



## Crown Land Road Use Policy

### Background

Issues surrounding recreational use of motor vehicles on forest access roads represent one of the greatest sources of conflict. Unrestricted road access degrades remoteness and resource quality and threatens the existence of many businesses. The issue impacts all businesses, including those that are road based. Delays and conflict associated with resolving access issues during Forest Management Planning represent significant costs to the forest industry, tourism and government ministries. As new activities, such as ATVing emerge, threats to existing activities will increase and opportunities within these newer activities will be lost if a regulatory framework is not developed.

- Although certain protections exist for tourism values, through the RSA process and other mechanism, conflict and delays remain
- Current mechanisms are localized and fail to plan over a wide area
- The entire process must be repeated for each area under consideration

### Policies

NOTO advocates development of a regulatory structure for Recreational Road Access based on the following:

- This framework would regulate only the recreational use of motorized vehicles. Legitimate commercial resource activities such as mining, forestry, prospecting trapping etc, would not be affected.
- The policy would apply equally to all recreational users, whether tourists or local recreational users
- For recreational purposes, broad areas would be designated either **Roaded** or **Functionally Roadless**
- No recreational use of motor vehicles would be permitted in **Functionally Roadless** areas
- **Roaded** areas would be managed to increase the diversity, quantity and quality of road based recreational experiences
- **Roadless** areas would be managed to increase the diversity, quantity and quality of remote recreational experiences
- The tourism industry, forestry and local recreational users would work with government to plan and develop this framework

*Adopted by the NOTO Board of Directors February 7, 2005.*

*Review Date:* \_\_\_\_\_