

EA0506-003



Akaitcho Interim Measures Agreement Implementation Office

NWT Treaty #8 Tribal Corporation

Stephen Ellis – Akaitcho IMA Implementation Coordinator
NWT Treaty #8 Tribal Corporation
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June 2, 2005

Martin Haefele – Environmental Assessment Officer
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Box 938, 5102-50th Avenue
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7
Fax: (867) 766-7074

RE: EA0506-003 Response to request for documentation of efforts to include the upper Thelon region in a conservation zone

Dear Mr. Haefele:

In response to your request for available documents outlining efforts to include the Screech Lake region in a protected area, the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation (LKDFN) has asked me to compile the relevant documents, briefly describe the relevance of each, and forward the information to you. Please find the available documents attached to this letter, and their relevance herein described.

The attached documents are:

Thelon Game Sanctuary

1. *Thelon Game Sanctuary Management Plan* – This document has been approved by all the relevant authorities in Nunavut, and has agreement-in-principle from the LKDFN. The LKDFN will approve the plan with the support of the other Akaitcho Dene First Nations. This support is currently being sought. Appendix #2 of the Plan describes a Special Management Area to the southwest of the current Sanctuary as being particularly important for maintaining the integrity of the Sanctuary. Once the Plan is fully approved, the resulting Management Authority would proceed with the necessary measures and consultations to establish the Special Management Area.
2. *Joint Lutsel K'e / Qammanituaq letter to the relevant territorial Ministers* - Outlines support-in-principle for the Thelon Game Sanctuary Management Plan.

3. *Recommendation from Akaitcho Negotiating Team to the Akaitcho Chiefs* – Demonstrates commitment to proceed expediently with the approval and implementation of the Thelon Game Sanctuary Management Plan.
4. *Map* - Outlines proposed boundaries of a Special Management Area to the Thelon Game Sanctuary.

National Park in the East Arm and Artillery Lake regions

5. *LKDFN BCR (October 5, 2004)* – Demonstrates commitment of the LKDFN to plan and negotiate a National Park.
6. *LKDFN Proposal excerpt and covering letter to Parks Canada (March 9, 2005)* – Demonstrates desire of the LKDFN to plan for new boundaries beyond the current land withdrawal.

I trust these materials suit your needs. Please contact me if you have any questions, or need anymore background information.

Sincerely,



Stephen Ellis – Akaitcho IMA Implementation Coordinator
NWT Treaty #8 Tribal Corporation

- c. Sub – Chief Albert Boucher – LKDFN
Peter Enzoe / Monica Krieger – LKDFN Wildlife, Lands, and Environment
Committee

Qamanittuaq (Baker Lake) / Lutsel K'e
Joint Community Meeting
regarding
Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary Management Plan
Lutsel K'e, NT - March 9, 2001

Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
Box 28 Lutsel K'e, NT X0E 1A0

Hunters and Trappers Association
Akiliniq Planning Committee
Qamanittuaq (Baker Lake), NU

March 9/01

Olayuk Akesuk
Minister of Sustainable Development
Brown Building 3rd Floor
P.O Box 1340
Iqaluit, NU

Joseph Handley - Minister
Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development
Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Re: Finalization of the Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary Management Plan

Dear Ministers:

Our communities of Qamanittuaq and Lutsel K'e met on March 9/01 in Lutsel K'e to review the status of the proposed *Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary Management Plan*.

Our communities were actively involved in preparing the *Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary Management Plan* from 1994-97 through the Akiliniq Planning Committee. Since that time we have seen little support from the two Territorial Governments for the work of the Akiliniq Planning Committee and the interests of the communities of Qamanittuaq and Lutsel K'e with respect to the Sanctuary.

At our March 9/01 meeting the two communities of Qamanittuaq and Lutsel K'e agreed to accept the *Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary Management Plan* in principle. However, there are a number of key issues within the plan that require revision. Those issues largely relate to the:

- legal context of Treaty#8 governance negotiations;
- boundaries of the Sanctuary including the Special Management Areas;
- constitution of the Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary Management Authority;
- implementation of the plan.

Notwithstanding these concerns, we feel that the plan generally addresses our common interest in protecting the land, water and wildlife of the Thelon. Both our communities have a long history of living on the land in that area. We would like to see these resources and our cultural heritage protected for future generations.

We are therefore recommending that the Nunavut Department of Sustainable Development and the Department of Resources Wildlife and Economic Development accept the plan in principle and provide resources for the communities of Qamanittuaq and Lutsel K'e to:

- establish a joint-management board;
- redraft those sections of the agreement of concern to them;
- consult with the members of their communities regarding the plan and revisions;
- meet together in July 2001 to finalize the plan.

Over the past years our two communities have found ways to work together in the interest of managing the lands, wildlife, and resources we share in common. At this time, we feel it is important that the Department of Sustainable Development and the Department of Resources Wildlife and Economic Development recognize our efforts and support us in finalizing the *Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary Management Plan*.

Sincerely,

Chief Felix Lockhart
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation

David Aksawnee – Chair
Qamanittuaq Hunters and Trappers Organization

Charlie Catholique – Chair
Wildlife Lands and Environment Ctte.

David Toolooktook
Akiliniq Planning Committee

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

JB Rabesca – Elder
Wildlife Lands and Environment Ctte.

Thomas Qiqmat
Akiliniq Planning Committee

Archie Catholique – Councilor
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation

Basil Tuluqtuq
Akiliniq Planning Committee

Recommendations of the April 19-21, 2005 Akaitcho Technical Lands Workshop (MVEIRB EDIT)

Page III

Recommendations of the Akaitcho Technical Lands Workshop (April 19-21, 2005)

THIS REPORT HAS BEEN EDITED TO ONLY INCLUDE INFORMATION OF RELEVANCE TO THE UR-ENERGY INC. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

YKDFN

Fred Sangris – Community Negotiator
Ted Tsetta – Lands Coordinator

DKFN

Paul Boucher – Community Negotiator

LKDFN

James Marlowe – Acting Community Negotiator

Stan Desjarlais – Lands Coordinator

T8TC

Sharon Venne – Akaitcho Chief Negotiator

Purpose and Main Outcome of Workshop

The purpose of this workshop was to discuss and develop ideas for Akaitcho lands in the context of the Treaty Implementation negotiations. Negotiators and Lands Coordinators from the First Nations were brought together to discuss their current progress on this issue, and to develop recommendations for the Chiefs in order to advance negotiations and the First Nation interests as they pertain to Akaitcho lands.

Specific Recommendations

Recommendation #3 – Akaitcho should work with the Inuit to protect and manage caribou herds important to the Akaitcho First Nations

Beverly

The Thelon Game Sanctuary Management Plan contains provisions for creating "Special Management Areas" in order to protect the calving grounds of the Beverly herd, as well as the headwaters of the Thelon river system. The plan would be administered by a management board with Dene and Inuit membership. This Plan has been approved completely by the relevant Inuit organizations (Government of Nunavut, Kivalliq Inuit Association, Baker Lake). Lutsel K'e approved the plan in principle in 2001, pending overall Akaitcho support. Only the current lack of formal Akaitcho support is preventing the implementation of this Plan. **Akaitcho leadership and the negotiating team should review the Thelon Game Sanctuary Management Plan, and if in line with the Treaty negotiations, should sign off and implement for the protection of the Beverly calving grounds and the Thelon watershed.**

Recommendation #5 – Resolve overlap issues with Sahtu, Tlicho, Deh Cho and Nunavut

NWT Treaty #8 Tribal Corporation

Recommendations of the April 19-21, 2005 Akaitcho Technical Lands Workshop (MVEIRB EDIT)

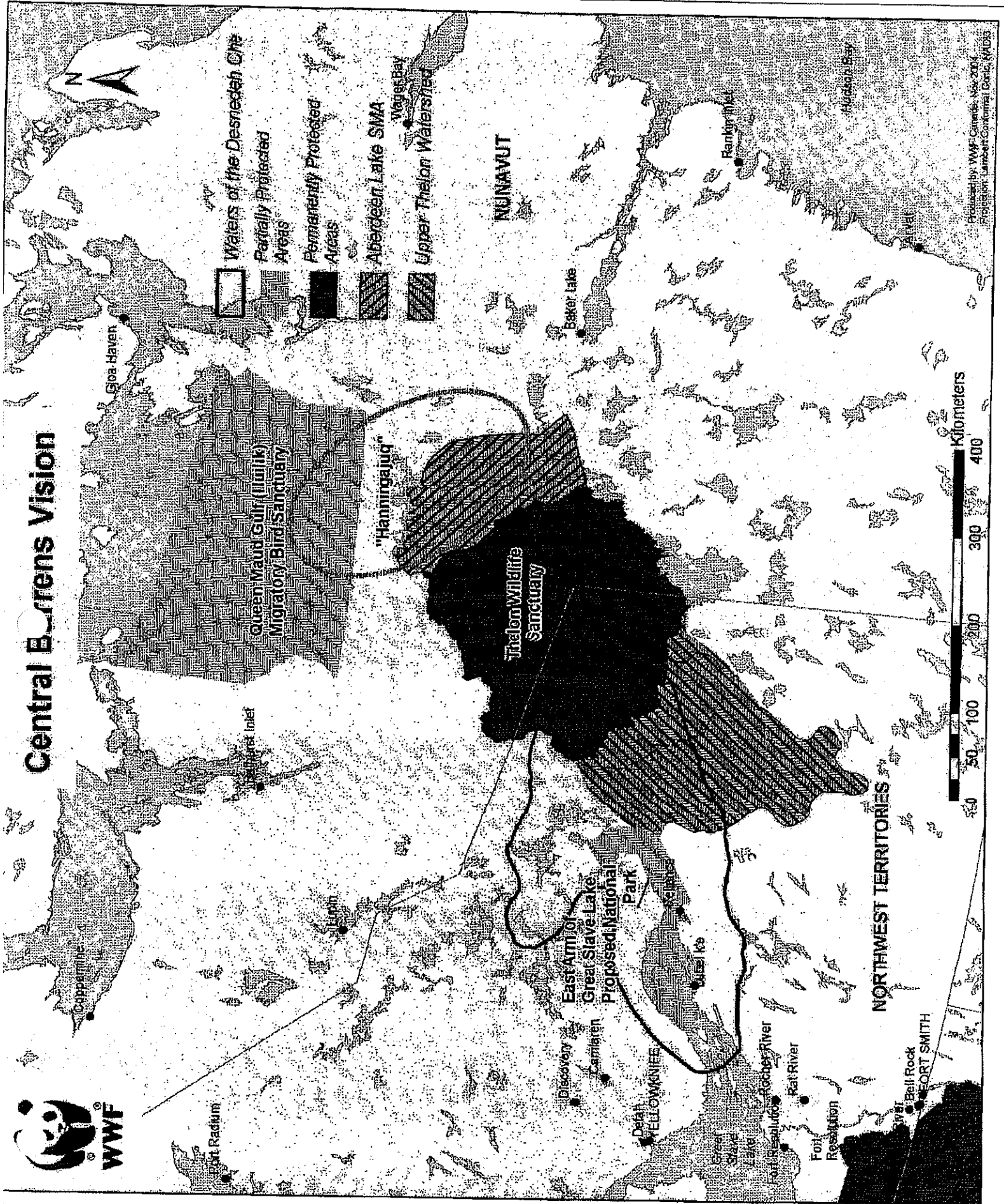
Nunavut

This issue would partly be dealt with through the sign-off of the Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary Management Plan, and a shared management arrangement for the eastern part of the Akaitcho territory.

An agreement was made between Nunavut and the Dene in 1990 regarding boundary issues. The AFN should have these documents, and they should be tracked down and examined.

Outstanding overlap issues with the Inuit could be dealt with through joint caribou protection measures, and should be pursued at a meeting with the Inuit at the meeting described in Recommendation #3.

Central Barrens Vision



Produced by WWF-Canada, Nov-2004
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic (NADS)

BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION
RESOLUTION DE CONSEIL DE BANDE

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NOTE: The words "Band Council Resolution" or "Résolution du conseil de bande" shall appear in the title of all resolutions originating from Band Councils.

Table with 2 columns: Council info (Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation) and Financial info (Cash in hand, Capital account, Revenue account).

DO HEREBY RESOLVE:
DECIDE, PAR LES PRESENTES:

WHEREAS the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation has been considering protecting lands in its traditional territory in partnership with Parks Canada, and

WHEREAS the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation has the inherent right to govern itself based upon values and principles handed down from generation to generation, and

WHEREAS the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation has occupied and used its traditional territory for subsistence, cultural, and spiritual practices from time immemorial, and

WHEREAS the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation has a nation to nation relationship with the Crown established through Treaty #8 (July 26, 1900), and

WHEREAS the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation is signatory to the Akaitcho Framework Agreement (July 25, 2000) with the purpose of renewing a relationship with the Crown based on the spirit and intent of Treaty #8, and

WHEREAS the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation has the right and the responsibility to protect lands in its traditional territory for as long as the sun shines, the river flows, and the grass grows, and

WHEREAS the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation has the values, knowledge, experience, and practices necessary to plan, operate, and manage protected lands in its traditional territory, and

WHEREAS Parks Canada has legislation, ecological integrity principles, experience, expertise, and resources that can help in the planning, operation, and management of protected lands.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation will enter into negotiations with the Crown with the intent of creating a partnership for the planning, operation, and management of protected lands in its traditional territory.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation will enter into negotiations based on the original spirit and intent of Treaty #8 and the principles of the Akaitcho Framework Agreement.

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Signature section with three signature lines and titles (Councillor - Conseiller).

Signature section with three signature lines and titles (Councillor - Conseiller).

FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY - RESERVE AU MINISTRE

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Lutsel K'e Dene Band

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X0E 1A0

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Fax: 867 370-3010

Sub Chief Albert Boucher
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
Box 28
Lutsel K'e, NT X0E 1A0
Ph: (867) 370-3051
Fax: (867) 370-3010

March 9, 2005

Gordon Hamre / Bob Gamble
Parks Canada Agency
Box 1166
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N8
Ph: (867) 669-2820
Fax: (867) 669-2829

RE: 2005-2006 Proposal for Protected Area Planning

Dear Mr. Hamre and Mr. Gamble:

The Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation has developed a proposal outlining the planning and preparatory work it would like to accomplish in 2005-2006 relating to the advancement of a protected area in the East Arm, Reliance, and Artillery Lake regions. Please find attached the detailed final proposal for your review.

We look forward to working cooperatively with Parks Canada in the planning of the protected area during 2005-2006. We also look forward to a commitment from Parks Canada to fund the proposed work.

Please contact Stephen Ellis (867-370-3217) with any questions and comments regarding this proposal.

Sincerely,

Sub Chief Albert Boucher
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation

Title of Project

Planning for the Establishment of a National Park in the East Arm of Great Slave Lake, Reliance, and Artillery Lake Regions of the Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation Traditional Territory

THIS PROPOSAL HAS BEEN EDITED TO ONLY INCLUDE INFORMATION OF RELEVANCE TO THE UR-ENERGY INC. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Name of Client/Owner

Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation

Project Background and Rationale

The LKDFN spent the better part of 2003, 2004, and the early part of 2005 in internal discussions concerning the implications of establishing a protected area in its traditional territory, particularly in the context of the Akaitcho Treaty Entitlement Process. As a result of these recent discussions, the LKDFN is prepared to initiate protected area negotiations with the Crown at a side table to the broader Akaitcho Process, focusing on partnership with Parks Canada in the Lockhart River (upper and lower) / Artillery Lake / East Arm regions. A Band Council Resolution was passed to these effects at a duly convened meeting of the LKDFN Chief and Council on October 5th, 2004. This BCR was reinforced by further community resolutions at a meeting of the LKDFN membership on January 12th, 2005. Support from the other First Nations party to the Akaitcho Framework Agreement is expected to be secured in the first half of 2005.

During the 2005-2006 fiscal year, the LKDFN would like to focus its park planning on the development of a detailed and comprehensive community vision for a protected area in the East Arm, Reliance, and Artillery Lake regions. Developing community proposals for various aspects of protected area design is essential if the LKDFN is to take a well-prepared and pro-active approach to protected area planning and negotiation. Some of these aspects include:

- Boundaries and Zoning
- Name
- Management Structure
- LKDFN Member Access and Use
- Visitor Regulation
- Infrastructure
- Cultural Respect and Promotion
- Economic Development and Training

2005-2006 activities can be viewed as the necessary preparatory work in advance of actual protected area negotiations. This work will allow the LKDFN to develop detailed and well-thought out negotiating positions, which would greatly facilitate both the effectiveness and efficiency of eventual negotiations.

Proposed Work

1. To detail and elaborate on a community vision, in cooperation with Parks Canada, for a protected area in the East Arm, Reliance, and Artillery Lake regions. This includes exploring options for boundaries, zoning, naming, management structure, Dene access and use, cultural promotion, tourist regulation, infrastructure, and economic development.

Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation

With regards to developing a community vision, project methods will simply involve a series of discussions and workshops. An Elder-Youth Forum, tentatively consisting of two Elders, two Land-Users, and two Youth, will be established to direct and oversee protected area development discussions. It is expected that such a Forum will focus park planning in a more efficient and effective manner, and provide continuity to the community parks establishment process. It is likely that this Forum would extend its role into eventual park negotiations.

Initial design and planning will be completed by the Elder-Youth Forum, with facilitation support from the Parks Project Director and the Community Planner.

It is expected that the following will require workshop development by the Elder-Youth Forum:

1. Community and Parks Canada Goals for Protection – 1 workshop
2. Boundaries and Zoning (including waters) - 3 workshops
3. Management Options - 2 workshops
4. LKDFN Member and other First Nation Access and Use – 1 workshop
5. Visitor Regulation - 2 workshops
6. Infrastructure - 1 workshop
7. Cultural Respect and Promotion – 1 workshop
8. Economic Development and Training - 2 workshops

It is expected that the bulk of these workshops will be conducted with Parks Canada participation. In some cases, relevant community agencies will also be involved in the planning workshops. For example, in order to workshop Economic Development and Training, representation from the Denesoline Economic Development Corporation might be involved. Broader community consultations will take place as necessary, but especially to review and approve the results of Elder-Youth Forum workshops.

It is expected that two meetings will be required throughout the year to update the other Akaitcho Dene First Nations as to progress on park planning. Also, there will be two meetings held between the Parks Project Director, the Community Planner, the Elder-Youth Forum, and the Akaitcho negotiating team during the course of the project period. When possible, these meetings will be scheduled to "piggy-back" with other gatherings / meetings of the Akaitcho Dene First Nations and the Akaitcho Negotiating Team (e.g. Akaitcho General Assembly, main table negotiating sessions).

Periodic consultations with Parks Canada will also be required.

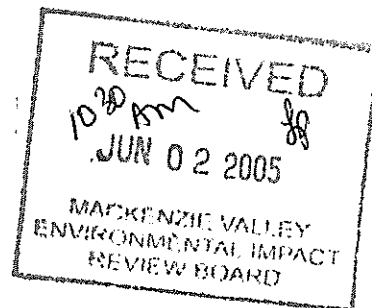
Delegates from other First Nations who are working with Parks Canada in the planning, establishment, and operation of protected areas will be invited to attend two of the planning workshops. They will serve as resource people at these workshops. The First Nation delegates will most likely participate in the Cultural Respect and Promotion and Management Options workshops, and will likely be from the Haida Nation, the Deh Cho First Nations, the Inuit, or the Inuvialuit. It is expected that the learning from the park planning and management experience of these delegates will greatly aid the LKDFN planning process.

Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation



Akaitcho Interim Measures Agreement Implementation Office

NWT Treaty #8 Tribal Corporation



FAX

To: *Martin Haefele, MVEIRB* From: *Dore Enze*

Fax #: *766-7074* Pages: *12 (including cover)*

Phone #: _____ Date: *June 2/05*

RE: *EA0506-003*

Please forward fax. Thank You.

Akaitcho (IMA) Interim Measures Agreement Office
Box 28, Lutsel K'e, NT XOE IAO
Phone: (867) 370-3217 Fax: 867 370-3209