Manitoba Metis Traditional Use and the Keeyask Generation Project

Presentation to the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission

Regarding Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership Application

By: P.M. (Patt) Larcombe
Symbion Consultants
on behalf of the Manitoba Metis Federation

December 3, 2013

Step towards addressing gaps in the EIS with respect to Manitoba Metis current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes

CEAA Guideline 8.3.4 – In describing the socio-economic environment the EIS will focus on the following ...

- current and proposed uses of land and resources by each Aboriginal group for traditional purposes, i.e., hunting, fishing, trapping cultural and other traditional uses of the land;
- Land and water access into the area by Aboriginal people;
- Water and ice routes, modes of transportation, and timing of water/ice route useage; and
- Navigation and navigation safety.

CEAA Guideline 9.1.3 – *The proponent will identify:*

Effects the Project may have on current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes by Aboriginal peoples ... as well as related effects on lifestyle, culture and quality of life ... and measures to avoid, mitigate, compensate or accommodate effects on traditional uses....

Step towards addressing gaps in the EIS with respect to Manitoba Metis current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes

EIS - Volume 2, Resource Use, Section 1.2.2.1 (pg.1-7) states; "Project effects on domestic resource use are predicted for KCNs communities only. Use of the Local Study Area by other Aboriginal groups has not been identified through the Public Involvement Program or through direct consultations with Aboriginal groups and communities. Therefore no effects to other Aboriginal groups have been identified. Ongoing discussions are occurring with the Manitoba Metis Federation"

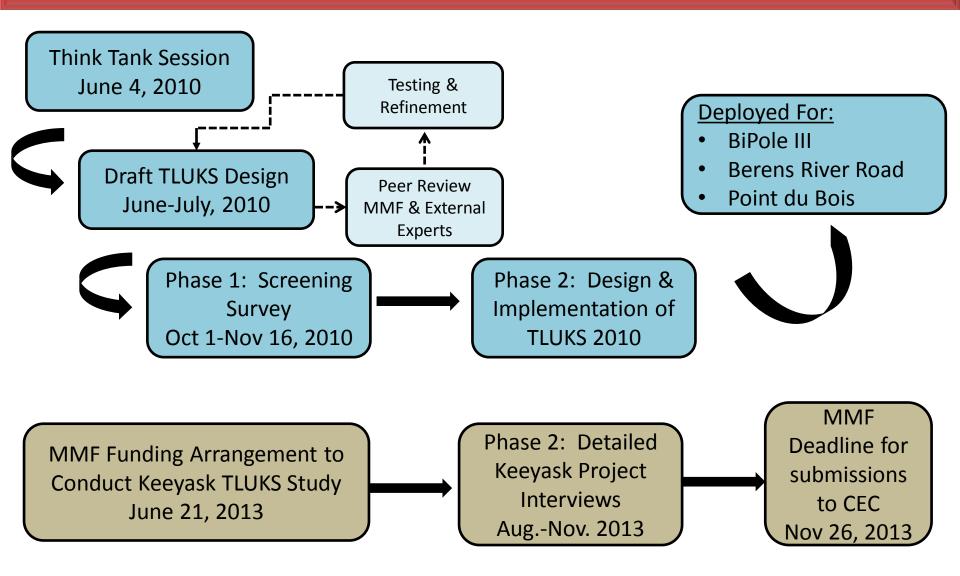
Objectives of Today's Presentation

- Description of Manitoba Metis traditional use, based on a limited study completed in the past few months.
- Caveat! Maps in this presentation based on 35 interviews. All other nonspatial information based on 30 Interviews due to late discovery that data for 5 interviews were inadvertently missing in the data set.
- Information presented today is based on a very small sample 30 Manitoba
 Metis harvesters:
 - 21 of whom currently reside in communities in the EIS Socio-Economic Local Study Area (i.e. Thompson, Gillam, Ilford, and Keeyask First Nation Reserves) and in the Bay Line communities which are reliant on Thompson as a goods and services centre; and
 - 9 of whom engage or have engaged in traditional use in the MMF study area but do not currently reside in the aforementioned communities.
- This sampling represents less than 2% of the adult Metis population in the above-mentioned communities, but it is a start and what was made available to MMF based on timelines and budgets.

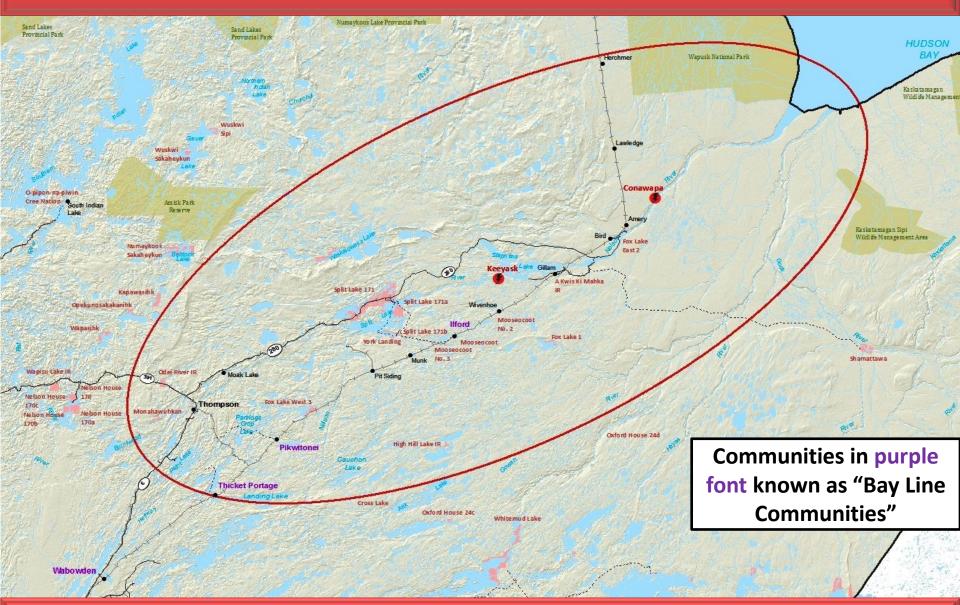
Traditional Land Use and Knowledge Study (TLUKS) Design and Implementation

- Methodology for Keeyask TLUKS same as for BiPole III. This method is described in detail in:
 - a document submitted to the CEC Panel for BiPole III entitled "Manitoba Metis Traditional Use and the BiPole III Project, November 4, 2012", filed as Exhibit MMF-011;
 - a presentation submitted to the CEC Panel for BiPole III, filed as Exhibit MMF-012, dated November 13, 2012; and
 - CEC Panel for BiPole III hearing transcript Volume 20, dated November 13, 2012 (pages 4289-4352).

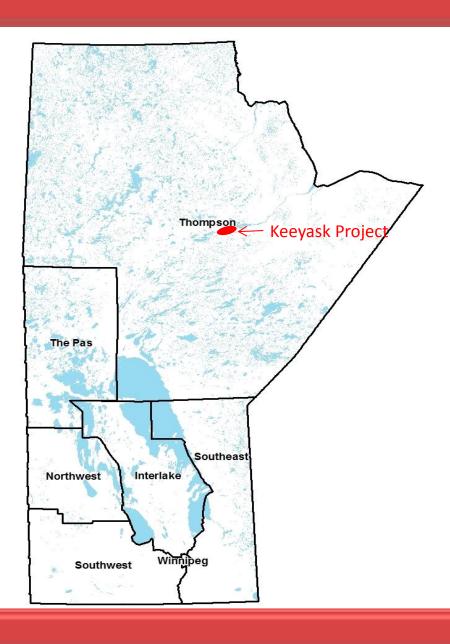
Traditional Land Use and Knowledge Study (TLUKS) Design and Implementation



Study Area Employed in MMF Keeyask TLUKS



GEOGRAPHY-MMF REGIONS



Eligibility to participate in a TLUKS Detailed Interviews

Manitoba Metis Registered Under MMF 2008 Constitution

- 18 years of age or older;
- Self-identify as a Metis person;
- Demonstrated ancestry through genealogy documentation;
- Distinct from other Aboriginal peoples;
- Accepted as Metis by MMF Local and Regional executives.

Manitoba Metis with Adult Harvester Card

- 15 years of age or older;
- Self-identify as a Metis person
- Demonstrated ancestry through genealogy documentation;
- Distinct from other Aboriginal peoples;
- Accepted as Metis by MMF Locals.

Manitoba Metis Interviewed for Keeyask TLUKS:

- 50% are Registered Members and/or have Harvester Card.
- 50% have pending applications for Membership and/or Harvester Card.

TLUKS Detailed Interviews

- Arrangement between the MMF and Manitoba Hydro with respect to documenting Manitoba Metis traditional use was to assemble information from a small sample of 30 harvesters active in the Keeyask Study Area. This number was not established as a statistically valid sample.
- A total of 21 new interviews were completed and added to interview information from 10 interviews done for the BiPole III TLUKS that had indicated traditional use within the Keeyask Study Area.
- Half of Interviewees identified from the Screening Survey and other half identified through consultation with MMF Thompson Regional Office.
- 21 new interviews conducted between August 7 November 8, 2013.
 Each interview typically took between 1-3 hours. 20 of the harvesters interviewed in 2013 indicated traditional use in the Keeyask Study Area.

TLUKS Detailed Interviews

TLUKS system designed to document current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes as per standard requirements in environmental assessment reviews.

- Spatial (locations) and temporal (decades and seasons) patterns in interviewees own lifetimes. Not based on oral histories (i.e., what parents or grandparents did). Interviewees outline their personal experiences.
- Species harvested for food, medicine, arts/crafts, fuel wood. Trapping only cash-income activity included.
- Cultural and social patterns concerning traditional activity partners, learning, and sharing.
- Information about traditional resource consumption and equipment ownership.
- Information about traditional knowledge, including ecological knowledge.

 27 men and 3 women interviewed. Ages of Interviewees were as follows:

Age Bracket	%
<25	17%
25-39	13%
40-54	27%
55-64	23%
65+	20%

 21 of the 30 Interviewees live within the Study Area. Remaining Interviewees were living in the Interlake, Southwest and Winnipeg MMF Regions; however 3 had lived in the Study Area earlier in life.

- 43% of the Interviewees were born in the MMF Thompson Region.
 17% born in the Interlake Region; 10% born in Northwest Region;
 10% in Winnipeg Region.
- Interviewees parents born in following locations:

MMF Region	%
Out of Province/Unknown	32%
Northwest	27%
Thompson	15%
Interlake	12%
Southeast	7%
Southwest	3%
Winnipeg	3%
The Pas	2%

- The median household size of Interviewees was 2.5 (range 1-8).
- Just less than 25% had grade 9 or less education; 47% had grade
 10 to high school equivalency; and 23% had a diploma or certificate.
- 57% of Interviewees were employed full-time; 10% part-time year-round; 14% full or part time seasonally; and 20% were retired.
- 20% of Interviewees had <u>personal income</u> of less than \$20,000/year; 57% had income between \$20,000-\$60,000; and 23% >\$60,000.
- 7% of Interviewees had <u>family income</u> of less than \$20,000/year; 27% had income between \$20,000-\$60,000; and 53% >\$60,000.

Equipment Owned by Interviewees:

- 80% own a truck
- 77% own a skidoo
- 77% own a boat
- 47% own an ATV
- 37% own a canoe

Frequency Interviewees Consume Traditional Foods:

- 17% > than 4 times/week
- 30% 2 3 times/week
- 27% once/week
- 26% < than once/week

% of Interviewees Engaged in Traditional Use Activity in Study Area		
Fishing	87%	
Moose Harvesting	63%	
Waterfowl (Ducks and/or Geese)	47%	
Trapping	47%	
Gathering (Berries and Other Plant Foods)	43%	
Upland Birds (Grouse and/or Ptarmigan)	33%	
Caribou Harvesting	30%	
Medicine	27%	

40% of Interviewees participate in 5 or more of the above activities.

17% participate in 3 to 4 of the above activities.

43% participate in less than 3 of the above activities.

TLUKS Detailed Interviews

Highlights of the detailed interviews...

 In the 2000's decade, the annual amount of time spent by the Interviewees engaged in traditional use for food or medicinal purposes was as follows:

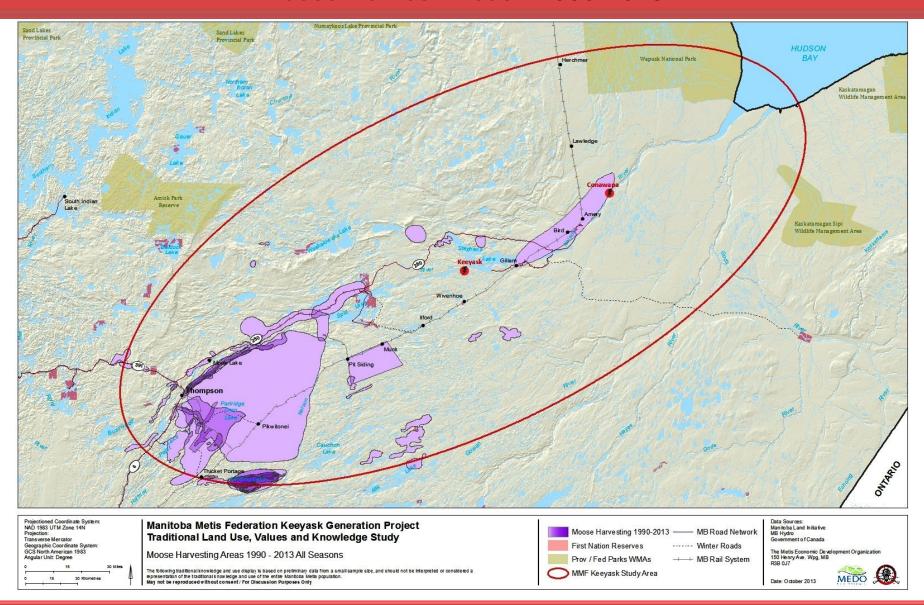
	# Trips/Year	# Days/Year
Average	38	59
Median	21	50
High	134	208
Low	1	6

TLUKS Detailed Interviews

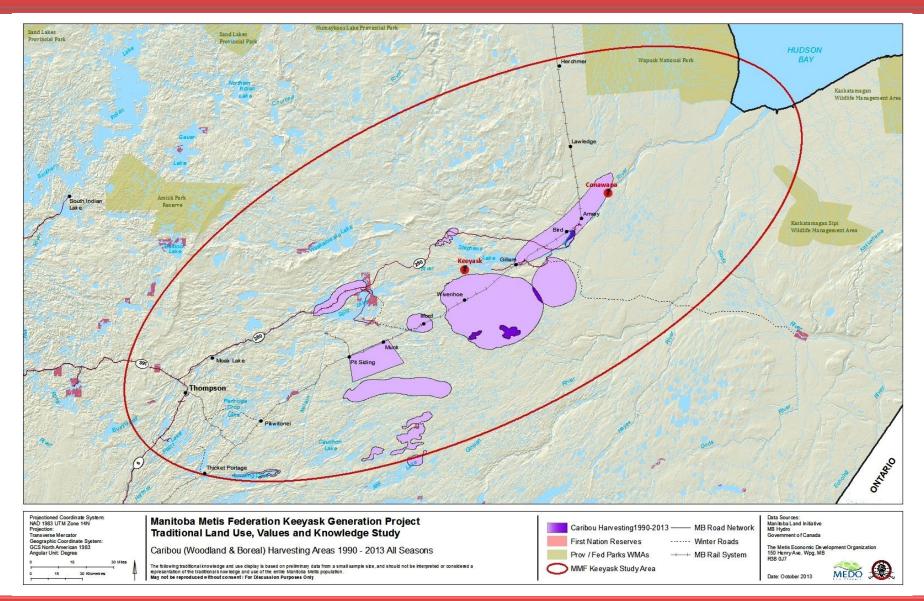
Highlights of the detailed interviews ...

- Half (50%) of traditional use locations identified were learned about by the Interview from family members, 32% were learned about through friends or others, and 17% were discovered by the Interviewee's themselves.
- Interviewees generally began their traditional activity experiences in the company of their parents, aunts and uncles and siblings and cousins. As they aged, married and had children, they spent more time with their immediate family and spouse/partner's family, as well as friends.

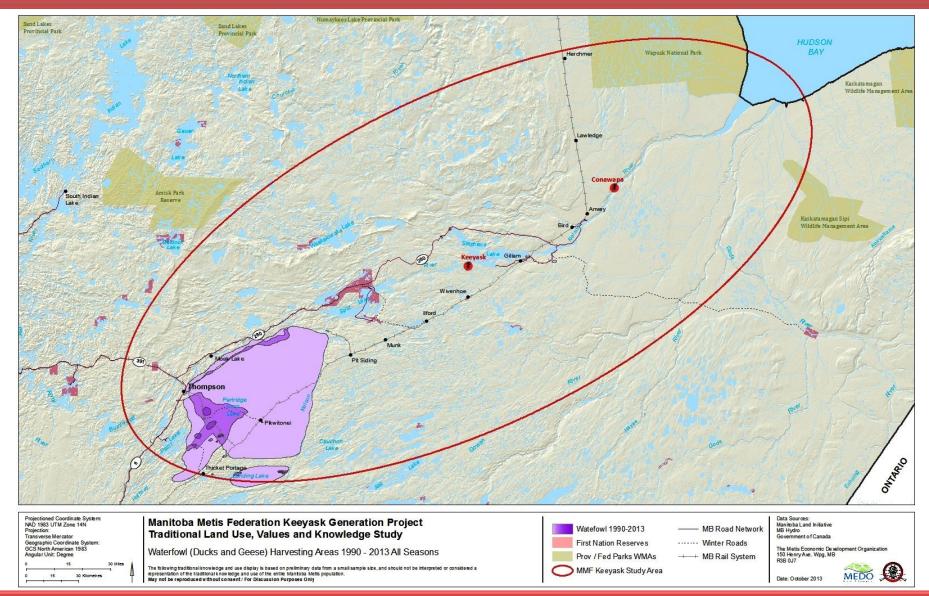
TLUKS Detailed Interviews Moose Harvest Areas - 1990-2013



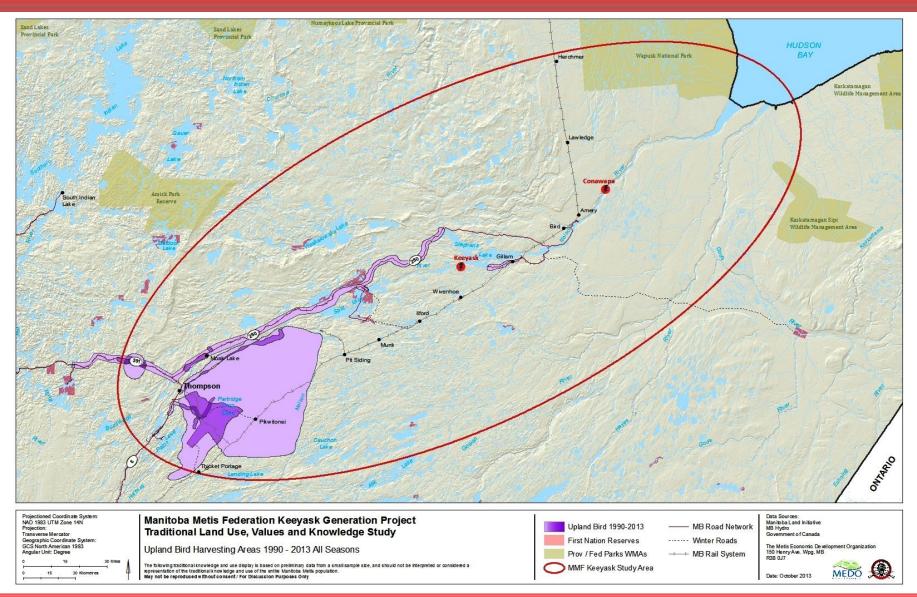
TLUKS Detailed Interviews Caribou Harvest Areas – 1990 - 2013



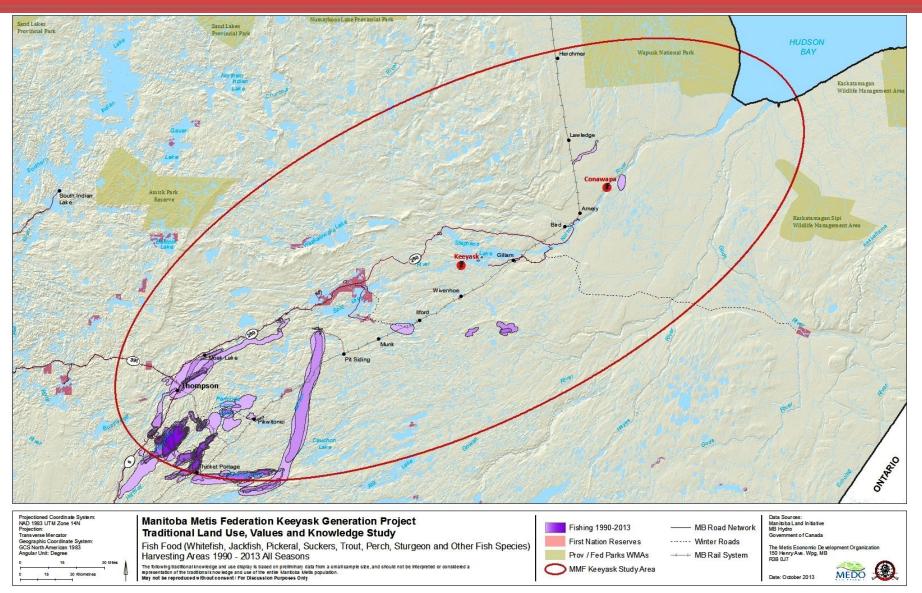
TLUKS Detailed Interviews Waterfowl Harvest Areas 1990 - 2013



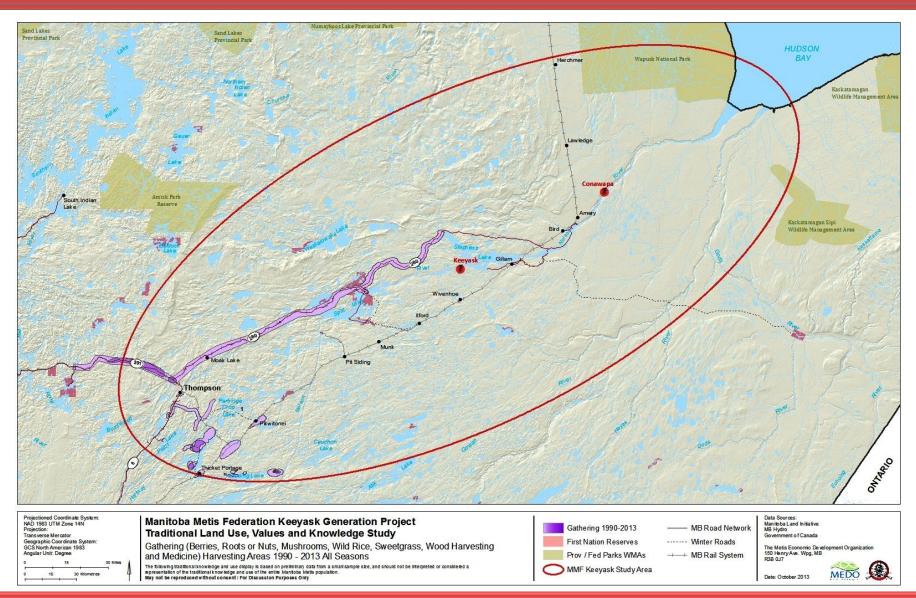
TLUKS Detailed Interviews Upland Bird Harvest Areas 1990 - 2013



TLUKS Detailed Interviews Food Fishing Harvest Areas 1990 - 2013



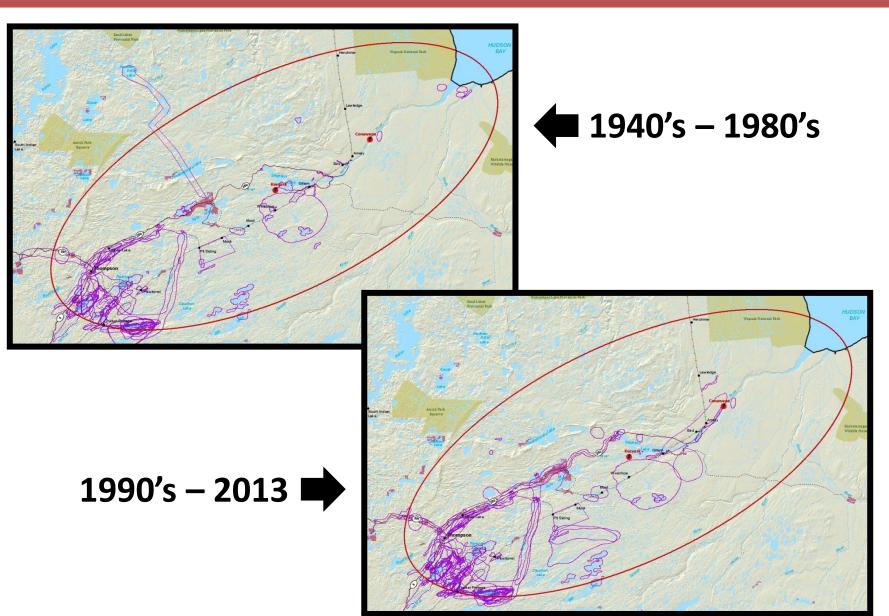
TLUKS Detailed Interviews Plant Gathering Harvest Areas 1990-2013



TLUKS Detailed Interviews Trapping Harvest Areas

- Half of the Interviewees indicated trapping with the Study Area in their lifetime.
- Areas where trapping has and/or currently occurs are primarily south of Thompson and southwest of Ilford. For confidentiality reasons a map of identified trapping areas is not presented.
- Species trapped include aquatic furbearers (muskrat, beaver, mink and otter) and upland furbearers (rabbit, fox, lynx, marten, fisher, weasel, wolverine, coyote and wolf).

TIME SEQUENCE – ALL TRADITIONAL USE ACTIVITIES



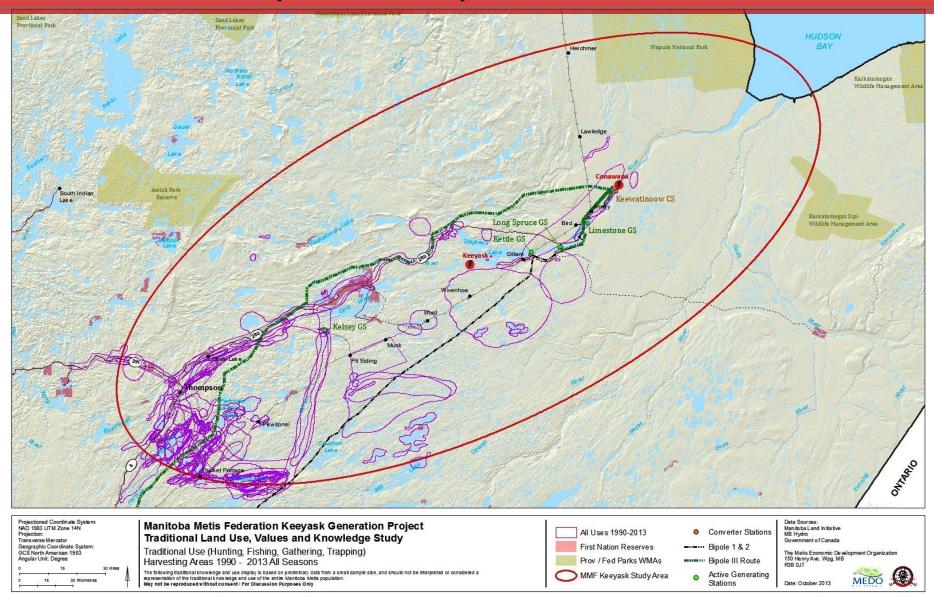
Summary Findings About Manitoba Metis Traditional Use within Keeyask Study Area

- Based on the limited research undertaken the study documented no contemporary traditional use by Manitoba Metis specifically within the Keeyask Project footprint, i.e. generating station and portion of Nelson River to be converted to a reservoir.
- However evidence of Manitoba Metis traditional use within the Regional Study Area identified by the Proponent and within the geographic areas where Adverse Effects Agreements Offsetting Programs are proposed to be implemented.
- The limited research indicates that traditional use:
 - along the Burntwood River to Split Lake;
 - along Highway 280 from Thompson east to Stephens Lake;
 - fishing within Stephens Lake;
 - south and east of Gillam and south of Split Lake; and
 - most extensively south of Thompson.

CONSTRAINTS AND DISTURBANCES IN TLUKS STUDY AREA

- Current lack of government recognition of Metis harvesting Rights.
- Federal Lands (First Nation Reserve Lands).
- Keeyask Cree Nations Resource Management Areas.
- Existing Hydroelectric Development:
 - Kelsey GS (1961), Kettle GS (1974), Long Spruce (1979)
 - BiPole I (1972)
 - Lake Winnipeg Regulation & Churchill River Diversion (1976-1979)
 - BiPole II (1985)
 - Limestone GS (1990), Wuskwatim GS (2012)
 - Planned Hydroelectric Development
 - BiPole III
 - Keeyask
 - Conawapa

EXISTING AND PLANNED HYDRO DEVELOPMENT RELATIVE TO KNOWN CONTEMPORARY (1990-Present) METIS TRADITIONAL USE AREAS



CONCLUDING COMMENTS

- Traditional use information documented to date is a step towards addressing gaps in the EIS and meeting the Guidelines.
- The TLUKS shows Manitoba Metis current use of lands and resources in the MMF's Keeyask Study Area and in the Proponents Local and Regional Study Areas.
- EIS Guidelines require an assessment of effects and assessment of significance of any residual effects. Similar to the process with the Keeyask Cree Nations, this assessment needs to be done in consultation with the MMF on behalf of and with Metis harvesters.
- Understanding effects on Metis community and meeting CEAA Guidelines cannot be done until this is completed.

CONCLUDING COMMENTS

- Manitoba Metis are a distinct Aboriginal group with traditional use in the area of influence of the proposed Keeyask Generation Project.
 Mitigation measures of general application to individuals may not suffice in addressing effects on Manitoba Metis harvesters or Metis collective interests.
- A process to undertake effects assessment, including identifying appropriate mitigation and determining significance of any residual effects with the MMF is still required. If effects are identified, this also applies to construction and operational management plans and environmental, socio-economic and traditional use monitoring.

CONCLUDING COMMENTS

- It is late in the environmental review 'day'.
- Therefore, it is recommended that this Panel acknowledge the necessity and importance of this further work by;
 - A. Allowing time before completing your report to the Minister for this work to be accomplished, or in the alternate,
 - B. If you decide to proceed with your report and recommend that the Project proceed, you:
 - 1. Including it as a licensing condition, if you recommend to the Minister that the project proceed; and
 - Stipulate that a license for the project not be issued by the Minister until an agreement between MMF and the Proponent has been reached.

THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO THE CLEAN ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

AND

THANK YOU TO THE MANY MANITOBA METIS
WHO CONTRIBUTED THEIR TIME AND
INFORMATION TO THE MMF'S TLUKS