## Draft Dehlá Got'ıne ?əde Plan – December 2, 2021

## draft for Dél<sub>1</sub>ne 2021 Public Listening Session

The Dehlá Got'ıne Approach to other wildlife that interact with ?ede, such as, wolves and bears, especially grizzly bears, moose and muskox ("Predators and Competitors", as referred to by the SRRB), is to recommend the following goals for addition to the Dehlá Got'ıne ?ede Plan:

- 1. describe an advocacy strategy for SRRB & ENR to study the impact of mining and industry on the ?ade herd in the Dehlá Got'ıne traditional territory and implement measures to:
  - a. protect ?ade habitat and range from mining and industry; and
  - b. eliminate mining and industry related disturbance on the ?ade habitat and range.
- 2. describe an ethical and non-invasive predator and competitor monitoring and data collection method based on Dehlá Got', ne traditional knowledge.

The purpose of the Dehlá Got'ıne approach is to recommend advocacy into the impact of mining and industry on ?ade as the foundation for the support of ?ade protection efforts in Dehlá Got'ıne traditional territory and as the backdrop for the studying the interaction of ?ade and their predators and competitors.

Specific objectives of the Dehlá Got'ıne approach are to:

- 1. encourage the collection of and sharing of data regarding the correlation of the ?ade population on Dehlá Got'ıne traditional territory with the activity of mining and industry;
- 2. density of wolves and bears, especially grizzly bears, moose and muskox on Dehlá Got'ıne traditional territory;
  - a. describe ethical requirements for data and monitoring of wolves and bears, moose and muskox based on Dehlá Got'ine traditional knowledge;
  - b. outline possible ethical techniques based on Dehlá Got'ıne traditional knowledge to manage wolves and bears, moose and muskox; and,
  - c. determine whether it is necessary to reduce predation and competition pressure in areas where predators and competitor may be impacting ?ade or whether the most useful strategy is to protect ?ade range from mining and industry.

# Goal 1: protect ?ade habitat and range from mining and industry; & eliminate mining and industry related disturbance on ?ade habitat and range.

The Dehlá Got'ıne approach going forward is to press the government and wildlife co-management boards such as the SRRB to research the impact of the mining and industry on ?ade in the Dehlá Got'ıne traditional territory.

"Industrial development is considered to be one of the most significant factors affecting barren-ground caribou. It can disturb ?ade and affect their behaviour, Status of Porcupine ?ade and Barren-ground ?ade in the NWT Page vii the quality of habitat and forage, and ultimately, the survivability of the species. It can also facilitate access for both humans and predators." NWT Species at Risk, April 2017.

"Industrial development is considered to be an important factor affecting barren-ground caribou; however, a clear link to its effects on barren-ground caribou, including factors such as population, trends, movements, and behaviour, has not been established. Activities and infrastructure associated with exploration and development may disturb ?ade and affect their behaviour (e.g. migration patterns, gregarious calving behaviour), reduce the quantity, quality, and availability of habitat and forage, and facilitate access to ?ade for hunters and predators. This can contribute to reduced ?ade reproduction and survival rates and population declines. Further, many community members talk about disturbance as being disrespectful and harmful to overall ?ade well-being. Additional information is needed."

Recovery Strategy for Barren-Ground ?ade in the Northwest Territories, NWT Species at Risk, 2020.

The Government of the NWT continues to allow staking and mineral exploration in areas of sensitive ?ade habitat. The degree to which mineral exploration is affecting caribou, ?ade habitat and ?ade range is not known and needs to be closely examined, especially with respect to sensitive calving grounds. A significant portion of the calving grounds fall outside of the protected Tuktut Nogiat National Park, including areas around Paulatuk.

#### **Exploration on the Calving Grounds**

From 2004 until the present, Talmora Diamond Inc., a junior exploration company has been holding three prospecting permits covering 86,042.28 hectares. It has 81 mineral claims over 16,360.62 hectares in the Horton River area located south of the Hamlet of Paulatuk in the Northwest Territories of Canada.

Talmora's "Horton Project" area is located within the "Lena West" diamond region (see Figure 1). Between 2004 and 2017 the company identified over 40 high resolution airborne magnetic anomalies with characteristics of kimberlite pipes that are associated with kimberlite indicator mineral (KIM) anomalies.

According to information made available by the company, the project potential significantly changed during the fall of 2017. Talmora states that the Horton Project has over 40 targets ready for drilling. Talmora Diamond Inc. entered into an option agreement on July 6th 2018 with Olivut Resources Ltd. to carry out a drill testing program of key targets.

Figure 1. Talmora Diamonds Exploration Activities

## Till and stream sampling across the Lena West.

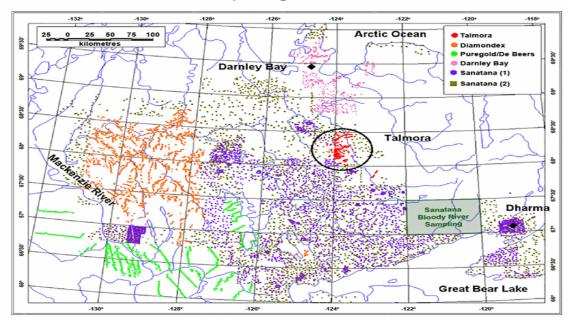


Figure 2. Calving/post calving ranges of Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West, and Bluenose-East barrenground caribou.

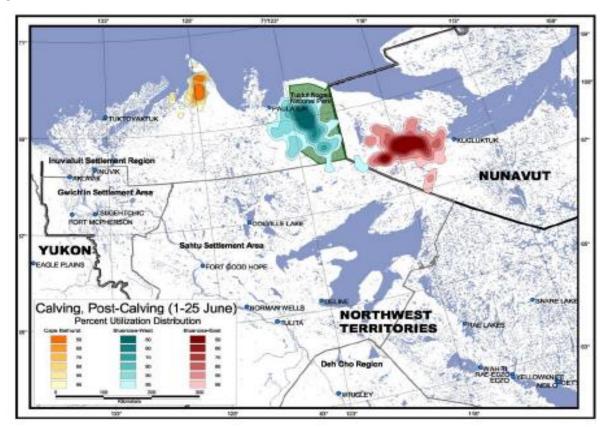
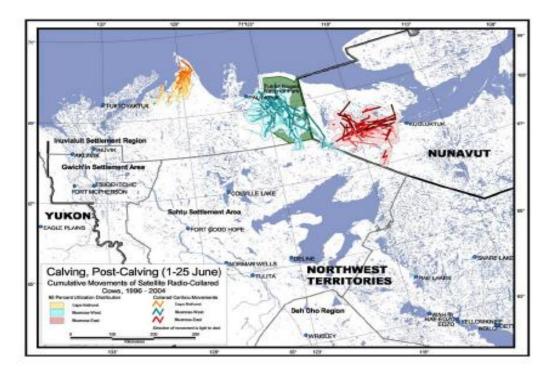


Figure 3. Movements of the Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West, and Bluenose East barren-ground ?ade herds during the calving/post calving season.



The impacts of Industry on ?ade warrant a closer and detailed examination as history has proven that the impact can be devastating for a herd.

#### **Disproportionate and Discriminatory Regulation**

The current focus on regulations and enforcement under the *Wildlife Act* to manage Indigenous harvesting--a sustainable activity that has occurred for thousands of years--is disproportionate to the impact of such activities on wildlife.

Dehlá Got'ıne believe that the disproportionate focus of wildlife management interventions on Indigenous harvesting is discriminatory. Continuing oppressive colonial interventions under the *Wildlife* Act are affecting the relationship between Indigenous peoples and wildlife, while failing to address the significant threats to ?ade resulting from industrial development and mineral exploration.

Article 2 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states that Indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity.

The over-regulation of Indigenous harvesters and the under-regulation of industrial activities must be addressed.

#### **Summary of Approach**

The Dehlá Got'ıne Approach for "Predators and Competitors" is to continue to:

- 1. increase advocacy efforts to protect ?ade habitat from loss and fragmentation by industry and mining;
- 2. encourage ethical monitoring and data collection based on Dehlá Got'ıne traditional knowledge; and
- 3. support Indigenous harvesting for sustenance, and hunting and trapping of wolves for the fur industry.