

Dawson Forest Resources Management Plan Annual Allowable Cut Determination Summary

The Government of Yukon's Forest Management Branch and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in's Department of Natural Resources, Land and Resources Branch are working to complete an annual allowable cut determination for the Dawson forest management planning area. This determination includes an annual allowable cut on both public land and Settlement Land.

The annual allowable cut is the maximum amount of live timber that may be harvested annually within the Dawson forest resources management planning area. A timber supply analysis, public and First Nation input and other socio-economic factors are all considered in this determination.

A timber supply analysis is a technical evaluation of how much live timber is available for harvest in consideration of factors that influence the land base. The analysis helps determine how much timber can be harvested sustainably by estimating the timber supply each year, and forms the basis of the annual allowable cut determination. An information package containing two reports is available for public and First Nation review for 30 days:

1. Timber Supply Analysis Report – This report provides a summary of the “base case” harvest and various scenarios or sensitivities that may influence the sustainable timber supply.
2. Data Package - This report provides an account of the land base, data, management practices and assumptions used in the timber supply analysis.

The base case scenario generated for the Dawson forest resources management planning area showed that the land can support a 5,000 cubic metres per year timber harvest on Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Settlement Land and a 68,000 cubic metres per year harvest on public land.

Note that the above base case numbers reflect the timber inventory available to harvest sustainably on the land base, however these numbers are not the annual allowable cut. The base case scenario serves as a starting point from which a sensitivity analysis, legislative factors, public and First Nation input will inform the determination of the annual allowable cut, which is a maximum ceiling on harvest that may occur. The annual allowable cut determination will take the place of the existing limit on public land, which is currently 7,000 cubic metres per year.

Information provided during the public engagement phase is intended to inform the public, First Nations and local stakeholders regarding the annual allowable cut decision process. We invite your comments and input regarding the timber supply analysis and other forest management values that will contribute to the annual allowable cut decision.

The annual allowable cut decision will be re-evaluated on a five to ten-year basis, or if significant natural disturbance events influence the new annual allowable cut.

