



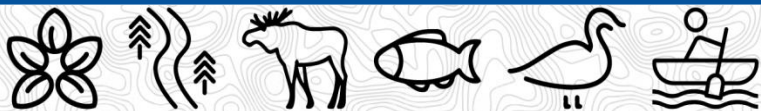
MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION

COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

Boozhoo!

ALL SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

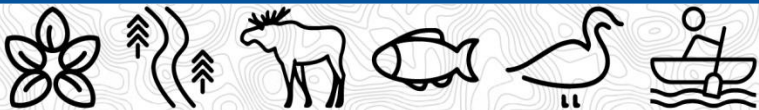
MFFN Community Access Road Project Update
March 2022





Refresher: What is the Project?

- Proposed All Season Community Access Road to connect to the provincial highway network through the Painter Lake Road System
- Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) is the Proponent—or owner of the Project—for the provincial Environmental Assessment and federal Impact Assessment
- The Community Access Road Project does not include a road to the Ring of Fire. It is also a separate to the Northern Road Link Project.

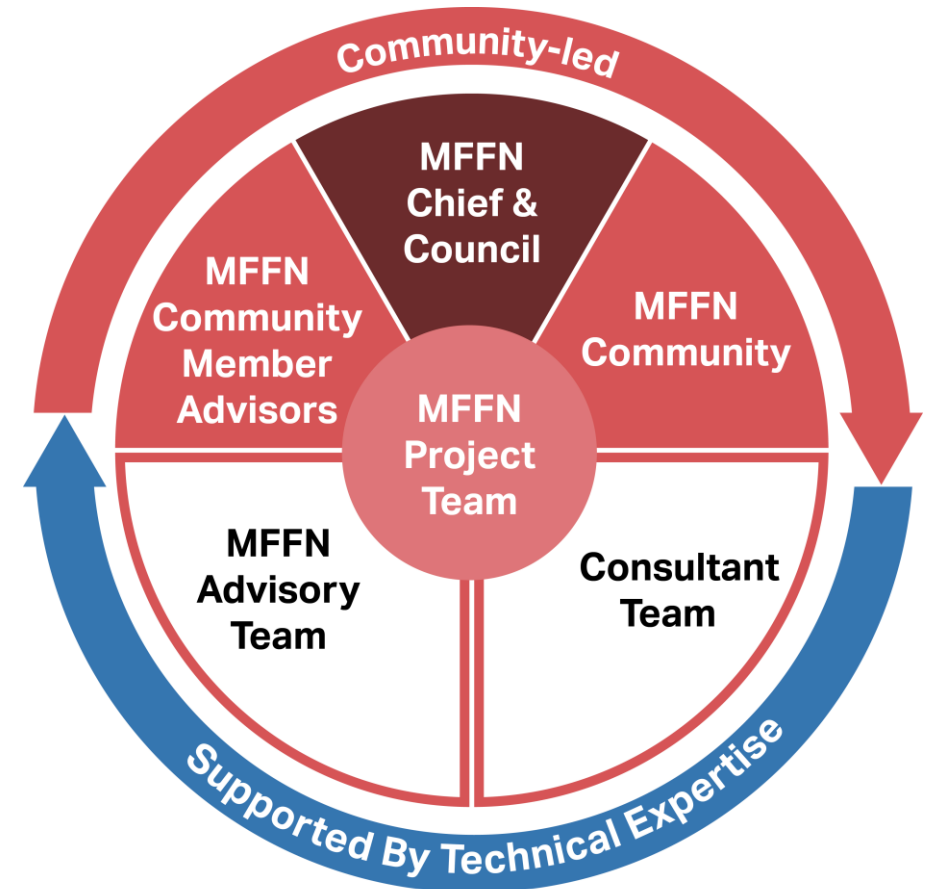




Project Team Introductions

- Lawrence Baxter, Senior Community Member Advisor
- Bob Baxter, Senior Community Member Advisor
- Jack Moonias, Community Member Advisor
- Qasim Saddique, Project Director
- Jennifer Bruin, Technical Advisor

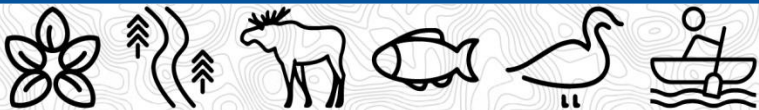
Don McKinnon, Consultation Co-Lead, Consultant is helping present today





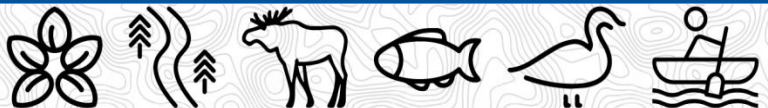
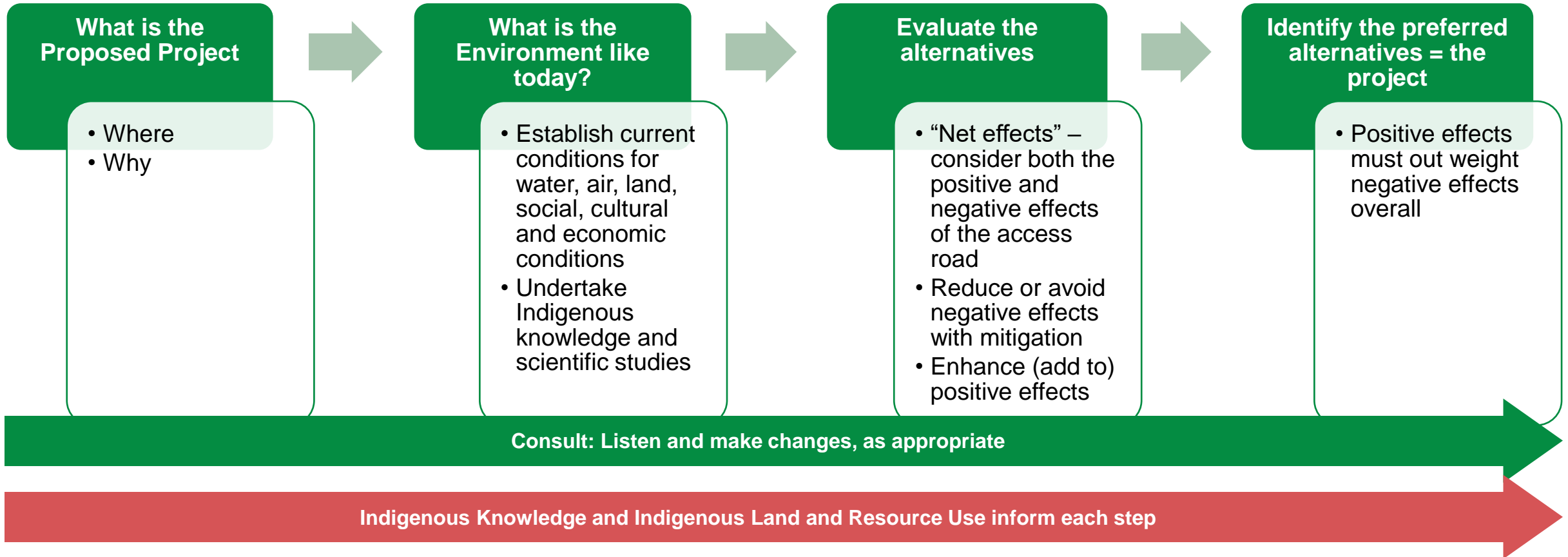
Congratulations!

- Congratulations on reaching a new milestone and all the hard work completed so far—the Terms of Reference was approved by Ontario and MFFN has officially started the Environmental Assessment for the Community Access Road.
- The Terms of Reference was approved October 8, 2021
- The Environmental Assessment started October 29, 2021
- This is a huge accomplishment!





A Closer Look at the Environmental Assessment





Environmental Assessment Schedule

Fall 2021 – Winter 2022	Oct 29 th , 2021	Spring – Summer 2022	Fall – Winter 2022	Spring – Summer 2023	Fall 2023 – Winter 2024	Summer 2024*	Spring 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Milestone: Notice of Commencement of the Environmental Assessment (EA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Milestone: Notice of Commencement of the Environmental Assessment (EA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Milestone: Effects Assessment Methodology Consultation / Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Milestone: First IC Workshop (Validate IK, Initial ATRI Effects)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Milestone: Second IC Workshop (ATRI Effects Assessment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Milestone: Preferred Route Determination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Milestone: Draft EA / IS Published for Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Milestone: Final EA / IS Submitted to IAAC / MECP



*Timing (Tentative)

June 31, 2022: Deadline for Indigenous Knowledge input from Indigenous communities





2021 Field Study Programs (started and ongoing)



Air Quality Monitoring



Bats
(completed)



Remote Camera Program



Fish and Fish Habitat



Vegetation, Physiography
and Peatlands



Surface Water



Caribou (*Atigwag*) Collaring





Winter Field Study Programs



Furbearers (e.g., *Makwa'ang*)

Ground Track Survey
(started and ongoing; 2 trips
between January – February
2022)



Ungulates (Caribou and Moose; *Atigwag and Moozoog*)

Aerial Winter Survey (started and ongoing;
January – March 2022)

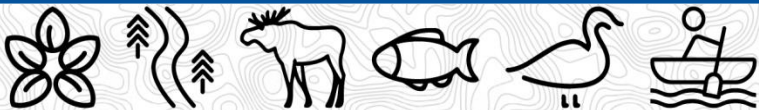


Air Quality Monitoring Maintenance (February 2022)



Wolverine (*Wishkobishag*) Hair Snag

(started and ongoing; 5 trips
between February and May 2022)





Field Studies Early Findings

- The Project area crosses multiple watersheds and approximately 100 or more waterbodies. These typically drain towards James Bay.
- Generally, groundwater is not that far below the ground surface and is found zero to five meters below the ground.
- We have seen Caribou in herds of three to twelve in the Local Study Area. In 2018, adult females were observed with multiple calves which suggests possible twins or the mother adopting a calf.
- There are a large number of grey wolves in the study area, but their populations fluctuate based on available prey.



More field study findings will be shared with you!





Your Input Helps Shape Field Programs

- Our Field Program Discussion Guides ask for input to help shape field programs before they start
- We are looking for your input on field programs—we will share a link to a survey after this meeting with maps and field program questions

Did You Know?

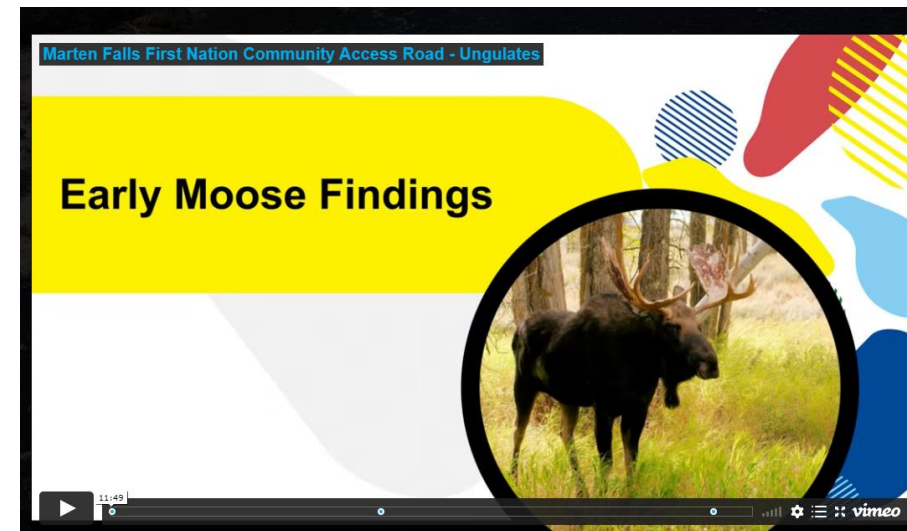
Between February 1 – March 30, 2022, we are paying \$80 for beaver carcasses. Contact us if you have any!





Valued Component Videos

- Videos are on our website describing topics being studied, (also known as ‘valued components’), how they are being studied and why they are important:
 - Groundwater
 - Vegetation (e.g., *Okikatik*)
 - Surface Water, Fish and Fish Habitat (e.g., *Okaas*, *Nameh*)
 - Ungulates (Caribou and Moose; *Atigwag* and *Moozoog*)
 - Furbearers
 - Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases
 - More to come!



Visit
<http://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca/study-plan-multimedia-showcase/>







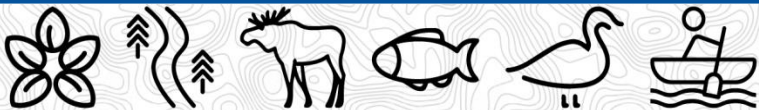
Field Support Staff Experience



"I was given the opportunity to learn multiple new skills and gain knowledge during the program. Knowledge about plants, trees, soil, and skills for figuring out how to extract soil or tell the difference between similar plants and moss. I learned about bat detectors, observed experts investigate caribou corpses, how to conduct a ground depth probe check, and how to use a GPS and communications device.



The best part for me was the caribou mortality investigation because it was my first time doing one. It was fascinating trying to figure out what was the cause of death and seeing the skeletal frame of the animal."





Examples of What We Will Consult and Engage on During the Environmental Assessment

What are your cultural protocols and how would you like to be informed / consulted and engaged?

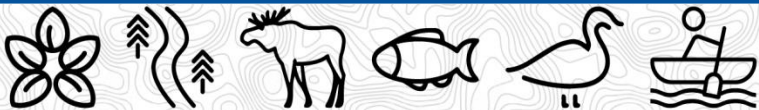
What do you think about the planned field studies?

What do you think about the results of the field studies?

Are there impacts on Aboriginal or Treaty Rights we should consider?

What are you concerned about?

What do we need to think about when planning the road?

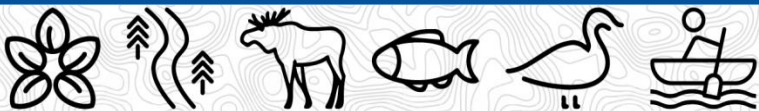




Planned Consultation and Engagement with Neighbouring Indigenous Communities

- Notice of Commencement of Environmental Assessment Distribution (complete)
 - Email and hard copy in English, French, Ojibway, Oji-Cree and Cree
 - Follow up phone calls
- Engagement Survey
- Outreach for economic and socio-community assessments
- Update Meetings with Communities
- Continue to engage communities regarding interest in participating in the Indigenous Knowledge Program
- Open House for Indigenous communities and interested persons (likely take place between Spring and Summer of 2022)

These are examples. More opportunities to come!





Most Active / Interested Indigenous Communities

- Aroland First Nation
- Attawapiskat First Nation
- Constance Lake First Nation
- Eabametoong First Nation
- Fort Albany First Nation
- Ginoogaming First Nation
- Kasabonika Lake First Nation
- Kashechewan First Nation
- Long Lake #58 First Nation
- Marten Falls First Nation
- Neskantaga First Nation
- Nibinamik First Nation
- Webequie First Nation

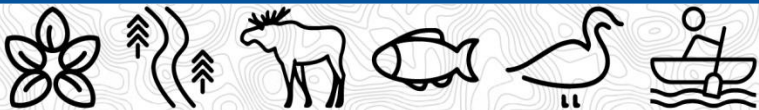




Challenges with Consultation & Engagement

These are some examples of challenges we've heard communities facing:

- Emergencies and community crises, due to the pandemic or other ongoing issues
- Inability to bring the community together for in-person events and meetings
- Not enough staff / capacity to help
- Consultation fatigue with other projects going on in the area





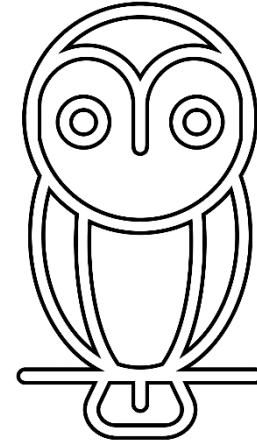
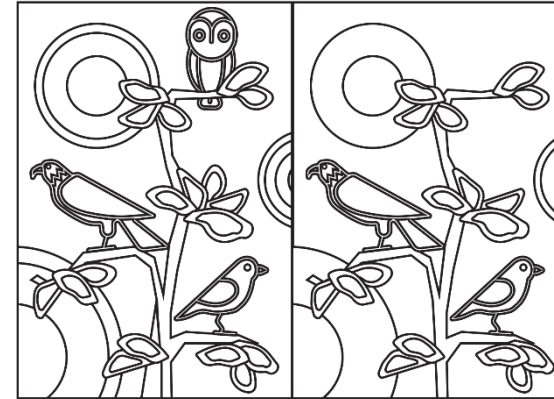
Youth Engagement Program

- Different activities for different age groups, with each session providing information on the Project and education on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers.

This program happened in MFFN in November, 2021

A session in Thunder Bay will be planned for when we can meet in-person

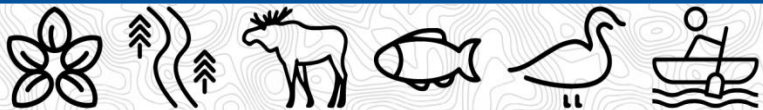
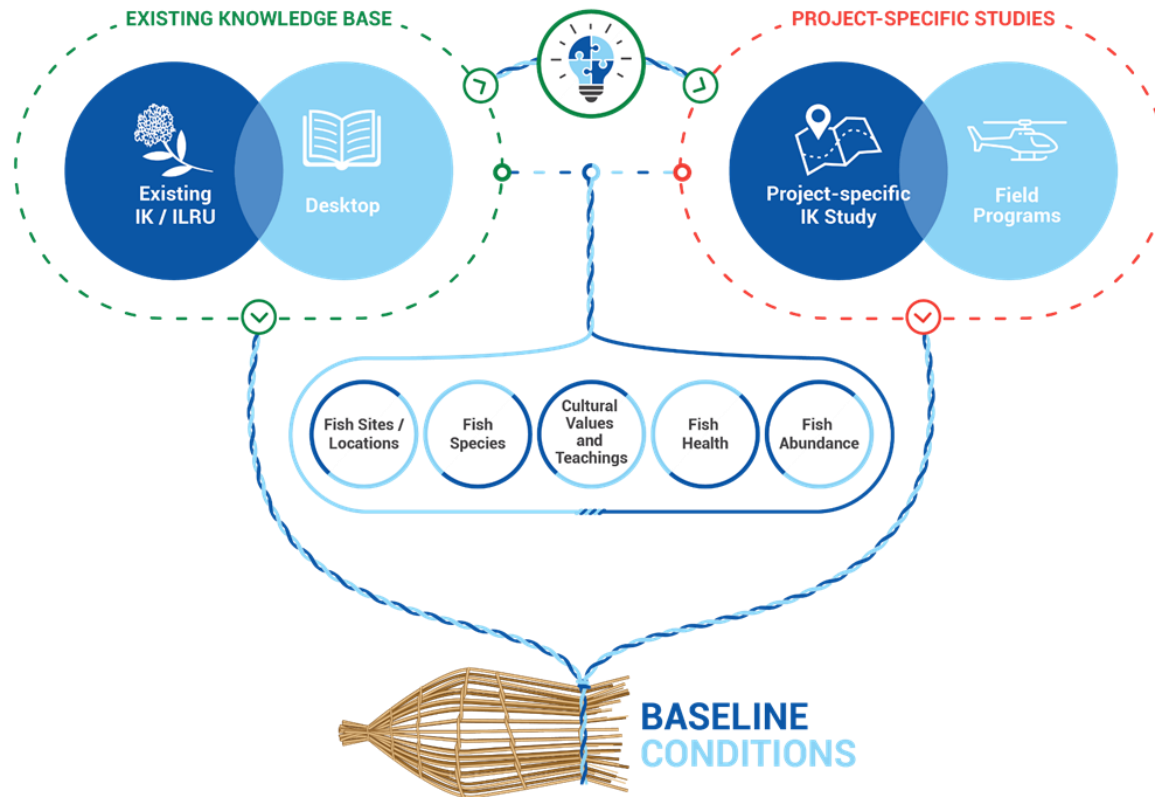
Bird Species
Can you spot all five differences?





IK / ILRU
*Indigenous Knowledge /
Indigenous Land and Resource Use*

SCIENCE





Considering MFFN's Indigenous Knowledge and Indigenous Land & Resource Use in the Assessment Process

- MFFN plays a key role in the IK/ILRU program and the assessment processes
- MFFN entered into an IK Sharing Agreement to protect and direct the use of information
- MFFN will guide the collection and sharing of MFFN's IK/ILRU information
- MFFN owns and controls MFFN's IK/ILRU information





IK/ILRU – MFFN Key Activities

To date, MFFN has:

- Prepared IK/ILRU information to confirm which Alternatives to move forward with
- Created IK/ILRU categories for collecting information (e.g., Game Trails, Fish Spawning)
- Provided previously collected IK/ILRU information to inform the early stages of the Project
- Reviewed field program site locations to identify any concerns

Key Next Step:

- Collect additional information through a Project-specific IK/ILRU Study to inform the assessment processes

Project
Specific
IK/ILRU
from MFFN
by: April
2022

