



Ełexé Eghálats'eda Working Together:

Research and Monitoring in the Sahtú Region

Leon Andrew (Special Advisor) and Deborah Simmons (Executive Director)

ʔehdzo Got'ine Gots'ę Nákedı – Sahtú Renewable Resources Board

Joint Polar Knowledge Canada

NASA Arctic Boreal Vulnerability Experiment

Government of Northwest Territories Workshop

Yellowknife, May 10, 2016

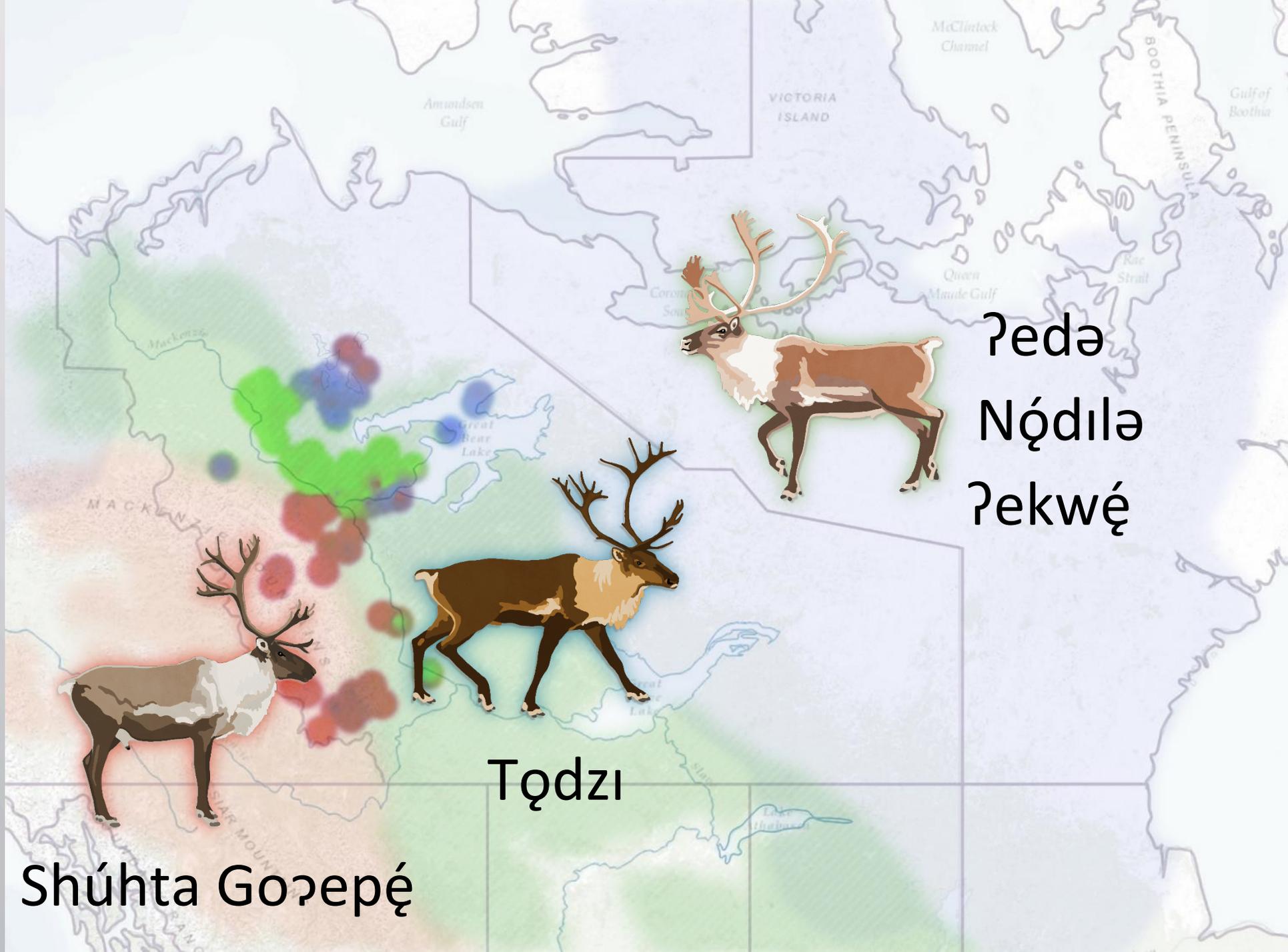


Credit: Sahtú GIS



Sahtú Ecozones

Credit: Sahtú GIS



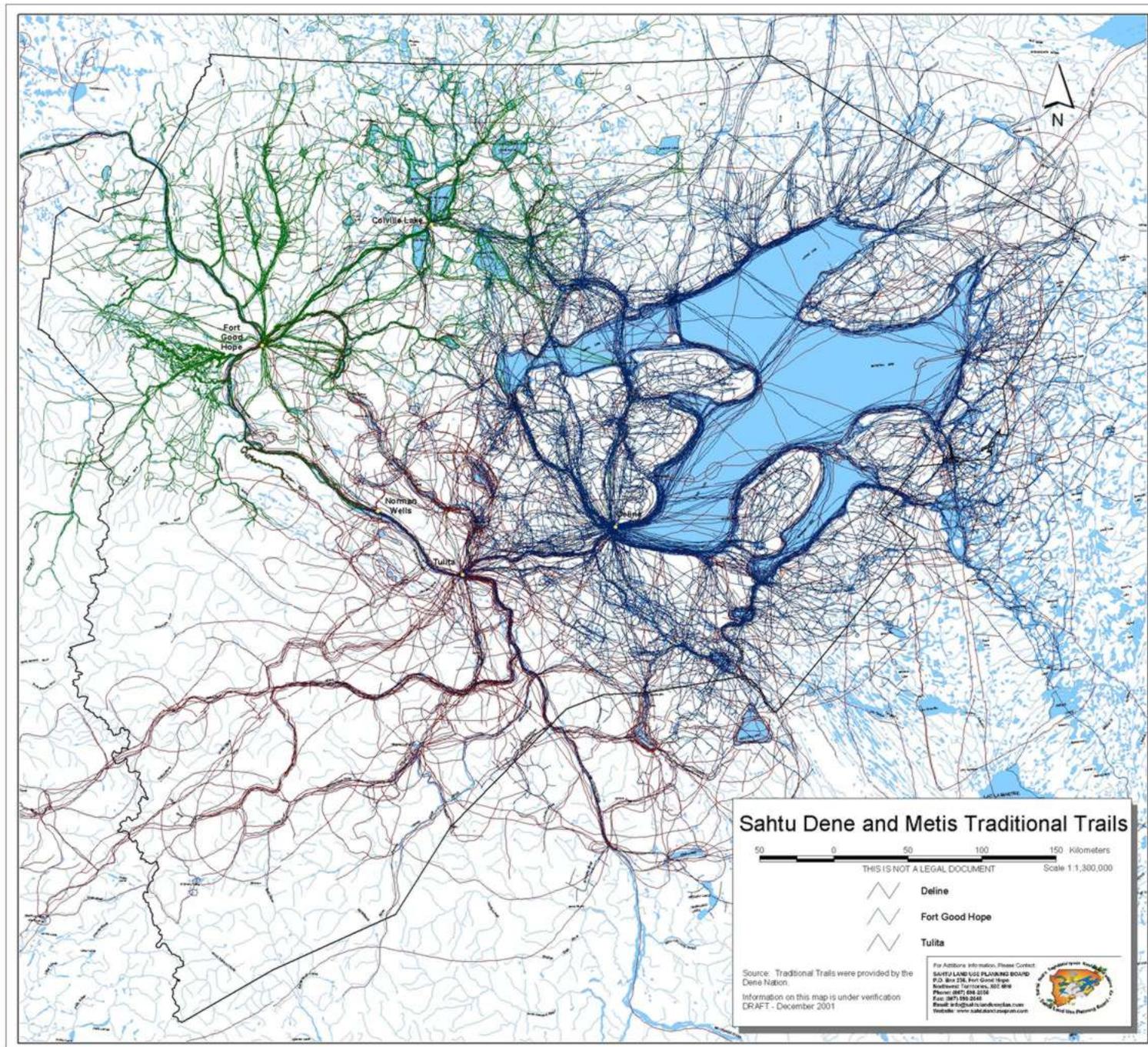
Shúhta Goᓇepé

Tᓄdzi

ʔedə
Nᓄdila
ʔekwé

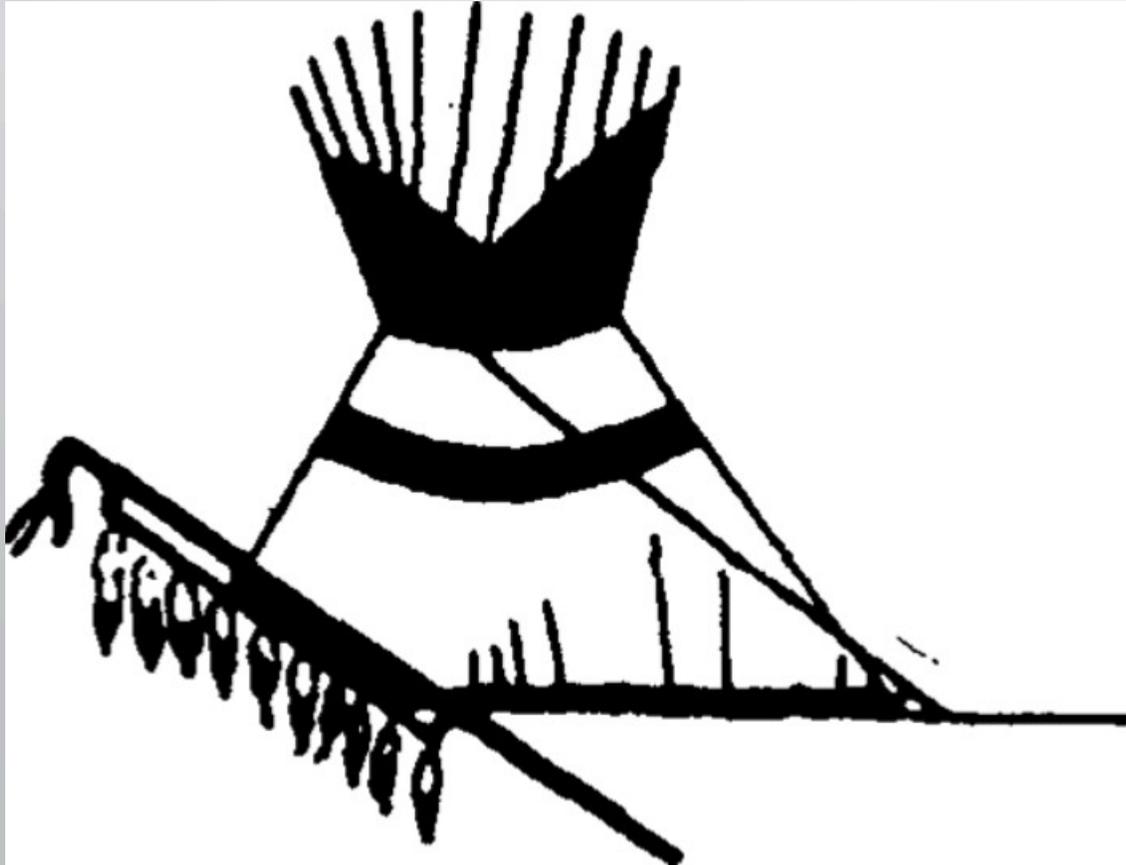


Credit: Sahtú GIS

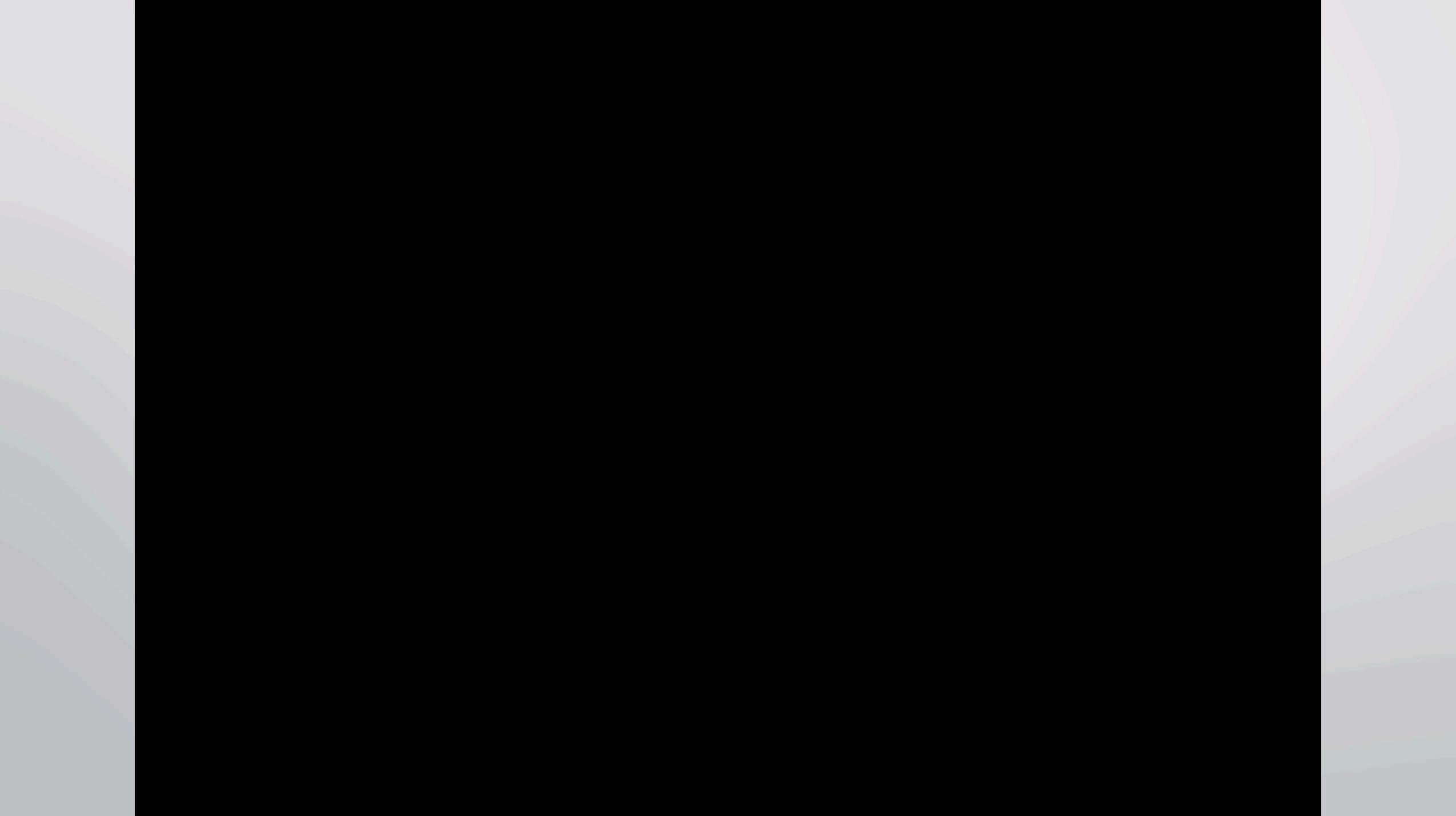


Credit: Dene Nation

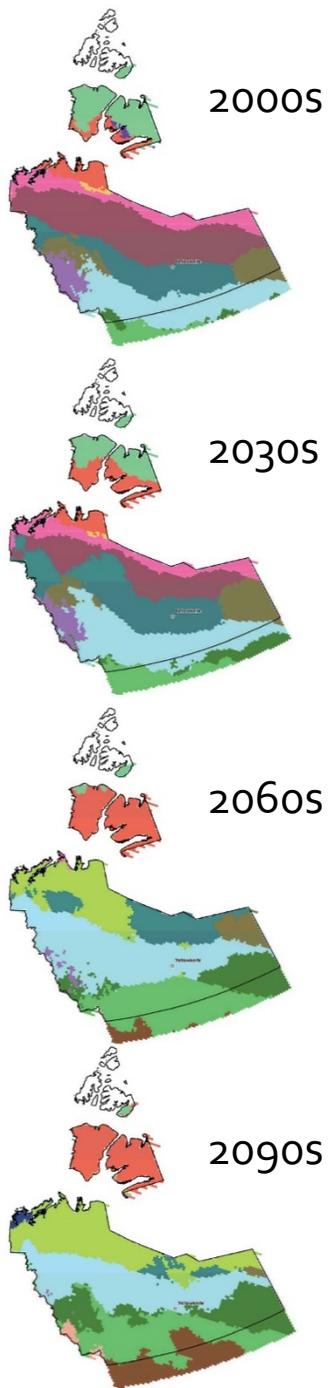
Co-Management and Research



“... shall directly involve Renewable Resources Councils and participant harvesters to the greatest extent possible.” *Sahtú Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement* 13.8.40



Jhda Gókégha Climate-Biome Change

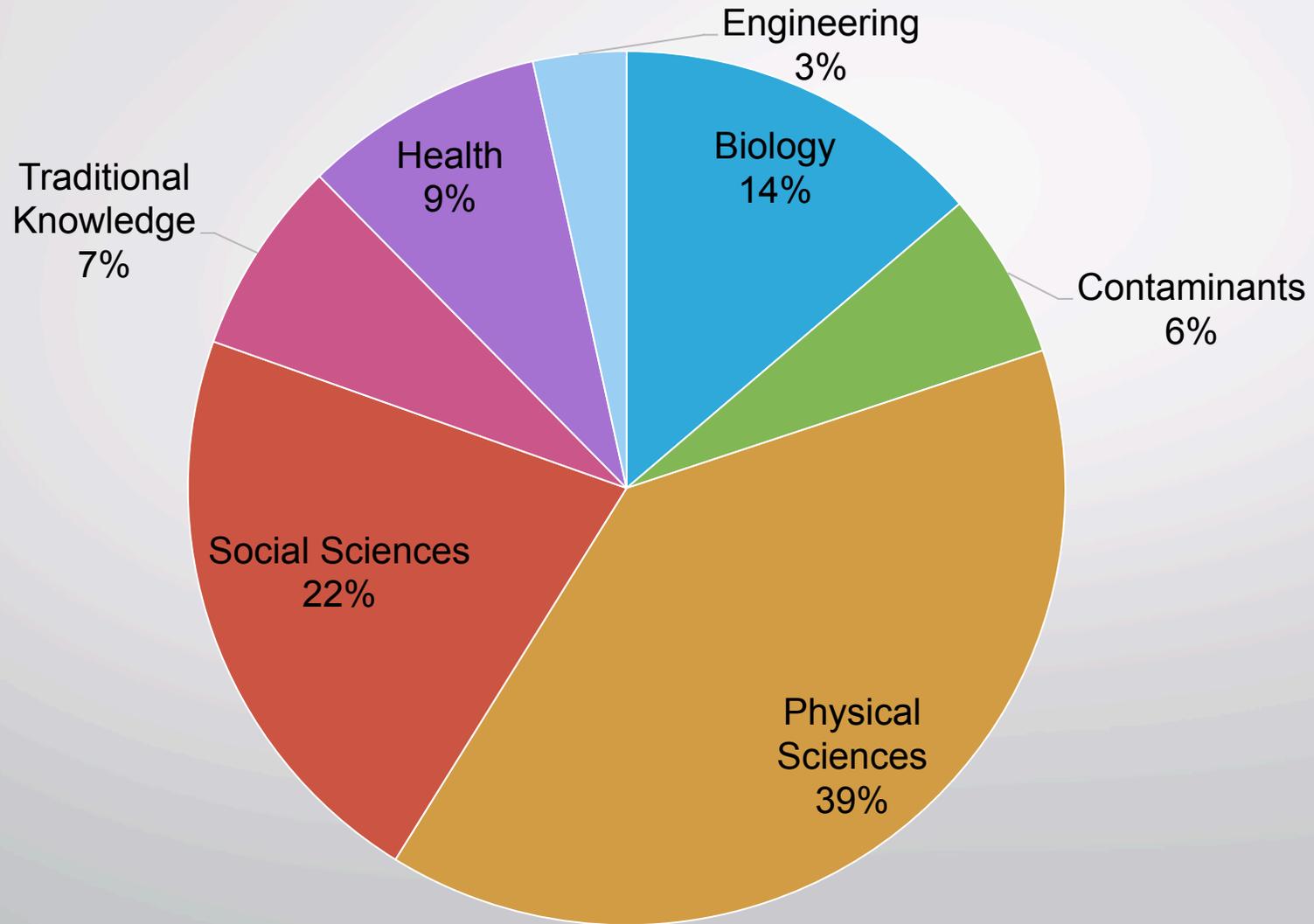


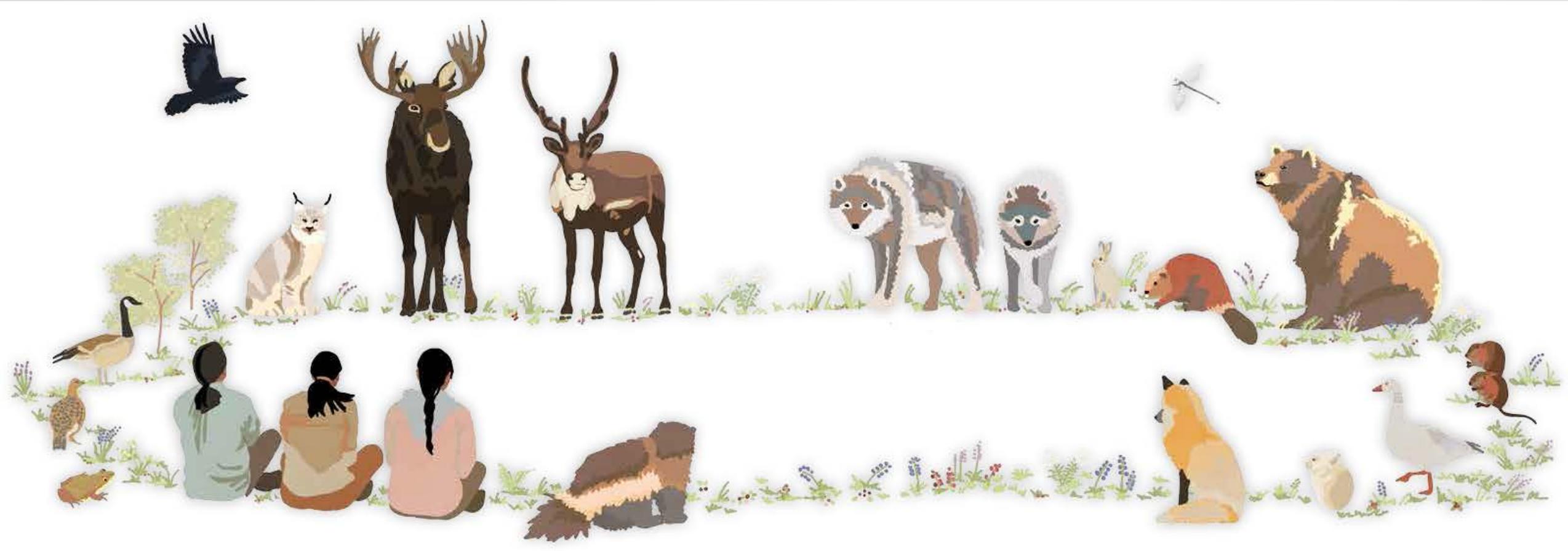
- Sahtú may undergo 2-3 biome shifts between 2000s and 2090s.
- From arctic shrubs, open canopy forest, to mixed (teal) and closed-canopy (blue) boreal and coniferous wooded grasslands (lime).

Source: Scenarios Network for Arctic Planning (SNAP), 2012

Research Licenses by Category 1991-2014

Total = 141





Credit: Jean Polfus



Sahtú Research and Monitoring Coordination Workshop, Tulit'a 2014



...ions
...ity issues
... next few years,
... em

... to align
... scientific research
... related way

Can you study impacts on
the ENVIRONMENT
without studying impacts
on PEOPLE?

NO

Environment and people are
interconnected.

- The web of life - you can look at
things separately but they always fit
together and people together
- Humans are naturally curious about
environment
- Humans are also very smart
- you need study people with
experience
- You can't study things that
aren't connected to people
- how are organisms
and related



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NPMO/
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Federal +
Nov

COOP

Can't
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lead me
data

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GOALS of a COORDINATING GROUP

Protect TK that can't or won't be shared

Data sharing

See bigger picture
give voice

Support
Ongoing
Discussions

BUILD
RESEARCH
CAPABILITY

Build networks
Knowledge
relationships

Buy-in

Get more ppl to
\$ than you to HIRE local
people to help
do research
with

COMMUNITY
OWNERSHIP
of research

What would a COORDINATING GROUP NOT DO?

Support OTHERS to do this

Decision making?

Solve all problems

Replace jobs / tasks / rights / responsibilities

Make bad decisions
take it over

PROTOCOLS
TK research
with researchers
how decisions are set up

Set + cumulative impact targets

Creating new offices or structures

Different organizations play different ROLES

Fund projects

Make sure YOUTH and ELDERLY are involved in research

TA
TK
RESEARCH
CAPABILITY



“If someone from our group is sitting on this, I want it to be someone with passion.”

Edwin Erutse (Fort Good Hope)

Sahtú Environmental Research and Monitoring Forum TERMS OF REFERENCE

Vision - Environmental monitoring and research programs and projects in the Sahtú are coordinated and conducted in ways that reflect regional and community priorities, engage communities, value both western science and traditional knowledge, and support wise decision-making.

Sahtú ERM Forum MEMBERSHIP

- Five ?ehdzo Got'ıne
- Federal, Territorial, Sahtú governments
- Industry
- Sahtú Renewable Resources Board
- Youth

Sahtú ERM Forum

Participants at this workshop!

Members	Fellow Travellers
Andrew Applejohn	Cristina Soto
Bruce Hanna	David Livingstone
Deborah Simmons	David Miller
Heather Sayine-Crawford	Mike English
Julian Kanigan	Susan Kutz
Leon Andrew	Tom Andrews



Research Results Workshop, Tułit'a 2014



Sahtú Cross-Cultural Research Camp 2014







BEAHR/Aurora College Environmental Monitor Training, Tetsexé, 2014





Sahtú Youth Network Presentation, Research Results Workshop, Tułit'a, 2015

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Polfus, J. L., M. Manseau, D. Simmons, M. Neyelle, W. Bayha, F. Andrew, L. Andrew, C. F. C. Klütsch, K. Rice, and P. Wilson. 2016. Łeghágots'enetę (learning together): the importance of indigenous perspectives in the identification of biological variation. *Ecology and Society* 21(2):18. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5751/ES-08284-210218>



Research

Łeghágots'enetę (learning together): the importance of indigenous perspectives in the identification of biological variation

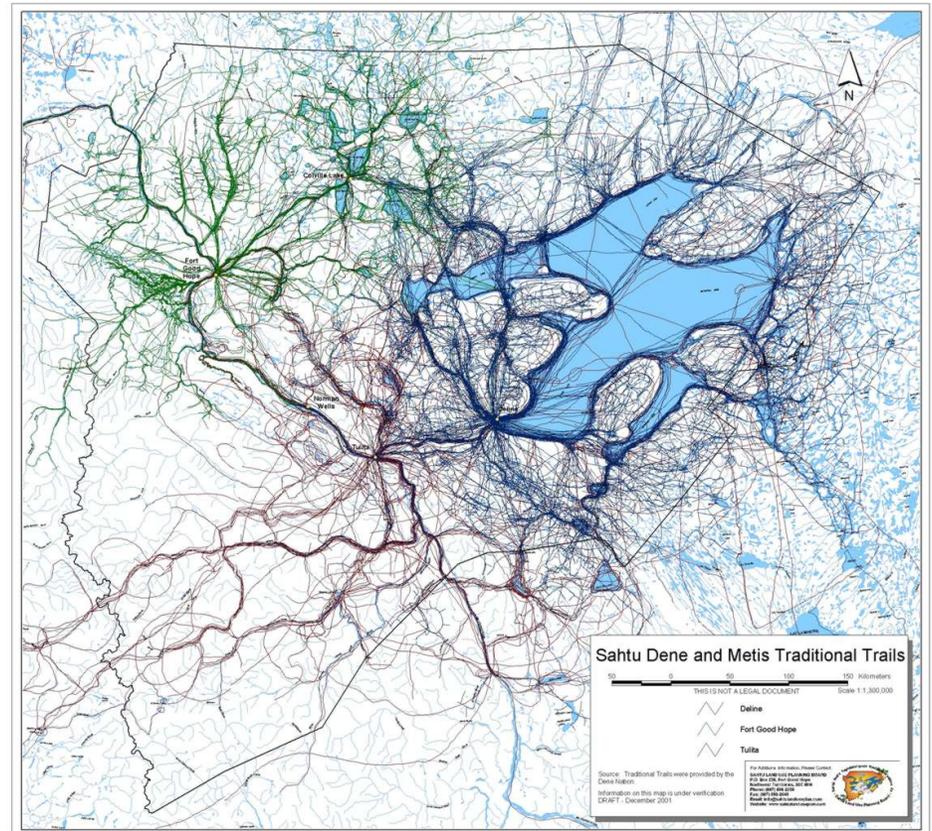
*Jean L. Polfus*¹, *Micheline Manseau*^{1,2}, *Deborah Simmons*^{3,4}, *Michael Neyelle*^{3,5}, *Walter Bayha*⁶, *Frederick Andrew*³, *Leon Andrew*³, *Cornelya F. C. Klütsch*⁷, *Keren Rice*⁸ and *Paul Wilson*⁷

ABSTRACT. Using multiple knowledge sources to interpret patterns of biodiversity can generate the comprehensive species characterizations that are required for effective conservation strategies. Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*) display substantial intraspecific variation across their distribution and in the Sahtú Region of the Northwest Territories, Canada, three caribou types, each with a different conservation status, co-occur. Caribou are essential to the economies, culture, and livelihoods of northern indigenous peoples. Indigenous communities across the north are insisting that caribou research be community-driven and collaborative. In response to questions that arose through dialogue with five Sahtú Dene and Métis communities, we jointly developed a research approach to understand caribou differentiation and population structure. Our goal was to examine caribou variation through analysis of population genetics and an exploration of the relationships Dene and Métis people establish with animals within bioculturally diverse systems. To cultivate a research environment that supported łeghágots'enetę “learning together” we collaborated with ?ehdzo Got'ıneę (Renewable Resources Councils), elders, and an advisory group. Dene knowledge and categorization systems include a comprehensive understanding

Toward a Place-Based Research and Monitoring Strategy

Biocultural diversity in the context of change

- People, language, stories of survival
- Caribou and fish ecology and livelihoods
- Arezhoné asǰǰ godı (all the living beings)
- Water, snow and ice systems





Máhsı!

ʔehdzo Got'ıne ʔotsé Nákedı
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