

# Socio-Economic Assessment of the Sahoyúé-?ehdacho Candidate Protected Area

## Background Information and Preliminary Assessment

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### 1. Introduction

Sahoyúé-?ehdacho National Historic Site is comprised of two large peninsulas on the western side of Great Bear Lake. While the designation as a national historic site recognizes the importance of the historic, cultural and traditional value of this area for the Sahtu Dene, it does not protect the surface and subsurface rights to the land. Because of this shortcoming in the protection, the community of Deline applied for formal protection of the site under the Northwest Territories Protected Areas Strategy (NWT – PAS). The community and two ENGOs, World Wildlife Fund Canada and the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society – NWT Chapter, worked closely with the NWT - PAS Secretariat to develop a proposal for the more complete protection of the National Historic Site that was more in keeping with the wishes of the community.

The Northwest Territories Protected Areas Strategy is was developed by regional Aboriginal organizations, the federal and territorial governments, environmental non-governmental organizations, and industry. The NWT-PAS is a balanced approach that allows communities to make land use decisions by including the best available traditional, ecological, cultural and economic knowledge. It allows communities to benefit from both conservation and development, and provides a way for communities to work in partnership to permanently protect important natural and cultural areas for future generations.

The NWT-PAS is an eight step process for planning and establishing protected areas:

- Step 1 Identify priority areas of interest;
- Step 2 Prepare and review the protected area proposal at regional level;
- Step 3 Review and submission of the proposal for consideration as a candidate protected area;
- Step 4 Consider/apply interim protection to the candidate area;
- Step 5 Evaluate the candidate area;
- Step 6 Seek formal establishment of the protected area;
- Step 7 Approve and designate the protected area;
- Step 8 Implement, monitor and review the protected area.

The fifth step of the process evaluates the area's ecological, cultural and economic values associated with the candidate protected area.

The socio-economic assessment's purpose is to "assess the social and economic effects associated with the potential establishment of protected areas under the NWT-PAS in order to contribute to make informed decisions about the designation of any protected area and its boundaries<sup>1</sup>."

The specific objectives of the socio-economic assessment are:

1. To describe and quantify the socio-economic implications of establishing protected areas in an effective, timely and cost-efficient manner;
2. To identify and describe the effects that protected area establishment can have upon the people and economy in the proposed protected area as well as in local/nearby communities and the territory with available knowledge at the time;
3. To improve the state of knowledge concerning socio-economic values for Sahoyúé-?ehdacho; and
4. To coordinate and standardize the activities of government agencies, communities and other stakeholders involved in planning and implementing socio-economic assessment activities for Sahoyúé-?ehdacho.

This report on the socio-economic impacts associated with the permanent protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho is an integral part of this fifth step of the PAS process. This report complements assessments that have been completed or are underway concerning the cultural values, non-renewable resources, renewable resources and ecological features of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho.

The purpose of this report is to provide a review of existing, documented information on socio-economic issues and values, to provide an assessment of the information, and to identify and evaluate any knowledge gaps<sup>2</sup>. However, the socio-economic assessment process also involves consultations with stakeholders to discuss issues of importance to those most directly affected and to ensure all socio-economic impacts are brought to light<sup>3</sup>.

The legitimacy and importance of socio-economic assessment within the territory is highlighted in a recent report<sup>4</sup> by the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB). This board report describes and discussed many local peoples' concerns regarding major developments within the territory. Many of the concerns centre on the socio-economic impacts associated with development and the real desire to have an influence on how the future of their land unfolds and who benefits from such development.

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<sup>1</sup> Socio-Economic Assessment Guidelines, NWT-PAS, Draft, March 2005

<sup>2</sup> Section VII, pages 5 – 10, Socio-Economic Assessment Guidelines, NWT-PAS, Draft, March 2005

<sup>3</sup> Within the timeframe given for the preparation of this report, it was not possible to arrange sufficient consultations with stakeholders. The information contained in this report, therefore, should be viewed as preliminary.

<sup>4</sup> Community Visits 2005, Raising the Bar for Socio-Economic Impact Assessment, A report on what communities told us, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, Yellowknife. [www.mveirb.nt.ca](http://www.mveirb.nt.ca).

With almost a quarter of the communities visited<sup>5</sup> in the Sahtu Settlement Area (SSA), it is reasonable to assume that the concerns expressed in that report reflect many of those of residents of the area being studied for this socio-economic assessment of the Sahoyúé-?ehdacho Candidate Protected Area. The key findings related to socio-economic assessment are presented in Appendix 1.

The Report on Cultural Values for Sahoyúé-?ehdacho National Historic Site<sup>6</sup> indicated that there has been human occupation within the site “. . . dating back to more than 5000 years<sup>7</sup>.” This means that there have been socio-economic activities occurring in the area for a very long time. In relative terms, this study will attempt to document only relatively very recent human activities in and around the site and how protecting the area may affect future socio-economic activities.

Since it is important to understand the details of the proposal for protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho, the following section presents a summary of many of the key features of the protected area proposal for Sahoyúé-?ehdacho.

## 1.1 Sahoyúé-?ehdacho Candidate Protected Area

The creation of a permanently protected Sahoyúé-?ehdacho area has been proposed primarily by the Sahtugot'ine, the people of Great Bear Lake, who mostly reside in Déline. The proposal calls for the protection of the two peninsular areas – Sahoyúé (Grizzly Bear Mountain) and ?ehdacho (Scented Grass Hills) – through the permanent designation of Crown land areas under the Historic Sites and Monuments Act (and other appropriate legislation), and a permanent withdrawal under the Territorial Lands Act of mineral and sub-surface rights on Crown lands as well as some Sahtu private lands. The land withdrawal has been sponsored by Parks Canada. The legal or statutory mechanisms to include the Sahtu private lands portion within the protected area to ensure a consistent approach to management still require further specification. Funding for the development, management and operations of this protected area is expected to come primarily through Parks Canada, under a preferred management approach. However, Parks Canada has indicated that funding could come from other sources as well in order to pay for any and all developments and programs<sup>8</sup>.

Key features relating to the management and development of the candidate protected area include the following:

- the area would be co-managed by Parks Canada and an appropriate Deline organization;
- the Deline organization involved in management would be actively involved in day-to-day operations;

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<sup>5</sup> Four of the thirteen communities visited were Deline, Fort Good Hope, Norman Wells and Tulita.

<sup>6</sup> Report on Cultural Values for Sahoyúé-?ehdacho National Historic Site, GeoNorth Limited and Hanks Heritage Consulting, 2003.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid*, page 6

<sup>8</sup> E. Couthard, personal communication, February 20, 2006.

- there would be continued harvesting of renewable resources in the areas, as per the Sahtu Land Claim Agreement;
- a teaching centre would be established at Sahoyúé-?ehdacho;
- community and school-based teaching would complement the land-based teaching of Sahtugotine culture;
- there would be a “learning Centre” in Deline for documentation, research, display, etc. including healing aspects related to the sites;
- traditional trails on the sites would be mapped and maintained;
- eco-tourism and other forms of economic development consistent with the ecological and cultural integrity of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho would be encouraged and supported; and
- complementary elements of eco-tourism and cultural tourism would be developed in other areas of the Great Bear Lake watershed<sup>9</sup>.

It is anticipated that the creation of the permanently protected area would result in tourism growth over time. This would lead to educational, spiritual and other experiential benefits being obtained from the protected area by non-local people. However, the prime beneficiaries of the protected area in the short and long term are expected to be the Sahtugotine.

This proposal will require a significant financial commitment from the Sponsoring Agency. Several estimates have been suggested, the most recent of which is a maximum of \$1 million per year<sup>10</sup>. Parks Canada is currently seeking approval for a new budget allocation in order to acquire the site, to negotiate a protected area agreement with Déline, and to provide for ongoing funding for the protected area.

The socio-economic assessment contained here describes and discusses the impacts that might be expected from the development of such a permanently protected area.

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<sup>9</sup> Tom Nesbitt, One Trail: Facilitator’s Report on the Sahyoue and Edacho Directions-Confirming Workshop (November 8-10/05), December 17, 2005. Appendix 4, Page 21.

<sup>10</sup> Alan Fehr, personal communication, April, 2006.

## 2. Study Area

It can be difficult to define the boundaries for the study of socio-economic impacts: people are mobile and all economies have linkages that go beyond the strict boundaries of the land area being considered for protection. Indeed, it is frequently the type and intensity of the activities and developments occurring outside a protected area that can have a substantial impact upon the character and features of evolution that occur within the protected area. While there is no doubt as to the physical boundaries set for the Sahoyúé-?ehdacho candidate protected area, there can be discussion about the socio-economic impact area of assessment.

In the case of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho, the primary study area is defined by the area of influence of the Candidate Protected Area. While it could be argued that this could be large in scope, a somewhat more focussed definition of the study area is needed for practical analytical purposes. One of the criteria that can be used is based on identifying the primary users of the area, or those for whom the area has most significance. The Sahoyúé-?ehdacho Candidate Protected Area has significance in the Sahtugotine culture and knowledge base. To quote from the recent facilitator's report on the November 2005 Workshop - "Sahyoue and Edacho are teaching, healing and spiritual places, essential to the cultural well-being of the Sahtugot'ine, . . .<sup>11</sup>"

The Candidate Protected Area of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho is shown in Figure 1. Also shown in this figure (grey shaded area) is the Sahtu Settlement Area (SSA). While the specific site of Sahoyúé and ?edacho forms the basis for assessment, it is the Sahtu Settlement Area that will be used as the primary extended area of assessment for socio-economic impacts. A series of broader assessment perspectives of the socio-economic impacts will be adopted at the end of this report when the identified impacts are assessed from four different perspectives (Deline, SSA, NWT and Canada).

According to the Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement, the SSA study area comprises 280,238 square kilometres of which the agreement entitled the Sahtu Dene and Metis to 41,437 square kilometres of land. The Candidate Protected Area account for 14.2% of this latter land area – approximately 5,900 square kilometres.

Within this Sahtu Settlement Area, there are five communities: Deline, Tulita, Norman Wells, Fort Good Hope and Colville Lake. While the majority of the resource use and spiritual/cultural significance of the Sahoyúé-?ehdacho is experienced by residents of Deline, all five communities within the Sahtu Settlement Area will form the primary area used for this assessment. However, since Deline is the community closest to the protected area and since the effort to gain permanent protection for Sahoyúé-?ehdacho has been sought by the people of Deline, this community will have special significance in the assessment of socio-economic impacts.

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<sup>11</sup> Tom Nesbitt, One Trail: Facilitator's Report on the Sahyoue and Edacho Directions-Confirming Workshop (November 8-10/05), December 17, 2005. Page 2.

Insert Figure 1

(Same figure as in Ecological Assessment Report, currently a PDF)

### 3. Study Methods

The review of many documents generated an understanding of the area, its significance and the ways in which protection of the Candidate Protected Area is being considered. Also part of this process was the development of an understanding of the type of development and program that might be associated with the protection package and plans which are important for the assessment of socio-economic impacts.

#### 3.1 Data Collection and Review

A wide variety of different information sources was used as part of this assessment: Appendix 2 contains a listing of the documents reviewed in detail. In general terms these documents included statistical bulletins from the GNWT Bureau of Statistics, other completed and draft assessments of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho, workshop and meeting reports, and other documentation from public and private organizations. In addition, an extensive search of the internet was conducted and a number of reports, documents and webpages were downloaded for review. Some of the internet sites accessed related to specific commercial establishments in the area, outfitters, guiding services, air transportation, First Nations and other relevant sites.

A series of interviews was arranged to obtain input from individuals with an intimate and recent knowledge of the area. The people interviewed also had knowledge of the current process of protecting Sahoyúé-?ehdacho and had valuable perspectives in understanding the protected area establishment. The NWT-PAS Secretariat prepared a list of sixteen resource people to be contacted by the consultant (see Appendix 3). An e-mail message was sent to each of these individuals, explaining the study's purpose and requesting their input. The message also included a series of questions to indicate the type of information being sought. Unfortunately, many individuals on the list were unable to be contacted by telephone and not all those contacted were able to participate in the study. The timeframe for the study did not allow for extensive follow-up or repeated calls to those who were not available for a telephone interview after several attempts.

Those contacted and who were willing to speak with the consultants included the following:

- Walter Bayha, Councillor, Deline Dene Band
- Tom Nesbitt, Consultant to Sahoyúé-?ehdacho Working Group
- Kris Johnson, NWT-PAS Advisor, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
- Alan Fehr, Western Arctic Field Unit Superintendent, Parks Canada
- Ed Coulthard, Southwest NWT Field Unit, Parks Canada
- Erica Janes, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, NWT Chapter
- Karen LeGresley Hamre, Consultant to NWT-PAS, Yellowknife
- James Lariviere, Northern Geoscience Centre

These individuals provided valuable input that assisted with an appreciation of the social, economic and cultural values associated with the study area. Many of their comments and suggestions are integrated into the report.

### 3.2 Review and Analysis of Information

All the information was reviewed with respect to its applicability and relevance to generating an understanding, description or perspective to the socio-economic characteristics and features of the candidate protected area and the primary study area (SSA). In other words, all the documentation, internet searches and interviews were directed to gathering data with a social and/or economic significance to the study area. Social and economic statistics were gathered that could then be interpreted to describe the dynamics of the socio-economic activities in the area; documents were reviewed with a view to collecting valuable perspectives on social and economic parameters within the study area that related to the candidate protected area; and interviews sought collaboration on what had been learned from other sources as well as to add new information, perspectives and nuances to the other information collected.

The other resource assessments were important sources of information since they described and quantified resource availability, use and, to some extent, value within the candidate protected area. These other reports also identified important cultural and resource features that provided some direction for the socio-economic assessment.

The following chapter presents the socio-economic information collected and analyzed.

## 4. Area Socio-Economic Features

Although it was stated in the Introduction to this report that socio-economic impacts involve more than statistics on various economic characteristics within the area, these statistics do provide a context and background necessary for understanding area socio-economic dynamics. This chapter starts, however, with a description of the significance of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho.

### 4.1 The Significance of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho

The Sahtugot'ine (Bear Lake People) consider their land to be sacred. Sahoyúé-?ehdacho National Historic Site is especially important in Sahtugotine culture and traditional knowledge since the area features so prominently in their oral history. Through oral history and continued traditional use of these two peninsulas, Sahoyúé-?ehdacho vividly represent the relationship between the people and the land.

Sahoyúé-?ehdacho contain much of the heritage of the Sahtugotine. However, it is more than just a representation of heritage and the bond between the people and the land. It is through Sahoyúé-?ehdacho that the people define who they are and can pass on the knowledge and tradition to the next generation. The teaching, healing and spiritual aspects of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho are recognized as integral parts of the Sahtugot'ine culture<sup>12</sup>.

As a National Historic Site the significance of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho has been recognized as being of national stature. The Commemorative Integrity Statement, developed by Parks Canada in cooperation with the Deline Dene Band and the Deline Land Corporation, describes the cultural values “. . . – expressed through the inter-relationship between landscape, oral histories, graves and cultural resources, such as trails and cabins – help explain and contribute to an understanding of the origin, spiritual values, lifestyle and land-use of the *Sahtugotine*.<sup>13</sup>” While Sahoyúé-?ehdacho is of the most direct significance to the Sahtugot'ine, its importance also extends to people living in the entire Sahtu Settlement Area. The significance of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho, however, extends beyond the people for whom it has the most direct cultural and traditional importance to encompass the broader Canadian society.

### 4.2 Governments and Stakeholders

With the coming into effect of the Sahtu Dene and Metis Land Claim Settlement Act in 1993, hunting and fishing rights of the Sahtu Dene and Metis were confirmed and their exclusive trapping rights were established throughout the Sahtu Settlement Area, including

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<sup>12</sup> Report on Cultural Values for Sahoyúé-?ehdacho National Historic Site, GeoNorth Limited and Hanks Heritage Consulting, 2003.

<sup>13</sup> Parks Canada, Commemorative Integrity Statement, 2000.

Sahoyúé-?ehdacho NHS. The Act also guaranteed the Sahtu Dene and Metis participation in institutions of public government for renewable resource management, land use planning and land and water use in the SSA, and participation in environmental impact assessment and review in the Mackenzie Valley. Given these agreements, administrative structures and processes were put in place by which the other levels of government and the Sahtu Dene and Metis could co-manage renewable and environmental resources.

The designation as a National Historic Site currently does not imply major management responsibilities by Parks Canada, nor does it protect the land from inappropriate or unwanted use, such as mining and exploration. However, in 2000 the area was withdrawn by the federal Cabinet under the authority of the Territorial Lands Act for a period of five years, as requested by PAS Sponsoring Agency, Parks Canada, in order to allow for permanent protection to be sought through the NWT-PAS. This was a step which effectively excluded any economic or other development from occurring on these lands during the period of the withdrawal. In 2005 the federal Cabinet extended the land withdrawal until November 2010, extending temporary protection of the area. It is during this time in withdrawal that the PAS process is being completed, and discussions and negotiations are occurring between Parks Canada and various governing bodies overseeing the area.

#### 4.2.1 Governing Organizations

As a National Historic Site falling within the Deline District of the SSA, Sahoyúé-?ehdacho is not only of management interest to Parks Canada but also to various local resource-related boards and administrative/planning organizations. Among these are:

- ✓ Deline First Nation
- ✓ Sahtu Land Use Planning Board
- ✓ Sahtu Land and Water Board
- ✓ Sahtu Renewable Resources Board
- ✓ Deline Renewable Resource Council
- ✓ Deline Land Corporation

While there are many federal and territorial departments and organizations that could have an interest or role in the development of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho, the key organizations with a role in the permanent protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho are:

1. Deline First Nation
2. Deline Land Corporation
3. Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT
4. Parks Canada
5. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

The following brief description of the mandates and responsibilities of the First Nations, territorial, federal and other governing bodies involved in the protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho is meant to provide an overview of their roles and possible involvement in the creation of a permanently protected area.

#### Deline First Nation<sup>14</sup>

Deline means "where the waters flow", a reference to the headwaters of the Great Bear River, Sahtu De. The river drains Great Bear Lake, an area of 33,857 km<sup>2</sup>, straddling the Arctic Circle. Deline is located 544 km northwest of Yellowknife and has a population of about 600. Deline was known as Fort Franklin until 1993, when the Sahtu Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement was signed. That year the people of Deline reclaimed their own name for the community.

The Deline Dene Band Council manages the affairs of the Community of Deline, as well as the Charter Community of Deline.

The Council delivers and supports a wide range of programs that, among others, includes the following:

- Deline Economic Development
- Justice Committee Program
- Basic Awareness Program
- Language Enhancement Program
- Community Coordinator
- Youth Program

The Deline leadership sees its mandate as:

- ✓ promoting long-term social, economic, and political interests of the community,
- ✓ delivering a broad range of local organization services, consistent with available resources,
- ✓ building the community capacity to grow.

Council sees this mandate as a movement towards enhancing the day-to-day life of individuals, strengthening community organization, delivering their programs effectively, and building economic and job opportunities.

Community leadership is also committed to active involvement with regional and territorial institutions and agencies involved in the political, economic, and social life of the NWT. The council has supported the permanent protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho as a traditional and cultural resource<sup>15</sup>.

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<sup>14</sup> Most of the information presented was extracted from the website for Deline First Nation.

<sup>15</sup> Personal communication Walter Bayha.

### Deline Land Corporation

The Corporation is one of the governing bodies set up to administer the Sahtu claim for the community of Deline. The Corporation administers the income from the Sahtu Trust, and serves as negotiator for implementation of Self Government. The Corporation also is involved in any decisions concerning land use in the claim area: members completed an impact benefit agreement with Parks Canada, concerning Tukut Nogait National Park which are in traditional land use areas, and negotiated and look after special areas including Sahoyúé-?ehdacho National Historic Site. Recent activities include research into feasibility of the Bear River Hydro Development.

### Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT

This department has a mission which states:

“Our children will inherit a secure future that relies on a healthy environment capable of supporting traditional lifestyles within a modern economy built on the strengths of our people and the wise use and protection of our natural resources providing communities and individuals with opportunities to be productive and self-reliant.” (departmental website)

The NWT-PAS is managed by a Secretariat that is located within this department. The Secretariat is jointly supported financially and with staff from this department and from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. The PAS Secretariat provides technical and administrative support, coordination and funding to communities and organizations seeking to protect areas through the PAS process. The Secretariat also monitors and reports on progress of designations, and acts as a point of contact for the public.

### Parks Canada

Parks Canada, an agency reporting to the Minister of Environment Canada, is mandated to protect and present nationally significant examples of Canada’s natural and cultural heritage and to foster public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure their ecological and commemorative integrity for present and future generations. Parks Canada identifies and establishes National Marine Conservation Areas (NMCA), National Historic Sites and National Parks.

The National Historic Sites program of Parks Canada is responsible for Canada's program of historical commemoration, which recognizes nationally significant places, persons and events. The National Parks program presents a countrywide system of representative natural areas of Canadian significance. They are protected for public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment, while being maintained in an unimpaired state for future generations.

Parks Canada stepped forward as Sponsoring Agency for Sahoyúé-?ehdacho under the PAS when it was first entered into the PAS process. This important role has included acting as the sponsoring organization for the interim land withdrawal of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho . It is currently attempting to secure the funding to create the means to permanently protect the area.

#### Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) has primary, but not exclusive responsibility for meeting the federal government's constitutional, treaty, political and legal responsibilities to First Nations, Inuit and Northerners. Through its programs, INAC supports Aboriginal peoples in the SSA in developing sustainable communities, and in achieving their economic, political, cultural and social aspirations. This includes overseeing the implementation of the land claim settlement and promoting economic development. INAC is responsible for managing natural resources, protecting and rehabilitating the northern environment and fostering leadership in sustainable development. INAC also has the role of facilitating change and bringing together the partners and interests needed to encourage strong northern governments, economies, communities and peoples.

In the SSA, INAC works in partnership with aboriginal groups and non-aboriginal northerners, with other federal and territorial departments and agencies, co-management bodies, industry and other stakeholders. INAC does not have sole responsibility for permitting resource development and use; the department works with the land and environmental management boards that have resulted from the settlement, and which are charged with reviewing and recommending to the Minister of INAC the permitting of proposed resource use.

As noted under the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT (above), INAC is a joint contributor to the NWT-PAS. Staff of INAC provide advisory and other services through the PAS Secretariat. The department has been a supporter of the NWT-PAS process from its inception.

#### 4.2.2 Other Stakeholders

Along with the various individual governmental organizations, there are other groups, organizations and area interests that for a variety of reasons have a concern about the protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho. These groups/interests can have a bearing on not only the process of creating permanent protection but on its eventual implementation. Some of these interests are described here:

## Great Bear Lake Working Group

Of the recent developments in the area that are of interest and significance to the Sahoyúé-?ehdacho, one of the more important is the Great Bear Lake Management Plan which is being prepared by the Great Bear Lake Working Group. This Group is made up of a broad representation of Deline groups (e.g. Deline elders, Deline First Nation, Deline Land Corporation, Deline Renewable Resources Council, and others); regional groups (e.g. Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, Sahtu Land Use Planning Board, Sahtu Renewable Resources Board, and Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society); federal government departments (Fisheries and Oceans, Environment, Indian Affairs and Northern Development); and the territorial government Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

As the Renewable Resources Assessment report<sup>16</sup> states “The Plan recommends that the entire study area be a special management zone, except for conservation zones and protected areas. This means activities in the area must not result in or contribute significantly to the destruction or degradation of critical fish or wildlife habitat, or block or alter migration routes. The introduction of non-native species or domestic species, any activities which contribute to the loss of any wildlife or plant species, and any activities which contribute to the loss of genetic diversity, are prohibited. Bulk water removal is prohibited. Sahyoue and Edacho, Whitefish River, Johnny Hoe River, and Sentinel Islands are recommended as conservation zones, and all activities in these zones should be consistent with the maintenance of their ecological and cultural integrity.” From this description, it seems clear that the GBLMP supports the protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho . However, it is important to recognize there will be links between what occurs in Sahoyúé-?ehdacho and the extensive area covered by the GBLMP.

## Resource Exploration

There is still some interest in exploration in the area for mineral potential. It has been acknowledged that there are coal deposits to the west of the area and it has been said<sup>17</sup> that some coal licences still exist within the proposed protected area, although an examination of the existing registered claims does not reveal any such licences. Further, there is still a possibility that the area may contain diamonds, although this has yet to be established. In addition, within the last year an application for seismic exploration was refused in the area (within the interim land withdrawal boundary). Interest in sub-surface resource exploration remains a reality, however, and therefore remains a potential continuing interest in the sub-surface resources.

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<sup>16</sup> Sahoyúé-?edacho Renewable Resource Assessment, First draft, Joanna Wilson, GNWT-ENR. , January 26, 2006.

<sup>17</sup> Personal communication, Walter Bayha.

## Tourism

The Grey Goose Lodge and Great Bear Lake Outfitters Ltd., owned by the Deline Land Corporation, offers fishing packages that use the waters of Great Bear Lake. They also occasionally use the shore areas of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho for short stays (lunches). Plummers Lodges, based in Manitoba, have a lodge on Dease Arm of Great Bear Lake from which they offer fishing packages and use the waters and shoreline of the lake. Other support services (e.g. air transportation, fuel companies, service companies, etc.) all have either a direct or indirect interest in the tourism activities in the area. Some of these tourism stakeholders will continue to wish use the water and shoreline resources of the protected area which might have implications for the protected area. Some of these are long standing uses of the area and may need to be accommodated in a mutually satisfactory fashion.

## Research

On the basis of the ecological assessment, renewable resource assessment and the cultural assessment documents, it is clear that research has been occurring on these lands for some time. It is likely safe to assume that here will continue to be research interests for some time into the future and that research interests will include all levels of government (local, territorial and federal), academic institutions, research institutions, and non-government organizations. Such academic and applied research activities and their sponsoring organizations will have an interest in how their future activities might be affected by a permanent protection designation.

## 4.3 Communities

There are five communities in the Sahtu Settlement Area: Deline, Tulita, Norman Wells, Fort Good Hope, and Colville Lake (see Figure 1). Although the effects of the establishment of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho will predominantly have an impact upon Deline, information on all five communities in the SSA is included in this description of communities. The establishment of a permanently protected Sahoyúé-?ehdacho will be of interest and value to all Sahtu Settlement Area residents. However, since Deline is the community of prime concern, the information for Deline has been highlighted in each descriptive table below. The inclusion of all SSA communities also provides a basis for the comparison of these communities within the area.

### 4.3.1 Community Infrastructure

Table 1 presents a summary of infrastructure characteristics of the five communities.

**Table 1**  
**Characteristics of Community Infrastructure in Sahtu Region of NWT, 2005.**

Characteristic	Communities in Sahtu Region					Communities Total
	Deline	Tulita	Norman Wells	Fort Good Hope	Colville Lake	
<b>Transportation Infrastructure</b>						
All weather road	No	No	No	No	No	None
Winter road	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	All
Marine re-supply	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	3 of 5
Airport	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	All
<b>Electricity Infrastructure</b>						
Type of supply	Diesel	Diesel	Gas	Diesel	Diesel	4 diesel, 1 gas
Supplier	NTPC	NTPC	NTPC	NTPC	NTPC	NTPC
<b>Health Infrastructure</b>						
Hospital	0	0	0	0	0	0
Health centre	1	1	1	1	0	4
Health station	0	0	0	0	1	1
<b>Judicial infrastructure</b>						
No. police officers	3	2	3	3	0	11
<b>Municipal Infrastructure</b>						
Fire Hall	1	1	1	1	1	5
<b>Tourism Infrastructure</b>						
Lodges/outfitters	15	n.a.	0	10	0	54
Accommodations	2	1	3	3	2	11
Campgrounds	1	1	2	1	1	6
Restaurants	1	1	6	1	1	10
Visitor centre	0	0	1	0	0	1
Source: GNWT, Bureau of Statistics.						

The infrastructure in these communities is basic but effective: none has an all weather road, but all have a winter road and access by air. All have power supplied by diesel generator, which means that electricity is expensive to produce, and all have a fire hall, an essential community service. None of the communities has a hospital: four of the five have a health centre. Only Colville Lake has a health station. This limited medical capacity should not affect visitors to the area significantly. Similarly all but Colville Lake have police officers in the community.

In terms of tourism infrastructure, Colville Lake is the least served, with the fewest facilities. In the area, however, there is a total of 54 lodges/outfitters and 11 other accommodations, 6 campgrounds and 10 restaurants. Only Norman Wells has a visitor centre. Deline has two accommodations establishments, one campground, one restaurant and fifteen lodges/outfitters. There is an uneven distribution of tourism infrastructure that could limit visitor numbers. This is especially true for Deline with limited capacity for food service and accommodations. The number of lodges/outfitters seems inordinately large for the whole SSA.

### 4.3.2 Demographics of Area Residents

Tables 2 through 5 present key social and demographic characteristics related to residents of the five communities.

Table 2 Selected Demographic Characteristics of Communities in Sahtu Region of NWT in 2004						
Characteristic	Communities in Sahtu Region					Communities Total/Average
	Deline	Tulita	Norman Wells	Fort Good Hope	Colville Lake	
<b>Population</b>						
Total	570	487	848	551	135	2,591
Males	285	246	466	297	74	1,368
Females	285	241	382	254	61	1,223
Aboriginal	528	477	263	509	128	1,905
Non-Aboriginal	42	10	585	42	7	686
Total Families	140	105	185	125	20	575
<b>Education</b>						
% with high school or post-secondary	31.6	39.3	85.0	38.2	32.5	45.3
<b>Labour Force (%)</b>						
Participation rate	57.4	64.6	88.8	69.1	63.8	68.7
Unemployment rate	30.5	13.8	2.7	19.5	23.5	18.0
<b>Selected Employment Rates (%)</b>						
Male	36.6	53.5	88.8	63.3	50.0	58.4
Female	43.1	58.4	83.3	47.2	46.2	55.6
Aboriginal	36.4	52.0	74.6	51.4	46.7	52.2
Non-Aboriginal	82.8	86.1	89.6	86.0	80.0	84.9
Source: GNWT, Bureau of Statistics.						

Table 2 shows many characteristics of community residents in the Sahtu region in 2004. With the notable exception of Norman Wells where there are substantially more males than females and non-Aboriginals than Aboriginals, there is a virtual balance between females and males in the other four communities, where the vast majority of community residents are Aboriginal. While Norman Wells, with 848 residents, is the most populous community, Deline is the most populous Aboriginal community with 570 residents of whom 528 or 92.6% are Aboriginal.

The communities with predominantly Aboriginal populations have low levels of formal education: only about 1/3 of residents have high school or post-secondary education. These communities also show a smaller participation in the labour force – about 2/3 of the population is indicated as participating. Most of these communities also have high levels of unemployment; for example in 2004, Deline was reported to have had a 30.5% rate of unemployment. The employment rates in dominantly Aboriginal communities share

similar proportions between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal employment: non-Aboriginal employment rates being consistently higher. Deline and Tulita have higher female employment rates than males rates, whereas in the other communities this proportion is reversed.

Table 3 presents other socio-economic information related to income employment and food costs. Income information for Colville Lake was not available.

Table 3 Selected Income, Employment and Food Cost Characteristics of Communities in Sahtu Region of NWT in 2003						
Characteristic	Communities in Sahtu Region					Communities Average
	Deline	Tulita	Norman Wells	Fort Good Hope	Colville Lake	
<b>Personal Income</b>						
Average income	\$24,729	\$27,504	\$54,498	\$25,224	n.a.	\$32,989
Average employ income	\$21,763	\$25,400	\$53,282	\$24,694	n.a.	\$31,285
Average family income	\$53,057	\$50,927	\$108,163	\$51,464	n.a.	\$65,903
Monthly average income support recipients	53	14	8	33	6	22.8
<b>Employment Profile (2004)</b>						
Full-time (%)	79.7	82.4	88.4	81.9	69.2	80.3
Part-time(%)	16.3	15.5	10.8	15.0	30.8	17.7
% gov't, health, social serv, education	56.2	51.9	28.3	45.8	66.7	49.8
% goods producing	7.8	9.6	27.0	26.9	12.8	16.8
% other industries	31.4	32.1	41.7	22.9	15.4	28.7
<b>2004 Food Price Index*</b>						
Index	191	190	187	191	186	189.0
n.a. = not available employ income = employment income * Yellowknife = 100 Source: GNWT, Bureau of Statistics.						

Average family income in all reporting communities was substantial, with Norman Wells being well above the other communities and the Canadian median of \$72,524. Average family income in Deline was second although that community had the largest number of recipients requiring monthly income support.

In almost all communities most of those who were employed were full-time employees (80.3% on average). The source of employment varied from community to community but showed some similarities in predominantly Aboriginal communities where the largest source of employment was with government, health, social services and education, with 'other industries' being the second largest source of employment.

The cost of food index for all communities was very similar with the communities averaging 189% of food prices in Yellowknife. This index means that the cost of food in these communities is almost double that experienced in Yellowknife (89% more). For example, for every dollar spent on food in Yellowknife, that same food in these communities would cost \$1.89. The cost of living is high in these communities, and the cost of providing services and commodities to the travelling public, such as tourists, is also high. This also makes these communities expensive destinations for visitors.

Table 4 presents some social characteristics of area residents. The number of births in all of the communities exceeded the number of deaths in the years reported. This would suggest a growing population, but the table indicates this is not the case for all communities. The population forecast by the GNWT Bureau of Statistics indicates that two are expected to grow (Tulita and Norman Wells), two are expected to decline (Deline and Fort Good Hope) and one (Colville Lake) is expected to remain virtually the same. The family structure in the communities is very similar, with over two-thirds of families being couples. Lone parents account for about one third of families in these communities.

Table 4 Selected Social-Demographic Characteristics of Communities in Sahtu Region of NWT in 2004						
Characteristic	Communities in Sahtu Region					Communities Total/Average
	Deline	Tulita	Norman Wells	Fort Good Hope	Colville Lake	
<b>Number of Births/Deaths</b>						
Births (2003)	8	8	17	10	3	46
Deaths (2002)	3	-	1	2	1	7
<b>Population Projections</b>						
2009	563	500	1,015	525	137	2,740
2014	544	515	1,044	496	141	2,740
2019	527	528	1,148	465	138	2,806
2024	500	531	1,257	428	136	2,852
<b>Family Structure (2001)</b>						
Husband-wife	60	35	110	65	10	280
Common Law	35	45	35	30	-	145
Lone parent	40	30	40	40	10	160
% Couple families	71.4	71.4	78.4	68.0	50.0	67.8
Source: GNWT, Bureau of Statistics.						

Table 5 presents information on traditional activities and Aboriginal language use in the Sahtu Region in 2004. Approximately half (49.2%) of those residing in the five communities hunted and fished. In addition, almost 14% of community residents trapped. However, the trapping varied by community: 27.5% of community residents in Colville Lake trapped while only 2.9% of Norman wells residents trapped. In Deline about one person in eight trapped (12.5%). For all communities, an average of 45% of households consumed country food. Once again, however, the percentage consuming country food in

Colville Lake was higher than other communities and Norman Wells was the lowest percent (11.7%). This difference can likely be explained by the differing percentages of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal persons living in these communities.

Over one third (38.9%) of Deline residents consumed country food, which was below the average for all communities. However, with such a high proportion of residents participating in hunting/fishing activities and consuming country food, the employment rates described earlier reflect this choice of lifestyle and strong connection with the land.

Table 5 Traditional Activities and Language Characteristics of Communities in Sahtu Region of NWT						
Characteristic	Communities in Sahtu Region					Communities Average
	Deline	Tulita	Norman Wells	Fort Good Hope	Colville Lake	
<b>Traditional Activities (2003)</b>						
Hunted & fished (% of community)	42.6	52.1	45.6	47.1	58.8	49.2
Trapped (%)	12.5	17.0	2.9	9.8	27.5	13.9
Households consuming country food	38.9	56.4	11.7	35.7	81.8	44.9
<b>Aboriginal Languages (2004)</b>						
% that speak an aboriginal language	95.8	47.3	26.9	41.1	65.3	55.3
Source: GNWT, Bureau of Statistics.						

Over half (55.3%) of community residents speak an Aboriginal language. However this varies from 95.8% in Deline to 26.9% in Norman Wells. Deline stands out from the other communities as a community that clearly wishes to maintain the integrity of their Dene language. In fact the high percentage speaking Aboriginal languages in Deline indicates that at least some non-Aboriginals in the community also speak an Aboriginal language.

#### 4.4 Renewable resource harvesting from Sahoyúé-?ehdacho

Table 6 contains summary information presented in the Draft Renewable Resource Assessment document<sup>18</sup>. It details the harvests of renewable resources in both the Deline area and the area of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho, and attempts to quantify the values of the harvests. While there are a lot of unknown or missing quantities and values, the table does present a good picture of the harvesting activities and the approximate quantities/values involved.

<sup>18</sup> Sahoyúé-?ehdacho Renewable Resource Assessment, First draft, Joanna Wilson, GNWT-ENR. , January 26, 2006.

In the Deline area, subsistence hunting is the highest dollar value activity producing an estimated value of about \$690,000 annually, mostly from barren-ground caribou. Subsistence fishing also has important value for the Deline people with an estimated annual value of \$66,000. Trapping produces a value of just under \$40,000. Renewable resource harvests that are more difficult to quantify include wood harvesting (estimated value of \$50,000), sport hunting by non-Aboriginals (rough estimated value of \$250,000) and the use of renewable resources in arts and crafts (estimated to between \$40,000 and \$100,000).

When just the Sahoyúé-?ehdacho area is considered in terms of renewable resource harvests, the quantities and values become even less precise. There are estimated values for three harvesting activities in the area – subsistence fishing (valued at \$7,338), trapping (valued at \$1,300) and subsistence hunting (valued at \$8,000). Good information on other resource harvests in Sahoyúé-?ehdacho is not available.

Renewable Resource	Deline Area		Sahoyúé-?ehdacho	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Firewood/wood construction	250 cords	\$50,000	-	-
Non-Wood forest products	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Fish				
Subsistence	9,523 kg.	\$65,516	977 kg.	\$7,338
Sport Fishing	67 fishing tourists	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Commercial	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Wildlife				
Trapping	n.a.	\$39,722	n.a.	\$1,297
Subsistence hunting	n.a.	\$687,216	n.a.	\$8,066
Sport hunting	n.a.	~ \$250,000	n.a.	n.a.
Commercial harvesting	13-17 permits/yr.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Arts and Crafts	n.a.	\$40,000 - \$100,000	n.a.	n.a.
Non-Consumptive tourism	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Renewable energy	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
TOTAL Value		\$1,132,454 – \$1,192,454		\$16,701
n.a. – not available or not known. Source: Draft Renewable Resource Assessment, January, 2006				

The value of renewable resources harvested in Sahoyúé-?ehdacho as a percentage of resources harvested in the Deline District is approximately 1.5%, a very small proportion of the total value (for those renewable resources where values have been estimated).

The Deline District of the SSA sustains resources that allow the Sahtugot'ine people to harvest wildlife and vegetation for their subsistence use. The subsistence value of this harvest is substantial and forms the majority of the value derived from these resources (estimated at over \$800,000 per year). To a lesser degree there are commercial harvesting opportunities, and these are limited mostly to trapping and the servicing of sport hunting and fishing. Commercial harvesting of wildlife is a small activity at present (13 – 17 permits per year) that produces caribou and other meats for some of the lodges. There may be some potential to increase this commercial harvesting activity as demand increases for fresh meat and/or as tourists seek new experiences in dining.

Renewable energy in the form of hydroelectricity has been considered as having potential. However, the lack of major markets for the hydro power and the cost of development have reduced the feasibility of such developments. It has been thought there might be a demand for power to run the compressor stations for the Mackenzie Valley Gas Pipeline and a potential site for hydro development to service such demand has been identified at St. Charles Rapids. However this site is outside the study area.

#### 4.5 Non-Renewable Resources

There are non-renewable resources in the area of the Candidate Protected Area. Exploration for metallic minerals and coal has occurred over several past decades. For example there are records of geological reconnaissance work back to the 1930's with more recent work being conducted in the 1970's and 1980's. There are coal deposits to the west of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho, although this coal is not believed to be of high quality. However, there are no known third-party interests in the candidate protected area. An examination of the area covered by the Candidate Protected Area using the SID<sup>19</sup> – the DIAND-NWT Spatially Integrated Dataset – revealed no current mineral or coal claims/leases.

The Non-Renewable Resource Assessment<sup>20</sup> conducted for the Sahoyúé-?ehdacho Candidate Protected Area, in summary form, indicated the following:

<b><u>Resource</u></b>	<b><u>Findings</u></b>
Minerals	Some evidence of minerals: copper, nickel, lead, zinc and gold. There is little chance these can be mined.
Diamonds	Some evidence of kimberlites, but not much chance that there is a diamond deposit.

<sup>19</sup> See [http://nwt-tno.inac-ainc.gc.ca/sm-sid/index\\_e.asp](http://nwt-tno.inac-ainc.gc.ca/sm-sid/index_e.asp)

<sup>20</sup> Gal, L.P. and Lariviere J.M., 2005. Sahoyúé - ?ehdacho Candidate Protected Areas Non-renewable Resource Assessment (Phase II), Great Bear Lake Area, Northwest Territories, Canada, NTS 96A, G, H, I, J; Northwest Territories Geoscience Office, NWT Open File 2005-01, 231 p and “The Non-Renewable Resources Report”, 5 pages, undated.

## **Resource**

## **Findings**

Oil and Gas	There could be oil and gas under the western part of Edacho but not likely enough to produce commercial volumes.
Coal	There is coal in Sahyoue and Edacho. But it is low quality and may not be worth mining for export from the territory.

Source: Gal, L.P. and Lariviere J.M., 2005. Sahoyúé - ?ehdacho Candidate Protected Areas Non-renewable Resource Assessment (Phase II), Great Bear Lake Area, Northwest Territories, Canada, NTS 96A, G, H, I, J; Northwest Territories Geoscience Office, NWT Open File 2005-01, 231 p.

The conclusion is that non-renewable resource developments would not be significantly adversely affected by the withdrawal of these lands and will likely not produce significant opportunity costs through the permanent protection of this area.

### 4.6 Tourism Activities

The latest (2002) NWT Tourist Exit Survey<sup>21</sup> gathered a wide array of information on visitors to the territory. Very little of the information is specific to the Sahtu region, but an estimate of the number of visits to the region was made. These estimates by primary purpose of trip are presented in Table 7. The number of visitors who actually visited Sahoyúé-?ehdacho has not been captured by these figures.

The figures do indicate, however, that tourism is not yet a large industry. A total of 766 visitors – almost half of whom were on business – suggests that fewer than 445 tourists came to the Sahtu region. If the 59 individuals who were identified as visiting friends and relatives were excluded (since in many cases they stay with their hosts and do not spend in the way of general tourists), the total falls well below 400 visitors in 2002.

When the business visitors and those visiting friends/relatives are removed from the numbers presented in Table 7, it becomes clear that visitors from the USA are the largest visitor segment – 236 visitors compared to 100 visitors from other areas of Canada. No information on the length of stay in the territory or the region was given in the report.

Table 7 also indicates that party size varies by origin, with the visitors coming from outside North America averaging just over three (3.06) persons per party and USA visitors coming

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<sup>21</sup> 2002 Visitor Exit Survey, Report on the General Touring Segment of Visitors to the Northwest Territories, Investments and Economic Analysis, Resources Wildlife and Economic Development, Undated.

Table 7  
Tourist Visits to Sahtu Region in 2002

Visitor Segment	Visitor Origin			Total
	Canada	USA	Other	
Business	307	10	8	325
General Touring	19	0	4	23
Visiting Friends/Relatives	59	0	0	59
Fishing	22	42	3	67
Hunting	25	182	22	229
Outdoor Adventure	34	12	17	63
Total Individuals	466	246	54	766
Average Party Size	2.63	2.11	3.06	2.58
Total Party Spending in NWT	\$1,005	\$1,928	\$2,592	\$1,425

Source: 2002 Visitor Exit Survey, Report on the General Touring Segment of Visitors to the Northwest Territories.

in parties of just over 2 people (2.11). Visitors from outside North America are also the biggest spenders, spending almost \$2,600 on average in the territory. Average party spending in the territory is \$1,425. The estimated total spending in the territory by these visitors to the Sahtu region is about \$550,000 in 2002, some of which would have been spent on the tourism services available in the Sahtu region.

## 5. Preliminary<sup>22</sup> Socio-Economic Impacts

The expected socio-economic impacts from the permanent protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho are described in this chapter, beginning with the economic impacts associated with forecast new spending because of the permanently protected area. This is followed by an assessment of socio-economic impacts from resource uses and different perspectives.

### 5.1 Potential Spending Impacts

Spending impacts used in this analysis come from the spending by the 'organization' that emerges or evolves to develop and manage the protected area, as well as any visitor expenditures related to their use of the Sahoyúé-?ehdacho resources or visits to the site.

#### 5.1.1 Organizational Spending

As indicated in the description for the Candidate Protected Area in the Introduction to this report, funding has not been obtained and in fact, no firm figures have been expressed that might be used for an economic impact analysis. However, in order to give a preliminary and interim estimate of the possible economic impacts of a protected area co-managed by Parks Canada and Déline, a series of assumptions have been made and order of magnitude estimates of impacts have been calculated.

The assumptions for the economic impact analysis are based on the dollar amounts quoted by Parks Canada Field Unit staff<sup>23</sup> and on statements of programs and activities described in the November Workshop report<sup>24</sup>:

- A total of \$5 million spent over the first 5 years of park establishment including negotiations and agreement completion (\$1 million per year);
- Half of the \$5 million will be spent on salaries and wages and half will be spent on capital facilities (e.g. housing, information/education centre, park access, grants for visitor services business development, etc.);
- In the second five years of park establishment, \$750,000 will be spent annually on operations, maintenance and repair;
- Half of the \$750,000 annual expenditure will be on salaries/wages and half on operational costs.

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<sup>22</sup> These impacts are indicated as being preliminary only because they have not been discussed with area stakeholders.

<sup>23</sup> Alan Fehr, personal communication, April, 2006

<sup>24</sup> One Trail: Facilitator's Report on the Sahyoue and Edacho Directions-Confirming Workshop (November 8-10/05), Tom Nesbitt, December 17, 2005.

Based on these assumptions, an estimated \$8.750 million will be spent in the initial ten years of the park. Of this total it is estimated that approximately \$4.4 million will be spent on wages and salaries, with the remainder being spent on goods and services.

The wages and salaries will be a value-added contribution to the community while only a part of the amount spent on goods and services will be retained within the local area, due to the need to purchase many of these goods and services from outside the local area and the territory. The end result is that approximately \$4.4 million of the \$8.75 million assumed in spending over the first ten years of park establishment will be retained in the community as income to the community. This represents approximately \$440,000 per year in new income for the area. The economic impact of this new income will depend upon the spending patterns and characteristics of those who receive this income.

The spending on goods and services will have a limited impact on the local economy. With a policy of central purchasing for many of Parks Canada's goods and services, the impact felt locally may be quite small. Without knowing what expenditures would be made locally, it is impossible to estimate their impact upon the local economy. However, the more that purchases of goods and services can be made locally, the greater the benefit (economic impact) to the local economy.

### 5.1.2 Visitor Spending

The creation of a park under the cooperative management of Déline and Parks Canada may have an impact upon the level of demand to visit this area. While the number of visitors is difficult to predict, it is believed that a new, fully protected national historic site (or some other designation) will increase the likelihood of new visitors being interested in visiting the area. The extent to which this new demand will develop will depend upon many different factors: two of the more important will be the marketing and communications activities undertaken by the management organizations and the capacity of the community to accommodate and provide services to visitors. An important factor in all tourist travel in the north is the cost, and occasionally, the uncertainty of this travel.

The 2002 NWT Tourist Exit Survey<sup>25</sup> reported that the Sahtu Region had 766 visitors, of whom 325 were travelling for business purposes. This means that 441 of the visitors were tourists. Of these, 59 were visiting friends and relatives, 229 were on a hunting trip, 67 were on a fishing trip, 63 were on an outdoor adventure trip and 23 were doing a general tour. The latter two visitor types represent those most likely to be interested in Sahoyúé-?ehdacho , and they represent 19.5% of the tourist visitors, totalling 86 visitors. In addition, the 2002 survey report indicated that the total visitor party spending on their trip by air travellers was \$4,720, and average total spending in the NWT was \$1,993. All visitors to the Sahtu Region were air travellers. The average party size was 2.58 people. Average spending in NWT per person is therefore estimated to be \$772.00.

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<sup>25</sup> 2002 Visitor Exit Survey, Report on the General Touring Segment of Visitors to the Northwest Territories, Investments and Economic Analysis, Resources Wildlife and Economic Development, Undated.

For illustrative purposes and using the same time period as the organizational estimate, if it is assumed that over the first ten years of park establishment the total number of new visitors was 400 (i.e. approximately 40 visitors per year or about a 50% increase), based on the visitor spending estimate (above), an estimate of the total new visitor spending attributable to the new park could be calculated. Assuming 400 people spend the average \$772 per trip in the territory, the total new spending attributable to the park would be approximately \$310,000, or \$31,000 per year.

Visitor spending has a relatively small impact upon the territory's economy. While tourism is a service industry and tends to have a large labour component, the goods and services required to support the activity are not readily available from within the territory and have to be imported from outside sources. This means that there will be significant leakages from tourist spending that do not benefit the local economy. For example, the direct and indirect impact on gross domestic product (GDP) associated with \$31,000 being spent in the territory is only approximately \$12,000, depending on which commodities and services it is spent<sup>26</sup>. The impact on GDP in other provinces and territories from this visitor spending of \$31,000 in NWT is approximately \$9,000.

As a result it can be seen that while visitor numbers and spending may grow over time and become an important source of local employment and income, their economic impact, especially in the short term, will not be as great as those impacts from organizational spending.

### 5.1.3 Types of Spin-off Impacts

As mentioned in the preceding two sections, there will be impacts felt within the community of Deline and other communities in the SSA. The extent of these impacts will depend on how the funds are spent. However, as indicated, approximately half of the estimated funds will be spent in the form of wages and salaries. These will be paid to employees of the protected area management organizations for a variety of jobs. While it is still not clear exactly what jobs will be created, it is likely they would be in the following categories:

- visitor services officers - provide information, advice and assistance to visitors to the area; assist with interpretive programs;
- wardens – provide patrol services of the area; monitor activities in the protected area; assist with resource management; manage visitor activities;
- interpretation specialists - prepare interpretive programs and material for visitors; assist with research into cultural and ecological issues; assist with publications;

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<sup>26</sup> These impacts were calculated with the Economic Impact Model for Parks and Protected Areas (EIMPA) version 7.0.

- custodians & labourers - building maintenance; repairs; assist visitors;
- administration staff - clerical duties; computer management; data management; financial management;
- managers - site management; facility management; visitor program management; etc.

There will likely be other positions and jobs required by the protected area if it is to meet its desired objectives.

Other jobs in the service sector will become available as tourism related to the protected area grows. When this will occur is not known. There is already some small level of tourism, but it could grow when the area becomes known as a permanent protected area. However, it is not only jobs directly related to tourism that will grow with growing tourism. Other jobs in the local economy may emerge that support the tourism industry – aircraft maintenance, boat services, fuel companies, wholesalers and food distributors, construction, plumbing and heating contractors, and other support services such as these.

Although the impacts mentioned above are described in terms of jobs created, naturally there will be income associated with these jobs. There will also be opportunities for entrepreneurially inclined individuals to start businesses or expand existing businesses as a result of new or expanded business due to the protected area. Residents of the territory are well situated to take advantage of these opportunities as they arise, either by themselves or in partnership with others within or outside the territory.

## 5.2 Anticipated Impacts by Resource Use and Region

Before describing the anticipated impacts it is important to place some parameters on what constitutes an unimportant or minor impact, a somewhat important impact, and an important impact. For the purposes of this assessment the following criteria will be applied:

- ✓ Unimportant impact – has virtually no effect<sup>27</sup> upon people of the area, or has very small or no effect upon businesses in the area.
- ✓ Somewhat Important impact – has some effect that may be of concern to at least one segment of people living in the area or businesses in the area.
- ✓ Important impact – has a noticeable effect on people of the area or businesses in the area.

These criteria are still rather subjective and might benefit from a more quantitative approach in the future. If subsequent analysis requires such a quantified approach, only

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<sup>27</sup> An ‘effect’ is defined as an impact having significance or consequence.

those impacts believed to be important will be subjected to this more quantitative type of analysis.

The following four tables (Tables 8 – 11) summarize the expected impacts from the establishment of a permanently protected Sahoyúé-?ehdacho on culture and traditional use, the regional economy, and the use of renewable resources and non-renewable resources. Each table reflects the expected impacts within a different framework of assessment – Deline, Sahtu Settlement Area, Northwest Territories and Canada.

Table 8 summarizes the impacts expected from the permanent protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho from the perspective of the community of Deline.

Table 9 summarizes the socio-economic impacts expected from the permanent protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho as a Parks Canada-Deline managed area from the perspective of residents of the SSA. This perspective of assessment is broader in scope and includes all five communities in the area. The impacts are expected to be quite similar to those experienced by Deline, since Deline is a part of the SSA.

Table 10 summarizes the socio-economic impacts expected from the permanent protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho from the perspective of the Northwest Territories. This perspective of assessment is even broader than that for the SSA. Given the concentration of population in Yellowknife (almost half of the territory's population), the impacts are expected to be somewhat less significant than those experienced in the SSA and Deline.

Table 11 provides a concise summary of the expected socio-economic impacts from the permanent protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho from the perspective of Canada as a whole. This perspective of assessment is very broad and the impacts are expected to be even less significant at this scale.

**Table 8**  
Forecast Socio-Economic Impacts from the Permanent Protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho to Deline

Resource Use	Forecast Effect on Current/Future Use	Forecast Groups or Persons Affected	Significance of the Effect	Explanatory Note Comments
<b>Culture/Tradition Use</b>				
Heritage (all possible uses)	Stable and improved	Deline residents, SSA residents	Important	Significant positive effects for local area residents and their cultural heritage
Traditional Knowledge (Preservation and transference)	Stable and improved	Deline residents, SSA residents	Important	Significant positive effects for local area residents and their cultural heritage
Education	Improved	Deline residents, SSA residents	important	Significant positive effects for local area students and residents concerning their cultural heritage
<b>Regional Economy (Deline)</b>				
Economic impact	Increased impact from protected area operations	Deline residents, businesses	important	Assuming a Parks Canada – Deline cooperative management of S-E, there will be an important infusion of cash within the local area that will generate impacts in Deline
Expanded administration	Increased impact from amalgamated Parks Canada admin in Deline	Deline residents, businesses	important	Assuming Deline becomes the administrative and information centre for Tuktut Nogait as well as Sahoyúé-?ehdacho , significant benefits could be realized through this expanded administrative responsibility.
<b>Renewable Resources</b>				
Firewood, wood construction	No effect	N.A.	unimportant	Virtually no harvesting
Subsistence Fishing	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	No change in activity for Deline residents
Sport Fishing	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	Not an important activity in S-E but occurs in waters surrounding it
Commercial Fishing	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	No commercial fishing in S-E
Trapping- commercial & subsistence	No effect	N.A.	unimportant	Minimal dollar value from S-E of \$1,300 annually

**Table 8**  
Forecast Socio-Economic Impacts from the Permanent Protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho to Deline

Resource Use	Forecast Effect on Current/Future Use	Forecast Groups or Persons Affected	Significance of the Effect	Explanatory Note Comments
Subsistence Hunting	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	No change in activity for Deline residents
Sport Hunting	Non-resident sport hunting likely to be prohibited in S-E	Non-resident hunters; outfitters serving hunters	Somewhat Important	The area is not heavily used by outfitters now, but reducing the area available for outfitting may increase pressure on other areas outside S-E
Commercial Harvesting-wildlife	May be stopped in S-E	Small number (13 – 17) of Deline residents	Unimportant	The area is not heavily used for commercial harvests now, but reducing the area available for these harvests may increase pressure on other areas outside S-E
Arts and Crafts-commercial & subsistence	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	No information on harvests/collecting in S-E
Non-consumptive Tourism	Increased tourism	Tourists and the people/businesses providing tourism services	Unimportant	Tourism is not expected to grow quickly and may be constrained by local capacity
Renewable Energy	No significant effect	Pipeline and communities	Unimportant	Hydro potential on the Great Bear River and the St. Charles Rapids may be slightly affected
<b>Non-Renewable Resources</b>				
Minerals	No exploration or mining	Exploration/mining firms, area residents	Somewhat Important	No exploration & mining and thus fewer potential opportunities for employment for area residents
Diamonds	No exploration or mining	Exploration/mining firms, area residents	Unimportant	No exploration & mining and thus fewer potential opportunities for employment for area residents
Oil and Gas	No exploration or drilling	Exploration/drilling firms, area residents	Unimportant	No exploration & drilling and thus fewer potential opportunities for employment for area residents
Coal	No access to any coal deposits in S-E	Exploration/mining firms, area residents	Unimportant	No exploration & mining and thus fewer potential opportunities for employment for area residents
S-E = Sahoyúé-?ehdacho N.A. = Not Applicable				

**Table 9**  
Forecast Socio-Economic Impacts from the Permanent Protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho to the Sahtu Settlement Area

Resource Use	Forecast Effect on Current/Future Use	Forecast Groups or Persons Affected	Significance of the Effect	Explanatory Note Comments
<b>Culture/Tradition Use</b>				
Heritage (all possible uses)	Secure and improved future use	SSA residents	Important	There is an opportunity for all SSA residents to benefit from the protection of these cultural and heritage resources.
Traditional Knowledge (Preservation and transference)	Secure and improved future use	SSA residents	Important	There is an opportunity for all SSA residents to benefit from the protection of these cultural and heritage resources.
Education	Improved and secure resource	SSA residents	Important	There is an opportunity for all SSA residents to benefit from the protection of these cultural and heritage resources.
<b>Regional Economy (SSA)</b>				
Economic impact	Increased impact from protected area operations and development	SSA residents and businesses	Important	Assuming a Parks Canada – Deline cooperative management of S-E, there will be an important infusion of cash within the local area that will generate impacts throughout the SSA.
<b>Renewable Resources</b>				
Firewood, wood construction	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	Virtually no harvesting
Subsistence Fishing	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	No change in activity for SSA residents
Sport Fishing	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	Not an important activity in S-E but occurs in waters surrounding it
Commercial Fishing	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	No commercial fishing in S-E
Trapping- commercial & subsistence	No effect	N.A.	Unimportant	Minimal dollar value from S-E of \$1,300 annually
Subsistence Hunting	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	No change in activity for SSA residents
Sport Hunting	Non-resident sport	Non-resident	Somewhat	The area is not heavily used by outfitters from SSA

Table 9  
Forecast Socio-Economic Impacts from the Permanent Protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho to the Sahtu Settlement Area

Resource Use	Forecast Effect on Current/Future Use	Forecast Groups or Persons Affected	Significance of the Effect	Explanatory Note Comments
	hunting likely to be prohibited in S-E	hunters; outfitters serving hunters	Important	now, but reducing the area available for outfitting may increase pressure slightly on other areas in SSA
Commercial Harvesting-wildlife	May be stopped in S-E	Small number (13 – 17) of Deline residents	Unimportant	The area is not heavily used for commercial harvests by SSA residents now, but reducing the area available for these harvests may increase pressure on other areas of SSA
Arts and Crafts-commercial & subsistence	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	No information on harvests/collecting in S-E
Non-consumptive Tourism	Increased tourism	Tourists and the people/businesses providing tourism services	Unimportant	Tourism is not expected to grow quickly because of S-E and will likely have little effect on tourism in other areas of SSA
Renewable Energy	No significant effect	Pipeline and communities	Unimportant	Hydro potential on the Great Bear River and the St. Charles Rapids may be slightly affected
<b>Non-Renewable Resources</b>	No significant effect	Exploration and mining companies	Somewhat Important	No exploration & mining in S-E; thus fewer <u>potential</u> opportunities for employment for area residents
S-E = Sahoyúé-?ehdacho N.A. = Not Applicable				

Table 10  
Forecast Socio-Economic Impacts from the Permanent Protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho to Northwest Territories

Resource Use	Forecast Effect on Current/Future Use	Forecast Groups or Persons Affected	Significance of the Effect	Explanatory Note Comments
<b>Culture/Tradition Use</b>				
Heritage (all possible uses)	Secure and improved	NWT residents	Important	Significant positive effects for all residents of NWT and the cultural heritage of the territory
Traditional Knowledge (Preservation and transference)	Secure and improved	NWT residents	Important	Significant positive effects for all residents of NWT and the cultural heritage of the territory
Education	Improved	NWT residents	Important	Significant positive effects for all residents of NWT and the cultural heritage of the territory
<b>Regional Economy (NWT)</b>				
Economic impact	Increased spending impact from a national agency from protected area development and operations	NWT residents	Somewhat important	Assuming a Parks Canada – Deline cooperative management of S-E, there will be an important infusion of spending on wages/salaries and goods and services within the local area that will generate impacts throughout the territory
<b>Renewable Resources</b>	Minimal effect	NWT residents and tourists	Unimportant	Protection of S-E will not have a significant effect on renewable resources use or consumption in either the short or long term in the territory
<b>Non-Renewable Resources</b>	No exploration or access to subsurface deposits in S-E	Exploration/mining firms, area residents	Somewhat Important	No exploration & mining and thus fewer <u>potential</u> opportunities for businesses and area residents
S-E = Sahoyúé-?ehdacho N.A. = Not Applicable				

**Table 11**  
Forecast Socio-Economic Impacts from the Permanent Protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho to Canada

Resource Use	Forecast Effect on Current/Future Use	Forecast Groups or Persons Affected	Significance of the Effect	Explanatory Note Comments
<b>Culture/Tradition Use</b>				
Heritage (all possible uses)	Secure and improved	Canadians and international visitors	Somewhat Important	Protection of S-E will increase the stock and variety of protected heritage resources accessible to the public in Canada and preserve a rare cultural landscape for all time.
Traditional Knowledge (Preservation and transference)	Secure and improved	Canadians and international visitors	Somewhat Important	Protection of S-E will increase the stock and variety of protected heritage resources accessible to the public in Canada and preserve a rare cultural landscape for all time.
Education	Improved	Canadians and international visitors	Somewhat Important	Protection of S-E will increase the stock and variety of protected heritage resources accessible to the public in Canada and preserve a rare cultural landscape for all time.
<b>National Economy</b>	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	Protection of S-E will have virtually no effect on the Canadian economy
<b>Renewable Resources</b>	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	Protection of S-E will have no effect on renewable resource use and consumption in Canada
<b>Non-Renewable Resources</b>	No effect	N.A.	N.A.	Protection of S-E will have no effect on non-renewable resource use and consumption in Canada
S-E = Sahoyúé-?ehdacho N.A. = Not Applicable				

## 5.3 Conclusions and Recommendations

From the descriptions of impacts anticipated from the permanent protection of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho, there appear to be a few overall conclusions that can be drawn from this preliminary assessment. In addition, several recommendations for further assessments have also been put forward for consideration by the Working Group.

### 5.3.1 Conclusions

1. The proposed protection will permit the continued harvesting of renewable resources by residents of the SSA and Deline in particular. Any new arrangement will allow the current level of benefit from this activity to be continued.
2. Permanent protection of the Candidate Protected Area will result in positive and important impacts from the protection of cultural, traditional and educational resources for the Sahtugot'ine.
3. There is no indication of the existence of substantial non-renewable resources of commercial value in the protected area. As a result, there will be virtually no opportunity lost to mining or other extractive investments from the area's permanent protection.
4. The Sahoyúé-?ehdacho area, under the interim Land Withdrawal, has essentially been protected for the past six years; few new socio-economic impacts can be expected from making this protection permanent.
5. Permanent protection of the area under the cooperative management of Parks Canada and Deline will have positive effects on the likelihood of tourists being attracted to the area. This creates business opportunities for area residents and has the potential to have a positive influence on the understanding of Sahtugot'ine traditions, culture and heritage by non-resident visitors.

### 5.3.2 Recommendations

1. Because of the fragile nature of the environment and the cultural/heritage resources of Sahoyúé-?ehdacho, it is recommended that use of the area be closely monitored. The compromising or destruction of the cultural/heritage resources of the area will eliminate the production of benefits that would normally be obtained through sustainable management.
2. Attention must be paid to the question of who benefits from Sahoyúé-?ehdacho. While it may be a noble objective to educate and illustrate the culture and heritage of the Sahtugot'ine to the public at large, the traditional use of the area should always remain the priority of the Sahtugot'ine. Otherwise, the value of the area will be lost and the area becomes an anachronism with little relevance.

3. The education of other communities within the SSA and Canada about Sahoyúé-?ehdacho should be encouraged to provide a means of enhancing traditional knowledge and understanding the traditional values of the Sahtugot'ine.
4. It is recommended that research be initiated to determine the extent to which the attitudes and understandings of the youth of Deline change or account for their relationship with Sahoyúé-?ehdacho.
5. Once a Management plan has been developed for Sahoyúé-?ehdacho a more thorough assessment should be conducted to look at the Socio-economic effects of the proposed management plan.

In conclusion, this assessment has attempted to identify and describe the key socio-economic impacts associated with the creation of a protected area that has not yet been approved. Because many details of the final agreement of the parties can also have important socio-economic effects, a number of possible impacts have not been considered by this assessment. Without wishing to pre-judge these negotiations, some further thoughts on aspects of the final agreement have been included in Appendix 4 for the consideration of the Sahoyúé-?ehdacho Working Group.

APPENDIX 1

Selected Excerpts from the MVEIRB Community Visits 2005 Report

## APPENDIX 1

### Selected Excerpts from the MVEIRB Community Visits 2005 Report

The consideration and examination of social and economic impacts related to major industrial, commercial and infrastructure projects, especially by the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB), in the Northwest Territories has led to the identification of important information on local people's concerns. In their report on Community Visits in 2005<sup>28</sup>, a number of important findings come to light. Some of the key findings include the following:

- “. . . a desire for an economy that works in harmony with and respects communities' needs for traditional subsistence lifestyles” (page 7).
- “Communities are concerned about maintaining their language and culture because industrial development brings with it a different set of values. Culture needs to be maintained, not as a reminder of a *former* way of life, but rather as a living and dynamic system that guides aboriginal existence.” (page 8).
- “Protection of language, respect for traditional knowledge and the elders, protection of heritage resources, access to land and respect for traditional laws were all things brought forward by communities . . .” (page 8).
- “There is significant community fear that industrial development will destroy many known and unknown archaeological resources, as well as harm the spiritual and cultural powers of these areas. Often, knowledge of the traditional way of life and the cultural perspective that binds people together has a link to these locations of special significance.” (page 9).
- “Socio-economic impact assessment is not just about unemployment rates and average income. Communities want to be involved in the identification of relevant criteria and indicators linked directly to valued components of community wellness, *and* the collection and interpretation of this data.” (page 13).

With the proposed Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Corridor incorporating areas of the Sahtu Settlement Area, the concerns expressed above, along with many others, indicate a real desire by the people to be involved in the review and development process, as well as to ensure respect for and preservation of areas of cultural and historic significance to them.

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<sup>28</sup> Community Visits 2005, Raising the Bar for Socio-Economic Impact Assessment, A report on what communities told us, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, Yellowknife. [www.mveirb.nt.ca](http://www.mveirb.nt.ca).

## APPENDIX 2

### Sources of Information

## APPENDIX 2

### Sources of Information

1. One Trail: Facilitator's Report on the Sahoyue and Edacho Directions-Confirming Workshop (November 8-10/05), Tom Nesbitt, December 17, 2005.
2. Report on Cultural Values for Sahoyué-?ehdacho National Historic Site, GeoNorth Limited and Hanks Heritage Consulting, 2003.
3. A Reconnaissance of the Flora and Fauna of Sahoyue and ?Ehdacho, NWT, EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd., March, 2005.
4. Sahoyue-?Ehdacho Renewable Resource Assessment, First draft, Joanna Wilson, GNWT-ENR. , January 26, 2006.
5. The Non-Renewable Resources Report, 5 pages, undated.
6. 2002 NWT Regional Employment and Harvesting Survey, Summary of Results, NWT Bureau of Statistics. May, 2003.
7. 2005 NWT Socio-Economic Scan, Government of the Northwest Territories, June 2005.
8. 2005 Social Indicators, NWT Bureau of Statistics.
9. Infrastructure Profile, NWT Bureau of Statistics. 2005
10. Deline Statistical Profile, NWT Bureau of Statistics. 2005
11. Tulita Statistical Profile, NWT Bureau of Statistics. 2005
12. Colville Lake Statistical Profile, NWT Bureau of Statistics. 2005
13. Norman Wells Statistical Profile, NWT Bureau of Statistics. 2005
14. Fort Good Hope Statistical Profile, NWT Bureau of Statistics. 2005
15. Community Visits 2005, Raising the Bar for Socio-Economic Impact Assessment, A report on what communities told us, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board. January, 2006.
16. Twelve Years of Implementing the Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement, M.W. Shepard, March 2005.
17. 2002 Visitor Exit Survey, Report on the General Touring Segment of Visitors to the Northwest Territories, Investments and Economic Analysis, Resources Wildlife and Economic Development, Undated.
18. Great Bear Lake Working Group, "*The Water Heart*": A Management Plan for Great Bear Lake and its Watershed. Directed by the Great Bear Lake Working Group and facilitated and drafted by Tom Nesbitt (May 31, 2005, with Caveat of February 7, 2006),
19. Cultural Places: Connecting Our Lives and Land, Conference Report, February 17 – 19, 2004, prepared by NWT Cultural Places Program, Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, published by NWT Education, Culture and Employment.
20. Environmental Impact Statement for the Mackenzie Gas, Proceedings from the First Regional Sahtu Settlement Area Technical Workshop – Norman Wells, Northwest Territories. Document No. 000391-012-13-PUB. July 11, 2003.
21. Gal, L.P. and Lariviere J.M., 2005. Sahoyué - ?ehdacho Candidate Protected Areas Non-renewable Resource Assessment (Phase II), Great Bear Lake Area, Northwest

Territories, Canada, NTS 96A, G, H, I, J; Northwest Territories Geoscience Office, NWT Open File 2005-01, 231 p.

Other information was obtained from internet searches that included:

- Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
- GNWT Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- GNWT Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment
- GNWT Department of Finance, Bureau of Statistics
- Deline Land Corporation
- Deline First Nation
- NWT-PAS
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
- Environment Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Natural Resources Canada
- Canadian Tourism Commission
- Aboriginal Tourism Canada
- NWT Resorts and Lodges

## APPENDIX 3

### List of Resource Persons Supplied by NWT-PAS

APPENDIX 3

List of Resource Persons Supplied by NWT-PAS

Name	Contacts
Leroy Andre President Deline Land Corporation	<a href="mailto:leroy_andre@gov.deline.ca">leroy_andre@gov.deline.ca</a>  (876) 589 3618
Danny Gaudet Negotiator Self Government Team	<a href="mailto:danny_gaudet@gov.deline.ca">danny_gaudet@gov.deline.ca</a>  (867) 589 3618
Danny Bayha Sahtu Representative Mackenzie Valley Env. Impact Review Board	<a href="mailto:dbayha@mveirb.nt.ca">dbayha@mveirb.nt.ca</a>  (867) 589-3119
Walter Bayha Councillor Deline Dene Band	<a href="mailto:bwalter@nt.sympatico.ca">bwalter@nt.sympatico.ca</a>  (867) 589-3086
Peter Menacho Deline Land Corp.	<a href="mailto:peter_menacho@gov.deline.ca">peter_menacho@gov.deline.ca</a> (867) 589 8112
Raymond Taniton	<a href="mailto:rtaniton@nt.sympatico.ca">rtaniton@nt.sympatico.ca</a> (867) 589-4922
Morris Neyelle or Charlie Neyelle	Morris – (867) 589 3618 Charlie – (867) 589 3416
Ken Caine Researcher Deline Knowledge Centre	<a href="mailto:kcaine@ualberta.ca">kcaine@ualberta.ca</a>  (867) 589-4643/ (780) 492-4225
Erica Janes Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society	<a href="mailto:cpawsnwt_cpm@theedge.ca">cpawsnwt_cpm@theedge.ca</a> (867)873 9893
Karen LeGresley Hamre	<a href="mailto:avens@ssimicro.com">avens@ssimicro.com</a> (867) 873 5412
Alan Fehr Parks Canada	<a href="mailto:alan.fehr@pc.gc.ca">alan.fehr@pc.gc.ca</a> (867) 777-8800
Ed Coulthard Parks Canada	<a href="mailto:ed.coulthard@pc.gc.ca">ed.coulthard@pc.gc.ca</a> (867) 872-7938
Jamie Lariviere or Len Gal Northern Geoscience Centre	(867) 669 2480 - Jamie <a href="mailto:james_lariviere@gov.nt.ca">james_lariviere@gov.nt.ca</a> (867) 669 2486 - Len <a href="mailto:len_gal@gov.nt.ca">len_gal@gov.nt.ca</a>
Kris Johnson PAS Advisor INAC – NT Region	(867) 669-2685  <a href="mailto:johnsonkr@inac.gc.ca">johnsonkr@inac.gc.ca</a>
Joanna Wilson PAS Biologist, GNWT	(867) 920 8975 <a href="mailto:joanna_wilson@gov.nt.ca">joanna_wilson@gov.nt.ca</a>
Tom Nesbitt Consultant	<a href="mailto:tom.nesbitt@telus.net">tom.nesbitt@telus.net</a> (604) 267-0319

## APPENDIX 4

### Related Socio-Economic Issues

## APPENDIX 4

### Related Socio-Economic Issues

The following points are raised in this assessment as issues that can have significant socio-economic importance. Some are points that cannot be resolved within this assessment but may provide some additional parameters for consideration during and after the negotiations between the parties and during consultations with stakeholders and interest groups.

- There are several areas where the socio-economic assessment cannot make an analysis or suggest what the impacts might be primarily because it is still unknown what will actually be negotiated by the parties in terms of such things as funding levels, staffing, facilities, management and operations. In order for impacts to be estimated, this information needs to be confirmed, ultimately allowing for the assessment of possible impacts. As a result, a follow-up assessment, once a co-management plan has been developed, may be worth considering.
- Income disparity between individuals within the communities affected by park establishment can lead to concerns of social inequities, whereas an effort to spread the benefits of park creation can lead to a healthier community social environment. Within smaller communities, there can be social effects associated with large disparities in income between individuals. When the parties negotiate the protected area agreement, it is worth considering that it may be socially preferable to provide employment for more people at lower salaries than fewer people at high salaries.
- The previous point need not only apply to salaries. Ensuring that benefits accrue to the community on a more or less equal basis and that protected area development does not create a situation of ‘winners’ and ‘losers’ (through either management, contracting, staffing or other means of implementing the agreement) should be an important basis for the agreement. The greater the benefits to the community as a whole from the agreement, the greater the support for the park and its likelihood of success.
- Visitor and tourism management may become a concern at some point in the future. There will be a need to establish a visitor carrying capacity for Sahoyúé-?ehdacho. The number of visitors/tourists at any one time enjoying Sahoyúé-?ehdacho will need to be closely monitored and managed. While it is unlikely that this area will become a mass tourism destination it will still be important to ensure that the properties, features and attributes that are responsible for the creation of the protected area are not lost through over use or desecration of the

area in physical terms and, more importantly, in psychological terms<sup>29</sup>. Marketing and communications messages by Parks Canada (or the management authority for the park) to the outside world will have to be geared for this reality; they will also have to be geared to the wishes and desires of the Deline people and their wishes for and capacity to deal with outside visitors.

- While an agreement is being sought between Parks Canada and the people of Deline, there will also be a need for these two agencies to coordinate with and participate in the monitoring and enforcement activities with the many other agencies with an interest in the Great Bear Lake Watershed area (e.g. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Environment Canada, Environment and Natural Resources (GNWT), etc.). Not only will this create operational efficiencies, it will contribute to a common approach to these activities by all concerned agencies. This common approach establishes a consistency that people in the area can understand and appreciate.
- As the first Candidate Protected Area to be subject to the assessment guidelines and the review process of the NWT-PAS, Sahoyúé-?ehdacho will set a precedent and example for other communities in the territory. It is therefore important within the broader context of protected areas in the NWT that this review process produce results that other communities can understand, agree with and emulate with confidence.
- The Sahoyúé-?ehdacho is a cultural landscape. As such it is different from virtually all other national, provincial or territorial parks in Canada. The country has limited experience with such areas and they are not well reflected in the systems created for the establishment of national, provincial or territorial parks. This may have contributed to complications in the easy establishment of this area as a permanently protected area.

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<sup>29</sup> Parks Canada has a policy statement on the management of cultural resources – see: “Parks Canada Agency, Parks Canada Guiding Principles and Operational Policies, Part III – Cultural Resource Management Policy” (website – [www.parkscanada.ca](http://www.parkscanada.ca)).