

## Dawson Regional Draft Plan

### Recommended Management Practices

*Approaches or actions to be used by proponents, land users and project assessors to help achieve Plan objectives. While plan objectives define “what” outcome is intended for a particular value, strategies describe “how” the desired outcome will be achieved.*

Section	Section Reference	Practice
Top of the World Highway	4.1.2.1	Travellers and users of this area must take care to not disturb the unique biophysical and socio-cultural setting of the corridor, in particular from the use of ORVs within key areas.
Top of the World Highway	4.1.2.1	The use of ORVs within key areas should not undermine the important biophysical attributes.
Top of the World Highway	4.1.2.1	The scenic integrity and natural aesthetic viewscape of the highway corridor should be maintained.
Top of the World Highway	4.1.2.1	As with all human-caused disturbances, high standards of restoration should apply to all new surface disturbances within the corridor (e.g., gravel pits, roads, and telecommunications infrastructure).
Klondike Highway Corridor	4.1.2.1	As with all human-caused disturbances, high standards of restoration should apply to all new surface disturbances within the corridor (e.g., gravel pits, roads, and telecommunications infrastructure)
Northern Access Route	4.1.2.2	Access road and trail construction over permafrost areas and over wetlands should be avoided where practicable. In areas of discontinuous permafrost, route selection should be on frost-free, south facing slopes.
Northern Access Route	4.1.2.2	The creation of looped or redundant access roads or trails should be discouraged.
Northern Access Route	4.1.2.2	Opportunities for shared, multi-party use of roads or trails should be explored whenever possible and practical.
Northern Access Route	4.1.2.2	Reclamation and decommissioning should occur as soon as roads and trails are no longer needed for resource development activities.
Northern Access Route	4.1.2.2	Proponents should indicate, to the best of their ability, the access requirements of their projects, including the location, construction process, and reclamation details of all access roads and trails prior to entering the assessment and permitting process of their project.
Northern Access Route	4.1.2.2	Proponents should prepare detailed access management plans for projects that involve the construction of new all-season access in areas of high ecological or socio-cultural value and/or where existing access into the area is limited.
Air Access	4.1.2.4	Aerial flights should follow all applicable best management guidelines on how to minimize impacts to disturbance to wildlife (Flying in Caribou Country, Flying in Sheep Country).
Air Access	4.1.2.4	Opportunities for shared, multi-party use of airstrips and helicopter landings should be explored whenever possible.
Air Access	4.1.2.4	Fuel caches should be well maintained, inaccessible by wildlife, and kept at a safe distance from watercourses
Water Access	4.1.2.5	Stream crossings should be constructed to minimize impacts to fish and fish habitat, including a hierarchical approach to construction with the least invasive type being applied first.
Water Access	4.1.2.5	No construction of stream crossings should occur during sensitive time periods for fish (e.g. during spawning or egg incubation)
Agriculture	4.1.3	In areas of suitable high agricultural value that are being developed for other temporary purposes, land should be reclaimed such that it is left in a suitable condition for agricultural development.
Tourism	4.1.4	Repetitive and disruptive aerial flights should be discouraged in areas of high tourism or recreational value, including well known backcountry areas and along river corridors.
Community Growth and Recreation	4.1.6	Avoid, or minimize potential impacts of industrial land use activities (e.g. mineral exploration, forestry) within and adjacent to existing trails, including but not limited to the Discovery Trail and the Klondike Trail.
Community Growth and Recreation	4.1.6	Apply mitigation measures (e.g. buffers) for recreational trails as established by the land management authority.
Community Growth and Recreation	4.1.6	Land users working in proximity to streams that are used for human consumption should apply appropriate set-back distances of harmful activities.
Aggregate	4.1.8	Avoid, where possible, aggregate resource extraction within sensitive fish habitats and other ecologically important areas.

Aggregate	4.1.8	Minimize gravel requirements for necessary infrastructure through coordinated access and geotechnical engineering.
Traditional Economy	4.1.9	Overlapping land users with traditional economic activities should utilize a Communication and Consultation Protocol to minimize conflict. The Protocol should ensure activities that are likely to cause disturbances to other rights holders (trappers, outfitters, etc.) are communicated and consulted on prior to.
Traditional Economy	4.1.9	For settlement land parcels identified with high traditional use value, appropriate buffers in which no development can occur should be adhered to.
Caribou	4.2.1.1	Planning for, and assessment of, placer and quartz exploration and mining activities should define and implement safe operating distances from caribou by considering tools such as zone of influence for avoidance as advised by Regional Biologists.
Caribou	4.2.1.1	Higher densities of placer mining activity should be avoided within high quality caribou habitat.
Caribou	4.2.1.1	High concentrations of small-scale disturbance and large quartz exploration projects (Class 4) should be avoided within key migration routes.
Caribou	4.2.1.1	The size, extent, duration and level of activities should be avoided in significant caribou habitat during important biological periods. Consider the following when determining timing windows for industrial operations: (see map XX for locations)..
Caribou	4.2.1.1	New road and trail development should be avoided or minimized within the following: seasonal migration corridors, critical pinch points, rutting range.
Moose	4.2.1.2	Avoid or minimize development activity within seasonal use / concentration areas and movement corridors, with specific emphasis on known key calving areas.
Moose	4.2.1.2	Avoid or minimize new road and trail access: That will result in 'loop road' connections in order to decrease harvesting pressure.
Moose	4.2.1.2	Avoid or minimize new road and trail access: Within key moose habitat areas where access is currently limited in order to minimize adverse effects from overharvesting, increased predation, and moose / vehicle collisions.
Moose	4.2.1.2	Undertake progressive reclamation of disturbed areas to create suitable moose habitat (e.g. wetlands).
Salmon	4.2.1.3	Avoid direct disturbance to known sensitive over-wintering and spawning habitats for salmon.
Salmon	4.2.1.3	Minimize surface and vegetation disturbance in riparian areas by maintaining riparian buffers/setbacks from development activities where possible.
Salmon	4.2.1.3	Avoid significant levels of winter in-stream water withdrawals in sensitive over-wintering fish habitat.
Salmon	4.2.1.3	Avoid or minimize adverse effects of large-scale industrial and/or infrastructure projects within river corridors.
Salmon	4.2.1.3	Avoid direct or indirect blocking of identified fish migration routes.
Salmon	4.2.1.3	Consider implementing timing windows for lifecycle related habitat types (i.e. overwintering habitat and water withdrawals, spawning streams etc.)
Sheep	4.2.1.4	Avoid industrial activities within sensitive sheep habitats and key areas, with emphasis on winter range avoidance.
Sheep	4.2.1.4	Implement timing windows for land use activities and restrictions on aerial access during lambing periods in LMUs with known key sheep habitat.
Bears	4.2.1.5	Potential attractants within backcountry industrial camps in the planning region should be properly stored and/or managed to minimize the attraction of wildlife. This includes all garbage, kitchen waste, strained solids, grey water, and fuel.
Other fish and habitat	4.2.2	The management strategies listed in the Salmon section should be considered to reduce the potential effects of land use activity on fish, aquatic habitats and water quality, where applicable.
Migratory Birds	4.2.2	As per guidance from the Canadian Wildlife Service, project planning should consider avoidance of activities in key migratory bird areas (such as the Tintina Trench) and during key migratory periods (spring and fall).

Migratory Birds	4.2.2	Avoid or minimize disturbance in areas where elevation is greater than 1000 metres to protect migratory bird specialist species that use high elevation habitats.
Species at Risk	4.2.2	Apply mitigations for known locations of species at risk or rare endemic species as provided by Canadian Wildlife Service.
Species at Risk	4.2.2	Avoid activity that may cause disturbance or destruction of Bank Swallow residences (occupied burrows) during the general nesting period (early May to late August) along clay/silt banks in river corridors.
Species at Risk	4.2.2	Work with Canadian Wildlife Service and other planning partners to identify and document species at risk or rare endemic species in advance of submitting a project for review.
Wetlands	4.2.4	Seek to minimize the loss of wetland benefits.
Wetlands	4.2.4	Wetlands warrant higher levels of protection
Wetlands	4.2.4	Best available information will be used to guide decisions, and this may evolve as more information is available about Yukon's wetlands and their reclamation
Wetlands	4.2.4	The Mitigation Hierarchy – a widely used concept in natural resource management, is a set of sequential steps that should be followed to minimize the loss and degradation of wetlands.
Heritage Resources	4.3.1	Avoid or minimize land use impacts in the vicinity of identified heritage and historic resources (e.g. use buffer zones).
Heritage Resources	4.3.1	Avoid or minimize land use activities in significant heritage areas during important seasonal use periods (e.g. use timing windows).
Heritage Resources	4.3.1	Report the discovery of any heritage and/or historic resource within an affected First Nation's traditional territory to their applicable heritage departments, in addition to the Government of Yukon
Heritage Resources	4.3.1	Where impacts to identified heritage and cultural sites and resources may occur, implement the following mitigation measures:
Heritage Resources	4.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish work camps associated with resource exploration and development activities away from identified heritage routes and historic sites.</li> </ul>
Heritage Resources	4.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement immediate stop work orders if evidence of heritage or cultural values is detected, to allow Parties to assess significance.</li> </ul>
Harvesting	4.3.3	Avoid or reduce the level of land use activities in important subsistence harvesting and other cultural use areas during important seasonal use periods (e.g. use timing windows).
Harvesting	4.3.3	Apply appropriate buffers zones (permanent and/or temporary) around culturally important areas, especially in the Fortymile Major River Corridor and Swede Creek (LMU #16).

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### Recommended Actions

*Recommendations to Parties for actions to be undertaken by Government of Yukon and Trondek Hwechin Government.*

Section	Section Reference	Recommendation
Cumulative Effects	3.5.2	An indicator tracking system should be developed within Yukon Government that integrates satellite derived data, project proposals, and project year-end reporting. This system is to be accessible for use in conformity checks and in proposal development.
Cumulative Effects	3.2.5	Standard estimations of disturbance indicators for different types of Class 1 and 2 projects should be developed so that some of their cumulative effects may be <u>estimated without being onerous on proponents of smaller projects.</u>
Cumulative Effects	3.2.6	An on-line platform should be developed that would allow proponents to review information requirements and management directions depending on the project's location, type, and size. This information can be used by proponents to design and/or amend their project proposals, which may reduce potential delays in the assessment and permitting process. Furthermore, this application aligns with the Commission's desire to have proponents working in the Dawson planning region to take on a higher role as "stewards" of the land.
Dempster Highway	4.1.2.1	A sub-regional plan for the Dempster Highway Corridor should be jointly developed by the Government of Yukon, affected First Nations and the Gwich'in Tribal Council. The sub-regional plan should consider the following:
Top of the World Highway	4.1.2.1	Opportunities to increase the signage within the corridor should be explored.
Top of the World Highway	4.1.2.1	The availability of garbage/ recycling bins and outhouses at key locations within the corridor should be improved.
Top of the World Highway	4.1.2.1	Implement the Top of the World Highway Interpretive Plan. Includes increased signage informing travellers of cultural importance and use of the area to Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in
Klondike Highway Corridor	4.1.2.1	Opportunities to increase signage within the corridor should be explored.
Klondike Highway Corridor	4.1.2.1	The availability of garbage/recycling bins and outhouses at key locations within the corridor should be improved
Northern Access Route	4.1.2.2	The Parties should develop and implement an appropriate framework for the tracking and monitoring of access development and reclamation activities within the Dawson planning region.
Northern Access Route	4.1.2.2	In consideration of the results of the baseline linear disturbance data above, the Parties should develop overarching access management plans for the planning region
Agriculture	4.1.3	The Parties should continue to explore and implement collaborative efforts where multiple interests and rights exist, such as through the development of formal multi-use arrangements between mineral rights holders and agricultural producers.
Tourism	4.1.4	Implement interim measures as described in Section X for the management of the Yukon River Corridor until such a time that a holistic sub-regional plan can be developed.
Tourism	4.1.4	Opportunities to increase signage in the planning region that incorporates local artistry, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in history, and the Han language, should be explored
Tourism	4.1.4	Management guidelines for commercial wilderness tourism and commercial wildlife viewing along the Dempster Highway, Top of the World Highway, and Yukon River Corridor should be developed as part of corridor management plans.
Tourism	4.1.4	A Yukon River Corridor sub-regional plan should be developed.
Community Growth and Recreation	4.1.6	Maintain access to existing recreational trails by delineating their location, identifying any potential land use conflicts and recommending appropriate mitigation measures (e.g. buffers) as part of the application and review process for new land use tenure.
Community Growth and Recreation	4.1.6	Inventory streams that are used for human consumption so that appropriate set-back distances for harmful activities can be applied.
Community Growth and Recreation	4.1.6.2	A sub-regional plan for the Klondike Valley LMU should be jointly developed by the Parties in collaboration with other planning partners as appropriate (e.g. City of Dawson).

Community Growth and Recreation	4.1.6	Develop a trails master plan for the Dawson region, in collaboration with planning partners (e.g. KATTS) that identifies existing trails, historic trails, and potential future trail development opportunities.
Community Growth and Recreation	4.1.6	The Parties should identify all water sources used for human consumption to enable land users to plan accordingly when working in close proximity to affected streams and rivers.
Forestry	4.1.7	Support the continued development of Timber Harvest Plans (THPs) within ISA designations, and specifically within the Goldfields Forest Resource Management Zone. The Goldfields THP should include development of a more effective framework for use of fuelwood within existing mineral tenure.
Aggregates	4.1.8	Within the ISA, the identification of potential sources of aggregate should be undertaken in advance of the assessment process for large-scale industrial and/or infrastructure projects.
Aggregates	4.1.8	The Parties should seek to develop and communicate clear guidelines with respect to the process for reviewing, assessing and enforcing quarry permits to ensure consistency in the regulatory between private and government proponents.
Aggregates	4.1.8	Aggregate assessments should be undertaken to identify areas of high potential for aggregate resource development within the Klondike Highway, Top of the World Highway, and Dempster Highway Corridors to support ongoing construction and maintenance activities.
Caribou	4.2.1.1	The Parties should prioritize the development of access management plans in LMUs where a high degree of overlap exists between caribou habitat and development activities. Priority LMUs for access management planning include: 12, 17, 9, 20. Access management plans should consider the management strategies recommended in this Plan in addition to others developed collaboratively by the Parties.
Moose	4.2.1.2	The Parties should prioritize the development of access management plans in LMUs where a high degree of overlap exists between <b>moose</b> habitat and development activities. Priority LMUs for access management planning include: 12, 17, 9, 20. Access management plans should consider the management strategies recommended in this Plan in addition to others developed collaboratively by the Parties.
Moose	4.2.1.2	Promote the practice of progressive reclamation of disturbed areas to create suitable moose habitat (e.g. wetlands).
Salmon	4.2.1.3	Support the finalization of the DRAFT <i>Fish Habitat Management System 12 year water quality monitoring review</i> (prepared by Hemmera, May 2020) and implement appropriate recommendations, including:
Salmon	4.2.1.3	Continue to support ongoing work on Chinook Salmon restoration projects by TH and other organizations in collaboration with potential planning partners (e.g. YSSC, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Yukon River Panel)
Salmon	4.2.1.3	The Parties should create/fund an education platform to educate the public on the impact of land uses on salmon habitat and mitigation through best management practices/management strategies, to communicate the cultural importance of Salmon, and to foster stewardship initiatives.
Bear	4.2.1.5	The Parties should implement proposed SMAs identified for conservation management in this Plan to contribute to a large-scale connected landscape that protects key grizzly bear habitat.
Bear	4.2.1.5	The Parties should continue to work at implementing the Conservation Plan for Grizzly Bears in Yukon (2019) in collaboration with the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board, with specific attention to Goal #2 (Take care of the land and other species that grizzly bears require).
Species at Risk	4.2.2	The Parties should implement recommended SMAs, some of which contain known occurrences of species at risk and ecosystem types that are likely to contain species at risk or rare endemic species based on best available information. The recommended SMAs also provide for landscape connectivity which will help to sustain healthy habitat for other species at risk (e.g. Grizzly Bears).
Wetlands	4.2.4	Undertake public education initiatives to further efforts of awareness and stewardship in the Region. To promote public awareness of, appreciation for, and connection to wetlands.
Climate Change	4.2.5	Implement Yukon Government's <i>Our Clean Future: A Yukon strategy for climate change, energy, and a green economy</i> , which includes targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Climate Change	4.2.5	Special Management Areas: All lands within the Special Management Area 1 (SMA 1), and all lands without existing mineral tenure within Special Management Area 2 (SMA 2) should be withdrawn from mineral staking, exploration, and development as per the recommendations of this Plan. These areas have been established with a strong emphasis on the need to preserve ecological integrity, landscape connectivity, and large intact areas of boreal forest.
Climate Change	4.2.5	Wetlands: The Parties should implement the applicable thresholds and directions for preserving wetland habitat as per the recommendations of this Plan and the designation of wetlands of special importance in Scottie Creek (LMU #22) and the Upper Indian River (LMU #10).
Climate Change	4.2.5	Adaptive Management: The Parties should follow and implement the directions recommended in Section 7, Plan Implementation and Review, with a particular emphasis on climate change considerations.
Stewardship	4.3.2	Dawson Land Stewardship Trust: The Parties should consider creating a Land Stewardship Trust for the Dawson Region with the mandate to fund projects to promote the ongoing practice of stewardship of the land beyond plan approval.
Stewardship	4.3.2	The Parties should explore options for enhancing the sense of responsibility for the land for those that use it, like miners, trappers, and harvesters, within the Dawson planning region.
Heritage Resources	4.3.1	The Parties should jointly develop management guidelines for identified heritage routes and sites within the Integrated Stewardship Area (ISA).
Heritage Resources	4.3.1	Ensure that adequate heritage and historic resource surveys and data collection are completed, as part of the review and assessment of projects.
Implementation	6.1	The Parties should jointly establish an Implementation Committee and develop an Implementation Plan within one (1) year of Plan approval.
ISAs	6	Continued work on the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Niná'nkák Hozo Wëk'átr'é'no'hcha Land Stewardship Framework should be encouraged and supported as a means of informing the plan implementation process and future land use planning initiatives in TH Traditional Territory.
Plan Conformity	6.4	A Plan conformity evaluation process should be developed by the Parties as soon as possible following Plan approval that involves an appropriate third-party board or committee (e.g. YLUPC). Since YESAB conducts a high volume of project reviews in the planning region and there is limited capacity to undertake conformity checks, the Parties should consider the following: Prioritize the tracking of baseline information on linear density and surface disturbance, and associated conformity checks, in areas where a high volume of project reviews are typically submitted (i.e. East, Sixtymile, Clear Creek). Focus should be on areas that have not yet been disturbed by development. Triage YESAB projects by type (smaller vs. larger projects).
Implementation	6.1	Parties should consider jointly developing Implementation Guidelines which detail the manner in which recommendations in the Plan will be implemented.
Plan Amendment and Review	6.5	A process for assessing Plan Variances and Amendments should be developed within one (1) year of plan approval by the Parties.
Plan Variances	6.6.1	Plan Variances and Amendments should be considered by the Parties no earlier than the second anniversary of plan approval.
Plan Review	6.6.2	The Parties should jointly develop a framework for ongoing monitoring of the Plan.
Plan Review	6.6.2	Tracking of cumulative effects indicators including establishment of a regional database for compiling surface disturbance and land remediation data
Plan Review	6.6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing opportunities to support ongoing land stewardship by TH citizens (e.g. on-the-land stewardship monitors)</li> </ul>
Plan Review	6.6.2	The Parties should jointly develop a Plan review process following approval of the Plan. Plan reviews should occur on an agreed upon schedule, or whenever Yukon and TH agree that a review is required. In this regard, the Parties should consider the following:
Plan Review	6.6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiating a comprehensive plan review at a minimum every ten years;</li> </ul>
Plan Review	6.6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Including opportunities for public engagement in the plan review process; and</li> </ul>
Plan Review	6.6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-establishing the Commission to play a role in plan review.</li> </ul>

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### Policy Recommendations

*Recommendations to the Parties for direction on land use issues and their management.*

Section	Section Reference	Recommendation
Cumulative Effects	3.5.2	Detailed (i.e., spatial) project proposals and year-end reporting should be mandatory for all Class 3 and 4 projects.
Cumulative Effects	3.5.2	The Parties, in collaboration with the Yukon Land Use Planning Council, should work with YESAB to make plan conformity checks more transparent. This work should include clarifying information requirements in project proposal for determining conformity. A worksheet or separate application should be considered.
Mineral Development	4.1.1	Allowance of continued mineral exploration and development on existing mineral tenure in SMA II, subject to existing regulatory processes and the recommendations of this Plan, including the cumulative effects guidelines
Mineral Development	4.1.1	Allowance of continued mineral staking, exploration, and development within ISA I-IV, subject to existing regulatory processes and the recommendations of this Plan, including the cumulative effects guidelines This includes traditional mining areas including Goldfields, Sixtymile, Fortymile, and Clear Creek as part of the continued working landscape
Mineral Development	4.1.1	The Parties should support advanced exploration projects currently proceeding in the planning region, subject to the regulatory process and recommendations of this Plan
Mineral Development	4.1.1	The Parties should support implementation of the recommendations of the Yukon Mineral Development Strategy related to Strategic Priority #3 to establish effective, efficient and transparent environmental and regulatory processes.
Mineral Development	4.1.1	The Parties should encourage and support the continued work of the Klondike Placer Miners' Association on implementing an industry-led programs such as the Education and Compliance Program as a means of promoting excellence in mining reclamation, strengthening partnerships, and building confidence in the placer mining industry.
Mineral Development	4.1.1	The Parties shall implement requirements for proponents of large-scale advanced exploration and mining companies in the Dawson planning region to prepare gender-based socio-economic and impact assessments.
Top of the World Highway	4.1.2.1	The use of this area for harvesting and traditional economic activities must be maintained.
Top of the World Highway	4.1.2.1	Opportunities to promote education and mitigation of fatal wildlife collisions along the highway should be explored.
Klondike Highway Corridor	4.1.2.1	The use of this area for harvesting and traditional economic activities must be maintained
Klondike Highway Corridor	4.1.2.1	New spot land applications for residential development should be discouraged outside of established residential areas
Klondike Highway Corridor	4.1.2.1	Opportunities to promote education and mitigation of fatal wildlife collisions along the Klondike Highway should be explored and supported, in particular within areas of high concern
Klondike Highway Corridor	4.1.2.1	The Parties should establish a Klondike Highway Corridor Advisory Committee made up of representatives from First Nation governments, Yukon government, and applicable organizations. The Advisory Committee should guide the development of a Klondike Highway Interpretive Plan in line with the issues and interests as identified above.
Northern Access Route	4.1.2.2	New all-season surface access should not be allowed within SMAs North and Fifteen/Chandindu. Consideration of temporary winter access only in SMA North may be considered through a Plan amendment.
Northern Access Route	4.1.2.2	New all-season surface access off the Dempster Highway into SMA Upper Brewery/Hamilton should not be allowed. Access may be considered through a Plan amendment.
Northern Access Route	4.1.2.2	Apply the Government of Yukon Resource Roads Regulation for the entire lifecycle of resource roads, from construction to reclamation. (under development)
Off Road Vehicles	4.1.2.2	Identify areas that may require consideration under the Off-road Vehicle Management Area Regulations (Dawson District RRC)
Air Access	4.1.2.4	Within SMAs, outside of existing dispositions, new airstrips should not be allowed. Existing airstrips and landing locations can continue to be used.
Agriculture	4.1.3	Suitable land for agricultural use that is close to the community should be prioritized for this use where practical.
Agriculture	4.1.3	Avoid the subdivision of suitable high value agricultural land into smaller land parcels for residential, commercial or other land use.
Agriculture	4.1.3	The Parties should support implementation of the Yukon Agriculture Policy (2020), specifically related to Objective #2 (Create and Protect Agricultural Land) to increase self-sufficiency in local food production in the Dawson planning region.
Tourism	4.1.4	The natural scenic viewscapes within Corridor Areas, with an emphasis on the Yukon River Corridor, the Dempster Highway, and the Top of the World Highway should be preserved
Tourism	4.1.4	Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in cultural history and contemporary use should be incorporated into tourism management strategies and signage for the Klondike Goldfields.

Tourism	4.1.4	In areas of high conflict between aerial flights and tourism pursuits the following should be considered: Setting limits to the number of allowable landings in specific areas during peak visitation times. Providing information to aircraft users (e.g. local pilots, tourism operators, mineral exploration companies, etc.) about areas of concern and encouraging avoidance of key areas wherever possible.
Tourism	4.1.4	The Parties should support the Commission's management intent for LMU #1 (North) such that limited access is maintained and the area does not become a significant backcountry wilderness tourism destination.
Tourism	4.1.4	The Parties should support implementation of the Yukon Tourism Development Strategy (2018), specifically pertaining to Goal #2 for Sustainable Tourism Development for the Dawson planning region.
Outfitting	4.1.5	Existing outfitting rights should be maintained, and outfitting activities should be allowed in all land use designations, subject to existing legislation, regulations and the THFA.
Community Growth and Recreation	4.1.6	New spot land applications for residential development should not be considered in the SMA designation and should be discouraged outside of established residential areas.
Community Growth and Recreation	4.1.6	Applications for new residential, commercial, or industrial development should first be considered within or in close proximity to existing settlement areas (e.g. Bear Creek, Rock Creek, Henderson's Corner).
Dawson City Water	4.1.6	In partnership with the City of Dawson, the Parties should support the implementation of the recommendations of the City of Dawson Aquifer and Wellhead Protection Plan for the Klondike River (2017)
Forestry	4.1.7	Allowance of continued forest resource development within ISA I-IV designations, subject to existing regulatory processes and the recommendations of this Plan, including the cumulative effects guidelines. This is generally consistent with the Forest Resource Management Zone areas identified in the Dawson Forest Resources Management Plan.
Forestry	4.1.7	Access to economically viable timber harvest areas in close proximity to Dawson City should be prioritized for forestry prior to other land use activities. In general, viability includes access with limited road building requirements and three to five kilometres off existing all-season roads.
Forestry	4.1.7	Support the management direction of the Dawson Forest Resources Management Plan. In cases where management direction in this Plan conflicts with the Dawson FRMP, the FRMP should be brought into conformity as per Chapter 17 of the THFA.
Aggregate	4.1.8	When proposing and reviewing aggregate resource projects, priority should be given to extraction of materials within close proximity to highways and existing all-season roads.
Traditional Economy	4.1.9	For settlement land parcels identified with high traditional use value, appropriate buffers in which no development can occur should be implemented
Traditional Economy	4.1.9	The Parties should support the ongoing Local Resource Knowledge Project being conducted annually by the Dawson District Renewable Resource Council. The general purpose of this study is to better understand and document changes that are taking place in the environment, with a focus on hunting access, harvested species, trapped species, moose, caribou, berries, edible plants, and fish. A mechanism to feed the results of this project into the current management regime should be explored. This information should also be considered in Plan review and amendment (section 6.0).
Traditional Economy	4.1.9	The Parties shall implement requirements for proponents of large-scale advanced exploration and mining companies in the Dawson planning region to prepare traditional use impact studies within a certain distance of key use areas.
Caribou	4.2.1.1	Continued implementation of the Fortymile Caribou Harvest Management Plan (FCHMP), and the Porcupine Caribou Management Plan (PCMP) to ensure survival of the herds for current and future generations.
Caribou	4.2.1.1	Implement the management guidelines for the Fortymile caribou herd. (under development)
Moose	4.2.1.2	The Parties should consider implementing seasonal road closures in key habitat areas during the last two weeks of the hunting season (October 15 – October 31) to mitigate pressure on moose populations (see, for example, the French Gulch Timber Harvest Plan (2020).
Salmon	4.2.1.3	Prohibit direct disturbance to known sensitive over-wintering and spawning habitats for salmon.
Salmon	4.2.1.3	Prohibit significant levels of winter in-stream water withdrawals in sensitive over-wintering fish habitat.
Salmon	4.2.1.3	Implement the recommendations in the <i>Review and Evaluation of Adaptive Management in the Fish Habitat Management System for Yukon Placer Mining</i> . (Olson, Nelitz, Hall, 2020).
Sheep	4.2.1.4	The Commission have recommended that LMU #1 (North), LMU #4 (Fifteen – Chandindu) and LMU #7 (Upper Brewery – Hamilton) are designated as SMA II in this plan. These three LMUs contain the highest quality known sheep habitat in the Region (see Map 16 – DRPC, 2020c).
Migratory Birds	4.2.2	The Commission has recommended SMAs in this Plan that contain high quality habitat for migratory birds and raptors, including areas of high elevation (greater than 1000 metres), the Tintina Trench flyway, and wetland complexes.

Wetlands	4.2.4	The Commission has recommended eight (8) SMAs in this Plan, all of which include significant wetland habitat. In particular, Scottie Creek (LMU#22) and Upper Indian River (LMU #19) have been put forth by the Commission to be protected as an SMA II in this Plan. These LMUs were chosen for protection due to their high cultural and ecological value that stems largely from their extensive wetland complexes.
Wetlands	4.2.4	The wetlands contained within the Scottie Creek and The Upper Indian River LMUs should be considered 'Wetlands of Special Importance' by the Commission as per the concept as discussed at the Wetland Policy Roundtable.
Wetlands	4.2.4	The Commission supports the prioritization of the completion of the following wetland-related government initiatives and policies: The Yukon Wetland Policy and the Yukon Water Board Wetland Plan Guidelines. The Commission also supports the prioritized completion of the Yukon Government and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Government's co-developed study on wetlands and guidelines for the reclamation of naturally occurring wetlands affected by placer mining in the Indian River Watershed (January 15, 2020).
Climate Change	4.2.5	The Matson Uplands (LMU #18) have been identified as an SMA 1 to preserve key habitat values for the Fortymile caribou herd. The Parties should consider climate driven shifts in habitat requirements for the herd at Plan review, in particular for the location and extent of LMU #18, to ensure it remains true to its management intent.
Culture and Heritage	4.3	Hän phrasing and place names should be incorporated into the Plan and subsequent planning documents as appropriate. Exploring tools and platforms (i.e. digital etc.) to promote language as related to the plan should be supported as appropriate.
Heritage Resources	4.3.1	Avoid the promotion of ancestral trails as recreational trails for use by the general public to preserve their heritage and cultural value.
Harvesting	4.3.3	Subsistence harvesting activities and other traditional pursuits should be permitted in all land use designations, subject to the THFA and existing legislation and regulations.

## Dawson Regional Draft Plan

### Recommended Research

*Recommendations to Parties on topics to be investigated in more detail or information gaps to be filled*

Section	Section Reference	Practice
Linear Density	3.5.1.2	For indicators that rely on satellite imagery, different sources of imagery should be evaluated based on their cost, ease of use, resolution, update frequency and how well they can meet the definitions of the indicators. These definitions may need to be adjusted to fit the most appropriate <u>type of imagery via a plan amendment.</u>
Stewardship	4.3.2	Other indicators should be evaluated for use regional plans. These evaluations should include their biological and cultural relevance as well as technical details and associated costs. Indicators of <u>water quality and stewardship are priorities</u>
Mineral Exploration	4.1.1	The Parties shall conduct a study on the relationship between resource extraction and other development projects and violence against Indigenous women and girls in the Dawson planning <u>region</u>
Highway Access	4.1.2	In collaboration with the Dawson District Renewable Resource Council, the use of off-road vehicles (ORVs) within the Top of the World Highway Corridor should be monitored for impacts to key values.
Linear Density	3.5.1.2	The Parties should conduct a baseline linear disturbance study with priority given to areas experiencing increased pressure from linear development. In the order of their priority to be researched, these LMUs include 12 (East), 17 (Sixtymile), 9 (Clear Creek), and 20 (Coffee)
Water Access	4.1.2.5	The Parties should design and conduct a study into the ecological and social impacts of barging along the Yukon River. The study should consider, at a minimum, the impacts to fish and fish habitat and traditional land use within the Yukon River LMU. The results of the study should inform development of best management practices and guidelines by the Parties for barging within the Yukon River LMU.
Water Access	4.1.2.5	The impacts to key values in LMU 21 (White) and LMU 15 (Fortymile River) from jet boats are not well understood. Further research into the potential for this activity to be affecting water quality and salmon habitat should be conducted in these areas, and this information should be used to develop best management practices and guidelines to better manage this activity.
Agriculture	4.1.3	The Parties should continue to support research into the feasibility of procuring an abattoir for the Dawson region, including the identification of a suitable location for such infrastructure.
Agriculture	4.1.3	Areas of "high" (class 3 to 5) agricultural potential within the planning region (within the Klondike Valley at a minimum) should be identified and prioritized for this use.
Tourism	4.1.4	The Parties should explore issues and interests related to tourism when considering opportunities for TH to retain co-management responsibilities in LMU #4 (Fifteen – Chandindu).
Outfitting	4.1.5	Land use patterns associated with outfitting, including but not limited to the location of camps and trails, should be documented to facilitate improved project assessment and future resource planning.
Forestry	4.1.7	The Parties should continue to explore the feasibility of advancing the use biomass energy in the Dawson planning <u>region</u>
Traditional Economy	4.1.9	For settlement land parcels identified with high traditional use value, appropriate buffers in which <u>no development can occur should be implemented</u>
Traditional Economy	4.1.9	The Parties should support the identification of high traditional economy value in LMUs of concern, and/or along higher uses areas, such as along main access roads (ToW, Dempster, Klondike) and the Yukon River
Traditional Economy	4.1.9	Land use patterns associated with trapping, including but not limited to the location of cabins and trails, should be documented to facilitate improved project assessment and future resource planning.
Caribou	4.2.1.1	The Parties should work together, and collaboratively with other planning partners (e.g. DDRRC and Yukon Fish & Wildlife Management Board, PCMB) to improve research, knowledge and <u>understanding of caribou in the planning region.</u>
Caribou	4.2.1.1	The Parties should collaborate with the Porcupine Caribou Management Board to determine the availability and suitability of lichen habitat within LMU 2, Eagle Plains. If required, special management directions for any future development in this area should be developed as <u>appropriate.</u>
Moose	4.2.1.2	Continue to monitor moose density to contribute to access development decision making <u>processes.</u>
Moose	4.2.1.2	The Parties should work together, and collaboratively with other planning partners (e.g. DDRRC and Yukon Fish & Wildlife Management Board) to improve research, knowledge and understanding of <u>moose in the planning region.</u>
Salmon	4.2.1.3	A comprehensive, publicly accessible aquatic habitat inventory should be conducted prior to mining and other land use activities in areas that have not yet been mined to determine whether salmon habitat is at risk. Such an assessment should identify and map key habitat with specific <u>focus on spawning and over-wintering areas.</u>

Salmon	4.2.1.3	Working with other organizations as necessary, including the Yukon Placer Secretariat and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), the Parties should continue to reevaluate the effectiveness of the Fish Habitat Management System for Yukon Placer Mining.
Salmon	4.2.1.3	The Parties, together with other potential planning partners (e.g. DDRRC, YSSC, DFO, YFWMB) should collaborate to implement research strategies.
Bears	4.2.1.5	The Parties should work together, and collaboratively with other planning partners (e.g. DDRRC and Yukon Fish & Wildlife Management Board) to improve research, knowledge and understanding of grizzly bears in the planning region.
Other fish and wildlife	4.2.2	The Parties should work collaboratively to define and map key aquatic habitat for resident fish species prior to the assessment process for large-scale industrial and/or infrastructure projects focusing specifically on spawning and over-wintering habitat within ISAs III & IV and Major River Corridors.
Migratory Birds	4.2.2	The Parties should undertake research initiatives with the Canadian Wildlife Service, and other planning partners as appropriate, to build knowledge of the location of key staging and nesting areas in the planning region to further build Yukon's Wildlife Key Area database
Wetlands	4.2.4	Buffers: The purpose of creating buffers is to protect wetland features and functions. The Commission recommends that the Parties consider the available data and literature on wetland buffers to determine the best solution based on the characteristics of the watershed, wetland type, and the intensity of associated land activities.
Wetlands	4.2.4	Wetland Inventory: The Parties are to ensure that classified wetland mapping and hydrological models are done to support implementation of wetland disturbance thresholds.
Wetlands	4.2.4	Wetland Research Initiatives: The Parties should undertake and promote research projects and initiatives that align with the DRPC objectives.
Wetlands	4.2.4	Collaboration and partnerships with industry, non-profit, academic, and local and international sources of knowledge are needed to create a more complete understanding of the Region's wetlands.
Climate Change	4.2.5	Energy Production: The Parties should continue to explore the feasibility and practicality of alternative green energy sources within the planning region, including advances in hydroelectricity, biomass, geothermal, wind, and solar.
Climate Change	4.2.5	Wildlife and Land Use: The Parties should continue to support and fund initiatives to better understand the impacts of climate change in the Dawson planning region, including the full consideration of traditional knowledge, which is particularly important for informing our understanding of climate change impacts in northern ecosystems.
Climate Change	4.2.5	Permafrost: The Parties should continue to develop specific research initiatives in the planning region.
Heritage Resources	4.3	The Parties should continue to research and use traditional Hän names wherever possible on mapping and other products developed through Plan implementation and monitoring.
Harvesting	4.3.3	Commit to the collection of community-based input (e.g. hunters, TH citizens, other local land users) to support community land stewardship and inform the monitoring program for this Plan (see <b>Section 6 – Plan Implementation and Revision</b> ).
Harvesting	4.3.3	Research and develop one or more cumulative effects indicators based on socio-cultural values, that incorporates traditional knowledge and on-the-land experience, for use in monitoring effectiveness of Plan recommendations (see Section 6 – Plan Implementation and Revision). The Parties should look to other initiatives in Canada where indicators of this nature have been developed, including for example the Metlakatla Cumulative Effects Management Program in British Columbia.
Plan Review	6.6.2	Undertake research (both traditional and western science approaches) to identify changing social, economic and ecological needs in the planning region;