

New Parks North

An annual progress report on natural and cultural heritage initiatives in Northern Canada

MARCH 1998

NEWSLETTER 7



Introduction

This annual newsletter provides brief status reports on projects concerning the establishment and development of new parks, related heritage areas and other conservation efforts in northern Canada. Aboriginal land claims remain a key factor in the establishment of parks and other protected areas.

The Yukon First Nations *Umbrella Final Agreement (1993)* has brought into effect four First Nation Final Agreements: Champagne and Aishihik, Vuntut Gwitchin, Nacho Nyak Dun, and Teslin Tlingit Council. Little Salmon/Carmacks and Selkirk First Nations signed Final Agreements in 1997, while Tr'öndek Hwech'in First Nation reached an Agreement-In-Principle. Seven First Nation Final Agreements remain to be negotiated. The development of a Yukon territorial park system must follow or complement the land claims process.

Within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, approximately 18 percent of the land is conserved by national parks and managed in a co-operative manner by Parks Canada and agencies created under the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement (1984)* or otherwise by agreement with Inuvialuit. For more

information, please contact the Inuvialuit Game Council at the Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat, Box 2120, Inuvik, NWT X0E 0T0. Telephone (867) 777-2828. For more information on Parks Canada in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, please contact the Client and Heritage Service Manager, Western Arctic Field Unit, Box 1840, Inuvik, NWT X0E 0T0. Telephone (867) 777-3248.

The *Sahtu Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (1993)* and the *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (1992)* address natural area, wildlife, and heritage conservation issues. In 1996, one national historic site in the Sahtu region was approved by the Minister of Canadian Heritage and a second site was designated in early 1998. Activity within the Gwich'in settlement area has also increased. Together with the Yukon and NWT territorial governments, Gwich'in are working towards a protected areas strategy within their settlement area. The Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute completed research and presented a paper in support of national historic site designation to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in 1997.

Land claim and treaty land entitlement considerations for the Deh Cho region and Treaty 8 (South Slave) and Treaty 11 (North Slave) areas will strongly influence the timing of conservation proposals in those areas.

The *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (1993)* provides a time

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frame for the establishment of national parks, territorial parks, and conservation areas in the Eastern Arctic. The Government of Canada and Inuit expect to

have an agreement for three national parks concluded in the spring of 1998. Negotiations are currently underway on the proposed Wager Bay national park in

the Keewatin region. July 1998 is the conclusion date for Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreements for all existing territorial parks and for management plans for all existing parks and conservation areas. Creation of Nunavut Territory is fast approaching. April 1, 1999 will be a day of great celebration for the people of the Eastern Arctic.

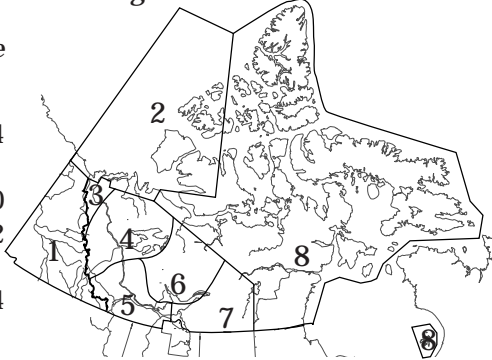
New Parks North has been organized by claim area or settlement region. These areas are indicated on the map opposite.

New Parks North has its own Internet web site:

www.newparksnorth.org

Elizabeth Seale, Co-Editor
Judi Cozzetto, Co-Editor

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* Some overlap exists in claim areas

Aboriginal Land Claims

A Brief Overview

Editors' Note: The following article was compiled from several Government sources. It is included here to provide a brief introduction to aboriginal land claims for persons not familiar with them. The complete text of the article appears in the electronic version of "New Parks North". The printed version is edited for brevity and is confined to northern Canadian circumstances.

In Canada, the common law concept of Aboriginal rights and title has been recognized by the courts. The existing Aboriginal rights of Aboriginal peoples have also been recognized and affirmed under section 35 (1) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

The evolution and development of the federal government's land claims policy has been closely

linked to court decisions. The first claims policy statement in 1973 was initiated by a decision of the Supreme Court of Canada (the 1973 *Calder* decision) which acknowledged the existence of Aboriginal title in Canadian law. In order to address uncertainties created by the decision, the federal government announced its intention to negotiate claim settlements. As the policy developed, claims were divided into two types:

1) **comprehensive claims** - based on the concept of continuing Aboriginal rights and title that have not been dealt with by treaty or other legal means; and

2) **specific claims** - arising from alleged non-fulfilment of Indian treaties and other lawful obligations, or the improper administration of lands and

other assets under the *Indian Act* or formal agreements.

Comprehensive Claims

The primary purpose of comprehensive claims settlements is to conclude agreements with Aboriginal groups that will resolve the legal ambiguities associated with the common law concept of Aboriginal rights. The process is intended to result in agreement on the special rights that Aboriginal peoples will have in the future with respect to land and resources. The objective is to negotiate modern treaties which provide clear, certain, and long-lasting definition of rights to lands and resources. Negotiated comprehensive claim settlements provide for the exchange of undefined Aboriginal rights for a clearly defined package of rights and benefits codified in constitutionally-protected settlement agreements.

Comprehensive claim agreements define a wide range of rights and benefits to be exercised and enjoyed by claimant groups. These may include full ownership of certain lands, guaranteed wildlife harvesting rights, participation in land and resource management throughout the settlement area, financial compensation, resource revenue-sharing and economic development measures.

If a national park is established in a settlement area through the claim process, the claimant group continues to exercise its traditional harvesting activities within this protected area. As well, a management board may be established, with representation from the Aboriginal community and Government, to advise the Minister on the management of the national park. Finally, the land claim agreement sets out what economic opportunities associated with the national park will be enjoyed by the claimant group. These may include employment provisions and contracting opportunities.

Significant amendments to the federal comprehensive claims policy were announced in December 1986, following an extensive period of consultation with Aboriginal groups. Key changes to the policy included the development of alternatives to blanket extinguishment of Aboriginal rights, as well as provision for the inclusion in settlement agreements of offshore wildlife harvesting rights, resource revenue-sharing and Aboriginal participation

in environmental decision-making. The 1986 policy also provides for the establishment of interim measures to protect Aboriginal interests during negotiations, and the negotiation of implementation plans to accompany final agreements.

Self-government negotiations may take place parallel to comprehensive claims negotiations or at the same table as the comprehensive claims negotiations. The federal government is prepared to consider constitutional protection of certain aspects of self-government where the parties to the agreement concur. Self-government must be negotiated in keeping with the 1995 *Framework for the Implementation of the Inherent Right and the Negotiations of Self-Government* policy.

Specific Claims And Treaty Land Entitlement

Specific claims relate to the fulfilment of treaties and to the federal government's administration of Indian reserve lands, band funds and other assets. The government's primary objective with respect to specific claims is to discharge its lawful obligations to First Nations.

Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) is a large category of claims that relate primarily to a group of treaties that were signed with First Nations, mainly in the prairie provinces. Not all these First Nations received the full amount of land promised. Claims from First Nations for outstanding entitlements are categorized as TLE claims and are handled separately from other specific claims.

In northern Canada, Parks Canada is currently involved in

discussions that concern Wood Buffalo National Park. The Salt River First Nation, a member of the NWT Treaty 8 Tribal Council, has indicated that it wishes to select land within Wood Buffalo National Park as part of its TLE negotiations. The Minister of Canadian Heritage has agreed to consider this request. A side-table dealing exclusively with Wood Buffalo issues and the Salt River First Nation has been established as part of the TLE negotiations.

Other Claims

The federal government is reaching or negotiating settlement of a number of other Aboriginal grievances, which have sometimes been referred to as claims of a third kind. These grievances fall within the spirit of the comprehensive and specific claims policies, but do not meet strict acceptance criteria.

One such proposal now under negotiation involves the Métis of the western NWT. When the Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement was rejected by the Aboriginal communities in 1990, the federal government decided to enter into regional claims with Aboriginal groups in the western NWT. However, in the South Slave District, the Dene people have opted to seek fulfilment of their Treaty 8 entitlement. This left eligible Métis in this area without a vehicle to press for their concerns. Negotiations are now underway with the South Slave Métis that may impact on Wood Buffalo National Park.

Council for Yukon First Nations Claims Area

Government of Yukon - Tourism - Heritage

Legislated Responsibilities

Yukon's historic sites and heritage resources receive a variety of layers and combinations of protection and management. The Government of Yukon - Heritage Branch - and Yukon's 14 First Nations share these responsibilities throughout the territory (with the exception of national parks and national historic sites). According to the Yukon First Nations *Umbrella Final Agreement (UFA)*, First Nations have ultimate control over heritage resources on their settlement lands and over ethnographic objects found within their traditional territories that are directly related to their culture and history. Other Yukon heritage resources, including archaeological, palaeontological and historic sites and objects, are the responsibility of Heritage Branch, which administers the *Yukon Historic Resources Act*, and federal archaeological regulations by way of the federal *Yukon Act*.

An additional level of stewardship is the Yukon Heritage Resources Board. The Board may make recommendations to Government and to Yukon First Nations on heritage matters. The Government of Yukon and Yukon First Nations each nominate five members to the Board and the Yukon Minister responsible for heritage makes the final appointments. The Board was established as an arms length advisory body under terms of both the *UFA* and the *Yukon Historic*

Resources Act which was jointly developed with First Nations. The *UFA* set out the mandate and structure of the Board (*UFA* 13.5.1) while the *Yukon Historic Resources Act* is the implementation instrument. The roles, responsibilities and priorities of Governments and the Board provide for a variety of focuses, partnerships and natural support.

Managing a Shared Heritage

With a wealth of diverse heritage resources to administer, spread over a large territory and with limited manpower at hand, all Yukoners need to work together. A free sharing of knowledge, expertise, resources and ambitions serves to strengthen the heritage mosaic. As settlement of Yukon First Nation land claims and self-government agreements progresses, First Nation governments are assuming their role and representing their interests in heritage conservation. Chapter 13 of the *UFA* is dedicated entirely to roles and objectives for the shared stewardship of Yukon's heritage. Several First Nations have formally established Heritage Offices corresponding to Yukon Heritage Branch, and are working with the Branch on a number of research, planning and management initiatives. Historic sites, in particular, usually represent cultural blends through concurrent or sequential use and occupation. For many sites that are especially important to First Nations and significant to the history of the Yukon as a

whole, the roles and principles for site management are addressed in the First Nation Final Agreements. At the time of writing, with half of Yukon's First Nation Final Agreements either legislated or at least ratified, co-management agreements have been negotiated for seven specific sites. Commonly, sites are co-owned as well as co-managed. In addition, three Heritage River initiatives have so far been addressed in land claims. The heritage resources of Herschel Island in the Beaufort Sea are already being co-managed by the Government of Yukon and Inuvialuit of the Western Arctic under terms of the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement*. As the remaining First Nations Final Agreements are written there are sure to be additional formal partnerships struck. There is great potential for realizing educational and creative opportunities when cultures combine goals and energies.

1998 - The Centennial of the Klondike Gold Rush

100 years ago, tens of thousands of fortune seekers flooded the Yukon in search of wealth and adventure. Most found only adventure as the richest property in Yukon's Eldorado had already been claimed by others who had stubbornly followed the ribbon of gold up the Pacific Cordillera from California to Caribou to Klondike. But such dreams and ideas remain a part of the Yukon. The legacy of strong people with roots in the land and faith in each other permeates

the Yukon's heritage. As Robert Service observed:

*"I wanted the gold and I got it -
Came out with a fortune last fall, -
Yet somehow life's not
what I thought it,
And somehow the gold isn't all."
(The Collected Poems of
Robert Service, 1907)*

In 1998 a number of events will be hosted in the Yukon to recognize its heritage, not only the Klondike gold rush - a momentary convulsion - but the special spirit of the people and the places that make the Yukon.

The Heritage Canada Foundation 1998 Heritage Day poster is dedicated to the Yukon. The artwork was derived from work submitted by Yukon students telling of the land and the people. An accompanying *"Teachers' and Youth Leaders' Guide"* provides information and activities to help appreciate Yukon's heritage. Tourism Yukon and Heritage Branch are proud to have helped sponsor these productions.

The Yukon Anniversaries Commission provides a calendar of 1998 events at <http://yukonweb.com/special/goldrush/calender/98event.html> which includes the conference and workshop of the Canadian Association for the Conservation of Cultural Properties (focus on conserving material history of indigenous peoples - May 27 to 31), the 51st annual national conference of the Canadian Museums Association (focus on culture, heritage, tourism - May 30 to June 3), and even a Gathering of Clans and Celtic Festival (June 26 to 28). Yukon is preparing for

another rush and all are invited to join the adventure in the land of mammoths, magic and mystery.

Canyon City

A public archaeology program continued for the fourth year at Canyon City within the City of Whitehorse. Heritage Branch enlisted the assistance of the Yukon Conservation Society and the Kwanlin Dun First Nation to carry out research and offer interpretive tours of the "Trail of '98" staging point. The site is located on the bank of the Yukon River just above the infamous Miles Canyon. Artifacts, ranging from a 6,000 year old spear point to a gold nugget have revealed the long and colourful history of the site. Popular hiking tours to the site offer exposure to both the cultural and natural heritage of the Yukon River Valley in Whitehorse.

Dawson City

Two buildings built in 1900 are being preserved by Heritage Branch in Dawson, helping to commemorate Klondike gold rush history. The two-storey Yukon Sawmill Co. Office on the waterfront was structurally upgraded and its exterior received a new paint job, including extensive hand painted wall signage. The sawmill office is all that remains to represent a booming lumber industry that serviced the mining, commercial and housing explosion at the height of the gold rush. The Original Telegraph Office had its foundation replaced and will be receiving exterior restoration in 1998. It was the first government building built in Dawson under the supervision of

Thomas Fuller. Besides being responsible for a repertoire of grand institutional buildings in Dawson City, Fuller later had a hand in the development of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa as Chief Public Works Architect. The Original Telegraph Office, although simple and straightforward, demonstrates his impeccable attention to detail.

Also as a result of the Tr'öndek Hwech'in First Nation Agreement-In-Principle, Heritage Branch will be carrying out archaeological and historic resource assessments in 1998 at Tr'o ju wech'in, otherwise known as Klondike City or Lousetown, across the mouth of the Klondike River from downtown Dawson City. The assessments are to support a review of the cultural values associated with the site under the direction of a First Nation, federal and territorial government appointed steering committee. Klondike City/Lousetown was the location of Dawson City's industrial and red light district early this century. Prior to the Klondike gold rush, when salmon could still spawn in the Klondike River, this area had a Native fish camp. (see related article "Tr'öndek Hwech'in First Nation" on page 11.)

Fort Selkirk

The *Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement* was completed with an effective date of October 1, 1997. The *Agreement* calls for Fort Selkirk Historic Site to be co-owned and co-managed by the First Nation and the Government of Yukon. This formalizes a working arrangement under

which this site has been managed for the past eight years. An existing 1990 management plan will be reviewed and updated to ensure that Fort Selkirk will continue to set a very high standard for cooperative heritage management.

A new video, *“Fort Selkirk - Voices of the Past”*, was produced by Heritage Branch, the Yukon Department of Education and the Selkirk Development Corporation and gives an insight into the heritage of Yukon’s premier historic site. Growing numbers of people travelling along the Yukon River are treated to excellent camping facilities, interpretive tours and the most comprehensive collection of historic buildings in existence from Yukon’s past 100 years. 1998 marks the centennial anniversary of the arrival and headquartering of the 200+ strong Yukon Field Force at Fort Selkirk, sent to emphasize Canadian Sovereignty on the northwest frontier.

Forty Mile, Fort Cudahy and Fort Constantine Historic Site

Some 80 km down the Yukon River from Dawson City, and within the traditional territory of the Tr’öndek Hwech’in First Nation (THFN) lies Forty Mile, Fort Cudahy and Fort Constantine Historic Site. Covering both sides of the mouth of the Forty Mile River, the historic site includes the location of Yukon’s largest pre-Klondike gold rush settlement (Forty Mile), Yukon’s first North-West Mounted Police post (Fort Constantine) and an important period trading post (Fort Cudahy). The area, at the mouth of a salmon bearing

tributary of the Yukon River, would undoubtedly have been used prehistorically as a traditional fish camp. The fortunate people to stake claims in the Klondike were from Forty Mile, a gold mining centre ten years before the Klondike discovery. A number of historic buildings still stand at Forty Mile. Under the terms of the THFN Agreement-In-Principle, the THFN and the Government of Yukon will co-own and co-manage the Historic Site.

Herschel Island

Archaeologists at Heritage Branch are developing a booklet entitled *“Qikiqtaruk, 1000 years of Inuvialuit History on Herschel Island”*. The booklet will become part of a series of six similar publications describing the archaeological record of important sites throughout the Yukon. The booklets are filled with coloured illustrations and photographs bringing to life the people of prehistoric Yukon and the archaeological research undertaken by the Branch.

Rampart House and LaPierre House Historic Sites

Rampart House Historic Site is located on the Porcupine River on the Alaska border, west of Old Crow. There is evidence at the site of prehistoric use before the Hudson’s Bay Company established its westernmost trading post there in 1890. As is typical, a permanent community formed around post activities and led to the arrival of missionaries and police. The site was essentially abandoned when Old Crow became the regional headquarters of Vuntut Gwitchin, and of

Church and government services in the 1920s; however a few families lived at the site until 1947. Still standing are the remains of the Anglican Church and mission, trader’s house, store and warehouses, and various other buildings.

LaPierre House Historic Site is on the Bell River east of Old Crow. It lies near McDougall Pass in the Richardson Mountains on the NWT border. LaPierre House was a strategic trade and travel link between Fort McPherson on the Peel River and the northern interior of Yukon. Few buildings remain but the site is still an important landmark for hunters and travellers between the Yukon and the NWT.

Both Rampart House and LaPierre House are within the traditional territory of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation (VGFN). According to the terms of the *VGFN Final Agreement*, both sites are to be co-owned and co-managed by the First Nation and the Yukon Government. A six-member Joint Heritage Committee has been struck with equal representation by each party. The inaugural Committee meeting in Old Crow led to a preliminary archaeological survey and resource documentation project in the summer of 1997 at Rampart House Historic Site. Archaeologists and building technologists along with VGFN staff and students gathered baseline physical information to complement earlier archival and oral history research. With this groundwork, the Committee is proceeding towards the development of a long-term management plan and is laying out a continuing program of

archaeological research and heritage resource conservation in 1998.

Ridge Road Heritage Trail

Opened in 1996, the Ridge Road Heritage Trail follows the route of Yukon's first government-built road from Dawson City to the gold fields along outlying creeks. The 32 km hiking/biking trail is becoming an increasingly popular heritage and recreation attraction. Heritage Branch has funded the Klondike Centennial Society to produce a trail brochure that will be available for 1998.

Roadside Interpretation

Heritage Branch continues to systematically produce interpretive plans for Yukon's highway and waterway corridors. The plans deal with interpretive signage along these corridors that attempt to provide travellers with an interesting and balanced perspective of Yukon's heritage. In 1997 a plan was completed for the Silver Trail (Highway #11) which runs from Stewart Crossing on the North Klondike Highway into the historic mining country of Elsa, Keno and Mayo and the heartland of Nacho Nyak Dun. The plans are developed in consultation with First Nations, communities, and businesses along the travel corridors to ensure that a comprehensive and accurate image of their region is presented and to encourage travellers to stay and take a closer look. Earlier plans formed the basis of signage developed for highway rest stops at Robinson Roadhouse Historic Site, Montague Roadhouse Historic Site and Tintina Trench Viewpoint

on the Klondike Highway in 1997. Over the winter of 1997/98 interpretive signage is being designed for nine roadside pull offs in the Klondike gold fields which will describe the history of the placer mining industry there. The signs will be installed in the spring of 1998 - the centennial anniversary of the Klondike gold rush.

Shäwshe (Dalton Post) Historic Site

Heritage Branch is working with the Heritage Office of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations (CAFN) to complete a Heritage Resources Management Plan for Shäwshe (Dalton Post) as stipulated in Chapter 10 (Special Management Areas) of the *CAFN Final Agreement*. This site is an important location on the Tatshenshini River (see related article "Tatshenshini Heritage River" on page 10) because it is at the only road access to the river and is steeped in history. First Nations have travelled to the site to fish, trade and meet for centuries. Jack Dalton built a trading post and staging point for overland travel to the Yukon interior during the Klondike gold rush. The North-West Mounted Police established a regional headquarters. Today sport salmon fishers, miners, commercial white water rafters and adventure tourists all use the area together with First Nation people and grizzly bears who follow more traditional pursuits. The Heritage Resources Management Plan will attempt to organize and accommodate a wide range of activities while preserving the heritage resources and values. A public consultation meeting was held in the summer of 1997 and it is expected that

planning options and a draft plan will be completed for further input in the spring of 1998. The final plan requires the approval of both the CAFN and Government of Yukon.

Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre

The development and opening of the Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre in Whitehorse in May 1997 has been closely related to research in northern Yukon. After decades of investigations, scientists are piecing together the context of the Yukon during the last Ice Age - a period when, unlike the rest of Canada, Yukon was ice-free. The Blue Fish Caves, which reputedly hold the earliest evidence of humans in the New World (24,000+ years ago), are located near Old Crow and are an integral part of the Centre's interpretive storyline. Native legends are woven with scientific evidence to describe the Ice Age subcontinent that great woolly mammoths, giant short-faced bears, lions, scimitar cats, camels and other such creatures occupied and by which the first people entered North America. The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada designated the Beringia Yukon Refugium (Beringia) of national significance in 1976. The Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre presents this theme.

Between May and November 1997 the Centre attracted over 30,000 visitors, making it the number one attraction in Whitehorse. After its first year of operation, the Centre's exhibits, movie theatre, gift shop, café and staff are fully prepared to offer an exceptional experience and insight into

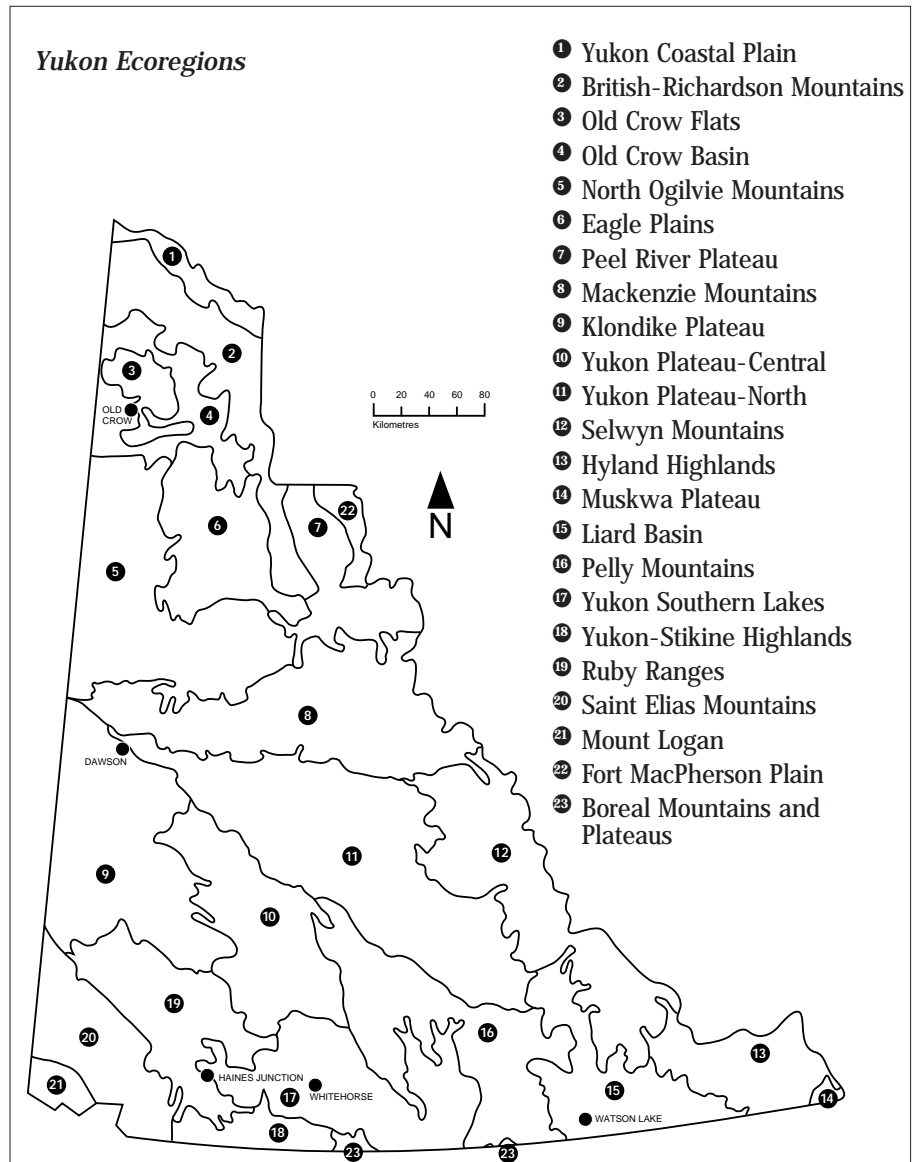
ancient Yukon. Interpretive programs include interactive exhibits designed to be continually upgraded to reflect the latest information gained from continuing research and analyses. To this end, Heritage Branch sponsored the publication of "Insects of the Yukon" by the Biological Survey of Canada in 1997. The Branch is also working on a number of joint initiatives with the US Parks Service who are looking at expanding the scope of their Bering Land Bridge National Reserve in Alaska into a possible US/Russia/Canada Beringia World Heritage Site. Internet <http://www/beringia.com>

Tourism & Parks

Protected Areas Strategy

The Yukon Government is committed to developing a network of protected areas to safeguard critical wildlife habitats, significant wetlands, known heritage sites and representative portions of the Yukon's 23 ecoregions. The first step is to develop a Yukon Protected Area Strategy (PAS) which will set general goals and provide a framework for protected area planning at the regional level.

Work on the Yukon PAS began in January 1997 when an intergovernmental steering committee and a technical working group were set up to develop the Strategy. The first major public event was a stakeholder workshop held in Whitehorse in May 1997. First Nations, industry representatives, conservation groups and governments participated in the workshop and helped set the general direction for the



Strategy. The workshop led to the establishment of a citizen advisory committee which is now providing guidance to government. A discussion paper released in November 1997 set the stage for a series of public meetings that were held in most Yukon communities between November 1997 and January 1998.

These consultations helped to shape the draft PAS which was released for comment in February 1998. The final draft strategy was completed in March 1998 and implementa-

tion will begin in the spring of 1998. Detailed protected area planning will then begin at the local level.

The Yukon PAS will be coordinated with Special Management Areas as well as Heritage Rivers, which are now being set up through negotiation of Yukon First Nation Final Agreements. A brief description of Special Management Areas and Heritage Rivers resulting from the land claims settlement process to date follows.

Special Management Areas

Ddhaw Gro

Ddhaw Gro is the Northern Tutchone name for the area formerly known as McArthur Wildlife Sanctuary. Ddhaw Gro is dominated by Grey Hunter Peak and the surrounding hillsides which support a population of Fannin sheep, a unique colour variation of the Dall's sheep. Important mineral licks and hot springs are included in the protected area.

Ddhaw Gro has been identified as a Special Management Area under the *Final Agreements* of the Nacho Nyak Dun and Selkirk First Nations. A Steering committee made up of members nominated by these two First Nations and the Yukon Government will prepare a management plan for Ddhaw Gro within two years of the effective date of the *Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement*. When the management plan is completed Ddhaw Gro will be designated a Protected Habitat Area under the *Yukon Wildlife Act*.

Fishing Branch River

The Fishing Branch River is the most important salmon spawning stream in the Canadian portion of the Yukon River system. It supports unusually large runs of chinook, chum and coho salmon. The area is protected for its high wildlife values, particularly salmon and grizzly bears.

Lands on the north side of the Fishing Branch River near Bear Cave Mountain were identified as a Special Management Area under the *Vuntut Gwitchin Final Agreement*. This area will be established as an Ecological Reserve through the

Yukon Parks Act. Adjacent settlement lands on the south side of the river will also be subject to the management regime, enabling the entire area to be managed as a single ecological unit. The Yukon Government and Vuntut Gwitchin are continuing work on a management plan.

Horseshoe Slough

Horseshoe Slough is an important waterfowl breeding and staging area in the traditional territory of the Nacho Nyak Dun First Nation in the central Yukon. The area is comprised of Horseshoe Slough, an old oxbow of the Stewart River, and the lower portion of Nogold Creek including the numerous shallow ponds within its valley.

Horseshoe Slough has been identified as a Habitat Protection Area within the *Nacho Nyak Dun Final Agreement*. The Yukon Government and the Mayo District Renewable Resource Council are now working together to develop a management plan for Horseshoe Slough.

L'hutsaw Wetlands

L'hutsaw Wetlands (formerly Von Wilczek Lakes) is an important wetland complex for duck staging, nesting and moulting along the North Klondike Highway south of Pelly Crossing. It has been identified as a Special Management Area under the *Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement (SFNFA)*.

A steering committee made up of members nominated by the Selkirk First Nation and the Yukon Government will prepare a management plan for L'hutsaw Wetlands within two

years of the effective date of the *SFNFA*. When the management plan is completed, L'hutsaw Wetlands will be designated a Habitat Protection Area under the *Yukon Wildlife Act*.

Nordenskiold River

The Nordenskiold River valley south of Carmacks is a major wetland complex and an important waterfowl staging and nesting area. It has been identified as a Special Management Area under the *Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation Final Agreement (LS/CFNFA)*.

A steering committee made up of members nominated by the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation and the Yukon Government will prepare a management plan for Nordenskiold River within two years of the effective date of the *LS/CFNFA*. When the management plan is completed Nordenskiold River will be designated a Habitat Protection Area under the *Yukon Wildlife Act*.

Old Crow Flats

Old Crow Flats is the Yukon's largest wetland complex. Located on the Old Crow River system north of the Arctic Circle, the Flats contain more than 2,000 ponds and marshes ranging in size from one-half to 4,700 hectares. The area is an important breeding and moulting ground for 500,000 water birds. Waterfowl, muskrats and other wildlife of the Flats are of great importance to Vuntut Gwitchin.

Under the terms of the *Vuntut Gwitchin Final Agreement*, the southern part of the Old Crow Flats was designated a Special Management Area and the northern part was included in the new Vuntut National Park.

Old Crow Flats will be managed to maintain the integrity of the area as one ecological unit with the conservation of fish, wildlife and their habitats, and the continuation of traditional use by Vuntut Gwitchin as guiding principles. A three-year study of the waterfowl and wetland habitats of the Flats is now underway. Information from this study will be used in the development of a management plan to be prepared jointly by the Yukon and federal governments and the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation.

Ta'Tla Mun

Ta'Tla Mun (formerly Tatlain Lake) is an important food fish lake southeast of Pelly Crossing in the traditional territory of the Selkirk First Nation. It also has a reputation as a high quality fly-in sport fishing lake. Ta'Tla Mun has been identified as a Special Management Area under the *Selkirk First Nation Final Agreement (SFNFA)*. A steering committee made up of members nominated by the Selkirk First Nation and the Yukon Government will prepare a management plan for Ta'Tla Mun within one year of the effective date of the *SFNFA*.

Tombstone Mountain

Tombstone Mountain is identified as a Special Management Area in the Agreement-In-Principle (AIP) with the Tr'öndek Hwech'in First Nation. Through this AIP, the Yukon Government and the Tr'öndek Hwech'in First Nation have committed to setting up a natural environment park under the *Yukon Parks Act* in the Tombstone Mountain area.

The Tombstone Mountain area is located in the Mackenzie Mountains ecoregion and includes important biological and physical regions along with historic, cultural and archaeological features. In the core area around Tombstone Mountain, glaciation has created horn peaks, knife-edged ridges, cirque basins and spectacular vertical walls. It is a rugged and scenic area offering high quality recreational opportunities in an accessible location. The park will be easy to reach from the Dempster Highway which is expected to form its eastern boundary in the vicinity of Tombstone Mountain Campground at kilometre 73.

The Tr'öndek Hwech'in AIP sets out a process that will be followed in establishing the park, and identifies a core area for protection and a larger study area that may be included within the final park boundaries. Once the boundary is set, the park will receive formal designation under the *Yukon Parks Act* and management planning will begin. It is expected that the entire establishment process will take approximately three years once the Tr'öndek Hwech'in Final Agreement comes into effect.

Canadian Heritage Rivers

Bonnet Plume River

The Bonnet Plume River passes through the remote wilderness of the Wernecke Mountains. It was nominated as a Canadian Heritage River in January 1993 with participation of the Nacho Nyak Dun First Nation. A draft management plan covering the entire

watershed was prepared in consultation with a stakeholder advisory committee and was made available to the public through a broad consultation process during 1997. The final management plan was presented to the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board in early February 1998.

Tatshenshini River

The Tatshenshini River is an internationally renowned river that cuts through the spectacular coastal mountains on its way from the Yukon through British Columbia to the Alaskan coast. A Canadian Heritage River nomination document is being prepared jointly by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Yukon Government, the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations and stakeholders. Public consultations will occur before the document is signed by the responsible Ministers and the Chief of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations. The nomination is then expected to be presented to the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board in the summer of 1998.

Government of Canada - Canadian Heritage - Parks Canada - National Parks

Natural Region 7

In 1997, Parks Canada completed a Regional Analysis Study of Natural Region 7, the Northern Interior Plateaux and Mountains. Based on the results of that study, and consideration of other factors, the Wolf Lake area was chosen as the preferred location for a new park feasibility study in this unrepresented natural region.

Wolf Lake is located in the southern Yukon, about 200 km east of Whitehorse, near the community of Teslin. The study area includes rugged mountains along both sides of the Continental Divide north of the Yukon/British Columbia border, and the headwaters of the Liard, Morley and Wolf Rivers. A great variety of vegetation communities occur, in part because of the difference in elevation (up to 2100 metres). Treeless tundra is common, along with forested lowlands and valleys at lower elevations. Outstanding features in the area include important winter range for the Wolf Lake herd of woodland caribou; the Wolf River, a highly productive habitat for moose and beaver; a rich population of large predators, ungulates, fish and birds; and remnant populations of mountain goats and Stone's sheep. The historical stability of the Wolf Lake predator-prey ecosystem, particularly wolves and caribou, is of great scientific interest.

Parks Canada is seeking support for conducting a new park feasibility study from the Teslin Tlingit Council, the Teslin Renewable Resources Council and the Government of Yukon. If these parties indicated their support, Parks Canada will likely take two to three years to complete a feasibility assessment in collaboration with these agencies. If the results of the study show that establishment of a national park could be feasible and desirable, Parks Canada would develop a national park proposal and would be prepared to negotiate a park establishment agreement.

National Historic Sites

Parks Canada's Yukon Field Unit continued work to fulfill land claims obligations through the appropriate commemoration of Yukon First Nations' culture. This work consisted of financial support and the provision of professional advice to a range of projects carried forward by Yukon First Nations.

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

During the summer of 1997, the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations conducted a study of the old Southern Tutchone community of Hutshi. This project is one of a continuing series undertaken by the First Nations to study and plan appropriate cultural resource management and commemoration activities for the First Nations. The Hutshi study follows on the model established for previous work on the sites and communities of Neskatahin and Champagne. Utilizing archival research sources, old photos, interviews with community Elders who used to live at the site, and visits to the site, the First Nations research team is developing an impressive portfolio on the cultural elements of this site.

Cultural Resource Management with Aboriginal Partners

This week-long course, jointly developed and taught by the SikSika First Nation and Parks Canada, is now in its second year. The course synthesizes the aboriginal cultural values with the values expressed in the Parks Canada Cultural Resource Management Policy to come up with an effective set of teaching and analytical tools for joint cultur-

al resource management that crosses cultural lines.

The course is held in early March and includes workshop sessions for students, a field trip to Blackfoot Crossing and a visit to Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump.

Kwanlin Dün First Nation

The Kwanlin Dün First Nation, as part of a larger land use planning exercise, collected information on the lineages of members' families and life histories of individual Kwanlin Dün Elders in the Whitehorse area. Earlier work included the preparation of a preliminary genealogy, a detailed bibliography of archival research sources, and a twentieth century chronology of First Nation activities in the Whitehorse region.

In the recent work, the First Nation extended the research to include traditional land use mapping and oral interviews with Elders to obtain more detailed cultural information and First Nation place names. A relatively complete genealogical chart, and several maps and charts were prepared from this research. A historical narrative describing the history of selected sites, and the land use of aboriginal inhabitants was prepared and a book is currently in production.

Tr'öndek Hwech'in First Nation

The Tr'öndek Hwech'in First Nation (THFN), the Yukon Historical and Museums Association and Parks Canada are continuing to conduct research on the Tr'o ju wech'in heritage site at the mouth of the Klondike River. The recent construction of the Han culture centre in Dawson has raised

questions on the best way of integrating the First Nation's various cultural heritage initiatives. To address this need, the THFN and Parks Canada are undertaking a review of about a dozen aboriginal heritage sites run by First Nations in North America. This review will provide information on the identification and protection of community cultural values and resources, establishment of appropriate visitor facilities and services and examine how these new initiatives are integrated within the life of the First Nation community. (See related article "Dawson City" on page 5)

Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation

The Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation has a well developed program of cultural sites research. Previous work supported by the Yukon First

Nation National Historic Site program includes research into the LaPierre camp. This year's support went to a co-operative project with Vuntut Gwitchin and the Yukon Government's work on Rampart House (see related article on page 6). In spring of 1997, Old Crow Elder Charlie Thomas led a community group across some of the old trails connecting both Old Crow and Rampart House with the Old Crow Flats. These traditional trails were the routes taken into the Flats every spring for "ratting" (muskrat harvesting). Charlie Thomas provided on-going narratives of the old trips and the route was carefully documented using global positioning system units and careful study of aerial photos.

In January 1998, two participants in the North Slope Inuvialuit oral history project were

invited to Old Crow to give a presentation and answer questions on their project. The oral history workshop advanced the organization and operation of community-based oral history and stressed enhancement of cultural identity in two ways: community identity and visitor respect.

Information on the scale of such an oral history project, how it would operate and what community structures needed to be in place was presented. Effective contacts were also made between Parks Canada and the Yukon Government departments interested in similar work with the VGFN. The workshop was an effective start to the organization of a suitable community group to give direction and guide an oral history project. Working with the VGFN, Parks Canada anticipates the project will start in the spring of 1998.

Initiatives Spanning Two or More Claim Areas

Government of the NWT - Education, Culture & Employment - Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre

"Culture In Orbit": A Newsletter For Residents of the NWT

The Culture & Heritage Division of the Government of the NWT (GNWT) Education, Culture & Employment is pleased to announce the publication of a "down-to-earth" newsletter that features news items, practical resource information, and profiles of arts, culture and heritage activities, and people in the NWT.

Many people in the NWT

talk about culture and heritage in the context of daily life. Some individuals earn a living performing, creating artwork, or researching and documenting traditional knowledge and ways of life. Others are paid or volunteer to care for and teach about these things within cultural or museum organizations.

Each region or community in the Western NWT and in Nunavut has its own cultural and heritage personality. As individuals, each may have experiences and different languages to share, or feelings about what culture or heritage means in daily life.

"Culture In Orbit" will feature

projects of interest to residents of the NWT, and summaries of recent activities in NWT communities. There will also be lists of useful resources for people who want to do more work in artistic, cultural or heritage areas.

The newsletter will include information on funding programs, technical assistance, planning, reading and multimedia materials, and training support for the arts, cultural and heritage fields. "Culture in Orbit" will be published twice a year in summer and winter editions, and will also be made available on the internet at the website of

the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre
(www.pwnhc.learnnet.nt.ca/pinfosec/orbit.htm).

The Culture & Heritage Division wants to “launch its readers into *Orbit*”, with stories or topics of personal interest, and “newsy” news items. Anyone wishing to contribute an item to this newsletter, or to be placed on the mailing list, should contact the Editor, Boris Atamanenko, at:

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Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development - Tourism and Parks

Mackenzie River Proclaimed

NWT Premier Don Morin has issued a proclamation designating the Mackenzie River, also known as *Deh Cho* to Slavey speaking people, as part of the Alexander Mackenzie Voyageur Route.

The Alexander Mackenzie Voyageur Route Association (AMVRA), a non-profit association dedicated to fostering an appreciation of the fur trade era, sought the support of the GNWT as part of its efforts to commemorate a heritage route “that extends from sea to sea to sea.”

The AMVRA has successfully promoted the heritage of a historic route of exploration from Quebec to British Columbia. Similar proclamations were issued in the 1980s by the gov-

ernments of Canada, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia to commemorate the bicentennial of Mackenzie’s travels which were a factor in the establishment of Canada as a nation. These proclamations have been used to promote Canada’s mutual heritage based upon rivers and canoes, and have not only resulted in increased recreational canoeing but also a greater appreciation of Canada’s shared culture. Increased interest derived from these promotions has also increased tourism in the regions adjacent to the route.

The Board of Directors of NWT Arctic Tourism supported the proclamation with the direction that a significant proportion of any interpretive materials produced should reflect the historic and traditional aboriginal use of northern waterways.

The AMVRA recognizes that it is in a position to promote local culture and related tourism opportunities along the designated route. Towards this end, it is working on the production of three guidebooks that are aimed at facilitating and promoting places to see and things to do along the route. These three publications are aimed at adventure travellers, those touring by car and those touring by motor home. The AMVRA can be reached at Box 425, Station A, Kelowna, British Columbia, V1Y 7P1.

NWT Parks Proclaimed

For the first time ever, the Legislative Assembly of the NWT formally proclaimed three parks, bringing them under the authority of the *Territorial Parks Act*.

Hidden Lake Natural Environment Recreation Park, 2,000 hectares near Yellowknife, reserves Canadian Shield country for wilderness canoe trips.

Blackstone Outdoor Recreation Park, 1,400 hectares near Fort Liard, provides camping and interpretive facilities along the Liard River.

Gwich’in Outdoor Recreation Park, 88,000 hectares near Inuvik, is in the process of developing visitor facilities including an interpretive centre. The area offers excellent peregrine falcon viewing opportunities.

These parks have been developed and operated by the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development for several years but had not been formally established under the *Territorial Parks Act*.

The *Territorial Parks Act* identifies five types of parks. Two of these, Natural Environment Recreation Parks and Outdoor Recreation Parks, require a recommendation from the Legislative Assembly prior to an order being created to legally establish a park. These categories are used for the larger parks which have both a recreation and conservation role. Outdoor Recreation Parks emphasize recreation and tourism. Natural Environment Recreation Parks place more emphasis on environmental management. Wayside Parks, Community Parks and Historic Parks are the other categories of Territorial Parks which can be created by order of the Minister of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development.



Northwest Territories Protected Areas Strategy

NWT Protected Areas Strategy

The GNWT and the Government of Canada are committed to developing a Protected Areas Strategy for the NWT by the end of 1998, with significant on-site implementation by the year 2000. The purpose of the Strategy is to provide a framework for the overall development and management of a system of protected areas.

Participation of the Aboriginal community is essential to this process as the work conducted by the project team will usually be through claim based land use planning boards and other similar kinds of agencies. Input from industry, environmental groups and other interested parties is also valued.

Consistent with other provinces and countries, the Strategy will use the International Union for the Conservation of Nature definition of a protected area: "an area of land or sea especially dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, managed through legal or other means."

The Strategy will provide an outline of how to advance potential protected areas in the NWT. As such, it must take into account land claims, current legislation, administrative

partnerships, and alternative land uses. Through the development of the Strategy, it may become clear that new legal, planning, and funding tools are needed.

The Strategy will include examples of how candidate sites can be established with existing mechanisms. The range of candidate projects will likely demonstrate various situations, such as: sites within established land claims, sites in areas without settled claims, areas that span two claims or two territories, areas with a cultural focus, and areas with a marine focus.

Plans for a system of Protected Areas will:

- concentrate on reserving a representative sample of northern lands and waters that can conserve the processes needed to maintain healthy ecosystems as the basis of a healthy economy;
- consider other areas with outstanding natural and cultural features important for purposes of tourism, recreation, research, education and strengthening northern cultures;
- recognize and respect existing treaties, land claim agreements, traditional abo-

original uses and third party interests;

- build upon previous agreements such as the Whitehorse Mining Initiative and the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy; and
- use existing legislation where appropriate and propose new legislation where necessary.

It is not intended that the Strategy include a complete list of candidate sites. However, it will set out the basis upon which selection of such sites will be determined. At a minimum, such selection will:

- begin with or be supported by proposals from community and regional organizations;
- blend traditional and local knowledge of natural environments with knowledge based on contemporary scientific perspectives;
- include economic and social values;
- consider the circumpolar context, as well as the land use plans and policies of adjacent regions, provinces and territories; and
- provide temporary protection to areas in the latter stages of consideration.

Types of Legislated Protected Areas in the NWT

A protected area must be established in law to have true standing. These are the options in the NWT:

National Park

National Parks, administered by Parks Canada, protect representative samples of the natural regions of Canada. There are 39 terrestrial regions and the Government of Canada's objective is to have a park

representing each of those natural regions by the year 2000. Harvesting by aboriginal people can continue in a national park but commercial resource extraction, such as mining, is not permitted. Public appreciation and enjoyment through education and tourism are encouraged as long as they do not effect the ecological integrity of the park. Existing National Parks include Wood Buffalo and Aulavik.

National Historic Site

Parks Canada administers a program that recognizes places of national historic importance. These sites and their associated artifacts are presented to the public to promote an appreciation of historic places, people and events and their contribution to the Canadian identity. Examples in the NWT include Fall Caribou Crossing, Arvi-a’juaq, and the Délı̄ne Fishery and Old Fort Franklin.

Territorial Historic Park

These provide for the protection, management and interpretation of historic places and archeological sites and their associated lands and artifacts, and for the enjoyment of the public at sites such as Kekerten and Quammaarviit.

Territorial Natural Environment Recreation Park

These parks promote recreation in an undeveloped landscape. These sites may have visitor facilities but the primary management objective is to preserve the natural environment and provide tourism opportunities. They include Hidden Lake, near Yellowknife, and Katannalik, on southern Baffin Island.



Territorial Game Sanctuary or Preserve

Sanctuaries protect threatened wildlife species and their habitat. Preserves protect wildlife for the benefit of native hunters and trappers. While the GNWT manages the use of these areas, the existing legislation does not provide for the creation of any additional areas. The Thelon Game Sanctuary is the best known protected area of its kind in the NWT. Peel River Preserve is an example of the second type of area.

Migratory Bird Sanctuary

The Canadian Wildlife Service manages areas that are of significance to North American bird populations. Regulations in these areas, which can include marine areas or wetlands, prohibit the alteration of

habitat and the harassment or killing of birds. Queen Maud Gulf and Dewey Soper are examples of such Sanctuaries.

National Wildlife Area

The Canadian Wildlife Service manages these areas of land and coastal waters (up to 12 nautical miles from shore) to conserve essential wildlife habitat. While most human activities are prohibited, permits can be issued for activities that are compatible with conservation. e.g. Polar Bear Pass, Nirjutiqavvik (Coburg Island).

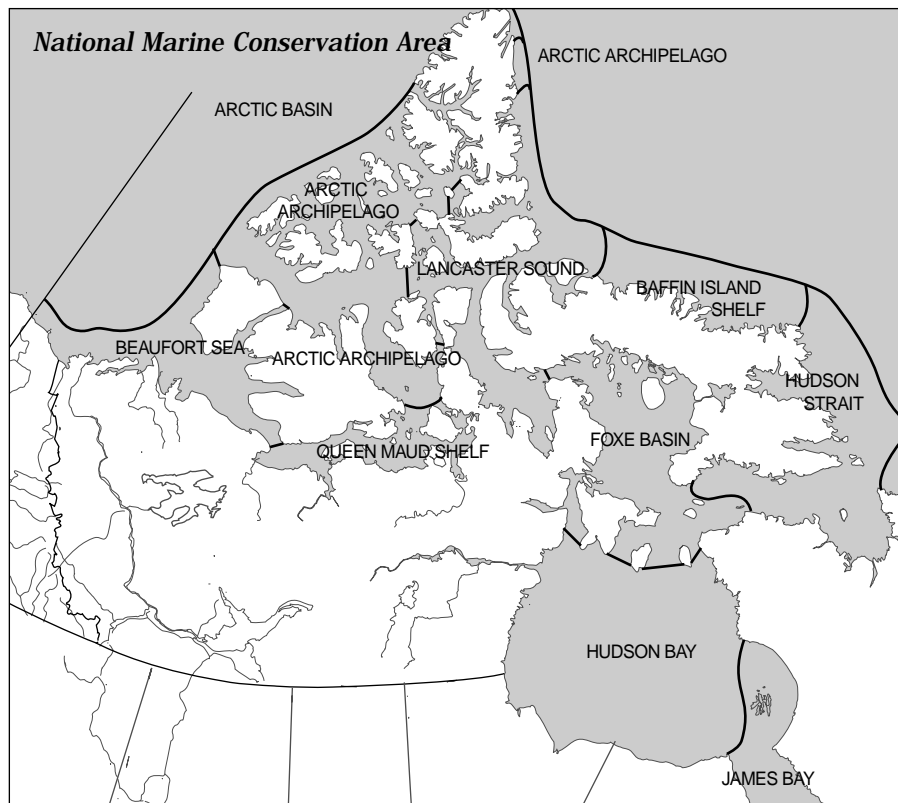
Marine Wildlife Area

Similar to National Wildlife Areas, this designation focuses on sea birds and endangered marine wildlife utilizing areas beyond twelve nautical miles from shore. The Marine Wildlife

Area (MWA) option was added to the *Canadian Wildlife Act* in 1994. No MWA's have yet been designated in the NWT.

National Marine Conservation Area

The new program administered by Parks Canada seeks to protect representative samples of the 29 marine natural regions of Canada. Harvesting, including commercial fishing, can continue in a marine conservation area, but ocean dumping, mining and oil and gas extraction are not permitted. Public appreciation and enjoyment through education and tourism are encouraged as long as they do not affect the integrity of the marine ecosystem. As yet, no National Marine Conservation Areas have been established in the NWT.



Marine Protected Area

The *Canada Oceans Act* includes provision for establishment of this kind of protected area to be administered by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. It is intended that such areas be established to conserve commercial and non-commercial fishery resources, marine mammals, and their habitats. Areas of especially high diversity or productivity, or areas set aside to protect a threatened species, can also be included. No protected areas have been established in the NWT under the Act.

Government of Canada - Canadian Heritage - Parks Canada - National Parks

Tuktut Nogait (a commitment to cooperative management)

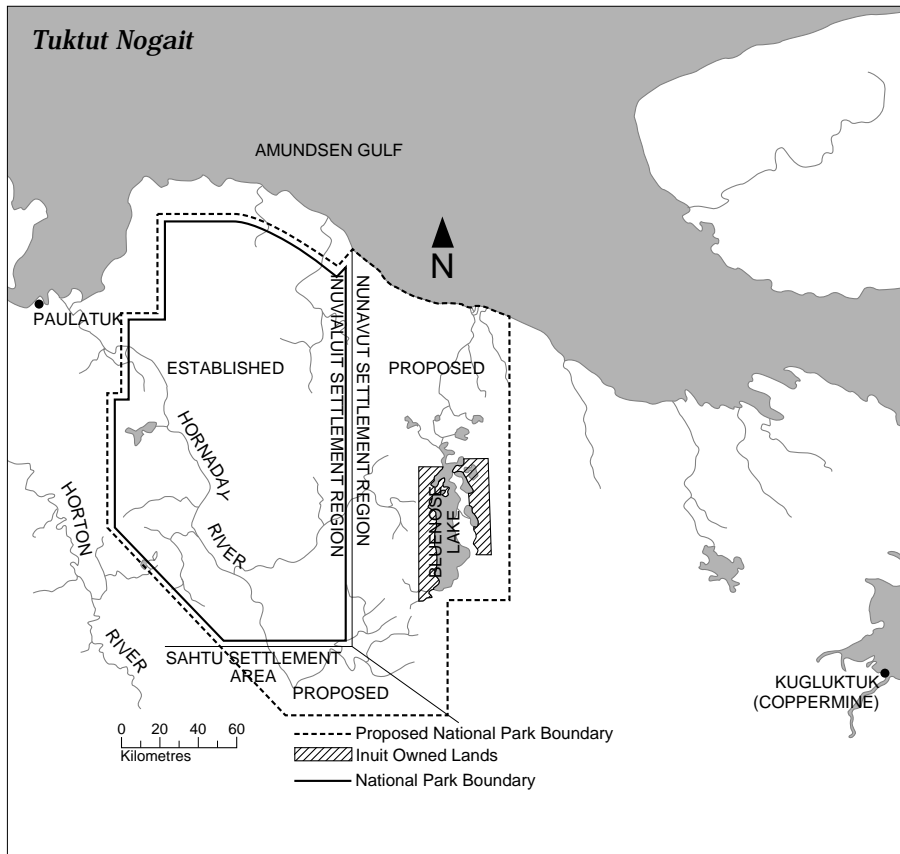
Tuktut Nogait National Park/national park proposal spans three settlement regions: Inuvialuit, Nunavut and Sahtu.

Lands were withdrawn in April 1995 within the three regions for national park purposes.

Within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, the signing of the Tuktut Nogait National Park (TNNP) Agreement in June of 1996, signaled a new era of Arctic park management. The Agreement created a management board with extensive advisory responsibilities, whose members were appointed by Inuvialuit and the Government of Canada, including one member on the advice of the GNWT. The Chair was selected as a joint Inuvialuit/Federal appointment. The five Board appointments were finalized in August of 1997, setting the stage for a September orientation meeting in Paulatuk.

During the initial meeting, the Board heard presentations on the Parks Canada mission

and mandate, and an update on new park establishment progress across the north, as well as information on the proposed Parks Canada agency status, business planning, and the NWT Ecological Monitoring Program. Considerable time was spent in reviewing the Board's role, as defined by the TNNP Agreement, and in developing a detailed work plan that anticipates a fully operational park program by the end of 1998. The Board decided to accept the Environmental Impact Screening Committee invitation to comment on the Darnley Bay Resources Ltd. Phase II project proposal. The company was established to explore the mineral resources of the Darnley Bay area. The Board has urged the Minister of Canadian Heritage to act quickly to amend the



National Parks Act to complete the park establishment process.

A second Board meeting held in Paulatuk in November 1997 focused on Board and Park operational issues, including operational staffing and set-up in Paulatuk, the development of Interim Management Guidelines, and the process of creating a Paulatuk Community Development Plan, as outlined in the Park Agreement. A decision was made to host a research priorities workshop in March 1998 involving the local community, Inuvialuit agencies and cooperative management bodies, as well as representatives from other federal departments, the GNWT and various other stakeholder groups. Additional agenda items included updates on Darnley Bay Resources Ltd. exploration activities, national media cov-

erage, the visitor information package and tourism brochure, and the development of Park guide qualifications and guidelines.

The Board was pleased to judge the student artwork submitted in the Park logo contest. Angus Dillon's newborn caribou calf drawing was the unanimous choice and Parks Canada will be donating \$500 worth of books to the Angik School Library in Angus' name.

Since the November meeting, Board members have participated on Parks Canada hiring boards for the Tuktut Nogait Chief Park Warden and Western Arctic Ecosystem Secretariat Manager competitions. The Chair attended December meetings in Inuvik of the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) and Inuvialuit Game Council to discuss the

Board's mandate and encourage open communications and a positive working relationship.

Much remains to be accomplished before Tuktut Nogait National Park becomes fully operational. To quote the Park Superintendent: "The challenges are diverse and, at times, intimidating but with the spirit of cooperation and mutual respect that has been established between Board, Parks Canada staff and stakeholders, the objective is attainable."

In Nunavut, Parks Canada would like to make the watershed of Bluenose Lake part of the national park as well. This was discussed at meetings hosted by the Nunavut Planning Commission in Cambridge Bay in January 1998. The Commission was reviewing the draft West Kitikmeot Regional Land Use Plan. Representatives from Kugluktuk requested further discussions about the national park proposal in their community, the area they call the Tuktut Nogait/Tahikpak national park proposal. Parks Canada has agreed to meet with the community. The lands under consideration continue to be protected from development.

Parks Canada hopes to discuss the proposal to add lands to Tuktut Nogait National Park within the Sahtu Settlement Area in 1998. About 1500 km² at the northeast corner of the settlement area are under consideration. This area includes part of the headwaters of the Hornaday River, the main watershed of the park. The *Sahtu Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement* provides terms for the establishment of this national park.

Yukon and Northwest Territories

■ **Operating Territorial Parks, Park Reserves and Historic Sites**

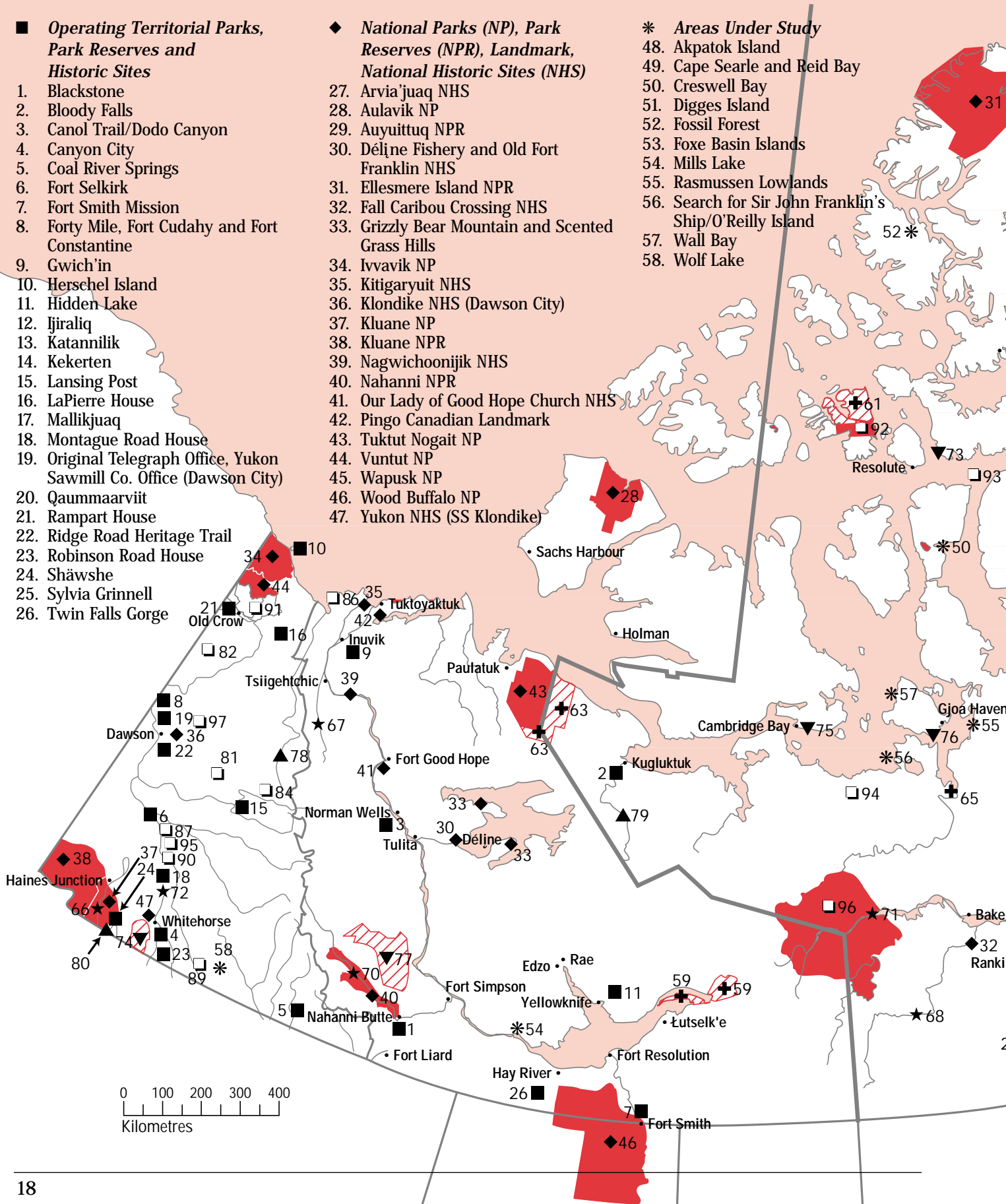
1. Blackstone
2. Bloody Falls
3. Canol Trail/Dodo Canyon
4. Canyon City
5. Coal River Springs
6. Fort Selkirk
7. Fort Smith Mission
8. Forty Mile, Fort Cudahy and Fort Constantine
9. Gwich'in
10. Herschel Island
11. Hidden Lake
12. Ijiraliq
13. Katannilik
14. Kekerten
15. Lansing Post
16. LaPierre House
17. Mallikjuaq
18. Montague Road House
19. Original Telegraph Office, Yukon Sawmill Co. Office (Dawson City)
20. Qaummaarviit
21. Rampart House
22. Ridge Road Heritage Trail
23. Robinson Road House
24. Shāwshe
25. Sylvia Grinnell
26. Twin Falls Gorge

◆ **National Parks (NP), Park Reserves (NPR), Landmark, National Historic Sites (NHS)**

27. Arvia'juaq NHS
28. Aulavik NP
29. Auyuittuq NPR
30. Déline Fishery and Old Fort Franklin NHS
31. Ellesmere Island NPR
32. Fall Caribou Crossing NHS
33. Grizzly Bear Mountain and Scented Grass Hills
34. Ivvavik NP
35. Kitigaryuit NHS
36. Klondike NHS (Dawson City)
37. Kluane NP
38. Kluane NPR
39. Nagwichoonijik NHS
40. Nahanni NPR
41. Our Lady of Good Hope Church NHS
42. Pingo Canadian Landmark
43. Tukut Nogait NP
44. Vuntut NP
45. Wapusk NP
46. Wood Buffalo NP
47. Yukon NHS (SS Klondike)

* **Areas Under Study**

48. Akpatok Island
49. Cape Searle and Reid Bay
50. Creswell Bay
51. Digges Island
52. Fossil Forest
53. FoXe Basin Islands
54. Mills Lake
55. Rasmussen Lowlands
56. Search for Sir John Franklin's Ship/O'Reilly Island
57. Wall Bay
58. Wolf Lake



+ *National Park and National Historic Site Proposals*

- 59. East Arm of Great Slave Lake
- 60. North Baffin
- 61. Northern Bathurst Island
- 62. Torngat Mountains
- 63. Tuktut Nogait
- 64. Ukkusiksalik
- 65. Utkuhiksalik

★ *Heritage Rivers*

- 66. Alsek
- 67. Arctic Red River
- 68. Kazan
- 69. Soper
- 70. South Nahanni
- 71. Thelon
- 72. Thirty Mile (Yukon River)

▼ *Territorial Park and Historic Site Proposals*

- 73. Beechey Island
- 74. Kusawa Lake
- 75. Mount Pelly
- 76. Northwest Passage/Franklin Expedition
- 77. Ram Plateau

▲ *Proposed Heritage Rivers*

- 78. Bonnet Plume
- 79. Coppermine River
- 80. Tatshenshini

□ *Other Conservation Areas*

- 81. Ddhaw Gro Special Management Area
- 82. Fishing Branch River Special Management Area
- 83. Harry Gibbons/East Bay Bird Sanctuary
- 84. Horseshoe Slough Habitat Protection Area
- 85. Iqalituq National Wildlife Area
- 86. Kendall Island Bird Sanctuary
- 87. L'hutsaw Wetlands Special Management Area
- 88. Nirjutiqavvik National Wildlife Area
- 89. Nitsutlin River Delta National Wildlife Area
- 90. Nordenskiold River Special Management Area
- 91. Old Crow Special Management Area
- 92. Polar Bear Pass National Wildlife Area
- 93. Prince Leopold Island Bird Sanctuary
- 94. Queen Maud Gulf Bird Sanctuary
- 95. Ta'Tla Mun Special Management Area
- 96. Thelon Wildlife Sanctuaary
- 97. Tombstone Mountain Special Management Area



Legend

- Existing parks, park reserves, game sanctuaries
- ▨ Proposed parks
- Territorial Parks, Park Reserves and Historic Sites
- ◆ National Parks (NP), Park Reserves (NPR), Landmark, National Historic Sites (NHS)
- * Areas Under Study
- ⊕ National Park and National Historic Site Proposals
- ★ Heritage Rivers
- ▼ Territorial Park and Historic Site Proposals
- ▲ Proposed Heritage Rivers
- Other Conservation Areas

The lands under consideration continue to be protected from development.

National Historic Sites

Métis of the Mackenzie Basin

The second year of the Parks Canada Language Agreement project, in partnership with the Métis Heritage Association of the NWT, saw the completion of the NWT Métis thematic study. Drawing primarily on Métis sources as well as some Western-based fur trade, missionary and government records, the study traces the origins and diversity of the Métis Nation of the presentday NWT including: its connections with other homelands; relationships with fur traders, missionaries and government agencies; the crucial role of the Métis in transportation on the Mackenzie River; and

present-day political and economic issues. Most of the contributors will participate in a special session on the Métis of the Mackenzie at the Rupert's Land Colloquium in Winnipeg in June 1998. Plans for 1998/99 include the preparation of a submission to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. These initiatives will involve ongoing consultation between Parks Canada and the Métis Heritage Association of the NWT.

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act

The *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA)* will establish a coordinated new system of resource management to regulate the use of land and water in the

Mackenzie Valley. The Mackenzie Valley, as defined in the *Act*, includes all of the western NWT (including local government areas, reserves and settled claim areas), with the exception of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and Wood Buffalo National Park.

The *Act* establishes public boards for land and water management, land use planning, and environmental assessment and review. The new system will replace portions of the current system in which the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development manages and regulates the use of land, and the NWT Water Board regulates the use of water. All developments in the Mackenzie Valley will be subject to an environmental assessment process under the *MVRMA*.

Gwich'in Settlement Area

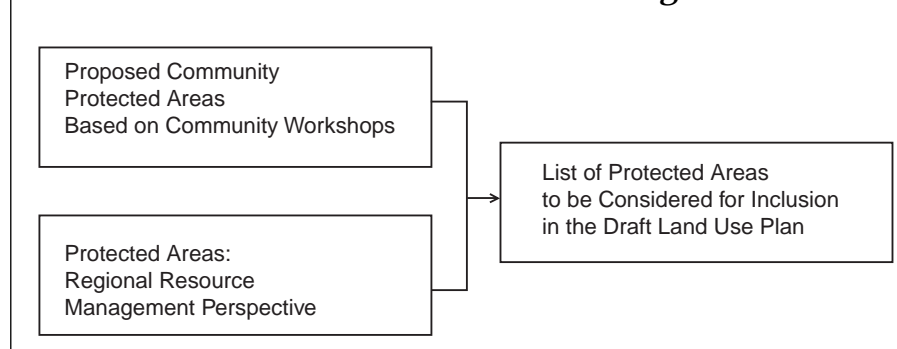
Gwich'in Interim Land Use Planning Board

The *Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (GCLCA)* created the Gwich'in Interim Land Use Planning Board (GILUPB) as the land use planning agency for the Gwich'in Settlement Area (GSA). The GILUPB is now considering protected areas within the management framework established by the *GCLCA* and *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. While the mandate of the Planning Board does not extend outside of the GSA, the Board is considering transboundary protected area possibilities with the Yukon, the Sahtu Settlement Area and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

The GILUPB held several rounds of community consultation workshops related to protected areas. Local people mapped the areas and resources they would like to see protected within the Land Use Plan. These areas corresponded primarily with wildlife habitat, traditional use areas, and cultural

sites. The communities developed a list of 46 areas and proposed varying degrees of protection. These areas range in size from small cultural sites to large land masses over 14,000 km². The largest of these candidate protected areas is the headwaters of the Arctic Red River, the most northerly extension of the

Protected Areas and the Land Use Planning Process



Rocky Mountains. Woodland caribou, Dall's sheep, moose, and grizzly bears are found there. An adjacent area in Yukon, which would include the headwaters of the Stewart, Bonnet Plume and Snake Rivers, is also being considered.

The Board and the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board co-sponsored a regional workshop in November 1997 to create awareness about the protected areas work that was being done and to address the challenges associated with prioritizing these areas. This was done with community representatives and interested resource and land managers. The GILUPB is currently working on ranking these areas based on the outcome of the workshop.

The Planning Board is also consulting with communities, industry and government to identify other resources that are key to the region's economic and regional development. Ultimately, the Board will recommend which areas should be protected within the Land Use Plan while still meeting the resource needs of the region. These decisions will be the basis for the draft Land Use Plan.

Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute

Gwichya Gwich'in National Historic Site Commemoration Project

Since 1993, the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute (GSCI) has worked in partnership with Parks Canada on a number of oral history and ethnoarchaeology projects in the

Gwich'in Settlement Area (GSA). Most recently, the work has focused on a proposal to nominate a national historic site in Gwichya Gwich'in traditional land use area of the GSA.

Beginning in Tsiigehtchic (formerly called Arctic Red River) in October of 1996, the GSCI established an eight member steering committee of Elders and young adults. Dr. Michael Heine was hired to collaborate with the community and GSCI to prepare an agenda paper for the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC).

At the outset, the Elders were uncomfortable with the idea of identifying and commemorating only one place as a national historic site. The idea that one place on the land was more important than another was considered strange as was the idea that the commemoration of Gwichya Gwich'in history and culture could be represented by a single site. "All the land is important", they said. However, they agreed to participate as they perceived this as a unique opportunity to document and promote Gwich'in culture and history at both the local and the national level. They felt strongly that this commemoration would help to educate not only visitors but also the children in the local schools about their own history and culture.

As the committee's discussions proceeded, they decided to focus on places closer to the community, rather than in their outlying traditional lands. They did this so that they could share their culture and history with visitors, yet at the same time retain control and ensure

that the community would benefit. Consequently, discussions focused on the Mackenzie River. To Gwichya Gwich'in, the Mackenzie River is part of their home, as it flows directly in front of their community and through the heart of their traditional homeland. The river has played an important role in their everyday lives, in both a practical and a spiritual sense, for thousands of years. It has served as a trail to access the many different resources along the river, and to other areas in the interior. It has also served as an anchor for many of the stories that provide an insight into the culture and the history of Gwich'in.

Different sites along the Mackenzie River were discussed but committee members decided that their stories, culture, and history would be best understood by incorporating many of these sites into one nomination, encompassing the stretch of the Mackenzie River from Thunder River to Point Separation. By doing this, Gwichya Gwich'in were able to satisfy their own way of looking at the land as a whole - with people, their cultures and the land intimately intertwined - with the National Historic Site theme of cultural landscapes. Once the committee decided on the Mackenzie River nomination, the paper for the HSMBC was written, weaving together information from oral history, archaeology and ethnohistory sources. The paper - "That river, it's like a highway for us." The Mackenzie River through Gwichya Gwich'in history and culture - outlined the importance of the river to Gwich'in culture and

history, to exploration and to the fur trade, both before and after Canada became a country.

This is in keeping with the recognition by Gwich'in that, although the river has been their home for thousands of years, they have shared it with Euro-Canadians for more than 200 years, beginning with Alexander Mackenzie's trip down the river in 1789. They feel that the history of the river, the longest river in Canada, and among the ten longest rivers in the world, is an

important part of the history of Canada. Gwich'in, as one of the original peoples of Canada, have acted as ambassadors for Canada to all travellers who journeyed along this remarkable river. As the title of the board paper indicates, the Mackenzie River has been a "highway" throughout time for many people, crossing many different cultural and social boundaries.

In April of 1997 the board paper was submitted for the consideration of the HSMBC. A

delegation from the community of Tsiigehtchic and staff from the GSCI gave a presentation to the Board in early June of 1997. In February 1998, the Secretary of State for Parks Canada, on behalf of the Minister of Canadian Heritage, informed Gwich'in that Nagwi-choonjik (the Mackenzie River stretch between Thunder River and Point Separation) is of national historic significance due to its prominent position within the Gwichya Gwich'in cultural landscape.

Sahtu Settlement Area

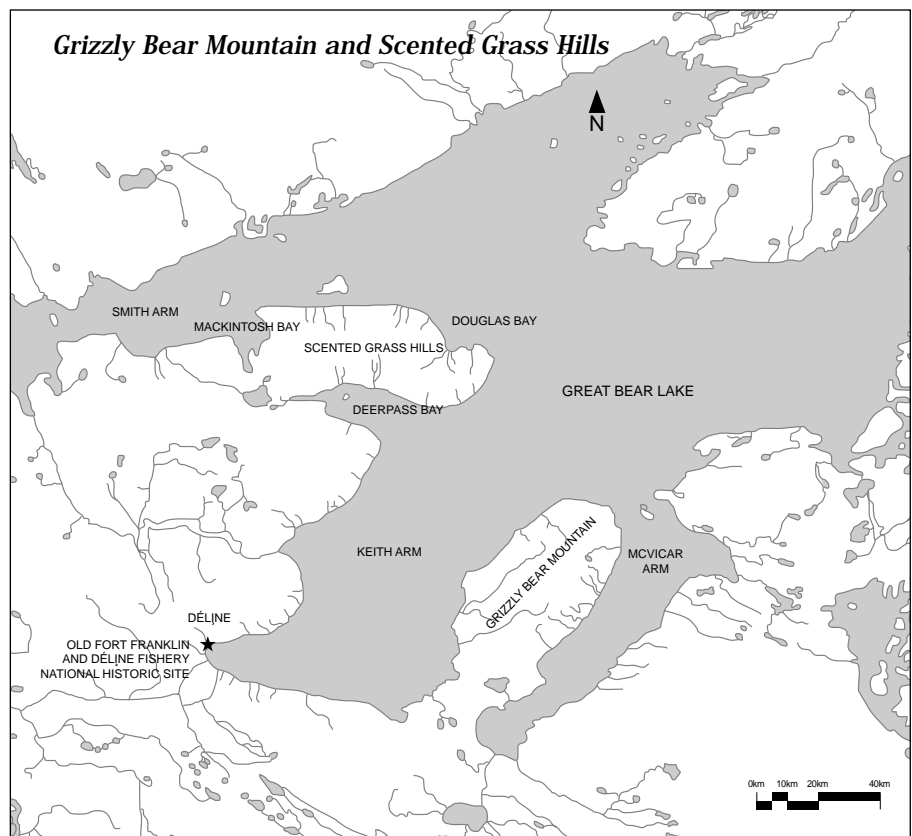
Government of Canada - Canadian Heritage - Parks Canada - National Historic Sites

Déline Fishery and the Old Fort Franklin National Historic Site

In December 1996, the Minister of Canadian Heritage advised the community of Déline that: "the traditional Dene fishery at Déline, its use over time and the long history of sharing its resources, as well as the remains of Fort Franklin, the wintering quarters of Sir John Franklin's Second Expedition, are of national historic significance and should be the subject of joint commemoration." Work on the Commemorative Integrity Statement and the Management Plan are proceeding well and should be complete by the spring of 1998. An Elders' group coordinated by Leroy Andre is contributing significantly to the process.

Grizzly Bear Mountain and Scented Grass Hills

Grizzly Bear Mountain and Scented Grass Hills is the



North's most recent national historic site. In a meeting with delegates from the community of Déline in February 1998, Secretary of State (Parks) announced the national his-

toric site designation of this area.

Grizzly Bear Mountain and Scented Grass Hills are two prominent landmarks on Great Bear Lake. They are associated

with many Sahtu Dene oral histories and are a splendid example of sites that maintain the continuity of the cultural heritage of a people who traveled extensively as they lived off the land.

This new national historic site holds a broad legacy of

traditional Sahtu Dene stories and beliefs. To Sahtu Dene, Grizzly Bear Mountain and Scented Grass Hills are sacred places. They are the setting for five different groups of oral stories containing the collective wisdom of the people that has been passed from genera-

tion to generation. Sahtu Dene continue these oral traditions because the hero of an ancient culture, Yamoria, insisted that these stories be maintained.

Dene and Métis Claims Areas (South Mackenzie)

Government of the NWT - Education, Culture and Employment - Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre

Dogrib Caribou Skin Tipi

In April 1997, a delegation from Rae and Yellowknife travelled to Iowa City to accept the return of a Dogrib caribou skin tipi from the Natural History Museum, part of the University of Iowa, in Iowa City. University of Iowa Anthropology professor June Helm, who has worked with Dogrib since 1959, and Natural History Museum Director George Schrimper organized the exchange.

The tipi, made from the tanned hides of 40 caribou, had been part of the museum collection for 103 years, although it had never been displayed. Frank Russell, a graduate student of the University of Iowa, purchased the tipi in 1894 from *K'aawidaa* (Bear Lake Chief) an important Dogrib trading chief. Russell travelled to the Mackenzie Valley in 1892 to 1894 on a natural history collecting expedition on behalf of the university. During his stay in

Fort Rae, he purchased numerous ethnographic items, many of which have been on continuous display at the Natural History Museum.

The 1997 northern delegation included three direct descendants of Bear Lake Chief (Dogrib Elder, Elizabeth Mackenzie; Mary Siemens, Mackenzie's daughter and coauthor of "*A Dogrib Dictionary*"; John B. Zoe, chief negotiator for the Dogrib Treaty 11 Council) and Tom Andrews, the Subarctic Archaeologist of the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

In accepting the tipi, Elizabeth Mackenzie noted that "Many women helped each other in those days. They made big things. They sew together, and after it's made they make a feast in that tent. We never heard about the tipi [being] here in the States, but I know the people at my place will be very grateful and happy to hear it will come back. I would like to thank Frank Russell, he did a good thing."

The tipi will be held in the permanent collection of the Prince of Wales Northern

Heritage Centre. An exhibit featuring the tipi is planned for the summer of 1998.

Government of Canada - Environment Canada - Canadian Wildlife Service

Mills Lake

Mills Lake is a widening of the Mackenzie River, 50 km downstream from Great Slave Lake. There are extensive wetlands around much of the lake. This site is one of the most important spring and fall staging areas for migrating swans, geese and ducks in the Western Arctic. From 1994 to 1997, the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) conducted studies to confirm the area's importance to migrating waterfowl and shorebirds. Study results will assist CWS and Fort Providence, for whom Mills Lake is an important hunting and fishing area, in deciding whether to protect Mills Lake as a conservation area. Any such proposal would be developed in consultation with other relevant government and non-government agencies.

Nunavut Settlement Region

Government of the NWT - Education, Culture and Employment - Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre

Planning for Nunavut

As the division of the NWT and the creation of Nunavut draws near, the Culture and Heritage Division is making plans and recommendations on topics ranging from the return of artifacts to Nunavut that form part of the collection of the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, to planning for museums and archives in Nunavut. Peter Ernerk has been hired as Assistant Director (Nunavut) to assist in these tasks. Born in the Repulse Bay area, Mr. Ernerk has a long standing interest in Inuit culture, language and heritage. With his experience as a Member of Parliament, Regional Superintendent, Executive Director of the Inuit Cultural Institute, and board member of the Nunavut Implementation Commission, Mr. Ernerk brings considerable knowledge, skills and interest to this position.

Peter Ernerk may be reached at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Government of the NWT, Box 1320, Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2L9, (867) 920-6250 or by e-mail at peter_ernerk@ece.learnnet.nt.ca

Wall Bay, King William Island

A group of people including Joanne Laserich of Cambridge Bay, and Margaret Bertulli of the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, flew to a drumlin inland of Wall Bay on northwestern King William

Island. The purpose of the trip was to determine whether two features, a long mound and an irregular patch of black rocks, located by Joanne Laserich and Tom Gross of Hay River earlier in the summer, could be cultural features related to the final Franklin Expedition of 1845. The Franklin Expedition had abandoned its ships, *H.M.S. Erebus* and *Terror*, after having been locked in ice off the north-western coast of the island, and trekked its length. The discoverers of the feature had thought that the long mound might be a mass grave and that the patch of black rocks could have been Franklin's grave. Both features proved to be natural but two Inuit artifacts, bone and whalebone implements, were recovered from the second feature.

Government of the NWT - Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development - Parks and Tourism

Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement negotiations for territorial parks within Nunavut are currently underway. In keeping with procedures outlined in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, future developments planned for territorial parks within Nunavut will not proceed until the negotiations are concluded.

Beechey Island (Historic Park)

Beechey Island is a tiny island off the southwest tip of Devon Island, some 80 km east of Resolute. It includes graves, a monument, and other historic

resources related to the ill-fated Franklin Expedition and to a depot subsequently established to assist those engaged in the search for Franklin. A small historic park has been suggested. The island was not selected by the community during the Nunavut land claim negotiations so that a historic park might be created in the future. Following review of the matter by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, the Minister of Canadian Heritage declared in 1994 that the various camps, depots, cairns, and other historic resources of Beechey Island are individually and collectively of national historic significance. New air photo coverage of the island was obtained in 1995. Community and regional opinion will be canvassed in the coming year to determine whether there is sufficient support to pursue establishment of a territorial historic park.

Bloody Falls (Natural Environment Recreation Park)

Bloody Falls on the Coppermine River is 15 km upstream from the community of Kugluktuk. The Arctic char fishery at the site is particularly important in the fall and has given rise to a rich archaeological record dating back more than 2000 years. The archaeological resources are the basis of the National Historic Site recognition conferred on Bloody Falls in 1978. This declaration of historic significance was not accompanied by any change in land ownership status.

Nearly all canoeing and rafting parties descending the

Coppermine River choose to camp at Bloody Falls. As well, use of the area by community residents is increasing. Fishing is particularly important for residents, thus maintaining the traditional pattern of use.

Given the increasing use of the area and concerns that the natural and cultural values of the area could be at risk, representatives of the community and the Department of

Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development (RWED) participated in the development of a park at Bloody Falls. A conceptual park management plan was prepared in 1995 and approved by the community. Throughout the process, a community survey and meetings helped to identify the primary concerns that a park should address. Three major objectives were identified: pro-

tecting archaeological sites; maintaining the area free of litter; and limiting the impact of use of all-terrain vehicles (ATV) by improving a defined route. Facility development has been minimal with construction of outhouses, garbage enclosures and picnic tables. Improvements to the ATV trail outside the park (between Kugluktuk and Heart Lake) were completed in summer

Search for Sir John Franklin's Ships

A survey of the waters south of King William Island was organized by Eco-Nova Multimedia Productions of Halifax, Nova Scotia, in August 1997 to search for the remains of Sir John Franklin's ships, *H.M.S. Erebus* and *Terror*. The survey was conducted from the icebreaker *CCGS Sir Wilfrid Laurier* along the northwest shore of the Adelaide Peninsula. The operation involved the collaboration of several federal and territorial agencies including Canadian Coast Guard, Canadian Hydrographic Services, Geological Survey of Canada, Department of National Defence, Parks Canada, and the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

The *Erebus* and *Terror* were declared to be of national historic significance by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in the fall of 1992. Since then, Underwater Archaeology - Parks Canada has intensified its ongoing partnership with the GNWT to ensure the protection and proper handling of these sites, if they are

discovered. Parks Canada also initiated a Memorandum of Understanding between Canada and the United Kingdom which was signed on August 8, 1997. The Memorandum gives Canada the role of representing the owner of the ships, which is the United Kingdom, and also gives the ownership of retrieved artifacts from the vessels to Canada.

The project completed a systematic sonar and depth sounding of over 80 km² of sea bottom in two areas along the Adelaide Peninsula: one area is southeast of Kirkwall Island and the other is northeast of O'Reilly Island. No historic ship target was detected; only natural features were defined.

The shorelines of the islands in the vicinity were searched for debris from a historic wreck. A limited survey was conducted of the islets north of O'Reilly Island by Margaret Bertulli of the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, in conjunction with the Eco-Nova team. This area, west of Adelaide Peninsula, was a good place to hunt seals and caribou; and several of the islets

had numerous tent rings, caches, and large scatters of animal bone. These discoveries are important contributions to the late precontact and recent history of this part of the Arctic.

The second and southernmost search area, near O'Reilly Island, provided some surface finds that may offer clues to the nearby presence of one of Franklin's ships. These include copper sheathing fragments from old seacraft or ships. Of diagnostic value is a heavy gauge copper disk that has been provisionally identified as the bottom of a pewter coffeepot of a type commonly used in England in the mid-nineteenth century.

This expedition was successful in covering a much larger search area than had been anticipated and in so doing eliminated a large area for future search parties. It also established a level of recording standards which can be used as a benchmark for future attempts to locate these remains of national and international historic importance.

1997. Future plans include continuing detailed facility and interpretive design, and planning improvements to the ATV trail within the park.

Ijiraliq (Community Park)

The Meliadine River flows into Hudson Bay about 5 km north of the community of Rankin Inlet. An attractive valley, glacial features, important wildlife habitat and impressive Thule sites are the basis of the community park.

The Hamlet Council of Rankin Inlet expressed its support for a proposed park on the Meliadine River in March 1990 and established a park committee to work on it with RWED staff. Community consultation sessions were held with RWED, the Park Committee, and Hamlet representatives. A conceptual park plan was completed in 1992 and the community's expanded Block Land Transfer was approved to include the area of the park in 1994. Lands were reserved for the territorial park prior to 1994.

Park development is now underway. Upgrading of the road to the park has been completed, and the Hamlet has replaced the interpretive signs at the Thule site and marked the park boundary. The Hamlet prefabricated park facilities such as an Elders' shelter, picnic tables, outhouses and signs, and installed them in the spring of 1997. Future plans include production of additional signage and a park brochure.

Katannilik (Natural Environment Recreation Park)

Katannilik, in the south Baffin near Lake Harbour, includes an

area of approximately 1269 km², almost all of it in the Soper River watershed. A management plan for the park was prepared in 1991 and the land was formally transferred to the territorial government for park purposes in 1995. The park provides opportunities for water-based recreation including rafting, canoeing, and kayaking, as well as hiking, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling.

Several low key facilities were completed in the park in 1994 intended primarily to address concerns relating to public safety and to limiting the impacts resulting from random camping and other visitor activities.

In 1995 construction started on a new building in Lake Harbour that serves as both the Visitor Centre and a park operational base. Exhibits were designed and installed in 1997. This work was completed in conjunction with the restoration of the Dewey Soper House and the associated arts and crafts warehouse. A river guide for canoeists and rafters using the Soper River was published in 1995 as a companion piece to the trail guide prepared a year earlier. The latter is now available in English, Inuktitut, French and German. Projects planned for the near future include facility signage for Soper House and the arts and crafts warehouse, and the purchase and installation of exterior park signs for the Visitor Centre.

Mallikjuaq (Historic Park)

Located immediately north of the community of Cape Dorset, Mallikjuaq (Mallik Island) includes several Thule sites and good vantage points offering panoramic views of the

numerous islands and complex coastline of southwest Baffin. In 1991, a feasibility study recommended that park status be pursued, with a focus on cultural resources and activities. In 1992, archaeological and interpretive studies were carried out and plans were developed for a hiking trail. An oral history project and place name study followed in 1993. In connection with further archaeological work in 1994, a Thule sod house was reconstructed.

As well, RWED acquired the old Baffin Trading Company building. This building was relocated and restored for use as a park visitor centre. Exhibit design has been completed and exhibits should be fabricated and installed before the summer of 1998. A park guide book is available in English and Inuktitut.

Mount Pelly (Natural Environment Recreation Park)

Mount Pelly is approximately 15 km east of the community of Cambridge Bay. Tourism reports in recent years have highlighted the importance of Mount Pelly for visitors, largely because of its proximity to Cambridge Bay, its interesting mountain and lake landscape, and its characteristic Arctic wildlife. Notably, the area is renowned for its diversity and numbers of Arctic birds, and many bird watchers are attracted by opportunities to add to their life lists.

Although Mount Pelly is currently accessible only by a rough narrow route, it is already the most important day-use destination for local operators who wish to give visitors an appreciation of the Cambridge Bay area. Scheduled

jet service and increasing cruise ship traffic through the Northwest Passage are increasing visitation to the area.

A conceptual management plan was completed in 1993 and the community indicated that it wishes to see park development proceed. However, difficulties were encountered in acquiring the necessary land base for the park. Much of the area of interest lies on the periphery of a Department of National Defence (DND) Reserve, where the military operates sensitive equipment, and a small portion of the proposed park lies within the Reserve. Thanks to the personal efforts of Colonel Pierre LeBlanc, Commander Canadian Forces Northern Area, DND is now undertaking steps to allow the transfer of a portion of the military reserve needed to complete this natural environment park. The territorial government will move to proclaim the park after the land transfer has occurred.

An entrance sign was installed in the fall of 1997 identifying Mount Pelly as a proposed park, and as an area that residents and visitors are requested to take care of and respect. Future plans include development of an interpretive program based on information that has been collected through interviews with Elders, archaeological surveys and a biophysical inventory.

Northwest Passage/Franklin Expedition

This is not a park in the conventional sense. Instead it is an effort to link stories from several communities and sites into one broad theme. This

theme would interest various parties investigating the potential for Arctic cruises and other tourism initiatives. The two related sub-themes that are most prominent in this regard are the search by Europeans for a Northwest Passage and the search by several expeditions for answers to the disappearance of the Franklin Expedition.

Some of the sites involved include Beechey Island off southwest Devon Island, where the Franklin Expedition wintered in 1845/6; Port Leopold on Somerset Island, where the first Franklin search expedition wintered in 1848/9; and Cape Hotham and Assistance Bay near Resolute, associated with search expeditions of the early 1850s. Cambridge Bay and Gjoa Haven both have associations with Amundsen who successfully navigated the Northwest Passage from 1903 to 1906. For these and other locations, efforts will be made to coordinate identification, protection, and interpretation of sites associated with the Northwest Passage and Franklin themes.

In Gjoa Haven, the Northwest Passage Historic Park, which was opened in 1988, is a component of this development. Signs along the walking trail through the town, coupled with the display in the Hamlet complex, concentrate on Amundsen's exploration and time in the community.

In Cambridge Bay, Amundsen's *Bay Maud*, which sank near the original town site, is being considered by the Vancouver Maritime Museum as a historic component of their

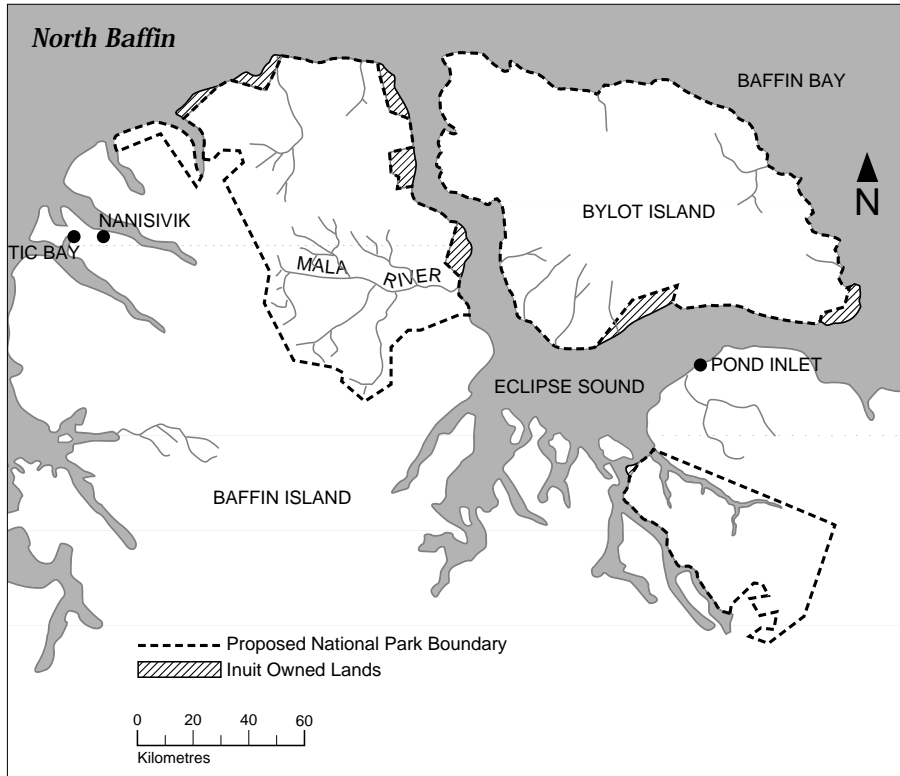
Northwest Passage project. The RCMP ship, the *St. Roch*, is also included in the project and is featured graphically in the Arctic Coast Visitor Centre in Cambridge Bay.

Sylvia Grinnell (Community Park)

This park, within the community of Iqaluit, allows visitors and residents to readily experience the Arctic landscape. The park area has numerous historical and archaeological points of interest including traditional fishing sites at the rapids. Current facilities include a kitchen shelter, outhouses, tent platforms, and several picnic sites.

A master plan in 1991 recommended a link between the park and Qaummarviit Territorial Historic Park (which is based on an Inuit encampment dating back to roughly 1700 B.C.). The plan proposed that Sylvia Grinnell be expanded to include land between the two existing parks. A number of formal council meetings, and informal community meetings, were held throughout the master planning process. Ultimately, it was agreed during the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* Land Selection Process that the land in question would be set aside for park purposes.

Implementation of the five year phased construction program for park facilities continued in 1997 with improvements to the viewing platform access trail, installation of a new park entrance sign, and deployment of bear proof garbage cans. Future plans include the construction of new washrooms, development of an access trail below the viewing platform, and installation of additional directional signage.



Government of Canada - Canadian Heritage - Parks Canada - National Parks

Auyuittuq, Ellesmere Island and North Baffin

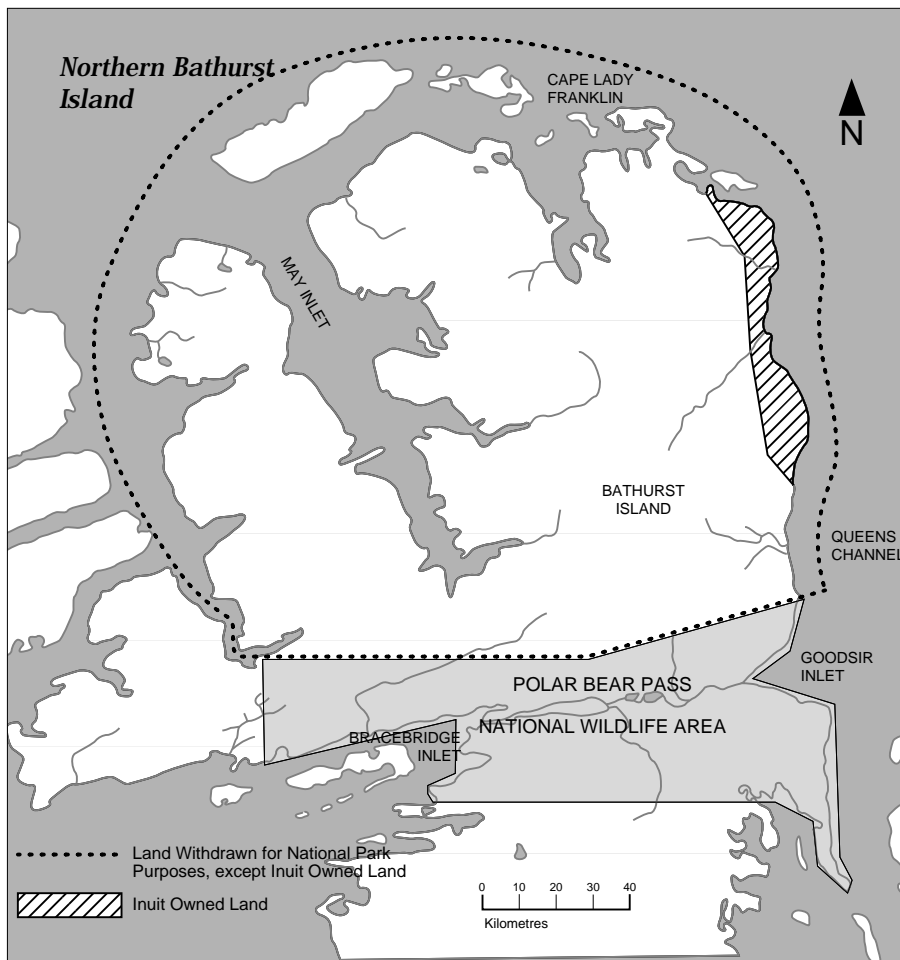
The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) requires Government and Inuit to conclude an Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement (IIBA) prior to the establishment of national parks in the Nunavut Settlement Area. The original IIBA deadlines in the NLCA were July 1995 for Ellesmere Island and Auyuittuq National Park Reserves and July 1996 for the proposed national park at the northern end of Baffin Island. The deadline was extended. At the time of writing, the Parties to the IIBA are expecting to conclude negotiations early in 1998.

There will be one IIBA covering all three parks but there will be sections dealing with any necessary park-specific provisions. Some sections of the IIBA will be unique for North Baffin because that park will include within its boundaries most of the existing Bylot Island Bird Sanctuary. The conservation regime for the Sanctuary will continue to be in effect after establishment of the national park.

Northern Bathurst Island (Tuktusiuqviauluk)

In the High Arctic, Parks Canada is working with the people of Resolute, the GNWT, Inuit organizations and other federal government departments to assess the feasibility of a new national park at Tuktusiuqviauluk (Northern Bathurst Island).

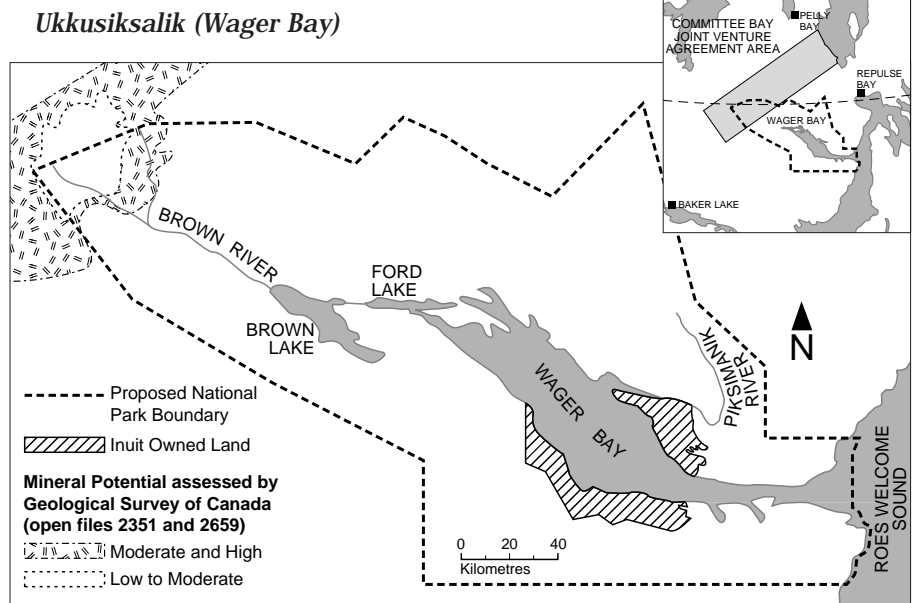
Northern Bathurst Island is a good representation of the



geology, landforms, vegetation and wildlife of the Western High Arctic Natural Region. It is also important habitat for Peary caribou, an endangered species found only in Canada's Arctic islands. As a result of severe winters the population of Peary caribou has decreased dramatically in the past three years. A major calving area for this species is found on northern Bathurst Island. Establishment of a national park would help to protect this critical habitat.

In October 1996, with the support of the community, GNWT and Qikiqtani Inuit Association, the Prime Minister of Canada announced that all of the lands for the proposed national park had been withdrawn from use and development under the *Territorial Lands Act*. This will prevent the creation of new third-party interests for a period of three years. During this time, government will undertake the technical studies needed to assess park feasibility, and Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement (IIBA) negotiations will begin. An IIBA must be completed before a national park can be established in Nunavut.

Bathurst Island is adjacent to Little Cornwallis Island, site of the Polaris Mine, the northernmost base metal mine in the world. The reserves at the Polaris Mine are diminishing and the Company is actively exploring in the area for new reserves to extend the mine's life. Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) geologists discovered a new showing of lead and



zinc mineralization on Bathurst Island (south of the proposed park area) in 1995. Preliminary Mineral and Energy Resource Assessment (MERA) reports by the GSC have noted that parts of northern Bathurst Island, within the proposed park area, have very high potential for lead and zinc mineralization. To the northwest of Bathurst Island is the Sverdrup Basin, which hosts large reserves of oil and gas. Bathurst Island has been considered as a transportation corridor for this resource. In 1997, geologists from the GSC continued their work on the MERA of the proposed park area. The final MERA report is expected in mid-1998.

In 1998, Parks Canada will continue to work with the people of Resolute and other government departments to complete the feasibility study. Information about the area has been collected through interviews with hunters and Elders knowledgeable about

the island, and through scientific study. The community will review and consider the information which covers such areas as: mineral potential, biophysical resources, and archaeological sites. In addition, boundary options for a park will be prepared and evaluated. IIBA negotiations between Canada and Inuit of Resolute can begin as soon as the MERA is complete.

Ukkusiksalik (Wager Bay)

Formal negotiations for the creation of a national park at Wager Bay began in May 1997, involving the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA), and the Governments of Canada and the NWT.

As required by the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA)*, the Governments of Canada and the NWT and Inuit are negotiating an Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement (IIBA) which will set out the conditions under which a national park can be created. The agreement will address such issues as: park

boundary, access, economic benefits to Inuit, staffing priority for Inuit, etc. All seven Keewatin communities are represented at the negotiating table. Anticipated completion date for this IIBA is March 1999.

In 1997 and early 1998, the following occurred:

- February: First meeting of governments and KIA negotiators which included an exchange of information about research that had been completed and identified gaps in that research.
- March: Publication of the oral history report of the return to Wager Bay by Repulse Bay and Coral Harbour Elders in the summer of 1996.
- March: Completion of the study on the Tourism Potential of the Western Hudson Bay region, which covers all of Keewatin and northern Manitoba.
- April: Publication jointly by Environment Canada, Indian and Northern Affairs, and Parks Canada of the "Wager Basin Overview Study" - a snapshot of the proposed national park's water resources - a first for a national park proposal in Canada.
- May: Two workshops in Repulse Bay for the negotiating teams: one on mineral potential and access

issues related to the park proposal; the other on tourism potential in the region.

- May: First formal negotiating session.
- September: Agreement by government to fund KIA community involvement costs for the negotiations.
- November: Second negotiating session.
- December: Publication of results of carving stone study (see related article below).
- March 1998: Third negotiating session.

Carving Stone

When the Government of Canada received a request from Inuit for a study of the carving stone potential of the proposed national park area at Wager Bay, Inuit also asked that people in the community of Repulse Bay be involved in the project. An unusual project was designed by Parks Canada, Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development (RWED), Geological Survey of Canada and Kivalliq Inuit Association that combined a formal prospecting course offered through Nunavut Arctic College with the carving stone study required in accordance with the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. Funding for the project was provided by RWED and Parks Canada, with administrative support from the Hamlet of Repulse Bay. The field portion of the course took place at Wager Bay and

included twelve Inuit students, two Inuit carvers and two geologists.

As with many northern field projects, logistics were challenging! Bad weather prevented the crew's initial departure from Repulse Bay by boat, making it necessary for the students, carvers and instructors to fly by Twin Otter to the west end of the national park proposal. The exploration company that offered to assist with helicopter surveys in the west end had to terminate their field operations ahead of schedule; so a helicopter was chartered from Rankin Inlet. Maps and air photos disappeared in the mail and had to be reordered. High winds and snow threatened to blow out one camp - the students responded by finding more rocks to hold down their tents, and then by playing a rousing game of Inuit golf in the snowstorm.

The students found areas where volcanic rock, metallic minerals and excellent carving stone is exposed in the Committee Bay Belt, an area of mineralized rock that passes through the west end of the park proposal. They also verified the traditional knowledge of Elders who told of *ukkusiksaq* - or stone that can be used to carve pots and oil lamps - close to Wager Bay and Ford Lake. The stone is not the kind that is used for highly polished art carvings.

The combined project of carving stone study and prospecting course provided multiple benefits to Inuit. It responded to the request from Inuit for information about carving stone, and it also gave students the opportunity to travel in Wager Bay and to learn new skills related to prospecting and guiding tourists.

National Historic Sites

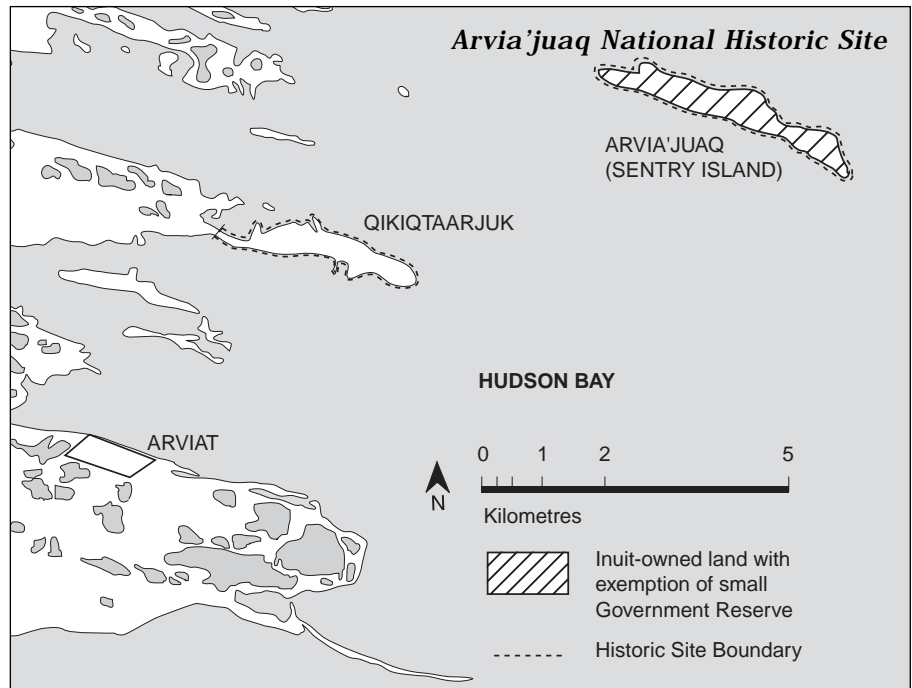
Arvia'juaq National Historic Site

Arvia'juaq was designated a national historic site in August 1995. Since that time the Arvia'juaq Planning Committee has considered the protection and presentation of the site, and completed a Conservation and Presentation Report in November 1997. The report provided the basis for a Cost-Sharing Agreement between Parks Canada and the Arviat Historical Society.

Arvia'juaq has always been important to Paallirmiut who now live in Arviat. For many generations Inuit returned to Arvia'juaq to camp and harvest its abundant marine resources. These gatherings provided an opportunity to teach the young, celebrate life, and affirm and renew Inuit society. The site has two aspects: the mainland point Qikiqtaarjuk and the island of Arvia'juaq itself.

The documentation of oral traditions, archaeological sites and traditional Inuktitut place names over the last four years has resulted in a very detailed computerized geographic information system data base for the future protection and presentation of the site.

The Arvia'juaq Planning Committee's Conservation and Presentation Report contains their plans for the commemoration of Arvia'juaq National Historic Site. Local outfitters are being encouraged to develop tour packages to the island. Exhibits



will be developed in the Margaret Aniksak Visitor Centre for seasonal visitors and an outreach program is planned that will include local community involvement, a web-site and possibly future publications.

As the site consists of Inuit Owned Land and municipal land, protection of the site will be provided by the land use controls available to the Kivalliq Inuit Association and the Hamlet of Arviat. In addition, the importance of protecting the site has been brought to the attention of the Nunavut Planning Commission through the recent review of the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan. The land use controls available to the land administrators and the Nunavut Planning Commission are expected to be sufficient to protect the site.

Fall Caribou Crossing National Historic Site

A Conservation and Presentation Report, completed for Fall Caribou Crossing National Historic Site (NHS) in November 1997, reflects the efforts of the Harvaqtuuq Historic Site Committee and Parks Canada in planning the presentation and protection of the site, which was designated a national historic site in August 1995. The Report is the basis upon which Parks Canada entered into a Cost-Sharing Agreement with the Hamlet of Baker Lake for commemoration of the site.

Fall Caribou Crossing NHS commemorates the importance of the fall caribou hunt at water crossings to the survival of Inuit of Baker Lake. Inuit groups who now live in Baker Lake depended heavily on caribou, and it was the fall caribou hunt that allowed them to cache enough meat to survive the winter. The area chosen to represent this significant

Fall Caribou Crossing National Historic Site



historical story is located on the lower Kazan River in Harvaqtuurmiut traditional territory.

Four seasons of field work with Harvaqtuurmiut Elders has resulted in the recording of many traditional Inuktitut place

names, oral traditions and archaeological sites in and around the historic site. The data have been put onto a computerized geographic information system to be used for the interpretation and protection of the site.

In accordance with the Conservation and Presentation Report, the site will be interpreted locally through exhibits at the Inuit Heritage Centre in Baker Lake. A web-site will be created, and future publications are being considered. In addition, local outfitters will be encouraged to develop tour packages that include site visits. Programs are being put into place to protect and monitor the historic site area and the archaeological sites. As the historic site consists mostly of Inuit Owned Lands, the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA) has agreed to manage these lands in accordance with the Conservation and Presentation Report. In addition, the Fall Caribou Crossing NHS has been brought to the attention of the Nunavut Planning Commission through the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan review process. The protection of the site is sought through land use planning measures and the land use controls available to KIA.

Utkuhiksalik

The Inniturliq Historic Site Committee presented a research paper on the Utkuhiksalik site to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in November 1997, documenting the area's importance as a fishery and as the site of many important Inuit legends.

Located approximately 200 km from the community of Gjoa Haven, Utkuhiksalik is the homeland of Utkuhiksalingmiut. The rich and consistent fish runs up the Back River have enabled Utkuhiksalingmiut to survive here for many generations. The three main fishing sites are Itimnaarjuk, Akuaq

and Aariaq. These sites form the area of the proposed Utkuhiksalik site.

Inuit arrived at Itimnaarjuk in late June or early July of each year. Fishing would begin in July by using the *nallut* (throw line and hook) and the *kakivak* (fish spear). Later in August, when the fish runs began, Utkuhiksalingmiut would trap fish in the *haputit* (fish weir) and spear them using the *nikhik* (hook-spear). In late August, when the hair of the caribou was fit for clothing, younger hunters would move inland while the older people moved on to Aariaq and Akuaq to continue fishing. Fish were dried and stored, and oil was rendered by boiling the bellies, intestines and heads of the fish. Fish not only provided subsistence over the winter, but also the fuel for the *kulliq* (lamp).

The rich fishery at Utkuhiksalik made it the centre of Utkuhiksalingmiut homeland, and where they returned year after year. This is an intimately known landscape filled with place names and sites that attest to its role in Inuit history. Characters of legends known throughout the Inuit world have made their mark on the landscape in and around Utkuhiksalik. The most significant of these are Kiviuq and the giant, Iuukpahugjuk.

Evidence of the area's past and the intensity of its use is apparent in the oral tradition and in the great number of archaeological sites. In addition, Itimnaarjuk is the site where Captain George Back first met Inuit in July 1834, and where he witnessed the fish-

ery himself. The oral traditions of Utkuhiksalingmiut also hint at a much older use of the site. Utkuhiksalingmiut suggest that this area was previously occupied by Tunnit. Whoever these people were, several large structures attest to an older use of the area by Inuit in the past.

Environment Canada - Canadian Wildlife Service

New Initiatives and Existing Conservation Areas

The *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* devotes an entire chapter to conservation areas, including National Wildlife Areas (NWA) and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries that are administered by the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS). The *Agreement* requires the Parties to negotiate an Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement (IIBA) for most conservation areas, and produce management plans for all conservation areas. CWS is working on the IIBAs and management plans for Nirjutiqavvik and Iqaliqtuuq National Wildlife Areas, described below.

CWS has identified priority sites for protection of critical wildlife habitat. As well, communities have nominated other sites to be protected by CWS legislation. Progress on these new initiatives is also described below.

Creswell Bay

The productive lowlands around Creswell Bay, Somerset Island, were identified in the mid-1970s as important habitat for nesting and staging shorebirds and waterfowl. The offshore of Creswell Bay is an important feeding area for

seabirds, and for marine mammals such as beluga and narwhal. Given the richness of both land and sea resources, the area is worthy of consideration for protected status.

Studies to confirm the 1970 data were undertaken at Creswell Bay from 1995 to 1997. The study results will be reported in 1998 along with recommendations regarding protected status.

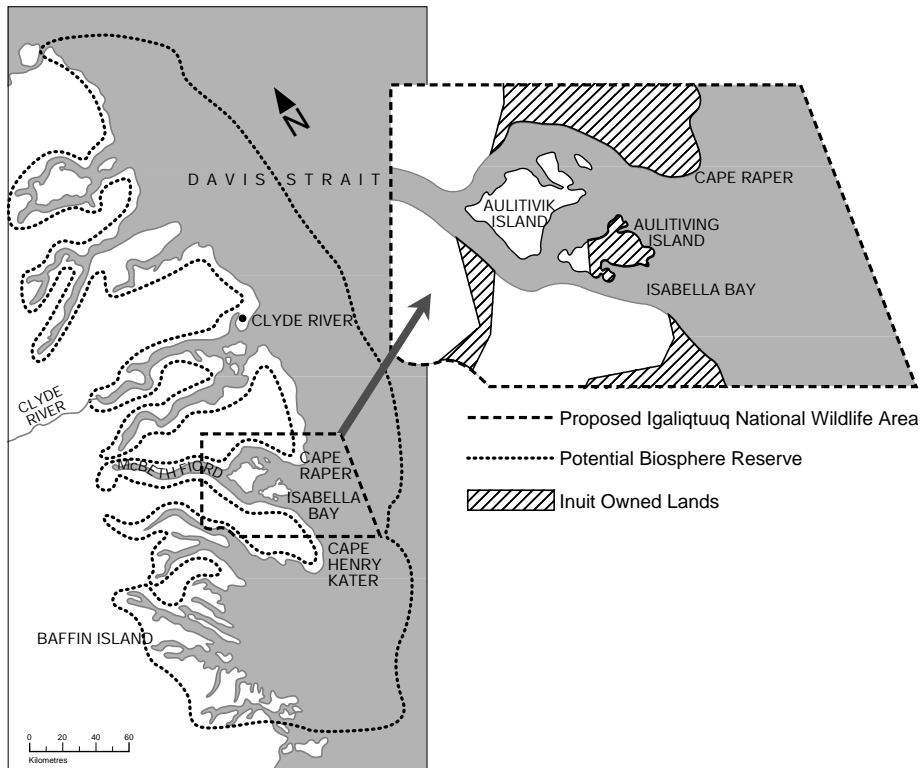
Foxe Basin Islands

For many years Prince Charles, Air Force, and Foley Islands had been identified as very important habitats for shorebirds, brant geese, and Sabine's gulls, but this information was based on only a few, general aerial surveys. For CWS to properly assess the priority of the islands for protected status, more detailed surveys were required. In July 1997, CWS completed a two-year study of the distribution and abundance of birds on these islands. Preliminary results indicate large populations of red phalaropes, white-rumped sandpipers, Sabine gulls, Atlantic brant, and lesser snow geese. In 1996/97, 42 species of birds were observed. The final report will include recommendations regarding future protected status of the islands.

Iqaliqtuuq

In 1992, the community of Clyde River proposed the creation of Iqaliqtuuq National Wildlife Area (NWA) to protect important bowhead whale habitat at Isabella Bay, Baffin Island. The boundaries for Iqaliqtuuq were approved by the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board in June 1994. A

Iqaliquuuq



planning committee composed of representatives from the Namautaq Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO), and federal and territorial departments has completed a draft of the NWA's management plan. In September 1997, the HTO was awarded Designated Inuit Organization status to negotiate an Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement (IIBA) for Iqaliquuuq. IIBA negotiations between the HTO and the federal and territorial governments began the same month. The IIBA should be concluded in the spring of 1998. Upon conclusion of the IIBA the formal designation process for the NWA will begin.

Whale research continued at Isabella Bay in the summer of 1997. It was a record year for bowheads; close to 100 animals were counted in the Bay at the same time. Whale

research at Iqaliquuuq will be an important management objective of this future NWA.

Nirjutiqavvik National Wildlife Area

Coburg Island and the surrounding waters were proclaimed a National Wildlife Area (NWA) on August 30, 1995. The NWA, off of the southeastern tip of Ellesmere Island, is one of the most important seabird nesting areas in the Canadian Arctic. Up to 385,000 thick-billed murre, black-legged kittiwake, northern fulmar, and black guillemots nest on the precipitous cliffs on the south coast of Coburg Island and on Princess Charlotte Monument, a small islet near the Coburg Island colony. The close proximity of Coburg Island to year-round openings in the sea ice ("polynyas") in Baffin Bay and Lady Ann Strait provides abun-

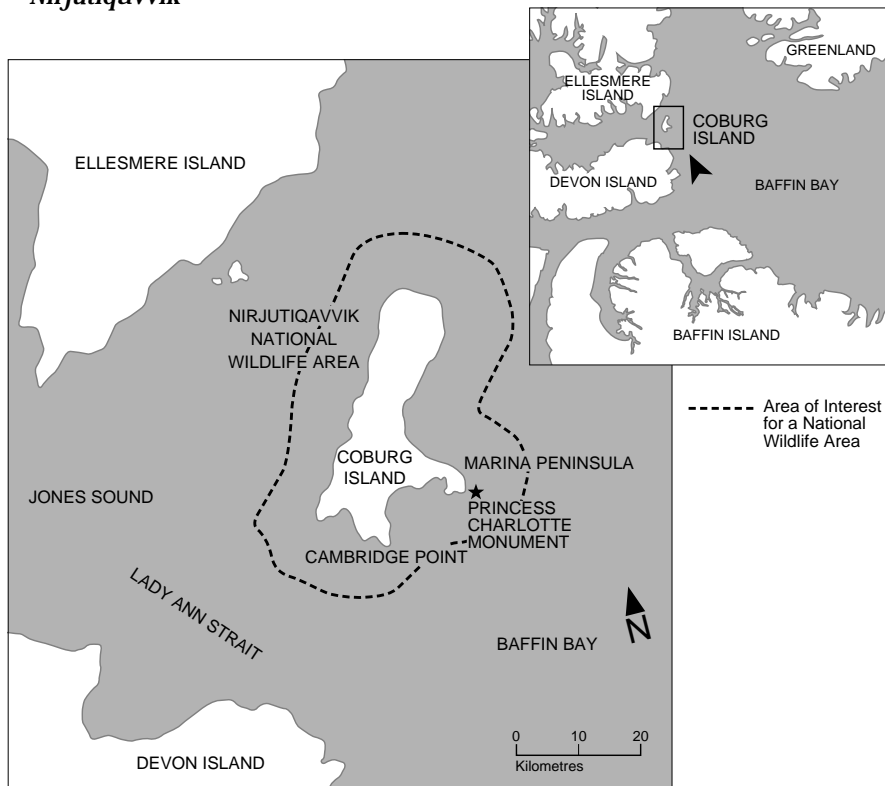
dant food for the birds and attractive habitat for polar bears, ringed and bearded seals, walrus, and migrating narwhal and beluga.

An ad-hoc management committee composed of representatives from Grise Fiord, CWS and the GNWT Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development has been working since January 1996 to develop a management plan for the NWA. In early 1998, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association received Designated Inuit Organization status for negotiation of an IIBA for Nirjutiqavvik. Negotiation of an IIBA for Nirjutiqavvik will begin in 1998.

In the summers of 1996 and 1997, the Iviq [Grise Fiord] Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO) undertook a cleanup of the old North Water Polynya Research Station on Coburg Island. An initial environmental assessment was completed in 1996. In 1997 a varied assortment of garbage (e.g. propane cylinders, hypodermic needles, old kitchen garbage, paint) was removed from the island, a dilapidated shed was torn down, and another building was repaired for use as an emergency shelter. In 1998 the HTO hopes to crush the 100-plus fuel drums that are at the site and airlift them to a disposal facility. These projects were co-funded by Environment Canada's "Action 21" funding and by the Iviq HTO.

Baseline studies at the NWA's massive seabird colonies began in the early 1970s and continue today. A team of five seabird researchers from CWS was on

Nirjutiqavvik



Coburg Island from July 25 to August 18, 1997, conducting ecological studies of black-legged kittiwakes, thick-billed murre, and glaucous gulls. They collected information about timing of breeding, how the parents feed their offspring and other aspects of the species' reproductive biology. This information will be compared with data collected at a similar seabird colony on Hakluyt Island, Greenland. The work on Coburg Island is part of an international research project that examines the biology and oceanography of the Northwater Polynya (located just east of Coburg Island). A second and final year of this study is planned for the summer of 1998.

Labrador

Parks Canada is considering two areas of national park interest in Labrador - the Torngat Mountains in the extreme north, and the Mealy Mountains area of central Labrador.

The Torngat Mountains area, found in Natural Region 24 and lying north of the treeline, has been used by Inuit and their ancestors for thousands of years. It is a spectacular Arctic wilderness of rugged mountains, gentle valleys, fiords, and sheer cliffs fronting the Labrador Sea.

Parks Canada, the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Labrador Inuit Association launched a study in 1992 to examine the feasibility of establishing a national park in this area. That study concluded in 1996. Discussions have been continuing toward the anticipated establishment of a national park reserve pending the resolution of all relevant Aboriginal land claims.

Representing Natural Region 21, the Mealy Mountains area touches the southern shores of

Hamilton Inlet, a vast inland sea that extends over 150 kilometres from the Atlantic Ocean into Labrador. The varied environments in this area of mountain tundra, expansive uplands, bogs, boreal forest and wild rivers have sustained many generations of Aboriginal peoples. Parks Canada, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, and Aboriginal groups anticipate a formal launch of a national park feasibility study as soon as all parties are in a position to do so.

For more information ...

Additional information on the initiatives described in *New Parks North* can be obtained from the following offices:

NWT Territorial Parks and Heritage Rivers/West Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development Parks and Tourism Government of the NWT Box 1320 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9 www.rwed.gov.nt.ca Attention: Robin Reilly Director phone: (867) 873-7902 fax: (867) 873-0163 e-mail: robin_reilly@gov.nt.ca

NWT Territorial Parks and Heritage Rivers/Nunavut Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development Parks and Tourism Government of the NWT - Nunavut Headquarters Box 1870 Iqaluit, NT X0A 0H0 www.rwed.gov.nt.ca Attention: David Monteith Assistant Director phone: (867) 979-5081 fax: (867) 979-6026 e-mail: david_monteith@gov.nt.ca

NWT Cultural Resources Education, Culture and Employment Culture and Heritage Branch Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre Government of the NWT Box 1320 Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2L9 www.pwnhc.learnnet.nt.ca Attention: Boris Atamanenko Culture and Heritage Advisor phone: (867) 920-6370 fax: (867) 873-0205 e-mail: boris_atamanenko@ece.learnnet.nt.ca

Yukon Territorial Parks and Heritage Rivers Renewable Resources Parks and Outdoor Recreation Government of Yukon Box 2703 Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6 www.gov.yk.ca Attention: Dave Ladret Special Projects Officer phone: (867) 667-3595 fax: (867) 393-6223 e-mail: dave.ladret@gov.yk.ca

Yukon Historic Sites Tourism Heritage Branch Government of Yukon Box 2703 Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6 www.touryukon.com Attention: Doug Olynyk Historic Sites Coordinator phone: (867) 667-5295 fax: (867) 667-8023 e-mail: doug.olynyk@gov.yk.ca

National Parks and National Historic Sites Department of Canadian Heritage Parks Canada Box 1166 Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2N8 parkscanada.pch.gc.ca Attention: The Editors New Parks North phone: (867) 669-2820 fax: (867) 669-2829 e-mail: newparksnorth_info@pch.gc.ca

Migratory Bird Sanctuaries and National Wildlife Areas Northwest Territories Environment Canada Canadian Wildlife Service Northern Conservation Division Box 2970 Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2R2 www.mb.ec.gc.ca Attention: Vicky Johnston Habitat Biologist, East NWT phone: (867) 669-4767 fax: (867) 873-8185 e-mail: vicky.johnston@ec.gc.ca

All of the agencies listed here have contributed to this publication. Our goal is to provide a single, annual publication of interest to everyone following new northern natural and cultural heritage conservation issues in a convenient and economical medium.

We welcome your comments addressed to the Editors.

