



Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee

January 25, 2006

Margaret Ireland
Jean Marie River First Nation
General Delivery
Jean Marie River, NT X0E 0N0

RE: Questions on Land Use Plan

Dear Margaret,

Thank you for your letter dated January 23, 2006 regarding the Revised Draft Dehcho Land Use Plan. The responses to your questions are below.

1. Conservation Zone 2 does not prohibit all development, only those activities related to oil and gas, mining, forestry, tourism and agriculture. Archeological research would be considered a permitted use because it is not specifically restricted under the land use plan.
2. At this time, Conservation Zone 2 prohibits tourism at the request of the community. During previous meetings, the Leadership stated that these lakes are very culturally important to the community and they would not want tourism activities here – they are exclusively for community use. Should JMR wish to establish a new cultural activity resort in Zone 2, we would have to revise the Zone to include tourism as a permitted use. Please confirm if the community wishes us to make this change.
3. You have requested a buffer between the Conservation Zone and the adjacent General Use Zone because of the change in permitted land uses. However, the feature to be protected in the Conservation Zone (the lakes) is already buffered by 2 km to provide this transition. If you feel a greater buffer is required, please tell us how wide it should be and why this change is required. We need to be able to justify changes with good information. We will consider any suggestions brought forward with appropriate background information.
4. Zone 5 has not changed over the last few revisions and has been discussed with Jean Marie First Nation at every meeting in the community. While JMR has identified changes they would like to see we have had difficulty reaching agreement on those changes with Liidli Kue First Nation. For this reason I am glad to see JMRFN is initiating its own discussions with the surrounding communities to reach agreement on how this area should be zoned. We could arrange a meeting between the 3 communities at the Regional Forum if desired.

5. We are aware of JMR's Forest Management Plan and will ensure we reference it in the relevant Zone descriptions in the Final Draft.

Please provide confirmation of questions 2 and 3 above and any other changes required. In addition, we are still looking for confirmation on whether or not JMR will open Zone 19 to Oil and Gas. If you have any further questions or further direction for the Committee, please feel free to contact me at (867) 699-3164 or hwiebe@dehcholands.org.

Sincerely,



Heidi Wiebe, Executive Director
Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee

Cc: Samba K'e Dene Band
Liidli Kue First Nation