

Nahanni National Park Reserve
Southwest Northwest Territories Field Unit
10002 100 Street
Fort Simpson, NT
X0E 0N0

February 22, 2022

To: Distribution List

Re: Notification of Commencement of Preliminary Screening of Outfitter Operations in Nahanni and Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserves

In accordance with the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, Parks Canada will be conducting a preliminary screening of Aircraft Operations in Nahanni and Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserves. Pursuant to Item 16, Schedule 1 of the *Preliminary Screening Requirement Regulations*, a Parks Canada business licence must undergo a preliminary screening. Attached is a description of the proposal. Please note this proposal is the same as last year.

Please note that outfitters are responsible for ensuring their employees and clients are following Protect NWT guidelines, and adhering to all Chief Public Health Officer's directions and orders as they may occur.

If you have any comments on this proposal, please submit them to Colleen Murchison (colleen.murchison@pc.gc.ca) by March 16, 2022.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Johanna Robson
Resource Management Supervisor, Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserve
Parks Canada
Email: Johanna.robson@pc.gc.ca



DEVELOPMENT TITLE: *Outfitter Guided Trips in Nahanni and Nááts'jch'oh National Park Reserves*

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT DATE(S): June 1st – September 30th, 2022

DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION:

Many visitors accessing Nahanni National Park Reserve (Nahanni) and Nááts'jch'oh National Park Reserve (Nááts'jch'oh) do so as clients of commercial outfitting companies. Guided trips typically begin at earliest the first week of June (more often, the second to third week of June) and, on average, run until the first week of September. They range anywhere from one to three weeks in length and include river tripping and hiking as primary activities. Each guided trip includes a maximum of 15 people (including guides). Commercial river outfitters must obtain Parks Canada business licenses to operate in the parks.

The Guidelines for Licensing of Guided River Outfitting in Nahanni and Nááts'jch'oh National Park Reserves outline the considerations for safety and sustainability, set quotas for visitation and limit the number of licences Parks Canada issues in Nahanni National Park Reserve. As per the licensing guidelines and in accordance with the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA)*, the activities of commercial outfitting companies must undergo preliminary screening before their licences can be issued. This preliminary screening applies to the following commercial outfitting companies, which have indicated that they will be applying for their annual business licence renewal, and includes the listed activities/locations:

Companies

- Black Feather Wilderness Adventure Company
- Nahanni Wilderness Adventures
- Canoe North Adventures

Activities

- *Water-based:* canoeing, rafting, kayaking, stand up paddle board, and packrafting (packrafting only on the Broken Skull, Little and South Nahanni, and Flat rivers)
- *Land-based:* camping, day hiking, backpacking (overnight camping), and base camping (only by the above companies who are licenced for base camping at Níonep'ene? Tué and for no longer than 14 days)



Locations (see map, Appendix 1)

WATER-BASED ACTIVITY START LOCATIONS	
Qtaa Tué Fehto (Divide Lake), Nááts'jch'oh	Access to Píj'p'enéh léetóq Deé (Broken Skull River) which travels through both parks and for Tátsók'áá Deé (Raven's Throat River) (river outside of the park; outfitters may heli-sling over)
Nááts'jch'oh Tué (Moose Ponds), Nááts'jch'oh	Access to headwaters of South Nahanni River, which travels through both parks
Túoch'ee Tué (O'Grady Lake), Nááts'jch'oh	Access for the Túoch'ee Deé (Natla River) (most of the river is outside of the park – there is a small portion in the park, connecting two parts of Túoch'ee Tué (O'Grady Lake), but most groups put in downstream of this connector section)
Island Lakes, Nahanni	Access for the South Nahanni River
Bunny Bar, Nahanni	
Gahnjthah Mje, Nahanni	
Nájljcho, Nahanni	
Flat Lakes, NT	Access to Little Nahanni River, which travels through both parks
Divide Lake, NT (<i>Note: near Flat Lakes; this is a different location than the Divide Lake in Nááts'jch'oh</i>)	Access to Flat River which begins outside Nahanni park boundary in NT and travels into Nahanni National Park Reserve joining up with South Nahanni River below Nájljcho.

WATER-BASED ACTIVITY END LOCATIONS	
Gahnjthah Mje, Nahanni	Blackstone Territorial Park, NT
Nájljcho, Nahanni	Łíídlj Kúé, NT
Nahanni Butte, NT	Tulita, NT
Lindberg's Landing, NT	

WATER-BASED ACTIVITY CAMP LOCATIONS	
<i>Nahanni</i>	
Nájljcho	Gahnjthah Mje
Glacier Lake	
Random camp locations along the Broken Skull, Little and South Nahanni, and Flat river corridors	
<i>Nááts'jch'oh</i>	
Qtaa Tué Fehto (Divide Lake)	Nááts'jch'oh Tué (Moose Ponds) (on old tundra tire strip)
Níonep'ene? Tué (Backbone Lake/Grizzly Bear Lake)	Túoch'ee Tué (O'Grady Lake) (on sand peninsula)
Random camp locations. Most frequently used: Creek junction above Swallow Falls; Creek junction of creek flowing from Sadée Shúh Gaofáá (Grizzly Bear Hot Springs) and Broken Skull River; Broken Skull Hot Springs, access campsite; Three Valley Confluence (White Wolf Creek, Rainbow Creek and Broken Skull River)	



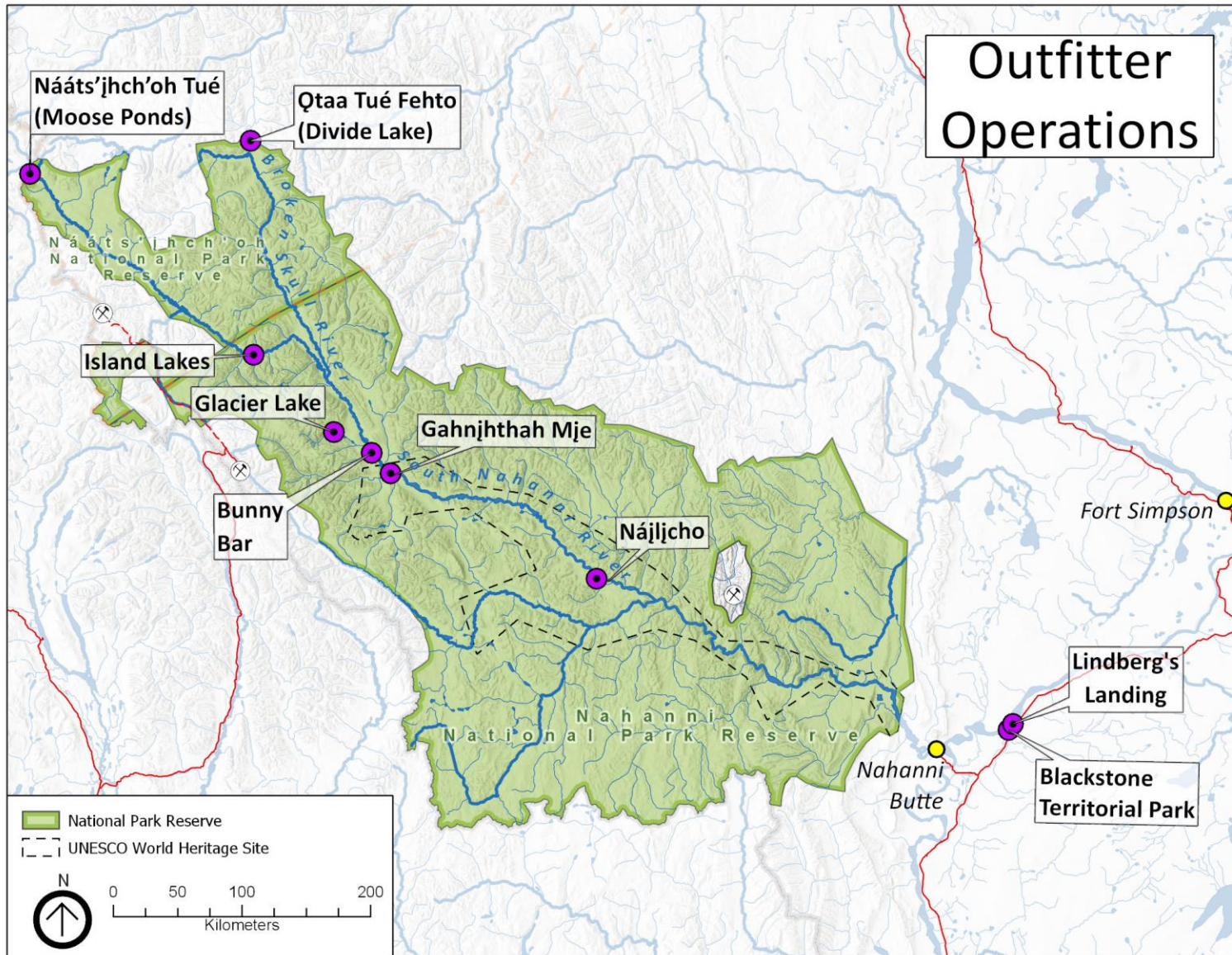
HIKING / BACKPACKING ROUTES (Note: all are backcountry/non-maintained routes)	
<i>Nahanni</i>	
South Nahanni River to Glacier Lake (multi-night)	Glacier Lake to Fairy Meadows (multi-night)
Gahnjthah Mje to Gahnjthah Tufa Mounds (day)	Gahnjthah Portage and Campground (day)
Sunblood Mountain (day)	Marengo Creek (day)
Pulpit Rock and Gate Viewpoint (day)	Painted Canyon (day)
Scow Creek (day)	Lafferty's Creek (day)
Other exploratory day hike routes along river corridors	Ram Plateau (rarely)
<i>Nááts'jhch'oh</i>	
Tuededéveh Tué (Clearwater Lake) / Sedzeeféetó Piehtéh (Broken Heart Plateau) (multi-night)	Níonep'ene? Tué (Backbone Lake/Grizzly Bear Lake) (multi-night or day hikes)
Níonep'ene? Tué (Backbone Lake/Grizzly Bear Lake) to Sadée Shúh Gaofáá (Grizzly Bear Hot Spring) (day)	Píí'p'enéh íéetóó Deé (Broken Skull River) to Píí'p'enéh íéetóó Gaofáá (Broken Skull Hot Springs) (day)

Mitigations

Outfitters will follow a leave-no-trace camping/wilderness use ethic and will adhere to the mitigations described in the *Parks Canada Best Management Practice for Commercially Guided Eco-tourism Activities in Nahanni and Nááts'jhch'oh National Park Reserves of Canada*.



Appendix 1





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 Kenneth Cayen Dehcho First Nations	Grandchief_cayen@dehcho.org
Executive Director Alison de Pelham Dehcho First Nations	executivedirector@dehcho.org
Chief Kele Antoine Liidlii Kue First Nation	chief@liidliikue.com
Executive Director Liza McPherson Liidlii Kue First Nation	exdir@liidliikue.com
Chief Stanley Sanguez JMR First Nation	chief@jmrfn.com
Chief Steve Vital Nahanni Butte Dene Band	chiefsteve.nbdb@gmail.com
Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge Deh Gah Gotie 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	chief@pkfn.ca
Sub-Chief Florence Cayen West Point First Nation	chief@wpfn.ca
President Clifford McLeod Fort Providence Métis Council	fpmcpres@northwestel.net
President Daniel Peterson Fort Simpson Métis Local	metisnation52@northwestel.net
Keyna Norwegian Air Tindi	eaglefirelogistics@gmail.com
Alpine Aviation	info@airtindi.com
Black Sheep Aviation & Cattle Co. Ltd.	alpineaviation@gmail.com
Great Slave Helicopters 2018	info@flyblacksheep.ca
Kluane Airways Ltd	fortsimpson@gsheli.com
Liard Air Ltd	info@kluaneairways.com
Northern Rockies Air Charter Ltd.	info@nrlodge.com
North-Wright Airways Ltd	info@scooplake.com
Simpson Air 1981 Ltd	ops@north-wrightairways.com
Solitude Excursions Ltd	simpsonair@northwestel.net
	hike@helihikenahanni.com



South Nahanni Airways	info@southnahanniairways.ca ; charters@southnahanniairways.ca
Summit Air and Summit Helicopters	peter.rice@summithelicopters.ca info@flysummitair.com
Trans North Turbo Air Limited	dpachiorka@tntaheli.com
Tundra Helicopters	tundrahelicopters@hotmail.com
Goose Flying Services	gooseflyingcorp@outlook.com
Black Feather The Wilderness Adventure Company	info@blackfeather.com
Nahanni Wilderness Adventures	adventures@nahanniwild.com
Canoe North Adventures	info@canoenorthadventures.com
Jennifer Thistle , Regional Superintendent, Dehcho Industry, Tourism and Investment, Government of the Northwest Territories	Jennifer_Thistle@gov.nt.ca
Douglas Dillon (Aboriginal Tourism Development Officer, Industry, Tourism and Investment - Tourism and Parks Division Government of the Northwest Territories)	Douglas_Dillon@gov.nt.ca
Chief Executive Officer Donna Lee Demarcke NWT Tourism	executive@spectacularnwt.com
CPAWS, NWT Chapter	nwtadmin@cpaws.org
Tulita Land/Financial Corporation	president@tulitalandcorp.ca executivedirector@tulitalandcorp.ca
Fort Norman Metis Land Corporation	rockynorwegian@gmail.com execdirno60@gmail.com
Norman Wells Land Corporation	hci2@theedgenw.ca
Tulita Renewable Resources Council	trrc@northwestel.net
Norman Wells Renewable Resources Council	sahtuapple@hotmail.com nwrrc@nwlc.ca
Tulita District Land Corporation	hci2@theedgenw.ca district@allstream.net
Tulita Dene Band – Chief Frank Andrew	tdbchief@live.ca band_manager@tulitadeneband.com
Hamlet of Tulita	SAO@hamletoftulita.ca
Town of Norman Wells	Mayor_Frank_Pope@normanwells.com ; SeniorAdministrativeOfficer@normanwells.com