



Parks Canada Preliminary Screening Under the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*

TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT:

New

Amended

Requires a permit, licence or authorization under the *Preliminary Screening Requirement Regulations* (issuance of a Business Permit pursuant to the *National Parks of Canada Business Regulations* s 4.1)

Does not require permit, licence or authorization and is proposed by PCA

1. DEVELOPMENT TITLE & LOCATION

Striking Balance- Tsá Tué Biosphere Reserve episode, Saoyú-?ehdacho National Historic Site

2. PROPONENT INFORMATION

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3. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT DATES

Planned commencement: 2018-07-23

Planned completion: 2018-07-28

4. INTERNAL FILE

SENHS-2018-001

5. DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION

Striking Balance is a 9x50 minute docu-series that will take the film makers coast to coast - to explore nine of Canada's UNESCO World Biosphere Reserves. While Biosphere Reserves are internationally unique ecological areas, there is also an extraordinary human element at the heart of each one.

At over 9.3 million hectares, the newly designated Tsá Tué Biosphere Reserve is the largest Biosphere Reserve in North America, and the first Biosphere designation in the world undertaken entirely by Indigenous People - the Sahtuto'ine Dene. Striking Balance will share the story of the Dene's deep relationship with the landscape, and the recent precedent-setting land use and governance agreements developed here.

Striking Balance will also look at some of the challenging historic uses of the territory, such as mining, as well as some of the exciting land and conservation partnerships that have resulted from the governance changes, such as the Saoyú-?ehdacho National Historic Site.





Water, lake trout, and caribou will be featured in the discussions about the land. The focus of these discussions will be sustainable stewardship – through the guidance of the Elders, the teachings of the Prophets, and the guardian program. In development by the Biosphere Council, the guardian program, in collaboration with partners such as the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and visiting researchers, trains local people in monitoring techniques – which will help the Dene make even better resource management decisions.

Filming will take place at the Tłı̄ehdá Knowledge and Healing Camp as part of the annual events there. The crew will consist of three people

NOTE: The preliminary screening will apply only to the components of the development related to commercial filming (i.e.: generator operation, drone operation, motorized boat operations in support of filming), not to Dene traditional harvesting, which is not regulated under the Canada National Parks Act. Traditional harvesting activities conducted by Dene related to this development will include motorized boat operation to support traditional activities, and may include hunting/fishing and cooking fires.

Schedule: (Note: maximum crew size= 3 people)

Date	Location	Activities
July 23-28	Tłı̄ehdá Knowledge and Healing Camp - Saoyú-ʔehdacho National Historic Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The film crew anticipates travelling by boat, and camping with the Knowledge and Healing camp participants.Filming will take place throughout the duration of the planned Knowledge and Healing camp activities. Aerial filming will be done by drone flights during the camp. (Flights will be piloted by a trained UAV/drone pilot (Zach Melnick)).

Logistical/equipment details:

- The crew will travel by boat to the Tłı̄ehdá Knowledge and Healing Camp and stay with Dene participants
- Equipment: tripod, camera, boom microphone & sound recorder, hand held reflector for interviews, battery operated LED light for interviews, and a UAV

6. VALUED COMPONENTS

Sahoyue-Edacho was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1997 because its cultural values, expressed through the interrelationship between the landscape, oral histories, graves and cultural resources, such as trails and cabins, help to explain and contribute to an understanding of the origin, spiritual values, lifestyle and land-use of the Sahtu Dene.

Its heritage value lies in the cultural landscape as a whole, its environmental quality, which allows traditional lifestyle and land use activities, and the cultural values of the Sahtu Dene expressed through



the inter-relationship between landscape, oral history, graves and cultural resources. These are outstanding landscapes that blend the natural and spiritual worlds of the Sahtu Dene and help define them as a people. The extensive oral tradition brings the history of the Sahtu Dene alive and signifies the importance of these sacred lands to them and to the heritage of Canada.

Key elements that contribute to the heritage character of the site include:

- the location on the shoreline of Great Bear Lake in the Northwest Territories;
- the completeness of the cultural landscape as an integrated whole over all time, and in particular:
 - the high standard of environmental quality and biodiversity evident in the natural landforms, flora and fauna;
 - the absence of industrial development;
 - the specific sacred sites and places of significance and, in particular, the list of such places currently maintained and supplemented by the Sahtu Dene;
 - the places at which specific stories are told, including traditional hunting, trapping, fishing, plant harvesting and camping sites, portages and trails;
 - any tent rings, teepee poles, cabin sites in their found forms, extent materials and location;
 - any implements and tools including ruined fish traps in their found forms, materials and locations;
 - any grave sites associated with specific places in their found forms and materials;
 - the portages and trails in their found forms and locations;
 - Any archaeological sites in their found forms, locations and materials including evidence of the cultural practices of the Sahtu Dene and the relationship with Sahoyúé-šehdacho.

Social/Cultural Environment (including Wildlife Harvesting)

- Harvesting (wildlife, plants, and trees) and motorized access for traditional activities within park boundaries is a right of local Sahtúto'jnę (Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement, 1993).

Heritage Resources

- Heritage resources are defined as a human work, an object, or a place that is determined, on the basis of its heritage value, to be directly associated with an important aspect or aspects of human history and culture of an heritage area (Parks Canada, 2013). Heritage resources include archaeological or historic sites, burial sites, artifacts and other objects of historical, cultural, or religious significance, and historical or cultural records (MVRMA (s.2)). Heritage resources exist through the historic site. Although surveys have been conducted to identify cultural resources on both Saoyú and -šehdacho, there remains a high potential for the presence of undocumented pre-historic, historic, and contemporary cultural resources.



7. EFFECTS ANALYSIS

Natural Resources

- The use of a UAV for filming could have a limited and localised impact on wildlife by disturbing natural life processes and displacing them from the area during filming.
- The use of small motorized vessel; and
- Generators for charging/powering filming equipment, is not expected to have an impact on natural resources in the site.

Heritage Resources

- Effects applicable to cultural resources are covered by existing Parks Canada Best Management Practice (BMP) for Guided Activities in Parks Canada's Western Arctic Field Unit that have been reviewed by Cultural Resource management staff.

Cumulative Effects

- None identified.

8. MITIGATION MEASURES

UAV use

1. The UAV must not be flown when wildlife (e.g. bears, moose, caribou, raptors) are present around the camp.
2. Whenever the UAV is in use, a wildlife spotter must be assigned to alert the pilot should any wildlife appear in the area. UAV use must be immediately ceased when wildlife are present.
3. The UAV must not be operated in a manner that disturbs or interferes with wildlife.

Motorized vessel use

1. Avoid producing a wake that disturbs the shoreline and can cause erosion. Approach inshore areas at slow speeds to minimize disturbances to banks, shorelines, and shallow water habitats.
2. Avoid passing over shallow spawning habitat where propeller wash may disrupt habitat and/or smother eggs and larval fish.

Fuelling

1. When fuelling a boat, use extra caution and avoid spills. Deal with any spill immediately. Have a cloth at hand to catch any spills. Use one for the filler and one for the fuel tank vent.
2. Portable fuel tanks, engine-mounted tanks and generators (where feasible) will be refueled at least 50m from water. Use a funnel and have an absorbent cloth at hand.

Heritage Resources

1. If heritage resources are encountered the following protocol must be followed:
 - a. Photograph them with something to indicate scale;
 - b. Take close up and broader landscape photos of the site, feature, or artifact;



- c. Leave them where they are found;
- d. Record the GPS coordinates for the location;
- e. Provide a copy of all information gathered to the Saoyú-?ehdacho National Historic Site staff or office, attention of the Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Advisor.
- f. If you come across a burial or human remains, do not touch or walk over the area, mark the GPS location and further avoid the area of the burial.
- g. Minimize the potential of disturbing cultural sites by only travelling on well-known and used trails. Further, do not modify any trees along trails.
- h. Be cautious to avoid trampling when walking or driving along trails as there are likely old campsites off, but close to the trail.

9. REFERENCES

Canada's Historic Places. Statement of Significance for Saoyú-?ehdacho National Historic Site of Canada. Accessed on July 5th 2017.

<http://www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=13033&pid=0>

10. DECISION

Taking into account the analysis and implementation of mitigation measures outlined in the analysis, the development:

- Might have a significant adverse impact on the environment, and the proposal should be referred to the *Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board* for environmental assessment.
- Does not have a likelihood of causing significant adverse impact on the environment.
- Might be a cause for public concern, and the proposal should be referred to the *Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board* for environmental assessment.
- Does not have a likelihood of causing public concern.

11. APPROVAL


<p>Prepared by: <i>Joe Costa</i> Resource Management Officer, Western Arctic Field Unit</p>	<p>Date: July 16, 2018</p>
<p>Approved by:  <hr/> <i>David Tavares</i> A/ Superintendent, Western Arctic Field Unit</p>	<p>Date: July 19, 2018</p>



Figure 1: Development location map.

