

factsheet

Wildlife Management Advisory Council North Slope

Revised as of January 2009

Enforcement

Many agencies enforce laws on the Yukon North Slope

Many different government agencies are responsible for enforcing hunting, trapping and fishing laws on the Yukon North Slope, for both Inuvialuit and non-Inuvialuit harvesters. This factsheet describes who is responsible for what.

The Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) identifies the Yukon North Slope as a special area where the conservation of wildlife, the environment and Inuvialuit traditional use are the most important things.

The IFA sets out the hunting, trapping and fishing rights of the Inuvialuit. There are also other laws that affect harvesting in the Yukon North Slope, like the federal Fisheries Act and the Yukon Wildlife Act.

The size and remoteness of the Yukon North Slope makes it expensive and difficult to enforce these laws. However, governments have agreed to share the responsibility of law enforcement.

For example, Hunters and Trappers Committees (HTCs) may make bylaws to help regulate harvesting activities in their area. If an HTC makes a bylaw for the Yukon North Slope area, it may become a regulation under the Yukon Wildlife Act. If this happens, then Yukon or Northwest Territories officers would help enforce the regulation. Royal Canadian Mounted Police can also help enforce the Yukon Wildlife Act. The bylaws developed by the HTC apply within Ivvavik National Park and are enforced.

People on the land can help

Laws are put in place to protect people, the environment and wildlife. All agencies work together to share information about what is going on out on the land so they can help protect it.

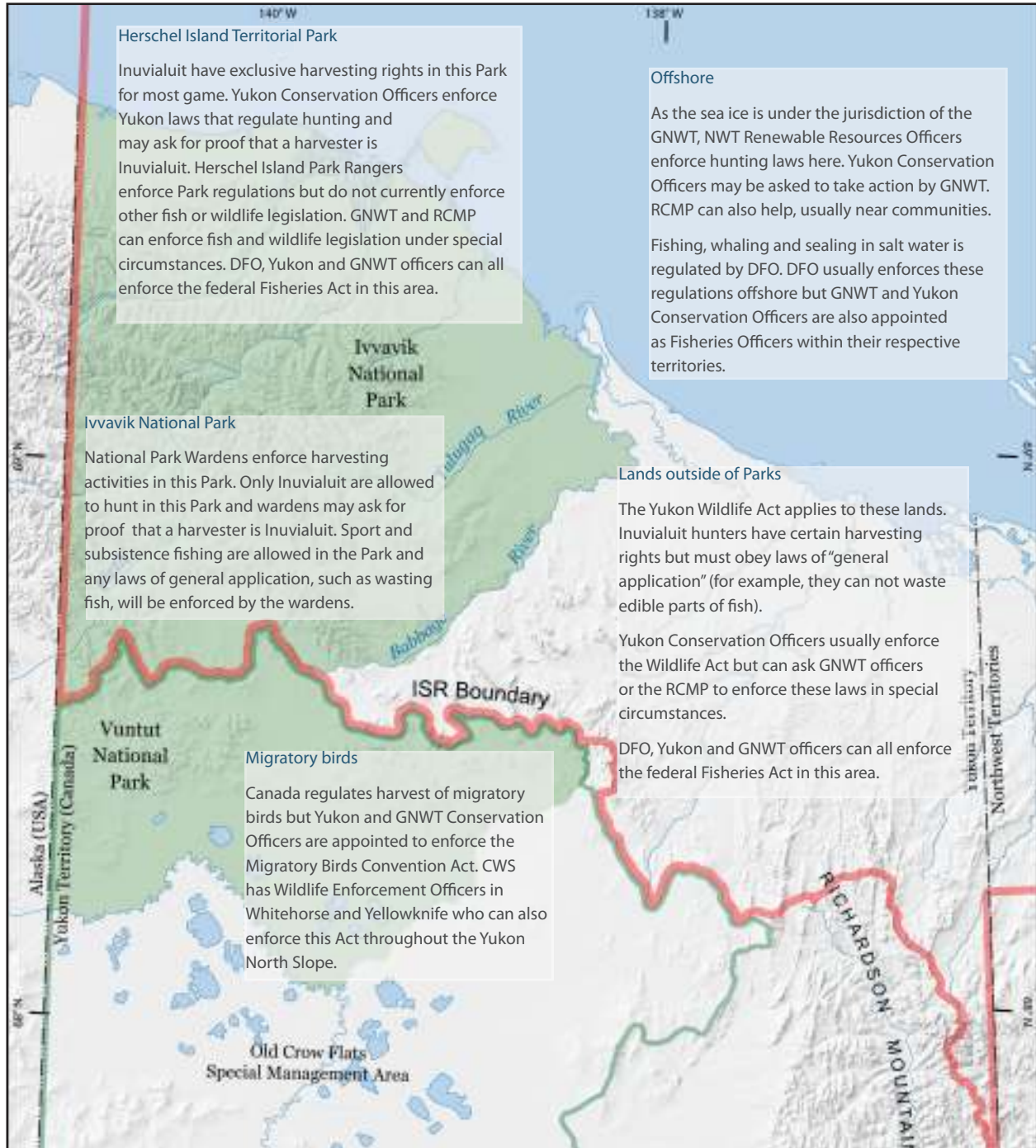
However, harvesters on the land are usually the first to know if someone is poaching or damaging the land in some way. As caretakers of the land and wildlife, harvesters can help protect wildlife for future generations by reporting their concerns to the appropriate enforcement agency.



Photo credit Aileen Horler.

The map on the back page shows who can enforce what activities and laws on the Yukon North Slope.

Enforcement on the Yukon North Slope



Acronyms CWS (Canadian Wildlife Service); DFO (Department of Fisheries and Oceans); GNWT (Government of Northwest Territories); RCMP (Royal Canadian Mounted Police)



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