

PAS Science Team

Comment on Ecoregions section of plan

August, 2009

This section states “The NWT PAS includes the goal to protect core representative areas with each NWT ecoregion. This is to help contribute to the conservation of the entire diversity of life forms and their habitats (p. 10, PAS). The PAS EWG (now PAS Science Team) developed a methodology to identify representative areas”. While this is accurate, we would prefer inclusion of why ecological representation is important to the SLUP. For instance:

“The NWT PAS includes the goal to protect core representative areas with each NWT ecoregion. This is to help contribute to the conservation of the entire diversity of life forms and their habitats (p. 10, PAS). The goal of achieving ecological representation cannot be met through protected areas alone. Conservation zones and special management zones play particularly important roles in conserving biodiversity, including ensuring the connectivity required for species to roam and ensuring the space needed for ecological processes such as fires and water cycles to continue.

The PAS Science Team has provided the SLUPB with information and ecological representation analyses to assist the Board in representing as fully as possible the diverse conservation features of the Sahtu.”