



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Enhancing baseline data on forest resources and vegetation**

WHITEHORSE—A two-year \$751,000 contract for the South-Central Yukon Vegetation Inventory project has been awarded to Timberline Forest Inventory Consultants. An area of 1.38 million hectares will be mapped and analyzed in order to provide valuable information to support the growth of the forest industry while maintaining the long-term health and sustainability of Yukon forests.

"Updating the vegetation inventory in south-central Yukon ensures that the most up-to-date information is available for making sound forest management decisions," Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Brad Cathers said. "It will also make new information available for climate change researchers in the future."

A vegetation inventory is an information source that describes the amount and location of forest resources within an area, along with ecological information. A new inventory will provide Geographic Information System (GIS) data and provide for the production of a variety of mapping and analytical products.

This inventory will be used to support forest resources management planning, timber harvest planning and other initiatives and projects in the southern lakes region.

It will also be utilized for a variety of purposes by other sectors and stakeholders, including the forest industry, First Nation Governments, Wildland Fire Management, environmental managers, land management agencies, land use planning, natural resource consultants and researchers.

The project is jointly funded by the Government of Yukon and the Government of Canada. CanNor's Strategic Investments in Northern Economic Development program is contributing \$400,000 and the Yukon government is providing the remaining \$351,000.

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