

**Southeast Yukon Proper Land Use Society**  
P.O. Box 505 Watson Lake Yukon Y0A 1C0  
Tel/fax: 867-536-7597 email: [yukonplus@yahoo.ca](mailto:yukonplus@yahoo.ca)

June 9, 2005

To: Robin Sharples

**Re: PLUS response to the Fire Salvage Project for False Creek and Barney Lake Fires, 2004**

Dear Robin,

PLUS is appreciative of the opportunity to participate in the consultation process for this project.

The impact on the forest is the same whether the logging operation is burned trees or live trees, and this knowledge should be in the forefront of all plans. With salvage wood available, there should be no need to harvest green wood.

All bodies of water are important and there needs to be specific and appropriate buffers between them and all logging operations. The salvage plans propose that logging in the riparian zone may be done; we suggest there are no circumstances where that would be acceptable.

It is noticeable that there is no reference in the Barney Lake proposal of the Coal River Special Management Agreement, nor does the location appear on the maps. The map needs to be updated in order to mark an acceptable buffer between the SMA and the Barney Lake Operating Units.

Access is problematic to the integrity of the forest and wildlife whether the trees are dead or alive. All salvage logging in these areas should be done in the winter season to minimize damage to the forest environment.

The Forestry Management Branch has set a requirement that only stands that have trees with an average height of over 17 metres will be logged. Area 1 in the Barney Lake proposal ought to be removed as there are no such stands in evidence. The idea of 15 km of road access to this area makes it even less feasible.

A reminder that the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Boreal Standard states that all harvest blocks need to have at least 25% retention and that retention

must be representative of size, species and condition (burned; unburned) of the trees in the stand.

Thank you again for this opportunity to have some input into a proposal that directly affects our community and its environment.

Our organization is very much in favour of development in our area, but must re-iterate that we expect that development to be thoughtful and sustainable and to consider the needs and desires of all the people who live here.

Sincerely.

Tor Forsberg  
Executive Director  
PLUS