

Year One Highlights Yukon Water Strategy Implementation

July 2015

Water for Nature, Water for People: Yukon Water Strategy and Action Plan was released in June 2014. The Yukon government is investing \$3.35 million over three years to deliver on the actions identified. Here are some highlights from the first year of implementation...

Better Understand and Manage Yukon's Groundwater

- Hired a Hydrogeologist.
- Held a groundwater workshop for managers.
- Added four wells to the long-term network.
- Collaborating with the University of Calgary on a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada oil and gas research project.

Promote the Sustainable Use of Water

- Promoted operational use of the Canadian Wetlands Classification System for Yukon government projects.
- Initiated planning for a Yukon wetland policy as well as a placer-specific framework for wetlands reclamation.

Improve Water Management Programs

- Hosted inaugural Yukon Water Forum with over 70 water managers and specialists.
- Examining the effectiveness of the *Waters Act* and *Waters Regulation* as part of the Mine Licensing Improvement Initiative.
- Enhanced flood forecasting by updating computer-based models for Ross River, Mayo, Upper Liard and Southern Lakes.

Maintain/Improve Access to Safe Drinking Water

- Reviewed and researched water use, costs and conservation.
- Funded and supported the Yukon Water and Wastewater Operator Training Program.
- Plan implemented to modernize drinking water system inspections.

Improve the Sharing of Information About Yukon's Water

- Delivered water presentations to Yukon schools during Canada Water Week.
- Enhanced water data management capabilities by upgrading software, training personnel and developing protocols and procedures.
- Made improvements to YukonWater.ca and the Waterline online registry for water users.

Plan for Water Needs Now and in the Future

- Added six hydrometric stations and three water quality sites to our networks.
- Upgraded 23 hydrometric stations with real-time telemetry.
- Expanded the Radarsat satellite imagery acquisition and enhancement program.
- Initiated a research study on the Dempster Highway on climate change impacts on the hydrological regime.



Visit YukonWater.ca for more information!

Yukon
Government