DAWSON REGIONAL LAND USE PLAN

2: GOALS, GUIDING PRINCIPLES, AND TOOLS



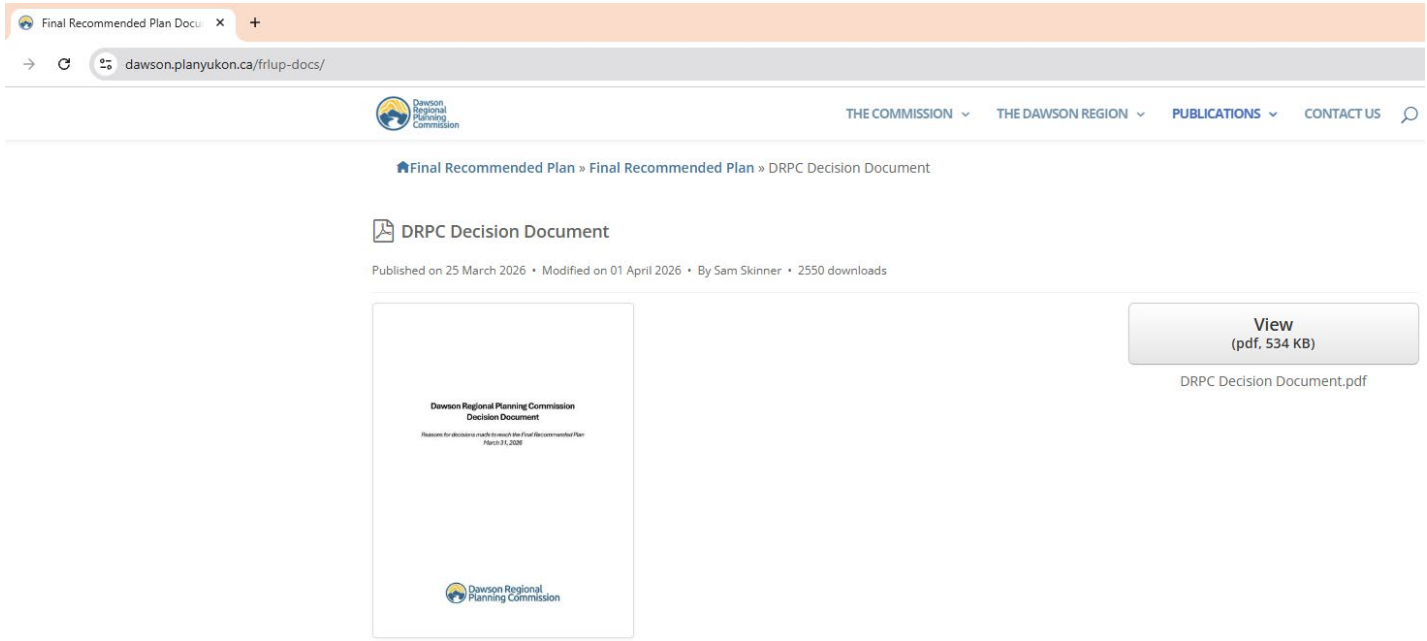
INTRODUCTION

This is a video series about the Final Recommended Dawson Regional Land Use Plan.

These videos provide a summary of the Plan.

For full details, please refer to the complete plan and associated content: www.dawson.planyukon.ca

For details about why certain decisions were made during the most recent version of the planning process, refer to the Commission's decision document: www.dawson.planyukon.ca/frlup-docs



PLAN GOALS

Community, Culture, and Heritage

Land stewardship is practised by all residents of and visitors to the Region, including governments.
Land stewardship is promoted and supported by governments.
Land-based activities that strengthen connections to the land are readily available, accessible, and well-attended.
Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in culture and the Hän language are thriving and respected throughout the Region.
Traditional harvesting is actively practised and respected.
The community is diverse and resilient, relying on the strengths of multiple worldviews and ways of being that coexist with mutual respect.
The community has high capacity and resilience in people and infrastructure.
The community has capacity and knowledge to respond and adapt to environmental, social, and climate changes.
Land-related decision-making prioritizes community health and well-being.
Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in’s heritage, as self-determined, is respected throughout the Region.



PLAN GOALS

Environment

Integrity and connectivity of the landscape's diverse ecosystems are maintained, restored, and enhanced.
Healthy ecosystems support thriving biodiversity, including abundant fish and wildlife populations that, in turn, support sustainable harvest.
The integrity of values on the land is conserved via ongoing reclamation.
Ecosystems are managed holistically, with consideration of cumulative effects.
Ecosystems are stewarded to ensure their resilience to ongoing climate change.
Healthy ecosystems and healthy land-people relationships are interdependent.
Ecological integrity is valued as a part of a thriving sustainable local economy.



PLAN GOALS

Sustainable Economy

Residents of the Region have access to diverse economic opportunities that do not compromise current or future community well-being or ecological integrity.
Local economic activity supports a comfortable standard of living for all residents.
Economic activities that take place in the Region benefit all the Region's residents.
Land use conflicts are minimal, and there is land-use certainty across the Region.
To minimize impacts to the land, economic activities and development make efficient use of existing access and infrastructure.
The Region's economy includes a strong traditional economy, centred on cultural value and social well-being.
The Region's economy is largely centred on sustainable activities, provides for current and future generations, and is resilient, versatile, and responsible.
The Region's economy must be strong, robust, and profitable to the Region's residents.
The Region's economy supports multigenerational operations.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Sustainable Development

- Sustainable development is beneficial socio-economic change that does not undermine the ecological and social systems upon which communities and societies are dependent (THFA S.11.4.5.9). The promotion of sustainable development is a requirement of a land use plan.

2. Stewardship

- Ancestral Stewardship: For Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, stewardship is an ancestral responsibility to look after the land, waters, animals, and fish that are central to their identity.
- Community Stewardship: For non-First Nations stewards, stewardship focuses on responsible management of natural resources to ensure their availability for future generations

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

3. Precautionary Principle

- When human or environmental health is at risk, proactive steps must be taken to prevent harm, even in the absence of full scientific certainty
- The Plan employs the precautionary principle in 4 main ways:
  - Application of the mitigation hierarchy
  - Regulatory action in response to risk
  - Management of high-risk technologies or activities
  - Tiered thresholds in cumulative effects management

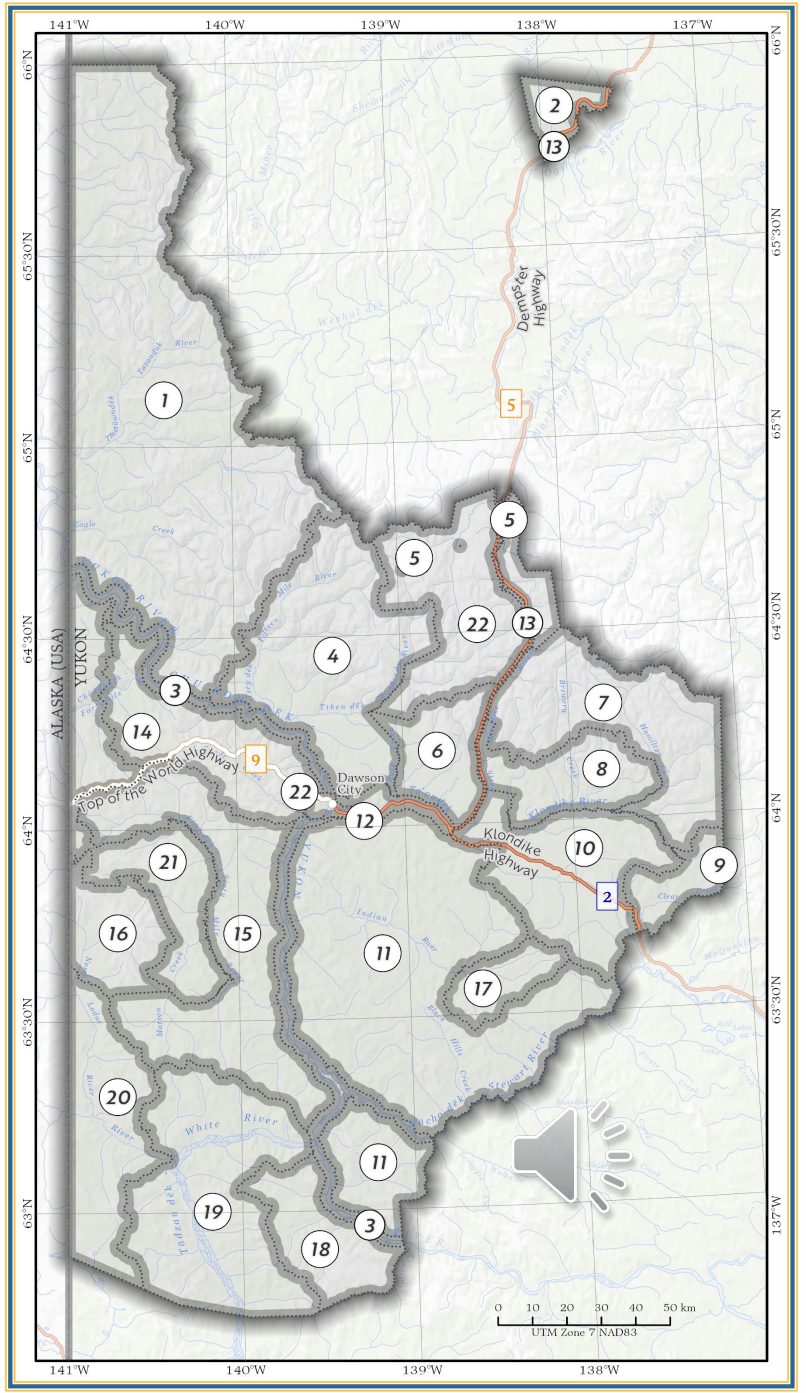
4. Adaptive Implementation

- This Plan is designed to be a living document that encourages periodic change and revision. Adaptive implementation means adjusting as required, based on environmental, economic, and social change. It also means being open to collaboration, recognizing that effective land stewardship often requires coordination across governments, communities, and industries.



LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT UNITS

- The Region is divided into discrete areas of land called Landscape Management Units (LMUs).
- Each LMU was identified and delineated based on human use, ecological properties, current and anticipated levels of development, and identified land use issues.
- To the extent possible, the boundaries of LMUs follow existing natural or human-made boundaries.



LAND DESIGNATION SYSTEM

- Each LMU is categorized, based on management or stewardship intent.
  - Integrated Stewardship Area (ISA)
  - Special Management Area (SMA)
  - Sub-regional planning area

