



Dawson Regional Planning Commission

On The Land We Walk Together • Nän kāk ndä tr'ädäl

Recommended Plan Summary

August 2022



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ACRONYMS

DFO	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
DRPC	Dawson Regional Planning Commission
FNFA	First Nation Final Agreements
ISA	Integrated Stewardship Area
LMU	Land Management Unit
NND	First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun
SMA	Special Management Area
THFA	Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Agreement
UFA	Umbrella Final Agreement
VGFN	Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation
YESAB	Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board
YLUPC	Yukon Land Use Planning Council

Acknowledgements

The Commission wishes to recognise the following people and organisations for contributing their knowledge and support throughout the development of this Plan.

We thank the community of Dawson and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens for sharing their knowledge, experience, and passion for the planning region with us. Thanks also to the Plan Partners who represented a broad spectrum of interests for their participation and input over the years. Residents and stakeholder groups showed great respect for the planning process, the Commission, and each other. This contributed to a Plan that was able to consider all interests and values.

The Commission specifically would like to thank the members of the Senior Liaison Committee, Technical Working Group, and the Cumulative Effects Working Group. These groups were comprised of many individuals from the Government of Yukon and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Government and their technical knowledge and expertise were paramount in the creation of the Recommended Plan. These groups operated in the spirit of co-operation.

The Commission would also like to thank the previous Dawson Regional Planning Commission whose work on developing important documents such as the Resource Assessment Report laid the groundwork for this Recommended Plan.

We also want to recognise past Commission members, staff, and contractors that have since moved on to other projects. We value the contributions that Art Webster made during his time as the Commission vice-chair. Previous commission staff Tim Van Hinte and Katie Fraser, who led the charge on development of the Draft Plan. John Glynn-Morris was instrumental in facilitating the engagement activities and supporting us through the planning process.

The Yukon Land Use Planning Council provided important support for the planning commission. Thank you to Ron Cruikshank, Heidi Hansen, Sam Skinner, Joe Copper Jack, Michelle Christensen, and Eric DeLong.

Lastly thank you to our staff who have worked hard to fulfill our vision for this Recommended Plan: Tim Sellars, Nicole Percival, and Charlotte Luscombe



Message From The Commission

The Dawson Regional Planning Commission is recommending this regional land use plan to the Government of Yukon, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation, First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation.

This is the first step in the land use planning approval process as established under the First Nation Final Agreements, Section 11.6.

This Recommended Plan reflects the Commission's best attempt to reflect the objectives of the First Nation Final Agreements and specifically Chapter 11 Land Use Planning. It is also guided by the Dawson Regional Planning Commission Terms of Reference and ongoing dialogue with the Parties. The Commission sees the planning process as an important part of Land Claims Implementation and First Nation Reconciliation.

The Plan is based upon the concept of "On the land we walk together - Nän kāk ndä tr'ädäl" which is meant to reflect the shared responsibility that we all must be stewards of this region.



We hope that the spirit and intent of the Commission is reflected in this Plan through the concept of stewardship.

The Dawson Regional Land Use Plan brings the First Nation Final and Self-Governing Agreements to life. It also aligns and supports First Nation reconciliation through clearly defined opportunities for First Nation participation in

land, water and resource management. We envision the future of the Dawson Region in which governments and people are working together in a good way.

A healthy and sustainable future for the Dawson Region relies on the different levels of government working together to put this Plan into motion and taking responsibility to implement the recommendations of this Plan.

Sincerely,
The Dawson Land Use Planning Commission

About the Plan

This summary provides an overview of the Recommended Plan for the Dawson Planning Region. This Recommended Plan was written by the Dawson Regional Planning Commission informed by feedback they received on the Draft Plan in 2021.

Based on the Party, public, and Plan Partner feedback, much work was needed to better address some important concepts throughout the Plan. It is their best attempt to reflect the vision, values, and interests of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Yukoners.

The full version of the Recommended Plan can be found at dawson.planyukon.ca

Why Is The Land Use Plan Important?

Creating a Regional Land Use Plan is in the best interests of everyone in the Yukon. It is important for both present and future generations. Regional land use planning in the Yukon is guided by the Yukon First Nations Final Agreements and is a tool that can achieve many objectives. Importantly, it helps reduce land use conflicts. This is because land use planning helps us to understand the land, its many values and users and then make educated judgements about how we should use, share and care for it.

The Recommended Plan is an important step towards the implementation of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Agreement and First Nation reconciliation. The Recommended Plan makes stronger connections to the First Nations Final Agreements.



Photo: Yukinobu Yamamoto

Where Are We Now?



What Happens Next?

As per Chapter 11 of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Agreement, the next steps are for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon to undertake Consultation on the Recommended Plan.

This is scheduled for Fall 2022.

Key Recommendations



Access: Careful and responsible development of roads and trails.



Caribou: A mix of protection and limits to development in critical habitat and migration corridors.



Conservation Priorities: Recommendation for legal protection of five areas to preserve wilderness value and wildlife habitat.



Culture and Heritage: The rich history of the region is celebrated and cultural and heritage resources preserved, including a healthy, connected landscape.



Cumulative Effects: A Framework and thresholds for indicators (surface disturbance and linear feature density) are recommended to provide a way of understanding and monitoring activities in the Region.



Implementation: Emphasis on co-management and the Parties working together and with stakeholders and the community to implement the plan is encouraged. The Commission is recommended to continue after plan approval to monitor progress, conformity checks, and play a role in sub-regional planning.



Mineral Development and Exploration: Available land for placer and quartz exploration and mining, continued development of existing claims in protected areas and support for new reclamation guidance.



Stewardship: The introduction of Integrated Stewardship Areas in the land designation system, and creation of a Dawson Land Stewardship Trust for ongoing practice of stewardship.



Traditional Knowledge: The rich knowledge held by the Commission, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens, and the community guided the direction in the Recommended Plan, and should continue to guide the implementation of the Plan.



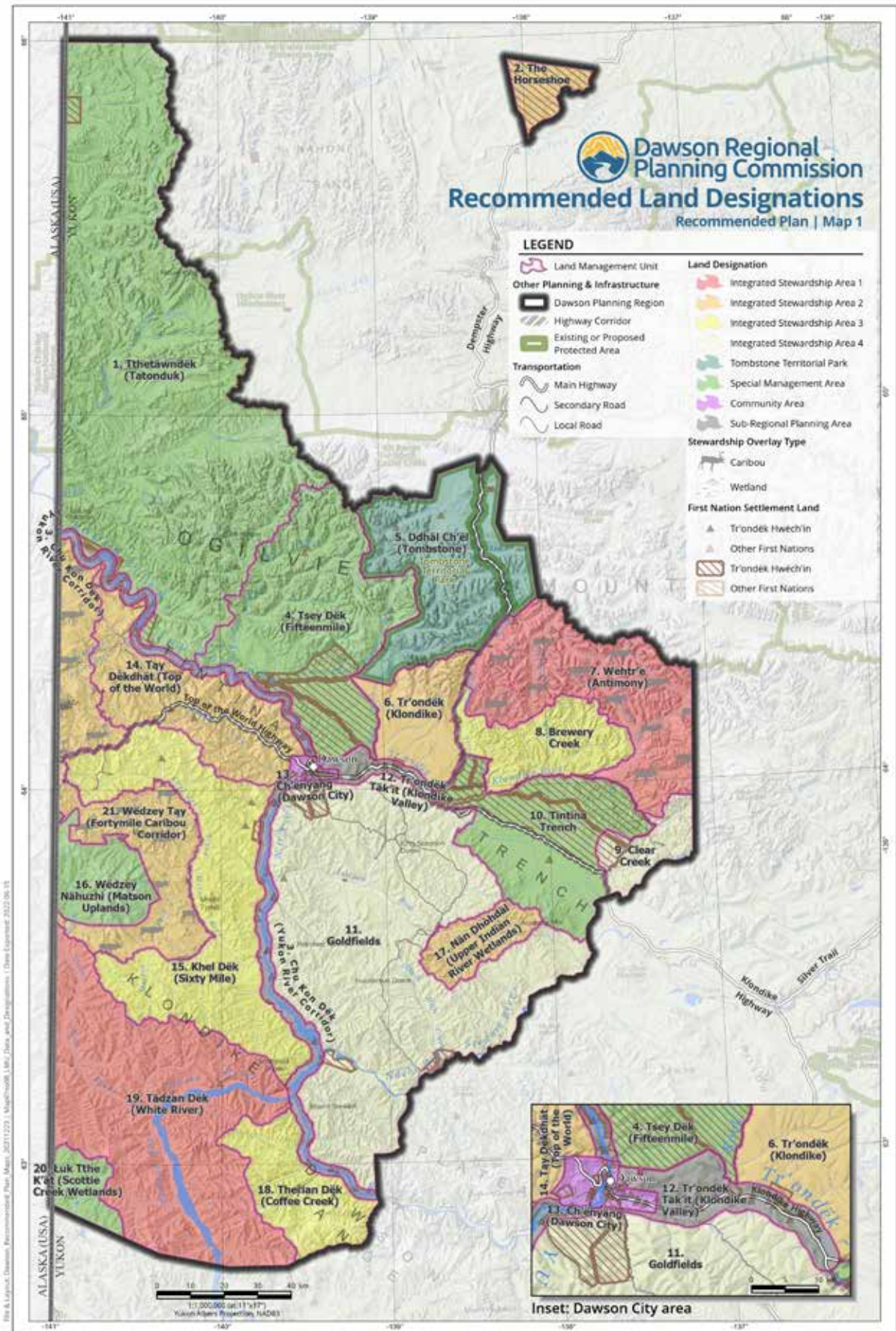
Wetlands: Recognition of wetlands and their ecological importance including development limits in rare and sensitive wetland types.

What is Stewardship?

Stewardship as it is lived and understood by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in is an ancestral and spiritual responsibility to live with the land 'in a good way'. More broadly, 'community stewardship' is about having a sense of responsibility to the land, water, and animals.



Section 1: Introduction



Mandate

Working with the Parties, and through public participation, the mandate of the Commission is to develop a regional land use plan for Settlement Land and Non-Settlement Land that is consistent with and achieves the objectives of Chapter 11 of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Agreement (THFA). The Commission created a Vision Statement and a set of Guiding Principles to guide its work.

Vision

"Nän kāk ndä tr'ädäl" (On the land we walk together) reflects the Commission's vision for the region. Flowing out of this, the following vision statements provided strategic guidance for the Plan and underpinned the planning process.

For the Region

The Dawson Region encompasses a unique landscape that enables our community to build a diverse and sustainable economy that maintains a rich cultural legacy and a healthy environment.

For the Process

Shared and respectful use of natural resources is guided by the principles of sustainable development, respect for heritage and culture, traditional knowledge and conservation of fish and wildlife habitats. Ongoing community stewardship, based on consensus building, will achieve significant and lasting social, economic, and ecological benefits for all Yukoners.

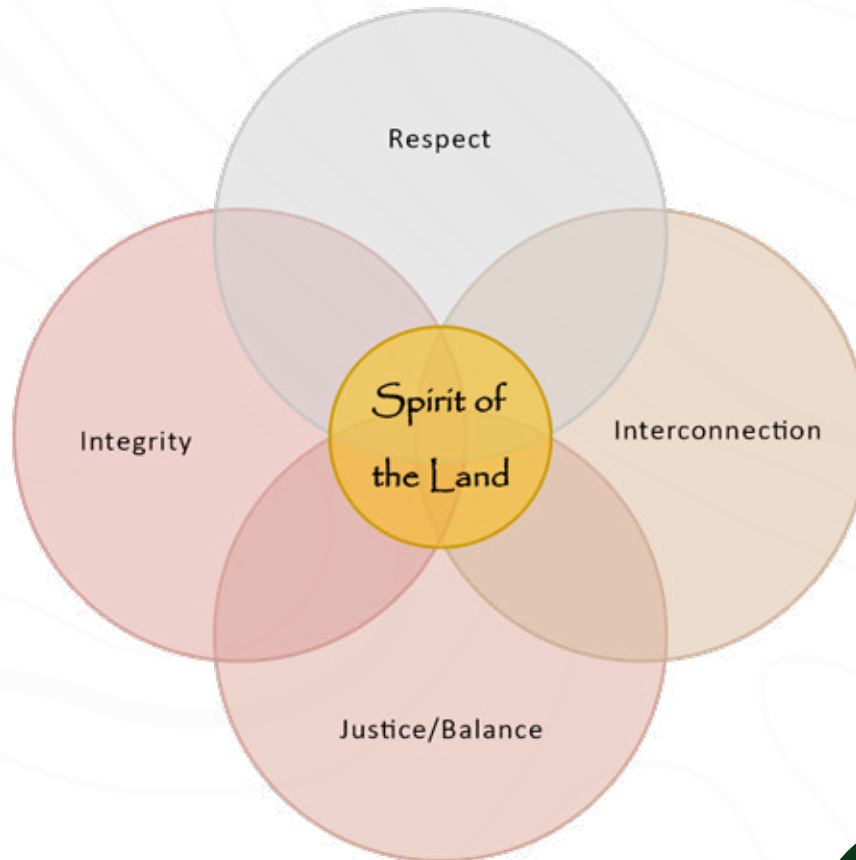
This Plan is for all people who live, work, and play in the Dawson Region. From the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in whose connection to the land goes back to time immemorial, to the multi-generational families who have made the region their home, the newcomers, and the visitors. The Dawson Regional Planning Commission (DRPC) wants all people of the region to be able to see themselves in the Plan.

For the Plan

The regional plan reflects community values and guides the coordinated and integrated protection, management and use of land, water, and resources.

Tr'ëhudè

Central to the Vision is the concept of Tr'ëhudè which speaks to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in way of life and governance. Tr'ëhudè requires a reciprocal relationship with the land and all living things to ensure the land remains interconnected.



Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Land Vision (Tr'ëhudè)



“ At the heart of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in culture is the Spirit of the Land. The land thrives through interconnectivity and cooperation. The land is honest, it prospers with integrity. The land pays attention. The land provides, but it can also take away; it is neither good nor bad, it is a delicate balance of complex forces. Balance is the essence of the land's justice. The land teaches us, and we have a responsibility to apply those teachings and to pass them on. To respect the Spirit of the Land and to conduct ourselves as it teaches us, is to honour our place in the world as Dënezhu. This is the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Land Vision.

Excerpt from Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Land Vision, (2020a)

Planning Issues

Key planning issues in the region reflect across three themes (see below). They reflect the need for balance within the planning region between sustainable economic development, and ecological and socio-cultural preservation.

The key planning issues for each theme are:



Ecological Integrity, Conservation and Stewardship

- Climate Change
- Fish and Wildlife and Habitat
- Protected and Conserved Areas



Culture and Heritage

- Harvesting Rights and Activities
- Heritage Resources and Sites
- Traditional Economy



Sustainable Economy

- Access and Infrastructure
- Agriculture
- Community Growth and Recreation
- Cumulative Effects
- Forestry
- Mineral Exploration and Development, and Mining Operations
- Renewable energy
- Tourism

Plan Goals

Plan goals are statements that support the Commission's vision and describe what the Draft Plan hopes to achieve. They express desired future conditions in the planning region and should be used when measuring success of the Plan.



Ecological Goals

- Healthy aquatic and terrestrial habitats that support sustainable fish and wildlife populations.
- Disturbances from human activities on the landscape are reclaimed in order to reduce cumulative effects, restore ecosystem functions, including key habitat.
- Preserve ecologically representative areas and important ecosystem services within the context of climate driven shifts to maintain the natural integrity of those areas.
- Connectivity between areas of key habitat, while considering climate driven shifts in habitat.
- Awareness, mitigation and adaptation to the effects of climate change on the landscape, fish and wildlife populations, and the people of the region.



Socio-cultural Goals

- Land stewardship through application of cultural and heritage values by the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, other First Nations, and other residents of the Dawson planning region.
- Land-based activities that strengthen connections to the land in order to promote health and well-being.
- Traditional harvesting rights and activities are respected and sustained.
- Strengthen and support cultural knowledge and values.



Socio-economic Goals

- Sustainable development opportunities and activities (both monetary-based and traditional) that result in socio-economic benefits to First Nations, the community of Dawson, and Yukon as a whole.
- Land use certainty and reduced land use conflicts throughout the planning region.
- Access infrastructure to renewable and non-renewable resources is established, maintained, and remediated in a way that minimises conflicts and cumulative effects.

History and Scope

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in signed its Final Agreement with the Government of Canada and the Government of Yukon in 1998. In 2006, the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in requested the establishment of a regional land use planning commission based on Chapter 11 of the THFA.

A Dawson Regional Planning Commission (the Commission) was established in 2011, but in 2014 the planning process was suspended by the Parties until the legal proceedings around the Peel Watershed planning process were resolved.

The planning process resumed in early 2019 with a new Commission of six members jointly nominated by the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and the Government of Yukon.

Following a series of public engagement sessions in the fall of 2019 and summer of 2021 with Dawson and other Yukon residents, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens and many different interest groups, the Commission submitted the Recommended Land Use Plan to the Parties in June 2022.

This Plan is the third of a network of regional land use plans to be produced through Chapter 11 of the Yukon First Nation land claim agreements.

This Plan provides guidance for land and resource decision-making within the Dawson planning region. It provides management direction for all Yukon public lands and all First Nations Settlement Lands within the planning region.

While providing guidance for decision-making, it is not a legal document. The Plan does not replace existing legislation and does not affect First Nations rights established by land claim agreements and constitutional law.



Photo: Yukinobu Yamamoto

Guiding Principles

Sustainable Development

Sustainable development is defined in Chapter 1 of the FNFA: Beneficial socio-economic change that does not undermine the ecological and social systems upon which communities and societies are dependent.

The Recommended Plan reflects sustainable development by:

- Ensuring economic development benefits current and future generations.
- Maintaining and enhancing the region's environment and ecology through protection, stewardship and education.
- Maintaining culture and heritage values and promoting the Dawson community and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in way of life.

Economic activities that degrade the land and that the land cannot recover from are not considered sustainable. The Recommended Plan addresses activities that are not sustainable through mitigations and through the cumulative effects framework

Stewardship

“Long ago, we were given the duty to care for our land and our communities. The beliefs and values taught to us by our Elders showed us how to care for our world. Today, we use the word “stewardship” to describe our duties towards the land, waters, animals and fish. This duty is part of our beliefs, values and customs. It is woven into our social system, our political and economic practices, and our kinship relations.

Guide to Heritage Stewardship for Yukon First Nation Governments, 2018

“I am governed by laws for what I do out there. I don't just take what I am allotted, but I look at the land and think ‘what can the land tolerate?’ I know lots of people who are out there working on the land going above and beyond what they are required to do, and that is what we want to instill in everyone. It is management, but stewardship takes it to a different level.”

Dan Reynolds, DRPC member

The Plan is guided by the principle of stewardship and a shared responsibility and respect for the land. It is recognized that collective responsibility and actions are needed for the continued health and vitality of the region.

The Plan recognizes the different ways of being a steward of the land and supports ways to continue to foster and promote stewardship now and for future generations. This Plan uses two approaches to stewardship as a guiding principle: **ancestral stewardship** and **community stewardship**.

Precautionary Principle

This Plan understands the Precautionary Principle to mean that the burden of proof rests with an activity's proponent. This means it must be established that there won't be substantial harm to the environment before permission is granted to proceed.

Regional planning must consider potential impacts and the Precautionary Principle helps us to make cautious decisions until there is more evidence known about the potential impacts of these decisions.

Adaptive Management

Regional land use plans in Yukon are designed to be 'living documents'. Adaptive management means we must look, learn, and adjust as required. It requires us to respond to changing land use and/or environmental conditions as new or better information becomes available, or if the Plan is not achieving the social, environmental, or economic goals as intended.

As part of adaptive management, monitoring will be very important as it will help identify parts of the Plan that might need attention or are not working. The Plan recommends that a monitoring framework be jointly developed by the Commission, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon.



Section 2: Dawson Planning Region Overview

Setting

The Dawson Planning Region is in the west central part of Yukon, encompassing 39,854 km² or about 10 per cent of the territory. It excludes land within the City of Dawson, areas subject to subdivision planning or local area planning (West Dawson and Sunnydale), Klondike National Historic Sites, and Tombstone Territorial Park.

The planning region is a unique area of the Yukon – its quality of life is attributed to opportunities and employment in mining and other economic sectors; a thriving cultural landscape; and healthy ecosystems that support a wide variety of fish and wildlife populations.

Water is a very important value that underlies all parts of the region, including environment, economy, and culture.

Environment

The Dawson planning region is bisected by the Taiga Cordillera Ecozone in the north and the Boreal Cordillera Ecozone in the south.

Most of the planning region was part of Beringia, a landscape spanning northwestern North America to eastern Siberia. This unglaciated area was a refuge for plants and animals, supporting many glacial species that are found nowhere else in the world.

Much of the region is forested but there are areas of alpine, subalpine, taiga shrub and wetlands.

The largest sub-watershed in the region is the Central Yukon, which includes tributaries of Sixty Mile River and the Indian River. The Yukon River is the largest river in the planning region. Significant tributaries to the Yukon River include the Klondike River, White River and the Stewart River.

The region is underlain by continuous and discontinuous permafrost. Permafrost is more widespread in the northern and higher elevation areas of the region.

The most distinct geological feature of the planning region is the Tintina Trench, a nearly one-thousand-kilometre fault line along the continental margin of ancient North America. South of the Tintina Trench lie sedimentary deposits, containing a variety of minerals including asbestos, copper, and gold. Gold eroding from quartz veins was concentrated by pre-ice age rivers into placer sand and gravel deposits.

The climate of the planning region is continental with long, cold winters and relatively warm summers, with most of the annual precipitation occurring from June to August.

Land Status

The planning region includes Settlement Lands (administered by First Nations governments) and non-Settlement or public lands (administered by Government of Yukon). The planning region also contains lands that are already administered under existing plans (such as management plans, local area plans and municipal plans). These include land within the Dawson City municipal boundary, West Dawson and Sunnydale area, internationally designated lands, National Historic Sites, Yukon Historic Sites and Tombstone Territorial Park.

Ecological and Cultural Values

Ecosystems in the region host a diversity of vegetation communities and geological landscapes, supporting a wide range of values including wildlife habitat, ecological health, carbon sequestration, and a sustainable renewable resource economy.

Important wildlife values include key areas for caribou herds, as well as moose, sheep, fish, and their habitats. The region also includes numerous species at risk, including migratory birds, Barren-ground caribou, and the Spiked Saxifrage. The two most significant caribou populations in the region are the Fortymile herd in the west and Porcupine Caribou herd in the north. The Dawson region is rich in cultural heritage and unique landscapes. Heritage resources include historical, archeological, and paleontological records. Prehistoric and archeological sites date back to the end of the last Ice Age. The region holds the highest concentration of historic sites in the territory relating to gold mining, First Nations history and early fur trade in the region.



People and Communities

The planning region falls within the Traditional Territory of three self-governing First Nations: Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation (VGFN), and Na-Cho Nyäk Dun (NND). However, only Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in has Settlement Land within the planning region. The planning region has a relatively small but stable population. Most residents reside in or immediately around Dawson City, with an area population of approximately 2,220.

For generations, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and other First Nations traditionally occupied, travelled or harvested in virtually every corner of the planning region. To this day, they maintain strong cultural connections to the region.



Economy

Economic development in the planning region has been closely linked to its mineral deposits. Hard rock (quartz) and placer mining are significant economic activities within the region. Nearly ten per cent of Dawson resident employment is in non-renewable resources, such as mining, quarrying, and oil and gas.

Other economic activities include renewable resources such as agriculture, forestry, fishing, and wildlife harvesting. Tourism and recreation activities, particularly in the Dawson City area, also provide important economic opportunities. Heritage resources are an important attraction for the region and provide substantial economic benefits through heritage tourism.

The Traditional Economy is essential to the region's health and is based on the natural resources harvesting. The activities are a source of cultural value and social well-being which are not easily quantifiable in the western sense.

There are direct and indirect values that are linked to health and wellbeing, spirituality, community, culture, and stewardship.

Three major highways connect the region to southern Yukon, the Mackenzie Delta and Alaska. There are also numerous secondary roads and trails, as well as a traditional trail system. Regular scheduled air service at the Dawson community airport facilitates the transport of goods and people, and many small airstrips provide additional access throughout the region.

Climate Change

Climate change will have a huge impact on the region, and changing temperature and precipitation patterns will affect the environment, wildlife and the Dawson community. It is important that consideration be given to both challenges and potential opportunities associated with climate change during the Plan's implementation.

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Holistic View

The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in traditional view of the land is very different to how non-Indigenous people think about things. We have included excerpts from We Are Denezhü to help understanding of this perspective.



Photo: Y.G.

The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in have occupied this territory for all time. They are Denezhü.

“Our land lives and breathes. It is alive with power. Our land is the earth, the water, the sky, the stars and the wind. It is the people and the animals, the fish and the plants. It is a life force. Our land shapes our world. Our beliefs, thoughts, and actions are responses to the land itself and in return the land provides for us. We work together to maintain this reciprocal relationship.”

“We are people of this land. It has shaped us for generations and we have cared for it as it has cared for us. The land itself brought our worldview into being. It teaches us that we are an essential part of a bigger environment. We understand ourselves and our place in the world in relation to all other beings. This is the foundation of our identity.”

“Our enduring relationship with our land is our heritage. Our stories are written on the land and our place in this world is created, understood and owned through these stories.”

Section 3: Plan Tools and Concepts

The Plan uses the following tools and concepts to guide land use management decisions in the Dawson planning region:

1. Landscape Management Units

The Dawson planning region has been divided into 21 discrete areas of land called Landscape Management Units (LMUs). They are generally based upon differences in use, ecology, land status, etc. Each have their own management direction.

2. Land Use Designation System

The Land Use Designation System describes the management intent of each Landscape Management Unit (LMU). The system recommended for the Dawson planning region is similar to other planning regions in Yukon.

Special Management Areas (SMAs) are areas that need the highest conservation focus because of their ecological, cultural and heritage values. They should have full protection through legal designation.

Integrated Stewardship Areas (ISAs) identify areas where varying levels of industrial and other human development can occur. There are four levels. Land management in these areas is based on the concepts of stewardship and cumulative effects management.

Sub-regional Planning Areas such as LMU 3: Chu Kon Dëk (Yukon River Corridor) or LMU 12: Tr'ondëk Tàk'it (Klondike Valley) where additional planning should occur based on values such as water, residential development, and tourism.

The Recommended Plan also uses overlays and corridor areas to identify LMUs that have specific values or attributes that need to be carefully managed.

Caribou Stewardship Overlay – Intent is to maintain ecological integrity and cultural values but still allow low levels of some land use activities.

Wetlands Stewardship Overlay – Intent is to maintain wetland ecological integrity and cultural values but still allow low levels of some land use activities.

Corridor Areas – These are for features (e.g., highways or agricultural areas) where adjacent land requires special consideration and additional management direction beyond the designation.

Land Designation	Description	Area (km ²)	Region %
Special Management Area <i>Highest Conservation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended for permanent withdrawal from new industrial land use and surface access. Existing mineral activity may continue. Neither new mineral staking nor dispositions are allowed. Needs to be legally protected and have management plans. 	13,598	34.1
ISA 1 <i>Lowest Development</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very high ecological or heritage/ cultural value within a sensitive biophysical setting The priority is to maintain ecological integrity and cultural resources. 	6,276	15.7
ISA 2 <i>Low Development</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High ecological and cultural values within a moderately sensitive biophysical setting. The priority is to maintain ecological integrity and cultural resources and minimise land use impacts 	5,232	13.1
ISA 3 <i>Moderate Development</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate ecological and cultural values within a moderately sensitive biophysical setting. 	4,843	12.1
ISA 4 <i>Highest Development</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower ecological or heritage/ cultural value within a moderately sensitive biophysical setting. 	6,613	16.6
Sub-Regional Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended for sub-regional planning 	1,124	2.8
Tombstone Territorial Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Out of Planning Region Scope 	2,107	5.3
Community Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Out of Planning Region Scope 	81	0.2
Total		39,875	100

3. General Management Directions

General management directions help guide land use decisions for specific values in the region. The intention is they be worked into existing regulations and assessment processes.

4. Special Management Directions

Each LMU is unique and they sometimes require extra management instructions to protect specific things that are valuable in the area. Special Management Directions offer guidance on things like Caribou migration, subsistence harvesting, access, permitted activities and development, reclamation, and wildlife protection.

5. Cumulative Effects

The Dawson Region is an active landscape that hosts many activities including mining, traditional economy, forestry, recreation, tourism, and other activities. It is also an important cultural landscape and important habitat to fish and wildlife.

Cumulative effects are the net changes to values in the environment, society and economy that result from a land use activity in combination with other past, present, and future activities. With all these interests on the landscape, we need to monitor the cumulative effects of different activities on the region's values, and their relationship to and with each other.

The **short term** requirement of this Plan is for cumulative effects to be managed based upon the indicators surface disturbance and linear features.



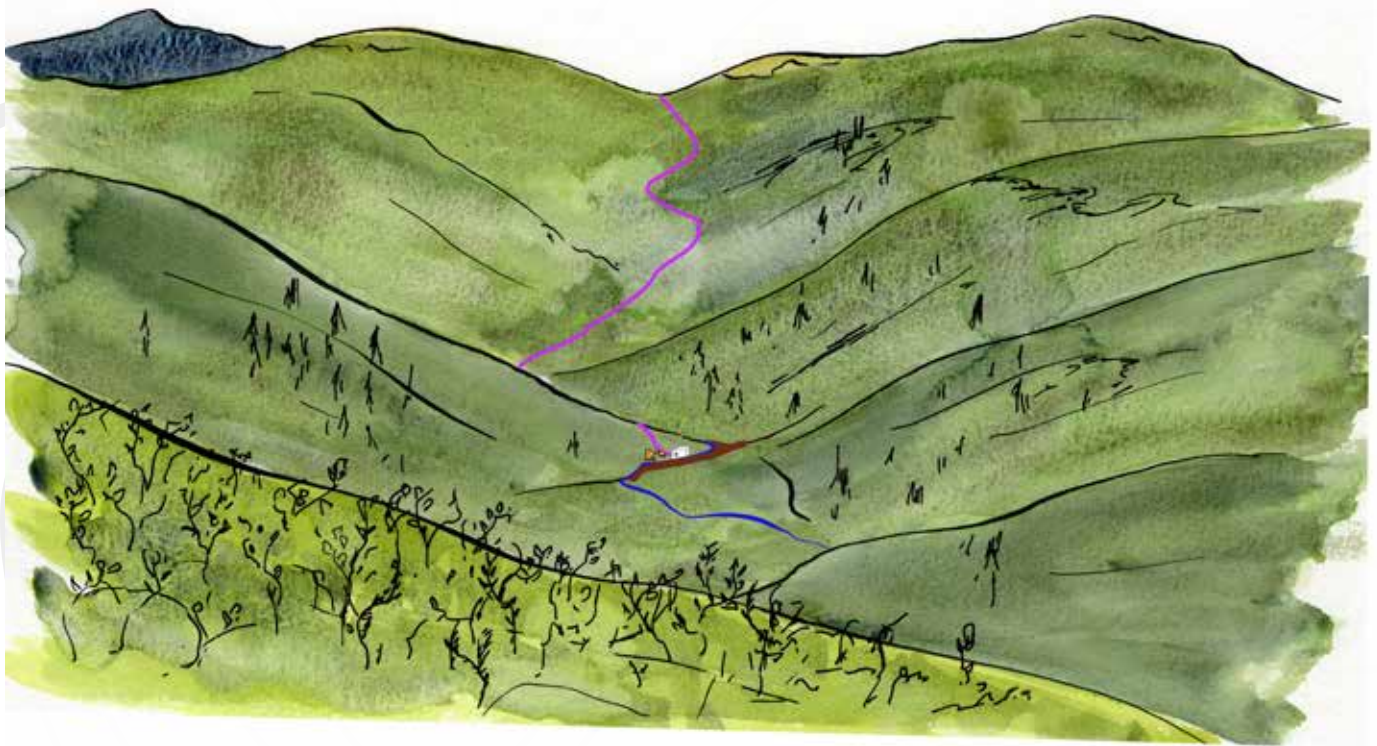
The cumulative effect of new cabins being built in an area may have the effect of reducing places someone can hunt in an area

One cabin may not have a very big impact on the available hunting area, but the accumulation of many cabins may significantly impact someone's ability to access hunting areas

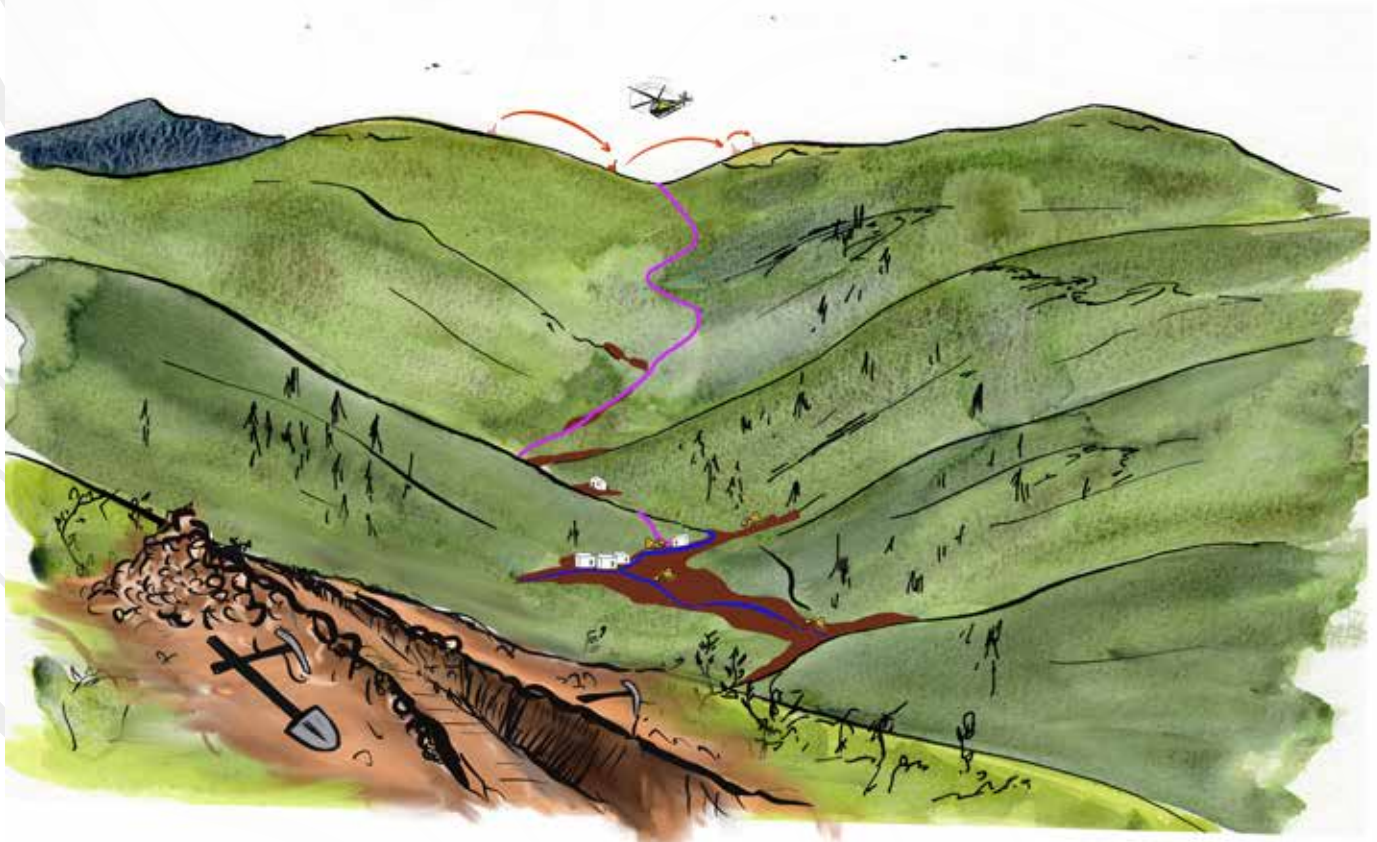


An example of how cumulative effects have an impact on the Region's values

Illustrations to show 'low' presence of surface disturbance and linear features (top) compared to 'higher' levels of surface disturbance and linear features. *Source: Yukon Graphic Recording*



This image depicts a small mining operation and a road (pink).



This image depicts a more active landscape with a larger mining operation, a road (pink), and some exploration work.

Most simply stated, the Plan has set thresholds that are the acceptable level of development (including disturbance and access) that can happen in the different units in the planning region. Higher development areas have higher limits (or thresholds) of development. Lower development areas have lower limits (or thresholds). This approach allows decision makers to make consistent decisions across the region based upon how each Land Management Unit has been designated.

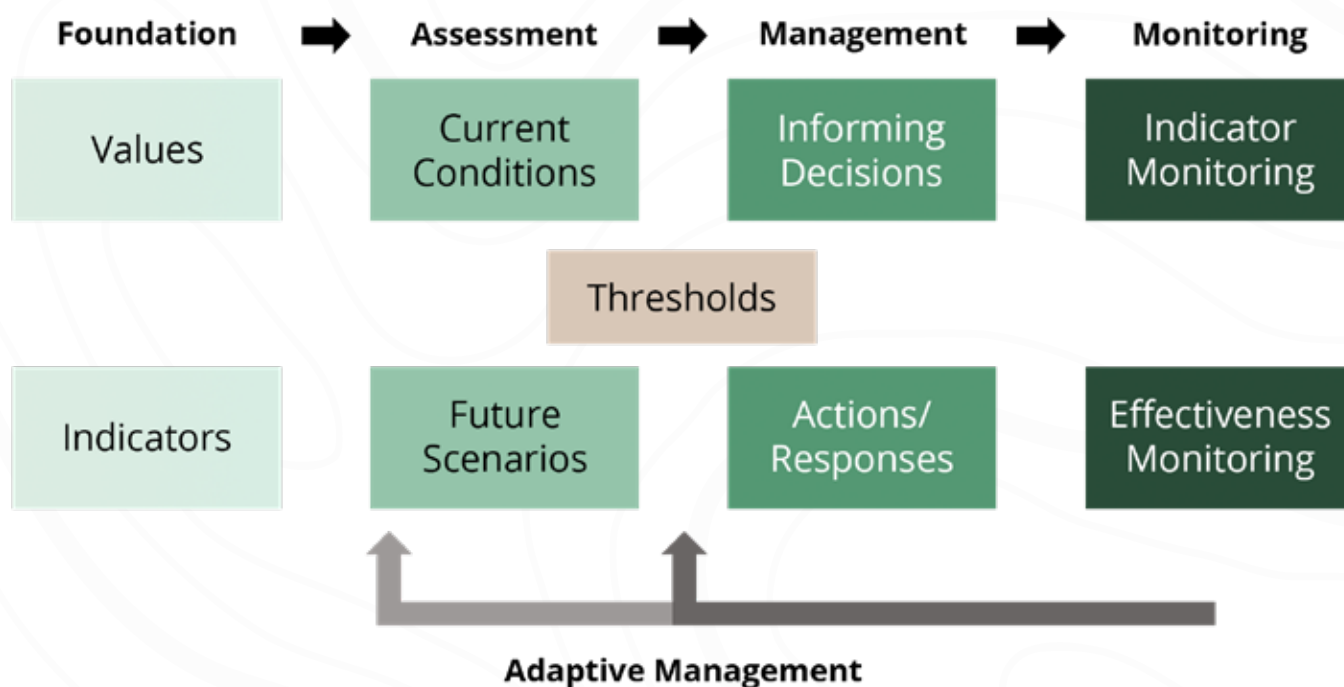
The Thresholds for the Dawson Recommended Plan are as follows:

Designation	Management Intent	Precautionary		Cautionary		Critical	
		Surface (%)	Linear (km/km ²)	Surface (%)	Linear (km/km ²)	Surface (%)	Linear (km/km ²)
ISA 1	Lowest Development	0.0625	0.0625	0.1875	0.1875	0.25	0.25
ISA 2	Low Development	0.25	0.125	0.75	0.375	1.0	0.5
ISA 3	Moderate Development	0.5	0.25	1.5	0.75	2.0	1.0
ISA 4	Highest Development	1.0	0.5	3	1.5	4.0	2.0

Section 4: Cumulative Effects Framework

The purpose of a Cumulative Effects Framework is to guide management decisions in conjunction with the management intent, special management directions, and general management directions set out in the Plan. The diagram below represents the cumulative effects framework recommended for the Dawson Region.

It is important to read and consider Section Four of the Plan in its entirety. You can read this on our website dawson.planyukon.ca



The framework provides direction for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon and they will work together to put it into action. An important part of this framework is the values that will underpin it. These values are important to the people who live, work, and visit the region. So far, ecological indicators have been identified and linked to surface disturbance and linear density – see below. More work is needed on socio-cultural and socio-economic values, and this will be done as part of the Plan's implementation. Some areas to look at are shown below.

Ecological

Caribou
Moose
Wetlands
Water

Socio-cultural

Harvest
Traditional economy
Housing

Socio-economic

Wellbeing
Employment
Housing

Section 5: General Management Directions

Section 5 of the Recommended Plan outlines the general management direction for the Dawson planning region. It identifies the specific recommendations, strategies, and conditions for new development.

This section is organized around the three major themes:

- **Ecological Integrity, Conservation and Stewardship**
- **Culture and Heritage**
- **Sustainable Economy**

The Plan proposes many different management strategies and recommendations for consideration. These directions are to be considered in addition to the directions set out in each LMU. Each LMU has a unique set of values and uses which will help determine which General Management Direction should apply.

Recommended Management Practices	Consist of 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.		
Recommendations to the Parties	Consist of broad guidance to the Parties on the use and conservation of land, water and other renewable and non-renewable resources in the planning region.	Policy Recommendations	Direction on land use issues and their management
		Research Recommendations	Topics to be investigated in more detail or information gaps to be filled.
		Recommended Actions	Work to be undertaken by the Parties

It is important to read and consider Section Five of the Plan in its entirety. You can read this on our website: dawson.planyukon.ca

Planning Strategy

Theme One: Ecological Integrity, Conservation and Stewardship

Healthy air, water, vegetation, and wildlife are critical to sustaining life. Sustainable development ensures the continuation of healthy ecological systems. This section of the Plan describes the objectives and strategies designed to achieve the ecological goals.

Ecological integrity, conservation, and stewardship is a priority for the region. During the planning process, public engagement emphasized the need for protected and conserved areas, and the importance of intact fish and wildlife populations. The region's wetlands are also very important as is the protection of rivers and watercourses. Climate change poses a risk to the region's ecological integrity, and adaptive management will be important to mitigate its effects.



Caribou

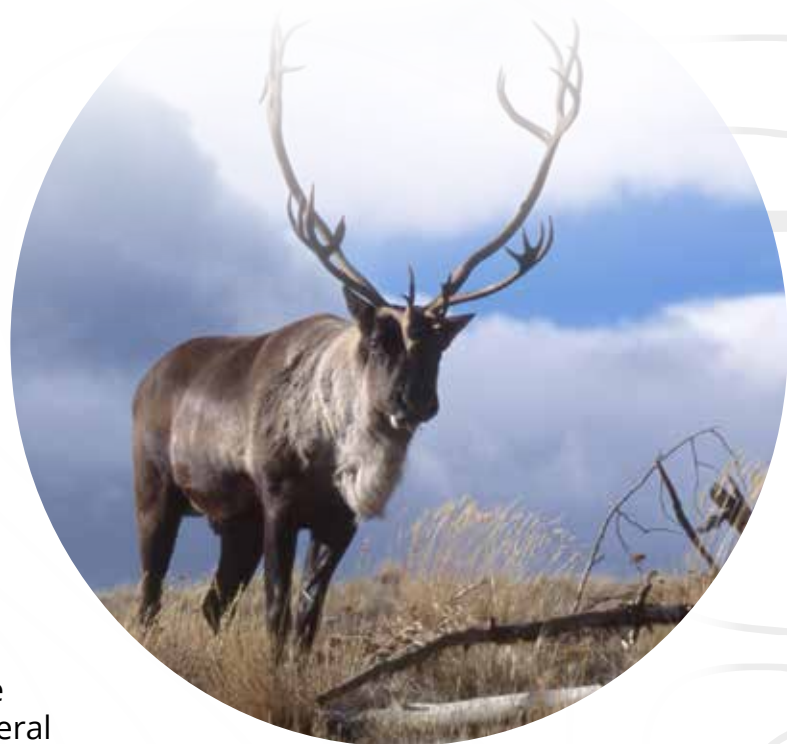
With the immense cultural and ecological value of caribou in mind, the Plan makes multiple recommendations for this key species, acknowledging the different challenges each herd faces. This includes development activities operating at safe distances and not within high quality habitat, and minimising access routes along migration corridors and through rutting areas.



Wetlands

There are many ecological benefits to wetlands, and they are areas of importance to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and other First Nations. They can be subject to land-use conflict in some places because they overlap with areas that have high mineral potential.

The Plan proposes multiple recommendations for wetlands, including a mitigation hierarchy and thresholds for development in some fens. In addition, no development is recommended to happen in certain classes of wetlands (undisturbed bogs and marshes).



Theme Two: Culture and Heritage

The Dawson Region has a rich cultural legacy that is closely tied to the history and stories of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, other First Nations, the Klondike Goldrush, and the contemporary socio-cultural setting of the area. A key part of sustainable development is maintaining and enhancing cultural and heritage values for all people of the region. This section of the Plan considers these important heritage and cultural values, and describes the objectives and strategies designed to achieve the socio-cultural goals.

For the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, heritage is rooted in the landscape. Taking care of the land is critical as all the land's resources are a valuable part of this heritage. Heritage is kept alive and protected when Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens can hunt, gather, fish and trap. This ancestral stewardship protects the land and its resources (Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Government, 2012).



Hän Language

The Plan incorporates Hän throughout the Plan, and it expresses the Traditional Knowledge that is held by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and other First Nations. Language is a link between culture, history, and the land. Recognising Hän place names and phrases is an important step towards reconciliation and language revitalisation.



Dawson Land Stewardship Trust

Stewardship is a guiding principle of the Plan. There is an important difference between ancestral stewardship and community stewardship, but the Plan intends for all people of the region to act as stewards to ensure the land, water and wildlife are healthy for future generations.

A key recommendation is the creation of a Land Stewardship Trust to support projects which promote stewardship of the land after Plan approval. Projects should foster community and cultural connections to the land, encourage industry stewardship innovations, and provide educational and research opportunities.



Community Growth

The Dawson planning region has many opportunities for residential, commercial and industrial development. The Plan makes many considerations for the Dawson community's future needs including identifying areas for sub-regional planning.



Photo: TH Heritage

Theme Three: Sustainable Economy

The Dawson planning region contains significant economic interests, and a key guiding principle in the Plan is sustainable development. The Plan needs to balance economic interests with ecological, cultural, or social values to ensure that future generations benefit from the wealth and abundance that the land provides. This section of the Plan describes the objectives and planning strategies designed to achieve the sustainable economy goals.

The Plan considers a range of renewable and non-renewable land uses and sectors, including mineral exploration and development, transportation and infrastructure, agriculture, tourism, outfitting, community growth and recreation, forestry, aggregate resources, and traditional economy.



Mineral Development

The Dawson planning region has tremendous mineral potential and has many opportunities in both quartz and placer mining. Mineral development is strongly tied to the socio-economic culture of the community of Dawson and the territorial economy.

The conflict between existing and future mineral exploration and mining, and conservation of ecological and socio-cultural values, was a significant challenge in the planning process.

Recommendations include support for the establishment of effective, efficient, and transparent environmental and regulatory processes, supporting industry-led programs that promote excellence in land reclamation and compliance, and working towards the viability of existing claims in some Special Management Areas.



Transportation and Access

Economic development in the Dawson planning region is intrinsically linked to access. However, access development and its cumulative effects can also significantly impact the ecological or socio-cultural integrity of an area.

The objectives for access in the planning region ensure that access development can occur in the region in a responsible and sustainable way. Recommendations focus on four different aspects of access, including existing access (including highway corridors), new all-season surface access, air access, and water access.



Tourism

The Dawson planning region offers considerable opportunities for tourism, and the community of Dawson City has a well-established tourism industry. Tourism offers an excellent opportunity for sustainable economic activities in the region.

The recommendations for tourism consider how growing tourism pressure will impact the region's ecological and cultural values and are intended to reduce the potential for land use conflict.

Section 6: Land Management Units

This section describes the Intent, Tr'ëhudè (Our Way of Life) and Stewardship, and a summary of the Special Management Directions for each of the 21 Land Management Units (LMU) in the Dawson planning region.

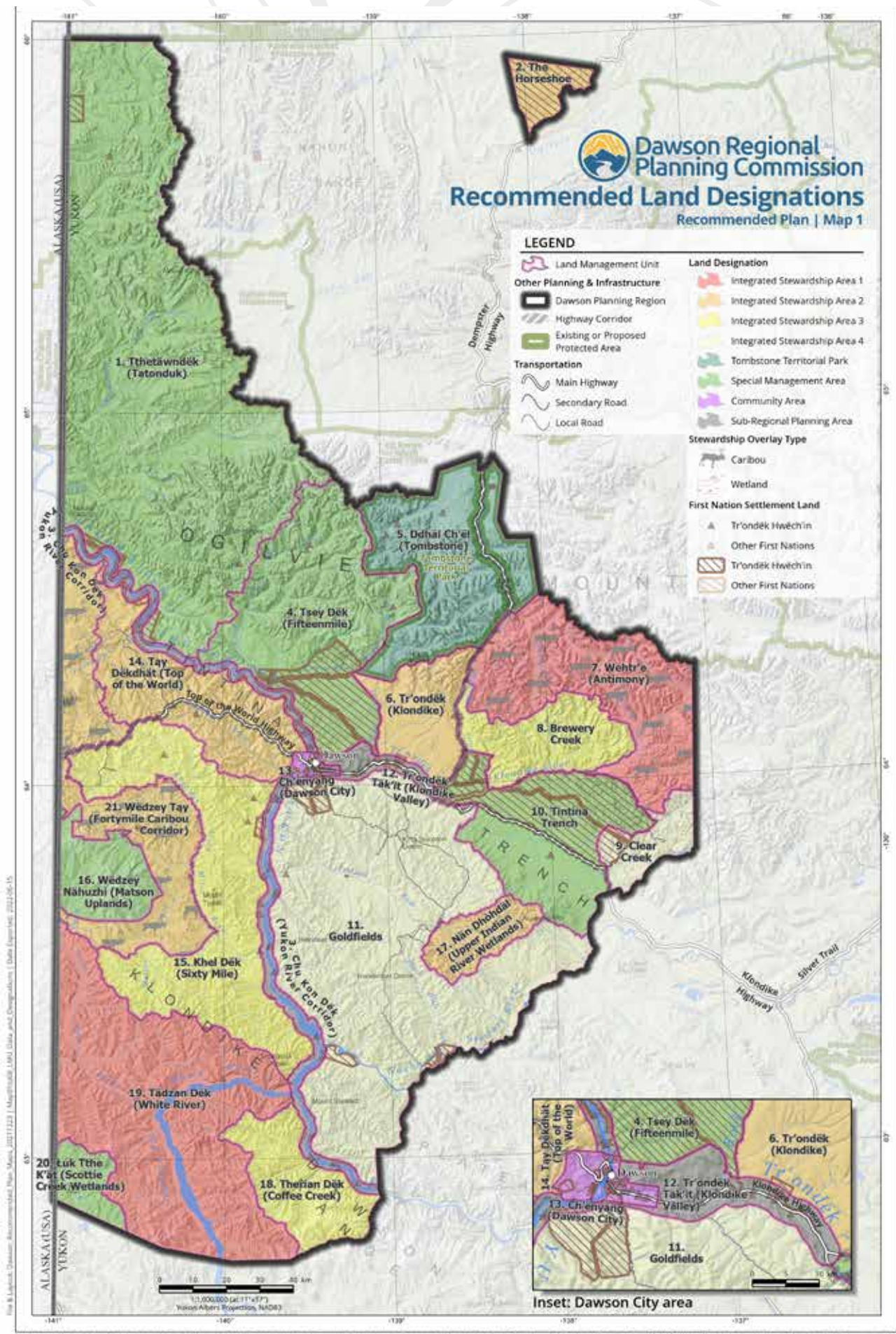
- Intent: This outlines the vision for the LMU.
- Tr'ëhudè (Our Way of Life) and Stewardship: This section considers each LMU through the lens of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Land Vision (Tr'ëhudè). It is a space where stories or traditional knowledge of the area or the values can be shared to emphasize the area's importance.
- Special Management Directions: Each LMU has specific directions that often relate to certain land uses or activities that may occur. They may also emphasise a particular value.

In the full Plan, this section is more comprehensive and includes priority objectives, a list rationale for designation and a list of some of the LMU's values. You can read this on our website: dawson.planyukon.ca

The table below shows the total area for each land use category and the percentage of the region each area represents.

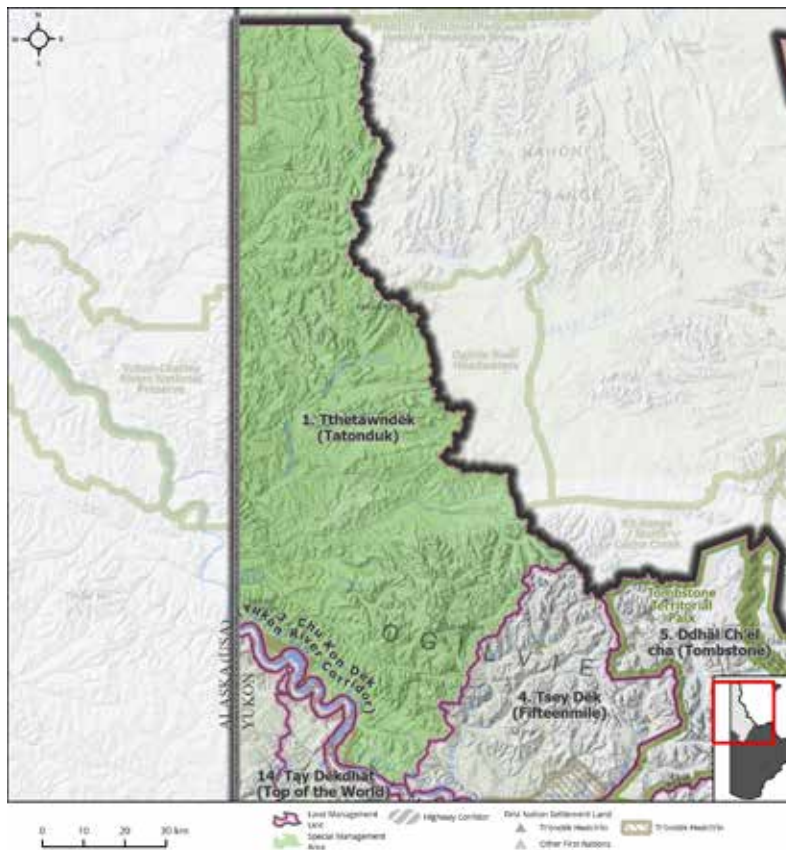
Land Designation	Area (km ²)	Region %
Special Management Area	13,598	34.1
ISA 1	6,276	15.7
ISA 2	5,232	13.1
ISA 3	4,843	12.1
ISA 4	6,613	16.6
Sub-Regional Planning	1,124	2.8
Tombstone Territorial Park	2,107	5.3
Community Area	81	0.2
Total	39,875	100

The next page shows the overall Land Designations Regional map, and then following this, there is a 2-page summary of each LMU.



LMU 1: Tthetäwndëk (Tatonduk)

Land Use Designation: Special Management Area			
Area:	7959 km ²	planning region %	20%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is to focus on conservation with limited use. This area contains extensive undisturbed and wilderness landscape, and it is rich in intact ecosystems and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in history. Existing access infrastructure is limited, as is mineral exploration and development.

Future management should maintain wilderness character and emphasize landscape and cultural connectivity. Future access and exploration activities must be carefully planned for existing mineral claims.



Tr'ehudë

The area has long been used by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in ancestors as a travel route and Elders have shared that this is a place of importance for wildlife. The protection of this land is essential to honor the past and provide opportunities for cultural continuity and the passing down of Traditional Knowledge and opportunity to youth and future generations. It is a place of healing:

“We will go back to these lands, it's who we are, that is our story.”

Debbie Nagano, DRPC Chair

“I flew up there and I was in awe. I could picture the old trail where people used to travel from Blackstone to Moosehide. I got so excited when I saw the Tthetäwndëk”

Angie Joesph-Rear, DRPC Member

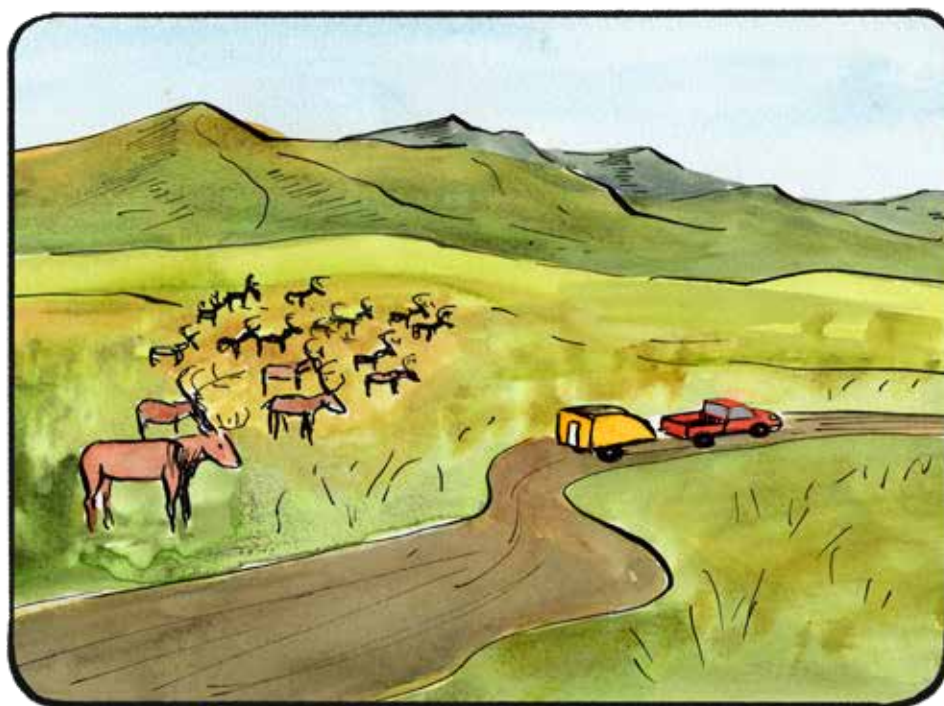
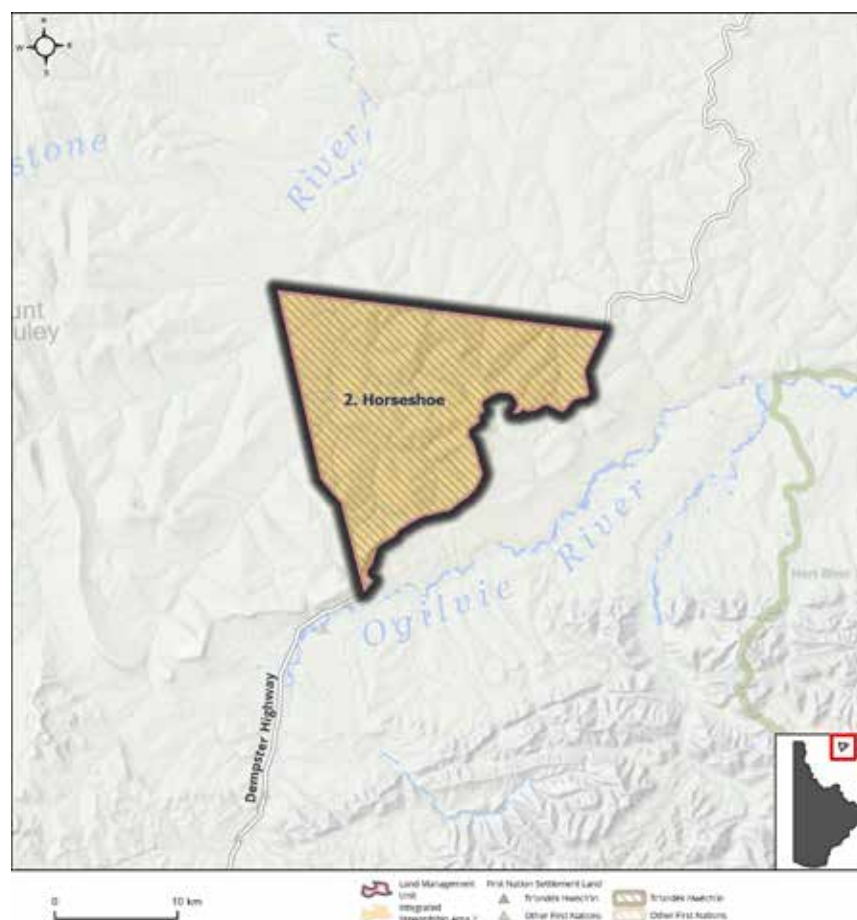
The name Tthetäwndëk is known to mean “Broken Stone River”.

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. This LMU has important mineral deposits and development can continue within existing claims. All other land is withdrawn from quartz and placer staking, and oil and gas dispositions.
2. Development is allowed within ISA 1 cumulative effects thresholds.
3. New roads and access will be allowed if proponents can prove their claims' value. Access must be approved jointly by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon.
4. If any activity overlaps with sheep habitat, possible impacts need to be considered and avoided
5. Air access might be limited to avoid possible impacts to wildlife activity.
6. Tourism should not be promoted so the sensitive wilderness value is protected.

LMU 2: Horseshoe

Land Use Designation:	Integrated Stewardship Area 2		
Area:	329 km ²	planning region %	0.8%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is to ensure habitat requirements for the Porcupine caribou herd are well understood and protected. This area also offers important opportunities for First Nation subsistence hunting and harvesting along the Dempster Highway. This LMU exists exclusively on Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in's Settlement Land parcel R-49A. North Yukon planning region LMU 9 surrounds the LMU to the North and East. Future management must preserve Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in's ability to sustainably develop their settlement land and ensure that the unique ecological value and cultural use of the area continues.



Tr'ëhudë

The Hän word for caribou is wëdzey. This area is important for the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and their relationship with the Porcupine Caribou herd.

“The relationship between wëdzey and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in extends back to a time without boundaries between people and wëdzey. The belief that people are wëdzey and wëdzey are people is literal. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in have not only relied on wëdzey for survival, but wëdzey are also part of the community, with a shared history and kinship bonds.”

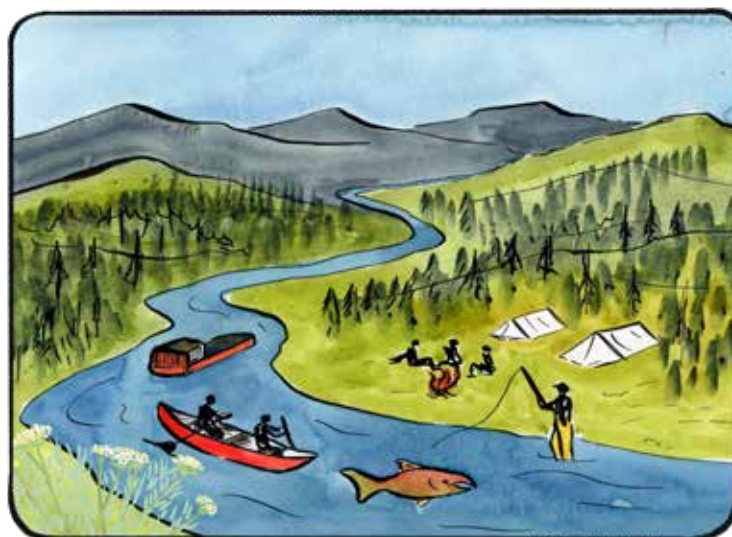
(Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Caribou (Wëdzey) Traditional Knowledge Summary, 2021)

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon should work with the Porcupine Caribou Management Board to assess habitat needs. If new development occurs, new special management directions might be needed.
2. The Dempster Highway sub-regional plan will affect this LMU.
3. Future development of the Eagle Plains basin (which is also part of the North Yukon Plan) may need access management planning.

LMU 3: Chu Kon Dëk (Yukon River Corridor)

Land Use Designation:	Sub-regional Planning Area		
Area:	926 km ²	planning region %	2.3%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is for future planning that will protect and enhance water quality and salmon habitat; protect scenic values; preserve cultural sites; and manage industrial access points. The Yukon River Corridor is a significant multi-use area and transportation corridor. It provides rich habitat for salmon, moose, raptors, and species at risk, and is important for multiple economic activities including mining, tourism, agriculture, and recreation. The Plan proposes sub-regional planning be completed under Chapter 11 of the THFA and for interim measures to be in place until this is completed. Eventually, the Yukon River should be managed in its entirety.



Tr'èhudè

“Throughout the stories...you will hear of Smart Man, Beaver Man, and Tsà' Wèzhè. This is the Traveller, known by many names up and down the Yukon River and across the north. Tsà' Wèzhè went into the world and made it safe for us, the Dënezhu. He made agreements with the land and animals that ensured our survival: the land and animals would provide for us for as long as we lived by those agreements, for as long as we lived Tr'èhudè. The stories of Tsà' Wèzhè, Beaver Man, Smart Man, the Traveller, teach us that Tr'èhudè means to live in integrity, justice/balance, interdependence, and respect, and we must adhere to these values if we want the land, our culture, and our community, to survive.”

(Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Caribou (Wëdzey) Traditional Knowledge Summary, 2021)

There are many places along the Yukon River Corridor where the interrelationship between cultural education and connection to the land take place. This is a value that is held strongly by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and it is important that these spaces are protected to ensure these opportunities can be preserved for the youth. The River is central to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in cultural landscape.

Summary of Special Management Directions

After Plan Approval and Before Sub-regional Planning

1. Development can continue within existing claims. All other land is withdrawn from quartz and placer staking until sub-regional planning is completed or if Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon both agree to remove this condition.
2. Development is allowed within ISA 2 cumulative effects thresholds.
3. Before sub-regional planning, the issues and concerns for sub-regional planning should be investigated.
4. The Forty Mile townsite should have a buffer to protect it.

Sub-regional Planning

1. The DRPC should undertake sub-regional planning and begin six months after the Plan is approved.
2. Sub-regional planning will focus on the section of the Yukon River that is within the planning region.
3. The priorities for sub-regional planning will be recreation, access (including barges and roads), traditional use and tourism.
4. The Forty Mile townsite will continue to need a buffer to protect it.

Future

1. A territorial-wide plan is recommended so the Yukon River can be managed as a whole. This might include 'legal personhood'.
2. As well as the Government of Yukon, all Affected First Nations and municipalities should be involved in this planning.

LMU 4: Tsey Dëk (Fifteenmile)

Land Use Designation:	Special Management Area		
Area:	2761 km ²	planning region %	6.9%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is to focus on conservation with limited use, and to establish shared management responsibilities between Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon. The Tsey Dëk (Fifteenmile) area contains intact ecosystems, important habitat for the Fortymile, Hart River, and Porcupine caribou herds, grizzly bears, and sheep, and is important for trapping and traditional economic activities. The Plan recommends that Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in have the primary role in the area's future management. Access and sustainable tourism must be carefully planned to ensure cultural and ecological values are preserved.



Tr'ëhude

This area is rich in Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in cultural history and contains important traditional routes and trails. Much of this LMU is covered by Settlement Lands which speaks to the importance of this area for maintaining cultural connectivity. The family ties to the land are shared in stories of living memory:

“ Growing up fishing with drying racks along the beaches along the Chandindu and taking salmon up to Old Crow. We learned not to camp at Fifteenmile because the grizzlies would come down.”

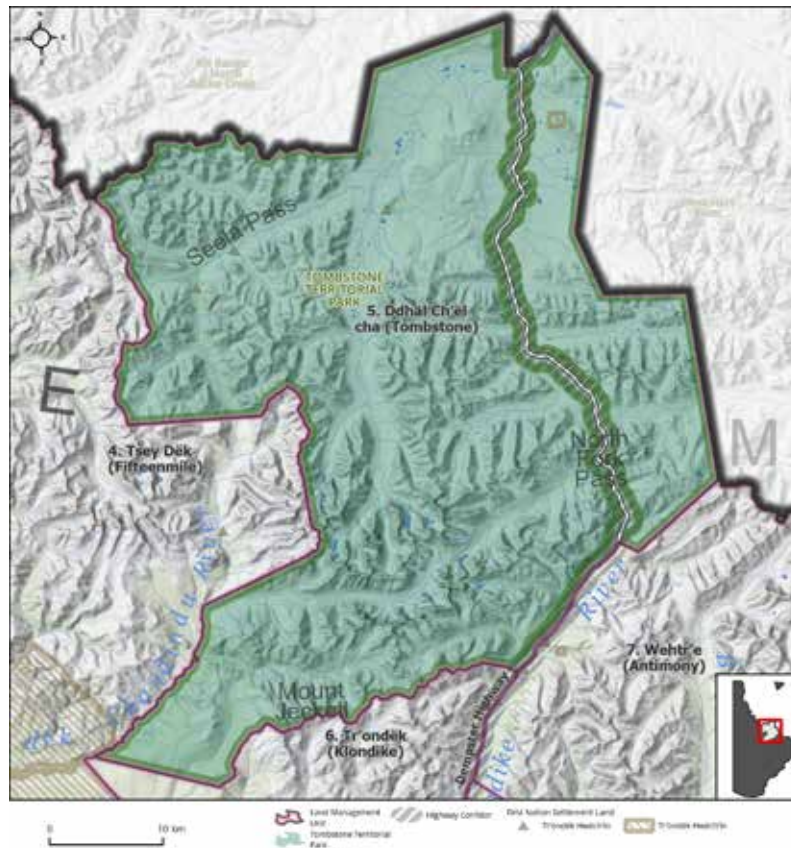
John Flynn DRPC Commission Member

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in should take the lead on management and stewardship. This will be done through establishing an Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area.
2. Development can continue within existing claims. All other land is withdrawn from quartz and placer staking. Development is allowed within ISA 1 cumulative effects thresholds.
3. Before a management plan is completed, access must be approved jointly by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon. Access should support sustainable tourism, forestry, cultural activities, and mineral development only if a proponent has proven their claim's value.
4. If any activity overlaps with sheep habitat, possible impacts need to be considered and avoided.
5. Sustainable tourism is supported and the management plan for this LMU should consider how this will look.

LMU 5: Ddhäl Ch'ël (Tombstone)

Land Use Designation: Special Management Area			
Area:	2107 km ²	planning region %	5.3%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this area is to maintain it as a Special Management Area as per its current designation and as established in the THFA. Tombstone Territorial Park is a protected area established pursuant to Schedule A of Chapter 10 of the THFA and designated as a Natural Environment Park under the Parks and Lands Certainty Act. The Plan considers and supports the Tombstone Territorial Park Management Plan. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Settlement Lands are not subject to the Tombstone Territorial Park Management Plan.

Tombstone Territorial Park supports excellent caribou, grizzly and black bear, moose, and sheep populations. These species have been sustainably harvested by subsistence, resident, and non-resident hunters for thousands of years. The location of Tombstone Park is also of significant First Nation cultural history and value, as well as an exceptional attraction for contemporary recreation and tourism.

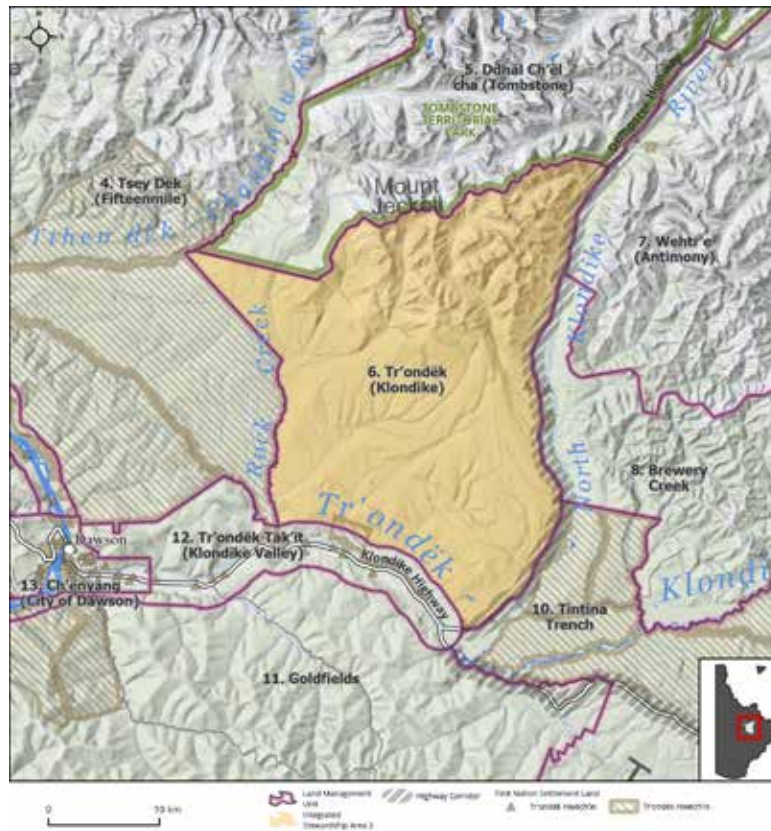
The future review of the Management Plan should consider tourism, increased traffic along the Dempster Highway and the impacts these activities may have on the values held strongly by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and the Dawson community.

Summary of Special Management Directions

- 1.** 1.The Plan supports existing plans and regulations (Tombstone Territorial Park Management Plan and Dempster Highway Development Area Regulations).
- 2.** Development can continue within existing claims. All other land is withdrawn from quartz and placer staking.
- 3.** Development is allowed within ISA 1 cumulative effects thresholds.
- 4.** Access:
 - a.** Tombstone Corridor: Generally 500m either side of Dempster Highway. Access within corridor may include highway maintenance, transmission lines or other public infrastructure.
 - b.** Surface access should be approved jointly by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon: if it's to access mineral deposits, the claims must have had their value proved.
- 5.** The Dempster Highway sub-regional plan will affect this LMU.
- 6.** Tombstone Territorial Park Management Plan Review.

LMU 6: Tr'ondëk (Klondike)

Land Use Designation: Integrated Stewardship Area 2			
Area:	824 km ²	planning region %	2.1%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is to allow limited sustainable development to ensure the high ecological values and socio-cultural uses remain intact. Located within the Tintina Trench flyway as well as along the North Klondike River, this area offers important habitat for migratory birds, raptors, furbearers, moose, freshwater fish, and salmon. Industrial interests are limited, except for forestry along the Dempster Highway. The use of this LMU for forestry as well as continued traditional economic activities, trapping and harvesting, should continue.



Tr'ëhudë

There is a long history of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in connections to this area. It is an area filled with history and a place of cultural continuity for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in. There is a valley in this LMU where you can see the caribou coming down. People say that it would have been a natural place for ancestors to have camps. Arrowheads have been found in this area.

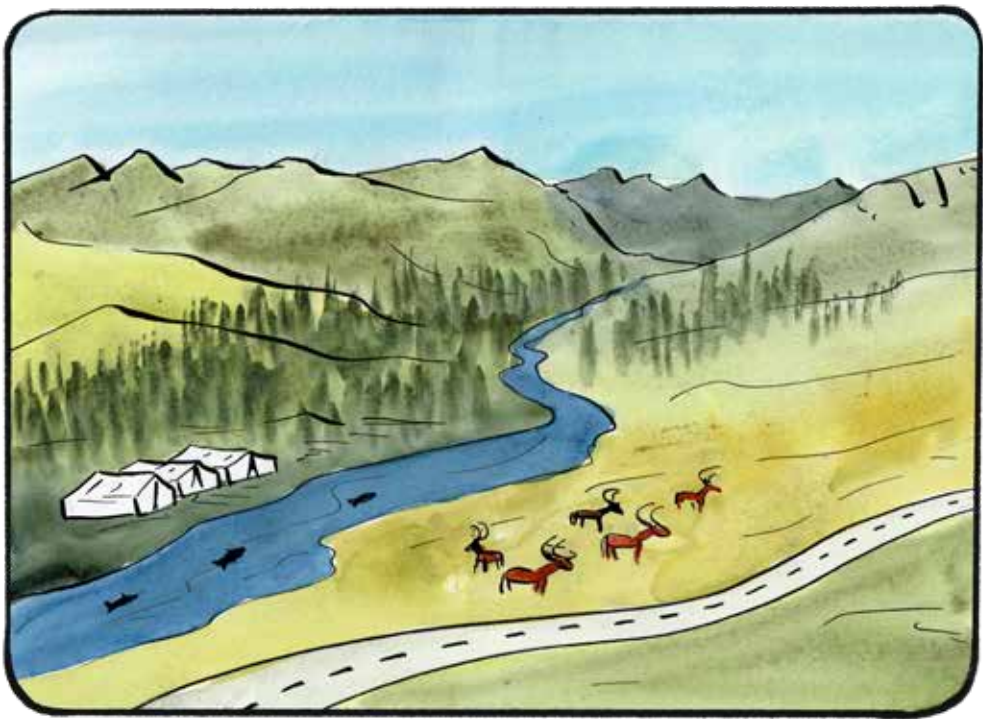
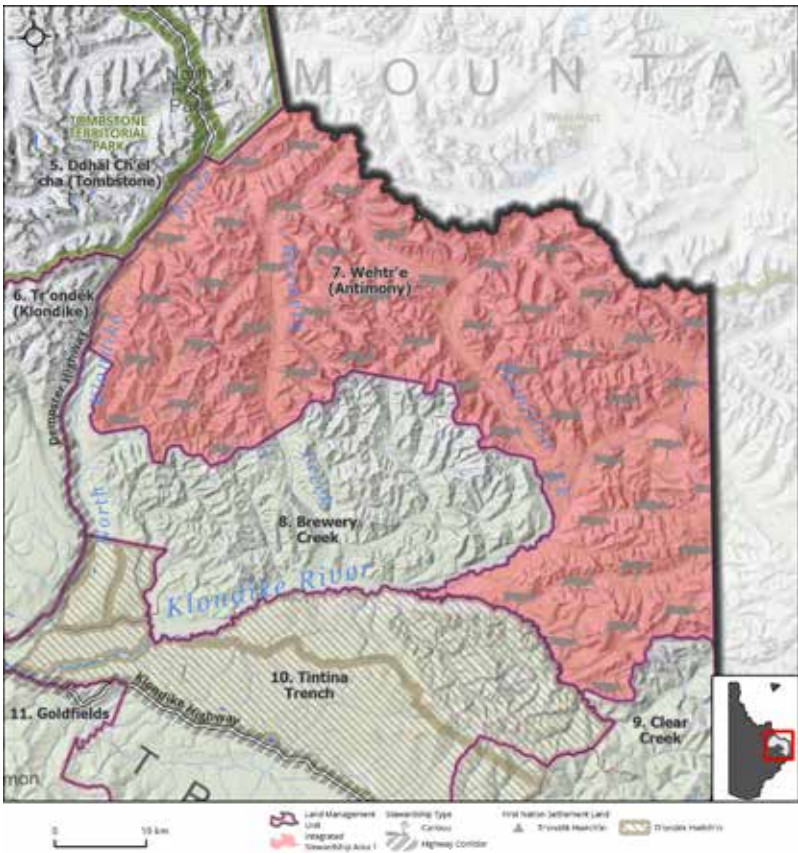
DRPC Commission Members

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. This LMU is important for salmon and so activities that can affect them will need to be planned carefully. This might include timing windows.
2. Directions for wildlife habitat in this LMU include:
 - a. Activities should avoid impacts to lynx habitat.
 - b. Activities that could disturb migratory birds must follow regulations in the Migratory Birds Convention Act.
3. The LMU contains the catchment area for the City of Dawson and surrounding area's drinking water and activities must not affect this important water source.
4. The North Fork Hydro Project should be considered only at the discretion of both Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon.
5. The Dempster Highway sub-regional plan will affect this LMU

LMU 7: Wehtr'e (Antimony)

Land Use Designation:	Integrated Stewardship Area 1		
Area:	2144 km ²	planning region %	5.4%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is to protect key wildlife habitat and aesthetic values along the Dempster Highway while allowing for limited mineral development and carefully managed access. This area is focused on conservation because of important habitat for the Hart River and Clear Creek Caribou herds. This area is also located adjacent to two protected areas (Tombstone Territorial Park and the West Hart River Wilderness Area), and is essential for landscape connectivity.

The future looks much like how it is today, recognizing that some mineral development and forestry may occur. Development should be accompanied by management and reclamation standards that protect caribou habitat.



Tr'èhudè

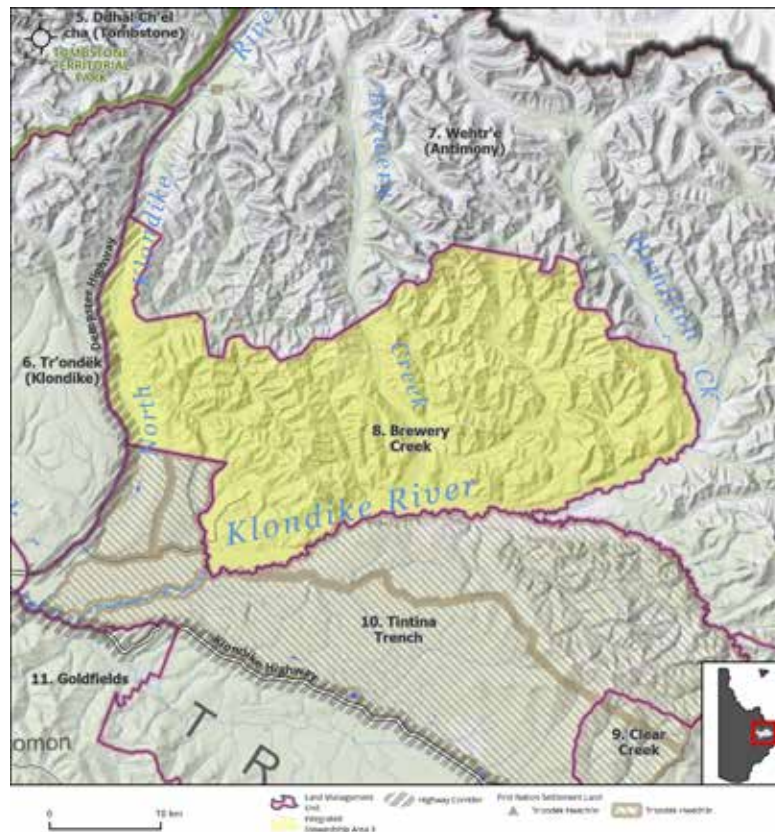
This is an important area for connecting to the land and taking part in Traditional Economic activities including trapping, fishing, gathering, and hunting. There is a Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in camp near here where there is concern about the quality of drinking water from past mining activities. This concern has affected people who use the camp as many will not drink from the creek.

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. Caribou Stewardship overlay area directions will apply. The Clear Creek and Hart River herds use this area and must be protected. These herds have been listed as Species of Special Concern by the Government of Canada.
2. This LMU has important mineral deposits and development can continue within existing claims. All other land has an interim withdrawal (i.e., it is temporary) from quartz and placer staking until an access management plan is finished or 10-year Plan Review or if Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon both agree to remove this condition.
3. Development is allowed within ISA 1 cumulative effects thresholds.
4. An access management plan should be developed by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon. It should look at:
 - a. All Season Surface Access
 - b. The views from the Dempster Highway
 - c. Caribou impacts
5. Before an access management plan is finished, new access must be approved jointly by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon.
6. The Dempster Highway sub-regional plan will affect this LMU

LMU 8: Brewery Creek

Land Use Designation: Integrated Stewardship Area 3			
Area:	948 km ²	planning region %	2.4%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is sustainable development through cumulative effects management, access management, and the preservation of key values. There is a past-producing heap-leach mine and associated infrastructure which may re-open, and forestry is also important. There is considerable habitat for key wildlife species, and extensive socio-cultural use. It is important that the area remain available for development activities without undermining its important environmental and cultural values.



Tr'ohé

As you drive up the Dempster you can see that this is a special place. There are lots of creeks running through the area that are crystal clear. There are beavers who have called this place home for generations. Keeping the water clean is very important as this is a place where citizens fish – the water and fish must remain healthy.

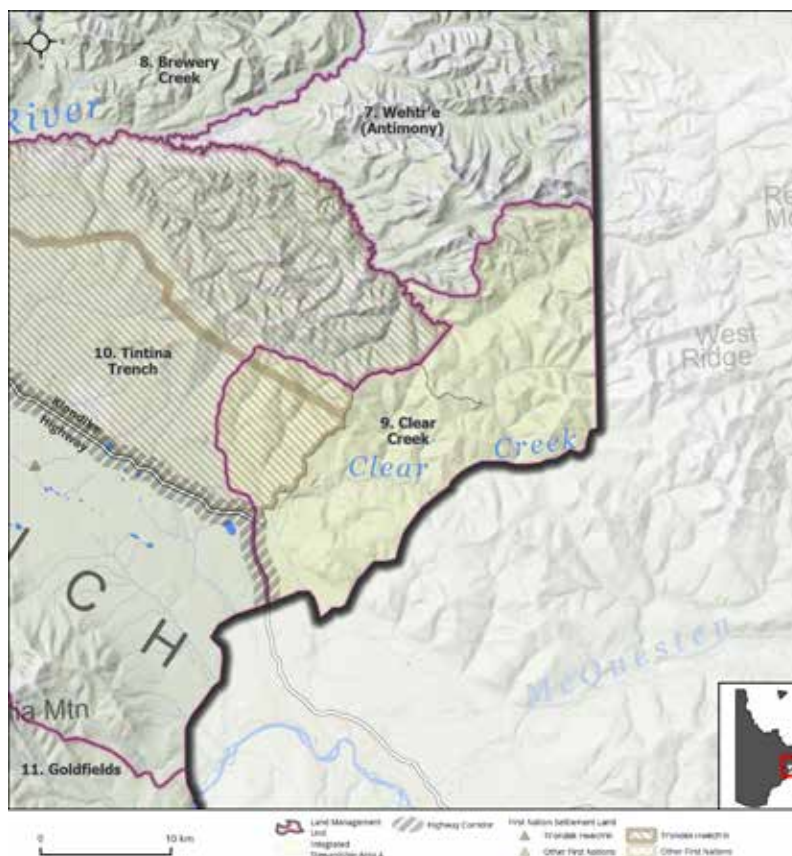
DRPC Commission Members

Special Management Directions

1. The viewscape from the Dempster Highway must be protected.
2. Apart from winter roads, new access off the Dempster Highway must be approved jointly by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon.
3. Quartz mining activity that uses heap-leach methods should not harm the aquatic environment. Baseline condition data and monitoring of impacts should be considered for development in the LMU.
4. There is important habitat for sharp-tailed grouse, a species of management concern, and development should avoid impacts to its habitat.
5. If the mine becomes active, traffic will need to be managed to ensure peaceful enjoyment of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Settlement Land in LMU 10: Tintina Trench.
6. The Dempster Highway sub-regional plan will affect this LMU.

LMU 9: Clear Creek

Land Use Designation: Integrated Stewardship Area 4			
Area:	466 km ²	planning region %	1.2%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is to conserve key habitat for woodland caribou while allowing for sustainable development.

This area contains important habitat for the Clear Creek Caribou and Fortymile herds including habitat for calving, post-calving, summer, and rutting. The area also has many mineral interests and development and has high to significant mineral potential. Other activities in this area include trapping and harvesting. Access into the LMU is limited and there has been a long history of mining in the area.



Tr'èhùdè

This LMU is the gateway to the Dawson Region. There is a sign that tells people who are driving on the Klondike Highway that they are entering the Traditional Territory of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, for some it is a new experience, and for others it is a welcome home. There is overlap of Traditional Territory here with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and they have identified the area as being an important place for fishing, traditional camps, and the Clear Creek Caribou herd.

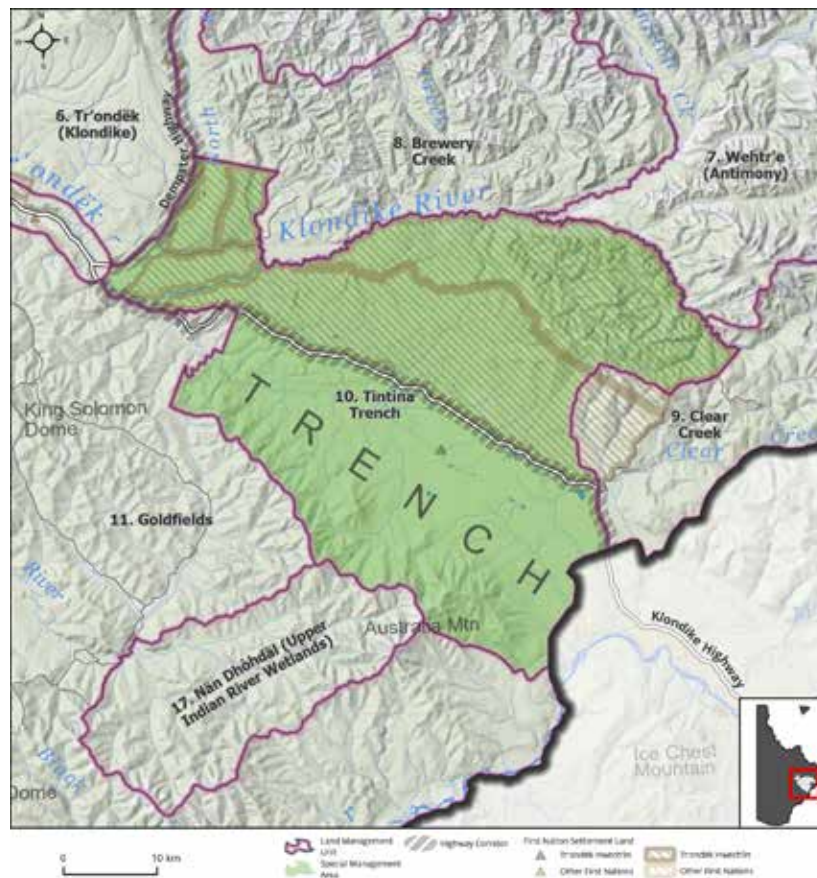
DRPC Commission Members

Special Management Directions

1. This area is important for the Clear Creek Caribou herd and is within the Fortymile Caribou herd range. Activities that happen within fall caribou breeding habitat should be stopped during rutting periods or as recommended by the Regional Biologist each year.
2. Access that goes through caribou fall breeding habitat should be avoided.
3. The North Klondike Highway Corridor directions will apply.

LMU 10: Tintina Trench

Land Use Designation:	Special Management Area		
Area:	1814 km ²	planning region %	4.5%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is to conserve ecological values and protect cultural values and traditional use areas. This area contains Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Settlement Land parcels, including R-22B, also known as Nänkäk Chèhòlay (Land of Plenty). The area is also important to the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun. The Flat Creek Wetlands provide important ecosystem services, and the Tintina Trench Flyway provides valuable habitat for migratory birds. There are also areas of high agricultural value. Future management should ensure the landscape is protected for future generations.



Tr'èhudè

“Nänkäk Chèhòlay (The Land of Plenty) is a place where the land can provide for you and you could live forever, it is a place of healing.”

Debbie Nagano, DRPC Chair

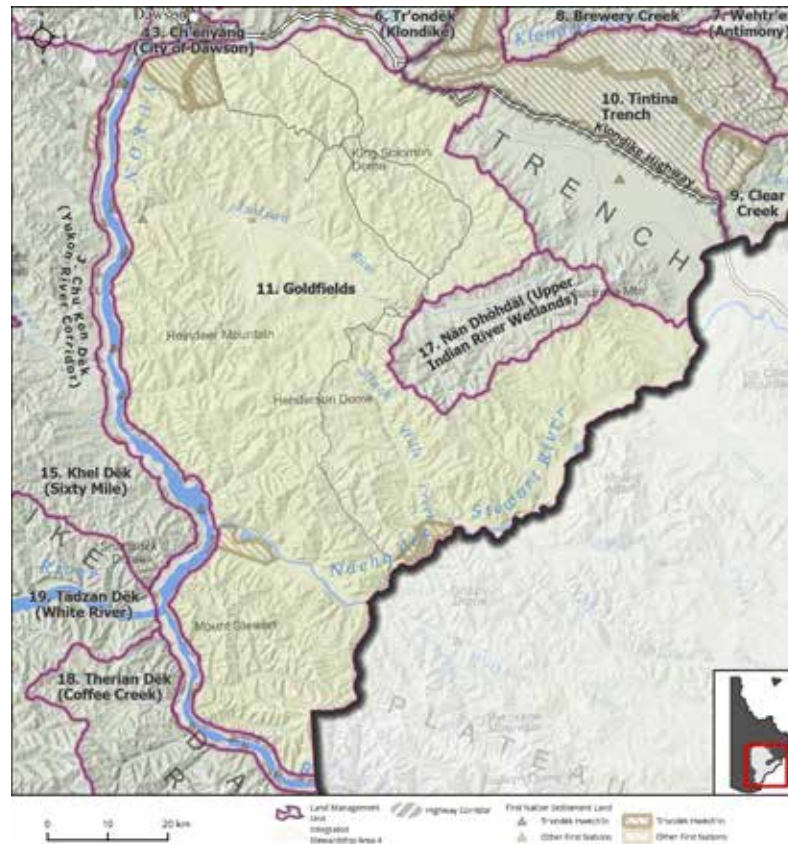
Residential school survivors chose this place for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens. It is close to town which makes it an accessible place for citizens to reconnect with the land and with each other. It is a place of importance to Elders where stories can be shared, and people can engage in cultural activities. Continued peaceful use and enjoyment of this area by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in for traditional activities including harvesting, recreational pursuits and forestry opportunities is a priority.

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. Development can continue within existing mineral claims. All other land is withdrawn from quartz and placer staking. Development is allowed within ISA 2 cumulative effects thresholds.
2. Forestry is guided by the Dawson Forest Resources Management Plan.
3. In the absence of a SMA management plan, new industrial activity and access decisions should be made jointly by both Parties.
4. The Agricultural Area Corridor directions will apply.
5. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in's ability to access the land and develop it for traditional uses should not be impacted.
6. Development should avoid impacts to sharp-tailed grouse habitat.
7. The Dempster Highway sub-regional plan will affect this LMU.
8. The Flat Creek Wetlands are recommended to be a Wetland of Special Importance.

LMU 11: Goldfields

Land Use Designation:	Integrated Stewardship Area 4		
Area:	6148 km ²	planning region %	15.4%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is sustainable development through cumulative effects management, access management, and the preservation of key areas. The cultural significance for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in should be promoted. The mining industry is an important economic activity, and the Dawson Placer Mining District is by far the most productive placer mining district in the territory. This area also offers ample opportunity for hunting, harvesting, gathering, and contains areas of ecological, historical, cultural significance and offers high tourism, forestry, and recreational value. The people in the Dawson community have a very close connection with this area in many ways.



Tr'ëhudë

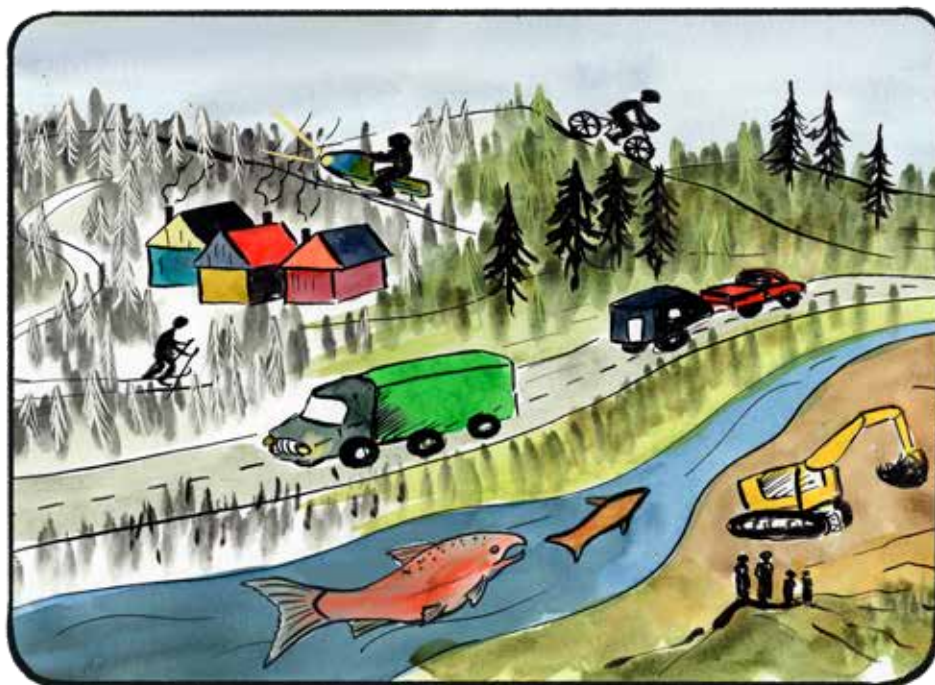
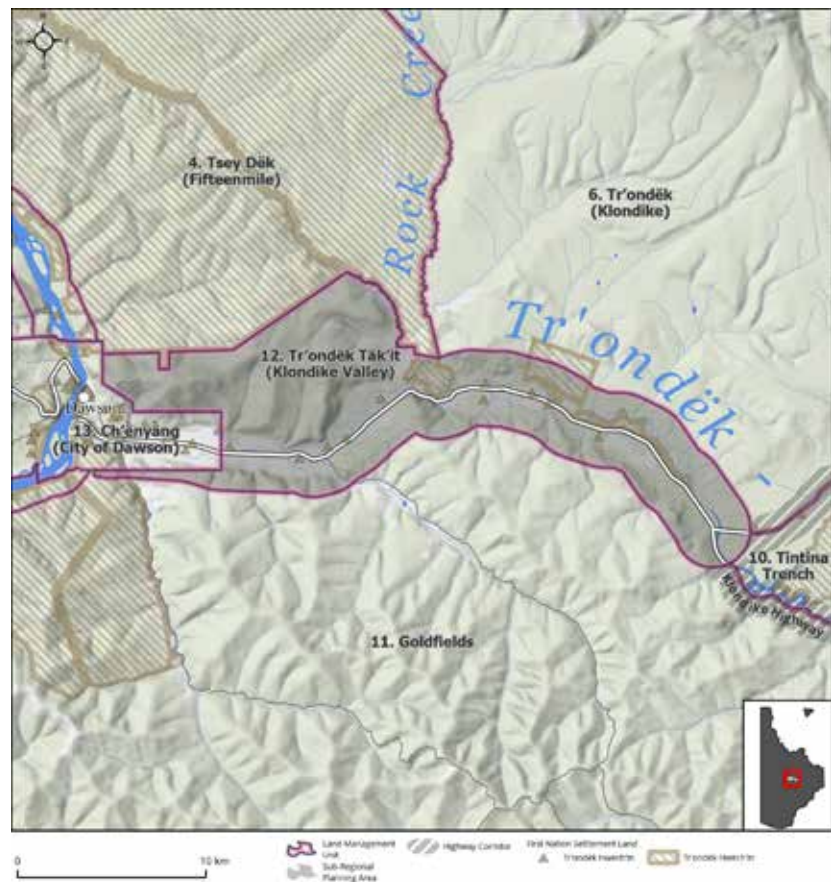
The gold rush that began in the late 1890s brought enormous changes to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in way of life and the search for gold continues to this day in the Goldfields. While this area is known to the outside world as an active gold mining landscape, more importantly it is where Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in have travelled, gathered, and harvested for generations. It is a place of recreation, community, and harvest. This area is strongly connected to Chu Kon Dëk (the Yukon River) which makes it culturally important.

Special Management Directions

1. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in culture, heritage and current land use in this area should be promoted to help everyone understand its importance.
2. There is important habitat for sharp-tailed grouse, a species of management concern, and development should avoid impacts to its habitat.
3. The most heritage sites in the planning region (outside the City of Dawson) are in this LMU, including the Ridge Road Heritage Trail, the Discovery Claim and Dredge #4. Tourism and recreational opportunities should be improved if possible.
4. The Northern Access Route changes and extension will impact this LMU and values and should be carefully planned as per the directions set out in Transportation and Access.

LMU 12: Tr'ondëk Tāk'it (Klondike Valley)

Land Use Designation:	Sub-regional Planning Area		
Area:	198 km ²	planning region %	0.5%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is balancing its many uses (such as residential, trapping, agriculture, mining, tourism, industry, and traditional activities), while conserving wildlife habitat and a healthy watershed. The North Klondike Highway is a critical route for transporting goods and people to the community of Dawson and beyond and is thus a significant transportation corridor in the planning region. Due to the character of this area and the number of interests, sub-regional planning as per Chapter 11 of the FNFA is recommended.



Tr'ëhùdë

Tr'ò, the first part of the Hän word Tr'ondëk and Tr'ochëk refers to the rocks or 'hammerstones' that were used to hammer stakes for fish weirs to catch salmon in the river. The namesake of the Klondike (Tr'ondëk) river demonstrates the importance of salmon to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (*Dobrowolsky, 2014*).

Commission members recalled stories of the Tr'ondëk being full of big king salmon which were a bright ruby red colour and in numbers so great that it seemed as though you could walk across the river on them.

“These things are all connected and when you learn language you start digging into the past.”

Angie Joseph-Rear, DRPC Commission Member

Summary of Special Management Directions

This LMU has many Special Management Directions, and the following is a high-level topic list. You can read all the recommended Special Management Directions on our website: dawson.planyukon.ca

After Plan Approval and Before Sub-regional Planning

The interim Special Management Directions for this LMU relate to:

1. Cumulative effects monitoring.
2. New spot land applications.
3. Location of new residential developments.
4. Access to recreation.
5. Impacts to fish (especially salmon).
6. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in continued use and enjoyment of settlement lands.
7. Relationship to the City of Dawson and municipal and settlement lands planning activities.
8. Protection of the municipal water supply.
9. Identification and use of agricultural land.

Sub-regional Planning Considerations

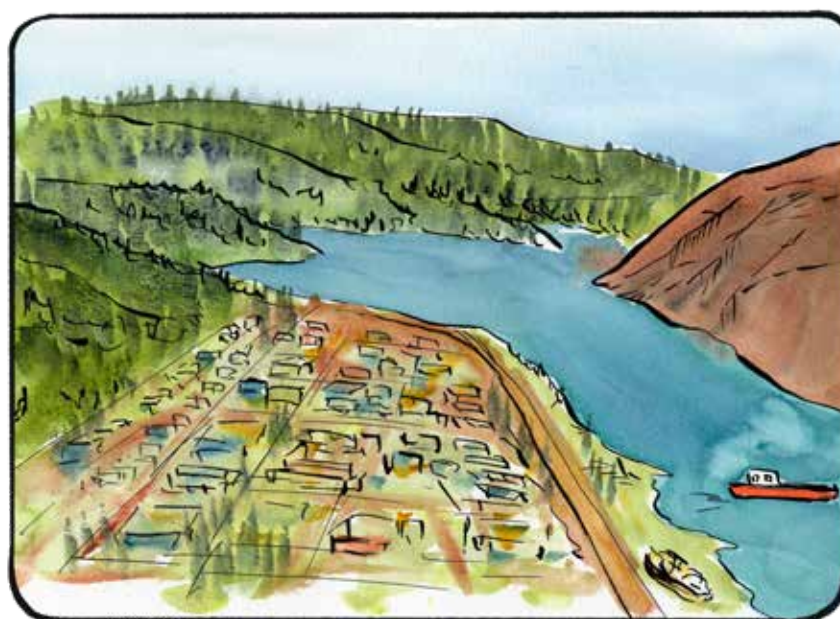
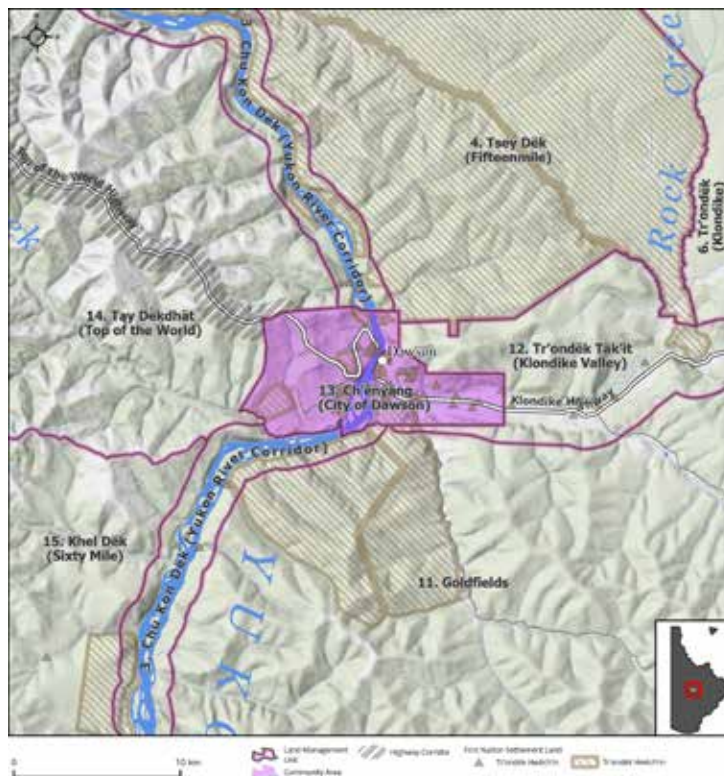
In addition to the direction above, sub-regional planning:

1. Should be done:
 - a. Jointly by Parties as per Chapter 11 of THFA and a local Commission.
 - b. In collaboration with Plan Partners, community, and stakeholders.
2. Establish Klondike Valley zoning guidelines.
3. Consider the future residential, energy, and commercial needs of the Region.
4. Identify areas for mixed or multiple land uses (i.e., mining and agriculture).
5. Consider the impacts of climate change.

LMU 13: Ch'ënyäng (City of Dawson)

Land Use Designation:	Community Area		
Area:	81 km ²	planning region %	0.2%

The Regional Land Use Plan will not apply to land within the City of Dawson and areas subject to subdivision planning or local area planning outside of a municipal boundary (including West Dawson and Sunnydale). However, the Dawson Regional Planning Commission considered adjacent areas, their designations, and land uses, in the development of the Plan.

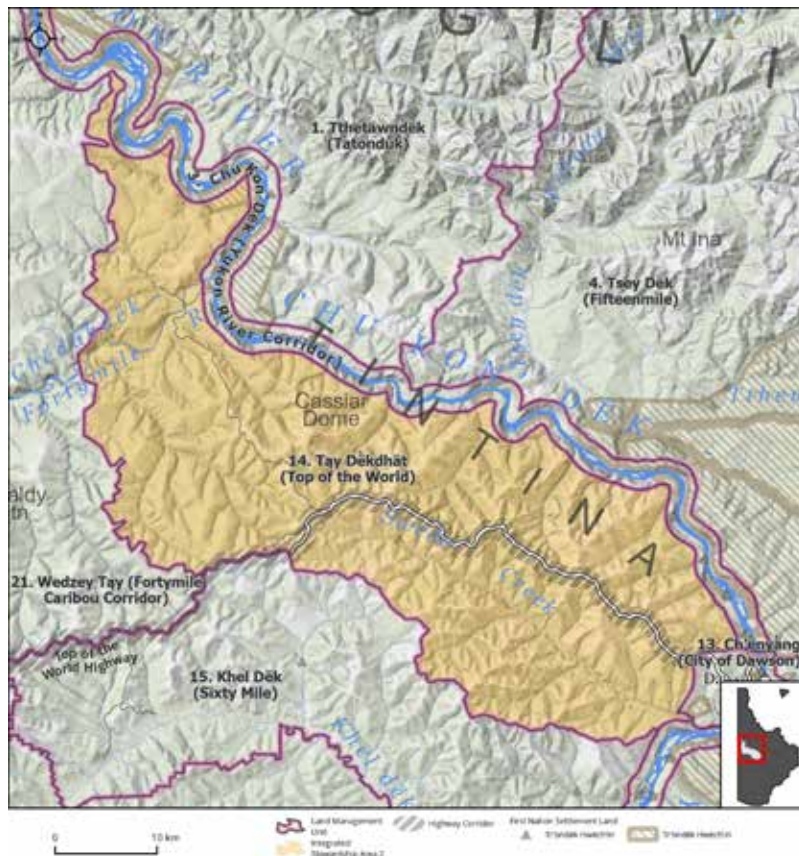


Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

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LMU 14: Tay Dëkdhät (Top of the World)

Land Use Designation:	Integrated Stewardship Area 2		
Area:	1574 km ²	planning region %	3.9%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is to maintain and enhance cultural and community values but still allow limited sustainable development activities. There are many different activities that occur in this LMU including placer mining, forestry, tourism, recreation, trapping and harvesting, and it hosts important caribou habitat. Also running through this LMU is the Top of the World Highway, which is an important seasonal multi-use access corridor. The Top of the World is also a major tourist route. The area is culturally important to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in. The LMU is also close to the City of Dawson and will be an important area for community growth. Chu Ttho Dëk (Swede Creek) particularly is an important source of drinking water for the community and in Hän means 'yellow water creek'.

Future management will focus on respectful tourism, mining, and opportunities for cultural connections. There should be continued enjoyment of traditional and recreational pursuits with a relatively low development threshold.



Tr'ehudë

This area is important to Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in for many reasons, but particularly it is a space for reconnection. For many years, the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in have not harvested the Fortymile Caribou to help the herd to become healthy again. An entire generation of Citizens have not harvested the caribou and the cultural impact of this can be felt. The opportunity for knowledge transfer and reconnection to a traditional practice and way of life is important in Tay Dëkdhät (Top of The World).

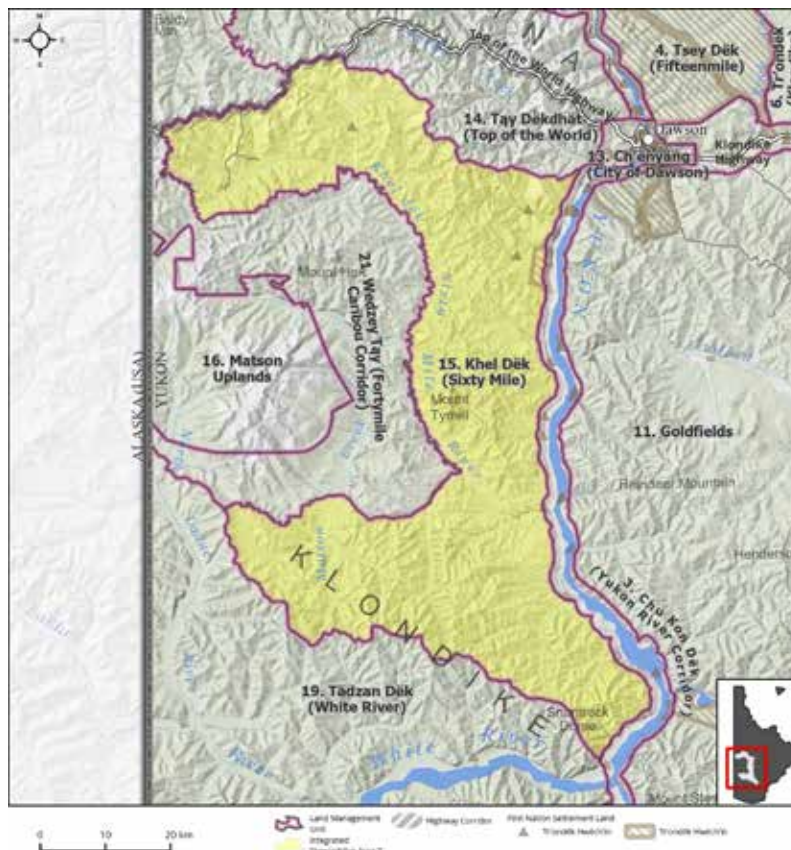
The name Tay Dëkdhät means 'trail on top/high' and this route (the Top of the World Highway) is essential for connecting to families and communities in Alaska and access for community members to pursue on-the-land activities.

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. Activities that can disturb salmon and other fish should be restricted during the timing windows as recommended by the DFO.
2. Large tourist boats on the Fortymile River should not disrupt habitat or cause significant death to salmon.
3. Land users near Mickey Creek or Swede Creek should be aware of the creeks' use for drinking water. Buffers might be needed.
4. Reclamation and clean-up of the Clinton Creek asbestos mine should continue. It is a major concern for community members.
5. The Top of the World Highway Corridor directions will apply.

LMU 15: Khel Dëk (Sixty Mile)

Land Use Designation:	Integrated Stewardship Area 3		
Area:	2897 km ²	planning region %	7.3%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The intent for this LMU is to protect key caribou habitat and allow sustainable development with strong access management. This area is large and contains major watersheds and multiple land uses, including mining, forestry, tourism, harvesting, and recreation. Also running through is the Top of the World Highway, which is an important seasonal multi-use access corridor. The Top of the World is also major a tourist route. Interest in this area is growing and it is important that access infrastructure is planned and managed to ensure important environmental and socio-cultural values are not damaged.



Tr'ehudë

Khel Dëk or the Sixty Mile River flows through this LMU. The Hän name 'Khel Dëk' means 'Packsack River'. This is an important area for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, especially for harvesting activities. In the past there were camps at the mouth of the Sixty Mile River and traditional travel routes. The area is used for subsistence hunting of Fortymile caribou and there are ongoing efforts by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in to reconnect with the herd through community hunts and educational camps.

Special Management Directions

1. This LMU is within the Fortymile Caribou and Nelchina Caribou herd ranges. Disturbance to their migration paths and habitat must be minimized.
 - a. Disturbance should be avoided on ridges, which are important for caribou movement.
 - b. Development should not happen in the large areas of winter caribou habitat if possible, or be extremely limited.
 - c. Timing windows might be needed.
2. Important moose habitat and overharvesting should be avoided. Timing windows might be needed.
3. Access Management Planning needed for this LMU.
4. Traditional use and subsistence harvesting is really important in this area – this must continue.
5. The Top of the World Highway Corridor directions will apply

LMU 16: Wëdzey Nähuzhi (Matson Uplands)

Land Use Designation:	Special Management Area		
Area:	708 km ²	planning region %	1.8%



Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The intent for this LMU is to protect the Fortymile caribou herd's core summer habitat to ensure the herd's growth and survival within the Yukon.

The Fortymile caribou herd has significant cultural importance for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, including for subsistence harvesting and stewardship. A lot of the herd's Yukon range overlaps with land use disturbance but many parts of the Matson Uplands remain undeveloped. It is important that the Fortymile Caribou herd's habitat needs are prioritized.



Tr'ëhudë

Caribou have provided food, traditional supplies/tools, and clothing for the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in people for thousands of years, and it is critical that this connection remain for future generations. As stewards of this land, it is crucial that the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in protect caribou and their habitat as it is a part of cultural continuity and a way of life. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in did not harvest the Fortymile Caribou herd for decades due to the depletion of the herd. In recent years the herd has rebounded to some extent and the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in have recently started to rebuild a cultural connection through subsistence harvesting activities.

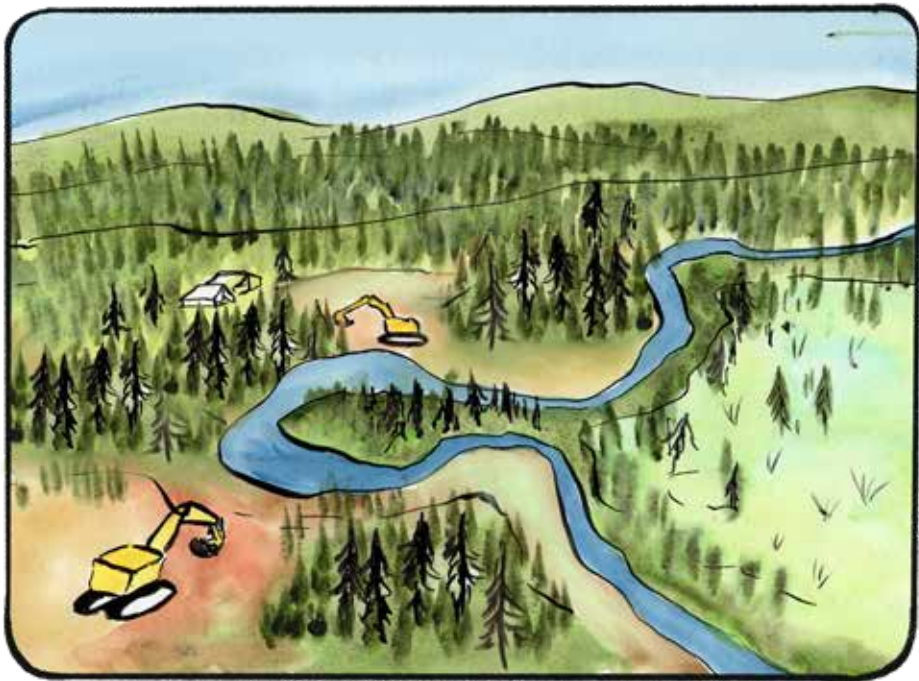
(Adapted from Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Review of the Dawson Regional Draft Plan, 2021)

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. All land is withdrawn from quartz and placer staking.
2. No new access is allowed.
3. No new development is allowed.

LMU 17: Nän Dhòhdäl (Upper Indian River Wetlands)

Land Use Designation:	Integrated Stewardship Area 2		
Area:	485 km ²	planning region %	1.2%



Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The intent for this LMU is to limit activity within the upper drainage of the Indian River and to protect the function of the upper Indian River wetland complex to respect and protect cultural, ecological, and traditional economic values. The Indian River valley is experiencing a conversion of its wetland landscape and widespread loss of peatlands. The upper drainage of the Indian River continues to experience exploration and mining; it remains relatively less developed.

The goal is to maintain the area in a state that it can continue to be utilized by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and other First Nation citizens to exercise their rights, and for all community members to utilise the area for enjoyment and licensed harvesting. This can be achieved by slowing the pace and scale of development and focus on high reclamation standards. There is opportunity here to learn from the past and create a new way of doing things that is more respectful to environmental and cultural values and reflects sustainable development in a meaningful way.



Tr'ehudë

The Indian River area is an incredibly important place for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens and this has been demonstrated by the ongoing and growing concern that was expressed throughout the planning process.

“The Indian River Valley that exists today is much different from the broad, sweeping wetland habitat it used to be. With the increase in activity levels and lack of reclamation and destroyed habitat, I don't feel as comfortable with harvesting down there anymore. I don't even want to drive down there for leisure...I find it depressing, because I see a loss from all the change, including the loss of my ability to have a successful harvest...The land provides, and we obviously rely on it.”

Darren Taylor, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Citizen, Public Interest Hearing on Placer Mining in Wetlands (Government of Yukon, 2021)

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. Wetland Stewardship Overlay directions will apply.
2. Development can continue within existing claims. All other land has an interim withdrawal (i.e., it is temporary) from quartz and placer staking. Development is allowed within ISA 2 cumulative effects thresholds.
3. The interim withdrawal should be in place until an Upper Indian River Stewardship Plan is developed or 10-year Plan Review or if Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon both agree to remove this condition. When claims expire, the land should be withdrawn while the interim withdrawal is in place.
4. Development in undisturbed wetlands must:
 - a. Not be in marshes or bogs.
 - b. Be limited to 50% of fens in a claim block or permit area.
 - c. Follow the general management directions for Wetlands.
5. This area is a priority for the development of socio-cultural cumulative effects indicators because of its importance to Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in.

Upper Indian River Stewardship Plan

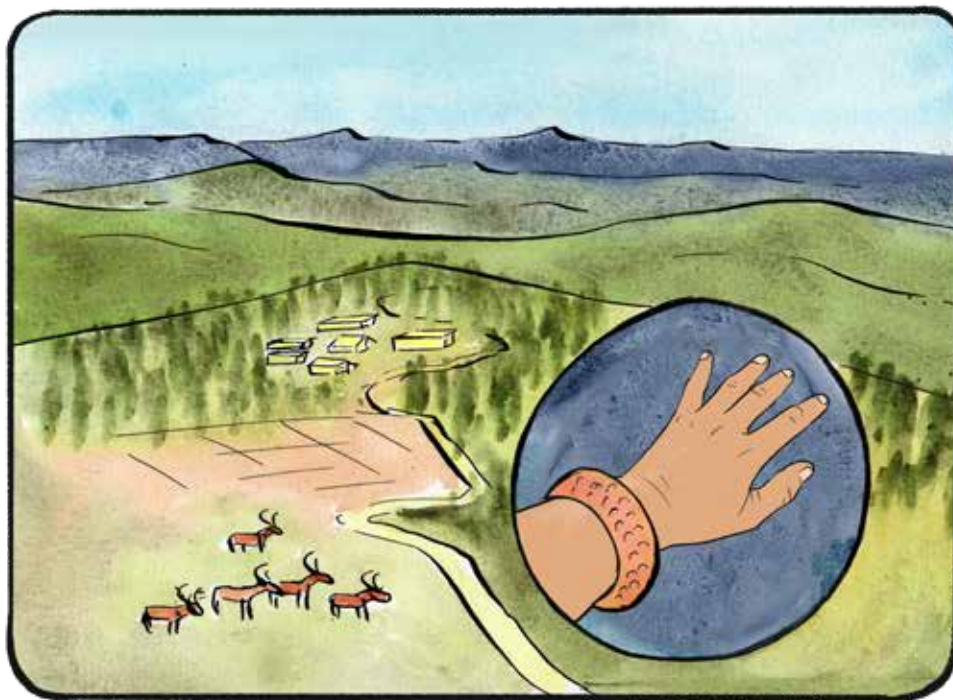
The Commission recommend that a plan be developed by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon together. This plan should consider:

1. Stewardship as understood by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, and the broader community.
2. New access should be coordinated to avoid unnecessary roads.
3. Traditional Knowledge.
4. Partnership and collaboration is very important, especially for mining methods, reclamation, inspection and monitoring. This includes miners, traditional knowledge holders, academics, and non-governmental organizations.
5. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon should develop reclamation guidance and standards together.

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LMU 18: Therian Dëk (Coffee Creek)

Land Use Designation:	Integrated Stewardship Area 3		
Area:	998 km ²	planning region %	2.5%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is to focus on sustainable development through cumulative effects management, access management, and the preservation of key values. It is important that this area be available for mineral exploration and development without damaging environmental and cultural values.

This area hosts an active advanced hard rock exploration program with associated infrastructure and is the site of a potential hard rock mine. It is also the location of important habitat and migration corridors for the Fortymile Caribou and Nelchina Caribou herds. While existing access in this area remains relatively unconnected to the Goldfields LMU, the proposed Northern Access Route would create opportunities for more access.



Tr'ehudè

In Hän, Ttthetryän Dëk means 'Copper Creek' and is named so because the Coffee Creek area was a source for copper. Copper was used for making copper knives and jewellery pre-contact.

“There are traditional routes and trails in this area that connected the people of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in to the people of Alaska. The people of Alaska were the keepers of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in songs and dances, 'The connection to Alaska is a connection to our language, traditions, and culture.'”

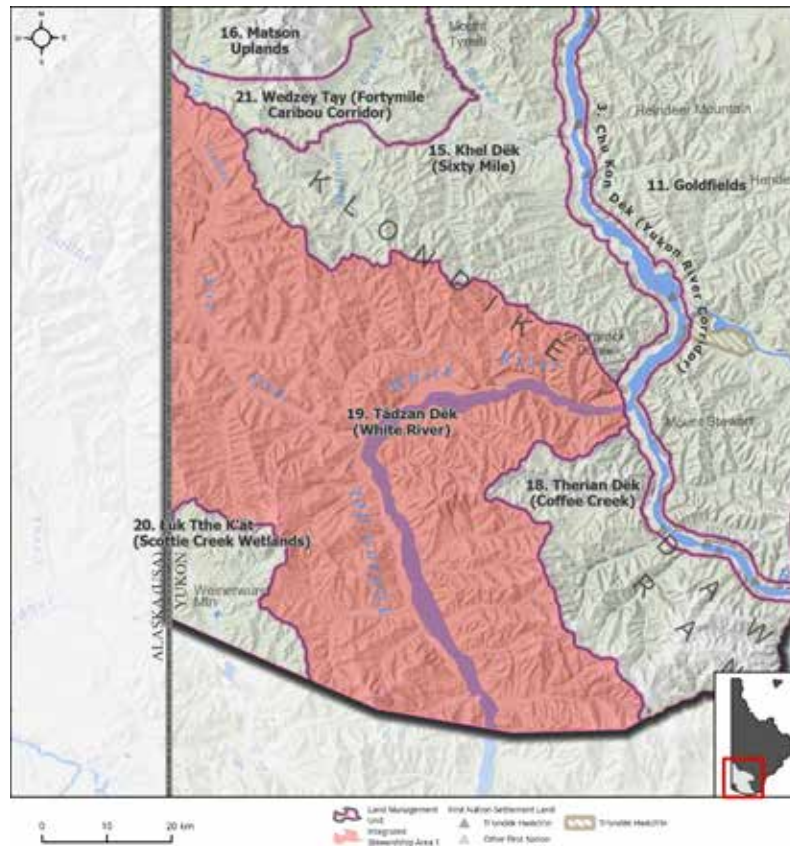
Angie Joseph-Rear, DRPC Commission Member

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. This area is important for caribou movement, especially on the ridgetops. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon should look at how to limit the impacts of new development.
2. Next to this LMU there are small sheep populations that are sensitive. Land and air access should avoid interrupting sheep activity.
3. Traditional use of this area should be promoted.
4. Quartz mining activity that uses heap-leach methods should be careful not to harm the aquatic environment. Baseline condition data and monitoring of impacts should be considered for development in the LMU.

LMU 19: Tädzan Dëk (White River)

Land Use Designation:	Integrated Stewardship Area 1		
Area:	4132 km ²	planning region %	10.4%



Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The intent for this LMU is to maintain its values, including wetlands, caribou, sheep, and migratory birds, and allow some sustainable development.

This area is quite undeveloped and inaccessible, with some localized mineral exploration and development. This area contains a lot of intact wetland habitat which holds intrinsic cultural value and provides ecosystem services to fish and wildlife.



Tr'èhude

Along this river you can see white ash embedded in the cliffs from a volcano eruption thousands of years ago. The river is also white in colour from silt, if you are silent when you paddle the river, you can hear the silt hitting against the bottom of your canoe.

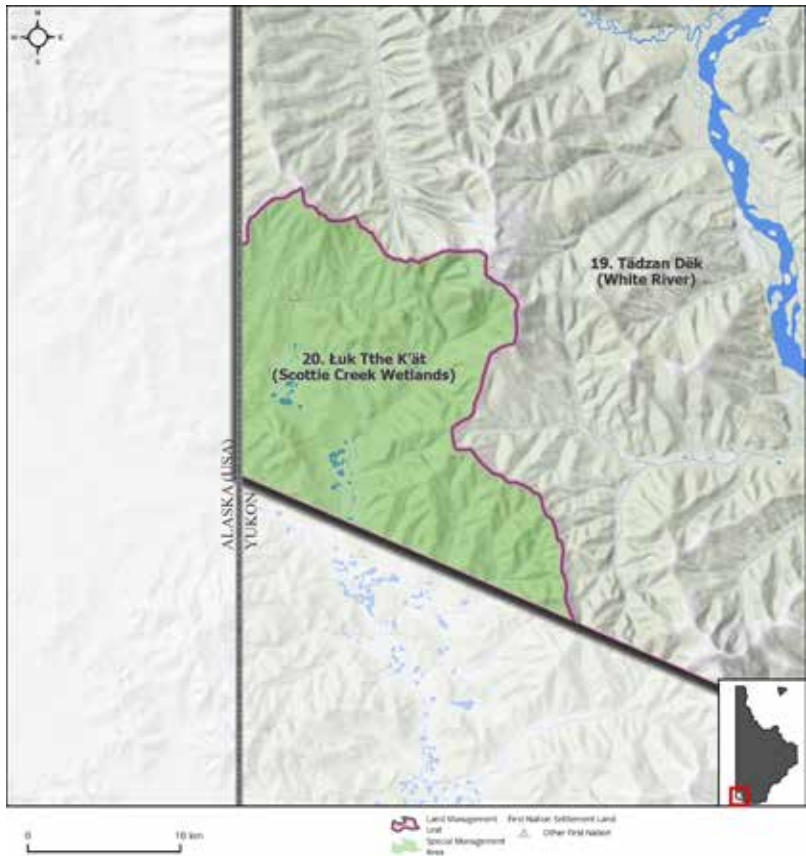
At the confluence of the White and the Yukon rivers, the distinct water from the White flowing into the Yukon is a breathtaking sight. The stories of this river and the events that occurred long ago tell a part of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in's history.

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. The Ladue River Wetlands should be a Wetland of Special Importance.
2. Development in undisturbed wetlands must:
 - a. Not be in marshes or bogs or fens.
 - b. Follow the general management directions for Wetlands.
3. There is important sheep habitat in this LMU and development should avoid impacts to their habitat.
4. The use of ORVs and their impacts are not well understood in this area – their use may need to be limited if certain cumulative effects thresholds are reached.

LMU 20: Łuk Tthe K'ät (Scottie Creek Wetlands)

Land Use Designation:	Special Management Area		
Area:	356km²	planning region %	0.9%



Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

The vision for this LMU is to protect the function of the Scottie Creek Wetlands to preserve cultural and ecological values. This area has the largest intact wetland complex in the region, offering important waterfowl staging grounds and nesting habitat, and access into the area is limited. The LMU also holds deep intrinsic value for maintaining ecological, social, and cultural connections for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and other First Nations with adjacent regions extending into Alaska.

Future management of this area will see the eventual end of industrial development, with the goal of fully protecting the wetland complex in its entirety.



Tr'ëhudë

Wetlands offer numerous socio-cultural values, as expressed by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, with inherent significance given to the landscape, harvesting opportunities, preservation of social connections and cultural vitality, and stewardship. Stewardship is a central tenet of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in culture.

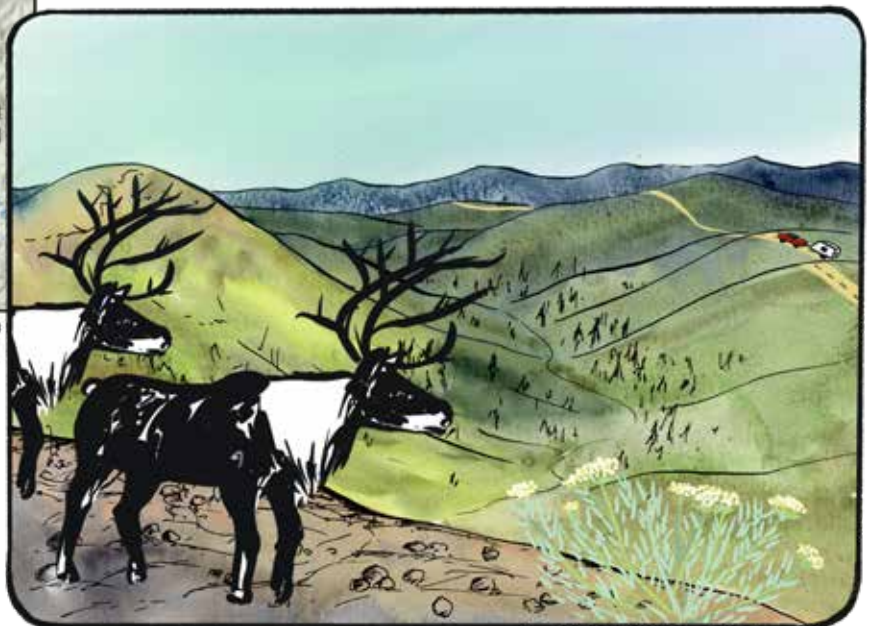
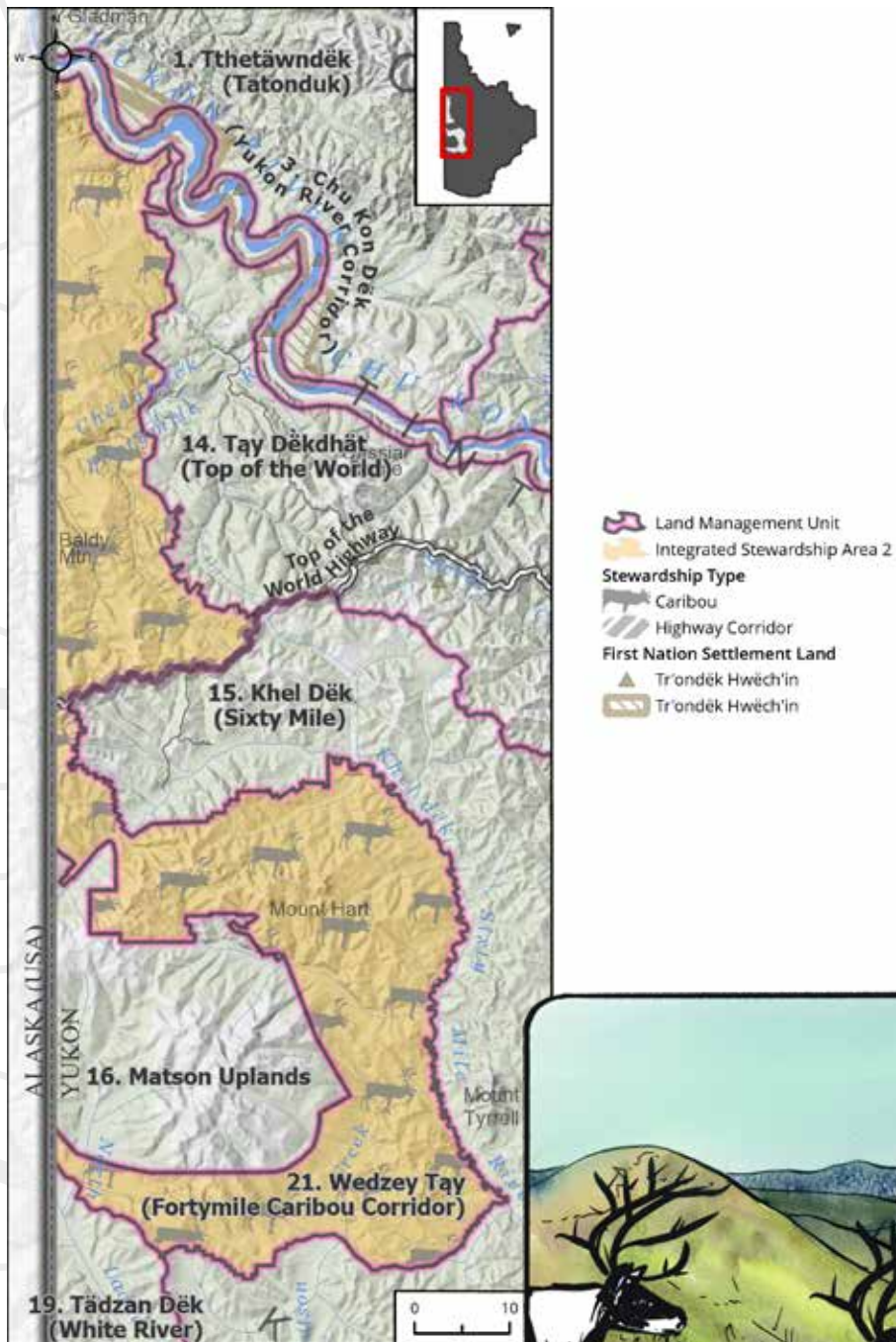
Ensuring wetland habitat remains intact is an important stewardship duty for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in. Although Scottie Creek is not currently an area of high traditional activity, the preservation of the area for future generations to reconnect with is important to Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens.

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. Development can continue within existing placer claims. All other land is withdrawn from quartz and placer staking. When claims expire, the land should be withdrawn.
2. Development is allowed within ISA 2 cumulative effects thresholds.
3. Forestry activities are guided by the Dawson Forest Resources Management Plan.
4. Existing winter access road use can continue but new surface access is not allowed.
5. Scottie Creek Wetlands are recommended as a Wetland of Special Importance.
6. Development in undisturbed wetlands must:
 - a. Not occur in marshes or bogs or fens.
 - b. Follow the general management directions for Wetlands.

LMU 21: Wëdzey Tay (Fortymile Caribou Corridor)

Land Use Designation:	Integrated Stewardship Area 2		
Area:	2021km ²	planning region %	5.1%



Source: Yukon Graphic Recording

Walking on the Land Together (Intent Statement)

Aligning with the Special Management Area LMU 16: Wëdzey Nāhuzhi (Matson Uplands), the intent for this LMU is to preserve habitat requirements and migration routes for the Fortymile Caribou Herd, but still allow some development.

Future management should support the ongoing health and population of the Fortymile Caribou Herd, and because of this, quartz mining activity is not supported for this LMU. This will help ensure that Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in harvest rights and stewardship responsibilities are not compromised.



Tr'ehudë

Caribou have provided food, traditional supplies/tools, and clothing for the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in people for thousands of years, and it is critical that this connection remain for future generations. As stewards of this land, it is crucial that the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in protect caribou and their habitat as it is a part of cultural continuity and a way of life. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in did not harvest the Fortymile Caribou herd for decades due to the depletion of the herd.

In recent years the herd has rebounded to some extent and the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in have recently started to rebuild a cultural connection through subsistence harvesting activities.

Adapted from Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Review of the Dawson Regional Draft Plan, 2021

Summary of Special Management Directions

1. Caribou Stewardship overlay area directions will apply.
2. There is an interim withdrawal (i.e., it is temporary) from quartz staking but development can continue in existing claims. Placer staking may continue.
3. Development is allowed within ISA 2 cumulative effects thresholds.
4. The interim withdrawal should be in place until 10-year Plan Review or if Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon both agree to remove this condition. If quartz claims expire, the land should be withdrawn while the interim withdrawal is in place.
5. Quartz mineral activity is not supported due to the potential for significant negative impacts to the Fortymile herd.
6. Other development should minimize caribou disturbance. This includes:
 - a. Possible timing windows.
 - b. Avoiding areas with lichen habitat.
 - c. Values based reclamation standards that, for example, promote growth of lichen.
 - d. Development of wildlife monitoring and mitigation plans by project proponents.
7. Continued use of existing surface access is allowed and new access is allowed if within ISA 2 cumulative effects thresholds. Also, the Top of the World Highway Corridor directions will apply.
8. Fire suppression options should be considered to protect caribou habitat.

Section 7: Implementing and Revising the Plan

On the Land We Walk Together - Nän Käk Ndä Tr'ädäl

This section is about how the Commission would like the Plan to be implemented. Making the Plan successful for everyone who works, lives, and plays in the Dawson Region will require collaboration, including Plan Partners, residents and businesses. The Plan must be understood by everyone to ensure its vision of 'On the Land We Walk Together - Nän Käk Ndä Tr'ädäl' is achieved.

For the Plan to be successful, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Government of Yukon should use a co-management approach.

This is a short summary of Section Seven and readers are encouraged to read the detailed version in the full plan. You can read this on our website: dawson.planyukon.ca

Role of the DRPC

The Dawson Regional Planning Commission will continue after Plan approval and act as a Plan Champion. This offers multiple benefits:

- The Commission can support the Parties. This is very important to ensure the Plan is interpreted and works as intended.
- The Commission have built strong relationships with people who live and work in the region. This will help make sure the Plan works for everyone.
- Local knowledge will play a big role in how the Plan is used. A local office can provide support to further understanding of the Plan.
- The Commission can work more closely with organisations like YESAB which will help with conformity checks and assessment processes.
- Play a role in sub-regional planning.

Who will be involved?

In the Yukon, after a regional plan is approved, an Implementation Committee is set up. For the Dawson Region, this committee should have representatives from Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, Government of Yukon and the DRPC. Affected First Nations should be involved as they are FNFA signatories and are also concerned about what happens in their Traditional Territories.

Sub-regional Planning

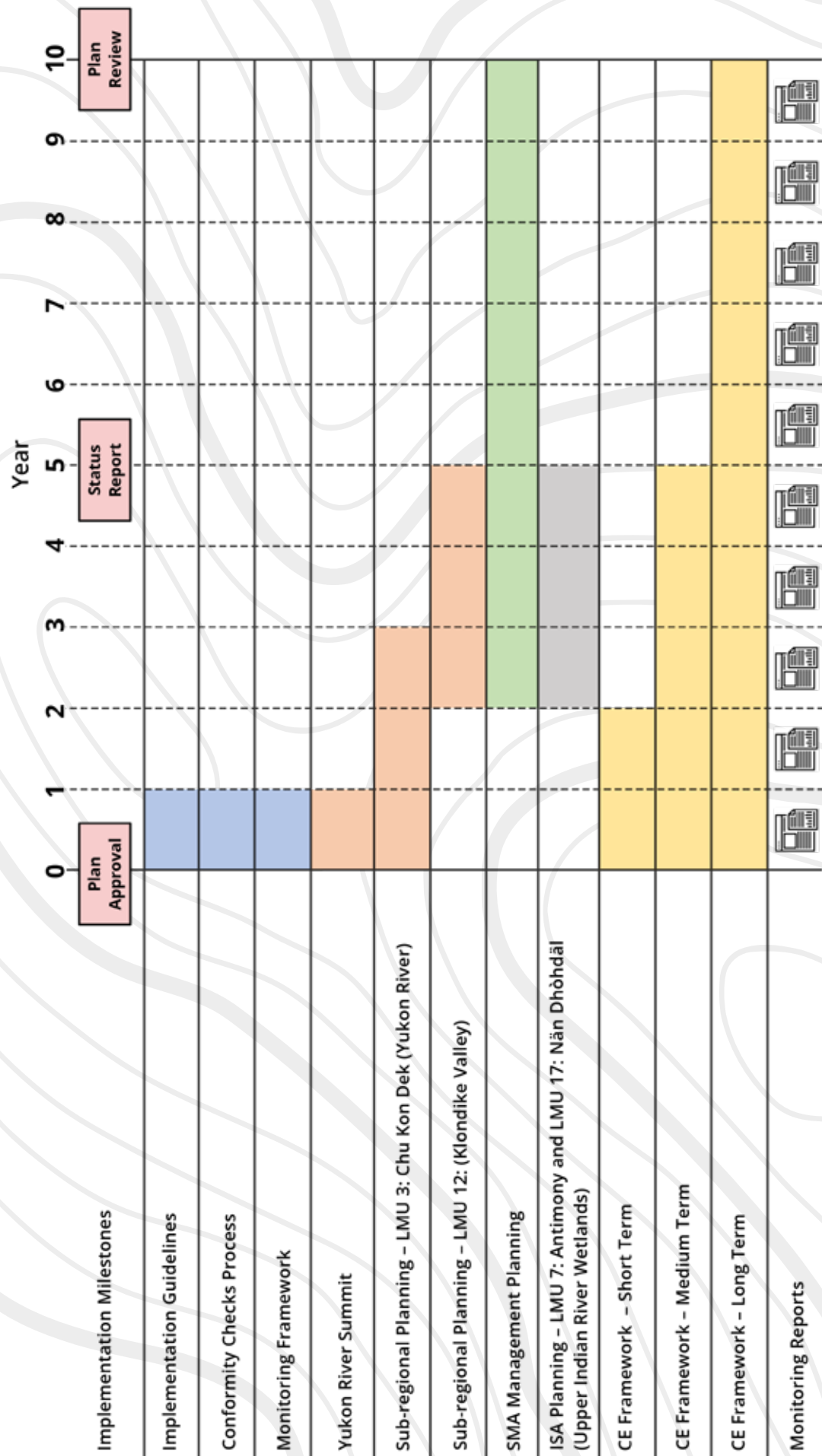
Sub-regional planning will look at specific, smaller geographic sections of the region. These areas have complex values and issues, and more focus and detail are needed.

Area	When	Summary
Dempster Highway Corridor	Decided by Government of Yukon, Affected First Nations and Gwich'in Tribal Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The focus will be decided jointly by Government of Yukon, Affected First Nations and Gwich'in Tribal Council • It will need to consider <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cultural value - Harvesting - Access - Tourism - Access - Views from the Dempster - Porcupine Caribou
LMU 3: Chu Kon Dëk (Yukon River Corridor)	To start within 6 months of Plan approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will only look at section of river within the Dawson Region • The issues north and south of the City of Dawson are different • Will consider <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access - Pollution - Heritage and culture - Tourism - Recreation
LMU 12: Tr'ondëk Täk'it (Klondike Valley)	To start within 3 years of Plan approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will consider future activities and how to avoid conflict. Activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Residential development - Commercial and industrial activity - Water - Recreation - Multi-use areas - Climate change • Will consider City of Dawson and Central Tr'ondëk Land Management Area planning activity.

Implementation Priorities

The Parties have final discretion over implementation. As part of the planning process, the Plan suggests some priorities and a timeline for guidance.

Implementation Milestones	The Plan recommends that a 5-year status report and 10-year review occur. This will ensure adaptive management is implemented effectively.
Implementation Activities	The Plan recommends that certain implementation processes and plans should be completed within one year of Plan Approval. This will provide clarity to Plan Partners, proponents and assessors, and others involved in Plan implementation.
SMA Planning	<p>The Plan recommends five LMUs to be designated as Special Management Areas as per Chapter 10 of the FNFA. SMA planning will take time, but it is recommended that it begin within 3 years of Plan Approval. It is recommended that the Parties prioritise development of these plans in this order:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LMU 20: Łuk Tthe K'ät (Scottie Creek Wetlands) 2. LMU 10: Tintina Trench 3. LMU 1: Tthetäwndëk (Tatonduk) 4. LMU 4: Tsey Dëk (Fifteenmile) 5. LMU 16: Wëdzey Nähuzhi (Matson Uplands)
ISA 1 / 2 Planning	<p>The Plan recommends certain ISAs have specific Plans developed before mineral staking can resume. The Commission suggests the Parties prioritise the development of these plans as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LMU 17: Upper Indian River Stewardship Plan 2. LMU 7: Wehtr'e (Antimony) Access Management Plan
Sub-regional Planning	Three areas are recommended for sub-regional planning. LMU 3: Chu Kon Dëk (Yukon River Corridor) and LMU 12: Tr'ondëk Tāk'it (Klondike Valley) will begin within 6 months and 3 years respectively. The Dempster Highway Corridor planning has not been assigned a specific timeline and will be completed at the Parties' discretion.
Cumulative Effects	<p>In Section 4.5.1 – Cumulative Effects Framework: Recommendations, short, medium, and long-term actions related to the Plan's cumulative effects framework have been recommended. These should be completed within the following timeframes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term – within 3 years • Medium term – within 5 years • Long term – within 10 years <p>This will help ensure that the cumulative effects framework is firmly embedded by the time of Plan Review.</p>
Monitoring Reports	As part of implementation, annual monitoring updates should be produced by the Parties for the Commission to compile into a single report to publish publicly.



Plan Changes

Land use planning cannot predict all future land use needs. The Dawson Region will see changes over time and because of this, the Plan will be a 'living document' that will need updating and editing.

There are five ways the Plan can be changed:

Administrative revision

Small changes that will not affect the intent of an LMU or general management directions. For example, spelling or grammatical changes.

Variance

Small changes to allow specific activities and projects.

Amendment

Big changes that will require change to Plan directions or intent.

Status Report & Update

A 5-year checkpoint after Plan Approval to see how the process of implementation is going. Changes may occur.

Review

A 10-year evaluation of the whole Plan and when major changes can be made.



Notes:



Photo: Yukinobu Yamamoto



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