



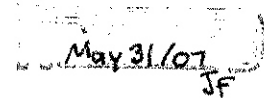
SAHTU RENEWABLE RESOURCES BOARD

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COPY

Judith Wright-Bird, Chair
Sahtu Land Use Planning Board
P.O. Box 255
Fort Good Hope, NT X0E 0H0



Re: Draft #1 Sahtu Land Use Plan – SRRB Comments

Judith:

On behalf of the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board for its *Sahtu Land Use Plan – Draft 1*. This is a significant step in the process to seek formal approval of a final land use plan for the Sahtu Settlement Area.

As requested, the Board has reviewed both the draft document and accompanying map. Please find attached our comments/suggestions for improving the plan. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (867) 588-4040 or director@srrb.nt.ca. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Jody Snortland
Executive Director

Cc Walter Bayha, Chair
SRRB Members/Alternates

1.1 Definitions & Abbreviations

- P.7 – Appropriately qualified professional – should include the following “... relevant to the particular matter OR a Sahtu resident possessing traditional (local) knowledge appropriate to the specific situation, as determined by the SLWB.”
- P. 8 – For consistent formatting, DELETE “wildlife” means all ferae naturae in a wild state, including fish, mammals and birds
- ADD protected area, consultation, water, designated Sahtu organization, developer, development activity, development proposal, traditional knowledge (SDMCLCA 2.1.1)
- SLCA should be used consistently throughout the document; replace Agreement, Final Agreement, or Land Claim Agreement with SLCA (Appendix)
- ADD MVLWB, SSA, RRC, GNWT, ENR

1.2 The Planning Process

- P.9 & 10 – When listing objectives & principles, it must be clear which Act they are from
- P.9 – “The Land Claim Agreement also provides for Principles Guide this Land Use Plan.” This statement does not make sense.

1.3.3 Conservation Zones

- P.12, Paragraph 1 – “Conservation zones contribution to the maintenance...” should be “Conservation zones contribute to the maintenance ...”

1.3.3.1 Conservation Zone Prohibitions and Conditions

- P.12, Footnote i - The footnote contents are found on the last two pages of the appendix
- P.13, Part A, #4 – This point should be consistent with #4 for Special Management Zones, i.e., “activities which result in the introduction of alien or exotic plant and wildlife species or subspecies”
- P.13, Part A, #5 – This prohibition should read “activities which result in or contribute to the loss of genetic diversity of unique populations of aquatic or terrestrial plants or wildlife; REMOVE “in a major water body”
- P. 13, Part B – REPLACE “prospecting permits” with development licences, permits or other authorizations
- P.13, Part B, #1 – Should read “further licences, permits or other authorizations subsequent to the approval of the Sahtu Land Use Plan shall be subject to the conditions and prohibitions in 1.3.3.1”
- P.13, Part B, #2 – Should read “upon expiration, no further licences, permits or other authorizations shall be issued”
- P.13, Part B, #3 – Should read “on the expiry or relinquishment or rights within the boundaries of these licences, permits or other authorizations, the prohibitions in 1.3.3.1.A shall apply”

1.3.3.2 Acceptable Uses in Conservation Zones

- P.14, Part A, #6 & 7 – These two points say the same thing. Keep #7

1.3.4.1 Special Management Zone Prohibitions, Management and Developer Conditions

- Due to the extensiveness of this section, it should be broken down as follows:
1.3.4.1 Special Management Zone Prohibitions and Conditions (currently Part A-F) & 1.3.4.2 Special Management Zone Developer Conditions (currently Part G-Z)
- The Developer Conditions (Part G-Z) are difficult to follow as they jump around. They should be listed as follows: 1) General conditions (Part G-P); 2) Wildlife conditions (Part R, S, T, & U); 3) Karst topography (Part Q); and 4) development/infrastructure conditions (Part P, V, W, X, Y & Z).
- The listed conditions under each part should be consistent from one Part to the next, i.e., general conditions listed first (these would read the same for every Part); then specifics to follow.
- P.15, Part A, #4 – This point should be consistent with #4 for Conservation Zones, i.e., “activities which result in the introduction of alien or exotic plant and wildlife species or subspecies”
- P.15, Part A, #5 – REMOVE “in the Special Management Zone”
- P.15, Part A, #6 – “... the following are excepted from this prohibition ...” should be “... the following are exempted from this prohibition ...”
- P.16, Part G & H – These two parts say the same thing; REMOVE H
- P.17, Part J & M – These two parts say the same thing; Remove M
- P.17, Part L & O – These two parts are too specific for the general section; MOVE to Part T
- P.17, Part O – Is this LUP giving monitors the authority to shut down activities? Are RRCs willing to accept this responsibility?
- P.17, Part P – Why are Oil/Gas & Pipelines lumped in with General Infrastructure and Coal Bed Methane, Coal Strip Mining, Barging, and Aggregate Extraction in their own sections?
- P.19, Part P, #24 – This condition can be removed as it is listed with the ungulate conditions (Part T, #15)
- P.19, Part P, #28 – Condition should read ““The Developer(s) shall develop and maintain a spill contingency plan, which outlines practices for using drip pans at refuelling sites, lined containers with a storage capacity of 110% and spill kits located on all work sites.”
- P. 19, Part P – ADD “The Developer(s) shall maintain 10 m breaks in windrows every 60 m.”
- P.19, Part P – ADD winter road snow/ice conditions; see GNWT Department of Transportation guidelines
- P.19, Part Q, #4 & 6 – These two points could be incorporated into one. “For karst features, such as sinkholes or a complex of sinkholes, less than or equal to 0.1 ha ...”

- P.19, Part Q, #5 & 7 – These two points could be incorporated into one. “For karst features, such as sinkholes or a complex of sinkholes, greater than 0.1 ha ...”
- P.20, Part R, #8 & 10 – These two points say the same thing; ADD to #8 “...within 150 m of fish-bearing streams or water bodies.”; REMOVE #10
- P.21, Part R – ADD water withdrawal protocols; see DFO Protocol for Winter Water Withdrawal in the NWT
- P.21 & 22, Part S, #4 & 9 – The SRRB should also be consulted.
- P.21 & 22, Part S, #7 & 11 – These two points say the same thing; REMOVE #11
- P.22, Part S, #10 – If a minimum altitude of 650 m and a horizontal distance of 3 km are to be maintained all year long, then why during the most sensitive waterfowl stages is the altitude 450 m and the lateral distance 1.5 km?; REMOVE #10
- P.22, Part S, #14 – This condition can be removed as it is already listed within the general conditions (Part J)
- P.22, Part S – For consistency between Parts, ADD “The Developer(s) shall restore/re-vegetate disturbed habitat using similar species occurring in adjacent undisturbed habitats, as advised by an appropriately qualified professional.” (T21 & U4)
- P.23, Part T, #4 & 20 – What are the important life requisite stages?
- P.23 & 24, Part T, #4 & 20 – The SRRB should also be consulted
- P.23, Part T, #5 & 9 – Why a maximum width of 3 m? What is the science/background for reaching this number as a maximum? A technical advisory committee has been set up (Environment Canada and ENR) to deal with the seismic line width recommendations for NWT
- P.24, Part T, #17 –Include “moose” as they are an important subsistence ungulate
- P.24, Part T, #23 – This condition can be removed as it is already listed within the general conditions (Part J)
- P.24, Part T, #24 – Why are no Dall’s sheep mentioned? The Sahtu has an estimated population of 14,000 to 26,000 sheep and only 600 to 1000 mountain goats
- P.24, Part T – Should include “The Developer(s) shall ensure that aircraft maintain a minimum altitude of 300 m for ungulates.”
- P.24, Part T – Should include “The Developer(s) shall maintain a 500 m buffer zone between any development activity and a mineral lick.”
- P.25, Part U, #1 – This condition can be removed as it is already listed within the general conditions (Part J)
- P.25, Part U, #3 – What are the important life requisite stages?
- P.25, Part U, #3 – The SRRB should also be consulted
- P. 25, Part U, #6 – ADD “... debris at least daily in an approved incinerator.”
- P.25, Part U, #5 & 6 – Why are these here? They should be listed under Part P, General Conditions

- P.25, Part U, #12 – GNWT policy on den buffers between May 1 – July 15 include: wolf – 800 m, grizzly/black bear – 300 m, fox – 150 m, wolverine – 2 km. Why is only grizzly bear included?
- P.26, Part U, #18 – REMOVE as not applicable to this section
- P.26, Part V – ADD air quality monitoring conditions; see the NWT Environmental Protection Act, Guideline for Ambient Air Quality Standards in the NWT
- P.26, Part X – REMOVE entirely; the Sahtu should not allow strip mining of any sort
- P.27, Part Y, #4 & 6 – These two points could be incorporated into one. “For karst features, such as sinkholes or a complex of sinkholes, less than or equal to 0.1 ha ...”
- P.27, Part Y, #5 & 6 – These two points could be incorporated into one. “For karst features, such as sinkholes or a complex of sinkholes, greater than 0.1 ha ...”
- P.27, Part Z, #3 – Why is this listed here? This should be a general condition following Part I

1.3.4.2 Sahtu Land and Water Board Conditions

- P.28, Part A, #2 – Why is only the Great Bear Lake Watershed ecosystem listed here?
- P. 28, Part A, #3 – Define Minister; how will security deposits be administered?

1.3.4.3 Sahtu Renewable Resources Board Requirements

- P. 28 – The following conditions should be included:
 - Reporting protocol (any weekly monitor reports to RRC & SRRB and developer to provide SRRB with annual plain language field summary)
 - Re-vegetation with native seed mix; the LUP currently states that habitat will be restored using similar species as determined by appropriate personnel (Part S, T & U) – who is this, i.e. land use inspector?
 - The SRRB and RRCs rely on monitors to be the personnel hired to scout for dens, report environmental incidents, and keep the community informed of program development.
 - The SRRB highly values the incorporation of traditional/local knowledge
 - No disturbance to traps or trap lines
 - Post notices in the community one week prior to commencement of program
 - Observe posted speed limits on all access routes
 - Clean all equipment before bringing into the Sahtu to prevent the introduction of invasive species

Why has there been no section included for acceptable uses in Special Management Zones? For consistency, use S.1.3.3.2, p.14

1.3.5 Multiple Use Zones

- P.29 – Prohibitions or conditions should be applied to multiple use zones; Revise sentence #3 to read “Developers should note that prohibitions and conditions from Section 1.3.4 may be applied to their licences, permits or authorizations to conduct work through the regulatory process.”
- What are the acceptable uses within this zone?; For consistency, use S.1.3.3.2, p. 14

1.3.5.1. Conditions for Peregrine Falcons and other Raptors in all Zones

- These conditions have already been incorporated into S.1.3.4.1, Part S, #8 and should be incorporated into S.1.3.5 prohibitions and conditions; REMOVE
- What about COSEWIC-listed or Species at Risk-listed species? A separate Part should be included under section 1.3.4.1 (lumped with the wildlife conditions) and 1.3.5 for developers to deal with species at risk

1.4 Exemptions from Zoning

- P.29, #1 – Why are these activities allowed to continue with no conditions? REVISE sentence 2 to read “These existing uses must adhere to the conditions and prohibitions as stated in S.1.3.3.1B for conservation zones and in S.1.3.4 for special management zones and multiple use zones.”
- P.29, #2 & 3 – REMOVE #2 & 3; REPLACE with “Acceptable uses as listed in S.1.3.3.2, S1.3.4, and S1.3.5.

2. Deline District Planning Zones

- P.30, Introduction – REMOVE reference to Section 1.1.14 (doesn't exist)

2.1.2 Caribou Point Conservation Zone

- P. 32 – Why no reference to the protected area strategy? Deline Land Corporation has nominated as a candidate area.
- P. 33 – Important to identify caribou herds; possible to have Bathurst caribou in this area

2.1.3 Johnny Hoe River Conservation Zone

- P.34 – It should be made clear that the Bluenose-East herd refers to caribou; possible to have Bathurst caribou in this area

2.1.8 Horton Lake Conservation Zone

- P. 39 – Important to identify caribou herd (Bluenose-West)

2.1.9 Tunago Lake Conservation Zone

- P.39 – The text should read similar to S.2.1.4, e.g. “The Tunago Lake Conservation Zone is included in both the Deline District Planning Area and the

2.1.10 Deline Special Harvest Conservation Zone

- Unclear on map where this zone is found
- P. 40 – SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

ADD Water Heart Conservation Zone – reference made on the map but nothing in the document; SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

2.2.11 Great Bear Lake Watershed Special Management Zone

- Section numbering is incorrect (2.2.11) ... should be 2.2.1
- P.41 – More detail is required to determine how “The Water Heart: A Management Plan for the Great Bear Lake and its Watershed” will be incorporated into the LUP

3. K’ahsho Got’ine District Planning Zone

- P.42 – No introduction to the K’ahsho Got’ine District provided
- Throughout Section 3, the word “Got’ine” has been spelled “Gotina” or “Got’ina”
- Throughout Section 3, the numbering is incorrect e.g. S.3.1.12 should actually be S.3.1.1

3.1.12 Ramparts River Watershed Conservation Zone

- P.43 – Why has no reference been made about the protected area strategy?

3.1.16 Maunoir Dome Conservation Zone

- P.47 – Important to identify caribou herd (Bluenose-West)

3.1.17 Tunago Lake Conservation Zone

- P.48 – Important to identify caribou herd (Bluenose-West, boreal woodland)

3.1.20 Colville Traditional Use Conservation Zone

- P. 51 – Important to identify caribou herd (Bluenose-West)

ADD Lac Des Bois & Mackenzie River Islands Conservation Zones – reference made on the map but nothing in the document; SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

3.2.25 Fort Good Hope to Colville Lake Trail

- P. 55 – ADD Colville Lake RRC to the Further Management Conditions & Prohibitions, i.e., “... heritage resources through the Colville Lake & Fort Good Hope Renewable Resource Councils and the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.”

4. Tulita District Planning Zone

- P.56 – No introduction to the Tulita District provided

4.1.1 Great Bear River Conservation Zone

- P.56 – Additional information is required for the ecological importance of this zone. SRRB will need to review prior to final approval
- P. 56 – ADD Renewable Resource Development Potential – Hydro dam

4.1.4 Mountain Lakes Conservation Zone

- P.59 – Additional information is required for the cultural & socio-economic importance of this zone. SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

4.1.5 Plains of Abraham Conservation Zone

- P.60 – Additional information is required for the cultural & socio-economic importance of this zone. SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

4.1.6 Mahoney Lake Massacre Site Conservation Zone

- P.60 – Additional information is required for the ecological importance of this zone. SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

4.1.7 Nahanni Headwaters Conservation Zone

- P.61 – In Section 4.1.11, reference is made to hoary marmots being found in this zone; ADD information about hoary marmots
- P.61 – Additional information is required for the cultural & socio-economic importance of this zone. SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

4.1.10 Mountain Hot Springs Conservation Zone

- P.64 – Additional information is required for the cultural & socio-economic importance of this zone. SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

4.1.11 Headwaters and Backbone Range Conservation Zone

- P.64 – Additional information is required for the cultural & socio-economic importance of this zone. SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

4.1.12 Smokes Conservation Zone

- P.65 – Additional information is required for the ecological, cultural & socio-economic importance of this zone. SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

4.1.13 Red Dog Mountain Conservation Zone

- P.65 – Additional information is required for the ecological, cultural & socio-economic importance of this zone. SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

4.1.14 Kelly Lake and Lennie Lake Conservation Zone

- P.66 – ADD reference to SLCA S.17.4 – Kelly Lake Protected Area
- P.66 – Additional information is required for the cultural & socio-economic importance of this zone. SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

4.1.15 Tate Lake and Stewart Lake Conservation Zone

- P.66 – Additional information is required for the ecological, cultural & socio-economic importance of this zone. SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

4.1.16 Three Day Lake Conservation Zone

- P.67 – Additional information is required for the cultural & socio-economic importance of this zone. SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

ADD Oscar Lake & Drum Lake Conservation Zones – reference made on the map but nothing in the document; SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

ADD Canol Heritage Trail (Dojo Canyon) – reference made in SLCA S.17.3 & on the map but nothing in the document; SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

4.2. Special Management Zones in the Tulita District

- The numbering is incorrect throughout this section e.g. S.4.2.17 should actually be S.4.2.1

4.2.17 Mackenzie River Special Management Zone/Deh Cho

- P.67 – ADD information for location & boundaries, reasons for designation and further management conditions and prohibitions, if any (format should be similar to K’ahsho Got’ine Special Management Zones); SRRB will need to review prior to final approval
- P.67 – Significant wildlife species should include boreal woodland caribou.

ADD Mackenzie Mountain Special Management Zone – reference made on the map but nothing in the document; SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

5.1 Integrated Operational Policies with the Sahtu Land and Water Board

- P.68 – SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

5.2 Conformity with the Land Use Plan

- P.68 – ADD section reference to “The Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act makes a similar statement.”

5.3 Exceptions to the Plan

- P.69 – Public consultations must occur when considering exceptions to the LUP. The SLUPB may consider developing consultation/hearing guidelines.

6. Appendix

- Throughout Section 6, the numbering is incorrect e.g. S.6.1.18 should actually be S.6.1.1
- No reference made to the Appendix at all throughout the main document
- No map references at all throughout the Appendix

ADD Map 2 – Deline District Dene Place names; Map 3 inserted twice

6.2 Sahtu Organizations

- P.6 – ADD Renewable Resource Councils (SLCA S.13.9) “Each community in the Sahtu Settlement Area has its own Renewable Resource Council, which is responsible for conservation, research and wildlife management on behalf of their community members as well as providing harvester assistance. The RRCs provide grassroots knowledge for their local area and have an advisory relationship with the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board.”

6.2.19 Municipal Land Management

- P.6 – ADD reference to SLCA S.23 – Sahtu Municipal Lands

6.2.21 Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

- P.7 – ADD reference to authority (SLCA S.25.2 and MVRMA Part 2, S.38)

6.2.22 Sahtu Renewable Resources Board

- P.7 – ADD reference to authority (SLCA 13.8)
- P.7 – ADD “The Sahtu Renewable Resources Board is the ‘main instrument of wildlife and forest management’ in the Sahtu Settlement Area. The SRRB works with the Sahtu Renewable Resource Councils to manage wildlife and forests. Their main responsibilities include wildlife management, wildlife research, conservation-education and consultations. The SRRB proposes and establishes policies to protect wildlife and wildlife habitat, develops wildlife management plans, reviews and approves proposed developments, oversees wildlife research in the SSA, provides students with opportunities to develop scientific learning and traditional skills, and regularly consults with communities.

6.2.23 Sahtu Land and Water Board

- P.7 – ADD reference to authority (SLCA S.25.4.1 and MVRMA Part 3, S.56)
- P.7 – Reference to Figure 10; where is figure 10? Where are figures 1 to 9?

6.2.24 Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

- P.7 – ADD reference to authority (SLCA S.25.3 and MVRMA Part 5, S.112)
- P.7 – REMOVE reference to “Sahtu Tribal Council”; should be Sahtu Secretariat Inc.

6.2.25 Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

- P.7 – ADD reference to authority (SLCA S.25.4.6 and MVRMA Part 4, S.99)
- P.7 – ADD further information about the responsibilities of the MVLWB, i.e., required to deal with water licences and land use permits for non-settled regions

6.3 Land Ownership

- P.8 – MOVE SSI information should be in Section 6.2 – Sahtu Organizations

- P.8 – ADD reference to SLCA S.21 – Access in last paragraph, i.e., “...specific access restrictions identified in the Sahtu Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement.”

6.5 The Sahtu’s Physical Environment

- P.10 – ADD map showing the eco-zones in the Sahtu Settlement Area
- P.10 – under Geopolitical Boundaries, CHANGE “North Slave region” to the “Tlicho region”
- P.12 – ADD reference to Section 6.11 – Parks and Northwest Territories – Protected Areas Strategy in Paragraph #4
- P.12 – ADD proper reference for the Protected Areas Strategy document; currently reference as “(p. 10, PAS)”
- P.13 – ADD descriptions for all 15 eco-regions; currently, only three eco-regions are described

6.6 Watersheds

- P.15 – SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

6.7 Wildlife and Fish

- P.17 – SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

6.8 The Caribou Perspective

- P.17 – SRRB will need to review prior to final approval
- P.18, Map 8 – REMOVE Cape Bathurst from legend; ADD Bathurst to legend (have been know to come into the Sahtu); include more up-to-date information

6.9 Rakekee Gok’e Godi: Places We Take Care Of

- P.19 – SRRB will need to review prior to final approval
- P.20 – ADD footnote for Site Designation column, i.e., CZ means Conservation Zone, SMZ means Special Management Zone & PAS means Protected Areas Strategy
- P.21 – CHANGE Map number from 5 to 9

6.10 International Biological Program – Ecological Sites

- P.22, Map 10 – Should follow the text of S.6.10

6.13 Bedrock Geology of the Sahtu

- P.33 – SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

6.14 Sahtu Hydrocarbon Potential

- P.35 – SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

6.15 Oil and Gas Licensing Process

- P.37 – SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

6.16 Sahtu Mineral Development Potential

- P.39 – SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

6.17 Mineral Licences, Claim and Permit Process

- P.41 – SRRB will need to review prior to final approval

6.18 Sahtu Communities

- P.43 – MOVE to follow S6.1.18 – History of the Sahtu