



DEVELOPMENT TITLE: *Aircraft Charter Company Operations in Nahanni and Nááts'jch'oh National Park Reserves*

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT DATE(S): April 1st, 2024 – March 31st, 2025

DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION:

Nahanni National Park Reserve (Nahanni) and Nááts'jch'oh National Park Reserve (Nááts'jch'oh) are accessed primarily by air (fixed and rotary wing aircraft) for park operational and tourism purposes; other than permit-only road access via the Howards Pass Access Road in the extreme western portion of the parks. The majority of air access is facilitated by aircraft charter company outfitters. These companies must obtain Parks Canada business licenses to operate in the parks; according to the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA) their activities must undergo preliminary screening before these licenses can be issued. Aircraft operations run throughout the year, though decrease substantially and are primarily limited to park operational requirements during the fall, winter, and spring. Day flights, to drop off/pick up overnight visitors and park staff, or facilitate day sightseeing excursions, comprise the majority of charters, though occasional overnight stays are required for park operational purposes. This preliminary screening applies to the following aircraft charter companies, and up to ten additional aircraft operators, and includes the listed activities/locations:

Companies Licensed to Operate in Nahanni and/or Nááts'jch'oh

Air Tindi	Great Slave Helicopters 2018 Ltd. / Sahtu Helicopters	Qwest Helicopters
Alkan Air	Horizon Helicopters Ltd.	Simpson Air 1981 Ltd
Alpine Aviation	Kluane Airways Ltd	South Nahanni Airways
Capital Helicopters	Liard Air Ltd	Trans North Turbo Air Limited
Discovery Helicopters	Nahanni Heli Adventures / Solitude Excursions Ltd	Tundra Helicopters
Fireweed Helicopters Ltd.	Northern Rockies Air Charter Ltd.	
Goose Flying Service	North-Wright Airways Ltd	

Activities at designated landing areas in Nahanni and non-designated landing areas in Nááts'jch'oh

- Day flight seeing experiences
- Commercial transport of visitors and freight for recreational activities such as hiking, mountain climbing, mountaineering, and river trips
- Nahanni and Nááts'jch'oh NPR operational activities
- Transport of researchers for purposes outside of park operational activities



Locations (see map, Appendix 1)

Non-designated aircraft landing areas in Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserve		
(A)	Nááts'ihch'oh Tué (Moose Ponds)	These areas were used as aircraft access points prior to park establishment and may become designated landing sites once archeological assessments are completed. Aircraft operators are permitted annually to land at these locations.
(B)	Túoch'ee Tué (O'Grady Lake)	
(C)	Qtaa Tué Fehto (Divide Lake)	
(D)	Níonep'ene? Tué (Grizzly Bear Lake)	
(E)	Tuededéveh Tué (Clearwater Lake)	
---	Howards's Pass Access Road	Transport of authorized researchers/contractors and/or Parks Canada staff

Non-designated aircraft landing areas in Nahanni National Park Reserve		
(F)	Bologna Glacier	Transport of researchers for park operational activities
---	Howards's Pass Access Road	Transport of authorized researchers/contractors and/or Parks Canada staff
---	Prairie Creek Access Road	Transport of authorized researchers/contractors and/or Parks Canada staff

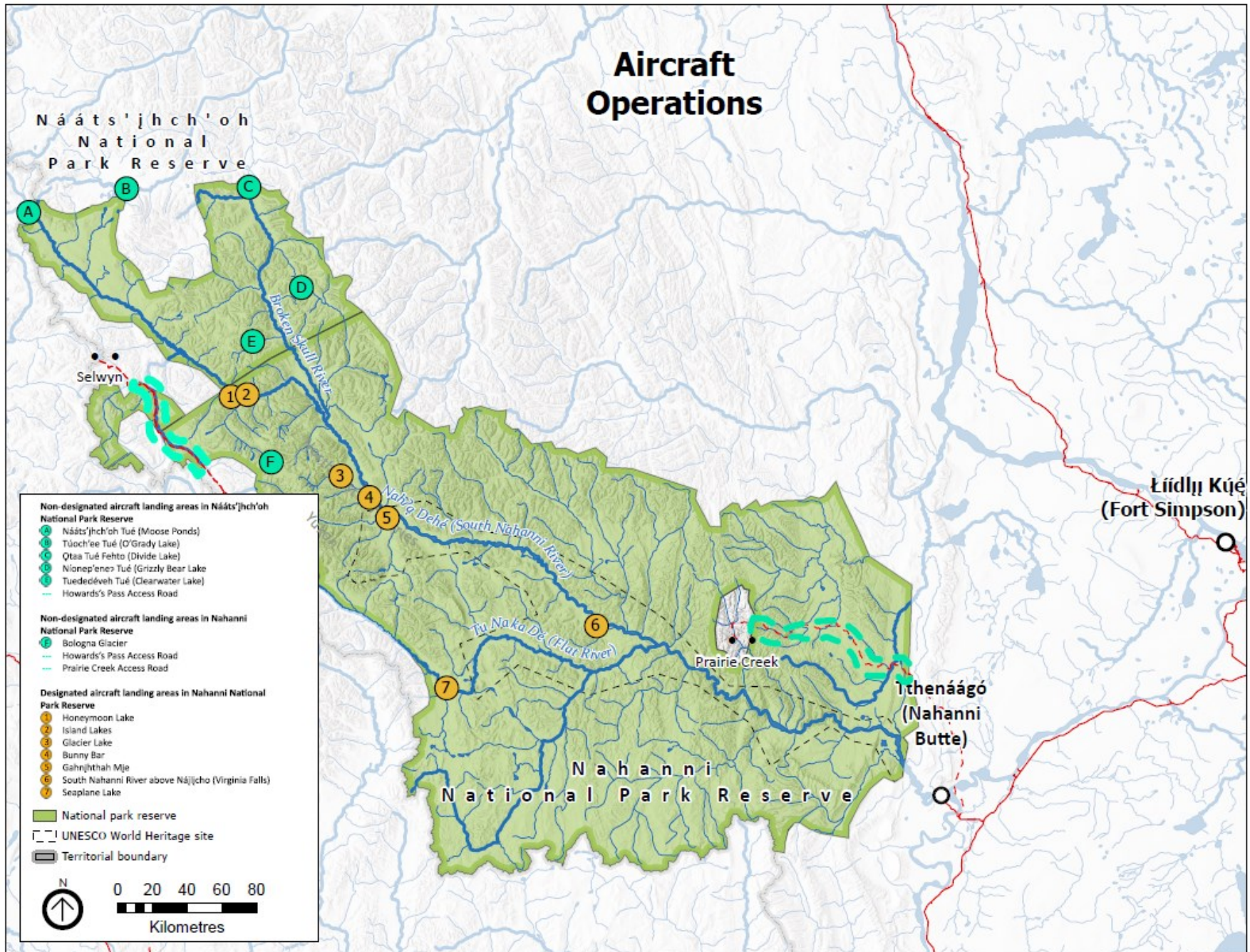
Designated aircraft landing areas in Nahanni National Park Reserve		
(1)	Honeymoon Lake	
(2)	Island Lakes	
(3)	Glacier Lake	
(4)	Bunny Bar	
(5)	Gahnjthah Mje	
(6)	South Nahanni River above Nájljcho (Virginia Falls)	
(7)	Seaplane Lake	

Mitigations

Operators will adhere to the mitigations described in the *Parks Canada Best Management Practice (BMP) for Aircraft Operations and Landings in Nahanni and Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserves of Canada* and, when applicable, the *Fuel Caching Protocol for Nahanni National Park Reserve and Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserve*.

Appendix 1

Note: all flight start/end locations are from designated airports/aerodromes outside of the parks.



Appendix 2

Distribution List

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board	preliminaryscreening@reviewboard.ca
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board	jpotten@mvlwb.com; tyree@mvlwb.com
Grand Chief Herb Norwegian Dehcho First Nations	herb_norwegian@dehcho.org
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Chief Kele Antoine łíídlıı Kúé First Nation	chief@liidliikue.com
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Chief Michael Vandell Deh Gáh Got'ıę First Nation	chief@dehgahgotie.ca
Chief Lloyd Chicot Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation	kaageetu_chief@northwestel.net
Chief Dolphus Jumbo Sambaa K'e Dene Band	chief@sambaakefn.com
Chief Lloyd Moses Pehdzeh Ki First Nation	info@pkfn.ca chief@pkfn.ca
Chief Kenneth Cayen West Point First Nation	chief@wpfn.ca
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Black Sheep Aviation & Cattle Co. Ltd.	flyblacksheep@outlook.com
Capital Helicopters	info@capitalhelicopters.com
Goose Flying Services	info@flygoose.ca
Great Slave Helicopters 2018	fortsimpson@gsheli.com
Kluane Airways Ltd	info@kluaneairways.com
Liard Air Ltd	flights@liardair.com
Northern Rockies Air Charter Ltd.	northernrockiesair@gmail.com

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Simpson Air 1981 Ltd	info@simpsonair.ca
Solitude Excursions Ltd	hike@helihikenahanni.com
South Nahanni Airways	info@southnahanniairways.ca; charters@southnahanniairways.ca
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