



**Date:** March 26, 2025

**Attn.:** TH Citizens

**Re.:** Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Fish and Wildlife Harvest Survey

Drin hqzq TH Citizens:

The TH Fish and Wildlife Branch is asking each TH household to consider filling out a **harvest survey form** (see enclosed paper copy or fill out online using the QR code above).

Any households with TH Citizens who spent time hunting, fishing, or gathering for subsistence over the past year (**April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025**), inside or outside the TH Traditional Territory, are encouraged to participate, as well as those *who did not do any harvesting* — we would still like to know what barriers prevented harvesting and how your household met its subsistence needs.

Information on your harvesting and subsistence needs guides and directs our fish and wildlife decision-making processes, and we rely on you and your harvest data to provide us with indicators of what is happening on the land. Harvest data and observations reported by TH Citizens are essential information that help us maintain records of:

- What species of fish, wildlife, and plants are being harvested;
- How much is being harvested, and what is needed to fulfill subsistence needs;
- The health and condition of fish and/or wildlife;
- The general areas that TH Citizens rely on for fish, wildlife, or plants; and
- Any environmental changes observed on the land.

We are making a greater effort to understand how TH Citizens are impacted by increasing hunting pressure in the TH Traditional Territory. This means that in addition to harvest **numbers**, we are asking more questions about harvest **effort** (the time you put in to harvesting). We are also asking questions about the **sharing** of meat and other subsistence foods, and the importance that plays in ensuring TH Citizens can meet their needs – even those who cannot get out on the land. We recognize that sharing is an important part of TH cultural practices, and we would like to get a better sense of how much sharing and/or receiving gifts of meat or other subsistence foods happens within the community and how

this might be changing over time in response to outside harvest pressure and increasing land use activities.

These surveys target households rather than individual TH Citizens. This is to account for the fact that many harvesting activities are done as a family, and we want to avoid any duplication in reporting of harvest effort or numbers. **Please submit one survey per household.**

Depending on how much harvesting your household did over the past year, the survey should take from 5 – 30 min to complete. To compensate you for your time, we are offering a **\$25 gift certificate (Bonanza Market)**. Be sure to include your mailing address to receive a gift certificate. This is in addition to your name being entered into the usual prize draw that we hold every year. **To increase your chances of winning one of three great prizes, be sure to list on the survey the names of all TH harvesters (aged 15 and older) in your household.**

We encourage all TH households to participate. Even if nobody in your household successfully harvested anything in the past year, we are still interested in understanding how you met your subsistence needs, the barriers that interfered with your harvesting activities, as well as any observations or concerns about the land or wildlife that you would like to share with us. This information supports informed decision making with regards to program development, management planning and communicating with our co-management partners.

Any information you provide will be kept strictly confidential, so please feel to share as much as you are comfortable with.

**UPDATE: Harvesting Wildlife in the Eagle Gold-Mayo, Yukon Region**

The Chief Medical Officer of Health says, “it is safe to harvest wildlife in the area of the Eagle Gold heap leach failure and there is no evidence animals are unsafe to eat”. The Department of *Environment’s Animal Health Unit and the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun* are asking hunters harvesting **moose and caribou north of Mayo to collect liver, kidney, muscle and incisor bar samples**. Hunters can pick up **sampling kits** at Environment district offices in Mayo, Dawson, and Whitehorse.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the survey or need assistance filling it out (in person or over the phone), please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Mähsi cho,**



**Karlie Knight**

Fish & Wildlife Manager

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