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INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING IN THE NWT
A DISCUSSION PAPER

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ABSTRACT

This discussion paper is intended to be an introduction to integrated resource management planning (IRMP) in the NWT. It provides a brief explanation of key characteristics – planning, resource management, integrated, strategic, community-based planning, and participatory. The paper identifies some reasons for carrying out IRMP, including benefits and commitments related to IRMP by the Government of the Northwest Territories. A brief description of sections typically found in an integrated resource management plan, followed by examples from the NWT and elsewhere is provided.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT I

INTRODUCTION 1

1.0 WHAT IS INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING – AN OVERVIEW 1

1.1 A Planning Process 1

1.2 Resource Management Planning 1

1.3 An Integrated Approach 2

1.4 Integration of Administration 2

1.5 Strategic Level Planning 3

1.6 Community-Based Planning 3

1.7 A Participatory Process 5

1.8 Comparison to Other Types of Planning 5

2.0 WHY DO INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING? 7

2.1 Benefits of Integrated Resource Management Planning 7

2.2 Purpose of Carrying Out Integrated Resource Management Planning 7

2.3 Government Commitments, Strategic Direction, Policy Related to Integrated Resource Management Planning 8

3.0 A TYPICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANS IN THE NWT 10

REFERENCES CITED 21

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION 21

SOURCES USED FOR EXAMPLES IN TYPICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS 21

INTRODUCTION

The following is a discussion paper on Integrated Resource Management Planning (IRMP) in the NWT. It gives a brief explanation of what IRMP is and why it is useful. The guide then includes a "typical table of contents" for an integrated resource management plan, using examples from IRMP work underway in the NWT and elsewhere. It is not intended to be a cookbook on how to do IRMP, but rather a reference guide to indicate how others have approached writing a plan.

1.0 WHAT IS INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING – AN OVERVIEW

1.1 A Planning Process

Integrated resource management planning, as in any planning process, identifies a desired future state, then identifies and evaluates optional strategies or actions for achieving that desired state, and recommends to decision-makers a preferred set of actions.

Planning contributes to good decision-making because it provides a way to identify and reflect on a full range of alternative actions **in advance of** taking action, rather than having to respond *ad hoc* to situations as they arise. It is intended as preparation for making a decision about a desired course of action.

Planning also contributes to good decision-making by considering the interests of those people who will be affected by the decision. Peoples' values and interests are central to the planning process because they determine which desired future state, range of issues and alternative actions are considered.

1.2 Resource Management Planning

We all plan to some extent as we make decisions in our day to day lives. What makes one type of planning different from another is the type of decisions to be made or issues to be resolved, and the range of values and interests that are considered. IRMP is carried out to contribute to decisions about the natural resources of a particular area.

IRMP examines the desired future state of the lands, waters, wildlife and other natural resources, and looks at alternative ways in which use of these resources should be managed. It considers how the values and interests associated with these resources can be realized. Decisions based on IRMP help determine such aspects as what the land base of an area looks like, what resource uses are taking place, how resources are being conserved, and what management actions are being taken.

1.3 An Integrated Approach

IRMP is an "integrated" approach because it considers **all** the natural resources (wildlife, water, scenic, oil and gas, minerals, forests, etc.) and **all** the values of these resources (environmental, social, cultural, economic), and the **connections** between them. Therefore, IRMP has an ecosystem management focus rather than planning for a single resource or value such as a bison management plan, or a protected areas plan.

IRMP takes this broader perspective because it reflects the interconnections between natural resources in an ecosystem, between people and ecosystems, and among the diversity of values and interests people hold for the same resources. Because of these connections, actions involving one resource will affect other parts of the ecosystem and other people who value and use the natural resources. IRMP considers these relationships and seeks to find the balance between them.

The Fort Providence IRMP Draft Terms of Reference (Fort Providence Resource Management Board 1997) describes IRMP as follows (based on Smith 1996, Silva 1996a, 1996b):

> "An integrated approach takes the view that the different parts of our world are connected, and so they must be managed together. These connections exist between all parts of the ecosystem, between us and the ecosystem, and between the different groups of people who use and manage the ecosystem. By taking an integrated approach, the plan considers these connections... It is also based on the belief that by working together toward a common goal, we can achieve more – the ecosystem and communities will be healthier, land use conflicts can be addressed, balance can be found."

1.4 Integration of Administration

In the Gwich'in Settlement Area of the NWT, the Gwich'in Land and Water Board has worked on integration of resource management at an administrative level. The Board has worked to ensure that its functions (e.g., land use permitting) are integrated and co-ordinated with those of the other co-management boards such as the Land Use Planning Board, and the Renewable Resource Board. To do this, the Board is trying to ensure good communication and flow of information between the boards, and to ensure their activities are compatible (P. Clarkson, pers. comm.).

This paper does not focus on this type of integration of administrative responsibility. However, an IRM plan can include a section describing the resource management system – how decisions are made about the land and resources - in which this integration of the administration of land and resources can be addressed (see section 4.0 "Resource Management System" in the Table of Contents, below).

1.5 Strategic Level Planning

Planning can address the future course of resource management in very broad terms (e.g., a recommendation to ensure sustainable development of forest resources) or in very specific terms (e.g., a recommendation that specifies the amount of logging that can take place in an area on a sustainable basis).

IRMP should first address the broader strategic direction for resource management. Once this broad direction is in place, more detailed planning can then take place.

IRMP can be considered an umbrella plan, which sets the context and gives general guidance for more specific plans, such as plans for a particular sector (e.g., timber harvest planning, bison management, access management).

The level of detail that can be addressed in the plans is determined in part by the size of the planning area. Figure 1 illustrates this hierarchical approach to planning, in which the planning area becomes smaller, and planning is done in increasing detail. For example, IRMP in British Columbia (which is called Land and Resource Management Planning (LRMP)) operates at a "sub-regional scale" (many landscapes). On a more detailed scale, they have landscape plans, and operational or site plans (stands). The sub-regional LRMP plans in British Columbia provide policy level direction.

An example from the NWT would be the broad scale of regional land use planning carried out for the Mackenzie Delta-Beaufort Sea region, followed by the more specific Community Conservation Plans prepared by each Inuvialuit community for their traditional lands.

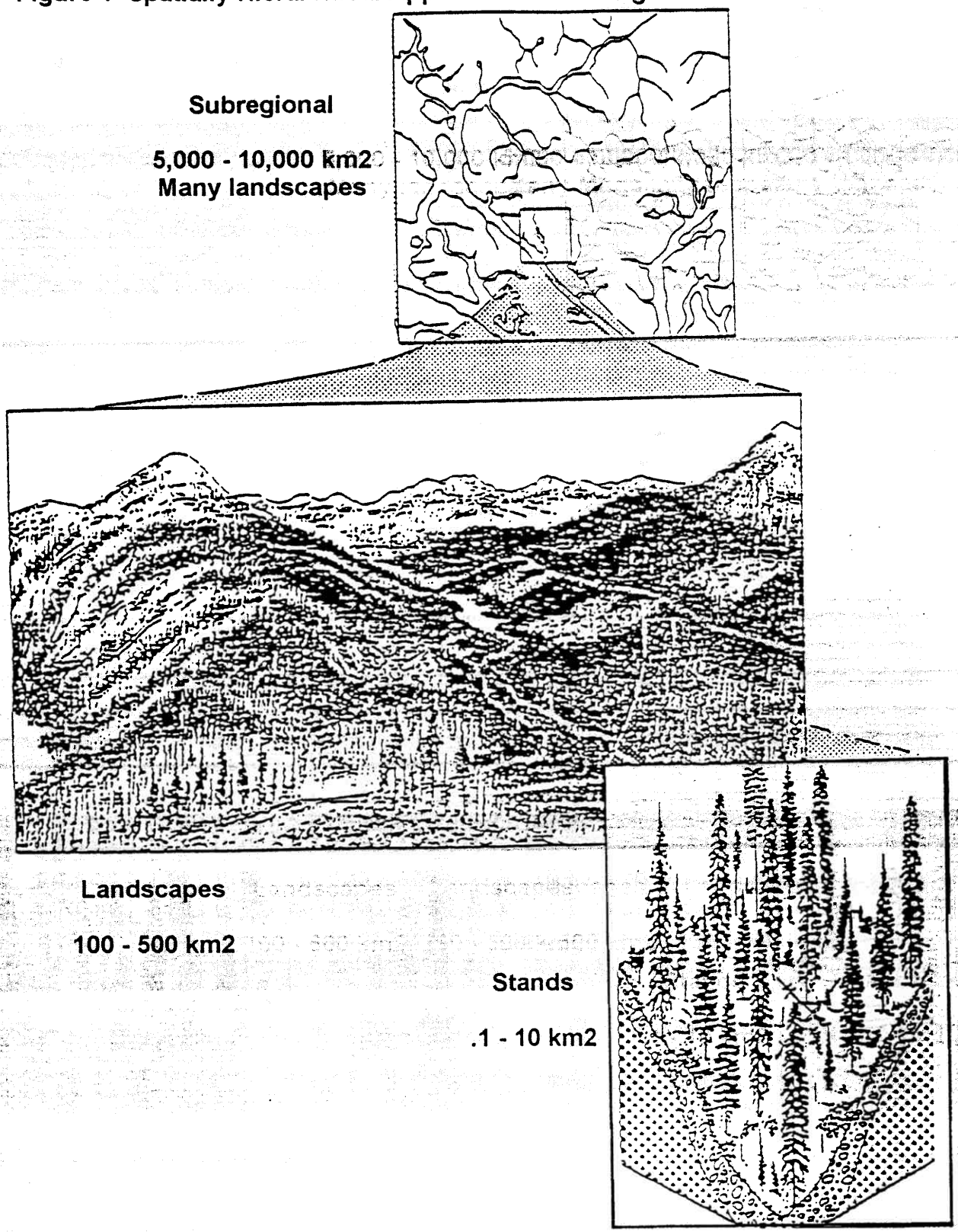
However, no matter what size the area, the plan should provide strategic direction first, then address the more specific issues.

1.6 Community-Based Planning

As a community-based planning process, IRMP in the NWT is initiated and driven by the community of people who want a plan for their traditional lands. The people whose traditional lands make up the planning area have to believe there is a need to do planning and be willing to drive the planning process.

Planning has to proceed at a pace and scale and in a way that is comfortable to this community of people. Often, this means that planning starts with community interests (the traditional land users and the organizations that represent them), then it expands to include other stakeholders as the community organizations are comfortable with broadening the discussions and input. Traditional knowledge is also a key component of a community-based process.

Figure 1 Spatially Hierarchical Approach to Planning



Some communities have described their work with other stakeholders in the planning process as being "in the spirit of co-existence" (Fort Providence Renewable Resources Board 1997), which reflects their relationship with other users of their traditional lands. This stepwise approach to working from the community outward helps build the trust in the planning process. It provides an opportunity for communities to feel empowered and clear in their own interests and intentions before involving others in the process.

A community-based process doesn't mean that government resource mangers have no role, or that they cannot be involved from the beginning. But the role initially is one of facilitator, catalyst, support (information, funding, resource people) to the planning process. When the process reaches the point where the interests of other stakeholders are to be brought into the planning, then the interests of government as land and resource managers can be brought into the process.

1.7 A Participatory Process

As stated in section 1.1, good decision-making requires consideration of the interests of all those who will be affected by the decision. In order to identify, consider, and integrate the full range of values and interests that will be affected by an IRMP, all stakeholders with some interest in the natural resources of the area need to be involved in the planning process. Typically, these are industries, First Nations, territorial and federal governments, and non-governmental organizations. They participate in each step of the planning process, and through discussion and negotiation, gradually build a consensus on the direction to be given in the plan. In this way, the stakeholders each influence the outcome of the plan, they can see their interests being addressed, and they can lend their support to the plan.

By focusing on the stakeholders' interests (e.g., maintenance of biological diversity) rather than positions (e.g., no development), more flexibility in finding solutions is possible.

1.8 Comparison to Other Types of Planning

As stated in section 1.2, what makes one type of planning different from another is the type of issues, values, and interests it considers.

1.8.1 Land Use Planning

Land use planning is intended to deal with what land uses should occur, where they should take place, and how they should go ahead. IRMP is intended to deal with how the renewable and non-renewable resources are to be allocated and managed. In practice however, there has not been a clear distinction between the two in land and resource planning in the NWT in recent years.

Some of the regional land use plans prepared for the NWT have dealt with what may be considered resource management issues, such as conservation and wildlife management, in addition to more typical land use considerations such as oil and gas development and transportation. On the other hand, the IRMP described in the following sections describes dividing the land base into zones, with resource management actions tied to each geographic area. The designation for the zone and the resource management actions indicate which land uses would be compatible.

Obviously, the line between land use planning and IRMP is blurred, particularly in the NWT because many of the land uses are primary resource harvesting or extraction activities. In British Columbia, land use planning and IRMP are considered to be the same, and to reflect this, their process is named "Land and Resource Management Planning" (J. Elo, pers. comm.).

Ultimately, both land use planning and IRMP produce recommendations on use of the land and resources, although they may come at these recommendations from different perspectives (e.g., land use planning may consider protected areas; IRMP may consider conservation of renewable resources). In the end, both processes address the same fundamental questions: what is the desired state of the lands and the resources of an area and how can that be achieved? Any planning processes that deal with these questions for the same land base should be coordinated to ensure integration of all considerations regarding those resources, and to avoid duplication or inconsistency.

1.8.2 Community Conservation Plans

A unique set of plans have been prepared by the communities of the Inuvialuit Settlement Area according to the provisions of their Inuvialuit Final Agreement (see for example Holman 1994). These are community conservation plans, which deal with conservation of important wildlife and harvest areas in the traditional use lands of each community, and also include general direction on wildlife management.

Although they address some issues of both conservation and development, they are not IRMP plans as described in the following Table of Contents, because they primarily address the conservation interests of the community and do not reflect the full range of interests of all stakeholders. However, they are a very good example of community-based plans dealing with land and resources, and could be a starting place for entering a broader IRMP process.

2.0 WHY DO INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING?

2.1 Benefits of Integrated Resource Management Planning

Preparing an IRMP can provide the following benefits:

- ***Self sufficiency, empowerment*** - planning for the future is important for becoming self sufficient, especially with declining government programs and money available; (Source: Fort Resolution 1996)
- ***Integration of interests*** - provides a vehicle for all participants to bring their concerns and interests to the table;
- ***Integration of government functions*** – less duplication of effort, more consistent, coordinated, efficient resource management;
- ***Communication*** – a community forum that fosters better communication and understanding among the local residents and stakeholders, including government;
- ***Knowledge*** – expanded knowledge among all participants about an area's land and resources; vehicle for education and promotion of long term involvement in resource management;
- ***Information*** – the information generated through the process can be used in other processes too, e.g., protected areas planning, timber harvest management;
- ***Influence*** – participants have the opportunity to influence how land and resources are used;
- ***Security*** – will be a plan that explains how land and resources to be used and managed for duration of the plan; gives all participants security in the certainty of how their interests are being dealt with;
- ***Tangible results*** – a plan for action and integrated resource management direction. (Source: Government of British Columbia 1995)

2.2 Purpose of Carrying Out Integrated Resource Management Planning

The following are some reasons why an IRMP is prepared:

- to provide ***strategic resource management direction*** to all resource managers and users; plan sets the direction to take in use of land and resources;
- to identify ways to ***ensure that vision and goals*** for the traditional lands ***are met***;
- community states and publicly ***affirms their values*** regarding the land – enables acknowledgement and respect for these values;
- identify structures and procedures to assist residents to ***participate in making decisions*** about the land and resources in their traditional area;
- plan gives a ***framework*** for reviewing activities happening on the land to ensure they are in keeping with the direction set in the plan;
- plan enables community to be ***proactive*** in its decision-making, rather than reactive in dealing with proposals for use of land and resources.

(Source: Fort Providence Resource Management Board 1997a and 1997b)

2.3 Government Commitments, Strategic Direction, Policy Related to Integrated Resource Management Planning

The GNWT has made a number of commitments or policy statements that relate to carrying out IRMP:

- IRMP is one means of meeting **GNWT commitments** to national and international agreements:
  National Forest Strategy and the Canada Forest Accord 1992 – commitment to achieve sustainable forest management;
  Montreal Process 1994 - an international system for tracking the implementation of sustainable forest management using criteria and indicators to assess performance of sustainable forest management;
  Canadian Biodiversity Strategy 1994; ***NWT Biodiversity Action Plan*** (in prep.) – commitment to conservation of biological diversity;
  Whitehorse Mining Initiative 1994 - principles recognize that continuing economic activity is predicated on preservation of a healthy environment.

- IRMP can address **Cabinet priorities** (Business Plan) with respect to:
  Empowering Communities – build capacity at local level through training, workshops, and courses; community working together to plan for its future; their values and knowledge being recognized and applied in decision-making;
  Improving Community Wellness, Social Conditions, Economic Conditions – develop a community vision and strategies for achieving this vision;
  More Effective and Efficient Government Structure – enables the input and coordination, integration of all stakeholders including federal and territorial governments, industry, residents. The benefits identified above can reduce duplication, overlap. Information products can be used in other initiatives such as land claims. Establishes a forum and builds experience and good communication for a more effective and efficient government structure.

- IRMP can contribute to the implementation of **Government policies:**
  Sustainable Development Policy – GNWT recognizes the interdependence between conservation and development through application of concept of sustainable development. IRMP provides a practical means of achieving sustainable development in NWT;
  DRAFT Forest Management Policy – GNWT shall mange the forest resources to maintain ecological integrity and biodiversity of forest ecosystems while providing economic, social, and cultural opportunities for the benefit of present and future generations of residents;
  Traditonal Knowledge Policy – GNWT will incorporate traditional knowledge into Government decisions and action;
  RWED Establishment Policy – diverse and healthy ecosystems should be protected in a manner that maintains the integrity of ecosystems in perpetuity and contributes to long term ecological, economic, and social stability.

- IRMP supports and provides a context for **other programs in the government mandate:**

  Protected Areas Strategy – protected areas are an important component of IRMP. IRMP can address the broader issue of conservation of resource values on lands outside protected areas;

  Environmental Assessment – IRMP provides the context for EIA, and the identification and evaluation of cumulative impacts;

  Research Priorities – IRMP can help define priorities for research in wildlife, fisheries, minerals, oil, and gas. Provides practical application of research results.

3.0 A TYPICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANS IN THE NWT

The following outlines the sections that are typically found in an integrated resource management plan. A brief description of each section is provided, followed by examples from land and resource planning initiatives in the NWT and elsewhere. These sections in a plan would not necessarily have to be in this order.

(The sources used for the examples in the following tables are cited at the end of this paper.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.O INTRODUCTION
2.0 GUIDING STATEMENTS

- **Values and Statement of Beliefs**
- **Principles**
- **Vision**
- **Goals**
- **Objectives**

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR THE PLAN

- **Planning Area Boundaries and Time Frame**
- **Description of Planning Area and Context for Resource Management Issues**

4.0 MAIN BODY OF THE PLAN

- **Zoning**
- **Resource Management Objectives and Strategies/Actions**
- **Resource Management System**
- **Human Resource, Infrastructure Needs**
- **Information Needs**
- **Transboundary Resource Management**

5.0 INFORMATION FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

- **Plan Implementation**
- **Monitor, Review, Update, Amend Plan**

CONTENT	EXAMPLE
1.0 INTRODUCTION • Brief history of resource management planing – why do planning? Why is it needed for this area? **2.0 GUIDING STATEMENTS ABOUT WHAT THE PLAN WILL ACHIEVE** **Values and Statements of Beliefs** • The common beliefs within the community that form the basis for a community-based plan. • The planning process and the plan itself will be based on these beliefs. • They may be written in a statement of beliefs or just discussed and agreed to. • Stating and agreeing to these beliefs helps develop community ownership for the plan • For example: - how people see their relationship to the land; - what resource management includes: land, water, forests, recreation, traditional uses - who should be involved in deciding how the resources get used. (source: National Aboriginal Forestry Association. 1995. Aboriginal Forest Land Management Guidelines (Draft) • provide foundation for principles and vision	<u>Fort Providence</u> The Resource Management Board is proposing to take the idea of resource management planning to the main family groups and get their guidance. Their views on how the planning should be conducted could be the basis for the statement of beliefs. <u>Fort Resolution</u> - sharing; harmonious relationships and co-existence; stewardship of the land in perpetuity; the homeland/traditional territory of Akaitcho Dene <u>Deh Cho First Nations</u> Developed a "Statement of the Deh Cho People on Protecting Our Lands" which affirms their beliefs about the land and how they should go about using the land. <u>Vanderhoof</u> - -participants are there to represent a range of values not a particular sector - each participant invited to submit an interest statement or description of their values and priorities

Principles Principles are guiding statements about how the planning should be conducted. They are matters to keep in mind throughout the planning process. They would explain to the why planning was conducted in a particular way.	Fort Providence - planning will be community-driven and community-based; - planning will be guided by and will incorporate traditional knowledge and practices; - planning will take an ecosystem approach; - planning will be undertaken in the spirit of coexistence with other land users.
Vision Based on the statement of beliefs, the plan states the vision of the participants for the lands and resources. The vision can be a description of the future state of resources in the planning area once the plan is completed and in use – what would the area look like; how are resources being used; how are decisions being made; how are people being consulted and working together? (NOTE: This is not the vision of how the resource management planning process will take place. It is the vision of how the area will be in the future with the plan in place.)	Fort Providence - we are protecting our land, water, and resources for the benefit of current and future generations; - use of our land is guided by traditional environmental and spiritual knowledge, as well as modern land management techniques; - our natural resources are being developed and development is on our terms. It gives us economic and social benefits and does not threaten any part of the ecosystem.
Goals • goals indicate how the vision will be arrived at • they indicate what the participants intend to achieve with the resource management actions presented in the IRM plan • should be achievable within the time frame of the plan • IRM plans may present broad strategic for a large region, or more focused, detailed goals prepared for a smaller planning area such as a community's traditional lands	Fort Providence - to conserve all parts of the ecosystem and the connections between them; - to protect sacred, cultural, and spiritual places; - to ensure that traditional knowledge is incorporated into current resource management practices.

Objectives • more specific statements of the desired approach to achieving goals • should be clearly defined so that a monitoring program can measure the progress of implemented actions in meeting the objectives • can be progressively refined throughout the planning process as participants become clearer on what they want to achieve • by comparing the current situation with the land and resources to the objectives, which indicate a desired future state, can identify gaps the plan should address • may also be developed for specific issues or zones (see section below on Resource Management Objectives and Strategies) • plan should flow from the objectives, to the analysis of issues, to recommended actions - actions are targeted at meeting the objectives, and the analysis of issues gives the background to the objectives and the rationale for the actions	<u>Gwich'in</u> Objectives are developed for individual land use issues, e.g., heritage resources, transportation: - to support the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute in their work to document, preserve and promote Gwich'in culture; - to promote continued use of traditional trails and transportation networks.
3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT THE PLAN ADDRESSES **Planning Area Boundaries, Time Frame** • participants agree on the boundary of the planning area • participants agree on the duration of the plan – how long will it be in place before the plan is reviewed and updated • the time frame applies to the goals, objectives, and recommended	<u>Fort Providence</u> - planning boundary is the Fort Providence traditional land base; - draft Terms of Reference recognize that Providence shares a Group Trapping Area with Kakisa; planning process will address this overlap area <u>Fort Resolution</u> - the planning boundary is the Fort Resolution Current Use area;

actions; when describing the vision, the participants may take a longer term perspective (e.g., how many generations to consider in their vision)	- the planning time frame is to have a long term vision (e.g., 30 years), with shorter term bench marks for plan monitoring and review Gwich'in - the planning boundary is the Gwich'in Settlement Area as defined in the Land Claim; - the land use plan will be reviewed and updated in five years Vanderhoof - planning is on a sub-regional scale; - ten year plan with mid-term review after five years
Description of Planning Area and Context for Resource Management • a brief overview description of the current ecological, social, cultural, economic characteristics of the planning area, with a map, and graphic images if possible to illustrate the information • a brief overview description of trends and factors that relate to or influence resource management, e.g., the land and resource management regime in the area, the status of land claims and self government negotiations, legislative changes (e.g., implementation of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act), other related programs (e.g., protected areas planning), changes in the resources being considered (e.g., long term forest successional changes)	Gwich'in The plan briefly describes: - Gwich'in people; - Gwich'in economy (traditional and wage); - the land – a brief introduction to the natural landscape zones; - brief introduction to each resource/land use sector. Holman - describes relevant sections of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement
Issues • provides background information on the issues that the plan addresses	Gwich'in Describes the land use issues, followed

• issues may be gaps between the current situation and the objectives, goals, vision; problems or conflicts that need to be resolved; opportunities to take advantage of; situations in which proactive action should be taken • the discussion of the issues should provide the rationale for the recommended actions that follow • each issue can be presented individually, followed by the management direction for that particular issue • don't have to document all the analysis, discussion, negotiation of the issues that was done in the course of the planning process – just enough to indicate to the reader the rationale for which issues the plan addressed and for the recommended actions	by an analysis of the issues e.g., : - Land Use Issue #1 Community Involvement: "People in local communities want to be more involved in decisions about land, water, and resource management." - Land Use Issue #4 Water: "People are concerned that water quality is becoming poorer in the Gwich'in Settlement Area and will continue to become poorer." - Land Use Issue #5: Renewable Resources: "People feel there needs to be more incentives for activities such as trapping to get young people involved in traditional ways of living." - Other land use issues are: Gwich'in Heritage Resources, Pollution and Waste Management, Tourism, Economic Development, Non-renewable Resources, Transportation and Communication, Transboundary Areas.
4.0 THE MAIN BODY OF THE PLAN **Zoning**	
• the entire planning area is divided into zones, and zones do not overlap • the zones enable the plan to give resource management direction that is tied to a particular geographic area • the zones reflect choices made by the participants; they indicate how the resources are to be allocated among the various resource users • there are many different approaches to zoning a planning area, and different categories that can be developed for the zones – they may be specific legislated	<u>Vanderhoof</u> How Zones are Identified: - the planning region is divided into Resource Management Zones (RMZs) according to the resource values and biophysical characteristics, and also based on negotiations among participants that include social and economic considerations; - to identify the RMZs, resource values of the planning area are mapped; maps of the various resource values are overlaid on top of each other; and zones are identified through discussion by

areas (e.g., protected areas) or just indicate a broad statement of intent for an area • a zone can first be **identified** according to agreed upon criteria or characteristics, then **classified** to indicate how use of the area is to be managed • zones should describe how people know the land	all participants. Areas where overlapping values may conflict will require more negotiation to determine the appropriate zone, and may require sub-zones; - the zones usually match up with natural features that can be readily identified, and their name comes from these features, e.g., Nechako Canyon RMZ; - the boundaries may be re-examined as planning goes on and the intent for the area is discussed; - all the zones are then **classified** as one of five types: Agriculture, Resource Development Emphasis, Multi-Value Emphasis, Special, Proposed Protected Area (e,g., the Nechako Canyon RMZ is classified as a Proposed Protected Area). What the Zones Mean: - the zoning shows the overall intent for that zone; - it shows the type of activities and level of intensity of activities in that zone and guides the overall management direction for that zone; - it shows the government and society's priorities for use and management of the area. <u>Holman; Mackenzie Delta Beaufort Sea</u> How Zones Are Identified: - the community identified areas of value to them because they contain important harvesting areas, wildlife habitat or are culturally significant; - the areas are **classified** as one of five categories (A to E), which reflect increasing importance of

	the values and sensitivity to disturbance; - the description of each zone identifies other overlapping values (e.g., other conservation values and non-renewable resource development values) but these other values were not taken into account in choosing the zones. What the Zones Mean: - to define the conditions under which both conservation and use of the valued resources could be assured; - to contribute to the conservation of values important to the community; - to document the conservation areas of community interest on a par with the conservation areas of territorial, national, international conservation interest; - to specify the degree of conservation to be achieved, but not the type or level of land use activity that would be appropriate, except for the most sensitive category in which no development is allowed. <u>Gwich'in</u> How Zones Are Identified: - the region is divided into three categories: General Use Areas, Gwich'in Management Areas, Gwich'in Protected Areas; - initially, the communities identified sites of value to them, then **classified** them according to these three categories; - now the Planning Board is also incorporating other values (scientific conservation

	information, non-renewable resource potential) into deciding how to classify these areas. What the Zones Mean: - describe what uses are allowed or not allowed in an area or at a particular time.
Resource Management Objectives and Strategies/Actions • for each zoned area, a set of resource management objectives and strategies/actions are developed by the participants • the plan may also include general resource management direction that applies across all zones • zoning shows what participants value about an area and the overall intent; the resource management objectives and strategies/actions indicate how to maintain the values and achieve the intent • if an area has a range of interests and values associated with it, the objectives and strategies/actions can be worked out through interest-based consensus-building negotiations • an IRM plan may present policy level strategies or more focussed actions • the strategies and actions should specify who is responsible and the timelines so a monitoring program can measure the progress in implementing the strategies/actions	<u>Holman; Mackenzie Delta Beaufort Sea</u> - for each area identified by the community, community concerns and recommendations are provided; - plan also includes general direction on wildlife management and research that apply throughout the planning area. <u>Vanderhoof</u> - -for each zone, the plan identifies the interests (e.g., water), the resource management objectives (e.g., reduce soil erosion and maintain the quality of existing fresh water sources), and the resource management strategies (e.g., revegetate all new ditches to minimize soil erosion); - plan also includes general direction on biodiversity, jobs and community stability, water, wildlife, recreation and tourism that apply throughout the planning area.
Resource Management System • describes how the community will be involved in resource management decision-making to	<u>Fort Providence</u> - the plan may include a flow chart and description of the process through which land use

address the common community concern of ensuring control of the use of resources on their traditional lands • can show how compatibility of a proposed project with the IRM plan is considered, and how the IRM plan relates to other processes such as environmental impact assessment • can include description of a conflict resolution process	applications are reviewed and approved by the Fort Providence Resource Management Board, the Band Council, the Metis Local, the elders, before the decision goes back to government regulators.
Human Resource, Infrastructure Needs - identifies particular needs for training and structures such as committees, boards that would be required to implement the provisions of the plan	Holman - includes community recommendations on various educational and training initiatives related to successfully implementing the plan
Information Needs • identifies communication, information exchange required to deal with resource management issues and to implement the provisions in the plan	Holman - includes community recommendations on how to improve communications and information exchange within the region related to resource management initiatives
Transboundary Resource Management • identifies particular provisions related to resource management issues that cross into or arise in other jurisdictions • identifies provisions related to any overlapping areas with other jurisdictions	Gwich'in - includes objectives and recommended actions dealing with resources that are shared with other jurisdictions (land, air, water, wildlife)
5.0 INFORMATION FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN **Plan Implementation** • identifies who is responsible for	Gwich'in - explains how land users have to ensure that their activities are in conformity with the land use

implementing the plan, and describes their responsibilities	plan Vanderhoof - describes relationship of this plan to other more detailed operational plans Mackenzie Delta Beaufort Sea - highlighted the actions in the plan that the Commission considered were priorities for implementation
Monitor, Review, Update Amend Plan • describes process to monitor plan to ensure strategies/actions are being implemented, whether strategies/actions are achieving their stated objectives, and whether unexpected events are occurring that require a resource management planning response • enables adaptive response to new information and situations • the plan should be reviewed and updated at regular intervals (often five years) to reflect changes such as new environmental information, new goals or priorities • before the regular review period, the plan may have to be amended for reasons that are identified in the plan, for example, if new information becomes available or if circumstances affecting the plan change and waiting for the regular review period would be inappropriate • can also address exceptions and appeals to the plan	Gwich'in - requires regular review and update every five years; - describes how exceptions to the plan would be dealt with; - identifies circumstances under which amendments may be considered. Vanderhoof - requires a mid-term review after five years; - requires major public planning process to renew the document to begin in year 8 (of a ten year plan); - describes a system and methods of regular yearly implementation; reporting, annual public meetings, biannual audits of implementation.

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PERSONAL COMMUNICATION

Clarkson, Peter. Executive Director, Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board.

Elo, Janine. Operations Manager, Vanderhoof Forest District, British Columbia Ministry of Forests.

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