

Canadian Wildlife Service  
Arctic Ecology Map Series  
Critical Wildlife areas

Descriptive report

Redstone River

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REDSTONE RIVER  
(Sheet #2115)

The Redstone River map sheet (scale 1:1,000,000) encompasses an area of approximately 82,000 square miles. The west half of the sheet includes several major mountain ranges. An area of glacially fluted tundra occurs on the extreme northeast corner of the sheet, extending into adjacent map sheets. The southeast portion of the sheet is characterized by a series of plateaus and boreal forest interspersed with extensive muskeg in low lying areas.

The mountainous regions harbor a wide variety of wildlife species, including Woodland Caribou, Mountain Goats, Grizzly Bear and Dall Sheep.

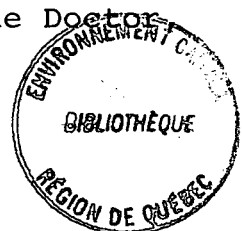
In general, the sheet contains very good furbearer habitat, including Beaver, Marten, Lynx, Wolverine and Mink.

While no delineation has been made for the Trout Lake region, this area contains a variety of species including scattered Woodland Caribou, Moose and Beaver.

A National Park site has been proposed in the vicinity of the Liard and Nahanni River drainages.

Several areas are of importance as hunting areas for the Indian peoples located at various settlements within the sheet. The valley of the North Redstone River is an important hunting ground for the people of Fort Norman and Wrigley. Other such areas include the Cli, Little Doctor

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Sibbeston Lake area and the lower reaches of the Nahanni River in the vicinity of Nahanni Butte.

Although several areas of importance have been delineated on the map, many regions are not well known. This sheet represents one of the areas where further research is required to document specific habitats and quantitative data for wildlife populations.

The following section provides reference data for those areas delineated on the map.

UNIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
1	An extension of the Whitefish migration and breeding area on the Johnny Hoe River system of the Great Bear River sheet. (Novakowski)
2	An extension of the spring and fall Swan migration area mapped on the Great Bear River sheet. (Barry)
3	Prime caribou wintering area, contains good lichen range. Extends north on the Great Bear River sheet. (Stevens) Commonly used by wintering caribou. This unit encompasses the glacially fluted areas on adjacent sheets. (Kelsall)
4	An important area for Beaver. (Bryant) The area between Lac la Martre and the Horn Plateau is good Beaver habitat. (Fuller 1952). This unit extends east on the Slave River map sheet.

UNIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
5	Boundary delineates a good Beaver area, no population data available. (Williams), (Fuller, unpublished report)
6	The Horn Plateau is an important Woodland Caribou range. (Kelsall, Williams, Hall) Approximately 4,000 Caribou are found in this area which is also important for Marten. (Hall) This area extends to the adjacent Slave River sheet.
7	The Liard River is an important Beaver area. Beaver possibly migrate down this unit during the spring. (Williams).
8	This is an extension of the critical Beaver area mapped on the Slave River sheet.
9	An important Beaver area. In addition, it contains populations of Mink, Lynx, and Marten. The area extends to the south of the map sheet. (Hall)
10	Historic Wood Bison range. Bison were last seen here in 1928 on the Grainger River. In all likelihood the Canadian Wildlife Service may reintroduce Wood Bison to this area within the next 5 years. (Novakowski)
11	Mountain Goats are found in the Logan Mountain area. Good populations occur, but no further information is available on the extent of their range. (Pearson)
12	Woodland Caribou winter range. (Simmons) Critical area.

UNIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
13	Important Grizzly Bear area. (Simmons)
14	Critical Grizzly Bear area. (Simmons)
15	Woodland Caribou winter range. Critical. No further data. (Simmons)
16	This is a wintering area for Woodland Caribou which extends north into the Great Bear River sheet as Unit 23 on that map sheet. (Novakowski)

REFERENCES

Personal Communications

T. W. Barry  
J. E. Bryant  
J. P. Kelsall  
N. S. Novakowski (Canadian Wildlife Service)  
A. M. Pearson  
N. M. Simmons  
W. E. Stevens

R. B. Hall  
R. Williams (Northwest Territories)

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FULLER, W. A. 1952. Aerial Beaver Surveys -- Mackenzie District -- September and October 1952. Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa.

THOMAS, D.C., G. R. PARKER, J. P. KELSALL, and A. G. LOUGHREY. 1963. Population estimates of barren-ground caribou on the Canadian mainland from 1955 to 1967. Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa.