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Robin Sharples, M.Sc., R.P.Bio.
Environmental Assessment Coordinator
Government of Yukon
Forest Management Branch

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Dear Ms Sharples,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Quill Creek Harvest Plan.

We are encouraged to see visual impact concerns were addressed for both the Haines Highway and the Kathleen River. We also support the proposed harvest techniques and the block lay out for these areas.

We do have some concerns about the proposed cut blocks (H, I, J) in operating unit 7. These cut blocks are located in the visual corridor and are also close to the Kathleen River. The Kathleen River is used for canoeing, fishing, and hiking so visual impacts in this area are an issue. We are also concerned about possible impact on water quality due to erosion caused by timber harvesting. The Champagne and Aishihik Strategic Forest Management Plan states that the riparian corridor needs to be researched more and we are in full support of this initiative. As this is such a small percentage of the overall harvest numbers, we would recommend a withdrawal of these three blocks as a cautionary approach.

Thanks again,

Blaine Walden
Chair
Environment Committee
Wilderness Tourism Association of the Yukon