

NÍO NĚ P'ĚNĚ BEGHÁRÉ SHÚHTA GO?EPĚ NAREH?Á



On the land guardian training. Photo credit: Joshua Barichello.

As we head into summer 2019 we have many exciting developments and much progress to report on our joint planning efforts for Shúhta Go?epĚ / Bedzih / Kudzih (Northern Mountain Caribou) in the Mackenzie Mountains. It's been a very busy time over the last several months! This newsletter outlines our main recent achievements and next steps for work.

First, we're happy to report that we have completed the latest revisions to the draft ***Níio NĚ P'ĚnĚ Begháré Shúhta Go?epĚ Nareh?á – Trails of the Mountain Caribou Management Plan!***

Last year's community engagement meetings in Tulít'a, Norman Wells, and Tu Łidlini (Ross River, Yukon) provided great feedback on the first draft of the plan. We have now incorporated the ideas and suggestions we heard from Shúhtaot'İne, Métis and Tu Łidlini Dena participants into a new and improved version of the draft plan that is ready for review by decision-makers.

We also have real progress to report on finding funding, moving forward with a protected area proposal, and implementing an Indigenous guardian and wellness program.

Key achievements since last summer are:

Funding:

- We found funding for Years 1-3 of the Nío Nę P'ęnę Sōdzane'ín (Guardian & Wellness Program) as well as to develop proposals.
- We developed a funding proposal partnership with Dechinta Center for Research and Learning.

Nío Nę P'ęnę Sōdzane'ín (Guardian & Wellness Program):

- Fort Good Hope hosted a Sahtú pilot training program for Nę K'ádí Ke (Keepers of the Land), January / February 2018 at Nárehten.

Land protection:

- A joint proposal for the **Tu Łidlini and Nío Nę P'ęnę Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area** proposal was submitted, March 2019.

Reducing disturbance:

- A Ross River permitting initiative was established fall 2018, including a public awareness campaign about harvesting.

Capacity:

- The SRRB hired a Community Conservation Planner – Kirsten Jensen – June 2018.
- Kyanna Lennie-Dolphis was hired as the Nío Nę P'ęnę Coordinator.

Education and communication of Dene / Métis laws:

- Leon Andrew, Josh Ladue and Janet Winbourne presented “Nío Nę P'ęnę - Trails of the Mountain Caribou: Renewing Indigenous Relationships in Conservation” to members of the North American Caribou Workshop in Ottawa, fall 2018.

Nío Nę P'ęnę – the backbone that holds everything together



Joshua Ladue speaking at the NACW conference in Ottawa, November 2018. Photo credit: Janet Winbourne.

We see all the program areas that are part of the plan as linked through our Indigenous guardian and wellness program – that is the heart of the work we would like to do at Nío Nę P'ęnę.



Each action is a step towards achieving our vision and goals for shúhta goᶇepé / bedzih / kudzih and ourselves and part of our plant to keep **Dene kədə / k'e** (language), **Dene ts'ıı / guk'eh** (ways of life), and **Dene ᶇeᶇa / ᶇá nizin** (law / respect) strong.

The Nío Nę P'ęnę Sōdzana'ín will be a critical part in moving forward with our proposed Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area.

TRAILS OF THE MOUNTAIN CARIBOU

July 2014 Meeting in Tu Łidlini (Ross River, YT)

Tu Łidlini Dena Council and Elders Council, Norman Wells and Tulít'a ʔehdzo Got'Inę, ʔehdzo Got'Inę Gots'ę Nákedı (SRRB), Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, GNWT-ENR discuss concerns about Shúhta Goęepę / Bedzih / Kudzih (Northern Mountain Caribou) in the Mackenzie Mountains.



Fall 2016 Meeting in Tulít'a, NT

Parks Canada Agency, ʔehdzo Got'Inę Gots'ę Nákedı (SRRB), GNWT-ENR, Tulít'a and Norman Wells ʔehdzo Got'Inę, Tulít'a Dene Band, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, and Tu Łidlini Dena Council have follow-up discussion about caribou conservation concerns at K'á Tá (Willow Flats) and possible solutions / actions to take.



Summer 2017 Joint Mountain Caribou Workshop at Dechenla Lodge

Over 40 people meet to begin work on a joint plan for caribou in the Mackenzie Mountains, including: Parks Canada Agency, Tu Łidlini Dena Council and Elders Council, ʔehdzo Got'Inę Gots'ę Nákedı (SRRB), Yukon Environment, GNWT-ENR, Tulít'a and Norman Wells ʔehdzo Got'Inę, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, Conservation Coaches Network, Tides Canada, TNC Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada.

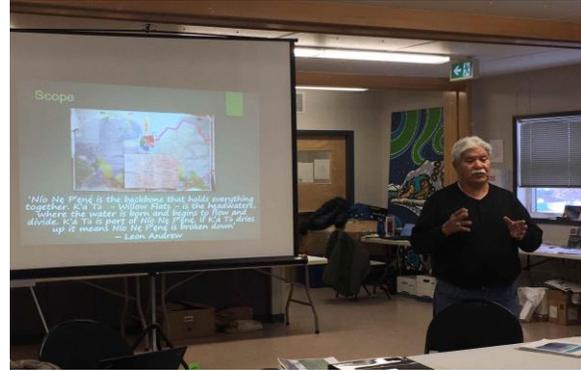


Spring 2018 Community engagement meetings

Over 80 people attend meetings in Norman Wells, Tulít'a and Tu Łidlini to review and provide input on the draft Nío Nę P'ęné plan. Comments and suggestions incorporated into version 2 of draft plan.



June 2019 Joint leadership meeting in Tu Łidlini, NT



Leon Andrew addressing meeting participants in Tulít'a, NT). Photo credit: Deborah Simmons.

We still have lots of work to do! The plan outlines many more details of the actions we will undertake. At the moment, we are mostly focussed on finishing the plan, securing the support we need, and implementing the program areas that we can.

In order to finalize the plan, we see the following possible next steps:

- Include input from the Parties (Tulít'a, Norman Wells, and Tu Łidlini Dena leaders and community members)
- Working Group revises plan
- Input from NWT & YT Governments
- Parties approve the plan
- Plan submitted to Sahtú Renewable Resources Board (SRRB) for approval
- SRRB decisions forwarded to Minister.

Indigenous Partners

ʔehdzo Got'Inę Gots'ę Nákedı (SRRB), Norman Wells and Tulít'a ʔehdzo Got'Inę (Renewable Resources Council), Tulít'a Dene Band, Tu Łidlini (Ross River) Dena Council

Supporting Partners

ʔehdzo Got'Inę Gots'ę Nákedı, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, Conservation Coaches Network, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Náats'jhch'oh National Park Reserve, NWT Environment and Natural Resources, TNC Canada, Yukon Environment