

INTRODUCTION TO DETAILED STRATEGIC PLANNING

Detailed Strategic Plans (DSP) are plans that outline how individual First Nations will manage their land base for values important to the community and that provide recommendations for how various Land Use Objectives (LUOs) will be implemented within a First Nation's territory. The values captured in a DSP can include cultural values (e.g. cedar, sites of cultural significance), wildlife, fisheries-sensitive watersheds, old-growth forests, timber, as well as other values. DSPs provide more detail and help to refine the broader land use agreements that were signed between the Province of BC and each of the coastal First Nations.

What are Detailed Strategic Plans

The Detailed Strategic Planning process is an outcome of signed Government-to-Government agreements and individual First Nation Strategic Land Use Protocol Agreements (SLUPAs). Under SLUPAs, the Province and each signatory First Nation have agreed to work collaboratively to develop and implement DSPs to address land use interests that are specific to a Nation's Traditional Territory. Currently 17 DSP processes are underway with First Nations who have signed land use agreements. The target completion date for all DSPs is June 2008 as part of the commitment to implement EBM fully by March 31, 2009.

The process

Each Nation will convene a DSP Working Committee that is tasked with developing the DSP. Representatives on the Working Committee generally include a senior technical representative from the First Nation (this person engages directly with the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands' Integrated Land Management Bureau), representatives from the provincial government (e.g. Ministry of Forests and Range, Ministry of Environment), and in some cases representatives from industry and conservation groups.

As a starting point, the DSP Working Committee reviews the First Nation's Land Use Plan. Recommendations by First Nations representatives on the Committee are informed by community goals and choices. Recommendations by the Province are informed by the Provincial interest and mandate including stakeholders' perspectives (such as industry and conservation groups) if they are not engaged in the DSP process. The Committee develops different scenarios that are put into computer models, which help to create the final recommendations for a DSP, which will include a map and a report explaining the rationale for the DSP.

The first phase of the process is "Initial DSP planning", which involves the following technical steps:

1. **Computer Analysis.** A computer model determines timber supply analysis for each First Nation's territory. The analysis considers the following situations on the territory's land base and produces resulting timber supply for each "scenario": pre-EBM, conservancies only (e.g. no logging), land use objectives, and other considerations.

2. Community Level DSP Planning. At this stage, the community develops their objectives for managing cultural, fish, wildlife and old-growth resources. Discussions may be held with other interest groups, such as conservation sector and forest companies, to inform the community's input.
3. Re-run Computer Analysis. Scenarios developed from community input and planning will be run through additional modelling. Regional analysis for the whole coast plan area will be made available to the DSP working committee for consideration.

The second phase of the process is "Testing Community and Regional Level Scenarios" where the province rolls up recommendations from each First Nation into higher-scale analysis (eg Timber Supply Area, other Management Unit, Ecosection or Region) in order to analyse potential impact/benefit at this higher scale, and the extent to which the recommendations match the land use agreements, LRMP recommendations and the provincial mandate.

The third phase of the process is "Recommendations presented", where recommendations from the Committee are made to the Province to be considered for final Land Use Objectives. Those recommendations that cannot be implemented will be referred back to each First Nation for further discussion/negotiation, in accordance with the Government-to-Government agreements.

Outcomes of the DSP process

A final DSP will include the following:

- Land Use Zones and related management objectives
- Planning Unit boundaries
- Fisheries-sensitive watersheds
- Old-growth management objectives
- Cultural objectives, including cedar
- Wildlife management objectives
- Analysis of long-term timber supply