

Champagne Aishihik Traditional Territory

Trapline  
Assignment & Re-assignment  
Criteria

**Aisek Renewable Resource Council**  
*Resource Management in the  
Champagne Aishihik Traditional Territory*



Developed by the Aisek Renewable Resource Council  
In conjunction with the Champagne & Aishihik First Nations  
& Yukon Government, Department of Renewable Resources  
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## ***Introduction***

The following criteria will be used by the Asek Renewable Resource Council to assist them in making recommendations to the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations and the Minister of Renewable Resources on the allocation and re-registration of both Category 1 & 2 traplines.

Authority for this review process is found in Chapter 16 of the Champagne Aishihik First Nations Final Agreement, more specifically Sections; 16.11.1, 16.11.2, and 16.11.10.

Section 16.11.10 states: "The Council shall regularly review the use of traplines and make recommendations to the Minister and Yukon First Nations on the assignment and reassignment of all new, vacant and under – utilized traplines pursuant to criteria that it establishes in accordance with 16.6.10.6 and 16.6.10.7.

Section 16.11.10.1 states: "new and vacant traplines shall be assigned with regard to the criteria established by the Council and, to the extent possible, in accordance with 16.11.3."

Section 16.6.10.6 states each Council "may establish by-laws under the Wildlife Act, R.S.Y. 1986, c. 178, in accordance with 16.11.0, for the management of Furbearers."

Section 16.6.10.7 states each Council "may make recommendations to this Minister and affected Yukon First Nations on the management of Furbearers."

## ***Guiding Principles***

The ARRC has established the Criteria based upon the following considerations:

- Recommendations on allocation and re-registration will endeavor to keep traditional family held lines in the same family.
- Utilization of the traplines and getting people back out on the land shall be the primary intent of this Criteria.
- All required trapline activity should reflect individual situations and consider fur availability, fur prices, personal hardships, access, etc.

## ***Terms used in this document***

**Category 1 Trapline** – means those traplines identified as such in Schedule B of Chapter 16 of the Champagne & Aishihik Final Agreement and which have been designated as such by written consent of the registered trapline holder. CAFN has final authority over these lines.

**Category 2 Trapline** – means those traplines not designated as Category 1 traplines. The Minister has final authority over these lines.

**Minister** – Minister of Renewable Resources, Yukon Government.

**CAFN** – Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

**ARRC** - Aisek Renewable Resource Council

**Traditional Territory** – Champagne and Aishihik Traditional Territory

**RTC** – Registered Trapline Concession

**Criteria** – means the Trapline Assignment & Re-assignment Criteria as developed by the Aisek Renewable Resource Council.

## ***Dispute Resolution Process***

The Champagne & Aishihik First Nations Final Agreement (16.11.10.8) states that a person may refer any dispute arising out of 16.11.10 to the Dispute Resolution process under 26.4.0.

## ***Authority & Responsibility***

### Alsek Renewable Resource Council:

- Authority to make recommendations to the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations and the Minister on the management of Furbearers; and, authority to make recommendations to the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations and the Minister on the use of traplines and the reassignment of all new, vacant and under – utilized traplines.
- The ARRC will have available to the public a current list of “open lines” in order to receive applications for these lines. The period for posting of vacant lines shall be not less than sixty (60) days from the day the line was declared open.
- The ARRC will make a recommendation regarding the re-allocation of a trapline within 6 months following a line being declared vacant.
- All applications will be reviewed in accordance with the Criteria.
- The ARRC shall maintain a register of Category 1 & Category 2 traplines.
- The ARRC shall maintain a list of interested trappers or assistant trappers.

### Champagne Aishihik First Nations

- The Champagne and Aishihik First Nations has final allocation authority for Category 1 Traplines.
- Additional criteria for the allocation of Category 1 traplines may be established by the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations.

### Yukon Government

- The Minister of Renewable Resources has final allocation authority for Category 2 Traplines.
- The department will provide a current list of registered trapping concessions for review to the ARRC 90 days in advance of the review date, which shall be April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

## ***Under - Utilization***

- A trapline will be considered under-utilized if the concession holder cannot demonstrate any reasonable effort to improve upon his trapline by way of trapping, trail or cabin development in any three (3) year period of the five (5) year term.
- The ARRC will consider Assistant trapper activity on a registered trapping concession as the activity of the registered holder for the purpose of this Criteria.
- The ARRC will encourage and assist RTC holders in finding and using assistant trappers where the concession holder does not wish to utilize the line for a period of time.
- The RTC holder is responsible for the management of his/her line, and as such and in order to ensure the integrity of the line, no RTC holder may allow the use of an assistant trapper for more than three (3) years of any five (5) year term without the review and approval of the ARRC and the Final Authority for that trapline.
- If a trapline has not been utilized for a period of five (5) consecutive years the ARRC will recommend that the line be re-assigned to a). Another capable and qualified member of the same family or b). Another capable and qualified individual.

## ***Grace Period***

The criteria developed by the ARRC will come into effect on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1999. In order to allow all trappers fair opportunity to comply with the new guidelines, recommendations on individual traplines will not be made until April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001. Each year however, the ARRC will be reviewing the activity of each trapline and making suggestions to that trapper if the line is under-utilized. After April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001, all under-utilized traplines will be reviewed by the ARRC and recommendations made accordingly.

## ***Amendment***

The criteria may be amended subject to consent of the parties involved prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001.

## Criteria

The ARRC will consider the following criteria when making recommendations on new, vacant or under-utilized traplines.

- Does the trapper have adequate equipment (or finances) to conduct trapping activities? *(limited finances shall not be a barrier to eligibility)*
- Does the trapper have demonstrated outdoor experience and knowledge? *(including but not limited to working as an assistant, completion of an approved trapper training course.)*
- Does the trapper meet residency requirements? *(where possible priority will be given to CAFN Traditional Territory residents and then Yukon Residents meeting the 3 year residency requirements.)*
- Does the trapper have a trapping license in good standing? *(in order to be considered an applicant must have a trapline license in good standing.)*
- Can the trapper demonstrate activity in the 3 years of the 5 year term? *(shall consider fur prices, access to trapline, activity by assistant trapper shall be considered the activity of the trapline holder, special mgmt or conservation concerns shall be reflected, age limitations – elders shall be given special consideration)*
- Has the trapper demonstrated development activity in the last 5 years? *(development activity shall include construction on line cabins and trail development.)*
- Does the trapper have a recorded fur harvest? *(personal use of fur harvest shall be considered as fur harvest, the trapper will be required to provide a personal records of fur harvest in addition to the records maintained by YTG)*
- What access area is the trapline located?
  - AREA A – Easy Access
  - AREA B – Moderately Difficult Access
  - AREA C – Difficult Access
- Is the trapline a family held trapline? *(Wherever possible Category 1 & 2 traplines shall be kept in the family)*
- Does the trapline holder allow assistant trappers on the line? If not, will the trapline holder consider allowing an assistant trapper on his/her line?