



SOUTHERN LAKES  
ENHANCED STORAGE  
CONCEPT



# Addressing Shoreline Erosion

*August 2015*



**YUKON  
ENERGY**

In March, we sent you a pamphlet that talked about our research into increasing water storage in some of the Southern Lakes. The concept would see us holding more water in Marsh, Tagish and Bennett lakes in the fall, so it could be used later in the winter for renewable power generation.

Since then, we have been providing additional information on topics identified by Southern Lakes residents as being of concern. This month we examine the issue of erosion on lakefront properties.

## CURRENTLY

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- There is already naturally occurring erosion in some areas of the Southern Lakes. This erosion will continue with or without the enhancement concept.
- This natural erosion is focused mostly at the outlet of Tagish Lake and Marsh Lake, given these areas have sandy/silty banks versus the harder/rockier and steeper shorelines seen in much of Tagish and Bennett lakes.



If the Southern Lakes Enhanced Storage Concept goes ahead, Yukon Energy has committed to building engineered protection along the shoreline of properties that may be affected by the concept. The protection is intended to be effective, long lasting, and will cover the lots within an entire shoreline area.



## WORKING WITH PROPERTY OWNERS

Modelling work showed that the concept would cause increased erosion in five areas at Army Beach, Judas Creek, North M'Clintock, Tagish Lake Outlet and Taku North. Yukon Energy's mitigation work would focus on these specific neighbourhoods. Yukon Energy met with more than 50 property owners in all five of these areas.

### Property Visit 1

Discussed likely erosion effects of the proposal, erosion mitigation options, and what land owners valued about their shorelines and properties. More than 75 percent of potentially affected homeowners participated.

### Property Visit 2

The same property owners were brought together in groups to evaluate the mitigation options and identify preferred options.



## What we heard

- Each neighbourhood reached consensus on the mitigation option that they would want if the project were to proceed.
- Most landowners felt that effectiveness and durability were most important to them when considering mitigation options. Of about nine options, riprap (large rocks with or without vegetation) was selected as the best choice for them, although property owners at Judas Creek identified groynes (rock structures that extend into the water to disrupt waves) as the preferred choice.



## Coming Soon

In September, watch for the next pamphlet in this series, which will focus on groundwater mitigation.



## Be informed

Click on the “Southern Lakes Enhanced Storage” button on [yukonenergy.ca](http://yukonenergy.ca) to find the studies and read all the reports that have been done on this concept.



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