



DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS

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**Dehcho Annual Assembly
July 24-26, 2018
Wrigley, NT**

Resolution # 01

RE: Edehzhie

Moved by:

**Chief Maurice Moses
Pehdzeh Ki First Nation**

Seconded by:

**Derek Erasmus, Proxy
Fort Simpson Metis Local**

CARRIED with (3) Abstentions:

**Chief Gerald Antoine
Elder Ernest Cazon
Sarah Tsetso, delegate**

**Certified copy of Resolution
made in Wrigley, NT on July 25,
2018**

**Gladys Norwegian
Grand Chief**

WHEREAS, Edézhíe is a spiritual place that is ecologically and physically unique. Its lands, waters and wildlife are integral to the Dehcho Dene culture, language and way of life;

WHEREAS, The Dehcho Dene are keepers of these lands, waters and wildlife given to them by the Creator, and are responsible for upholding Dene laws and the directions of their Elders to protect Edézhíe;

WHEREAS, Edézhíe is a spiritual place that is ecologically and physically unique. Its lands, waters and wildlife are integral to the Dehcho Dene culture, language and way of life;

WHEREAS, The Dehcho Dene are keepers of these lands, waters and wildlife given to them by the Creator, and are responsible for upholding Dene laws and the directions of their Elders to protect Edézhíe;

WHEREAS, the Dehcho First Nations and Canada have worked together over many years to secure the permanent protection of the lands, water and wildlife of Edézhíe;

WHEREAS, The Dehcho First Nations intend to protect and manage Edézhíe in accordance with Dene Law, and have prepared a Dehcho Protected Area Law to give effect to this intention;

Moved by:


Chief Maurice Moses
Pehdzeh Ki First Nation

Seconded by:


Derek Erasmus, Proxy
Fort Simpson Metis Local

CARRIED with (3) three

Abstentions:

Chief Gerald Antoine
Elder Ernest Cazon
Sarah Tsetso, delegate

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Gladys Norwegian
Grand Chief

RE: Edehzhie

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE
ASSEMBLY:**

1. approves and enacts the Dehcho Protected Area Law (2018);
2. authorizes the DFN Grand Chief to enter into the Edézhíe Establishment Agreement with Canada of behalf of the Dehcho First Nations; and
3. authorizes the Dehcho First Nations to finalize the Establishment Agreement with Canada and to do such other things as may be necessary to permanently protect Edézhíe, and to work with the Chief and Council of the Liidli Kue First Nation (Fort Simpson), Tthets'éhk'é Déli First Nation (Jean Marie River), Deh Gah Got'ie First Nation (Fort Providence), Pehdzeh Ki First Nation (Wrigley), Fort Providence Metis Council, and Fort Simpson Metis Local to bring Edézhíe into operation.

Dehcho Protected Area Law (2018)

The Dehcho Assembly enacts the following law respecting the designation and management of Dehcho Protected Areas

PREAMBLE

1. The Dehcho Dene have lived on and governed our lands and waters according to our laws and systems of governance since time immemorial;
2. The Dehcho Declaration (1993) affirms the inherent rights and powers of the Dehcho Dene to govern as a nation;
3. The Dehcho Dene are keepers of our lands and waters, and uphold the teachings of our Elders as guiding principles;
4. Dehcho lands and waters sustain our culture, language and way of life. These lands must be protected and maintained as a foundation to ensure that we thrive as a people into the future.

INTERPRETATION

5. Dehcho Protected Areas are areas of Dehcho land and waters set aside for permanent surface and subsurface protection from development.

MANAGEMENT

6. The management of Dehcho Protected Areas will:
 - a. uphold Dene laws that govern the relationship between Dehcho Dene and their lands and waters;
 - b. incorporate and strengthen Dehcho Dene Zhatié as the foundation for Dene Náodhee;
 - c. promote the transmission of Dene knowledge and Dene Náodhee from present to future generations.

PROHIBITIONS

7. No activities that would adversely impact the integrity of lands, waters or Dene Náodhee within a Dehcho Protected Area will be permitted.

DESIGNATION

8. Dehcho Protected Areas will be described and designated by the Dehcho Assembly and included on Schedule I.
9. Once designated, Dehcho Protected Areas will be zoned under the Dehcho Land Use Plan as a Protected Area Zone and recognized within the Dehcho Process.

PARTNERSHIPS

10. Dehcho Protected Areas may be managed in partnership with other governments in accordance with an establishment agreement.

COMING INTO FORCE

11. This law comes into force on resolution of the Dehcho Assembly.

SCHEDULE I

DEHCHO PROTECTED AREAS

Edehzhie