

With headquarters in Whitehorse, it has five regional offices in Dawson City, Mayo, Ross River, Watson Lake and Haines Junction.

The branch promotes the judicious use of big game species, upland game birds, and sport fish for Yukoners and non-residents, licensing hunters and anglers and enforcing closed seasons, bag limits and other regulatory measures. It licenses and regulates trapping of fur-bearing animals, commercial propagation of wildlife, and activities of outfitters and guides.

To increase knowledge about wildlife species and provide the basis for proper management, it conducts and supports biological research and public educational programs.

**Northwest Territories.** The Fish and Wildlife Service manages the wildlife resources of the Northwest Territories, and provides opportunities for native peoples to follow their traditional pursuits of hunting, trapping, and fishing. It has headquarters in Yellowknife, three regional offices at Fort Smith, Inuvik, and Frobisher Bay, one district office at Rankin Inlet, and 25 area offices throughout the territories.

Wildlife management is carried out mainly by harvest monitoring and control. Harvest quotas are allocated by management zones. Management studies are conducted primarily to establish the quantity and seasonal distribution of large mammals, including polar bear.

Trapping is encouraged through a series of programs to assist native peoples to return to the land. Included are Trappers' Incentive Grants (a fur subsidy program based on a percentage of the season's harvest), Fur Marketing Service, and the Outpost Camp Program which provides financial assistance to groups who wish to move back to the land and live off the natural resources available through hunting and trapping.

On July 1, 1976, the service assumed responsibility for the administration of sports fishing licences in the territories. Fish and wildlife officers are appointed fishery officers for enforcement purposes. Under permit from the federal Fisheries and Marine Service, they also carry out monitoring of commercial fisheries and the testing of lakes and rivers to determine the viability of commercial operations to supply local domestic markets.

Continued hydrocarbon and mineral exploration and development, as well as the question of construction of natural gas pipelines, have resulted in greater involvement of the Fish and Wildlife Service in environmental management through participation in various federal-territorial regulatory committees. Close liaison is maintained with hunters' and trappers' associations as a link between the resource-dependent residents and the companies involved in exploration and development of non-renewable resources. Guidance has been provided to industry in conducting impact assessment studies, particularly relating to pipeline construction, and joint industry-government funding has been arranged to launch field studies of wildlife populations.

The Northwest Territories Game Advisory Council has been established to advise the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories on matters pertaining to wildlife policy and legislation. All members of the council are northern residents and represent the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, the Northwest Territories Métis Association, the Indian Brotherhood of the Northwest Territories, and the outdoor recreation industry.