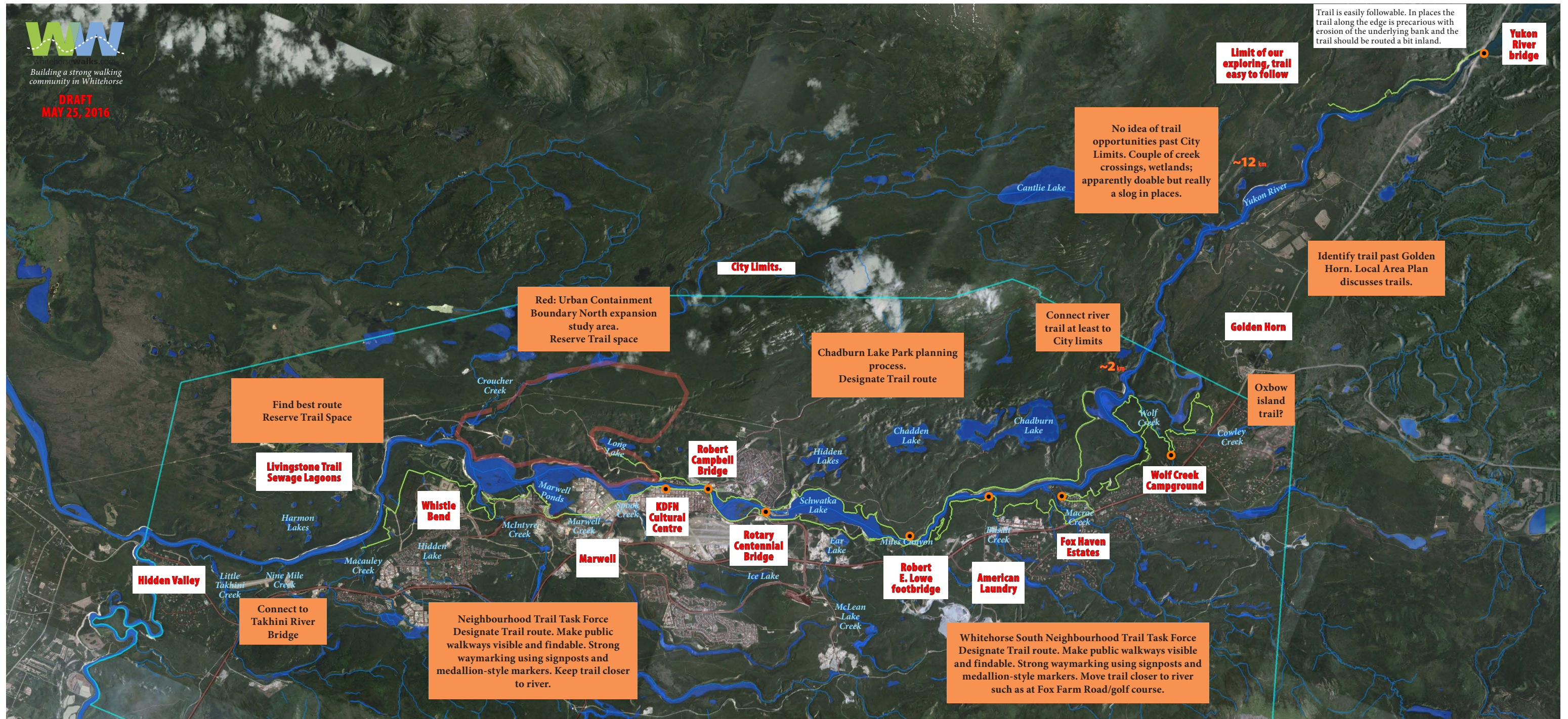


YUKON RIVER TRAIL. EXISTING SECTIONS SHOWN IN GREEN.



DRAFT
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Bodies of water. Trails. Cities on significant rivers often have walking trails alongside them. We hiked around the Isle of Man a few years ago. They needed economic development and looked to tourism. They decided to designate a Coastal Trail by identifying existing trails, and then connecting the missing pieces — at first taking the trail inland then back to the coast, then by building bridges, switchbacks and by obtaining landowner permissions to move fences. The result, *Raad ny Foillan*, is 152 km in length. We spent 11 days on the island hiking around the coastal trail.



Here on the Traditional Territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, people followed trails on both sides of the river, from Marsh Lake to Lake Laberge.

Whitehorse can create a significant long-distance trail. Would it be used? On the east side one can easily imagine making it to Grey Mountain from the Yukon River Bridge in one day; one walk from downtown to Wolf Creek Campground in a day. And as a stay-another-day attraction for those into nature and healthy living, this would be hard to beat.

To make it happen we need to start calling the bits and pieces by a formal name. Is there a First Nation name appropriate for this; a distinctive logo that can be used as signposts along the way?

Likewise, city planning processes need to recognize this trail. Due to the nature of where the trail would pass, it's not feasible to designate a specific corridor. In places we need to acknowledge the trail as a high

level of importance, such as in the UCB expansion north planning process beyond Long Lake, or the Golden Horn Local Area Plan.

East side of river, south: Here, a route would be about 35 km. Getting from the Kwanlin dün Cultural Centre to near city limits is about 18 km along official City trails. From the city limits to the Yukon River bridge a trail would pass over Kwanlin Dün land blocks. There's 5.5 km of nice trail coming from the Yukon River bridge but about 12 km of unknown route still to learn to get to the city limits, plus about 3 to get to the Existing Yukon River Trail where it meets Juicy.

West Side of river, south: From the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre the trail the trail uses 9 km of official City Trails to get to the Robert E. Lowe footbridge at Miles Canyon. With the Whitehorse South Neighbourhood

Trail Task Force starting in May 2016, this is a perfect time to choose a trail from Miles Canyon to Wolf Creek.

From Wolf Creek to the Yukon River bridge, the area will be partly examined by the trail task force, and also fall under the Golden Horn Local Area Plan.