

YUKON CHIEF **Medical Officer** OF HEALTH

Date: April 11, 2025

RE: Fishing activities in South McQuesten River

As a consequence of the ongoing situation related to the Eagle Mine failure, the Chief Medical Officer of Health has been asked for recommendations related to the fishing in the South McQuesten River.

After discussions with other Yukon government departments, it is likely that fish in the South McQuesten are arriving from other waterways rather than having wintered in Haggart creek. Short-term fish toxicity would result in dead fish – I advise not to consume these. Potential long term health risks due to the bioaccumulation of contaminants from fish consumption will require more time to understand and address.

Therefore, I have no information at this time that would lead me to recommend restrictions of fishing activities or fishing consumption from the South McQuesten River.

At this time, I continue to recommend:

- Avoid consumption of fish that are already dead or appear unwell, and
- As a precaution, avoid consumption of fish from Haggart Creek, due to the instability of the ongoing situation at the mine.

Original signed by

Sudit Ranade
Chief Medical Officer of Health
Yukon Territory