

Fisheries  
and OceansPêches  
et Océans

03-006

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Page 1 of/de 8 (including cover)

DATE: November 14, 2003

## TO/A:

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## MESSAGE:

<div data-bbox="1003 898 1360 1180" data-label="Image"> <p>RECEIVED XK NOV 14 2003 4:05 PM MACKENZIE VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD</p> </div>
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## FROM/DE:

Name Nom	Elaine Blais, Area Habitat Biologist
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**IR Number:** 1.1.11

**Source:** Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

**To:** (1) INAC, EC, GNWT-RWED and DFO  
(2) GNWT-RWED and DFO

**DAR Section:** L Cumulative Effects

**ToR Section:**

L *Cumulative Effects* "identify other human activities that can affect those same Valued Components; [...] describe the potential combined impact of the proposed undertaking in conjunction with previous, present and reasonably foreseeable human activities"

**Request**

(1) INAC, EC, GNWT-RWED and DFO may be familiar with the land and water use pressures in different regions due to their mandated responsibilities. These departments are to respond to the following, to the extent possible:

- a. Please list all non-permit requiring activities in the area of Drybones Bay and along the shoreline of Great Slave Lake (GSL) along the proposed main winter access road, including SDC's proposed project area.

*Unknown – DFO does not track non-permit requiring activities.*

- b. Please list all known recreational use in the area of Drybones Bay and along the shoreline of Great Slave Lake along the proposed main winter access road, including SDC's proposed project area.

*DFO considers this area, originating in Yellowknife and extending along the shore to Drybones Bay, as a very busy area for recreational fishing activity. This area is along the route to the East Arm of GSL so it sees a lot of boat traffic and related camping activity. DFO does not have definite numbers of recreational anglers who use the area but it is considered to be a high use area due to its proximity to the city of Yellowknife. The population of Yellowknife continues to increase and we can only assume that the boating and fisher population is increasing as well.*

*DFO does not have any statistics on the number of winter anglers in this area of GSL but considering the areas' proximity to Yellowknife, snowmobiling activity is likely substantial and it is highly probable that*

*ice fishing will occur as well. A winter road into the area may also increase sport fishing activity.*

- c. Please list all known traditional or subsistence use in the area of Drybones Bay and along the shoreline of Great Slave Lake along the proposed main winter access road, including SDC's proposed project area.

*DFO, Fisheries Management Branch does not gather statistics on Aboriginal fishing activity in the area. Generally, we are aware of food fishing in Yellowknife Bay by the Dene of the area. In addition, there were approximately 33 non-Dene domestic fishers licenced this year to fish in area IV (see attached map).*

*DFO considers Yellowknife Bay to be a relatively high use area for the Aboriginal food fishery and domestic fishing activity.*

- d. How, if at all, are these activities being tracked by your department?

*Statistics on the numbers and catch of the Aboriginal fishery are not tracked. The numbers of licences issued to domestic fishers is tracked and their catch is reported at the end of the season. These data have not been summarized.*

- e. What level of use is noted in the Drybones/Wool Bay area? Please use indicators (i.e. fish harvested per year or person days of use), if available.

*DFO considers the area to be a high use area due to its proximity to Yellowknife, however statistics are not available.*

- f. What trends in use levels, if any, have been noted for the activities identified in questions non-permit requiring activities and recreational and traditional land uses?

*There is not enough information to document trends.*

(3) GNWT-RWED and DFO may be familiar with the commercial land and water use pressures due to their mandated responsibilities. These departments are to respond to the following, to the extent possible:

- a. Please provide an inventory and forecast of commercial fishing and tourism in the area of Drybones Bay and along the shoreline of Great Slave Lake along the proposed main winter access road, including SDC's proposed project area.

*Commercial fishing:*

*The Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation (FFMC) operates a summer receiving station at Wool Bay. The fishing catch from Area IV of Great Slave Lake (GSL) is delivered to this station where it is graded and packed on ice and shipped by boat to Yellowknife, by road to Hay River and on to southern markets. The commercial gillnet fishery harvests lake whitefish, lake trout, inconnu, walleye, and northern pike*

*from Area IV. This fish management Area includes much of the North Arm of GSL, including the developer's area of operation. Approximately, four whitefish boat operators and ten skiff operators fished in Area IV last summer (2002). We do not track the particular locations where these boats fish, however the Drybones Bay area is important for skiff fishermen who tend to stay off the open lake especially in the fall. The harvest statistics for GSL, including Area IV for 2002/03 are attached. There are some fishermen who continue to fish in Area IV in the winter. They are responsible to deliver their catch to the Hay River FFMC fish plant or sell their catch themselves in the Yellowknife area. These fishermen may use the Drybones Bay area during the winter.*

*Yellowknife Bay is closed to commercial fishing (see attached map).*

*The Yellowknife Bay area is important to tourist operators. There are 10 outfitters licenced by the GNWT – RWED whose area of operation for sport fishing tours includes the developer's area of operation. The outfitters may or may not actually guide trips to the proponent's exploration area. DFO does not have specific information pertaining to each outfitter. Some may head to the East Arm; some northward in the North Arm. DFO advises GNWT – RWED on operating areas for outfitters who include sport fishing in their tours. RWED likely has a list of all tourism outfitters such as Northern Lights.*

**IR #: 1.1.18**

**Source: MVEIRB**

**To: (1) Coast Guard**

**DAR Section: L Cumulative Effects**

**ToR Section:**

*L Cumulative Effects: "identify other human activities that can affect those same Values Components...describe the potential combined impact of proposed undertaking in conjunction with previous, present and reasonably foreseeable human activities..."*

**Preamble:**

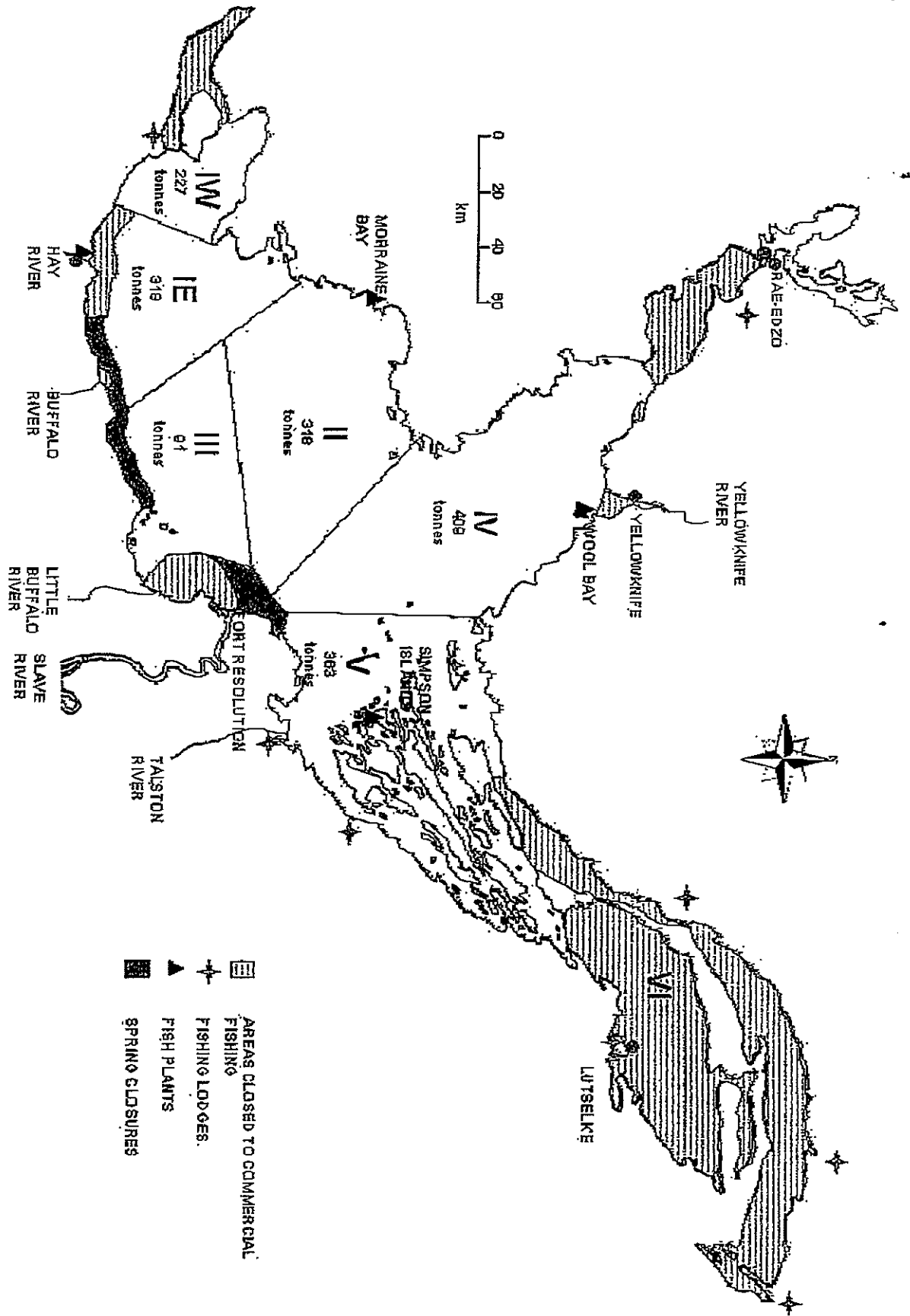
The Review Board would find information relating to the potential and existing current use of the Drybones Bay. Information already on the public registry suggests increasing land use pressures. More information is needed about commercial and private boats/vessels, snowmobiles and population trends given the proximity of Drybones/Wool Bay area to the City of Yellowknife.

**Request:**

- (1) The Coast Guard is requested to provide the number of registered commercial and private vessels in Yellowknife for 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000.

*Vessels are registered in Canada by Transport Canada's Ship Registry. Canada Customs and Revenue Agency holds the files on licensed vessels (most of which are typically less than 20 metres in length and used solely for recreational purposes). Owners of recreational vessels can choose to register their vessels and would follow the process outlined by Transport Canada Ship Registry.*

*Transport Canada can be reached toll free at the following phone number (888) 463-0521. Customs can be reached toll free at (800) 461-9999 or locally at 920-6606.*



Great Slave Lake Harvests by Administrative Areas  
November 1, 2002 to October 18, 2003

Area	Species	Quota (Rnd Kgs)	Winter Harvest (Rnd Kgs)	Summer Harvest (Rnd Kgs)	Quota Year Total (Rnd Kgs)	Quota Remaining (Rnd Kgs)	
1 West	Lake Whitefish	227300	134197	98711	230908	-3608	
	Lake Trout		4383	8802	13185		
	Northern Pike		35182	8085	43247		
	Inconnu		1546	1152	2698		
	Walleye		3482	188	3670		
	Marla		5288	2232	7530		
	Mullet		372	1	373		
	Total		184440	117171	301611		
1 East	Lake Whitefish	318200	47608	155220	202828	115372	
	Lake Trout		2916	28505	31421		
	Northern Pike		3603	1055	4658		
	Inconnu		2589	5084	7673		
	Walleye		38	1573	1811		
	Marla		13840	16009	29849		
	Mullet		1	203	204		
	Total		70395	207849	278044		
II	Lake Whitefish	318200	4627	66083	70720	247480	
	Lake Trout		200	6259	6459		
	Northern Pike		14	2763	2777		
	Inconnu		63	393	456		
	Walleye		0	345	345		
	Marla		669	7499	8368		
	Mullet		0	88	88		
	Total		5773	83440	89213		
III	Lake Whitefish	91000	13000	29801	42801	48199	
	Lake Trout		687	198	883		
	Northern Pike		780	2843	3623		
	Inconnu		14990	2541	17531		
	Walleye		4	820	824		
	Marla		3161	103	3264		
	Mullet		1128	0	1128		
	Total		33750	38404	70154		

**Great Slave Lake Harvests by Administrative Areas  
November 1, 2002 to October 18, 2003**

Area	Species	Quota (Rnd Kgs)	Winter Harvest (Rnd Kgs)	Summer Harvest (Rnd Kgs)	Quota Year Total (Rnd Kgs)	Quota Remaining (Rnd Kgs)
IV	Lake Whitefish	400100	14578	196298	210876	198224
	Lake Trout		0	8662	8662	
	Northern Pike		1316	15433	16749	
	Inconnu		1085	4111	5196	
	Walleye		0	1454	1454	
	Maris		0	9585	9585	
	Mullet		0	2676	2676	
	<b>Total</b>			<b>16959</b>	<b>236219</b>	
V	Lake Whitefish	363800	24135	5646	29781	329646
	Lake Trout		386	9787	4173	
	Northern Pike		4809	1270	6079	
	Inconnu		33376	109	33485	
	Walleye		85	3513	3598	
	Maris		11	0	11	
	Mullet		280	0	280	
	<b>Total</b>			<b>63082</b>	<b>14325</b>	
All	Lake Whitefish	1727400	238145	549769	787914	935313
	Lake Trout		8572	54211	62783	
	Northern Pike		45884	91449	77193	
	Inconnu		53629	13380	67019	
	Walleye		3609	7993	11602	
	Maris		22979	35428	58407	
	Mullet		1781	2668	4749	
	<b>Total</b>			<b>374399</b>	<b>695208</b>	

\* Note: the Area 5 quota is for whitefish and lake trout; other quotas on the lake are for lake whitefish only and all other species are considered as by-catch.