

February 28, 2020

Kirk Price  
Operations Manager  
Forest Management Branch

Re: Dawson Timber Supply Analysis

Dear Kirk,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the timber supply analysis for the Dawson City planning area. As we discussed on the phone there are no obvious concerns from our association's perspective. The documents show that there was a high degree of care taken during the process to consider social, environmental and economic values and incorporate them into the data collection and analysis.

It is clear that the most limiting factor in influencing the amount size of the timber harvesting land base in Dawson and likely for the rest of the Yukon will be the economics of timber harvesting and manufacturing. The use of a bench mark distance from existing access is a good surrogate for establishing the economic limits of delivering timber to a processing facility. The two limits used do show the sensitivity to development, logging and timber hauling are appropriate at this time. From an industry perspective, we feel that the greatest flexibility available to future forest industry development is provided by the twelve-kilometer limit. Therefore, we recommend that 12-kilometer criteria receive the highest weighting in the determination of the annual allowable cut (AAC). In addition to this it should be explicitly understood that any new road development for mining or any other purpose will create a new twelve-kilometer zone and could increase the available timber harvesting land base in future timber supply reviews. This of course is limited by the zoning found in the Forest Resource Management Plan and any future Land Use Plans.

In the future it would be useful for demonstration purposes to do a sensitivity run with regard to the effect of regeneration delay on timber supply. At this time, it is not relevant but in never hurts for process participants and the public to understand this sensitivity if and when we approach annual allowable cut thresholds at some point in the distant future.

The association and its members are looking forward to participating in the AAC determination process and will be available to attend meetings and review documents when that process gets underway.

Yours truly



Myles H Thorp RPF  
Executive Director