



Government of Yukon

Government of Yukon » January » News Release #11-015

Newsroom

Latest news releases

News by theme

News by department
 Community Services
 Economic Development
 Education
 Energy, Mines and Resources
 Environment
 Executive Council Office
 Finance
 French Language Services
 Directorate
 Health and Social Services
 Highways and Public Works
 Justice
 Public Service Commission
 Tourism and Culture
 Women's Directorate

News by corporations
 Yukon Development
 Corporation
 Yukon Energy Corporation
 Yukon Housing Corporation
 Yukon Liquor Corporation
 Yukon Workers'
 Compensation Health and
 Safety Board

Joint news releases

Premier's News

News by date

2017 news releases
 January
 February
 March
 April
 May
 June
 July
 August
 September
 October
 November
 December

News archive



NEWSrelease

FOR RELEASE #11-015
 January 31, 2011

Yukon ushers in new era of forest management

WHITEHORSE – The *Forest Resources Act* and Forest Resources Regulation become effective today, bringing forth a new forest management model to guide the sustainable future of Yukon forests.

"The *Forest Resources Act* and accompanying regulation reflect the importance of forests to the Yukon way of life," Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Patrick Rouble said. "This legislation enables modern forest management that supports viable and sustainable forest-based industries."

The act is the first resource legislation developed since devolution and replaces the Territorial *Lands (Yukon) Act - Timber Regulation* inherited from the federal government in 2003. The legislation will steer future decision making, provide forest managers with the tools required to support long term forest health and facilitate opportunities for Yukoners to benefit from the resources present.

Included in the act and regulation are strong provisions for responsible forest stewardship through inclusive planning, compatibility with the *Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act* and a robust suite of compliance tools that forest managers and enforcement staff can utilize to ensure the continued vitality of Yukon's forests.

The act and regulation also support forest-based industries by providing modern, secure tenure opportunities and a transparent and fair allocation process. Existing licences and permits issued under the Timber Regulation will remain in effect.

To learn more about forest management in Yukon, visit www.forestry.gov.yk.ca or call the Forest Management Branch at 867-456-3999, or toll free in Yukon at 1-800-661-0408 extension 3999.

- 30 -

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