



# Aboriginal Hunters




## Hunting along the Dempster Highway

**1** If you are a Yukon First Nation person and your Traditional Territory does NOT include the Dempster Highway...

 You may hunt for subsistence west of the highway, north of km 285, with written permission from the Vuntut Gwitchin.

 You may hunt for subsistence west of the highway, south of km 218, with written permission from the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in.

 You cannot get permission to hunt for subsistence east of the highway, or west of the highway between km 218 and km 285, because these are Traditional Territory overlap areas.

- You may hunt anywhere along the Dempster Highway on public land outside the 500 metre safety zone, if you obtain a Yukon hunting licence and follow the laws that apply to licensed hunting.

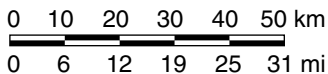
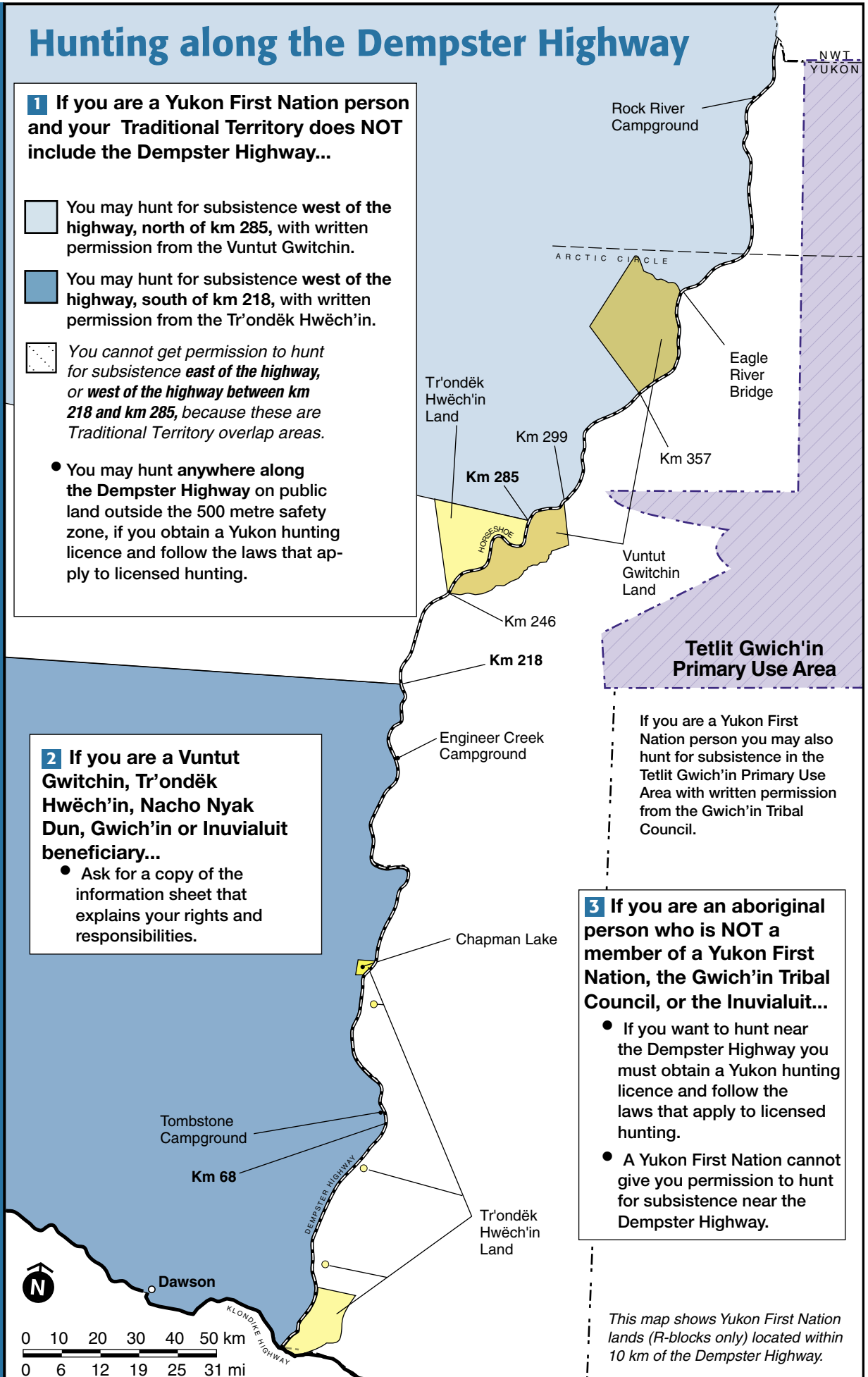
**2** If you are a Vuntut Gwitchin, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, Nacho Nyak Dun, Gwich'in or Inuvialuit beneficiary...

- Ask for a copy of the information sheet that explains your rights and responsibilities.

**3** If you are an aboriginal person who is NOT a member of a Yukon First Nation, the Gwich'in Tribal Council, or the Inuvialuit...

- If you want to hunt near the Dempster Highway you must obtain a Yukon hunting licence and follow the laws that apply to licensed hunting.
- A Yukon First Nation cannot give you permission to hunt for subsistence near the Dempster Highway.

*This map shows Yukon First Nation lands (R-blocks only) located within 10 km of the Dempster Highway.*





# Laws that apply to ALL caribou hunters on the Dempster Highway from km 68 to the NWT border

## 500 metre safety zone

You must move at least 500 metres off the Dempster Highway before you shoot at caribou.

## Annual migration closure

The Dempster Highway will be closed to all caribou hunting for one week each fall when the Porcupine Caribou Herd first begins to migrate across the highway. The closure applies within 8 km of either side of the highway. Dates will be announced in local media.

## Restrictions on snowmobile use

You cannot use snowmobiles to hunt caribou near the Dempster Highway until the ground is frozen and covered with snow. This restriction applies within 8 km of either side of the highway. It will be lifted each fall when conditions are right, and will be announced in local media. To protect wildlife habitat and prevent disturbance to the animals, off-road use of other vehicles is prohibited year round.

## Hunting for subsistence

Hunting for subsistence means harvesting food for yourself, your family and for ceremonial purposes in your own Traditional Territory, or in another First Nation's Traditional Territory with their written consent.

When hunting for subsistence you can harvest male or female animals at any time of year, with no bag limits, subject to the laws of the affected First Nation.

Your subsistence hunting rights may be limited by laws set in consultation with First Nations for the purpose of conservation, public health or public safety.

## Public safety

Shooting Porcupine caribou from the highway is unlawful because it is dangerous. If you shoot from the highway you may be firing in the direction of hunters who have moved 500 metres away and are now standing on the other side of the caribou. Please check the landscape behind your target before you shoot to make sure no one is in your line of fire.

In the interest of public safety, please do not:

- hunt in a way that would put people at risk,
- hunt in a way that is likely to cause damage to personal property, or
- carry a loaded firearm in or on a vehicle, including a snowmobile. You can carry a loaded firearm in a boat.

## For more information contact:

- **Your First Nation**
- **Council of Yukon First Nations**  
11 Nisutlin Drive, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 3S4  
Phone: (867) 393-9200; Fax: (867) 668-6577
- **Porcupine Caribou Management Board**  
Box 31723, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 6L3  
Phone/Fax: (867) 633-4780
- **Department of Environment**  
Box 2703, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6  
Phone: (867) 667-3092; Fax: (867) 393-6213

*This is not a legal document. It is a summary prepared to help you understand the basic rules. For more detail consult the Umbrella Final Agreement, the Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement, First Nation Final Agreements and the Yukon Wildlife Act.*