



Deh Cho Land Use Planning Committee

November 16, 2004

Gordon Ringius, Executive Director
CPAWS-NWT
Box 1934
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2P5

RE: Comments on the Deh Cho Draft Land Use Options

Dear Gordon,

Thank you for your comments dated October 5, 2004 on the Deh Cho Land Use Planning Committee's Draft Land Use Options. While we are not formally responding to most comments at this time, we are taking them into consideration as we move forward in our process. However, I would like to address one comment to provide clarification.

Under Item 4 you noted that Dr. Ford's karstland research had been used to identify very high conservation values in the original EBA wildlife report (figure 2 of the Land Use Options Atlas) but were not identified as very high or high values in the Wildlife Habitat Value Map in the Land Use Options Atlas (Map 4). This is because we extracted the karstlands and hot spring data out of the wildlife map and put them on a separate map. These were later combined with other point data into one map showing these "Rare Features" along with cabins, historic sites and archeological sites (Map 6). When the wildlife map and the rare features map are combined into the Summary of Conservation Values Map (Map 7) the site shows the same value as the previous EBA wildlife report. Hence, there has been no change in the value of the site, just in how the data was separated and displayed.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at (867) 699-3164 or hwiebe@dehcholands.org.

Sincerely,

Heidi Wiebe, Executive Director
Deh Cho Land Use Planning Committee