



Dawson Regional Planning Commission

Moving Forward • Nän kää ndä tr'ädäl

April 12, 2013

Open Letter to Workshop Participants

Re: February Planning Workshop – Dawson Regional Land Use Plan

Thank you for taking the time recently to participate in a Planning Workshop, hosted by the Dawson Regional Planning Commission, on February 14, 2013. The thoughtful comments we heard during discussions at that workshop help the Commission move forward, confident that public participation is a meaningful part of the process. Participants at the workshop provided helpful insight on activities and interests occurring in the Dawson region. Criteria for assessing economic, social and environmental outcomes over the shelf-life of a regional plan (+/- 20 years) were suggested.

Attached is a summary of the discussion at the workshop. The input from the workshop is being incorporated into the *Plan Alternatives Evaluation Framework*, which the Commission will use to develop and compare different planning approaches, as we work toward release of a Draft Land Use Plan in October 2013.

The next opportunity to participate in the planning process will be at a Planning Workshop on May 14, in Dawson City. At that workshop, the Commission will invite input and comment on the *Plan Alternatives Evaluation Framework*. The Commission hopes to tap the wealth of local knowledge and practical experience as it designs and implements land and resource management approaches for sustainable economic activity.

The Commission appreciates your interest in the development of a regional land use plan. I encourage you to continue participating in the planning process. Please feel free to share your thoughts on the Commission's progress or products, at any time, with myself, members of the Commission or our planning staff in Dawson City.

Regards,

Scott Casselman
Chair
Dawson Regional Planning Commission

Development of Draft Objectives and Performance Measures

Decision Context: The Commission needs to recommend a land use plan to Government and First Nation Partners that maximizes access to economic resources, while minimizing impact on cultural values and maintaining ecological function. Broad regional planning goals for sustainable development are established for Natural, Economic and Traditional cultural values (N.E.T. value). Each of these N.E.T. values were reviewed during the workshop.

The plan must accommodate a diverse range of land uses, as demonstrated by the list of activities created by workshop participants:

claim staking	film/tv locations
wood cutting	archaeological research
placer mining	sightseeing
municipal infrastructure (landfills, utilities, roads, airports)	wildlife viewing
hunting	mineral exploration
snowmobiling	off-road 4x4
recreation	river tours
trail development	canoeing
fishing	big game outfitting
berry picking	guiding
trapping	residential development
hiking	land clearing
golfing	agriculture/farming
barging	sap collection
scientific research	mushroom picking
camping	traditional medicines
road construction	historic sites
oil& gas exploration	heritage sites
dog sledding	gravel extraction
tourism	cultural camps
backcountry airstrips	transportation
monitoring stations	hwy maintenance
ecosystem services	ecotourism

The following tables provide a summary of the workshop discussion within each of the N.E.T. value frameworks, including:

- Draft Objectives (loosely structured)
- Suggested performance measures

Suggested strategies were identified for framing of plan alternatives that respond to access, energy use, and conservation considerations.

The summary is followed by a preliminary synthesis of goal statements, fundamental objectives, sub-objectives and potential performance measures for conducting a coarse filter analysis of planning alternatives.

ECONOMIC VALUES	
Objectives (unorganized)	Suggested Performance Measures
Maximize economic prosperity = max(opportunity, stability, efficiency)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GDP • project longevity (mine life) • proximity of resource potential to roads • total length of roads • # of outfitter/guide permits • # of active traplines • km of active traplines • # of cutting permits • ounces/tonnes of mineral production • cost/cord of wood • distance from power transmission line • # of job openings by industry category • # of jobs by industry category • # of business by industry category • # of jobs by type (seasonal/perm; part-time/fulltime) • net migration of workers • # of members in chambers of commerce/mines • # of event days • # of tourist visitor-days • # of trade show booths • lbs of locally produced food
Maximize access to resources	
Maximize renewable resource activity	
Maximize energy availability	
Maximize local benefit from economic activity	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize job opportunities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize local supply services 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize cost of entry (to business) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize revenue from tourism 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize tourism visits 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize local cultural and sporting events 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize local food production 	

<i>ECONOMIC VALUES</i>	
Objectives (unorganized)	Suggested Performance Measures
Maximize efficiency of transportation networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • frequency of road closure • length by road surface types • \$ of road maintenance expenditure • mean travel distance to work • # of alternative modes of travel • output/input cost for energy • uptake on demand management programs • # of energy retrofits • median age of housing/fleet stock • # of court actions • duration of project assessment and review • # of local government jobs • \$ of local government expenditure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize cost of transport 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize need to travel 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize ease of transport 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize use of existing corridors/trails 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize traditional trail use as part of transportation network 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize creation of new corridor over use of existing transportation network 	
Maximize energy efficiency	
Maximize regulatory efficiency	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize government regulatory burden 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize local government services 	

NATURAL VALUES	
Objectives (unorganized)	Possible Performance Measure
Maximize ecological function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ecological integrity (linear feature density) • visibility • greenhouse gas emissions • chemical/physical properties (turbidity, dissolved O2, potability) • volume of water • rate of flow • # of benthic invertebrates • # of species • # of bird species • # of extinctions • effective habitat area • disease • contaminants in tissues • body condition • reproductive success • # of wildlife (population) • # of wildlife/unit area • # of human-animal interaction • animal behavioural change • change in animal distribution • range of movement • area of core habitat protected • forest age structure • # of stream crossings • linear feature density • # of reported spills • area affected by spills
• Maximize air quality	
• Maximize water quality	
• Maintain water quantity	
• Maintain rates of flow	
• Maximize aquatic health	
Maintain biodiversity	
• Maximize species health	
• Maximize herd size for wildlife	
• Maximize wildlife population density	
• Minimize disturbances to animals	
Maximize forest health	
• Maximize natural regeneration	
• Maximize resilience	
• Minimize invasive species	
Minimize environmental damage from disaster	
Minimize oil spill	

<i>SOCIO-CULTURAL VALUES</i>	
Objectives (unorganized)	Possible Performance Measure
Minimize impact of resource development on traditional economic activity	(none were identified due to a lack of time)
Maximize cultural landscapes	
• Maximize land base for traditional activities	
• Maximize cultural context for resource activities	
• Maximize economic benefit from traditional cultural activity	
• Maximize economic benefit from cultural heritage resources	
• Maximize harvest of culturally relevant resources	
• Maximize traditional economic opportunity	
• Maximize awareness of heritage resources	
Maximize sense of connection to place	
• Maximize scenic landscapes	
• Maintain integrity of historic sites	
• Maintain integrity of heritage resources	
• Minimize impact of land use activity on heritage resources	
• Maximize recreational opportunity	
• Maximize cultural benefit from interpretation of heritage resources	
• Maximize use of traditional place names	

<i>SOCIO-CULTURAL VALUES</i>	
Objectives (unorganized)	Possible Performance Measure
Maximize quality of life	(none were identified due to a lack of time)
• Maximize personal wealth	
• Maximize human health	
• Maximize traditional economic harvest activity	
• Maximize education and learning	
• Maximize attractiveness to families	
• Maximize school-age population	
• Maximize retention of youth	
Maximize monitoring and stewardship	
• Maximize local governance	
• Maximize local decision making	
• Maximize education/learning	

PLANNING STRATEGIES SUGGESTED BY WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS ,FEBRUARY 2013

Suggested Planning Strategies

Yukon River Corridor

- Protection
- Commercial Waterway

Protection -> Opportunity Cost

Disturbance Thresholds

Conservation Benchmarks

Staged/Phased Development

Pace of Development

Activity Thresholds

Gated Access Roads

Redistribution of activity over larger land base

Shifting of harvest areas

Rotation of use areas

Re- align/rationalize access

Best Practices

Regional info base

Discussion tables

Harmonize regulations

Conservation quotas (representative of forest age structures)

Designate LMU's

Establish priorities for regulatory review

Establish species refuges (for re-stocking/local reclamation)

Establish wetland conservation priorities

renewable energy resource potential

Consider post-industrial land use planning

Participant Survey Responses

MOTIVATION TO PARICIPATE	
To learn more about regional planning	3.4
Desire to participate in current planning	4.4
To find out what other people have to say about regional planning	4.2
To socialize, meet people and enjoy the coffee	1.8
Financial Compensation (paid to attend)	1.2

- 1=NOT AT ALL
2=MAYBE A LITTLE
3=YES
4=MOSTLY
5=OH YEAH!