



DEVELOPMENT TITLE: Guided climbing activities, Cirque of the Unclimbables Trip Proposal

PROPONENT:

Lionel Briand, Certified Mountain Guide
121 allée de Carlaveyron
Les Houches, France
74310

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT DATE: July 10th to 22nd, 2026

DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION:

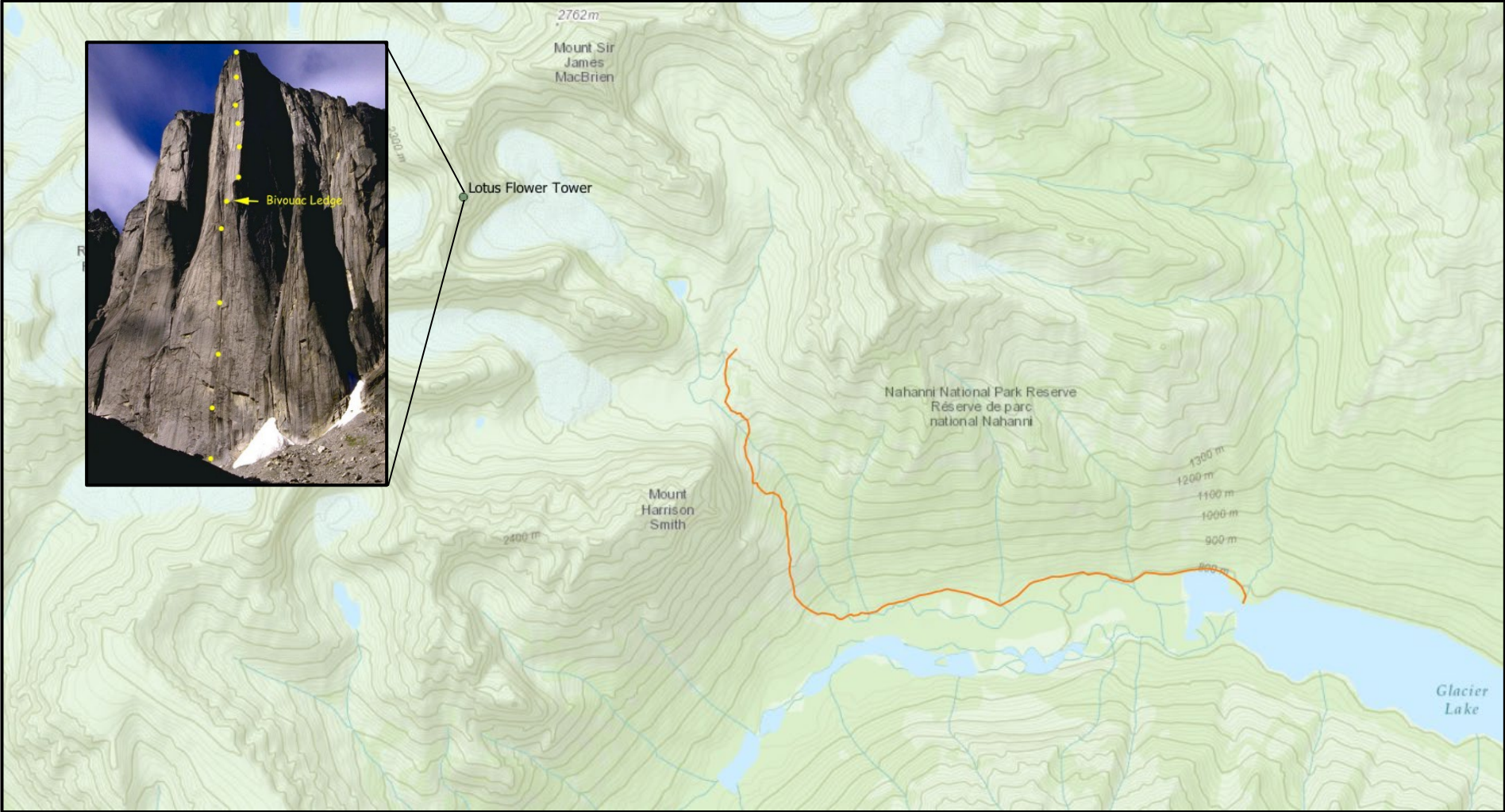
Lionel Briand, a certified mountain guide with the International Federation of Mountain Guides Association, is proposing a remote wilderness experience and adventure tourism guided trip in Nahʔą Dehé (Nahanni) National Park Reserve (NNPR), specifically at the Cirque of the Unclimbables (see map, Appendix 1). The trip will include climbing the Lotus Flower Tower and is proposed for a 12-day period from July 10-22, 2026; exact timing of the trip will depend on weather. Maximum group size will be 2 people: 1 guide and 1 client.

The group will hire a float plane to deposit/pick up the group at Glacier Lake, using a charter company that has been issued a NNPR business licence. The group will hike to Fairy Meadows to camp, approximately 6 km, one way. From Fairy Meadows, they will use the standard approach and descent routes for the Lotus Flower Tower formation and will return to Glacier Lake for their pick-up. Camping may take place at the established campsite at Glacier Lake (facilities include a shelter/cabin, bear-proof food lockers, and a privy) and will take place at Fairy Meadows (facilities include an outhouse and established informal campsites under the overhangs of erratics and in the meadows).

The Cirque of the Unclimbables is a world-class big-wall climbing area and represents a "pristine" backcountry experience. The natural environment is representative of high-altitude northern regions with thin soil and sensitive high alpine/tundra vegetation. There is a buried precontact archaeological site at the Cirque, located by the barrel outhouse, and three historic sites have been identified along the north shore of Glacier Lake.

The group will follow a leave-no-trace camping/wilderness use ethic and will adhere to the mitigations described in the *Parks Canada Best Management Practice for Commercially Guided Eco-tourism Activities in Nahanni and Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserves of Canada*. The requested visitation by Lionel Briand is included in the current capacity allotment of no more than 12 campers per night (based on capacity of 3 campsites, with 4 people per site) at the Cirque and 42 total (including campers) day visitors x 77 days in the season for an annual total potential of 3234 visitor days.

Appendix 1 – Hiking route from Glacier Lake to Fairy Meadows



Appendix 2 – Distribution List

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board	preliminaryscreening@reviewboard.ca
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board	jpotten@mvlwb.com; tyree@mvlwb.com
Grand Chief Herb Norwegian Dehcho First Nations	herb_norwegian@dehcho.org
Executive Director Dora Tsetso Dehcho First Nations	Executivedirector@dehcho.org
Chief Kele Antoine Łíídlıı Kúę First Nation	chief@liidliikue.com
Executive Director Derek Squirrel Łíídlıı Kúę First Nation	exdir@liidliikue.com
Chief Melanie Norwegian Menacho Tthets'éhk'edélı First Nation	chief@jmrfn.com
Chief Steve Vital Nah?ą Dehé Dene Band	chiefsteve.nbdb@gmail.com
Band Manager Soham Srimani Nah?ą Dehé Dene Band	manager@nahadehe.ca
Chief Michael Vandell Deh Gáh Got'ıę First Nation	chief@dehgahgotie.ca
Chief Lloyd Chicot Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation	kaageetu_chief@northwestel.net
Chief Dolphus Jumbo Sambaa K'e Dene Band	chief@sambaakefn.com
Chief Jamie Moses Pehdzeh Ki First Nation	info@pkfn.ca
Chief Devon Felker West Point First Nation	chief@wpfn.ca
President Albert Lafferty Fort Providence Métis Council	fpmcpres@northwestel.net
President Daniel Peterson Fort Simpson Métis Local	metisnation52@northwestel.net
Air Tindi	info@airtindi.com
Alpine Aviation	alpineaviation@gmail.com
Black Sheep Aviation & Cattle Co. Ltd.	flyblacksheep@outlook.com
Capital Helicopters	info@capitalhelicopters.com
Discovery Helicopters	matt@discoveryheli.ca
Goose Flying Services	info@flygoose.ca
Great Slave Helicopters 2018	fortsimpson@gsheli.com
Kluane Airways Ltd	info@kluaneairways.com
Liard Air Ltd	flights@liardair.com
Nahanni Heli Adventures	info@nahannaheliadventures.com

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Northern Rockies Air Charter Ltd.	northernrockiesair@gmail.com
North-Wright Airways Ltd	info@north-wrightairways.com
Simpson Air 1981 Ltd	info@simpsonair.ca
South Nahanni Airways	info@southnahanniairways.ca; charters@southnahanniairways.ca
Summit Air and Summit Helicopters	info@summithelicopters.ca info@flysummitair.com
Tundra Helicopters	tundrahelicopters@hotmail.com
Villers Air Services Ltd.	fly@villersair.com
Black Feather The Wilderness Adventure Company	info@blackfeather.com
Nahanni River Adventures	adventures@nahanniwild.com
Canoe North Adventures	info@canoenorthadventures.com
Jackpine Paddle	info@jackpinepaddle.com
Jennifer Thistle, Regional Superintendent, Dehcho Industry, Tourism and Investment, Government of the Northwest Territories	Jennifer_Thistle@gov.nt.ca
Chief Executive Officer Donna Lee Demarcke NWT Tourism	executive@spectacularnwt.com
CPAWS, NWT Chapter	nwtadmin@cpaws.org
Alpine Club of Canada Yukon Section	ACCYukon@gmail.com