8.3 Open Space

The purpose of the Open Space designation is to keep areas of vacant land for the recreational enjoyment of the public, subsistence use, personal fuelwood and commercial timber harvesting, hunting and trapping; and to ensure lands are planned and developed in an orderly manner subject to the management and mitigation of any impacts on wildlife values.

- 1. Development in the Open Space area is not permitted unless otherwise provided for in the Plan policies or by other Acts and regulations⁶.
- 2. Limited development to support cultural or public recreational use, education, habitat rehabilitation or enhancement such as establishment of **new trails** may be permitted as a discretionary use subject to public consultation and the protection or mitigation of any impacts on wildlife values, including but not limited to impacts on preferred caribou winter habitat shown on Map 4.
- 3. Hunting and trapping may continue and new trapping areas are permitted, in accordance with s.13 (1) of the *Wildlife Act*.
- 4. Other uses may be considered, subject to a public review process and an amendment to the Plan.
- 5. **Personal fuelwood harvesting** and fuel abatement activities are permitted subject to the requirements of the Forest Resources Act and Regulations.
- 6. **Commercial timber harvesting,** a large scale personal use fuelwood harvesting, and **fuel abatement activities** is permitted subject to:
 - a. the requirements of the Forest Resources Act and Regulations; and
 - b. the mitigation of any impacts on wildlife, preferred caribou winter habitat, wildlife corridors, habitat connectivity and recreation values.
- 7. For timber harvesting, **existing access** should be used where possible and the use of established recreational trails should be avoided. If a recreational trail is used or disturbed for timber harvesting, the trail must be rehabilitated by the proponent.
- 8. Timber harvesting activities should be integrated with fire abatement objectives and programs.

⁶ If there is a claim in good standing granted through the Yukon Quartz Act and regulations or Yukon Placer Mining Act and regulations, that right has to be respected but the right also has to respect the planning regimes that have been put in place.