

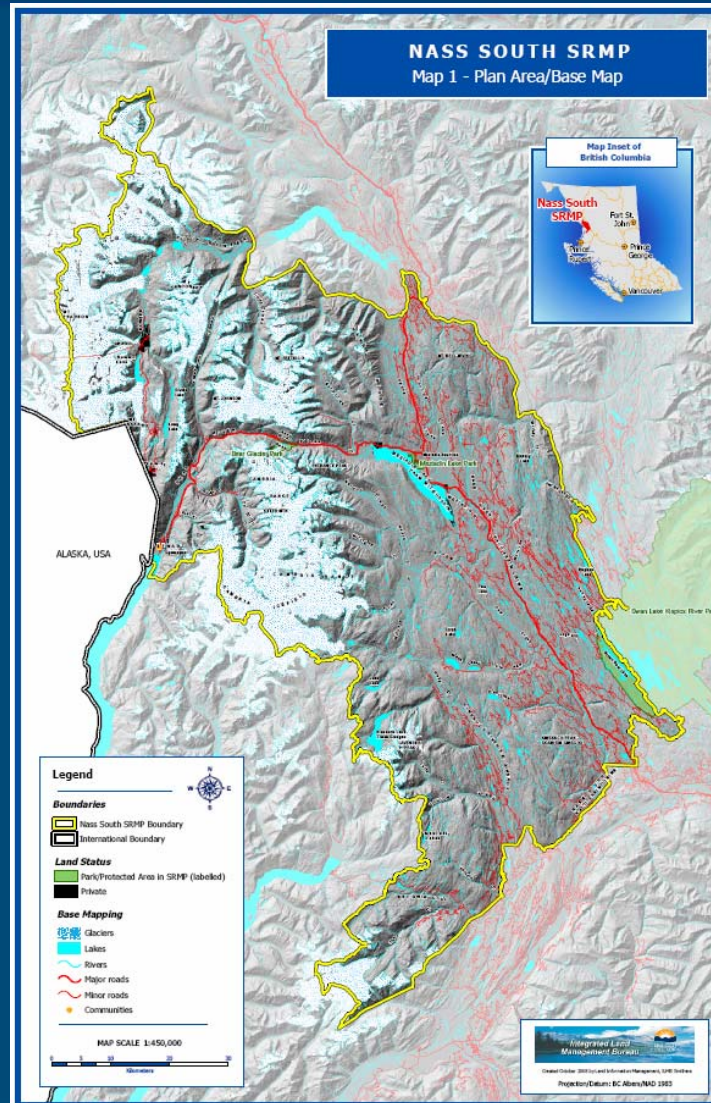


BRITISH
COLUMBIA

The Best Place on Earth

Nass South Sustainable Resource Management Plan (SRMP)

Plan Area



Plan Objectives

- To assist in reaching a broad-based forestry accommodation agreement with the Gitanyow First Nation in keeping with the principles of the New Relationship.
- To fulfil the Province's obligations under the Nisga'a Final Agreement.
- To fulfil legal obligations of the Crown related to the transfer of Skeena Cellulose (Tysoe decision, Dec 2, 2004).
- To promote sustainable forest management in the Nass TSA timber supply through a collaborative planning process with the Gitanyow First Nation, Nisga'a Lisims Government and stakeholders.
- To assist in streamlining subsequent consultation processes by collaborating with Gitanyow and Nisga'a early in the planning cycle.
- To increase certainty for long term access and sustainable development for all resource sectors (e.g. forestry, tourism, mining).

Scope

Resource values addressed by the Nass South SRMP :

- Biodiversity (old growth, seral stage, connectivity-forest ecosystem networks, patch size, stand structure and wildlife tree patch, rare ecosystems)
- Cultural heritage and traditional uses (CMT's, Cedar)
- Fisheries
- Hanna-Tintina Protection
- Pine Mushrooms
- Timber
- Water quality and hydrology
- Wildlife (Grizzly Bear, Moose, Mountain Goat, Fisher, and Northern Goshawk)
- Zoning

Process

- Engaged with Gitanyow and Nisga'a early on in the process.
- Established a TOR with the Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs and a TOR with the Nisga'a Lisims Government.
- SRMP process meetings held with forest licensees and Gitanyow (trust building).
- Obtained agreement by all participants on process and plan format.
- Used Cranberry LUP as basis for Nass South SRMP discussion.
- Forest licensees provided interest statements.
- Developed management direction one resource value at a time.
- Completed a Timber Supply Analysis, Socio Economic Analysis and an Environmental Risk Assessment to assess impacts of proposed resource management direction.

Process (con't)

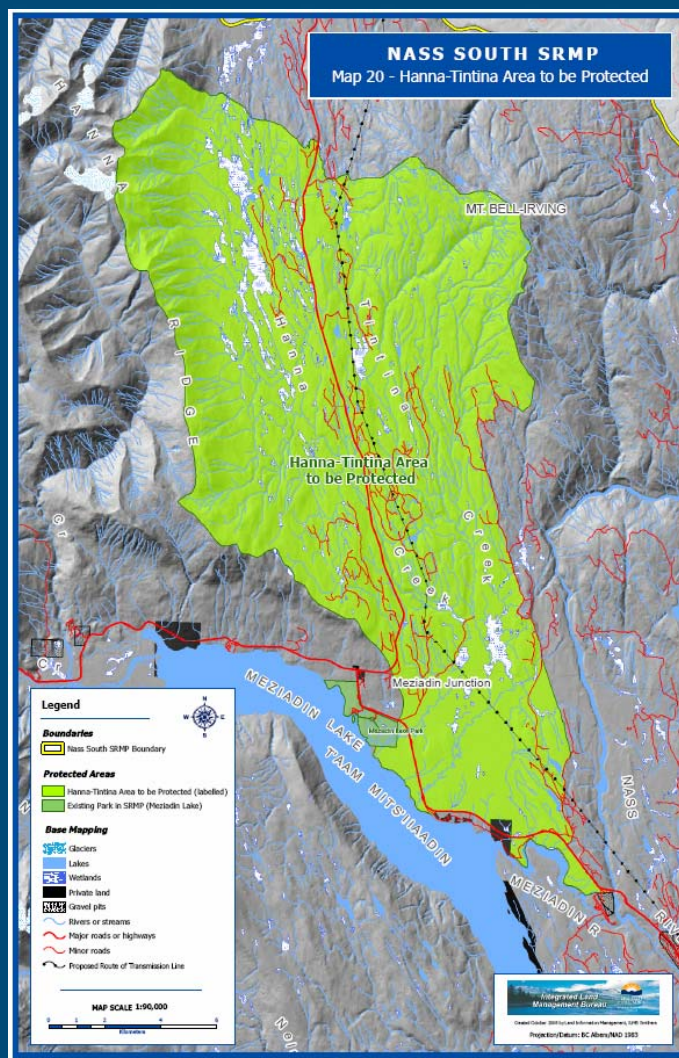
- Completed a public review process (included open houses in a number of communities).
- Seek endorsement of draft SRMP from Gitanyow First Nation, Nisga'a Lisims Government and Stakeholders.
 - Establish a government-to-government agreement with the Gitanyow First Nation (currently underway).
- Forward recommendations for plan approval to the Minister of Forests.
- Establish legal objectives.

Salmon Habitat

Measures established through the Nass South SRMP to preserve salmon habitat.

- Resource management direction directed at maintaining and restoring salmon habitat.
- Resource management direction to preserve water quality and quantity.
 - Erosion
 - Hydrological integrity
 - Management of floodplains and alluvial fans
- Proposing formal protection of the Hanna-Tintina
 - Spawning grounds of 80% of Nass River sockeye
 - Critical grizzly bear habitat
 - Culturally significant area for Gitanyow and Nisga'a.

Proposed Protection



SRMP Outcomes

- Improved relationships (essence of strategic land use planning).
- Common understanding of how resource development will occur.
- Basis for effective consultation with Gitanyow, through the Joint Resources Council, and the Nisga'a Lisims Government through the Joint Fisheries Management Committee and the Wildlife Committee.
- Preservation of critical fish and wildlife habitat.
- Increased land use certainty.