One schedule will list those parameters requiring annual measurement, and the other will list parameters requiring less frequent measurement. Monitoring will therefore include baseline information, annual monitoring and periodic assessments. These parameters will be selected from the Canadian Water Quality Guidelines of the Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers. Parameters will be selected on the basis of perceived water quality problems and threats to the heritage and recreational resources and integrity values for which each river was nominated. The schedules will be subject to the Board's approval.

Water quality parameters to be tested on the Thirty Mile will include:

Aquatic Life Parameters (See CCREM guidelines for details)

- organic parameters: pesticides, herbicides, PCB's, etc.,
- inorganic parameters: dissolved oxygen, nitrogen, phosphorus, heavy metals,
- physical characteristics: quantity, temperature, turbidity, suspended solids,
- undesirable aquatic life
- pH level

Recreational Water Quality Parameters

- bacteriological characteristics including fecal coliforms,
- aquatic plants,
- water clarity,
- floating debris, scum, etc.,
- objectionable colour, odour, or taste,
- oil or petrochemicals on water, shorelines or river bottoms.

It is proposed that the following variables be tested regularly:

Aluminum	Mercury
Mercury	Nickel
Ammonia	Nitrogen - Total Kjeldhal
Arsenic	Nitrogen - Nitrate Nitrite
Cadmium	pH
Chloride	Phosphorus
Chromium	Selenium
Copper	Silver
Cyanide	Temperature
Dissolved Oxygen	Turbidity
Iron	Zinc
Lead	Bacteriological Analysis

Longer term periodic testing of dioxins, furans, and pesticides will be carried out on a 5 year cycle.