

**Is the Yukon planning process to date providing balance ?**

**Or**

**Good Governance? = Good Balance!**

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On behalf of



Yukon Prospectors Association

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# Basic Outline

- Understanding the mineral industry
- Geological knowledge, relation to LUP
- Current land status.
- Plans to date do not address mineral interests.
- Consultations and methodologies politicized, leading to imbalance.
- **Various Land Use Plans, and their consequences: most result in land 'sterilization'.**
- Not using or mis-using mineral information results in conflict.
- Cumulative large land withdrawals jeopardize the industry.
- Flexible adaptive management systems are preferred.

# Introduction

Is this what comes to mind when you think of a prospector?



Mineral industry is a knowledge industry that brings economic and social benefits to communities.

A photograph of a man and a woman in winter gear standing in a snowy forest. The man is wearing a dark jacket and a cap, and the woman is wearing a bright pink jacket. The image is part of a promotional graphic for the Canadian Mining Association (CMAA).

**CRS**  
Canadian Resource Services

**QUICK. WHAT'S YOUR IMAGE OF A MINER?**

From economists to welders to engineers, mining jobs are just as diverse as the minerals and metals we mine. More than 375,000 people work directly in Canada's mining and mineral processing industries, and many more work indirectly in mining. Mining is also proportionally the largest private sector employer of Aboriginal people in Canada.

MINING.CA

**CANADIAN MINING**  
Partnership with innovation

# Understanding the Exploration Industry

- **Exploration: Looking for resources**

- Expanding the existing knowledge base.
- Testing new ideas
- Low impact on land.
- Need access to large land base
- New discoveries likely, but rare.
- **\$1.7B** was spent since 2002.



Small footprint drill from Kluane Drilling

# Understanding the Mining Industry

- **Development/ Mining: extracting resources**
- Mineral Production 1886-2012: **\$28.3 B**
- Higher impact but relatively small footprint (average 3.5 sq km/ mine in Quebec).
- Very high \$\$\$/ Area
- Temporary use of land



Brewery Creek - reclaimed

# Industry Facts

- Explorationists needs access to land because:
  - Not every claim is a deposit (~1/10,000),
  - Location of next deposit is unknown,
  - Few deposits become mines.
- Projects are regulated, assessed, monitored.
- Needlessly restricting land access puts our economic future in jeopardy.

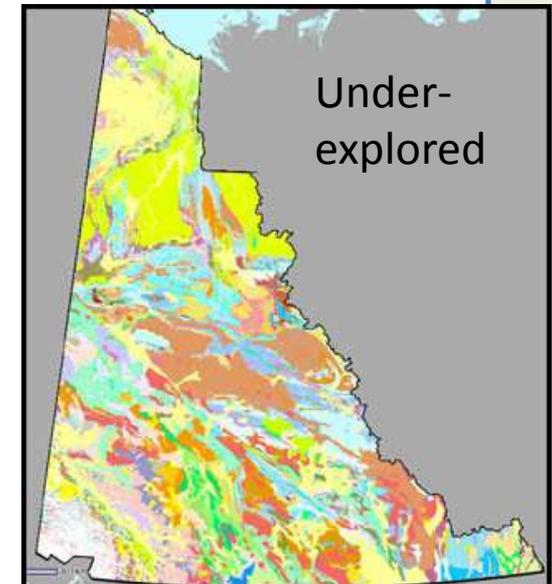
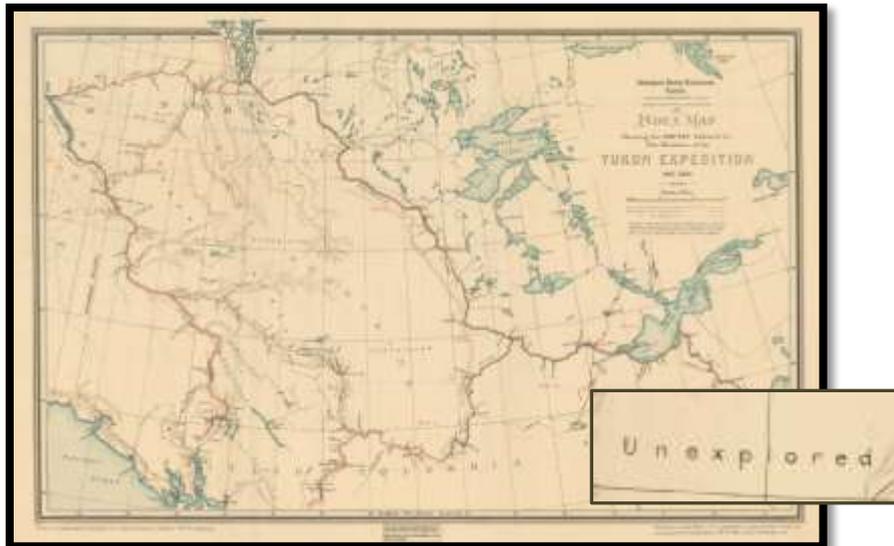
# Introduction

- First Mineral Assessment Geologist for YTG, 1995-2001.
- Participated in various LUP and Protected Area Planning.
- Participant in YPAS working group.
- Coordinate mineral assessments
- Interpret for planners and decision-makers.
- Mineral assessments are evaluations of mineral potential, results are plotted as mineral potential maps.
- Use data and knowledge.
- Knowledge is constantly changing and estimates are a snapshot in time.



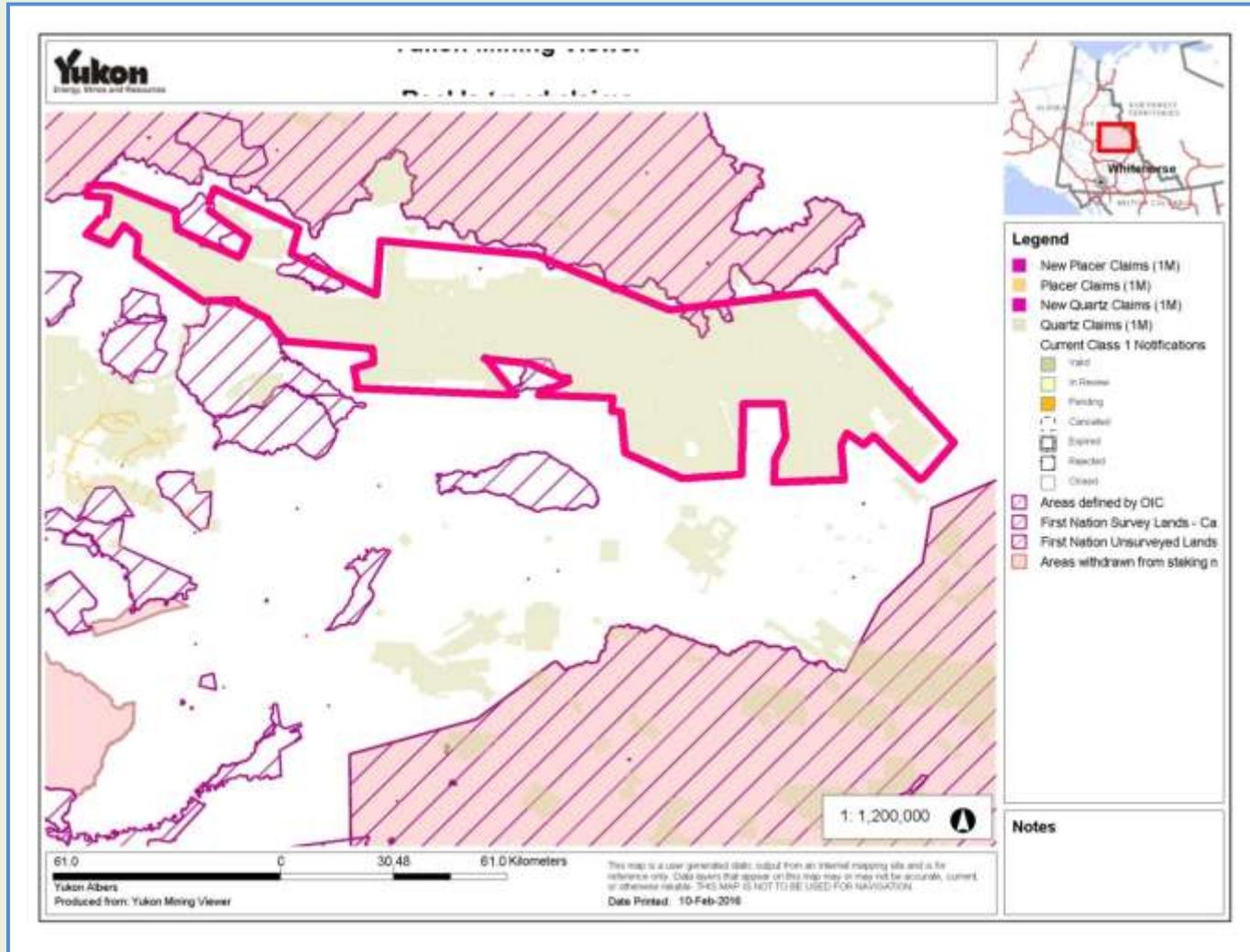
# Geological Knowledge

- Geological knowledge is constantly evolving.
- Contributes to balance and conflict reduction.
- New knowledge is a game changer.
- **How do we plan, when the information is constantly changing?**



GSC 1887-88 Yukon Expedition:  
Dawson, Ogilvie and McConnell

# Case example: Rackla Trend



# Rackla Trend

- From 2009 to 2015, ATAC spent ~\$85M in exploration.
- New discoveries still being made.

Nevada: Cortez Mine: 9.85 M oz Au, Pipeline 12 M oz  
Yukon: Brewery Creek (combined indicated and inferred oxide):  
0.85M oz



- Minimal disturbance to date.
- Had this area had been withdrawn, opportunity missed and no formal cooperative exploration agreement between the company and Nacho Nyak Dun.

When we lock land up, we cut ourselves off from new knowledge, and future opportunities.



# If you think you can reverse a land withdrawal?

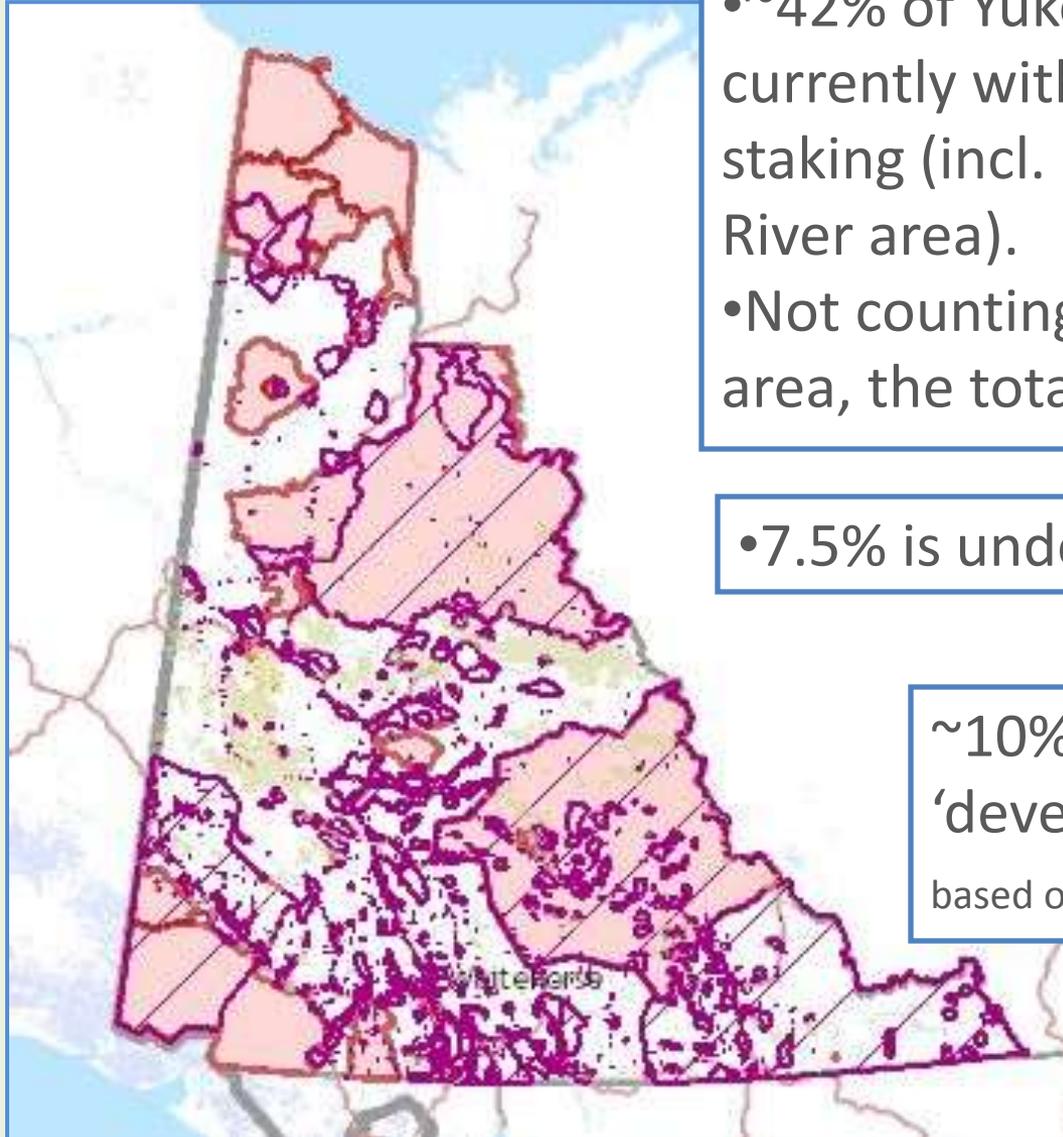
- Agreement in principle for Tuktut Nogait Park signed in 1996.
- New geological information in 1997.
- Inuvialuit & GNWT (5 out of 6 signatories) request review of park boundary to exclude ~2%, before final passing of Park Bill.



The screenshot shows the Parks Canada website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Canadian flag, the text 'Parks Canada' in both French and English, and the 'Canada' logo. Below this is a search bar and a navigation menu with links for 'Français', 'Home', 'Contact Us', 'Help', 'Search', and 'Canada.ca'. The main content area is titled 'The Tuktut Nogait Agreement' and features a sidebar with a table of contents. The table of contents includes links for 'Tuktut Nogait National Park', 'What's New', 'Visitor Information', 'Natural Wonders & Cultural Treasures', 'Activities', 'Learning Experiences', 'Park Management', 'How to Reach Us', 'The Tuktut Nogait Agreement', 'Interpretation', 'Purposes', 'Park Establishment and Administration', 'Jurisdiction of Existing Joint Management Bodies Within the Park', and 'The Park Management'. The main content area displays the title '22. Review and Amendment' and the sub-section '22.1'. The text under 22.1 states: 'Any Party may request a review by the Parties of part or all of this Agreement. If all the Parties agree, they shall initiate the review within ninety (90) days of the request.' Below this, section '22.2' is visible, stating: 'The Agreement shall in any case be reviewed by the Parties within five (5) years of its signing to ensure that the Park is meeting its purposes, set out in Section 2 above.' Section '22.3' is also visible, stating: 'The Agreement may be amended only with the written consent of the Parties.' At the bottom of the page, there are links for 'Previous', 'Index', and 'Next'.

- Clause 22.1. allows for review and amendment, under principles of co-management.
- Inuvialuit appeals to Senate.
- Parks Canada opposes the change.
- Senate dismissed the requested amendment.
- Definition of co-management?

# Where are we at?

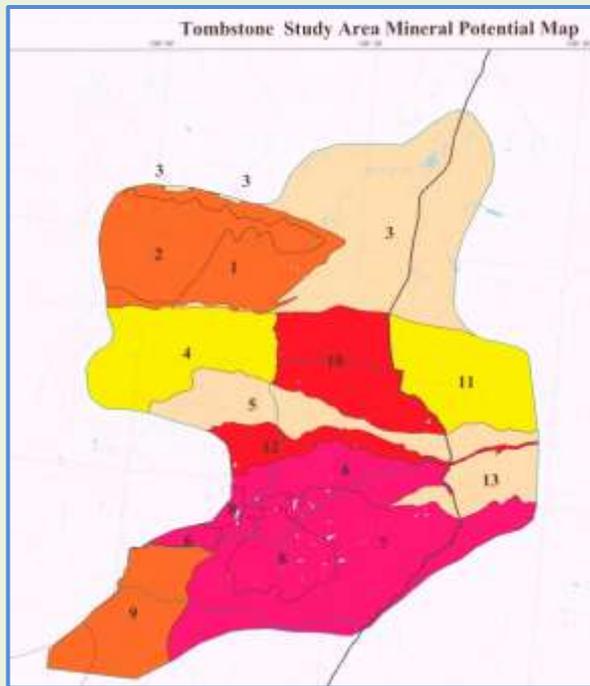


- ~42% of Yukon land is currently withdrawn from staking (incl. Peel and Ross River area).
- Not counting Ross River area, the total is **~29%**.

• 7.5% is under quartz claims

~10% is considered 'developed'. (Estimate based on 1999 data.)

# Early Plans



Tombstone

Was knowledge used?  
Was balance achieved?

## Tombstone and Fishing Branch:

- Only ‘full withdrawal’ considered.
- No consideration for mineral values, which were considerable in Tombstone.
- Final outline = study area outline ( or bigger in the case of Tombstone.
- Public consultation done but no impact on final outcome.

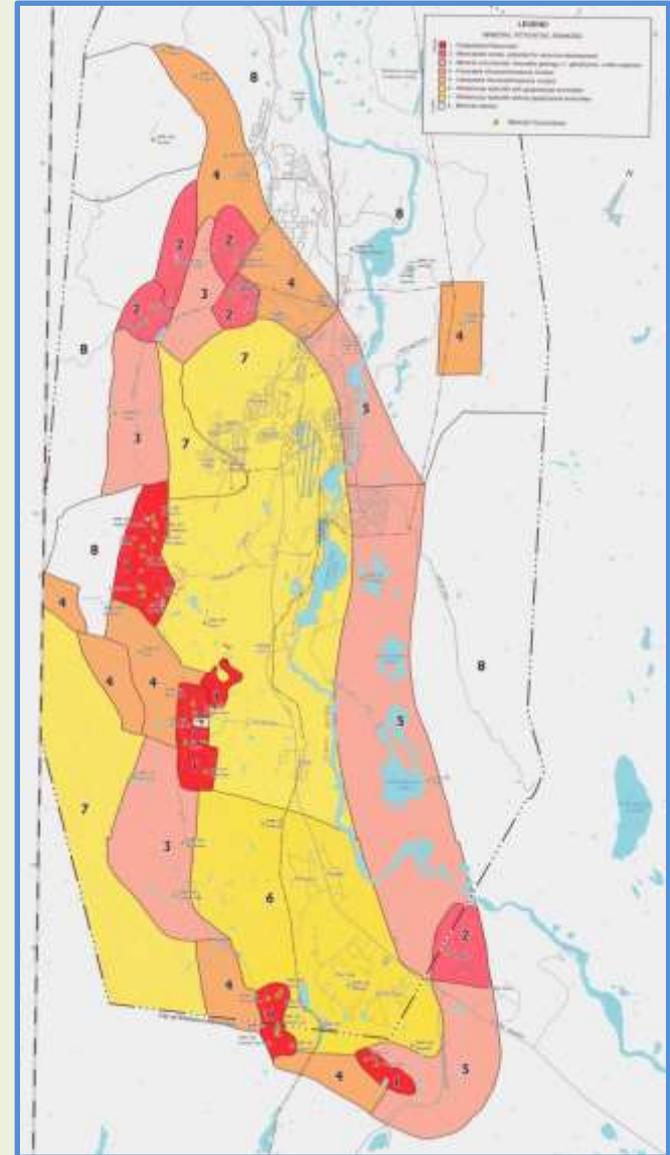
Others: In some cases, boundaries were pre-determined before mineral assessment was done or before a public process was initiated.

In all these cases:  
missed opportunity to exercise  
balance, leading to polarization.

# Early Plans

Results of 1997 mineral assessment guide  
City planning. Balance achieved.

- Lately: land withdrawal, modified zoning without considering mineral potential or mineral title:
  - one residential subdivision and park status established over high potential areas.
  - Nearby gravel resource is now in a park.
- Missed opportunities for balance.
- Increased conflict.



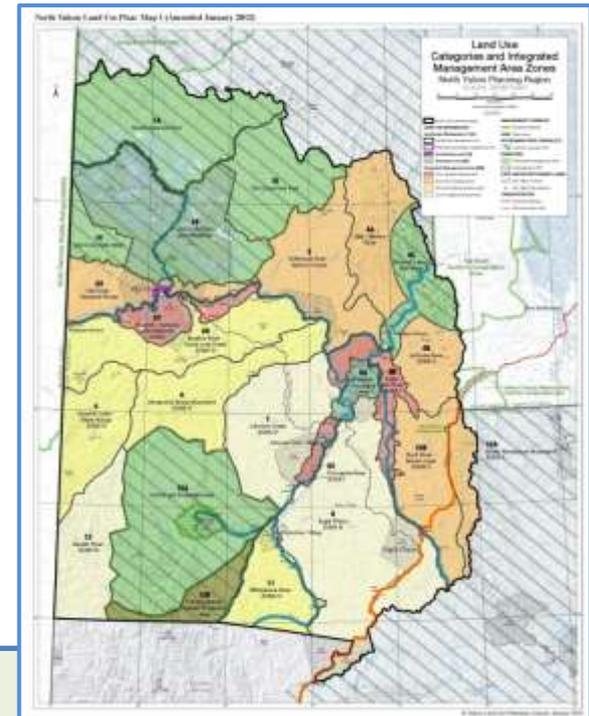
City of Whitehorse

# UFA Chapter 11 – Regional Land Use Planning

- **11.1.1.2** to minimize actual or potential land use conflicts both within Settlement Land and Non-Settlement Land and between Settlement Land and Non-Settlement Land;
- **11.1.1.6** to ensure that social, cultural, economic and environmental policies are applied to the management, protection and use of land, water and resources in an integrated and coordinated manner so as to ensure Sustainable Development.
- **11.4.5.7** shall promote the well-being of Yukon Indian People, other residents of the planning region, the communities, and the Yukon as a whole, while having regard to the interests of other Canadians;
- **11.4.5.9** shall promote Sustainable Development; and ...

# North Yukon Plan- Open to New Knowledge

- Low mineral development pressure
- Zoning based on intensity of use rather than type of use.
- Track surface disturbance, revise if disturbance indicator is met.
- Adaptive and flexible management plan.

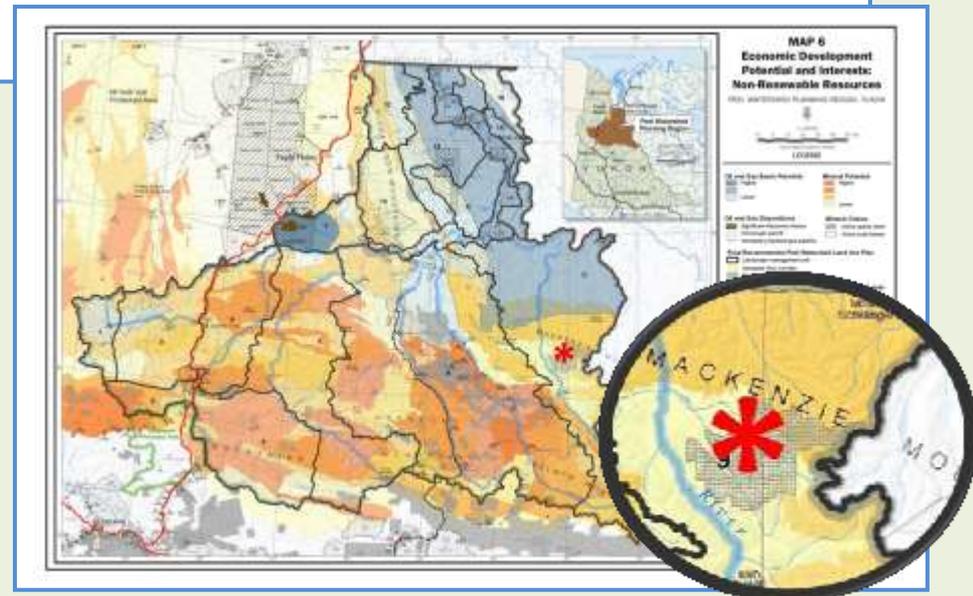


# Peel LUP - A wilderness tourism reserve

- LUP principles/ definitions not carried over from North Yukon Plan?
- The planning area outline is the only one defined by a drainage system. Pre-designed to promote a pro-conservation result?

- Mineral activity is viewed as incompatible with wilderness tourism objectives.
- Rigid, fixed land withdrawal used to promote objectives.
- From a mineral development perspective, no visible attempt at balance.
- Resulting community polarization.

Conservation goals drives data interpretation.



Crest deposit shown as low potential

# Dawson LUP

- Marked improvement in community and stakeholder consultation.
- Stated willingness to strive for balance.
- Two problems with methodology creating artificially biased results.

On: IMA IV= Crown Land,  
All natural, ecological,  
recreational and  
heritage values are  
given a score of "0".

Inherent bias that  
inaccurately enhances  
contrast between  
scenarios.

Workbook view									
K22									
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
Evaluation Criteria		Designations							
#	Short Name	CA	II	III	IV	PA	TEA	YRC	
36	38	ECOLOGIC: Fragments	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
37	39	WS25k	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
38	40	WS250k	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
39	41	WS2500k	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
40	15	Hike	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
41	16	Rec	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
42	17	Outfit	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
43	18	Trap	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	1	0.5
44	42	SalmHab	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
45	43	SalmSpn	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
46	44	WKA	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
47	45	Sheep	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
48	46	MooseCC	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
49	47	MooseAD	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
50	48	Tintina	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
51	49	FMCH_hi	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
52	50	FMCH	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
53	51	CCCH	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
54	52	HRCH	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
55	53	PCH	0.5	0.5	0.25	0	1	0.5	0.5
56	54	BnchMk	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

# How do we choose to plan?

- Do we try to capture everything rigidly 'right now'?
- And determine what to do about it, rigidly, 'right now'?



Or do we strive for flexibility?

# Recommendations

- Other jurisdictions be researched where successful mineral development coexists with human activity (Sweden, Norway).
- For LUP to serve all Yukoners, need a commitment to a integrated approach.
- Consider existing rules and regulations.
- Ensure clear terms of reference, scope and accountability.

# Challenges/Principles

- How do we honour the inter-relationship of all sectors?
- How do we plan when change is the only constant?
- How do we foster a spirit of unbiased enquiry and curiosity?
- How do we keep an open door to the possibilities that our quest will bring?
- And most importantly, how do we do it, keeping our community together?

# Thank you

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Websites

[www.atacresources.com](http://www.atacresources.com)

<https://www.ec.gc.ca/indicateurs-indicators/default.asp?lang=en&n=478A1D3D-1>

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