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**Environment Fair to celebrate biodiversity**

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government will host an Environment Fair in April to connect the public with the people and organizations that help protect Yukon’s ecosystems, Environment Minister John Edzerza announced today.

“The Yukon government works to maintain and enhance the quality of our natural environment for present and future generations,” Edzerza said. “The protection and maintenance of biodiversity is important for all of us.”

The Environment Fair will be held Saturday, April 17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Canada Games Centre in Whitehorse and will feature:

- free admission,
- fishing and government campground permits for sale,
- a “biodiversity university” for children and families,
- opportunities to learn about new programs, and
- short presentations on a wide range of topics.

There will be an Environment After Hours presentation at 7 p.m. the same day in the Beringia Centre in Whitehorse. Award-winning anthropologist and author Wade Davis will speak on *The Wayfinders: Why Ancient Wisdom Matters in the Modern World*, a look at the crisis of disappearing human languages and the role that climate change and loss of biodiversity plays. Free tickets, needed for this event since seating is limited, can be reserved by calling 667-5652 or emailing [tim.sellars@gov.yk.ca](mailto:tim.sellars@gov.yk.ca).

“The family-friendly environment fair will encourage participants and presenters to interact through booths, displays, music and short presentations,” Edzerza said. “Our goal is to show how the International Year of Biodiversity links to the day-to-day lives of Yukoners.”

A full list of displays and presentations is on the department’s website at [www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca](http://www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca). Environment Yukon is organizing the forum with financial assistance from Environment Canada and the participation of environment-related non-government organizations and government programs.

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