

Section 1: Survey Introduction

The Commission wants to hear from you! This survey is an opportunity to share with the Commission your thoughts on the Draft Plan. For two years the Commission and staff have been working in partnership with technical staff from the Yukon and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in governments, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens, community members, and all of our planning partners (stakeholders), and they are grateful for everyone's contributions.

The Commission is made up of six dedicated members of the Dawson community. If you want to learn more about the Commission and hear what they have to say you can visit our website engagedawson.planyukon.ca

Land Use Planning (LUP) arises directly from the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Self Government Agreement signed in 1998. LUP process is designed to support the development of a vision for the sustainable use of land, water, and other renewable and non-renewable resources in the region.

The Commission still has a lot of work to do to as it enters the next stage of the process: producing a Recommended Plan. They are asking for your feedback on the Draft Plan. Everyone's voice is important, so thank you and Mähsj cho for taking the time to share your thoughts on the Draft Plan by responding to this survey!

If you would like to access the draft plan, the plan highlights, or the summary please visit engagedawson.planyukon.ca

Our Commitment

The Commission will consider all feedback fully and fairly when it comes time to write the Recommended Plan, and we are committed to provide clear information on how the input was considered.

We promise that all input we receive will be considered fully and fairly by the Commission. Once collected, public input may be summarized and made publicly available in Commission documents (e.g. Commission minutes, summary reports, etc.) We may also share what you tell us (in part or whole) on this website, affiliated websites, or any other Commission documents.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

The following questions are included in this survey to make sure we have reached a broad cross-section of people who are connected with the Dawson Region.

Are you familiar with the Dawson Region? [choose all that apply]

- ☐ Yes, I am a full time resident
- ☐ Yes, I live in Dawson seasonally (e.g. sometimes for work)
- ☐ I am a regular visitor to the Dawson Region
- ☐ No, I have never been to the Dawson Region
- ☐ Other _____

If not, where do you live?

- ☐ Another Yukon community
- ☐ In Canada (outside of the Yukon)
- ☐ Elsewhere

Are you a member of a Yukon First Nation?

- ☐ Yes, TH Citizen
- ☐ Yes, Other YFN
- ☐ No

Do you work in the Dawson Region?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Yes, seasonally
- ☐ No

If so, what sector do you work in? (for example, tourism, mining, government, arts and culture, etc.)

If you prefer that we keep your comments and/ or any other information confidential, please let us know by checking here.

- ☐ Please keep my comments confidential
- ☐ My comments can be public

How would you like to be identified in this survey? [choose one]

(for example "Quoted from a ...")

- ☐ "Survey respondent"
- ☐ "Dawson Resident"
- ☐ "TH Elder"
- ☐ "TH Citizen"
- ☐ "Industry Specialist"
- ☐ "Ecological Expert"
- ☐ "Local business owner/operator"
- ☐ "Yukon Resident"
- ☐ Other (please specify)_____

Section 2: Draft Plan Concepts and Principles

PLAN FAMILIARITY

There are many ways to learn about the Draft Plan. The Commission have provided the full plan, a highlights document and a plain language summary for people to read. We also encourage people to visit our offices in Dawson and Whitehorse to ask questions in person about the Draft Plan, attend info sessions and workshops, and explore our websites.

The things I like about the Draft Plan are...

The things that are missing from the Draft Plan are...

The things I would change in the Draft Plan are...

STEWARDSHIP

The plan is based upon the guiding principle that we have a shared responsibility to respect and care for the land. Stewardship means we take collective care and actions to ensure the health and wellness of the land and waters - for today and for future generations. Stewardship is based on the understanding that if we take care of the land, the land will take care of us.

I see myself as a steward of the land (circle one)

Yes Somewhat No

The different ways that I take care of or connect to the land are....

DAWSON LAND STEWARDSHIP TRUST

The Commission is recommending the creation of a ***Dawson Land Stewardship Trust***. The mandate of this initiative would be to fund projects to promote the ongoing practice of stewardship in the Region. Project proposals considered for the Trust should foster community and cultural connections to the land (i.e. outings for children/youth), encourage and support industry stewardship innovations (i.e. creative/innovative advances in reclamation, programs promoting collaborative land uses, etc.), and provide educational/research opportunities.

Do you support the Dawson Land Stewardship Trust recommendation proposed in the Draft Plan? [choose one]

- ☐ **Yes**
- ☐ **No**
- ☐ **Not sure**

Please tell us your thoughts and ideas on the Dawson Land Stewardship Trust

ARE YOUR CONCERNS/INTERESTS ADDRESSED IN THE DRAFT PLAN?

In the Fall of 2019 we held public engagement sessions and surveys to find out what the important issues and interests were. We took what was said and created an '*In Your Words Document: A report on public engagement* (June 2020) and an '*Issues and Interests Report* (July 2020). The Commission used this information to create the Draft Plan.

Please tell us briefly what matters to you most in the Region?

Do you feel that most of the things that matter to you were included in the plan?

REGIONAL PLANNING UNDER CHAPTER 11 OF THE TR'ONDĖK HWĖCH'IN FINAL AGREEMENT (THFA)

Working with the Parties, and through public participation, the mandate of the Commission is to develop a Recommended regional land use plan for Settlement Land and Non-Settlement Land that is consistent with and achieves the objectives of Chapter 11 (Regional Planning) of the THFA.

One key objective of Chapter 11 is:

11.1.1.6

to ensure that social, cultural, economic and environmental policies are applied to the management, protection and use of land, water and resources in an integrated and coordinated manner so as to ensure Sustainable Development.

Sustainable Development as defined in the Final Agreement as: *"beneficial socio-economic change that does not undermine the ecological and social systems upon which communities and societies are dependent".*

In your opinion, does the Draft Plan achieve the objective of Sustainable Development?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

Please provide explanation

Do you have any other comments on whether the Draft Plan is meeting the Chapter 11 Objectives and / or the spirit and intent of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Agreement.

Section 3 Key Issues

CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

Similar to the other regional plans that have been completed in the Yukon, the Commission is using a Cumulative Effects Framework to respectfully manage development on the land.

Cumulative Effects, in simple terms, is the buildup (or accumulation) of the effects of all human activities (i.e. forestry, mining, roads, agriculture, residential development, climate change, etc.) on the health of the land and waters and the things that we care about or value. An assessment of Cumulative Effects needs to consider past, present, and future activities.

Example: *One small mining project in known caribou summer habitat might not cause caribou to avoid the area, however many small mining projects (past and present), AND forestry, AND an active hiking trail all happening in and around the area might cause caribou to change their behavior and not be as accessible for people to hunt.*

In this example, access to caribou could be a 'value' and the number of caribou harvest in that area could be in 'indicator'

The Commission is interested in hearing back from the public on what values should be considered to help make decisions about what the land can sustain to remain healthy. Values can be measured or monitored to help decision makers know when acceptable limits have been reached.

The things that you value or care about on the land can range from the presence or absence of a species – like moose, salmon, or berries to the ability to do an activity like hunt, work, hike, or harvest.

Please share with us values you feel should be included in helping to make decisions about what is allowed to happen on the land.

Please share your experience / knowledge with the Commission about how the amount of some human activities or infrastructure (i.e. roads, mining, agriculture, tourism) on the land affect the things that you value or care about (land, water, community, access to hunting grounds, etc.) Feel free to be specific to an area

For example: *'Each hunting season I feel like I have to go further and further along the trail to find a moose to harvest'*

or

'The improved trail system brings in more tourists which is great for my business'

Do you feel that the amount of human development should be limited to help maintain the things you value? [yes, no, not sure, please provide a brief explanation]

WETLANDS

The Commission acknowledges that the topic of development or industrial activity within wetlands is a difficult one that has a long history in the community. People look to Regional Planning to help to resolve conflict and create certainty for land users and managers. The Commission wants to find a solution for the Recommended Plan that works for the community and is respectful to the environment. The Commission recognizes that

- Yukon wetlands contain valuable one-time-removal (non-renewable) resources that generate wealth and supplement livelihoods for Yukoners and others (gold, cultural artifacts, building materials, etc.), and
- Wetlands provide several valued renewable things and services including water, salmon, moose, ducks, flood prevention, water filtration, and carbon storage.

The Commission strongly feels that input from the community is necessary to come to a decision based on the best available scientific information, and consideration of the important cultural, ecological and economic values held within our wetlands.

Here is what the Commission is recommending for wetlands in the region (For a quick explanation of the different wetland types (ie. bogs, fens, marsh, swamp)

- No development in bogs or marshes across the whole region
- No development in bogs, marshes, and fens in Special Management Areas
- Consideration of some level of development in fens in Integrated Stewardship Areas

Development that occurs in wetlands in the Region should be avoided where possible and reclaimed to the highest standard reasonable after activity is complete.

What do you like or dislike about this the approach to wetlands?

When considering development in wetlands, what impacts to your values are you most concerned about?

The Commission have highlighted two wetland areas as of special importance, **Scottie Creek Wetlands** and the **Upper Indian River Wetlands**.

Do you agree or disagree with the choice of these two wetlands? [choose one]

- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Not Decided
- ☐ Have no opinion

Please tell us why you agree or disagree

Are there other areas of wetlands in the region that you feel are of equal or greater importance that should receive a similar level of protection? If so, where are those wetlands (Use LMU # if possible) and why are they of high value to you?

In exploring how to find an approach to wetlands that is in keeping with our stewardship responsibilities and also respects the values and interest in these areas, the Commission is considering a development threshold for fens between 25% and 75% in the Integrated Management Areas.

Fens are a type of wetland that accumulates peat (partially-decomposed organic matter) over long periods of time. What this means simply is that it can take a long time (hundreds or thousands of years) to form and that they have an important role to play in the ecosystem (like carbon storage [in the peat] and providing habitat). They are considered very hard or impossible to be replaced once disturbed.

Please tell us what you think about development in fens [choose one]

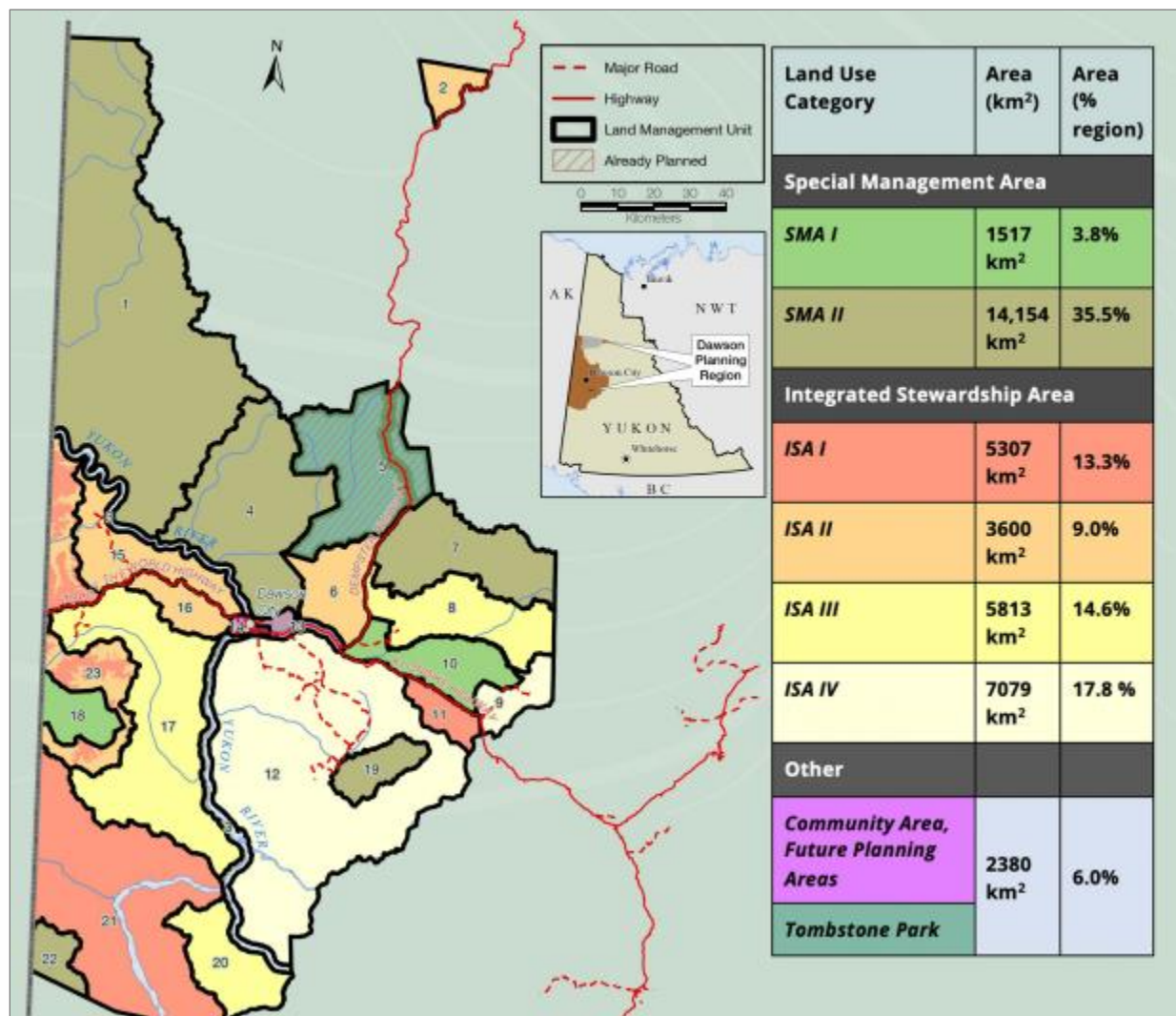
- ☐ **Development should be allowed to occur in fens (no limit).**
- ☐ **Limited development should be allowed to happen in fens.**
- ☐ **No development should occur in fens anywhere in the region.**
- ☐ **I do not know (This is a hard question, please feel free to contact us if you want more information)**

Please explain your answer.

INTRO: LAND DESIGNATION SYSTEM

The Commission has created a land designation system based on what has been done in past Regional Plans in the Yukon and added Stewardship as a guiding principle. There are two broad categories of designation and varying degrees of allowable development and protection within those categories. The proposed land designation and the map of the Region illustrating the zoning is below.

The Integrated Stewardship Areas (ISAs) are areas where development can occur (from a low to a higher scale) and the Special Management Areas (SMAs 1&2) are areas where conservation is the main focus, but in some cases (SMA 2) development can still occur in a careful way. The Draft Plan provides an in-depth look at what each of these designations mean, and all of the general management directions that would apply in the Region.



When answering the following questions **please provide specific LMU #s or area names** where possible.

What are your first impressions of this map and the land designation system?

The things I feel the Commission got right about the land designations are...

The things I would change are...

(please be specific about LMU #s and area names where possible)

These areas are not meant for full and permanent protection, rather they allow for a flexible management approach.

☐ **Yes**

☐ **No**

☐ **Unsure**

[illegible]

What advice do you have for the Commission as they develop the Recommended Plan?

CONTACT INFORMATION:

If you would like be on our e-mail list for upcoming workshops and other engagement opportunities, please email dawson@planyukon.ca or call us at 867-993-4400

Thank you and Mähsj cho for sharing your thoughts with us today. Please stay tuned for further conversations on land use planning in the region. Together we will develop a sustainable future for our community and for future generations.

Check our engagedawson.planyukon.ca website in the coming months to read the results of this survey.

