

# Lands Engagement Division

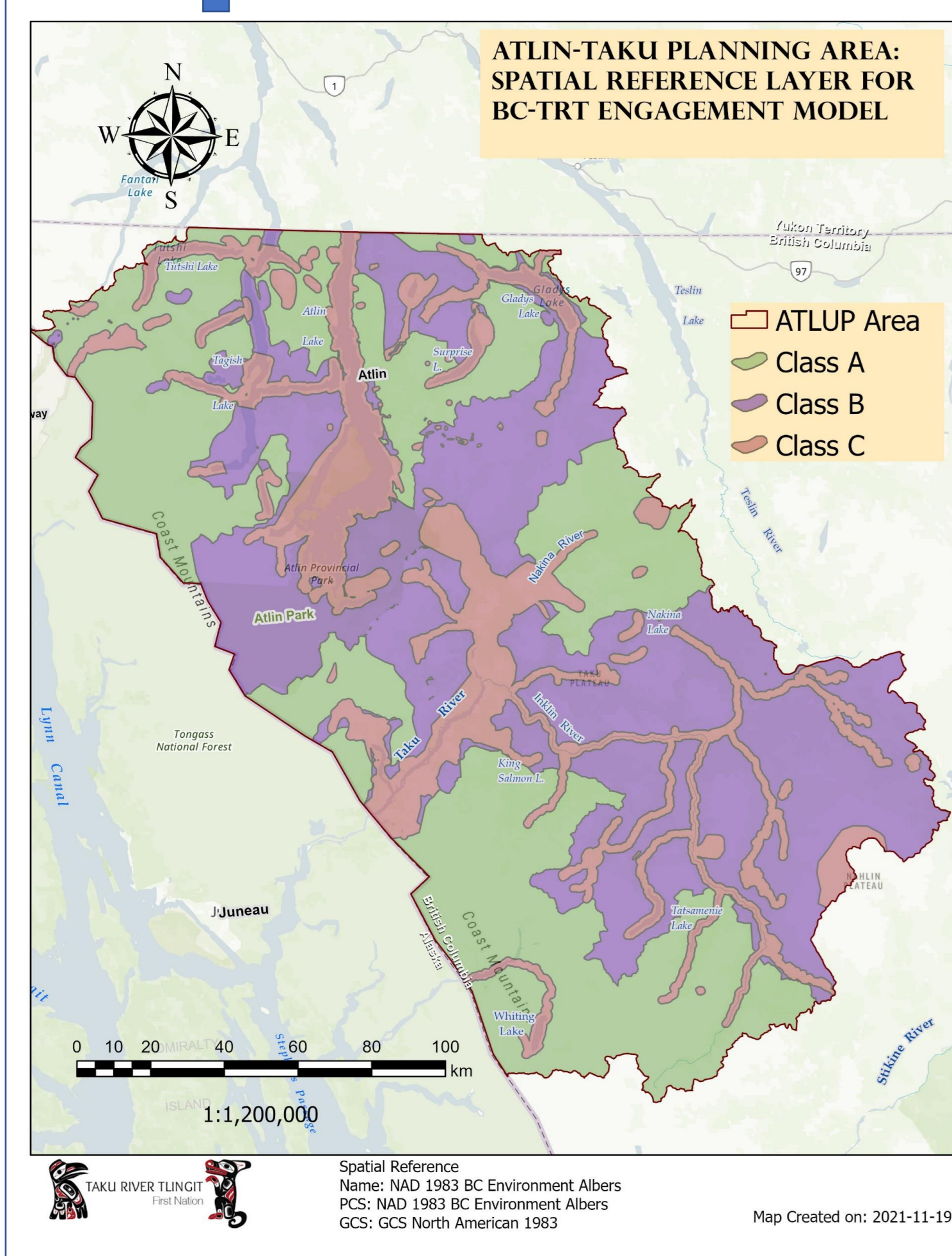
## ~ General Division Activities ~

### The Engagement Model - The fundamentals

One major component of the *Wóoshtin Yan Too.Aat Land And Resource Management and Shared Decision Making Agreement* between the Province of BC and TRTFN (BC-TRTFN G2G Agreement) is the mutually agreed on **Engagement Model**. The Engagement Model allows both BC and TRTFN, specifically the TRTFN Lands Engagement Officer (LEO), to determine in a clear and predictable way which level of engagement is adequate for a particular land use, and what the procedure and timeline should be to discuss potential benefits and impacts of this land use.

As shown in the **Engagement Matrix**, there are four levels of engagement – the higher the level the longer and more in-depth the engagement process will be. The level of engagement depends on the location of the proposed project (**Spatial Reference Layer**) and how sensitive this location is, and on the type/intensity of the proposed activity (**Activity Table**).

Engagement Matrix				
Category	Activity Type			
	I	II	III	IV
A	Level 1	Level 2	Level 2	Level 4
B	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
C	Level 2	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4



Activity Tables				
General and Sector Specific Activity Types				
	Activity Type I	Activity Type II	Activity Type III	Activity Type IV
Mineral Exploration	Non-mechanized activities legally permitted without provincial authorization including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exploration grid lines with no felling of trees (except danger trees)</li> <li>Prospect/ghost sampling without the use of explosives</li> <li>Geochronal surveys</li> </ul>	Mechanized mineral exploration work in previously undisturbed areas, including one or more of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drilling, trenching, or test pitting with or without the use of explosives</li> <li>Reopening of existing roads or trails within or to the mineral property provided that such roads have been actively used within the previous 15 years</li> <li>Camp established in previously undisturbed area</li> <li>Geophysical survey including energized electrodes</li> <li>Underground exploration with no new surface dumps</li> <li>Mineral exploration, placer, or construction appropriate on private land</li> <li>Existing placer mining operations</li> <li>Helicopter supported drilling requiring no felling of trees</li> </ul>	Mechanized mineral exploration work in previously undisturbed areas, including one or more of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New drill pads</li> <li>Trenching or test pitting with or without the use of explosives</li> <li>Construction of new roads or trails within or to the mineral property or the reopening of pre-existing roads that have been inactive for more than 15 years</li> <li>Camp established in previously undisturbed area</li> <li>Bulk sample less than 1,000 tonnes of mineralized rock or 5,000 tonnes of coal</li> <li>Underground exploration with new surface dumps</li> <li>New dimensions stone quarry</li> </ul>	Mechanized mineral exploration work with potentially significant water quality or other impacts, including one or more of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New or reopened roads with known access issues</li> <li>New access development linking property to existing road system where previously property was only or water accessible</li> <li>Bulk sample greater than 1000 tonnes of mineralized rock or 5000 tonnes of coal</li> <li>Construction of a pilot plant</li> <li>New underground development for mineral exploration purposes</li> <li>New placer mining operations on previously undisturbed ground</li> </ul>
Development	Portable camp established for no more than two weeks at any given location	Geophysical survey including energized electrodes	Underground exploration with no new surface dumps	Advanced mechanized work including mine development, sport hunting takes up by the Northwest Mine Development Committee
	Emergency measures required for the protection of life and property (to follow up report may be provided upon request)	Emergency measures required for the protection of life and property (to follow up report may be provided upon request)	Emergency measures required for the protection of life and property (to follow up report may be provided upon request)	Any industrial access into the 'Take Watershed'

The **Spatial Reference Layer** (see map on left) was created based on values, such as critical aquatic habitat, salmon ecosystem management zones, cultural and archaeological sites, rare and sensitive ecosystems, Tlatsini areas and Area-Specific Resource Management Zones. Depending on how many of these values fall within a specific area, the area was classified as highly sensitive and assigned Category Class C. Category Class A is therefore the least sensitive.

The **Activity Table** (see table above) shows Activity Types 0 to IV for general activities as well as for sector specific activities, such as Mineral Exploration & Development, Land Tenuring, Wildlife Management, Protected Areas and Forestry. The table above just shows an excerpt; the full table can be found in the BC-TRTFN G2G Agreement.

### The Engagement Model - How does it work in practice?

Any application for a land use that requires a permit, tenure or license and that is proposed on TRTFN traditional territory is subject to the Engagement Model. Both BC and TRTFN can initiate engagement, which means sending all relevant information and documents about a proposed land use to the other party. Once the other party has received this engagement package, the review and engagement process starts. Depending on the level of engagement, the engagement process may take 5 work days (for Level 1) or last 50 work days (Level 3) or even longer if more time is required. An Engagement Level 4 can only be determined by the TRTFN and BC G2G Co-Chairs if they both agree that the establishment of a Joint Working Group is required to work through the issue at hand.

When the TRTFN LEO receives an engagement package and reviews the proposed land use she will be communicating with the assigned BC Ministry representative and in many cases also with the proponent in order to get a better understanding about the proposed project/activity. Using a mapping program, also referred to as geographic information system (GIS), the LEO can make spatial assessments about the proposed land use and values that are part of the *Wóoshtin Wudidáa* Atlin-Taku Land Use Plan (ATLUP), such as TRTFN cultural sites, critical wildlife habitat (moose, goat, sheep, grizzly, and caribou), Salmon Ecosystem Management Zones, Protected Areas, and Area-Specific Resource Management Zones. The ATLUP provides objectives and implementation direction for these values and zones, which the LEO uses to determine whether the proposed land use complies with the ATLUP and to formulate recommendations in regards to permit conditions.

### What has happened since the signing of the BC-TRTFN G2G Agreement in 2011?

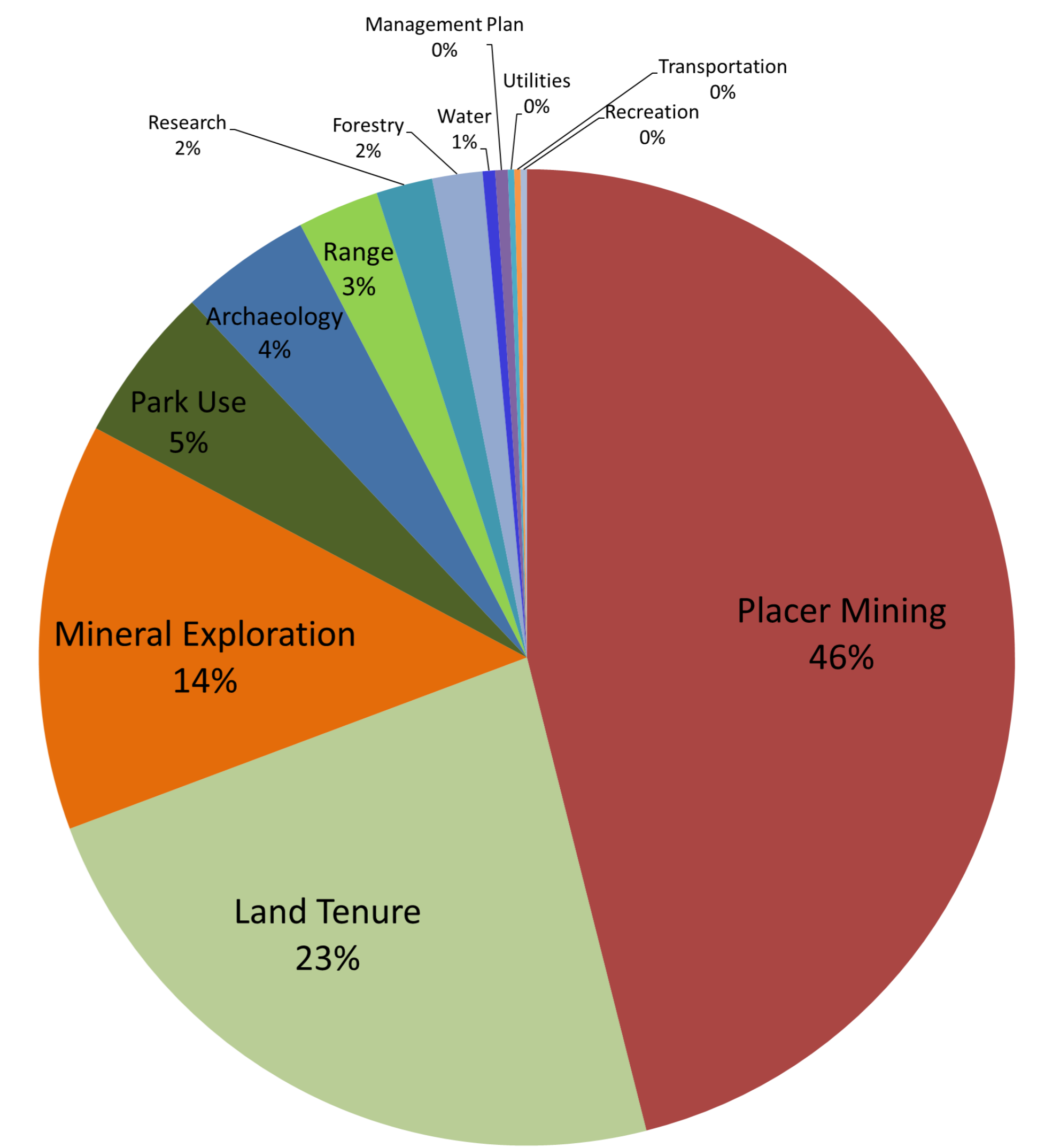
Since the signing of the BC-TRTFN G2G Agreement in 2011, in TRTFN's database a total of 482 land use applications have been recorded to have been processed by the LEO. As the pie chart on the right indicates, almost half (46 %) of those applications were from the placer mining sector.

The majority of land use applications (90 %) are processed as Engagement Level 1 or Level 2. Only 27 applications (5.6 %) have been processed as Engagement Level 3 since 2011. Across all engagement levels, the engagement process takes 22 days on average. Per year, the number of land use applications processed ranges between 40 and 60.

In 80 % of cases, the recommendations generated by the engagement process were fully or mostly adhered to, e.g., they were adopted as permit conditions or included in the permit letter. The LEO continuously works on ensuring that consensus recommendations actually translate in tangible, positive outcomes for TRTFN.

In the lifetime of the G2G Agreement, only one Level 4 Working Group has been established so far, which was surrounding the environmental impact assessment, access and authorizations associated with the proposed Tulsequah Chief Mine.

### Since 2011: 482 land use applications processed



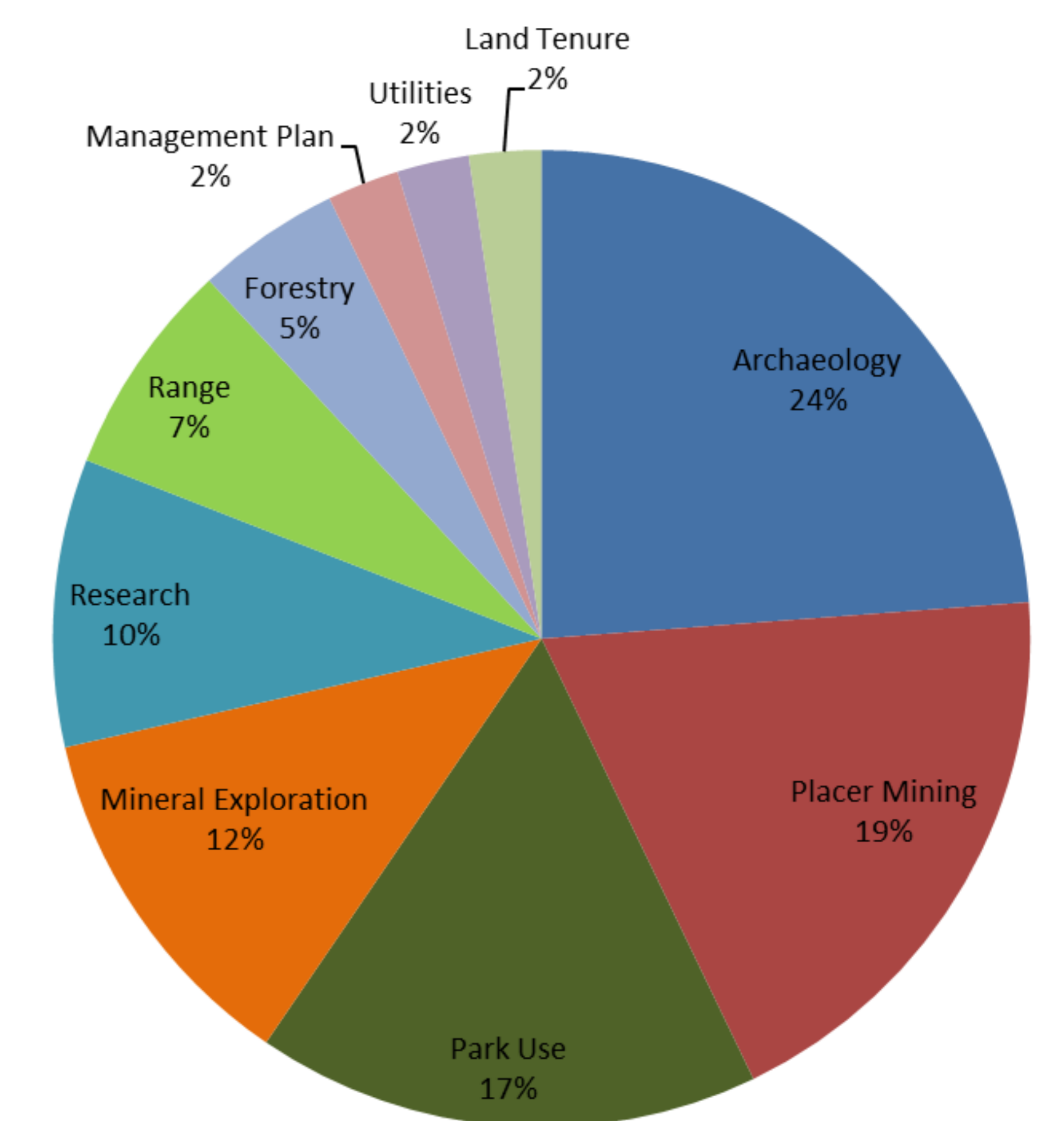
### Update from the year 2021

In the year 2021, a total of 42 land use applications across various sectors (e.g., archaeology, placer mining etc.) were processed in the TRTFN Lands Department. The pie chart on the right shows the various types of sectors TRTFN Lands has received applications for in 2021, and their respective shares in percentage.

Prior to 2021, the LEO was responsible for all land use applications regardless of the type of land use the application was for. Since 2021, we have re-arranged this workload by splitting the applications into mining and non-mining land use applications. The LEO remains responsible for all non-mining applications, however, all mining applications – specifically placer mining and mineral exploration – are covered by the Mining Engagement Officer. Therefore, questions pertaining to mining applications should be brought to the Mining Division.

Usually, placer mining and mineral exploration make up the largest share among all received applications. However, for 2021, the picture looks slightly different. More archaeology applications were processed, because a number of proponents (e.g., mine companies and THELP) are looking to conduct archaeological assessments to collect data on the current archaeological status of an area. They need to know what archaeological resources are currently existing and where, so these sites can be adequately protected if their project was to go ahead. Further, the wildfire season of 2021 caused staffing issues across the board, which is one reason why a lot of placer mining applications ended up backlogged in BC's system and thus have not made their way yet to TRTFN Lands yet. A number of BC-TRTFN joint inspections have been conducted during 2021 – several with the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI), one with BC Parks regarding unauthorized structures in Taku River/Taku River/T'akú Téix' Conservancy, and one with the Range Officer and Natural Resource Officer from BC Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) to investigate grazing licenses and associated fences in the Atlin area. Further, during 2021 the LEO has been heavily involved in the review of the proposed Atlin Hydro Expansion Project. TRTFN Lands has established the Project Review Group (PRG), which at its core consists of the LEO, an appointed Elder, and two Whitehorse-based consultants, to support the technical review for this project.

### For 2021: 42 land use applications processed



TAKU RIVER TLINGIT  
First Nation

