

DEH CHO LAND USE PLANNING COMMITTEE

One Land One Plan



Ndéh Łíé - Mek'éé Ats'et'ı Łíé

Dehcho Ndéhé T'áhagot'gha Sááhniogjáh-ké

Interim Dehcho Land Use Plan – Community Engagement on Key Planning Questions

Spring 2025

Membership of the Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee (DLUPC)

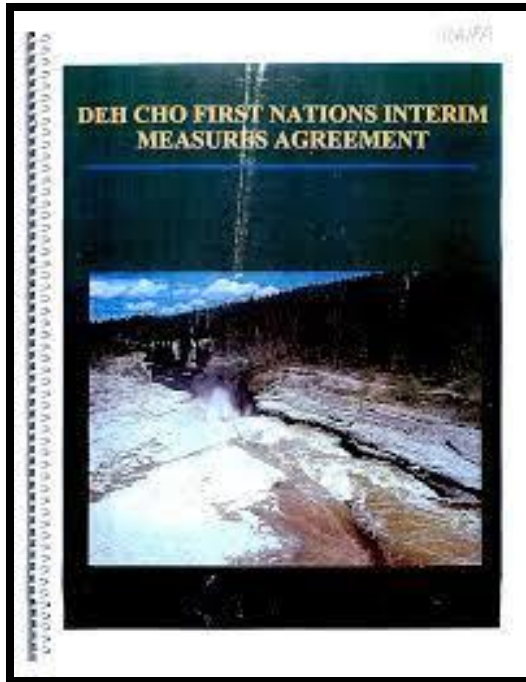
Membership

- Chair – Tina Gargan
- DFN Member – Ramona Pearson
- DFN Member – Allen Bouvier
- GNWT Member – Gina Ridgely
- Gov. of Canada Member – Mike Roesch

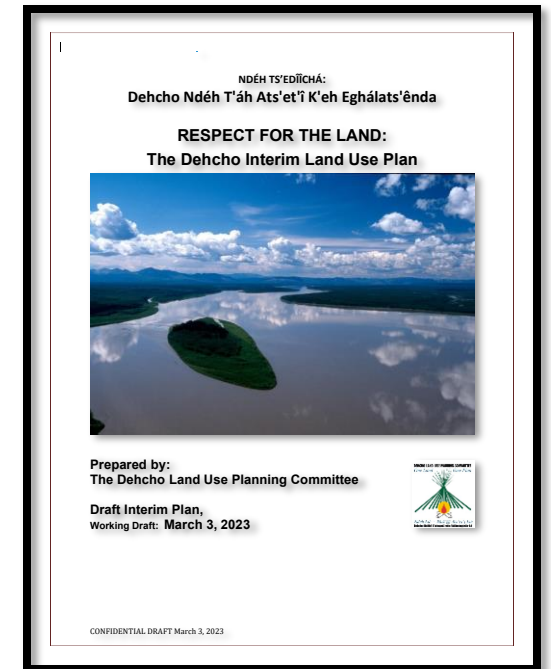
Staff

- Executive Director/Senior Planner – Heidi Wiebe (Part Time, Yellowknife)
- Office Manager - Sophie Bonnetrouge (Full time, Fort Providence Office)

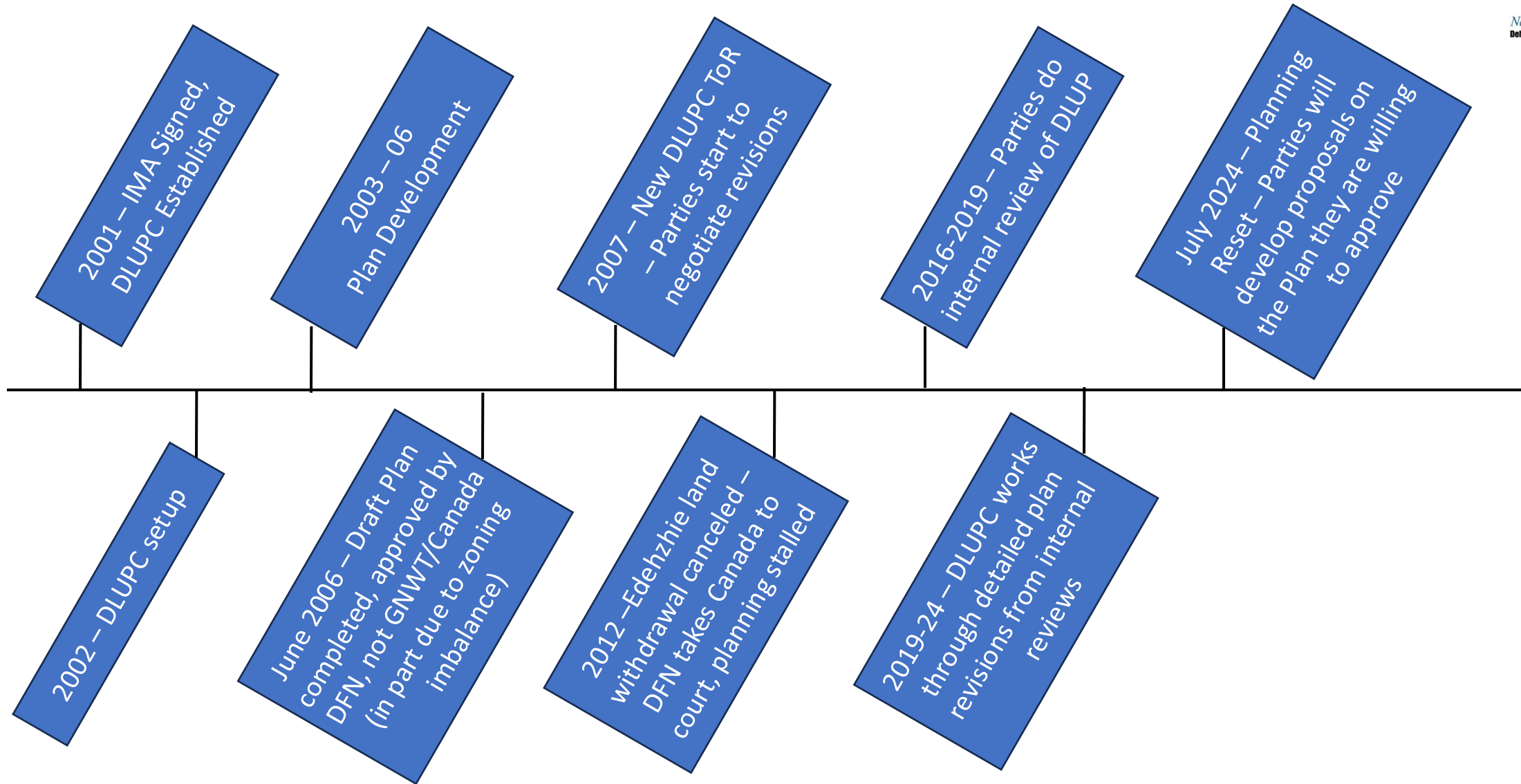
DLUPC Mandate



- Develop a land use plan for the Dehcho territory for lands outside the existing boundaries of a local government and Nahanni National Park Reserve
- Purpose of the Plan is to promote the social, cultural and economic well being of residents and communities in the Dehcho territory, having regard to the interests of all Canadians.
- Taking into consideration the principles of respect for the land, as understood and explained by the Dehcho Elders, and sustainable development, the Plan shall provide for the conservation, development and utilization of the land, waters and other resources in the Dehcho territory.



History of Plan Development



Purpose of Engagement

- To get community input on key planning questions to assist the Parties in developing proposals for the land use plan they are willing to approve
- In July 2024, the DLUPC agreed to a “reset”. The Parties were unable to agree on detailed revisions due to the absence of high-level agreement on what we’re trying to achieve.
- Each Party agreed to develop a proposal for the plan they would be willing to approve by answering key planning questions. We will then build consensus between those proposals, and then complete plan revisions based on that consensus document.
- DFN needs to hear from communities to develop its proposal. GNWT and Canada want to hear as well.
- Community sessions will have both public (for all parties) and confidential/internal DFN discussions.

The Key Questions

- Zoning – Understand current interests, protected areas proposals, economic development projects/plans, differences with boreal caribou range plan
 - Specific Land Uses
 - Uses in CPAZs
 - How to address new land uses
 - Zoning Balance *
- Other CRs, Actions & Recommendations
 - Meaningful Engagement
 - Cumulative Effects
 - Local Guides and Monitors
 - Commercial Fishing
 - Transboundary Water Agreements
- Existing Uses *
- Implementation Measures *
- Termination *
- Relationship with ADK & KFN *

* = Better handled by DFN Region / Negotiations Team

Key Messages

- "Interim Plan" means a plan completed in advance of the Dehcho Final Agreement (first time this has been attempted in the NWT)
 - No legal authority on its own - relies on other legislation to implement direction – Land withdrawals, binding direction from Minister to LWBs, possible stand-alone legislation from GNWT.
 - The Parties may not allow some provisions in the LUP until they are agreed to in a final agreement.
 - When a Dehcho Final Agreement is completed, the Interim Plan will be revised to align with it.
- The plan is full of errors; some parts have been updated, some haven't. Everything is subject to further discussion & revision.
- The plan doesn't exist in isolation - IMA / negotiations, regulatory process, protected areas, other legislative processes – use the best tool for the job! It may not be the Plan.
- Many questions are interconnected. The answer to one question can impact others. E.g. Pipelines and what is allowed in CPAZs; Implementation mechanisms and CPAZs.
- The plan applies OUTSIDE community boundaries and Nahanni National Park Reserve.

SEVEN *Types of Land Use Zones*

Protected Area Zone (1)

- Committee agreed to a new zone designation for Edehzhie but has not discussed or agreed to other details

Candidate Protected Area Zone (5)

- For areas moving through federal or territorial protected area legislation
- Large portions of CPAZs under interim land withdrawal - restricts most land uses

Conservation Zone (16)

- Restrict oil & gas, mining, agriculture, and commercial timber development
- Tourism generally allowed, except in Birch Lake CZ

Special Management Zone (6)

- Generally restrict oil and gas and mining; may permit agriculture, tourism and commercial timber development
- Exception: Jean Marie South SMZ permits oil and gas

SEVEN Types of Land Use Zones cont'd

Special Development Zone (18)

- Generally permits oil and gas and mining; may permit forestry, tourism, and agriculture
- Conformity Requirement #2 requires applicants to mitigate impacts to key cultural and ecological features in the zone (Table 2)

General Use Zone

- Permits all land uses subject to Conformity Requirements or additional guidance (Recommendations)

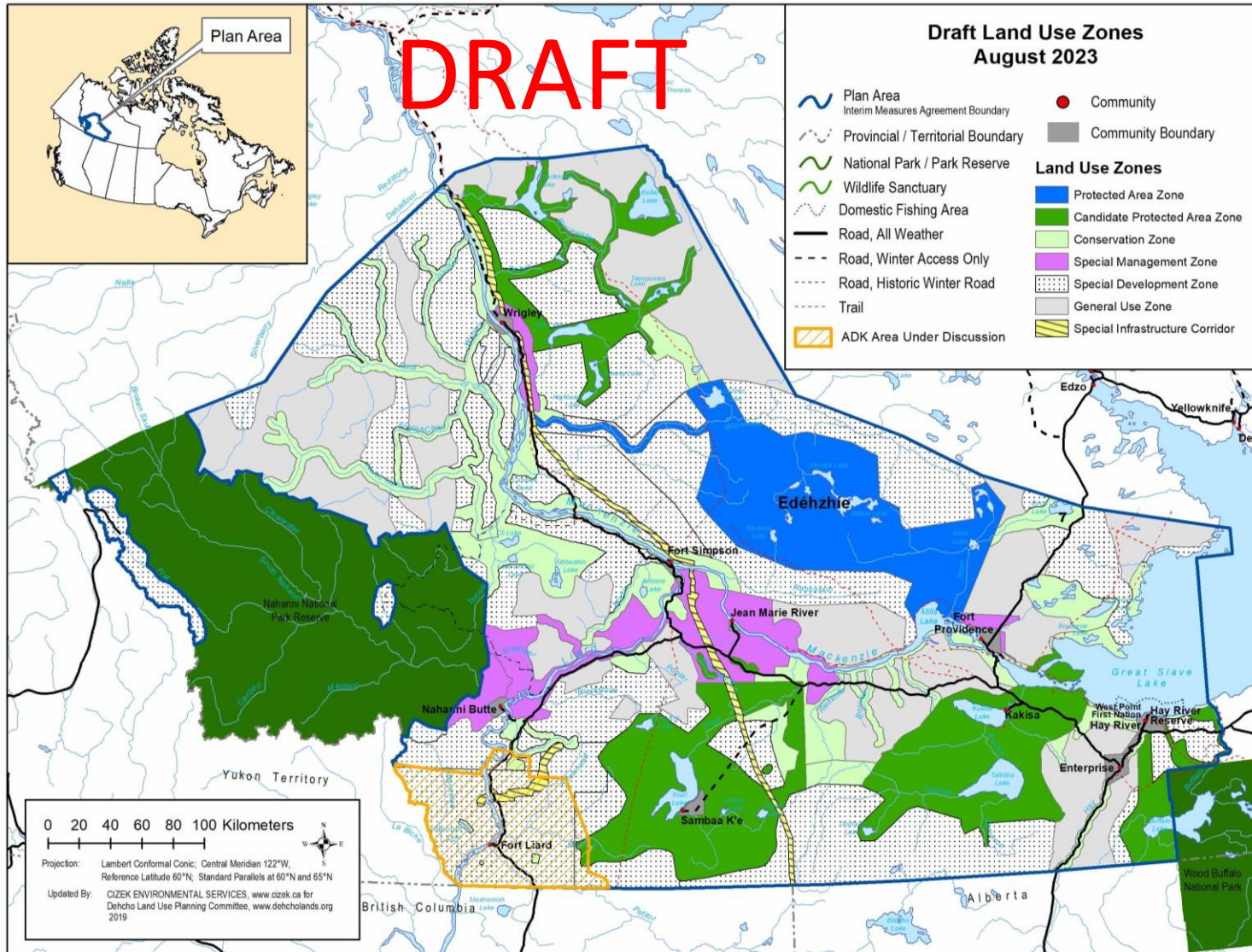
Special Infrastructure Corridor Zone

- SICs create an exception that allows pipelines within the corridors, even if the corridor crosses a CZ or CPAZ
- Pipelines are still allowed outside the SICs, in all zones except CPAZs (and only under strict conditions in CZs)



Key Proposed Land Uses Permitted by Zone

(Not yet approved, subject to change)



Zone Type	Oil & Gas	Mining	Forestry	Tourism	Agriculture
Protected Area Zone (PAZ) – 7.7%	Managed in accordance with sponsoring legislation and establishment agreements.				
Candidate Protected Area Zone (CPAZ) - 15.2%	N	N	N	N	N
Conservation Zone (CZ) – 12.4%	N	N	N	Y	N
Special Management Zone (SMZ) – 4.7%	Y/N	N	Y	Y	Y/N
Special Development Zone (SDZ) – 35.9%	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y/N
General Use Zone (GUZ) – 24%	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Special Infrastructure Corridor (SIC) – 1.2%	Permits a pipeline				

CRs, Actions and Recommendations

- **Conformity Requirement:** A legally binding requirement that a land use must follow to get approved, or that must be included in an authorization.
- **Action:** A non-legally binding measure directed at the Dehcho First Nations, GNWT, the Government of Canada, or the Committee that is intended to resolve issues needed to move the Plan forward during future review cycles. The Parties agree to make reasonable efforts to complete Actions pertaining to them.
- **Recommendation:** A statement that provides guidance to governments, regulators, organizations, and applicants on additional measures that will help achieve the goals of the Interim Plan. They are not legally binding but should be considered.

How would the different protected areas pathways be reflected in the DLUP?

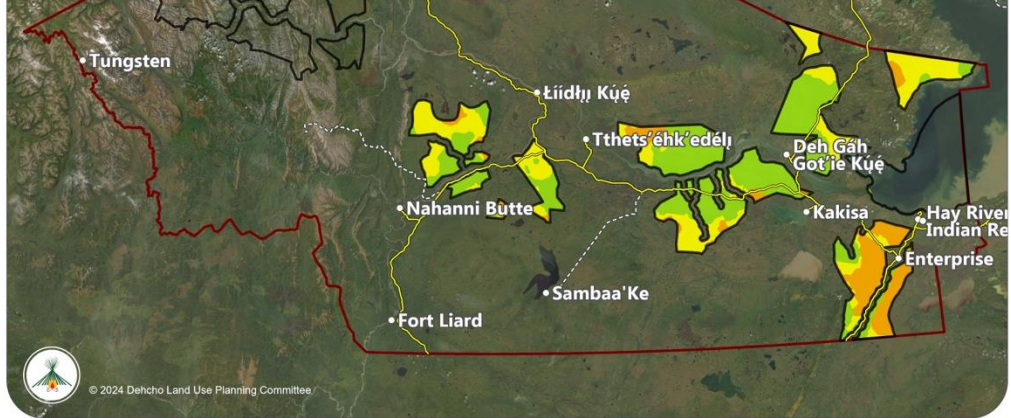
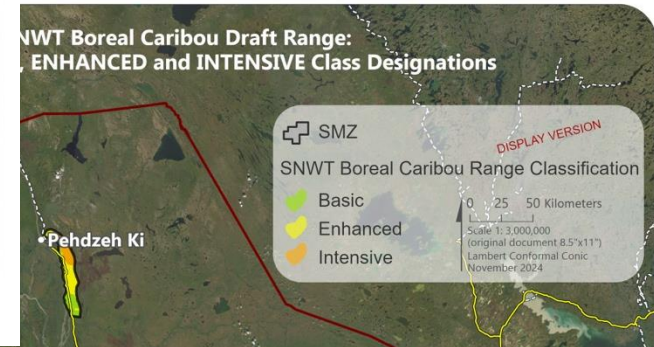
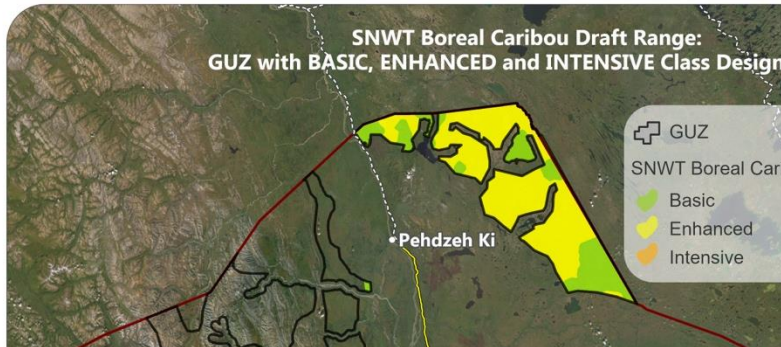
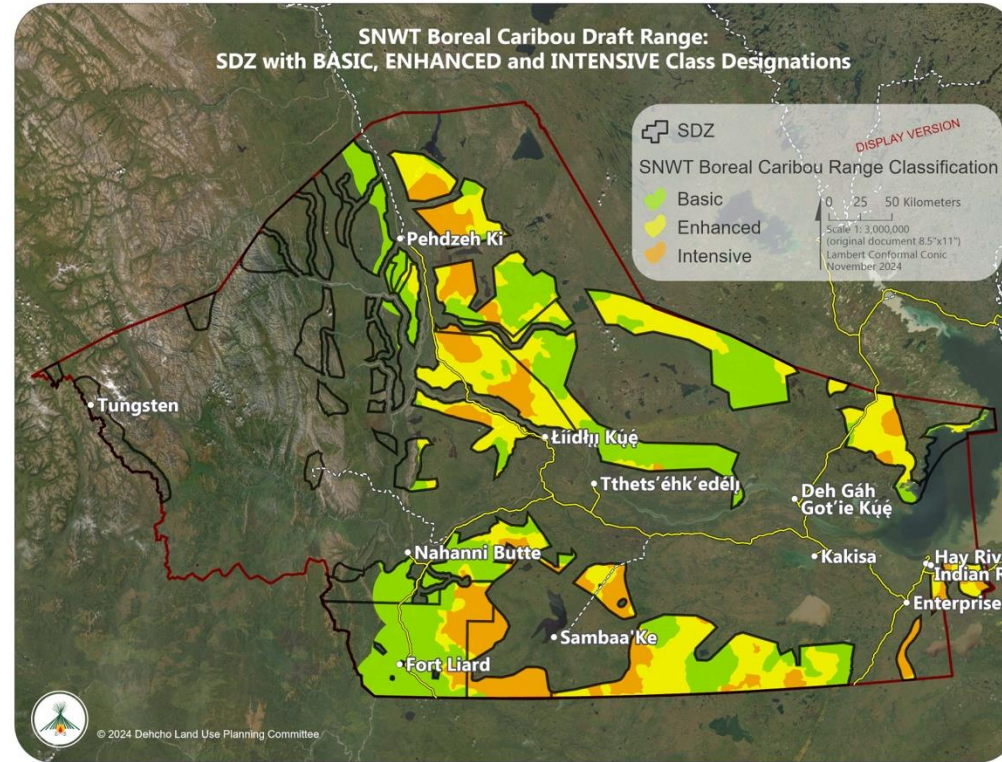
Pathway	DLUP Zone Designation
Territorial Protected Areas Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate Protected Area Zone during establishment • Protected Area Zone after establishment
Canada Wildlife Act Sections 5-7	
Dehcho Land Use Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Zone, Special Management Zone or Special Development Zone, depending on land uses to be permitted, and regional zoning considerations.
Dehcho Process	
Dehcho Protected Area Law	
Agreements	

The DLUPC must balance lands used for conservation, use and development in the Dehcho region. Community proposals for revised protected area boundaries will not be automatically accepted. DFN may need to work with Dehcho communities in the coming years to determine how much land can be protected and where.

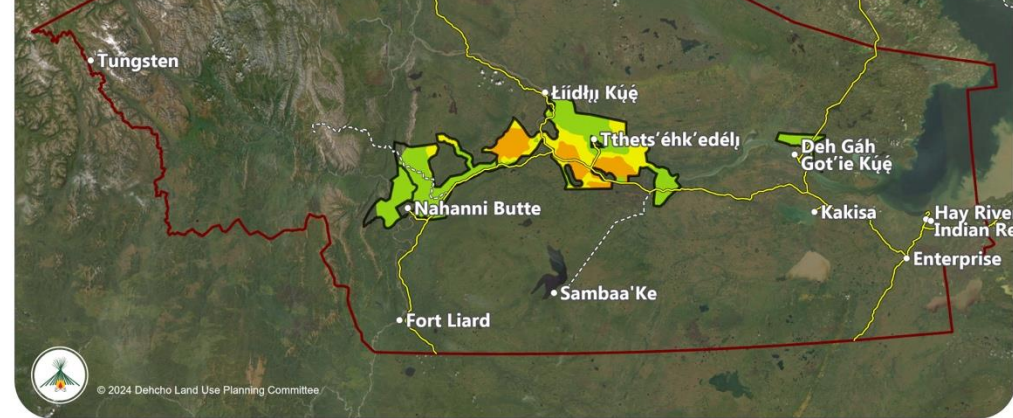
Relationship to Boreal Caribou Range Plan (BCRP)

There is conflict between DLUP & BCRP where GUZs, SDZs and SMZs overlap with Enhanced or Intensive Classes of BCRP. DLUPC is still considering how to address these conflicts.

The DLUP includes zoning and CRs, Actions and Recommendations that support boreal caribou (and many other values).



How should these plans be aligned?



Key Community Questions

1. Are you working on a protected area proposal?
 - a. Have you determined preferred boundaries?
 - b. Have you decided on a pathway?
2. Are you involved in or planning economic development activities outside your community boundaries?
3. Are you considering changes in your community boundaries?
4. How should zoning be aligned between the DLUP and Boreal Caribou Range Plan?