

ŁU ZIL MÄN (FISH LAKE)

LOCAL AREA PLANNING BACKGROUND



Kwanlin Dün First Nation (KDFN) and the Government of Yukon (YG) are developing a local area plan for the Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) area with support from Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (TKC).

What is a Local Area Plan?

Local area plans (LAPs) guide how rural communities in the Yukon are developed, managed and protected for future generations. They recommend lands for different uses based on community values.

Where is the Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) planning area?

The planning area covers about 460-square kilometres, west of Whitehorse in the Traditional Territory of KDFN and TKC. The area includes KDFN Settlement Lands, as well as public and privately owned lands.

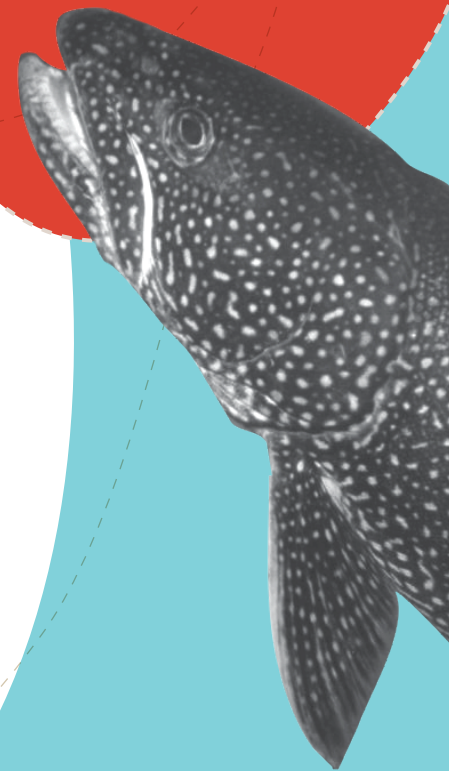
Why is a plan needed?

Joint local area planning between KDFN and YG is recognized in the Kwanlin Dün First Nation Self-Government Agreement. The plan will help YG and KDFN address land use matters in the Fish Lake area through a cooperative process.

How will the plan be developed?

A steering committee, including three KDFN and three YG appointees, has been created to guide the planning process, with support from KDFN and YG planning staff, as well as a contractor.

In Southern Tutchone, Fish Lake is called Łu Zil Män after the round whitefish that spawn there in the fall. Łu Zil Män sounds like Sloo Zill Mun.



Kwanlin Dün First Nation appointees

- Jasmine Bill
- Margaret McKay
- Steven Shorty

Government of Yukon appointees

- Kathy Elliot
- Bengt Pettersson
- Jocelyne Leblanc

Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) area planning update

The steering committee has created a summary report about the Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) area to help guide the planning process. A copy of the report and the full background report are available at kwanlindun.com/fishlakeplan and at yukon.ca/en/fish-lake-local-area-planning

Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) area summary report

The summary report focuses on the connection KDFN and all Yukoners have to the area.

Heritage

Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) is a rich archaeological area with many of the resources yet to be discovered.

Tourism & Recreation

Between 1999 and 2019, tourism grew over 900%, and recreation grew by 400% since 2012.

Land Development

Over the last 100 years, new roads, hydroelectric development, and increasing land use and development have disrupted sustainable living, harvesting and gathering in the area for Yukon First Nations..

Climate change

Research at Wolf Creek Resource Basin shows how climate change will impact lake levels, precipitation and temperatures in the area.

What's happening now?

The steering committee has released a short survey to learn more about community values and vision in the Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) area.

Survey results and feedback on the Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) area summary report will help the committee draft the plan in the fall and winter of 2022/23.

The story of ŁU ZIL MÄN (FISH LAKE)

First Nation families and their ancestors have fished, trapped, hunted, and gathered in the Fish Lake area for at least 5,000-8,000 years. The entire area is important to Yukon First Nations people.



Fish & Wildlife

Wildlife: Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) is an important hunting and trapping area for KDFN. Large and small game species were historically very abundant in the Fish Lake area. Elders have observed a decrease in wildlife populations over the last 100 years due to land development, human activity and climate change.

Fish: Fish populations in Fish, Jackson and Franklin lakes were all affected by the Fish Lake dam and commercial fishing. Elders report that fish are not as large or plentiful today.

