



**DEVELOPMENT TITLE:** *Aircraft Charter Company Operations in Nahanni and Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserves*

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT DATE(S):** April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021

**DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION:**

Nahanni National Park Reserve (Nahanni) and Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserve (Nááts'ihch'oh) are accessed primarily by air (fixed and rotary wing aircraft) for park operational and tourism purposes; other than permit-only road access via the Howards Pass Access Road in the extreme western portion of the parks. The majority of air access is facilitated by aircraft charter company outfitters. These companies must obtain Parks Canada business licences to operate in the parks; according to the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA) their activities must undergo preliminary screening before these licences can be issued. Aircraft operations run throughout the year, though decrease substantially and are primarily limited to park operational requirements during the fall, winter, and spring. Day flights, to drop off/pick up overnight visitors and park staff, or facilitate day sightseeing excursions, comprise the majority of charters, though occasional overnight stays are required for park operational purposes. This preliminary screening applies to the following aircraft charter companies, and up to five additional aircraft operators (for designated landing areas only), and includes the listed activities/locations:

**Companies Licensed to Operate in Nahanni and/or Nááts'ihch'oh**

Air Tindi	Horizon Helicopters Ltd.	Simpson Air 1981 Ltd
Alkan Air	Kluane Airways Ltd	Solitude Excursions Ltd
Alpine Aviation	Liard Air Ltd	South Nahanni Airways
Black Sheep Aviation & Cattle Co. Ltd.	Nahanni Heli Adventures	Trans North Turbo Air Limited
Fireweed Helicopters Ltd.	Northern Rockies Air Charter Ltd.	Tundra Helicopters
Great Slave Helicopters 2018 Ltd. / Sahtu Helicopters	North-Wright Airways Ltd	

**Activities at designated landing areas in Nahanni and non-designated landing areas in Nááts'ihch'oh**

- Day flight seeing experiences
- Commercial transport of visitors and freight for recreational activities such as hiking, mountain climbing, mountaineering, and river trips
- Nahanni and Nááts'ihch'oh NPR operational activities
- Transport of researchers for purposes outside of park operational activities



**Locations** (see map, Appendix 1)

<b>Non-designated aircraft landing areas in Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserve</b>		
(A)	Nááts'ihch'oh Tué (Moose Ponds)	These areas were used as aircraft access points prior to park establishment and may become designated landing sites once archeological assessments are completed. Aircraft operators are permitted annually to land at these locations.
(B)	Túoch'ee Tué (O'Grady Lake)	
(C)	Qtaa Tué Fehto (Divide Lake)	
(D)	Níonep'ene? Tué (Grizzly Bear Lake)	
(E)	Tuededéveh Tué (Clearwater Lake)	
---	Howards's Pass Access Road	Transport of authorized researchers/contractors and/or Parks Canada staff

<b>Non-designated aircraft landing areas in Nahanni National Park Reserve</b>		
(F)	South of Haywire Lake	Transport of researchers for purposes outside of park operational activities
(G)	Bologna Glacier	Transport of researchers for park operational activities
(H)	Southwest of Glacier Lake	Transport of researchers for purposes outside of park operational activities
(I)	Southeast of Tungsten	
---	Howards's Pass Access Road	Transport of authorized researchers/contractors and/or Parks Canada staff
---	Prairie Creek Access Road	Transport of authorized researchers/contractors and/or Parks Canada staff

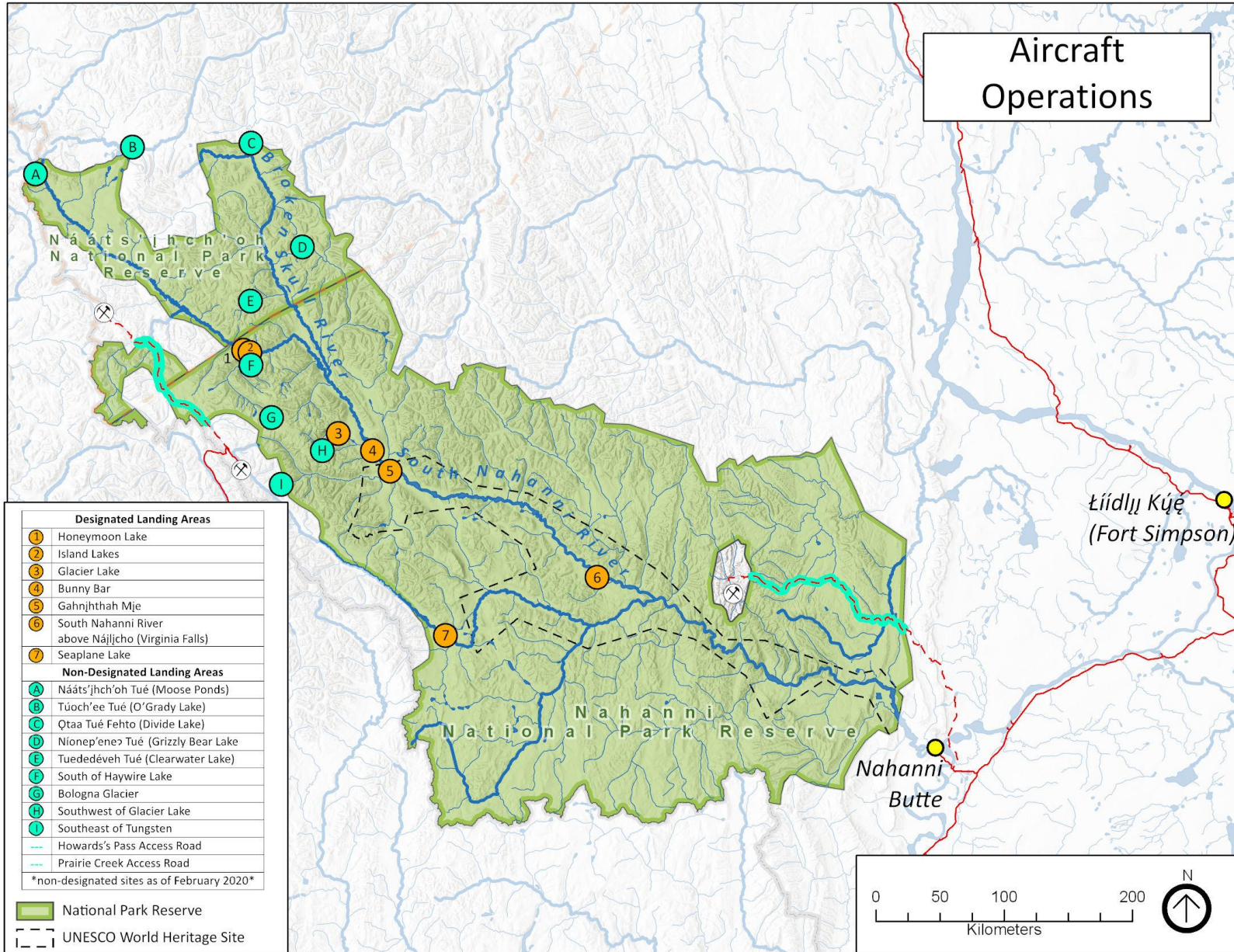
<b>Designated aircraft landing areas</b>	
(1)	Honeymoon Lake
(2)	Island Lakes
(3)	Glacier Lake
(4)	Bunny Bar
(5)	Gahnjthah Mje
(6)	South Nahanni River above Nájljcho (Virginia Falls)
(7)	Seaplane Lake

**Mitigations**

Operators will adhere to the mitigations described in the "*Parks Canada Best Management Practice (BMP) for Aircraft Operations and Landings in Nahanni and Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserves of Canada*" and, when applicable, the *Fuel Caching Protocol for Nahanni National Park Reserve and Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserve*

# Appendix 1

Note: all flight start/end locations are from designated airports/aerodromes outside of the parks.



## Appendix 2

### Distribution List

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board	<a href="mailto:preliminaryscreening@reviewboard.ca">preliminaryscreening@reviewboard.ca</a>
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board	<a href="mailto:jpotten@mvlwb.com">jpotten@mvlwb.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:tyree@mvlwb.com">tyree@mvlwb.com</a>
Dehcho First Nations	<a href="mailto:jackson_mcdermott@dehcho.org">jackson_mcdermott@dehcho.org</a> ; <a href="mailto:dahti_tsetso@dehcho.org">dahti_tsetso@dehcho.org</a>
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Chief Gladys Norwegian JMR First Nation	<a href="mailto:chief@jmrfn.com">chief@jmrfn.com</a>
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Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge Deh Gah Gotie First Nation	<a href="mailto:chief@dehgahgotie.ca">chief@dehgahgotie.ca</a>
Chief Lloyd Chicot Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation	<a href="mailto:kaageetu_chief@northwestel.net">kaageetu_chief@northwestel.net</a>
Chief Dolphus Jumbo Sambaa K'e Dene Band	<a href="mailto:chief@sambaakefn.com">chief@sambaakefn.com</a>
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## Appendix 2

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Tulita Renewable Resources Council	<a href="mailto:trrc@northwestel.net">trrc@northwestel.net</a>
Norman Wells Renewable Resources Council	<a href="mailto:sahtuapple@hotmail.com">sahtuapple@hotmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:nwrrc@nwlc.ca">nwrrc@nwlc.ca</a>
Tulita District Land Corporation	<a href="mailto:hci2@theedgenw.ca">hci2@theedgenw.ca</a> <a href="mailto:district@allstream.net">district@allstream.net</a>
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