

## LAND USE PLANNING

### ***Introduction***

There are several levels of land use plans created in British Columbia that help define how resources and access to them are managed. The OGC considers land use plan objectives and strategies as an input when reviewing applications. Approval conditions may also reflect plan objectives.

#### ***Muskwa-Kechika Management Area (MKMA)***

The 6.4 million-hectare Muskwa-Kechika Management Area in the Northern Rockies was designated under its own Act in view of its wildlife, wilderness and other resource values. It is a unique combination of protected areas and special management zones. Oil and gas development is allowed in the special management zones subject to conditions identified in a pre-tenure plan. Five oil and gas pre-tenure plans have been completed in the MKMA. The OGC has developed MKMA guidance documents to assist industry in operational planning, application submission and complying with MKMA requirements.

#### ***Land and Resource Management Plans (LRMP)***

Strategic Land and Resource Management Plans were completed in Northeast B.C. in the early 1990s. The Fort Nelson, Fort St. John, and Dawson Creek LRMPs provided greater certainty by creating a series of zones that defined the location of protected areas, special management zones, enhanced development and general management zones with supporting objectives and strategies.

#### ***Sustainable Resource Management Plans (SRMP)***

Sustainable Resource Management Plans are landscape level plans that capture more specific detail about the area's resources. These plans translate the strategic or higher level objectives from LRMPs into more specific resource management direction required for day to day operational decisions. Examples of local level plans in the northeast are the Dunlvey Creek Plan and the Peace Moberly Tract Plan.

### ***Proponents***

Proponents must also consider the objectives and strategies of land use plans when submitting applications to the OGC and when designing and scheduling operational projects and activities. Applications in Special Management Zones require proponents to use strategies and practices that mitigate potential impacts to key values.

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### *Development of Land Use Plans*

The development of land use plan in BC is the primary responsibility of the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB) of the Ministry of Agriculture. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources staff participates in the planning process with technical support from OGC staff.

### *Information:*

**ILMB Website** <http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/lup/index.html>

**Muskwa-Kechika Management Area** <http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/lup/lrmp/northern/mk/index.html>

**Land and Resource Management Plans** <http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/lup/lrmp/index.html>

**Sustainable Resource Management Plans** <http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/lup/srmp/index.html>

*Strategic Land Use Plans in B.C. September 2007*

