

"The land takes care of us,  
we take care of the land"



## PAS 101- An Overview of the PAS Process



Presentation to the  
Dehcho Table  
April 15, 2010



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"A Balanced Approach to  
Establishing Protected Areas in the  
NWT" PAS Strategy 1999

## NWT-PAS

A process to  
*identify, protect  
and manage* a  
network of  
protected  
areas across  
the NWT



✓ Protect a network of  
special natural and  
cultural areas

✓ Network includes  
representative areas  
in each ecoregion  
that have no  
development



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"Tuyetah is our people's most sacred place ...need to protect this area for our future generations."  
 (Charlie Barnaby, elder)

## NWT-PAS goals

- protect special natural and cultural areas
- protect core representative areas within each ecoregion



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"The NWT Protected Areas Strategy is the right community-based tool to protect these key areas." (Stephen Kakfwi, former NWT Premier)

## process of protecting



1. identification of an area
2. regional aboriginal approval
3. 'sponsoring agency'
4. applying interim protection
5. assess and recommend
6. formal request
7. approval and designation
8. implementation

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# Steering Committee

- Aboriginal Organizations from each region
- Industry
- ENGOs
- Canada
- GNWT



## The Steering Committee:

- ✓ Provides a forum for information exchange
- ✓ Guides implementation
- ✓ Provides strategic direction *SC Guidelines*

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# Candidate Area Working Groups

- Formed after area is sponsored
- Consists of representatives from the organizations most affected by protected area proposal
  - Community and Regional Organization are well represented
- Guides the Assessment Process
- Guides Consultations
- Makes Recommendations on boundaries and management



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## Assessments

*adding to available information on values*

- Ecological (wildlife, plants)
- Mineral (diamonds, gold, zinc)
- Hydrocarbon (oil and gas)
- Cultural
- Renewable Resource (tourism, timber, hydropower)
- Socio-economic (evaluation of ecological, cultural and economic values)



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## Third Party Interests

- Third Party interests and rights are respected
- Third Party Interests are Stakeholders that hold an existing legal title on the land
- Examples include outfitting, mining, oil and gas
- Traditional Aboriginal Land Use is respected: Treaty Rights are NOT affected by the establishment of a protected area



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## Management Plan

- Depends on the legislation of the Sponsoring Agency
- Working Group provides advice as to how an area is managed
- Outlines how a protected area is intended to be managed:
  - Research
  - Monitoring
  - Enforcement
  - Permissible Activities
  - Prohibited Activities



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## Protected Areas Differ

A sponsoring agency is a government body that has laws that can be used to protect land

Parks Canada has the *Canada National Parks Act*



Canadian Wildlife Service has *Canada Wildlife Act*



GNWT has the *Territorial Parks Act and Wildlife Act*



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# Protected Area Designations

## Federal:

- National Parks (PCA)
- National Historic Sites (PCA)
- National Wildlife Areas (EC)
- Migratory Bird Sanctuaries (EC)

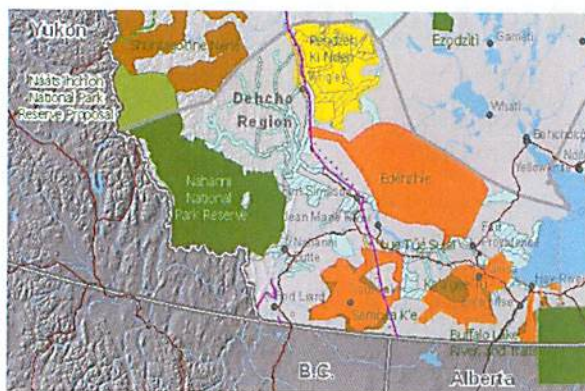
## Territorial:

- Critical Wildlife Areas (ENR)
- Cultural Conservation Areas (ITI)
- Wilderness Conservation Areas (ITI)
- Natural Environment Parks (ITI)

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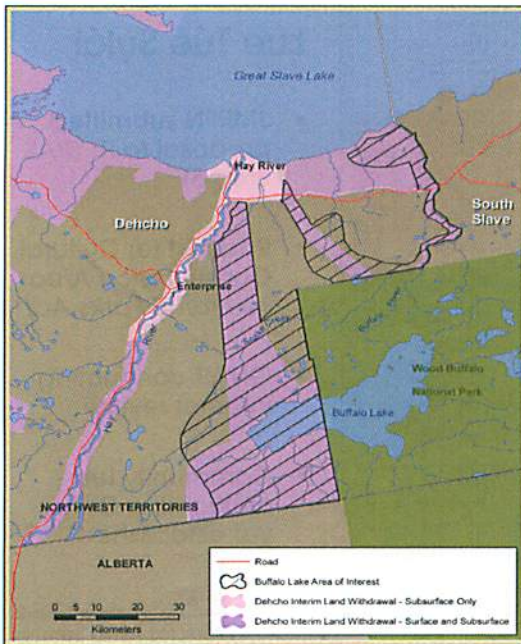
## PAS progress: Dehcho Region



- GNWT-ENR sponsoring one site
- GNWT-ITI reviewing two sites
- CWS sponsoring three sites

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## Buffalo Lake and Trails

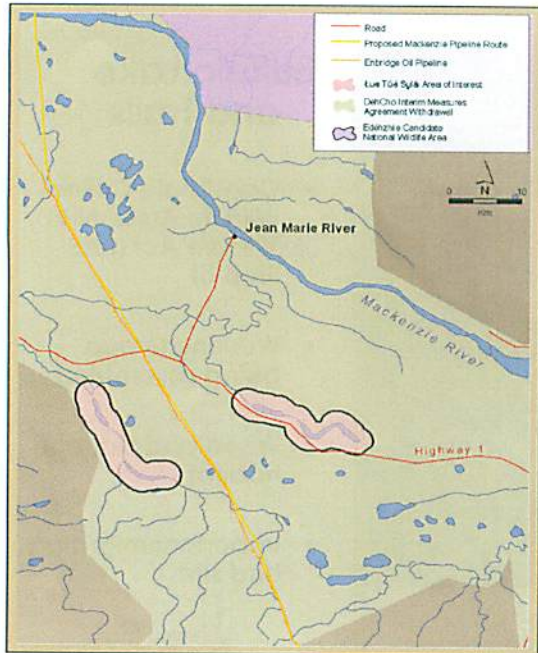
- Candidate Critical Wildlife Area, *NWT Wildlife Act* (PAS Step 5)
- Working Group being assembled
- Woodland Caribou habitat
- Important migratory bird site



## Pehdzeh Ki Ndeh

- PKFN submitted proposal to ITI (PAS Step 3)
- Request for Cultural Conservation Area, *Territorial Parks Act*
- GNWT conducting internal review
- Community led - no Working Group yet established





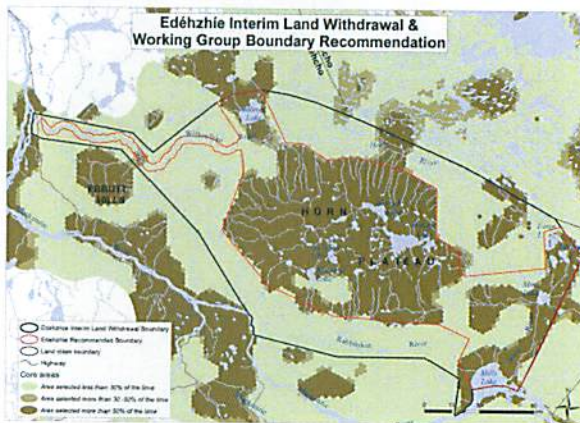
## Lue Tùé Sùlái

- JMRFN submitted proposal to ITI (PAS Step 3)
- Request for Cultural Conservation Area, *Territorial Parks Act*
- GNWT conducting internal review
- Community led - no Working Group yet established



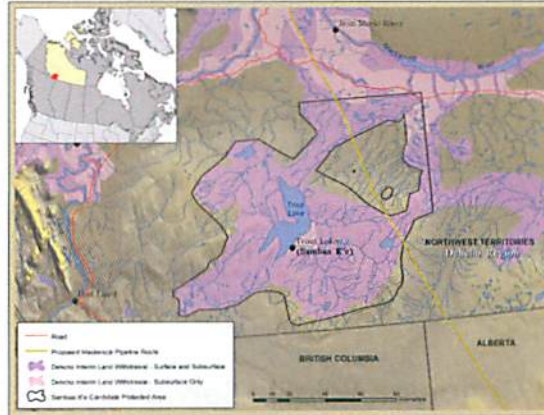
## Edézhíe

- Candidate National Wildlife Area (*Canada Wildlife Act*)
- Working Group Final Recommendations Report submitted to Dehcho First Nations and Tlicho Government
- Working Group dissolved
- Proposal from DCFN and Tlicho Government to Minister of the Environment pending



## Sambaa K'e

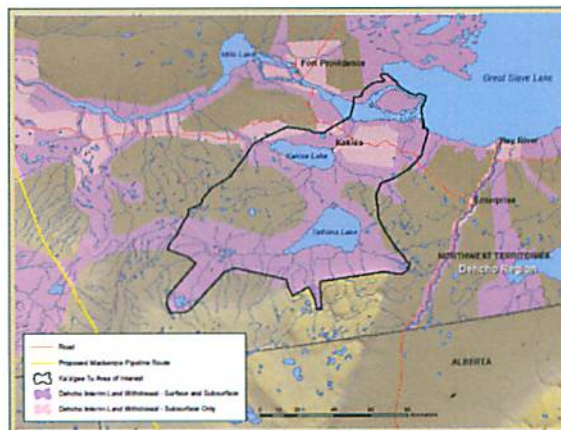
- Candidate National Wildlife Area (*Canada Wildlife Act*)
- Late PAS Step 5 - most assessments complete
- Working Group established
- Working Group Recommendations will consider:
  - Evaluation Results
  - Consultations
  - Land Claim Negotiations
  - Land Use Planning
  - Mackenzie Gas Pipeline Corridor



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## Ka'a'gee Tu

- Candidate National Wildlife Area (*Canada Wildlife Act*)
- Early PAS Step 5 - some assessments completed
- Working Group established
- Working Group Recommendations will consider:
  - Evaluation Results
  - Consultations
  - Land Claim Negotiations
  - Land Use Planning



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## For More Information, Please Contact

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