



Tlicho Government

April 21, 2009

GNWT Environment and Natural Resources
PO Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT, Canada
X1A 2L9

Attention: Sarah True

Dear Ms True,

**RE: General Wildlife Permit Application Review NS2009GWP001
True North Safaris Ltd.**

We have received and reviewed the above-mentioned application for a general wildlife permit to bait big game.

The Tlicho Lands Department, including our Traditional Knowledge expert has reviewed the application and we approve the bear baiting for another one year trial period under the following conditions, which include assurance that conditions established under the previous license are met. These include:

- Signs must be posted the appropriate distance from the bait sites (50 and 150 meters)
- Bait stations must be placed at least 500 meters from public use areas, trails, cabins and highways and this must be approved by ENR
- Type of bait must be shared and approved by both Tlicho Lands Protection Department and WRRB when the TNS consultant has completed the report and recommendations
- Records of baits used, number of bears, age, sex and information of those harvested must be given to both ENR and the Tlicho LPD.
- Biological samples must be given to ENR.

Monitoring and Enforcement of these conditions must be ensured. We recommend both ENR and a WRRB member and/or Tlicho representative be present to ensure our recommendations are being met.



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Additional recommendations:

- Increased scientific research and traditional knowledge studies must be conducted regarding the status of the black bear in the NWT.
- An assessment of bear licenses and baiting that has happened in the territory and research must be done considering the impact this may have on the bear population. We are concerned about precedents being set in the NWT and increased numbers of outfitters using this method
- Clarification and an understanding must be established with our TK expert, as to what happens to the bear upon being killed and what happens to the organs and waste from that bear.

We would like to ensure the TNS and ENR recognize the spiritual value that the black bear represents to the Tl̨ich̨o. It must be treated with respect and appreciation. In the past the elders told stories about the black bear "when we kill a black bear we had a great feast". They wasted no part of the bear, and respected and utilized all parts of the bear. "We respect this animal; we don't kill the bear for no reason".

The Tl̨ich̨o Government approves the baiting for one more year, and if these conditions are not met, we will not support TNS in bear baiting again next year. They must show us that they are respectful of both traditional, scientific and legal requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the wildlife permit. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 392-6381 or e-mail at kerrigarner@tl̨ich̨o.com if you have any questions or comments.

Masi Cho,

Kerri Garner
Lands Regulator