

# GWINDAK K'EEJIT

## Gwindak K'eejit

linch'it Gwits'àn Tr'ahaatsah Geenjit

Yukon gwizhit nan kàk tthak zhuu nahr'ahdidal gwideek'it jii Gwich'in Jìlch'einat gik'itr'ihaandal, jii Tr'oochit Dinjii Zhuh Nacho Nyak Dun, Yukon ts'at Canada lisrits'at Chit Kàt guuvah.

Teet'it Gwinjik natr'ahdidal gwideek'it jii' yeendoo tthak gwik'iighè' gwik'andehtr'inahtih gwiteelyaa, jidii gwindaii tthak gòodhaii eenjit gwiizii nàgwiteelyaa, aii ts'at Dinjii zhuh nihzhuunadijii diinigwinjì'ee eenjit gwits'at tr'igiheendat.

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Tadhaa Zrii Neekaii juutyin ts'at Neekaii , khaii Neekaii juutyin ts'at Neekaii (22, 2024)

Inuvik, Northwest Territories          Parks Canada

Jii Nan Kak Tthak Drin, in partnership with Indigenous – Dinjii Zhuh kàt t̚q̚hàh jii dinjii kat eenjit k'adagwidaadhat ts'at jii Canada ts'at Gwich'in kàt chàn gwik'it akòo digwiheech'yaa gwits'atgwigahah ts'at jidii nihtinehch'i' gwindaih gwikwaa ch'uu natr'igwahaatsah khaii Neekaii Juutyin ts'at Tik Juutyin gwidaii ts'at nihtinehch'i' gwindaih nihdeh gwiteelyaa natr'igwahaatsah khaii Neekaii Juutyin ts'at ihtoogwinli'-(2050) gwits'at.

Jùk drin, Dinjii Khehkài' Ken Kyikavichik jii Gwich'in Jìlch'einat eenjit, Dinjii khehkài' Dawna Hope jii Tr'oochit Dinjii Zhuh Nacho Nyak Dun eenjit, Yiinjìt tr'igwichit'èh Nils Clarke, Yukon eenjit Diinagò'ee lisrits'at Chit, Yiinjìt tr'igwichit'èh Steven Guilbeault, Diinagò'ee lisrits'at Chit ts'at Ch'iitaii Ejùk Nits'oo Nagwìj'ee T'igwinjih ts'at (Zhuu Nahr'ididal Gwideek'it)-Parks Canada eenjit lisrits'at Chit, diits'at tthak ginjih gittsaih jii zhuh natr'ididal gwideek'it jii Teet'it Gwinjik, Yukon yeenoò d'ài' gwits'at Gwich'in kàt guunan ts'at Tr'oochit Dinjii Zhuh Nacho Nyak Dun kàt chan.

Jii Teet'it Gwinjik jii Gwich'in kàt ts'at jii Tr'oochit Dinjii Zhuh Nacho Nyak Dun guugwinjì'ee tthak gwinjik gò'ài' agadhanh nan ts'at tshuu gwik'inahtii giinlii yeenoò nan nagwidilii gwits'at. Porcupine vadzaih gwideek'it nan nihli'ejuk ts'at hàn niinlaii, gwiitat tr'ah' tth'aih hàh nitr'igwii'aih kwaa, ts'at hàn dinzhit leii. Jii tr'ah' zhit gwiyeendoo vadzaih ts'at ezhii Canadian Gwindaih gwiinlìt eenjit gwiinzii shih, chiniitràn, ts'at dinjik . Jii dinzhit tshuu kàt nin, dzhii ts'at ezhii nan kàt gwits'at dzhii eenjit gwidizhit sreendit danh, Jii Teet'it Gwinjik

gwits'at ìnihłik hàn łuk zheii/ łuk dagaii ts'at ezhii łuk gwindaih adighòo gwideek'it geenjit gò'arii.

Jii nagwijilzhìh tòohàh ganiinjìgwididhat jii Teet'it Gwinjik gwidaii gwizhit gò'arii, Turner Lake Wetlands, ts'at Vadzaih Hàn jii kàt Teet'it Gwinjik Nan Gwinaguu'ee Gisrii Nitr'igwii'arii Gwidineht'eh yeendoo tthak geenjit gwik'andehtr'inahtih gwidinithitt'oo. Gwik'it tr'igwitssaih jii', the jii nan zhuu nahtr'ahdidal gwideek'it k'eejit gwiiniidhan yeendoo tthak proposed new national park would permanently protect tik juutyin juutyin juutyin-(3,000) dagwahchii nan nihti'ejùk chil'ee gwindii, gwiieendoo Prince Edward Njuu teenjir dagwahchii, nihti'ejùk gwindaih geenjit gwik'inyaatih, gwinaguu'ee ejùk t'igwinjih gwits'igwighah ihtat tr'inohjiih, jii Canada kàt Guuchit ts'at geenjit gwiinzii ginohkhii commitment to conserving tik juutyin-30 per cent of lands nan agwahtèii ts'at tshuu Canada gwizhit khaii neek'arii juutyin ts'at tik Juutyin-(2030) danh gwits'at gwiteelyaa.

Zhuh natr'ididal gwideek'it – Yukon Territory nanh kak duulee daankat agwahtèii -- Gwich'in Jilch'eiinat ts'at Tr'oochit Dinjii Zhuh Nacho Nyak Dun tthak gwizhit giinlii jii' gwizrih Teet'it Gwinjik akòo digwiheedi'aa. Geeghee ts'at Dinjii zhuu kàt nihk'ii'àn geenjit gwitr'it gwahahtsaa ts'at nihkhah gwik'andehtr'inahtyaa jii Zhuu Natr'ididal Gwideek'it-Parks Canada kàt gwiniint'arii nijin tthak gwa'an yi'eenoo dàì' nikhwinagoo'ee nihti'ejùk gòonlii guk'anaatii giinlii ts'at yi'eenòò ts'at k'eejit diinik'yuu gwits'an gahtsih Dinjii Zhuh yiinjit gugwichitèè, aii ts'at nits'oo nan ts'at tshuu hàn khehtok giinlii.

## Quotes

“We are thrilled at the prospect of permanently protecting our homelands in the Teet'it Gwinjik (Peel River) Watershed. The Gwich'in have lived in these areas for thousands of years and we continue to exercise our traditional ways of subsistence and living out on these lands. As we work to reconnect our future generations to this vital landscape, it is our intention that a National Park can assist in reconciling our relationship with Canada by sharing this unique ecosystem to Canada and abroad through preservation and the creation of a land-based economy in our traditional territory.”

*Ken Kyikavichik*

*Grand Chief, Gwich'in Tribal Council*

“The Collaboration Accord we are celebrating today is an important expression of our commitment, with the governments of Canada, Yukon, and the Gwich'in Tribal Council, to jointly implement the Peel Watershed Land Use Plan. It is vindication for all the work of our Elders and Citizens in negotiating the Nacho Nyak Dun Final Agreement and tirelessly advocating for protection of the Peel - all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada. As we have said so often over the past 20 years, the Peel is an area of unparalleled cultural and spiritual value for our people. It is our place of refuge. We look forward to collaborating with our Gwich'in cousins and the Governments of Canada and Yukon to co-manage the lands in the Peel in a way that ensures those lands are respected and protected for all time.”

*Chief Dawna Hope*

*First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun*

“The impacts of climate change are felt around the world but are even more pronounced in the north. Exploring the feasibility of establishing a new national park in the Yukon is a great step toward protecting this amazing territory’s beautiful and unique ecosystems. Thank you to the Gwich'in Tribal Council, the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun, the Government of Yukon, and Parks Canada for your initiative and desire to establish a new national park to protect and conserve the important cultural and natural areas the Peel Watershed has to offer.”

*The Honourable Steven Guilbeault*

*Minister of Environment and Climate Change and Minister responsible for Parks Canada*

“The Peel Watershed is a special place – one of incredible beauty, rich ecosystems, and great cultural value. The signing of this collaboration accord between the Gwich'in Tribal Council, the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun, Parks Canada, and the Government of Yukon is great news. Today is a prime example of how we are working together to protect natural landscapes and biodiversity for the benefit of current and future generations.”

*Brendan Hanley*

*Member of Parliament for Yukon*

“Climate change, biodiversity loss, and human impacts on the environment require bold action to safeguard the Yukon’s diverse ecosystems, culture, and traditions. A feasibility

study for a national park is a key next step in implementing the Peel Watershed Regional Land Use Plan. This will further protect this area for future generations and supports the conservation and protection goals of the Canada-Yukon Nature Agreement. I want to express my thanks to the Gwich'in Tribal Council, the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun, and Parks Canada for supporting this important initiative.”

*The Honourable Nils Clarke*

*Yukon's Minister of Environment*

Gwik'it Gòonlii

- Teetl'it Gwinjik ets'ideech'ii neekaii ts'at daankat juutyin juutyin juutyin-74,000 hàn nihk'ii'an jii Nagwichoonjik, Teetl'it Zheh, Nanh K'oh ehghee.
- Jii Yukon Chit, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, jii Tr'oochit Dinjii Zhuh Nacho Nyak Dun, Vuntut Gwitchin Tr'oochit Dinjii Zhuh, aii ts'at jii Gwich'in Jilch'einat nihkhaa gwitr'it gwaatsih jii Teetl'it Gwinjik Kaiik'it Gwinaguu'ee Nan T'atr'ahdahch'aa Gisrii Nitr'igwii'aii (Khahi 2019 tr'igwitssaii). Teetl'it Gwinjik Nan T'atr'ahdahch'aa Gisrii Nitr'igwii'aii gwitr'it gwaatsii guuzhik, Teetl'it Gwinjik dii gwilat gwits'at jii Gwich'in Jilch'einat dagwijitcheii duulee zhuu natr'ididal gwideek'it k'eejit eenjit goo'aii.
- Jii Canada-Yukon Nature Tthak eenjit Łagwiinaadhan Tadhah Zrii khahi neekaii juutyin ts'at neekaii juutyin ts'at tik-2023 tr'igwitssaii.
- Canada Chit kàt, Yukon Chit kàt ts'at Dinjii Zhuh chit kàt guuts'at tr'igiheendat jii gwitr'it eenjit nihkhaa tr'igjikhii jii diinagwijilzhiih guk'andehnaatih, ts'at nihti'ejùk gwindaih tthak.
- Teetl'it Gwinjik zhuu natr'ididal gwideek'it k'eejit tr'igwitssaih jii' Northern Boreal Plains Natural Region gitrahnuh shik yeendoo tthak gwik'andehtr'inahtyaa
- Jii jùk gwit'eh geenjit gwitr'it gwaatsih kwah jii National Parks System Plan- Gisrii Nitr'igwii'aii jùk, jii Yukon Territory- Gwinan zhuu natr'ididal nan gwideek'it tik guunlii gòo nan tthak eenjit khehtok nan: Ivvavik National Park- Zhuu Natr'ididal Nan Gwideek'it ; Kluane National Park- Zhuu Natr'ididal Nan Gwideek'it ts'at Reserve- Khetok Nan; ts'at Vuntut National Park – Tthak eenjit Zhuu Natr'ididal Nan Gwideek'it.