

Tourism and Recreation Component Study Supplementary Addendum

Cartwright Junction to Happy Valley - Goose Bay Trans Labrador Highway



**JACQUES WHITFORD ENVIRONMENT LIMITED
AND
MINASKUAT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP**

**JW Project No.: NFS09308-0010
Minaskuat Project No.: M6-0010**

March 2004

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**TOURISM AND RECREATION
COMPONENT STUDY
SUPPLEMENTARY ADDENDUM
CARTWRIGHT JUNCTION TO
HAPPY VALLEY-GOOSE BAY
TRANS LABRADOR HIGHWAY**

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CARTWRIGHT JUNCTION TO
HAPPY VALLEY-GOOSE BAY
TRANS LABRADOR HIGHWAY**

PREPARED FOR:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Transportation and Works is proposing to construct a two-lane, all-season gravel surface highway from Cartwright Junction to Happy Valley-Goose Bay. This highway is Phase III of the Trans Labrador Highway (TLH) and will link the existing TLH highway sections to the east (Phase II) and west (Phase I).

The TLH-Phase III is currently undergoing an environmental assessment under both the Newfoundland and Labrador *Environmental Protection Act* and *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. A Tourism and Recreation Component Study was prepared in conjunction with the environmental assessment.

This report provides follow-up information and clarification on items identified in the supplementary deficiency statement for the Tourism and Recreation Component Study that was prepared in conjunction with the environmental assessment for the TLH-Phase III. Aspects covered in the report are:

- tourism and recreation facilities;
- trophy trout description and lodge locations; and
- contribution of the outfitting sector to the local economy.



TAKUAPEKISHTAKANSHU MISHINAIKAN

Ntshent utapan meshkananu stsheutshimaut tepentakau (WST) tshika tutamut utapan mehskananu nete tsheut tshitamutakannit Nutapineuant nuash ute pet Happy Valley - Goose Bay tsheitamutakant. Ume utapan meshkanau eukuan eukuan nishtuau (Phase III) eanishkuapekashtet ume utapan meshkanau (TLH) ishinikateu eukuan ume tshetshishtakanu eanishkuapekishtet ne utapan meshkanau nete itetshe mamit (East) mak nete itetshe tshiuettint (West) tsheshapukisseueshimutakant ume utapan meshkanau (Phase I) mak (Phase II) ishinikateu. Ume anutshish miam nantutshissentakanu ne utapan meshkanau nete kanantutshissentakant tshekuan nte ut Akamississit stsheutshimat mak nete ut Utauat stsheutshimat (CEAA). Neme eshinantutshissentakant ne utapan meshkanau, nantutshissentakanipan tan tsheishi matentakuak ne utapan meshkanau mishte mitshetitaui auentshent tsheapishtat umenu utapan meshkananu miam ntshent tshentuiuit nte nutshimit kie tshekusseht nenua shipua kie shakaikana nte nutshimit. Shash nene tshishtakanipan ne mishinaikan kie shash nene itishaimukanipan ne akamississit stsheutshimau nenu mishinaikannu nene Stshepishumua 2003.

Katshi tshishtakant ume mishinaikan itasheimuakanipan ne akamississit stsheutshimau kie tshitapatamupan ne akamississit stsheutshimau katshi tshishtakannit umenu mishinaikannu. Kie eshk eka tshitshue nasht mashten tshishueuetishutakant ne utapan meshkanau uatutakant minuat peikuau mashten tshitapakanipan nasht tshetshi eka pitteikant kie tshetshi eka nutepant tshekuan. Ne akamississit stsheutshimau (WST) tshitapatamupan nenu mishinkaikannu nenu tsheishpish apashtakannit umenu utapan meshkananu kakusseht mak kantuiuit auentshent tsheitapashtat umenu utapan meshkananu tshishtakanipan ume mishinaikan uipat shikunut Uinishku- pishum etshishtauakant, 2003.

Ntuentakanipan etitu tshetshi nantutshissentakant ume utapan meshkanau kie etitu tshetshi minu uauitakant ntshent auentshent kakusseht mak ntshent auentshent tshentuiuit nte nutshimit umenu itamutakannitshi utapan meshkananu ute tetaut mak nete mamit itetshe Labrador. Mitshet tshekuan uauitakanipan kie mitshet tshekuannu eishi kukuetshitshemunanut tshekuan ume utapan meshkanau mitshet kau tshiuenuimuakanipan aimunnu auentshent.

Umenu katshiuenuimuakanit aimunnu uiauitakannit kantuiunanut mak kakussanut nete nutshimit nte itetshe mamit Labrador umenua nashuk keuauitakanui tshekuanna eishi uauitakanipanni tshekuanna:

- Tshika mishte mitshetut akaneshaut tshetakushinit ute Labrador tsheui uapatakau nenu assinu;
- tshetshi tutakantshi eitapitik ne kauauapatakant assi;
- tan tshipa tshishat aieshkuishtakanu ume Labrador assinu tshemitshetit akaneshaut tsheui uauapatakau umenu assinu;
- tsheuauitakant tan tshipa eishi tutakanu tshetshi tshishat tutakant ne tsheitapitik tshekuan;
- tan tsheititshitakant tshetshi pittshet akaneshaut tshetshi uauapatakau nenu assinu;
- tan tshipa ishitakuan nte meshkanat;



- ntshent auentshent tshenssentakau umenu eishi pempantakanit ume tsheitamutakant utapan meshkanau; mak
- kie mak tan tsheishi nmatentakuak ne mitshetinanutshi tshetakushinit akaneshaut katak ut kie tan tsheishpish pittepanat ne shuniaut ute shtasssinat.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page No.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	i
TAKUAPEKISHTAKANSU MISHINAIKAN	ii
1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.0 RESPONSE TO GENERAL COMMENTS	2
2.1 Tourism and Recreation Facilities	2
2.2 Trophy Trout Description and Lodge Locations.....	11
2.3 Contribution of Outfitting Sector to the Local Economy.....	14
3.0 REFERENCES.....	17
3.1 Personal Communication.....	17
3.2 Literature Cited	18

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A	Tourism and Recreation Component Study Supplementary Deficiency Statement
Appendix B	Interview Guide for Survey of Outfitting Lodge Operations in South-Central Labrador
Appendix C	Revised Section 4.6.2 on Outfitting Lodge Operations in South-Central Labrador

LIST OF TABLES

Page No.

Table 2.1	Summary of Outfitter Operations in TLH-Phase III Study Area	12
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Department of Transportation and Works is proposing to construct a two-lane, all-season gravel surface highway from Cartwright Junction to Happy Valley-Goose Bay. This highway is Phase III of the Trans Labrador Highway (TLH) and will link the existing TLH highway sections to the east (Phase II) and west (Phase I).

The TLH-Phase III is currently undergoing an environmental assessment under both the Newfoundland and Labrador *Environmental Protection Act* and *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. A Tourism and Recreation Component Study was prepared in conjunction with the environmental assessment. An addendum to the study was submitted to the Minister of Environment in October 2003.

The following information is provided in response to the supplementary deficiency statement for the Tourism and Recreation Component Study issued by the Minister of Environment on March 4, 2004. The supplementary deficiency statement is provided in Appendix A. The document provides information and/or clarification on the following aspects:

- tourism and recreation facilities;
- trophy trout description and lodge locations; and
- contribution of the outfitting sector to the local economy.

Comments from the supplementary deficiency statement are presented in Section 2.0, with each being followed by the respective response. Methods describing the follow-up consultation with outfitting lodge operators are presented in Section 2.2.

Note that reference to the two proposed routes for the TLH-Phase III acknowledges a northern and southern route. The northern route is the route previously referenced as the preferred route, while the southern route is the route previously referenced as the alternative (outfitter) or A13 route.



2.0 RESPONSE TO GENERAL COMMENTS

The supplementary deficiency statement for the Tourism and Recreation Component Study indicated that further clarification was required on tourism and recreation facilities in southern and central Labrador, a description of trophy brook trout and outfitting business in central and southern Labrador. A response is provided for each of the comments. This information supplements information on tourism and recreation in central and southern Labrador, and the Labrador Straits already provided in JW (2003a; 2003b).

2.1 Tourism and Recreation Facilities

Comment 1:

The Deficiency Statement requested the proponent to provide information on the kinds of facilities that have received the major share of private sector investment and the Deficiency Statement provided two potential sources of information. The response provided does not indicate the kinds of facilities that have been initiated by the private sector. Whether the private sector has received provincial or federal government funding for those facilities is not what was expected as a response. Information on the investment in facilities will assist the proponent in addressing the following information requirements.

Response 1:

The information presented in this response supplements the information presented in Sections 3.2.4 of the Tourism and Recreation Component Study prepared by JW (2003a), and Sections 4.2.3 (which was amended to the 4.6.3 in JW (2003b) and 4.2.4 (which was amended to 4.6.4 in JW (2003b)). The information provides details on the types of tourism and recreation facilities available in central and southern Labrador, including:

- accommodations (hotels, motels, and bed and breakfasts);
- natural attractions, activities and tours;
- recreational facilities and events;
- cultural and heritage facilities; and
- shops, studios and galleries.

The information supplements the following sections of the component study:

- Table 3.2 is added to section 3.2.4 of the component study. The table provides a list of accommodations available in the study area.



Table 3.2 Accommodations in Central and Southern Labrador

Accommodation	Rating	Rates	Facilities/Amenities
Riverlodge Hotel, Mary's Harbour	**1/2	\$85 - \$95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 rooms, year-round • on banks of an excellent salmon river • dining room, lounge, TV, room service • near TLH, 9 miles from Battle Harbour
Battle Harbour Inn, Battle Harbour	**1/2	\$125 - \$175	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 1 – Sept 30 • National Historic Site • historic house (5 rooms) and three heritage cottages • dining room, craft shops nearby, meals included in room cost • tours of Battle Harbour, boat tours
The Cookhouse- Bunkhouse, Battle Harbour		\$25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 bunks and kitchen, June-September • hostel style accommodations • meals not included
The Grenfell Cottage, Battle Harbour		\$150 (4 persons) \$15 each extra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 bedroom cottage, June-September • full kitchen, dining room, sun porch, veranda • meals not included
The Issac Smith Cottage, Battle Harbour		\$120 (4 persons) \$15 each extra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 bedroom cottage, June-September • oil lamps and wood stove only • hot water and bathroom facilities • meals not included
The Spearing Cottage, Battle Harbour		\$120 (4 persons) \$15 each extra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 bedroom cottage, June-September • private, away from other buildings • meals not included
The RCMP House, Battle Harbour		\$150 (4 persons) \$15 each extra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 bedroom, June-September • full kitchen, parlour • meals not included
Alexis Hotel, Port Hope Simpson	**1/2	\$85 - \$129 (off season rates available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36 rooms year-round • restaurant, conference facilities, TV • skiing, dog-sledding, snowmobile tours • 1 km from TLH, 100 m from groomed skidoo trails
Port Hope Simpson B&B, Port Hope Simpson	**1/2	Single \$38 Double \$58 Eff. Unit \$68	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 rooms, 2 efficiency units, year-round • located base of Alexis salmon river • home-cooked meals, sitting room, TV, free coffee • store with confectionery and grocery
Cartwright Hotel, Cartwright	**1/2	Single \$82 Double \$98	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 rooms, year-round • near airport, brookside property • dining room, meeting facilities, lounge, • auto/snowmobile rentals • complimentary ride from airport
Cherrywood Corporate Suites, Happy Valley- Goose Bay	***1/2	\$99-\$149	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 suites, 1 or 2 bedroom, year-round • sat TV, fireplaces in 3 suites, laundry and BBQ, full kitchen



Accommodation	Rating	Rates	Facilities/Amenities
Al-Ving Motel, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	*1/2	\$59	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 rooms, year-round newly renovated, one of HVGB's oldest landmarks dining room, lounge, TV, air conditioning
Bradley's B&B, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	***	\$40-\$65	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 rooms, year-round breakfast included near golf course, restaurants TV and telephone, private washrooms
Davis' B&B, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	**1/2	\$40-\$60 (off season and group rates available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> breakfast included car rental/restaurants nearby TV and telephone
Goose River Lodges, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	***	\$85	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 cottages, year-round BBQ and picnic table with each playground, horseshoes 5 minutes from ferry terminal
Hotel North, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	**1/2	Rooms \$95 Suites \$125-\$145	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 36 rooms, 4 suites, year-round closest to airport breakfast included Jacuzzi's in suites, satellite TV and complimentary movies, air conditioning
Northside Motel, Happy Valley-Goose Bay		Single \$75 Double \$85 Weekly \$390-\$510	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 units, year-round individual entrances, air conditioning adjacent to restaurant, centrally located
Royal Inn and Suites, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	**1/2	Rooms \$63 Eff. Units \$74 Suites \$95-\$135	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 rooms, 17 suites, year-round breakfast included BBQ, picnic area on site located middle of business district
TMT's B&B, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	**1/2	\$25 - \$50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 rooms, year-round home-cooked meals, breakfast included TV in rooms, view of Lake Melville close to ferry terminal
The Labrador Inn, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	**1/2	Rooms \$75-\$97 Deluxe \$99-\$107 Suite \$105-\$115 VIP Suite \$150	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 73 rooms, year-round Old English Inn with modern facilities Banquet/meeting facilities Dining room, lounge Air conditioned, golf nearby
The Aurora, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	**1/2	Single \$86 Double \$98 Suite \$120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 rooms, year round near airport, seaport, TLH conference rooms, restaurant, lounge
Source: DTCR 2003.			



- Table 4.3 is added to section 4.2.3, which was amended to 4.6.3 in the component study addendum. The table provides a list of natural attractions, and related activities and tours available in the study area.

Table 4.3 Natural Attractions and Related Activities and Tours

Attraction/Activity	Highlights/Services	Season/Rates
Sunday Hill Lookout, Northwest River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • highest point overlooking Lake Melville • picnic sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spring/summer/fall
Experience Labrador, Cartwright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sea kayaking • walking/camping tours • crafting • archaeological sites • ancient rock houses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July-August (off-season tours available)
Labrador Wonderstrands Outfitting and Tours Inc., Cartwright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • camping, hiking, fishing, boating, snowmobile, dog-sled • tours to Mealy Mtns, Gannet Island/Table Bay 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round
Inuksuk Services, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • catch/release fishing on Grand River • hiking • snowmobile tours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round •
Jones Charters and Tours, Mary's Harbour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • boat travel to and from Battle Harbour • whale and iceberg watching • day charters in SE Labrador 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May–October •
Labrador Aquatic Rentals, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • boat tours and charters • customized and/or guided tours • boat, canoe, bicycles, skidoo and ATV rentals • also provide fuel, picnic/camping supplies, tents, overnight docking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round • boats \$25-\$65 (1/2 day) • canoes \$30-\$40/day • skidoos \$130-\$145/day • tours \$99-\$169 (1/2 day) • bikes \$20/day
Labrador Winter Trails, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • organization overseeing the Labrador Winter Trail System • provide advice on snowmobiling opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round
Campbell Adventure Boat Tours, Northwest River	tours to Mulligan, Upper Lake Melville, points between	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June-September



Attraction/Activity	Highlights/Services	Season/Rates
Cruise Labrador and the Viking Trail, St. Anthony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 day tall ship expedition including Labrador coast to Battle Harbour gourmet meals, 18 cabins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June-September
Labrador Air Travel, Charlottetown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> air charters for sightseeing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> year-round
North Eastern Sky Service, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> float plane charters for fishing, hunting and sightseeing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June-September
Birch Brook Trails, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> hiking to lookouts offering panoramic views of Lake Melville and Mealy Mtns maps and interpretative material available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May-October
Source: DTCR 2003.		

- Table 4.4 is also added to Section 4.2.3, which was amended to 4.6.3 in the component study addendum. The table provides a list of recreational facilities and events carried out in the study area.

Table 4.4 Recreational Facilities and Events

Facility/Event	Services/Activities	Season/Rates
Barton Hicks Memorial Hockey Tournament, Port Hope Simpson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> annual invitational hockey game 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> January
Eagle River Dart Championships, Port Hope Simpson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> weekend event for Eagle River district 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February
Labrador Sno'Blast, Port Hope Simpson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> snowmobile festival 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February
Alexis Sled Dog Race, Port Hope Simpson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sled dog race for prizes and money 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March
Easter Festival, Port Hope Simpson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> week long event sporting activities and entertainment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> April
St. Lewis Fun Fest, St. Lewis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fun and games for all ages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March
Smeltin' Derby, St. Lewis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> day of smelt fishing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March
Festival of Icebergs, St. Lewis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> two day celebration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August
5 Wing Goose Bay Winter Carnival, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> longest running winter carnival in North America International sporting competitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February
Labrador Winter Games, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 participants in 14 sporting events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March



Facility/Event	Services/Activities	Season/Rates
Sno-Break Winter Festival, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • week long event • snowmobile races and adventure tours • cross country skiing, toboggan parties, hockey, turkey bowling, smelt fishing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March
Annual Molson/Bentley's Labrador Soccer Cup, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • four day indoor soccer tournament 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May
Lake Melville Half Marathon, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • run, jog or walk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October
Labrador Canoe Regatta, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three day sporting event with concessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August
Amaruk Golf Club, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 hole golf course • club and cart rentals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$20 weekday, \$25 weekend (18 holes) • club rental \$10 • carts \$5 or \$20
Birch Brook Nordic Ski Club, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 km of groomed ski trails • log chalet and warm-up cabin • ski instruction available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December-April • \$6 day pass
Ski Mont Shana, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 trails, 2 lifts • chalet, canteen, ski rentals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 15-April 30
EJ Broomfield Arena, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round
CFB Goose Bay Recreation Centre, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gymnasium • fitness centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round
Labrador Sports Training Centre, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gymnasium • weight room • swimming pool 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round
Goose Bay Curling Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fall-winter
CFB Goose Bay Golf Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pitch and putt facility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spring-fall
Sports Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 school gymnasium • 3 tennis court • 2 soccer fields • 7 softball fields 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round
Lake Melville Rod and Gun Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round
Kinsmen Park and Playgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round
Walking trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approximately 15 km of trails throughout the town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spring-fall
Source: DTCR 2003; Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay nd.		

- Table 4.5 is added to Section 4.6.4. The table provides a list of cultural and heritage attractions and activities in the study area.



Table 4.5 Cultural and Heritage Attractions and Activities

Attraction/Establishment	Services/Activities	Season/Rates
Battle Harbour National Historic District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> restored salt fish premises and community interpretation centre, guided tours, boat charters, walking trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June-September 8-day tour originates in St. John's and includes 3 days at Battle Harbour - \$1400/double occupancy
Them Days Archive, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> archive available by appointment subscriptions, back issues and special publications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> year-round
Labrador Institute, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> collection of old photographs, toys and games, Labrador basket work, art gallery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> year-round
The Military Base Museum, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> artifacts, photos and documents profiling a country at war 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> year-round by appointment
Labrador Heritage Museum and Interpretation Centre, Northwest River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> exhibits covering trapping, International Grenfell Association, Hudson's Bay Company, Hubbard expeditions coffee, tea, muffins, gifts 68 seat theatre/programming area, temporary exhibit space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May-September \$2 admission
Movie Theatre, CFB Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> year-round
Melville Music Festival, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> workshop style format non-competitive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> April
Festival 500 Sharing the Voices, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> biennial international festival of choral music 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May
Mud Lake United Church Spring Fair, Mud Lake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> weekend of community events including supper, auction, craft and cake sale 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June
Concert in the Park, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> traditional music and foods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> July \$15
Big Land Fair, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> exhibits, crafts, agricultural contests and displays, entertainment, food, prizes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September
Labrador Creative Arts Festival, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> play performances, visiting artists, public readings – target is young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> November
North West River Beach Festival, Northwest River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> two day festival of traditional music, food, auction, male beauty pageant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> July

Attraction/Establishment	Services/Activities	Season/Rates
Sheshatshiu Innu Etium Summer Festival, Sheshatshiu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> celebration of Innu culture through games, crafts, traditional music and beach activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August
Mary's Harbour Crab Festival, Mary's Harbour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> three day festival with entertainment, prizes, dances, food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August
Golden Cod Festival, William's Harbour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> two day celebration of golden cod of Gilberts Bay entertainment, canteen, BBQ, games and prizes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August
Charlottetown Shrimp Festival, Charlottetown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> two day event traditional breakfast, sea-doo rides, boat tours, water skiing, BBQ, games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August
Source: DTCR 2003.		

- Table 4.6 is also added to Section 4.6.4. It provides a list of shops, studios and galleries in the study area.

Table 4.6 Shops, Studios and Galleries

Establishment	Services Offered
Battle Harbour Craft Store, Battle Harbour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 1-September 30 local handmade crafts including clothing, photographs and traditional Labrador design items
Moulder of Dreams, Port Hope Simpson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> year-round physically challenged individuals produce stoneware pottery
Penney's Enterprise, Port Hope Simpson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> year-round souvenirs, gifts, groceries, gas, fishing supplies, hardware
Old Time Craft Shop, Williams Harbour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 1-November 30 knitted crafts, t-shirts, souvenirs, craft supplies
Mealy Mountain Gallery, Cartwright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> July-August handcrafted souvenirs including weaving, carvings, pottery, prints, music
Vicki's Craft Corner, Cartwright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> year-round local knitwear, crochet, fungus paintings, craft supplies
Distinctive Knitting Craft Shop, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> year-round craft supplies, pewter, Labrador clothing, caribou tufted pictures
Drumdancer Arts & Crafts, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> year-round handcrafted traditional and contemporary Labrador fine art and craft
Felsburg Enterprises and Farm, Happy Valley-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> year-round

Establishment	Services Offered
Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ornamental handwrought iron including fireside tools, candlesticks, hardware, graveyard fittings
Greenleaf Limited, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round • crafts and souvenirs, moosehide slippers and mitts, books and bibles, Wilton cake and cake decorating, craft supplies
Labrador Craft and Supplies, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round • soapstone carvings, Labrador parkas, moosehide moccasins, labradorite jewellery
The Birches Gallery, Happy Valley-Goose Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round • soapstone and antler carvings, Innu and Inuit tea dolls, native grasswork, arts and crafts
Source: DTCR 2003.	

The majority of the various facilities, attractions, events and services listed in the preceding tables have been initiated by the private sector. A number of the recreational facilities in Happy Valley-Goose Bay are owned and operated either by municipal or provincial sources, but many other facilities have been initiated either by recreational groups or as private businesses. Similarly, some of the cultural and heritage facilities have been initiated by government sources, but there are many festivals and events that have been developed by local community groups. There are many accommodations and gift/craft stores in the area, most of which are operated as private businesses.

Statistics Canada was contacted for information on investment in tourism facilities, but there is no such information available. Available information on the tourism industry is primarily limited to standard tourism data such as visitor numbers, types of activities pursued and services used, and visitor motivations and interests. Given the large number of recreation and tourism-related facilities, events and services identified in the area, it can be concluded that there is has been a substantial level of investment by both private and public sector parties in tourism and recreation in the area.



2.2 Trophy Trout Description and Lodge Locations

Comment 2:

The Addendum has not acknowledged hunting and fishing lodges as a high value tourism asset. Given the content of the Addendum indicating Labrador lodges as a destination for Canadian and international visitors, this sector must be recognized as a high value tourism asset that relies on a species or setting that is at least distinctive, if not unique. Trophy brook trout may not be a biological or ecological description of fish populations but is commonly used in angling circles. The proponent must consult with Labrador outfitters to develop a qualitative description for trophy brook trout in the context of the watersheds traversed by each alternative route. The proponent must identify the locations of existing outfitting lodges in relation to each alternative route required to be considered. The proponent must identify any potential locations of future outfitting lodges in relation to each alternative route required to be considered.

Response 2:

Consultation with Outfitters

Owners of outfitting lodges were contacted in October 2002 to obtain information on lodge locations, type and area of operations, and issues and concerns related to the proposed highway development. A follow-up set of interviews were conducted in February-March 2004 to collect additional detail on the outfitting business in south-central Labrador.

There are 23 lodges located in the study area for the TLH-Phase III environmental assessment. Nineteen of these are commercially licensed outfitting operations and four operate as cooperatives. The distribution of the lodges is shown in Figure 4.2 in Appendix C. Table 2.1 provides details on the watershed, lodge name, commercial status, and distance from the two proposed highway routes.

An interview guide was composed to cover the information required to respond to issues raised by the Minister of Environment in the supplementary deficiency statement (see Appendix A). The interview guide was circulated to the Environmental Assessment Division and personnel at the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation for comment prior to initiating interviews.

The interview guide was distributed to outfitting lodge operators and follow-up phone calls were made to document responses. Two of the outfitters returned completed forms. The remaining outfitting lodge operators contacted were interviewed by telephone. Effort was made to contact all 23 lodge operators, with interviews being conducted with operators of 16 of the commercial lodges and three of the



cooperative lodges. One lodge operator declined participating in an interview. Contact was made with the remaining three commercial lodge operators; however, interviews were not conducted.

The information that was gathered was reviewed and used in responses to the comments contained in this report. Most of the information is amalgamated from several sources and individual interviewees are not identified in the text. A list of people interviewed or otherwise contacted is provided in Section 3.1. Information drawn from other sources, such as published literature and assessment documents, is referenced in the text and the sources are listed in the Section 3.2.

Table 2.1 Summary of Outfitter Operations in TLH-Phase III Study Area

Watershed / Lodge	Status	Contacted	Proximity to TLH (km)	
			Northern Route	Southern Route
Paradise River No lodges near TLH-Phase III				
Eagle River Crooks Lake Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	8	26
Camp 1155	Cooperative	Yes	12	20
DND (No Name Lake)	Cooperative	Yes	23	13
Eagle Lake Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	19	15
Lower Eagle River Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	53	53
Igloo Lake Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	18	32
Eagle's Nest Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	36	36
Osprey Lake Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	14	5
Park Lake Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	20	49
Rifflin' Hitch Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	39	39
Whitey's Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	11	11
Byrne Lake	Cooperative	Yes	13	35
Cloud Nine Salmon Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	55	55
Spirit Wind Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	58	58
Eagle River Salmon Club	Cooperative	No	56	56
St. Augustine River No lodges near TLH-Phase III				
Kenamu River Six North Fishing lodge	Outfitter	Yes	21	21
Traverspine River No Lodges				
English River Awesome Lake Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	93	93
Minipi River Minipi Lake Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	67	67
Minonipi Lake Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	44	44
Anne Marie Lake Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	53	53
Little Minipi Lake Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	49	49
St. Paul's River St. Paul's Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	59	24
Birchy Lake Lodge	Outfitter	Yes	43	26
Note: No portions of the proposed routes enter English River, Minipi River or St. Paul's River watersheds.				

The Labrador Regional Lands Office, Happy Valley-Goose Bay was also contacted to identify numbers and locations of private cabins in the study area. The following summary is provided from the information gathered:



- No cabins were identified in the affected portion of the Paradise River watershed.
- There are 15-20 cabins near the mouth of the Eagle River and six more within 50 km of the mouth.
- On the Eagle River Plateau, there is one cabin located near Osprey Lake and one near Park Lake.
- There are 30-40 cabins near the mouth of the Kenamu River.
- There is one cabin in the Kenamu watershed near the highway route.
- There are no cabins identified in the Traverspine River watershed.

This information does not include trappers cabins or any structures or camps used by the Innu. The information from the Lands Office also does not include unlicensed or illegal cabins and cottages.

Trophy Brook Trout Description

Trophy brook trout is a subjective term, whose meaning may differ slightly from site to site. Of the five watersheds traversed by the two proposed routes (not including the lower Churchill River), information from the outfitters is largely restricted to Eagle River and Kenamu River.

Several watersheds in this region contain large brook trout that are crucial to lodge-based angling (i.e., Eagle River, Kenamu River, Minipi River, English River, St. Paul's River, and others in the wider Labrador region). Generally speaking, trophy brook trout are larger than 3 lbs (1.4 kg). In some lakes, the largest trout range up to 5 to 6 lbs (2.3 to 2.7 kg), while in other lakes they are 8 to 10 lbs (3.6 to 4.5 kg). As one outfitter observed, these trout are bigger than the largest taken in any year in the eastern United States.

These large brook trout have the shape and coloration of other brook trout with minor variations. The feeding behaviours of the brook trout are poorly known as catch and release provides no opportunity for stomach content analysis. The fishery is largely a fly-fishery, indicating that insects may be a large component of fish diet. There is some direct evidence to support this assumption. There are few age data available for the large brook trout in the study area, but several of the outfitters believed that the eight to ten years maximum reported in literature is a reasonable assumption for this area. One outfitting lodge operator provided data that supports this assumption (i.e., 4.5 kg fish age at nine and ten years).

Large brook trout have been taken in many areas of northeast North America, but the largest fish in many or most of these areas have been harvested to depletion.



Outfitting Lodge Locations in South-Central Labrador

A detailed description of lodge locations, including information on lodge locations relative to both route alternatives for the proposed highway, is presented in Appendix C as Section 4.6.2.2. Appendix C also provides additional detail on the outfitting business in south-central Labrador.

Potential Future Locations for Outfitting Lodges

Interviews with outfitters produced a common theme with regard to expansion of either outfitting operations or of a general increase in angling activity. The most critical attribute of lodges on inland lakes is isolation. Each lodge is located on a separate lake or river section and the clients have virtually exclusive use of the area proximal to the lodge. Immense value is placed on this and most, if not all, outfitters feel that their business would certainly suffer if another operation were to overlap with their area of activity. Regulation prohibits an outfitter from sponsoring fishing activity within 2 km of another licensed operation. Obviously, this restriction would need to apply to resident anglers to preserve the spirit of isolation and perception of exclusivity.

Some outfitters reported that expansion of an existing facility would also have to be considered carefully as 'over-populating' an existing lodge may be a deterrent to some clients.

The feeling of the outfitters towards new lodges appears to be that they are welcome as long as they: are located distant enough to not compete for space; are operated to a high standard of quality service; and use a catch and release fishery to preserve the stocks. There does not appear to be competition for the charter flight services or accommodations in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. In fact, there is a fear that a reduction in demand for support services might lead to a reduction in services – to the detriment of all.

One frustration felt by the outfitters is the limited transportation to and from Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Any changes in frequency or schedule of connecting flights through Halifax can have an impact on the attractiveness of the lodge angling packages.

2.3 Contribution of Outfitting Sector to the Local Economy

Comment 3:

The Addendum has not provided information on the contribution of the outfitting sector to the local economy, in terms of employment, expenditure and revenue capacity. The Deficiency Statement advised that the objective of providing this information is to identify the relative importance of the outfitting sector to the local, regional and Labrador economy. The proponent must consult with outfitters to



develop an economic description of the outfitting sector. That description must be used describe the relative importance of the outfitting sector.

Response 3:

As requested, a second survey of outfitting lodge owners was conducted in late February to early March 2004. See Section 2.2 for a description of methodology used for the survey of outfitting lodges.

The information presented in this response supplements the information presented in Section 4.2.2. of JW (2003a) the Tourism and Recreation Component Study prepared in conjunction with the environmental assessment of the TLH – Phase III. This section was amended to be Section 4.6.2 as outlined in the addendum report prepared by JW (2003b). Section 4.6.2 in JW (2003b) is further amended by this document.

The description below outlines further amendments made to the Tourism and Recreation Component Study based on the information gathered through the second set of interviews with outfitting lodge operators and integration of material already presented in other documents prepared in conjunction with the environmental assessment of the TLH – Phase III. To minimize confusion the complete revised section (i.e., Section 4.6.2) is presented in Appendix C.

- **Section 4.6.2.1 Regulatory Framework for Outfitting Lodges**

- This sub-section incorporates Paragraphs 1 to 3 of the original text presented in Section 4.2.2 of JW (2003a)).
- This sub-section incorporates the text originally presented in Section 8.1 of the Land and Resource Use Component Study (JW 2003c), which indicates the regulatory requirements for tourist operations. Note that the references to responsible departments have been changed to reflect the recent departmental restructuring.
- This sub-section also integrates some additional detail from text originally presented in the introduction to Section 7.1 and text in Section 7.1.4 of the Land and Resource Use Component Study (JW 2003c). This text indicates the regulatory requirements pertaining to guide requirements for non-resident anglers.

- **Section 4.6.2.2 South-Central Labrador Outfitting Lodge Locations**

- This sub-section incorporates Paragraphs 4 to 11 of the original text presented in Section 4.2.2 of JW (2003a)).



- This sub-section also integrates some additional detail from text originally presented in Section 8.2 of the Land and Resource Use Component Study (JW 2003c), which describes the outfitting camp locations and activities conducted in the south-central Labrador area.
- In addition, the updated figure showing both the northern and southern routes proposed for the TLH – Phase III and three additional lodges identified in the February-March 2004 interviews with outfitting lodge owners are incorporated into this sub-section. Likewise, the updated table listing outfitting lodges in the study area is also presented. This information also addresses one of the requirements for the response to Comment No. 2 (see Section 2.2 in this document).

- **Section 4.6.2.3 Key Features of Outfitting Lodge Operations in South-Central Labrador**

- This sub-section presents additional detail on the outfitting lodge operations in south-central Labrador, with a focus on the key features of lodge operations. This information was gathered through interviews with lodge owners and review of information posted on lodge internet sites.

- **Section 4.6.2.4 Fishing Activity at Outfitting Lodges in South-Central Labrador**

- This sub-section presents additional detail on the fishing activity taking place at outfitting lodge operations in south-central Labrador. This information was gathered through interviews with lodge owners and review of information posted on lodge internet sites.

- **Section 4.6.2.5 Economics of Outfitting Lodge Operations in South-Central Labrador**

- This sub-section presents additional detail on the economic aspects of outfitting lodge operations in south-central Labrador, with a focus on employment, expenditures and revenue. This information was gathered primarily through interviews with lodge owners.

- **Section 4.6.2.6 Future Direction and Challenges for Outfitting Lodge Operations in South-Central Labrador**

- This sub-section summarizes concerns about the proposed highway development that were raised by the outfitting lodge operators in south-central Labrador and lists measures suggested for addressing concerns about resource use activities in the area. This information was gathered primarily through the interviews with lodge owners.



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- JW (Jacques Whitford). 2003a. *Tourism and Recreation Component Study Trans Labrador Highway (Happy Valley - Goose Bay to Cartwright Junction)*. Prepared for the Department of Works, Services and Transportation, St. John's, NL.
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APPENDIX A

Tourism and Recreation Component Study Supplementary Deficiency Statement

**CARTWRIGHT JUNCTION TO HAPPY VALLEY-GOOSE BAY
TRANS LABRADOR HIGHWAY
TOURISM AND RECREATION COMPONENT STUDY ADDENDUM
SUPPLEMENTARY DEFICIENCY STATEMENT
Issued February 2004**

The Component Study continues to require a characterization of the existing tourism and recreation industry as follows:

- The Deficiency Statement requested the proponent to provide information on the kinds of facilities that have received the major share of private sector investment and the Deficiency Statement provided two potential sources of information. The response provided does not indicate the kinds of facilities that have been initiated by the private sector. Whether the private sector has received provincial or federal government funding for those facilities is not what was expected as a response. Information on the investment in facilities will assist the proponent in addressing the following information requirements.
- The Addendum has not acknowledged hunting and fishing lodges as a high value tourism asset. Given the content of the Addendum indicating Labrador lodges as a destination for Canadian and international visitors, this sector must be recognized as a high value tourism asset that relies on a species or setting that is at least distinctive, if not unique. Trophy brook trout may not be a biological or ecological description of fish populations but is commonly used in angling circles. The proponent must consult with Labrador outfitters to develop a qualitative description for trophy brook trout in the context of the watersheds traversed by each alternative route. The proponent must identify the locations of existing outfitting lodges in relation to each alternative route required to be considered. The proponent must identify any potential locations of future outfitting lodges in relation to each alternative route required to be considered.
- The Addendum has not provided information quantifying the contribution of the outfitting sector, to the local economy, in terms of employment, expenditure and revenue capacity. The Deficiency Statement advised that the objective of providing this information is to identify the relative importance of the outfitting sector to the local, regional and Labrador economy. The proponent must consult with outfitters to develop an economic description of the outfitting sector. The description must be used describe the relative importance of the outfitting sector.

APPENDIX B

Interview Guide for Survey of Outfitting Lodge Operations in South-Central Labrador

Outfitting Lodge Operators/Owners Interview Guide Trans Labrador Highway – Phase III

Instructions:

- **Background:**

Lodges to be surveyed are those in the study area, which is located south of Lake Melville extending from the Minipi lodges in the west to lodges in eastern Labrador on the Eagle River watershed. The survey is qualitative and designed to gather information about the lodge operations and lodger owner's knowledge of fish.

For any questions regarding route location (see Section B), the routes can be characterized as a northern route that runs east-west roughly between Park Lake and Crooks Lake, and a southern route that loops about 25 km south of Crooks Lake, near the edge of the Eagle River watershed. The southern route is about 30 km longer than the northern route.

- **State the purpose of the call:**

My name is ---; I'm calling from Jacques Whitford in St. John's. As part of the on-going environmental assessment of the proposed Trans-Labrador Highway between Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Cartwright Junction, we have been asked by the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation and the Department of Environment to collect additional information on outfitting lodges operating in the vicinity of the proposed routes for the highway, our study area. *[provide map if necessary, see Section B]*

- **Obtain commitment to participate in interview:**

To address this request, we would like to ask you a few questions about your lodge business. Would help us by participating in an interview?

The interview that will take about 0.5 hour to complete. Is this a good time?

[If not} Is there a time that is convenient for you? We will telephone you at that time.

[Aim to schedule a time and call them back at that scheduled time]

- **When conducting the interview:**

The following questions are aimed at gathering the information requested by the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation. If you do not have the answer or choose not to answer a question, just say so.

SECTION A - INTERVIEWEE/LODGE INFORMATION

Note: Contact information is taken for reference purposes. This information will not be made public. However, items below pertaining to lodge operations will be used in the discussion of tourism activity in the region.

1. Contact Name	
2. Company Name	
3. Lodge Name(s)	
4. Lodge Location (include river or lake and watershed involved)	River: Lake: Watershed:
5. Interviewee's Role (e.g., owner, manager, etc.)	
6. Contact Information (phone/fax/address/email)	
7. Interview Date/Time	

SECTION B – KNOWLEDGE OF PLANS FOR TLH – PHASE III

Note: This information is being collected to identify the level of knowledge that the respondent has about the proposed highway and the two routes.

1. Are you familiar with the proposed TLH – Phase III?	
2. Are you familiar with the two proposed routings? (Offer to fax map if necessary. See note in instructions about describing route location.)	
3. If familiar with the project and the routes, what is the source of your information about the project and routes? (i.e., where did you learn about the project and routes)	
4. Have you reviewed any of the EA documents? If so, which ones?	

SECTION C - NATURE OF BUSINESS

Note: This information is being collected to develop a better understanding of the business, how long it has been operating, and the number of guests and where they are coming from.

1. When was the lodge constructed?	
2. How long have you (or company) owned the lodge?	
3. Main purpose of the lodge/business? (e.g., private use, commercial operation)	
4. Period of operation? (i.e., when/how long is the lodge open each year?)	
5. Guests/Lodge Users	
5(a). Number of guests annually?	
5(b). Trends in guest numbers? (Changes in numbers for 5 years? 10 years?)	
5(c). Repeat/regular visitors? (Number of visitors that make repeat visits to lodge?)	
5(d). Origins of guests? (are records available)	
5(e). Trends in guest origins? (Changes in numbers for 5 years? 10 years?)	
5(f). Reasons for visit? (what type of activities do visitors come for?)	
5(g). What proportion of guests come to: Fish? Hunt? Wilderness Experience? Wildlife Viewing? Other?	

SECTION D - KEY FEATURES OF OPERATION

Note: This information is being collected to develop a better understanding of the key features of operations and activities pursued by guests.

1. What is the main activity carried out at the lodge (e.g., hunting or fishing)?	
2. Lodge Package	
2(a). What are the key features of your lodge packages? (aim is to identify what owners see as highlights of the package they offer)	
2(b). What is included in the package?	
2(b(1)). Transportation (from where? return?)	
2(b(2)). Accommodation?	
2(b(3)). Meals?	
2(b(4)). Beverages?	
2(b(5)). Sightseeing trips (where?)?	
2(b(6)). Guide costs/gratuities?	
2(b(7)). Non-fishing/hunting activities (e.g., golf, canoeing, hiking, nature viewing, bird watching, other tourism activities, etc.) and where are these activities carried out?	
2(b(8)). Other activities/events?	
3. Are there other activities that guests participate in? Do you link with other tourism and recreation activities?	
4. What are the most popular activities with guests?	

SECTION E - FISHING ACTIVITY

Note: This information is being collected to develop a better understanding of lodge-based fishing activities pursued by guests and the type of fish caught.

1. What species of fish are sought by lodge guests?	
2. Number and type of fish caught? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– level of effort by species?– annual catch by species? (do you have catch records that you can provide)– length and weight information?	
3. What is the period for fishing (i.e., how long are you open each year)? Summer? Winter?	
4. Where do lodge guests fish? What distance from the lodge? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Is there a recognized or set area/zone for lodge based fishing activity?– Is fishing carried out in Eagle, Traverspine, Kenamu, St. Augustine, Paradise, St. Paul or Minipi watersheds?– - In any other watersheds?	River(s): Lake(s): Watershed(s):
5. How would you characterize the fishery at your establishment? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Is it catch and release only?– Are guests permitted to retain a trophy fish? How many would that be in a year?– Are any of the fish caught kept for a meal/cook up on the lake or river, or back at the lodge?– Is there anything about your operation that is unique to the industry?	
6. In your understanding is this how other lodges operate? If different, what aspects of fishing are conducted differently and how?	
7. What factors do you think affect the fishing experience?	
8. On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate the importance of the following factors to the your guests' fishing experience? (1 = not important and 5 = extremely important) <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Water quality?– Level of angler crowding?– Lack of pollutants in fish?– Natural beauty of area?– Isolation?– Places to fish from shore?– Size of fish?– Catch rates?– Quality of guide service?– Quality of lodge and amenities/services offered?	

<p>9. Considering the same factors, what is the threshold level (or point) at which changes in these factors will threaten the viability of the lodge?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Water quality? – Level of angler crowding? – Lack of pollutants in fish? – Natural beauty of area? – Isolation? – Places to fish from shore? – Size of fish? – Catch rates? – Quality of guide service? – Quality of lodge and amenities/services offered? 	
<p>10. Do you have any information on other fishing activity in these watersheds?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – aboriginal? – residents/cabin owners? – private camps? – do they follow similar fishing practices? 	
<p>11. What management techniques do you use to protect or conserve resources?</p>	
<p>12. Do you know of mortalities due to foul hooking, exhaustion, injury or other fishing related causes? (how many fish would be involved on an annual basis)</p>	

SECTION F - BROOK TROUT/TROPHY TROUT

Note: This information is being collected to develop a better understanding of brook trout found in the watersheds of south-central Labrador.

1. How would you characterize trophy trout? (i.e., What is definition/description of trophy brook trout is used by your lodge/business?)	
2. Do you consider trophy trout and small trout to the same in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Stock?– Population?– Species?	
3. What is the size range of trophy trout?	
4. Do you know the age of any of the larger brook trout? If so, what ages?	
5. Are trophy trout that you catch the same as the big trout found in other lakes? In other watersheds? Same as those taken at other lodges?	Lakes: Watersheds: Lodges:
6. Does the life history of the trophy trout vary between lakes? Between watersheds? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– timing or location of spawning different?– Rearing patterns?– Feeding behaviour?– Growth rates?– Other differences?	Lake(s): Watershed(s):
7. Do you consider the stock to localized in a lake? Set of lakes? Throughout the river? Throughout the watershed?	
8. How numerous is the stock?	
9. Do you know the population composition in the lake or river that you fish?	Lake: River:
10. What is the carrying capacity or sustainable yield? (i.e., how many fish can be retained in the lake you fish before the catch rated notably decreases?)	

SECTION G - HUNTING INFORMATION

Note: This information is being collected to develop a better understanding of lodge-base hunting activities pursued by guests and the type of species caught. Note there is most likely no hunting carried out in the

1. Are hunting packages offered? If yes, what is included in a package?	
2. What species of wildlife are sought by lodge guests? Big game? Small game? Birds?	
3. Number and type of species caught?	
4. What is the period for hunting (i.e., how long are you open each year)?	
5. Where do lodge guests hunt? What distance from the lodge? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Is there a recognized or set area/zone for lodge-based hunting activity?– Is hunting carried out in the Eagle, Traverspine, Kenamu, St. Augustine, Paradise, St. Paul or Minipi watersheds?– In any other watersheds?	River(s): Lake(s): Watershed(s):
6. How would you characterize hunting at your establishment? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– What proportion of lodge guests come for hunting versus fishing?– Is there anything about your operation that is unique to the industry?	
7. In your understanding is this how other lodges in south-central Labrador operate? If different, what aspects of hunting are conducted differently and how?	
8. What factors do you think affect the hunting experience?	
9. On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate the importance of the following factors to the your guests' hunting experience? (1 = not important and 5 = extremely important) <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Level of hunter crowding?– Lack of pollutants in game?– Natural beauty of area?– Isolation?– Size of game?– Success rates?– Quality of guide service?– Quality of lodge and amenities/services offered?	
10. Do you have any information on other hunting activity in these watersheds? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– aboriginal?– residents/cabin owners?– private camps?– do they follow same practices?	
11. What management techniques do you use to protect or conserve wildlife resources?	

SECTION H - THE LODGE AND ITS OPERATION

Note: This information is being collected to develop a better understanding of aspects of lodge operation and maintenance. If the interviewee is responsible for several lodges, note details for each lodge in question.

1. What is the size of the lodge (i.e., square metres)? Number of buildings?	
2. What is the area of the property owned? Leased? Used?	
3. How many rooms does the lodge have? Single? Double? Total capacity?	
4. Occupancy rate? (is annual data for period of time available?)	
5. What facilities/amenities are offered at the lodge? (Bush plane? Docks? Kitchen/dining room? Lounge/bar? Laundry? Telephone/fax services? TV? Saunas/jacuzzis?)	
6. What recreational equipment and infrastructure is on site? (Boats, canoes, kayaks and related gear? Fishing gear? ATVs? Trails?)	
7. How many employees do you have? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Full-time? What do they do?– Part-time? What do they do?– Year round staff? What do they do?– Where are they from? Local residents?	
8. What occupations are involved? (Cook? Wait staff? Cleaning staff? Pilot? Guides? Maintenance staff? Manager? Caretaker? Others?)	
9. What infrastructure/measures are in place for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– electricity source/generator (size)?– potable water supply?– solid waste management?– wastewater management?– sewage?– fuel supply and removal of empty fuel containers from the site?	
10. Emergency response/evacuation plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– fuel spills?– forest fire?– other hazards?	

SECTION I - ECONOMICS/REVENUE

Note: This information is being collected to develop a better understanding of the economics of the lodge-based outfitting industry. If the interviewee is responsible for several lodges, note details for each lodge in question.

1. What is the price for a one week package? Price per day? (Cdn \$)	
2. What are the salaries for staff? Or overall payroll? (Cook? Wait staff? Cleaning staff? Pilot? Guides? Maintenance staff? Manager? Caretaker? Others?)	
3. Besides salaries, what other expenditures are associated with running a lodge operation? (Fuel? Food? Standard hotel type supplies?)	
4. Where are food and other supplies for the operation purchased? How are supplies transported to the site?	
5. What are your annual expenditures? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– total expenditures?– what proportion of the expenditures are made in local area (HV-GB and central Labrador or in southeastern Labrador)?	
6. What is annual revenue generated by the lodge/business? Trends – 5 years? 10 years?	
7. What is the value of the lodge? The business?	
8. How sensitive is the demand for a lodge-based fishery to the management of the key features? (i.e., what are the critical factors affecting the business? How much change can the business handle?)	
9. Besides the cost for the lodge package, what other expenditures are being made in the local area by lodge guests? (i.e., what sort of items are they spending on (e.g., airfare, hotels, restaurants/meals, crafts, liquor, gratuities, etc.)? Can you give an estimate on average additional spending by lodge guests?)	

SECTION J - FUTURE PLANS

Note: This information is being collected to develop a better understanding of any plans or direction being taken in lodge-based outfitting industry. If the interviewee is responsible for several lodges, note details for each lodge in question.

1. Without the TLH – Phase III, where do you see your business going in the future? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– next 5 years?– next 10 years?– are there expansion plans?– plans to add new activities or features?	
2. Do you think that the TLH – Phase III will affect your existing business? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– if so, how?– key concerns?– would effect be different for preferred route or outfitter route? how?	
3. Do you have a preference for one routing (preferred vs. outfitter) over the other? Why?	
4. Would the highway present potential for new business? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– if so, how or what type of new business?– could the lodge/business cater to other tourist segments (adventure, ecotourism markets, etc.)?– would potential vary with use of preferred route or outfitter route?	
5. Would the highway affect your ability to capture new business? <ul style="list-style-type: none">– if so, how? what?– would effect vary with use of preferred route or outfitter route?	
6. What measure do you think could be put in place to address concerns relating to the interaction of other resource use activities and your lodge/business?	
7. Are there potential new locations for lodge developments? Where?	

APPENDIX C

Revised Section 4.6.2 on Outfitting Lodge Operations in South-Central Labrador

Revised Section 4.6.2 on Outfitting Lodge Operations in South-Central Labrador

4.6.2 Outfitting Operations

While hunting and fishing in central and southern Labrador are undertaken by local residents, visitors from elsewhere in the province, Canada and other countries also participate in wildlife harvesting and fishing. Sports fishing and hunting have traditionally been the primary contributors to Labrador's tourism industry (Department of Development and Rural Renewal 1996). The following section provides an overview of outfitting operations in south-central Labrador in the vicinity of the proposed northern and southern routes for the TLH - Phase III.

4.6.2.1 Regulatory Framework for Outfitting Lodges

Tourism and recreation, including outfitting operations, in the province are within the mandate of the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation. The department is involved in the development and marketing of Newfoundland and Labrador's tourism industry, and provides a range of related programs and services, including: advertising and communications; product development; touring and travel trade; visitor services; regional support; and special celebrations (DTCR n.d.). It is also involved in the regulation of tourism operations in the province under the *Tourist Establishments Act* and *Tourist Establishment Regulations*, which require all operators of tourist establishments in the province to be licensed by the department. The regulations also include specific guidelines and requirements for certain types of tourism establishments in the province.

In 1988, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador introduced an 8-km buffer zone for commercial outfitting lodges (both fishing and hunting lodges). Other outfitting lodges and recreational cottages are prohibited within this 8-km buffer (DTC 1993). Under the *Wildlife Act*, guests of a licensed commercial tourist establishment may not fish within 2 km (or other distance established by the Minister) of an existing licensed outfitter camp, lodge, cabin and related facilities. While these measures place limits on outfitting activities, they do not give land ownership or exclusive fish or hunting rights to the outfitting lodge owners.

Hunting and fishing activity are subject to applicable provincial and federal legislation as discussed in Chapters 6 and 7 of JW (2003). Non-resident big game hunters (moose, caribou and black bear) in Newfoundland and Labrador are required to be accompanied by a licensed guide (those hunting small game and waterfowl do not require guides) (DTCR 2003).

Federal regulation of inland and coastal fisheries in Newfoundland and Labrador rests with DFO under the *Fisheries Act*. The act provides for regulation of freshwater and anadromous fish through the

Newfoundland Fisheries Regulations. Although the federal government has the mandate for managing inland fish resources, the province, through the *Wildlife Act*, is responsible for any licensing of the various species and can set conditions on the use of the resource, such as requiring the use of guides or outfitters for non-resident anglers.

In Labrador, north of 52°N, non-resident anglers may not fish inland waters without engaging the services of an outfitter, with the following exceptions:

- a non-resident may fish without an outfitter or a licensed guide if accompanied by a direct relative who is a resident;
- when visiting a cooperative camp, a non-resident may fish without an outfitter (but must be accompanied by a licensed guide or direct relative) anywhere in the lake or pond that the camp is located on, or 800 m above or below the camp, if the camp is on a river;
- a non-resident may fish unaccompanied on non-scheduled waters within 800 m of a provincial highway; and
- a non-resident may fish scheduled salmon waters without engaging the services of an outfitter (but must be accompanied by a licensed guide or direct relative) if fishing 800 m above or below a bridge on a provincial highway.

On the island of Newfoundland and in Labrador south of 52°N latitude, a non-resident angler cannot fish scheduled salmon waters unless accompanied by a licensed guide or by a direct relative who is a resident. Non-residents may only fish unaccompanied on non-scheduled waters within 800 m of a provincial highway (DFO 2002).

The 1991 Labrador Sport Fishing Survey indicated that approximately 57 percent of the non-resident anglers visiting Labrador in that year used the services of an outfitter (cited in LGL 1994).

4.6.2.2 South-Central Labrador Outfitting Lodge Locations

There are currently approximately 70 commercial outfitting camps throughout Labrador that offer fishing and/or big game hunting adventures (DTCR 2003). Of these, 23 are located in the general study area for the TLH-Phase III environmental assessment (Figure 4.2; Table 4.2). Nineteen of the lodges are operated as commercial outfitting establishments, while four are cooperative camps.

There are currently five commercial outfitting lodges on the lower part of the Eagle River. The Lower Eagle River Lodge, Riffelin Hitch Lodge and Eagle's Nest Lodge offer fishing for Atlantic salmon and brook trout (DTCR 2003). There are two new lodges (Cloud Nine Salmon Lodge and Spirit Wind Lodge) on the lower Eagle River that were licenced in 2003, and there is also a cooperative camp, operated by the Eagle River Salmon Club, on the lower Eagle River (D. Stewart pers. comm.).

In the north-central portion of the area, the Park Lake Lodge offers fishing for brook trout, northern pike and Atlantic salmon, while the Igloo Lake Lodge caters to anglers of brook trout and northern pike (DTCR 2003). There is also a private fishing camp at Byrne Lake, located south of Park Lake (J. Smith, pers. comm.).

In the south-central portion of the region, a fishing lodge at Crook's Lake offers fishing for brook trout and northern pike. The Osprey Lake Lodge caters to anglers of brook trout, and the Eagle Lake Lodge offers fishing for brook trout and northern pike. (DTCR 2003). There is also a cooperative fishing camp in the area operated by Camp 1155 Ltd. The Department of National Defence has a fishing lodge on No Name Lake, which is used by military personnel and their families and guests. There is also a fishing camp at Whitey's Pond, located to the west of Crook's Lake (T. Kent, pers. comm.; P. Dawe, pers. comm.).

To the west of the proposed highway routes, the Six North Fishing Lodge on Lac Mercier, which is on the headwaters of the Kenamu River, offers fishing for brook trout, northern pike and lake trout. Three camps on the Upper Minipi River (the Anne Marie Lake, Minonipi and Minipi Lake Lodges) provide guests with fishing for brook trout, salmon, Arctic char and/or northern pike. Also, the Little Minipi Lake Lodge offers fishing for brook trout, Atlantic salmon, landlocked char and northern pike (DTCR 2003).

There is also a fishing lodge on Awesome Lake (English River) in the extreme north-western portion of southern Labrador, which provides fishing for eastern brook trout, as well as two camps on the headwaters of the St. Paul's River in the south-western extent of the region, which offer northern pike and/or trout fishing (DTCR 2003).

Each of these are "fly-in" camps, currently accessed by floatplane and/or helicopter, usually from Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Fishing activity at these camps is usually within approximately 5 to 10 km of the camp location. Most, if not all, of the angling undertaken at these camps is catch and release only.

There are also a number of outfitting camps to the east of or adjacent to the existing TLH - Phase II (Red Bay to Cartwright) in southern Labrador, as well as several camps in the Labrador Straits (DTCR 2003).

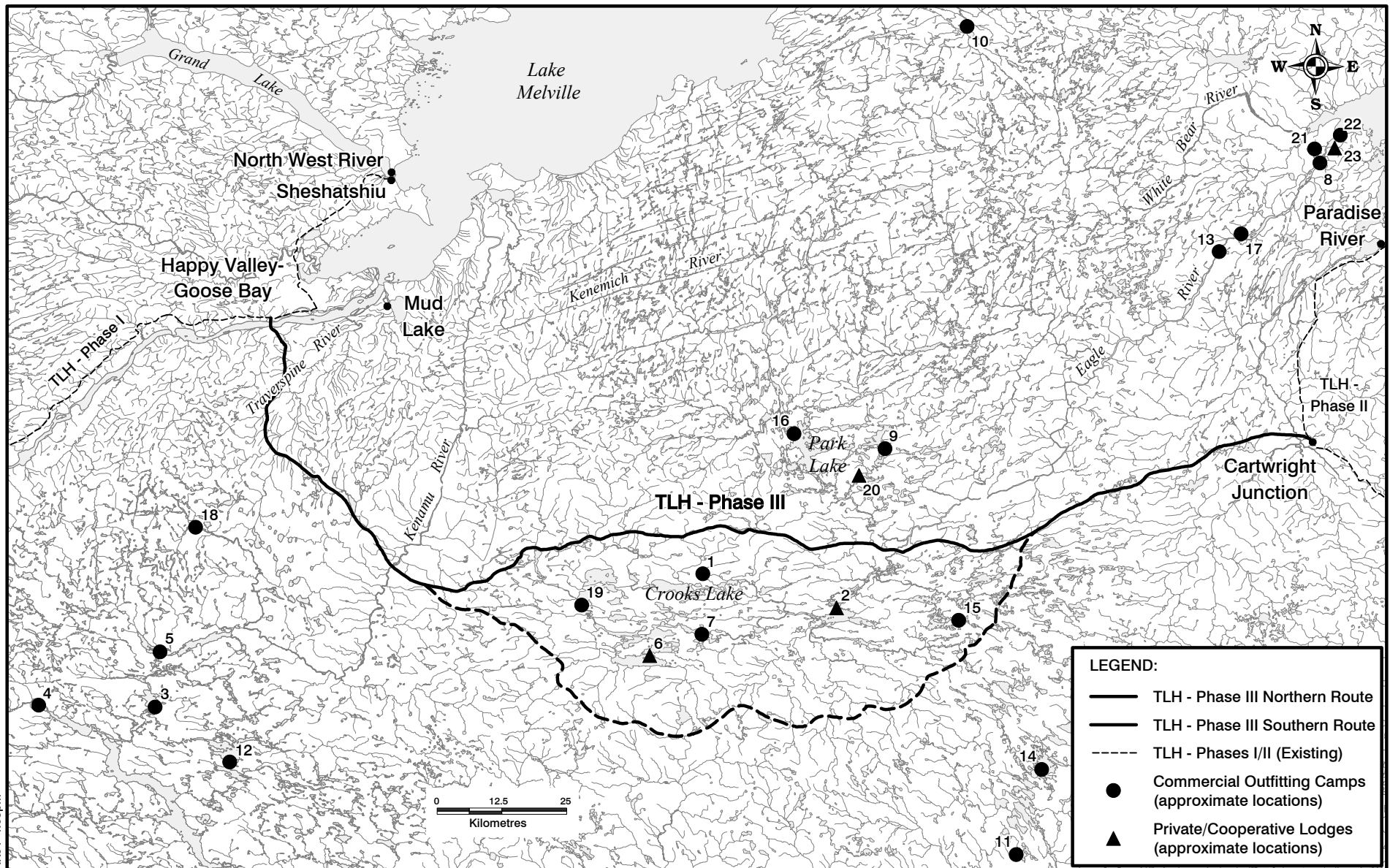


Figure 4.2

Outfitting Camp Locations in Central and Southern Labrador

Table 4.2 Outfitting Camps in Central and Southern Labrador

No.*	Operator	Lodge	Location	Approximate Distance from Preferred Route (km)	Approximate Distance from Outfitter Route (km)
1	Adventure North Ltd.	Crooks Lake	Crooks Lake	8.1	26.4
2	Camp 1155 Ltd.	Camp 1155	Upper Eagle River	11.9	19.9
3	Coopers' Minipi Camps	Anne Marie Lake Lodge	Upper Minipi River	53.1	53.06
4	Coopers' Minipi Camps	Minipi Lake Lodge	Upper Minipi River	66.9	66.91
5	Coopers' Minipi Camps	Minonipi Lodge	Upper Minipi River	44.5	44.41
6	Department of National Defence	No Name Lake (Family Wilderness Camp)	No Name Lake	23.3	13
7	Eagle Lake Sport Fishing Ltd.	Eagle Lake Lodge	Eagle Lake	19.1	15.5
8	Goose Bay Outfitters Ltd.	Lower Eagle River Lodge	Lower Eagle River	52.7	49.11
9	Igloo Lake Lodge Ltd.	Igloo Lake Lodge	Igloo Lake	18.5	32.1
10	Labrador Angling Adventures Ltd.	Awesome Lake Lodge	Awesome Lake (English River)	93	93.0
11	Labrador Interior Outfitters Ltd.	St. Paul's Lodge	St. Paul's River (Headwaters)	58.8	24.3
12	Labrador Outdoors Inc.	Little Minipi Lake Lodge	Little Minipi River	49.2	49.2
13	Labrador Sportsfish Ltd.	Eagle's Nest	Eagle River	36.4	66.5
14	Labrador Venture Ltd.	Birchy Lake Lodge	Birchy Lake, Upper St. Paul River	43.4	26.3
15	Osprey Lake Lodge	Osprey Lake Lodge	Osprey Lake (Eagle River watershed)	13.7	5.3
16	Park Lake Lodge Inc.	Park Lake Lodge	Park Lake	19.6	49.2
17	Rifflin' Hitch Lodge Limited	Rifflin' Hitch Lodge	Eagle River	39	39
18	Six North Fishing Lodge	Lac Mercier Lodge	Lac Mercier (Kenanu River headwaters)	21.1	21.2
19	Warrick Pike	Tamalik Lodge	Whitey's Pond (Eagle River Watershed)	11.1	11.1
20	Joe Smith	Byrne Lake Lodge	Byrne Lake (Eagle River Watershed)	13.1	34.6
21	Cloud Nine Salmon Lodge	Cloud Nine Salmon Lodge	Lower Eagle River	55.0	55.0
22	Eagle River Outfitters Limited	Spirit Wind Lodge	Lower Eagle River	58.0	58.0
23	Eagle River Salmon Club		Lower Eagle River	56.0	56.0

* See Figure 4.2 for approximate camp locations.

Sources: DTCR 2002; T. Kent, pers. comm.; P. Dawe, pers. comm.; personal communications and interviews with outfitters in September-October 2002 and February-March 2004.

4.6.2.3 Key Features of Outfitting Lodge Operations in South-Central Labrador

Of the 23 outfitting lodges identified in south central Labrador, 19 are operating commercial lodges and four are private cooperative lodges. The majority of the lodges are only accessible by air, with float (bush) planes and helicopters being used for access. Lodges on the lower Eagle River can be accessed by boat, but this means of access appears to be used primarily for moving provisions and materials to the lodge prior to the start of the season.

The lodges vary in age with some dating back to the 1960s. It was noted that Park Lake Lodge may date back to the 1950s and is possibly the first outfitting lodge to have been established in Labrador. Many of the lodges have been constructed since the 1980s, with many having been substantially renovated in recent years and others with renovations ongoing or planned for the upcoming season. Most of the current owners of the commercial lodges have owned the facilities since the mid-1990s, while a small number of operators have owned and operated their facility for 25 or more years.

The commercial lodges typically operate from mid-June to mid-September, with lodge opening varying by a week either way depending on the location of the lodge and physical factors such as ice break up. The majority of the lodges have a 12-week season, with a small number of lodges having a 10-11 week season. This operating season generally coincides with the angling season.

There are an estimated 1,475 guests visiting the lodges in south central-Labrador during the angling season. Trends in the number of guests are noted as being either stable or increasing slowly. A high proportion of the business conducted by the commercial lodges is repeat business, with repeat clients representing from 40% to 90% of the business conducted by the lodges in any given season. On average approximately 62% of the lodge clients are repeat visitors. The majority of lodge guests are from the northeastern United States, with a smaller proportion coming from the Maritime Provinces and Europe. Guests from other parts of Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador represent a very small portion of the lodge clientele for the majority of lodge owners. Guest origins were noted as being stable. Only one lodge owner indicated a slight increase in guests from Canada over guests from the United States.

The primary reason noted for guest visits was fishing. While guests may participate in other activities, the fishing is the primary reason for their visit and the main activity that occupies them during their stay. The associated wilderness experience, remoteness and exclusivity were highlighted as key aspects of the fishing experience. Only one of the lodges indicated that guests participated in hunting activity and that was limited to duck hunting, and only a small amount of that activity was being conducted. Several lodge owners indicated that they did have canoes and boats on-site and several had walking tails, but they noted that very few guests were interested in recreational activities other than fishing.

The packages are typically seven-day packages (e.g., Saturday to Saturday), with shorter stays being accommodated on request and usually with additional charges for the air transport to the lodge. Air transfer to the lodge is typically handled by charter float (bush) planes or helicopter flights. Two lodge owners indicated that they have a small floatplane for handling transfer of guests between Happy Valley-Goose Bay and the lodge.

The fishing packages offered by the lodges are generally all-inclusive. Common components of the lodge packages are:

- air transfer from Happy Valley-Goose Bay to the lodge and return (several lodge owners indicated that this was an additional charge);
- transfers from the airport to accommodation and the Otter Creek float plane base in Happy Valley-Goose Bay;
- lodge accommodations for seven days;
- three meals per day, some with evening snacks;
- standard beverages, excluding alcoholic beverages and sometimes soft drinks; and
- guide (one guide for every two fishers), excluding gratuities.

Some lodges will arrange sightseeing trips on request and for an additional charge. Several lodge owners noted that potential sightseeing trips included Cartwright, White Bear River and the Torngat Mountains. However, interest in such trips was noted as being low. As noted previously, the lodge guests come to fish. Other activities pursued by guests include bird watching, photography, storytelling, canoeing and walks on trails near the lodges.

Most of the lodges hold a crown land lease and cover a land area ranging in size from 0.5 ha up to 2 ha. The lodge business generally includes several buildings, including the main lodge building, guest cabins, guide cabin(s), staff quarters (sleeping and dining), generator shed and storage shed. One lodge also noted having a garage/workshop building; however, this lodge was also under going renovations. The main lodge buildings range in size from approximately 85 m² to 650 m².

The number of guestrooms varies from lodge to lodge with all having double rooms. The most common number of guest rooms per lodge is four to five double rooms, with some lodges having up to nine and ten guest rooms. All lodges offer similar facilities including dining room, kitchen, lounge/bar and bathrooms with hot/cold running water and showers. Several of the lodges now offer private bathrooms, while others provide shared bathroom facilities. There are laundry facilities at most lodges; however, only a few make these available to guests. TV is provided at a number of lodges; however, it was commented that most guests are not interested in TV. Communication is provided by radio or satellite telephone, and a small number of lodges offer a satellite internet link.

Electricity at lodges is provided by diesel generators. Generators are kept in buildings separate from the main lodge and guest quarters. All lodges have a back-up capability through a second generator. Most lodges typically shut down the generator at night; it was noted that guests prefer the quiet at night. Diesel fuel for generators, as well as gas and propane, are flown into the lodges. Lodges on the lower Eagle River have the option of boat access for the movement of supplies. Fuel is stored away from the lodge and all empty fuel containers are returned to Happy Valley-Goose Bay or Cartwright, the two locations where area lodges obtain fuel. Several lodges have mini-spill kits on-site for use in the event of a fuel spill, and a small number have bermed or lined areas for fuel storage.

Water supply is typically from the lake or river on which the lodge is located. Water from these sources is not chlorinated. Most lodges provide alternate options for potable drinking water, including UV treatment for lake water, ceramic filter system or bottled water. Two lodges have a spring water source for drinking water.

The majority of the lodges take their waste to Happy Valley Goose Bay for disposal. Several indicated that they burn garbage on-site and transport the remaining portion to Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Waste is buried on-site at five of the lodges and one indicated that they had an incinerator. Two lodges indicated that recyclables are returned to Happy Valley-Goose Bay, and only one indicated that they composted waste. All lodges have septic systems, and one indicated that they have sewage pits for kitchen and wash/shower wastewater.

4.6.2.4 Fishing Activity at Outfitting Lodges in South-Central Labrador

The main fish species fished in the area are brook trout and Atlantic salmon, with a small amount of interest in fishing for northern pike. There was also a small amount of fishing for lake trout (Kenamu River headwaters), land-locked Arctic char (Minipi watershed) and sea-run trout on the lower Eagle River. Fishing for Atlantic salmon occurs on the Eagle River, while brook trout fishing is focused on the lakes. The angling season extends from mid-June to mid-September. The majority of the fishing activity is carried out within 5 to 10 km of the lodge. There is no winter fishing as the lodges are not open during the winter.

The majority of the fishing is done on a catch and release basis. Lodges owners reported up to 700 and 1,100 salmon being caught during the season, with the total number being kept at around 25 to 50 fish. Up to as many as 5,000-6,000 brook trout were reported as being caught and release annually at several of the lodges. On a daily basis, it was estimated that fishers were catching between 50 and 75 brook trout and 20 and 25 salmon.

While catch numbers are high, the actual number of fish kept is small. Anglers are permitted to retain one fish (“trophy”); however, it was noted that not many fishers do keep a fish. Some of the lodge

operations permit the taking of small fish for shore lunches. However, others noted that they did not follow this practice and would only use a fish for lunch if had been accidentally killed. The majority of lodge owners interviewed indicated that a small number of fish are killed each year due to foul hooking, exhaustion, injury or other fishing-related causes.

Brook trout size varies, with fish caught ranging up to 10 lbs (4.5 kg) in size. Fish size varies throughout the watershed and among the watersheds. For example, Park Lake was noted as having large numbers of brook trout, but they were typically smaller in size ranging up to about 5 lbs (2.3 kg). In contrast, the Minipi watershed to the west of the highway route was noted as having fewer numbers of fish, but the fish were larger. What is considered a trophy size fish varies from river to river and lake to lake.

A list of key relevant features to the angling experience was drawn from past Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) surveys and suggestions from D. Stewart (pers. comm.) of the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation. Outfitters were asked to rank the relative importance of water quality, angler crowding, pollutants in fish, natural beauty of the area, isolation, places to fish from shore, size of fish, catch rate, quality of guide service, and quality of lodge service. Not surprisingly some said that all factors were extremely important. Some others thought that if the fishing is good some other factors may be less important. All thought that isolation was essential to the quality of the fishing experience offered.

4.6.2.5 Economics of Outfitting Lodge Operations in South-Central Labrador

A complete set of economic data was collected for 16 of the 19 commercial outfitting lodges (84%) included in the survey. Estimates were generated for the remaining lodges based on the following assumptions:

- maximum weekly capacity of six or eight guests;
- 10 or 12 week operating season selected based on the operating seasons of other lodges in the same area;
- 50% occupancy rate;
- requirement for one guide for every two fishers;
- at least one cook per lodge;
- an average weekly salary of \$700 per employee;
- no employees for cooperatives;
- a package price of \$3,000 or less depending on location and package prices for other lodges in the same area;
- costs for travel (air charter) to cooperatives at \$1,000 per trip;

- annual expenditures for cooperatives at \$10,000 and commercial lodges at three times the estimated total salary and benefits cost; and
- estimated value for a cooperative lodge was \$100,000 and commercial lodges was \$350,000.

The combined maximum guest capacity for all lodges on a weekly basis is an estimated 222 guests. With an average season of 11 weeks, the estimated maximum capacity of the lodges in south-central Labrador is approximately 2,500 guests per season. However, lodge owners noted that the actual occupancy rate was less than the maximum capacity. The occupancy rate for the lodges was estimated at 60%, with reported levels ranging from 23% to 90% occupancy. Based on an average occupancy rate of 60%, the annual number of guests was estimated at approximately 1,475 for all lodges combined. It was noted by a number of lodge owners that operating at less than 100% occupancy was good. If all lodges operated at full capacity for the season, there was concern that there maybe problems with overcrowding and a reduced wilderness experience for guests.

Employment

Combined the lodges in the study area employ an estimated 130 people on a full-time basis over the period between June and September of each year. The majority of the seasonal employees (approximately 70%) were guides, with the remaining employees filling camp manager, cook, cook helper, housekeeping, pilot, expeditor/greeter and maintenance positions. Often one employee would be responsible for several duties, e.g., a chief guide may also serve as a camp manager or a guide may also handle required maintenance or repairs. Some of the employment may actually be for a period less than the June to September time frame or may be part-time, depending on the number of guests received during the season.

A small number of the outfitting businesses indicated that they had a full-time staff person handling management, promotion and reservations on a year-round basis. One operator had three full-time staff handling promotion and reservations, and another had a full-time office manager and full-time caretaker during the off-season.

The average weekly salary in the outfitting lodge business is estimated to be \$660. This salary varies depending on the position, with cooks and guides, in particular chief guides, receiving the highest salaries. The combined average salaries on a weekly basis are estimated at \$98,500, with an estimated \$1.3 million being paid annually in salaries and benefits in the outfitting sector in southern and central Labrador.

All employees are residents of Newfoundland and Labrador, and are either from the local area or from the island of Newfoundland.

Expenditures

The standard expenditure categories for outfitting lodges include:

- air charters for transporting guests and supplies to the lodge;
- salaries and benefits;
- fuel (diesel, gas and propane);
- food;
- lodge supplies;
- mortgage/debt costs;
- insurance;
- advertising, marketing and promotion;
- capital costs;
- repairs and maintenance;
- professional fees;
- office supplies; and
- communication (telephone, fax, internet).

The items most commonly noted as accounting for the greater proportion of annual expenditures are air transportation, payroll, fuel and food. Insurance and mortgage costs are also larger expenditure items. The majority of lodge purchases are made in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, with speciality items and some bulk wholesale purchases being made on the island of Newfoundland or in Quebec. The total annual expenditures made by all lodges combined is estimated to be \$2.8 million, with the greater proportion of these expenditures (except for salaries) occurring in the Happy Valley-Goose Bay area.

In addition to expenditures for lodge operations, lodge guests also purchase items other than their lodge packages. Due to airline schedules, all lodge guests have to overnight for at least one night in Happy Valley-Goose Bay either at the beginning or end of their trip. Assuming that each lodge guest spends on average \$250 per person per stay, based on an estimated 1,475 guests visiting lodges in the study area, this translates into an estimated \$366,000 in expenditures on items other than the lodge packages. When based on the estimated maximum combined capacity of 2,500 at study area lodges, the overall potential expenditures that could be made by guests total an estimated \$615,000 annually. The majority of these expenditures would be made in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, as guests would likely obtain hotel accommodations and eat meals in the town. Some expenditures, such as sightseeing trips and craft or souvenir items, may be purchased in other towns in the area.

Revenue

The price for a one week package at an outfitting lodge in central and southern Labrador ranges from CDN\$1,400 to CDN\$5,700, with an average package price of \$3,600. Based on an estimated 1,475 guests visiting lodges in the study area, this translates into approximately \$5 million in gross revenue generated annually for all lodges combined. The estimated gross revenue varies between lodges, ranging from approximately \$60,000 to \$600,000 per lodge. When based on the estimated maximum combined guest capacity of 2,500 guests for all lodges combined, the potential gross revenue capacity is estimated at \$8.3 million annually. The estimated net revenue for all lodges in the study area combined is approximately \$2.2 million annually. However, based on the estimated maximum capacity of 2,500 guests, there is a potential for an estimated net revenue of approximately \$5.5 million.

Lodge Value

The outfitting lodges in the study area have a combined estimated value of \$11 million. This estimate is based on an estimated selling price for each lodge. However, lodge owners indicated that the overall investment that has been made in the business is substantially higher.

Contribution to Local Economy

The outfitting lodges in south-central contribute an estimated \$2.8 million in expenditures to the Newfoundland and Labrador economy, with salaries and benefits accounting for an estimated \$1.3 million (46%) of those expenditures. As employees come from many parts of the province, it is not possible to determine what proportion of the salaries are paid to Labrador residents or residents of the study area. However, the majority of the remaining expenditures (i.e., \$1.5 million) were noted as being made in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, with a small proportion of the expenditures being made elsewhere. Assuming that 95% of the expenditures were made in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Cartwright, this indicates that an estimated \$1.4 million is spent annually in the area by the lodge owners/operators.

The overall estimated contribution of the outfitting lodges in south-central Labrador to the Labrador economy, in particular the central Labrador economy, is approximately \$15 million, based on the following considerations:

- an average 60% occupancy rate at all lodges for the entire operation season;
- an estimated \$1.4 million in expenditures in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Cartwright;
- an estimated \$11 million combined value of the lodges;
- an estimated net revenue of \$2.2 million for the lodges combined; and
- an estimated \$366,000 in additional expenditures by lodge guests.

The potential estimated contribution of the outfitting lodges in south-central Labrador to the Labrador economy, in particular the central Labrador economy, is approximately \$19.5 million, based on the following considerations:

- 100% occupancy rate at all lodges for the entire operating season;
- estimated \$2.4 million in expenditures in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Cartwright;
- estimated \$11 million combined value of the lodges;
- estimated net revenue of \$5.5 million for the lodges combined; and
- estimated \$615,000 in additional expenditures by lodge guests.

Note that there is also an estimated \$1.3 million spent in combined salaries annually for these lodge businesses. Taking the salaries into consideration, the lodges of south-central Labrador contribute an estimated \$16.3 million to the provincial economy annually. If the maximum occupancy rate were to be achieved, the lodge businesses of south-central Labrador would potentially contribute an estimated \$20.8 million to the provincial economy.

The estimates on the contribution of the south-central Labrador outfitting businesses to the provincial economy do not take into consideration expenditures by guests on air travel to Happy Valley-Goose Bay. These expenditures are typically made elsewhere, and involve travel on airlines not based in Newfoundland and Labrador. However, some local travel agencies may benefit from booking flights and lodge packages. In addition, there is also induced employment benefits (e.g., employment in hotels and restaurants) in Happy Valley-Goose Bay associated with any stop over of lodge guests.

4.6.2.6 Future Direction and Challenges for Outfitting Lodge Operations in South-Central Labrador

With respect to the sensitivity of demand for a lodge-based fishery, most lodge owners indicated that there was a delicate balance in operating an outfitting business. The resource (i.e., the fish) and related factors of remoteness and exclusivity were seen as being key factors affecting the outfitting lodge business. However, it was also noted that factors, such as the value of the Canadian dollar relative to the American dollar, airline schedules, the SARS issue, the events in the United States on September 11, 2001 and the United States' invasion of Iraq, have affected guest numbers at outfitting lodges in recent years.

Future Plans and Opportunities

Without the proposed highway, the majority of lodge operators indicated that they either plan on starting renovations or already have renovations in progress. Several of the lodges have undergone substantial renovation work in recent years.

The majority of lodge operators indicated that winter tourism opportunities are limited and pursuing such activities would require major investment and reworking of the lodges. None of the lodges are currently designed for winter use. Substantial changes would be required to heating, septic and water supply systems to make the facilities suitable for winter use. It was also noted by at least two lodge operators that winter fishing produced no catches at their location.

Concerns about Phase III of the Trans Labrador Highway

All outfitting lodge operators, except one, indicated a preference for the proposed southern routing of the Phase III portion of the TLH. The southern routing for the TLH as proposed was a concern to the Osprey Lake Lodge, the closest lodge to the proposed southern route for the highway.

Several lodge operators indicated that having no highway in the area was preferred, but if there had to be a highway then the southern route was preferable. They indicated that the southern route was more appropriate because it would cut off access to the Eagle River and would help protect the fish stocks in the watershed. It was felt that the crossing of the Eagle River as defined by the northern route would increase potential for angling activity and cabin development along the river. It was suggested that lodge clients, in particular clients from the United States, would go elsewhere for their fishing experiences if the northern route was selected. It was also suggested that selecting the northern route would mean there would be no national park for the Mealy Mountains area.

There is already snowmobile access to the Minipi River watershed and some trapping does occur in the area. Concerns about vandalism were noted by a number of lodge operators and it was noted that several lodges have been vandalized at some point. It was also noted that there were already concerns about crowding on the lower Eagle River.

It was noted that Labrador is generally a hard sell from the tourism perspective, and if there is a problem with one lodge then it would affect the entire industry. The remoteness, exclusivity and wilderness characteristics are factors that allow lodges to obtain good rates for the product they offer. Any change in these factors and/or the availability of fish would present challenges for the outfitting lodges in the area.

It was generally felt that the highway would not be a source of new business for the outfitting lodges. Lodge clients are looking for the remote, wilderness, fishing experience and do not want to see roads. It was noted that the fly-in lodge business and road-access lodge business were different, with the road accessible lodges attracting a different segment of the tourism market. The fact that there have been no ecotourism or adventure tourism operations established along the portion of the TLH between Happy Valley-Goose Bay and western Labrador was cited as a rationale for the low expectations for the potential of drawing these tourism market segments to south-central Labrador.

Suggested Measures for Addressing Concerns about Resource Use

Lodge owners/operators provided a number of suggestions for managing the issues regarding resource use and improved access provided by the TLH. Suggestions include:

- implement land use zoning that would define areas where development and activities were permitted, e.g., areas for cabin development, fishing activity, canoeing and wilderness camping;
- develop watershed management plans that define management measures, permitted development, and acceptable practices and activities;
- create a watershed management or co-management board;
- establish the national park and include all of the Eagle River watershed in the park, this would protect the area on the north side of the highway;
- designate the Eagle River a heritage river;
- develop conservation measures to protect the area;
- keep the highway to the south, stay away from the Eagle River;
- route the highway even further south than the route proposed.
- design/install watercourse crossing structures to ensure that they do not constrict the water flow;
- enforce existing laws and regulations, and any new measures put in place;
- increase number of enforcement staff;
- create a physical barrier between the resource and the highway;
- develop a policy on cabins that prohibits cabin development along the highway;
- prohibit roadside and gravel pit camping;
- ban the use of all-terrain vehicles in the area;
- restrict or limit snowmobile use in the area;
- revise the fishing regulations for the area to include catch limits for the rivers and lakes, a ban on ice-fishing, restrictions on lake fishing, prohibit the killing of large fish, restrict fishing to catch and release only in the area, and restrict the number of rod days on various sections of the river to protect stocks;
- review and update regulations on catch and release practices;
- establish a no fishing policy during construction;
- maintain the freeze on new lodge development on the rivers;
- maintain the 8-km protective zone around the outfitting lodges;
- only permit new outfitting lodges in new areas and ensure that they adhere to the same high standards as those of existing lodges;
- revise the guiding regulations; and
- government needs to support protection of outfitters.

4.6.2.7 Potential Locations for New Outfitting Lodges

Interviews with outfitters produced a common theme with regard to expansion of either outfitting or of a general increase in angling activity. The most critical attribute of lodges on inland lakes is isolation. Each lodge is located on a separate lake or river section and the clients have virtually exclusive use of the area proximal to the lodge. Immense value is placed on this and most, if not all, outfitters feel that their business would certainly suffer if another operation were to overlap with their area of activity. Current regulation prohibits an outfitter from sponsoring fishing activity within 2-km of another licensed operation.

The lodge owners interviewed were not able to identify specific locations suitable for new outfitting lodges. The areas in which the existing lodges are located were considered to have reached its maximum potential with respect to lodge development.

The feeling of the outfitters towards new lodges appears to be that they are welcome as long as they: are located distant enough to not compete for space; are operated to a high standard of quality service; and use a catch and release fishery to preserve the stocks. It was noted that the expansion of an existing facility would also have to be considered carefully as ‘over-populating’ an existing lodge may be a deterrent to some clients.

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