

Yukon Oil and Gas Best Management Practices

Operating Statement

**Identify problems ahead of time before they occur
Identify and implement solutions
Monitor results**

Vision

Contribute to the establishment of a viable and economic Yukon oil and gas industry by the development of Best Management Practices that will:

- **ensure the conservation of biodiversity through planning, management and implementation of oil and gas activity in such a way that the essential characteristics and functions of the environment are protected and;**
- **ensure that competitive economic and subsistence interests such as forestry, mining, wilderness tourism, wilderness outfitting, commercial fishing and trapping are considered in the planning, management and implementation of oil and gas activity.**

Goals

- **Avoid sensitive landscape features and habitats**
 - **Minimize disturbance**
- **Conserve vegetation and surface soils and maintain the thermal regime.**
 - **Conserve wildlife and fisheries habitat**
 - **Set the stage for eventual restoration**
- **Prevent the spread of non-native invasive species**
 - **Foster cooperation and communication**

Objectives

- **Reduce industry footprint, effect and cumulative impacts through the application of best practices in support of both regulatory initiatives, community initiatives and industry initiatives.**

K. Simpson, Oil and Gas and Mineral Resources Directorate, Energy Mines and Resources, Yukon Government. June 2006

- **Understand long term effects and accelerate recovery of old footprints where they exist.**
- **Plan, manage and implement oil and gas activity at a landscape level in order to protect the essential physical, chemical and biological characteristics of the environment against degradation.**
- **Integrate abiotic (climate, hydrology, terrain and soil), biotic (biological) and human use with opportunities for responsible oil and gas development.**
 - **Develop and recommend effective, practical, knowledge-based operational and planning recommendations, based on research, traditional knowledge and best professional judgment, which can be implemented when appropriate through referral and approvals processes, and which are acceptable to both government and industry.**
- **Define through research, and in collaboration with partners, thresholds for cumulative effects of development and other human activities on resources, habitat and human values, including the amount, time, and spatial arrangement of development effects.**
- **Increase control and coordination of access and increased inter/intra industry coordination.**
- **Develop and maintain a geographic information system that will track industry activities and habitat changes.**
- **Development of a Yukon Government wide data gathering and storage protocol and a central data base of landscape level ecological information that industry and other partners such as Land Use Planning Councils can contribute to at a research, environmental assessment and permitting level.**