

Arctic Red River Headwaters - Phase 1: Cultural Assessment
Gaps Analysis Final Report

Prepared for the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board



View of the Arctic Red River Headwaters area (in the distance) from the front range of the Mackenzie Mountains, 1996.
Photo credit: Sonny Blake.

By:
Alestine Andre, Heritage Researcher
Gwich'in Social And Cultural Institute
Tsiigehtchic, NT XOE OBO
Phone: (867) 953-3613 Fax: (867) 953-3820

December 21, 2005

Introduction

In October 2004, the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute (GSCI) was approached by the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board to carry out a cultural assessment of the headwaters of the Arctic Red River. As outlined in the Land Use Implementation Plan, this research would provide input into determining if the status of this area should change

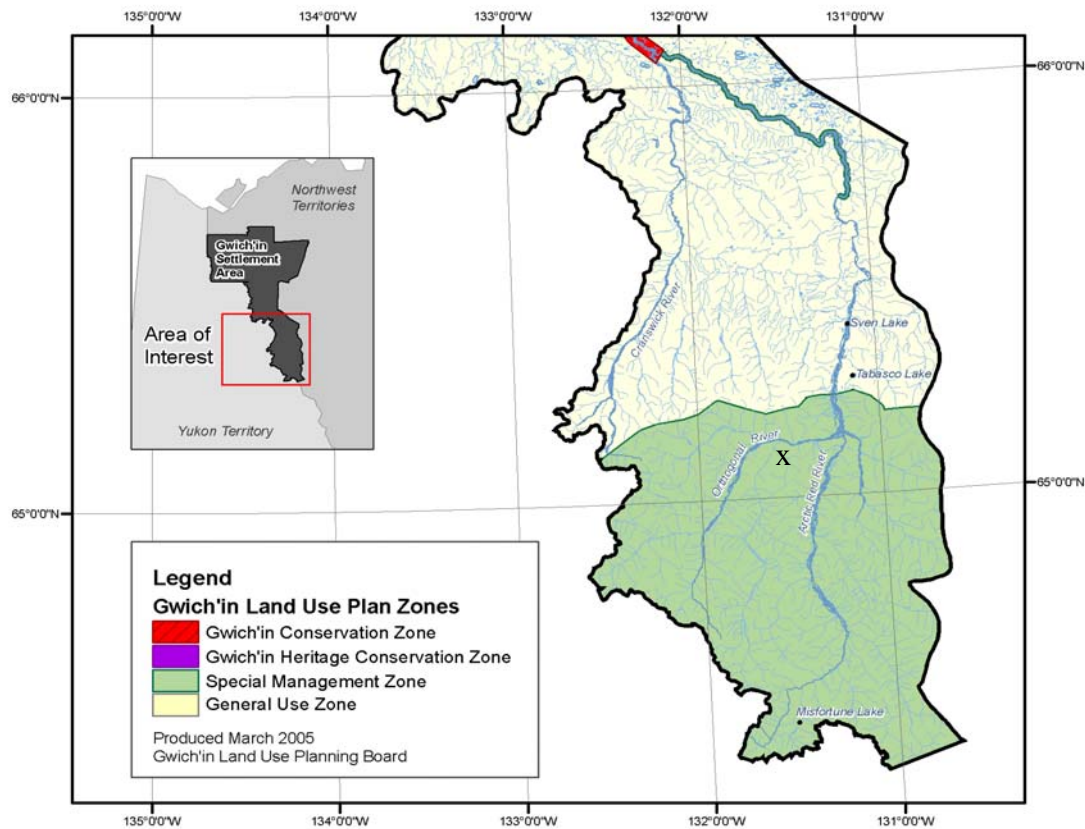
from that of a Special Management Zone to a legislative protected area or a Gwich'in Heritage Conservation Zone.

It is anticipated that this research will be carried out in two phases. This document reports on Phase I carried out in the 2004-05 fiscal year. The goals of Phase I were to compile an annotated bibliography of existing sources related to the traditional use of the area and heritage resources identified to date and to extract information from these sources, producing a baseline report with gaps identified and recommendations for research in Phase II. The Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute will carry out the Phase II research in the 2005-06 fiscal year.

Study area

A brief description of the headwaters of the Arctic Red River is outlined in the Gwich'in Land Use Plan (2003:85) as follows:

The Headwaters of the Arctic Red River is a large area in the southern part of the Gwich'in Settlement Area, in the Mackenzie Mountains. The Mackenzie Mountains are rugged with imposing peaks, and many non-vegetated slopes. Small glaciers flow from the highest peaks.



Gwich'in Land Use Planning Zones courtesy Sue Mackenzie, GLUPB office, Inuvik.
(‘X’ marks the location of axe cut stumps noted by Sonny F. Blake.)

Besides its rugged beauty, the headwaters area is also important for its potential for Gwich'in and Slavey named places, associated stories and legends, trails, traditional campsites, historic cabin sites and traditional knowledge of animals and other resources. Some traditional and cultural information has been collected for the areas north of the confluence of the Arctic Red River and Cranswick River locally referred to as “the Forks” with Gwichya Gwich'in elders by Kritsch and Andre (1993). For example, the Gwich'in name for the Arctic Red River, Ddhahzhit gwichoo, refers to the wide valley through which the Arctic Red River flows out of the Mackenzie Mountains. Ddhahzhit gwitsal refers to the smaller valley of the Cranswick River where it flows out of the mountains.

Methods

This research project took several months to complete and involved the following tasks.

The first task was to identify, locate and review potential sources of information in order to compile existing traditional land use and heritage site information. The major source of information reviewed were products of the oral history and ethno-archaeological research carried out by the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute on the Arctic Red River from 1993-1995. This included the GSCI Gwich'in place names database, audio tapes, tape summaries, transcripts, video logs, and oral history and archaeology reports on file at the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute offices in Tsiigehtchic and Yellowknife. Also reviewed was an article published in the *Arctic Circular* by W.E.S. Hensch (1961) on geographical research conducted up the river in 1960 with Tsiigehtchic guide Anthony (Tony) Andre. Other sources examined included: transcripts and stories from the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement (COPE) tapes; NTS data and Traditional Land Use files and audio tapes for the Dene Nation Mapping Project; one interview tape of Julienne Andre for the documentary film, *Summer of the Loucheux*; background documents for the nomination and management of the Arctic Red River; the website for the Arctic Red River as a Canadian Heritage River; hand-written transcripts and audio tapes for the Arctic Red River Oral History Project (1990); and personal conversations with a Tsiigehtchic guide who worked for Mr. Kelly Hougen, owner and operator of Arctic Red River Outfitters based out of Whitehorse. A report of the Sahtu Heritage Places and Sites Joint Working Group titled, "Rakekée Gok'é Godi: Places We Take Care Of" was also reviewed.

The search for pertinent heritage information proved to be a challenge with information in, sometimes, unexpected places. For example, a tape recording of Julienne Andre that was recorded for the documentary film, *Summer of the Loucheux*, in the late 1970s was located at the Yukon Native Language Centre in Whitehorse, Yukon. A half-day trip to Fort McPherson was necessary in early February to review the Traditional Land Use files that were filed at the Gwich'in Language Centre for any information related to the study area. Background research and nomination documents for the Arctic Red River Heritage River were located in Yellowknife and delivered to the author at a Yellowknife hotel.

Arrangements were made to have interview tapes translated, transcribed and the handwritten transcripts typed for the Arctic Red River Oral History Project (1990).

Once this information was reviewed, it was possible to produce a baseline report with gaps identified and suggestions for further research. This final report includes such a gaps analysis, with a map showing what is known so far (i.e. the location of axe cut stumps as indication of the use of the area is shown on page 3 above), a map showing English named places along the Arctic Red River (see page 15 below), and photographs of the area near the study area (see title page, pages 11 and 14). Included also is an annotated bibliography of GSCI research products presented in Appendix A and the proposed budget for Phase II presented in Appendix B.

As part of this project, the author made an oral report in mid-February (2005) to the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board at their board meeting in Tsiigehtchic. The Board was updated on the study's preliminary findings.

Results

In carrying out the cultural assessment for the Arctic Red River Headwaters, a number of sources were examined and reviewed. The analysis is presented under two headings, (1) GSCI oral history and ethno-archaeological research, and (2) Other sources.

1. GSCI oral history and ethno-archaeological research

Oral history and ethno-archaeological research was carried out by the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute on the Arctic Red River from 1993-95.

In 1993, Alestine Andre and Ingrid Kritsch recorded the traditional land use, place names and stories from Gwichya Gwich'in elders of the area south of the Mackenzie River and up the Arctic Red River. This research resulted in approximately 15 hours of taped interviews with nine Elders from Tsiigehtchic, along with mapped information and the following report, *Gwichya Gwich'in Place Names up the Arctic Red River and south of the Mackenzie River* (Kritsch and Andre 1993). Information from the transcripts has been entered into the Gwichya Gwich'in place names database that GSCI has been building. This database was searched and the entries for Bernard Creek and the Forks were reviewed because traditional trails lead to the study area from these two places. The Bernard Creek place name entry also refers to an area where the Fort Good Hope people met with the Gwichya Gwich'in people which resulted in week long celebrations. There was however no specific information provided about the Arctic Red River Headwaters area from the Gwich'in place names database.

In 1994, the GSCI contracted archaeologist Sheila Greer to assist in carrying out the Tsiigehtchic Ethno-archaeology Project (see Greer, Andre & Kritsch 1995). There were several components to this project – recording traditional knowledge and land use with Gwichya Gwich'in Elders from Tsiigehtchic on audiotapes and maps and then using this information to carry out an archaeological survey to identify sites for the lower 80 miles of the river, from Bernard Creek to the community of Tsiigehtchic. The final report called, *Tsiigehtchic Ethno-Archaeology Project Final Reports (1994/95): Archaeology*

Report and Oral History Report (Greer, Andre, and Kritsch 1995) outlines the traditional and historic use of the Arctic Red River. No specific information was provided for the upper reaches of the Arctic Red River area beyond the Forks in this survey or the oral history report. It was therefore recommended that the six tape transcripts prepared for this project be reviewed for possible named places and their locations or any reference to the Arctic Red River Headwaters area. In the review, no specific references were made to the area in question. Hyacinthe Andre, Nap and Annie Norbert, and Tony and Caroline Andre provided information about the areas west of the Cranswick River, the trailheads that went inland and to the west from Bernard Creek, Weldon Creek, and the Forks towards the Snake River area. Nap and Annie Norbert also made a reference about meeting Slavey people up the Arctic Red River. For instance, in the early 1940s Fort Good Hope families (i.e. Jackson family) met up with Gwichya Gwich'in people in the winter at Teetshik gwitchoo (Weldon Creek) on their way to Tsiigehtchic to get supplies. According to Annie Norbert, the Gwich'in frequently met up with families from Fort Good Hope who were moving around the area. That year at least five families were moving to Nihtavan diminlee and to the area further to the west.

During the course of this project, Elders were also interviewed on videotape as were traditional stopping places and archaeological sites found along the Arctic Red River when the archaeological survey was carried out in 1994 from the community to Bernard Creek. The Elders who were video taped in preparation for the archaeological survey were Hyacinthe Andre, Annie and Nap Norbert, and Caroline and Tony Andre. The video footage of Hyacinthe Andre speaking to his oldest son Noel Andre on Church Hill about life up the river was made into the GSCI video, *Tsiigehtchic: Life Along the Arctic Red River* (1995). Eighteen (18) video logs out of twenty-two (22) video logs from the interviews and river trip were reviewed. Tony Andre talks about the over-land trail that lead to the mountains above Weldon Creek but did not specify which valley was used to travel through. Annie Norbert talks about travels in the fall from Tsiigehtchic to the Forks and how people would move westward to stay in the mountains all winter. There was no specific information about the Arctic Red River Headwaters in the video logs.

In 1994/95 the GSCI entered into a partnership with the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre to continue the Tsiigehtchic Ethno-Archaeology Project started in 1994 with Sheila Greer. This project which was led by archaeologist Tom Andrews (Tom Andrews in prep.), concentrated on documenting the traditional land use and archaeological sites in the middle reaches of the Arctic Red River between Bernard Creek and the Forks. Eight hours of taped interviews were carried out by Alestine Andre and Tom Andrews in the community of Tsiigehtchic with Gwichya Gwich'in Elders in December 1994. This was followed by a 10-day archaeological survey of this part of the river in the summer of 1995 with Frederick Blake and Gabe Andre as guides. Of the eight tapes recorded in 1994, only two of the tapes had full transcripts while the remainder had summaries. The two translated/transcribed tapes were that of Hyacinthe Andre's, an interview carried out in Gwich'in and partially translated and transcribed. The translation of the Gwich'in place names in the transcripts however made it difficult to understand which places were being talked about. Consequently these two tapes were reviewed in order to get a better sense of the named places mentioned and their possible

reference to locations up the Arctic Red River. The remaining six hours of taped interviews, all in English, were sent for further transcription. On his interview tape, Hyacinthe Andre described living with his parents in a winter moss house that was built at the foot of the mountains. He also told an old time story about snares being set along sheep trails in the mountains. No specific location was provided for the area he was talking about.

While the six tapes were transcribed, the interview tapes of Gabe Andre and George Niditchie were listened to. Only Gabe Andre made references to the Arctic Red River Headwaters area when he travelled down the Arctic Red River, above the Forks, with Ron Cruikshank who was working out of the Arctic Red River Heritage River Planning office, in the early 1990s. Gabe also heard stories about this area from his mother, Julienne Andre but he did not give specific information. The quality of George Niditchie's voice on his interview tape was low. He said he travelled one time by skidoo as far as the mountains to Sven Lake, a small lake located at the entrance of Arctic Red River where it flows out of the mountains in an area called Ddhahzhit gwichoo. A camp known locally as Arctic Mountain House was once located here. Today Kelly Hougen owns and operates Arctic Red River Outfitters Ltd. from this same location.

Recently the GSCI created the Gwich'in Place Names Database to store and more readily access Gwich'in place names information. In 2004, approximately 310 Gwich'in and English place names with associated information were entered into the database from three place names projects carried out by GSCI between 1992 and 1994:

- 1) *The Traditional Use of the Travaillant Lake Area Using Trails and Place Names of the Gwichya Gwich'in from Arctic Red River* (Andre and Kritsch 1992),
- 2) *Gwichya Gwich'in Place Names Up the Arctic Red River and South of the Mackenzie River* (Kritsch and Andre 1993), and
- 3) *Gwichya Gwich'in Place Names in the Mackenzie Delta* (Kritsch and Andre 1994).

This database was searched and the entry for Tsugehnhjik (Arctic Red River) was reviewed. In the entry, Tony Andre recounted travelling up the Arctic Red River in the 1960s with two men that he called "geologists". There was no specific information provided about the Arctic Red River Headwaters area in the database or in the article written by one of the "geologists" W.E.S. Hensch (1961) on the geographical survey that he conducted in the lower and middle reaches of the Arctic Red River. The farthest they surveyed was just south of where the Arctic Red and Cranswick Rivers meet.

The final report of the Gwich'in Traditional Knowledge Study of the Mackenzie Gas Project Area by Benson (2005) outlined Gwich'in traditional knowledge and the potential areas of impacts by the proposed Mackenzie Valley Gas pipeline. In the taped interviews are land use information related to areas outside the study area that includes the area up the Arctic Red River. As the Gwich'in traditional knowledge study's main focus was the area north of the Mackenzie River including the Travaillant Lake area, no additional information was sought for the Arctic Red River Headwaters. However we now have a good idea of who would be most knowledgeable about this area from both Tsiigehtchic and Fort Good Hope. They include: Gabe Andre, Herbert Mickey Andre, Russell Andre,

Frederick Blake Sr., Frederick Sonny Blake, and John Norbert from Tsiigehtchic and members of the Kelly, Jackson, Grandjambe, Gregory Shae families from Fort Good Hope. They may in turn identify others who travelled in this area.

2. Other Sources

Included in this section are other sources that were located because they may contain cultural or traditional knowledge related to the Arctic Red River Headwaters area.

The Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement (COPE) Tapes (no date) are a collection of stories that were recorded in the 1960s and early 1970s of Gwich'in, Inuvialuit, and Slavey speakers about their life on the land. It was recommended that the taped stories of Julienne Andre titled "Life Story of Julian [Julienne] Andre" and Pascal Baptiste's stories titled "First Signing of Treaty" be reviewed for named places and locations up the Arctic Red River. The GNWT Archives sent seven CDs containing the taped stories. It was also expected that named places would be corrected in the transcripts to their proper Gwich'ya Gwich'in places names during the review. Upon listening to the stories on the CDs and reading the translated text in the transcripts, it became apparent that the transcripts were glossed version of the stories. Much detail was missing and no Gwich'in place names were included in the transcripts. It is apparent that these tapes need to be retranslated and/or retranscribed. Consequently, each CD was listened to and any reference to the Arctic Red River Headwaters area was noted. In reviewing the stories on the CDs, Pascal Baptiste makes no reference to the Arctic Red River Headwaters area. However Julienne Andre refers to Ddhahzhıt Gwichoo or the area where the Arctic Red River flows out of the mountains as a place where the Gwich'in people would often meet Slavey people. The Gwich'in people would travel to and from Fort Good Hope through a traditional winter trail that was used by both groups. In listening to the stories on the CDs, it was difficult to mark the exact areas that Julienne Andre was referring to because the place names along the trails/travels to Mayo, Dawson, and Fort Good Hope were often new Gwich'in place names. However of all the sources reviewed, the stories provided by Julienne Andre are the most promising with respect to the use of the Arctic Red River Headwaters area.

Two sources were checked related to the Dene Nation Mapping Project, a project that was carried out in the 1980s by the Dene Nation in partnership with the University of Alberta, using information collected largely in the 1970s. First of all, NTS data from the GSCI office in Inuvik provided trail and land use information by two Fort Good Hope men; Louis Boucan, born 1905, and Louie Caesar, born 1905, who travelled in this area between 1918-1974 by dogteam, on snowshoes, and a few trips made on foot or with dog packs. The data shows that many moose were killed. Next, several Traditional Land Use files on deposit at the Gwich'in Language Centre office in Fort McPherson were located and reviewed. Cassette tapes of Gwich'ya Gwich'in elders and land users who were interviewed during the Dene Nation Mapping Project were reviewed to get a clearer sense of their contents. Four tapes contained stories by Julienne Andre, Amos Niditchie, George Niditchie, Nap Etue, and Pascal Baptiste and these tapes were listened to as there are no transcripts, only notes, available. Only Pascal Baptiste made reference to the areas up the Arctic Red River and foothills of the mountains, and the Snake River area, however none were specifically made to the Arctic Red River Headwaters area. The tape

containing stories by Julienne Andre and Amos Niditchie was received blank and as of this writing, I am awaiting a new copy of this tape.

The *Summer of the Loucheux: Portrait of a Northern Indian Family*, a documentary film, portrays the Andre family at their summer fish camp near Tree River. Narrated on the film are stories about life up the Arctic Red River as told by Julienne Andre. A copy of a 30-minute tape recording of Julienne Andre was obtained from John Ritter, Director of the Yukon Native Language Centre, Whitehorse. Mr. Ritter had obtained a copy of the recording of Julienne Andre from Graydon McCrea, producer of the film, several years earlier. In listening to my grandmother's tape, she refers to life up the Arctic Red River, to sheep hunting, to lots of mosquitoes but does not give any specific locations or names for the areas she was talking about.

In the early 1990s, Ron Cruikshank (Master's candidate) carried out background research and prepared nomination documents for designation of the Arctic Red River as a Canadian Heritage River. Three queries were made related to this source. In requesting the background documents, Ron Cruikshank replied in an email, "You wouldn't find much information on the headwaters of the Arctic Red River as there just is not much out there." He directed me to the GNWT RWED Department who held copies of the "Management Plan for the Arctic Red River (1993)" and the nomination documents for this project. A web search for the second source, the Canadian Heritage Rivers, produced a photo of a spring tent campsite and a 1/4 page thumbnail sketch of the Arctic Red River - Tsiigehnjik (Northwest Territories). A few sentences tell of the river's potential for adventure tourism, its wildlife resource, and how "the river's watershed is homeland for the Gwich'in people." No other information is provided on the Canadian Heritage Rivers website or in the background research and nomination documents.

In the late 1980s, the Arctic Red River Oral History Project by Andre (1990) recorded the stories of Hyacinthe Andre, Andre Jerome, Joan Nazon, Nap and Annie Norbert in Tsiigehnjik. The transcripts of Hyacinthe Andre, Andre Jerome and Annie Norbert interviews for this project were of particular interest for this review because their families had travelled up the Arctic Red River. Their transcripts along with Nap Norbert's transcript, about 20 transcripts in total, were reviewed to get a better sense of named places and locations up the Arctic Red River. However in listening to the tapes and reading in the translated transcripts, Gwich'in place names and some detail were not included in the transcripts. The rough transcripts made it difficult to pinpoint place names that were talked about so the tapes were listened to instead. Only Hyacinthe Andre and Annie Norbert make references to the study area. Hyacinthe Andre said when he went up the Arctic Red River and into the mountains with his parents in 1927, there were a lot of caribou that time. A few years later he and his wife went to the mouth of the Snake River. Then years later, Hyacinthe said, "We went past [Chimim'ee], over to a river, past that river and up the head of the river, right up to end of timbers, on to a wide flat. All that is sign of caribou. Although it snowed the night before, there was fresh caribou tracks." They shot some caribou and the next day they moved their camp here. He said, "Where I'm talking about, there's a big flat ground which is just grass. On this flat the snow gets very hard." Hyacinthe added, "...from there a person can see quite a ways

away and there's good timber and high up on a hill, with mountains close by." Later Hyacinthe Andre refers to Ddhah dechan, when marked on a map may clarify the area that he was talking about. Annie Norbert refers to "...way up the Arctic Red River into the mountains..." however she does not give specific details to any location or area.

One Tsiigehtchic resident consulted with considerable knowledge and experience up the Arctic Red River was Sonny F. Blake. Sonny has guided for Arctic Red River Outfitters Ltd. which is owned and operated by Kelly Hougen of Whitehorse, Yukon. Sonny guided extensively in the study area where he said he saw axe cut stumps along the Orthogonal River in the Arctic Red River Headwaters area. He said this area is good for caribou and sheep hunting. Sonny provided English place names from this area such as Gayna River, Grizzly Bear Creek, Slide Lake, Spookum Creek, Tabasco Lake, Sven Lake, and Yellow Hills. He said the first part of August is the best time of the year to travel to this area, a time when there are few mosquitoes. It is recommended that Sonny F. Blake is hired as a guide and assistant for any traditional knowledge or archaeological survey that takes place in this area.



Caribou in the front range of the Mackenzie Mountains, 1996.
Photo credit: Sonny Blake.

The final information reviewed was the report 'Rakekée Gok'é Godi: Places We Take Care Of', Report of the Sahtu Heritage Places and Sites Joint Working Group (2000) where one reference (#16) is made to the Arctic Red River Headwaters.

The reference is to a trail called Shit'a Got'ine Eht'ene / Trail to the Mountains, "[a]n important traditional trail which leads from Good Hope to the headwaters of the Arctic Red River in the Mackenzie Mountains. The trail has been used for centuries and was travelled on foot (with dogs and dog packs) in the fall and by dog team in the winter. The Mountain River (p. 48) was the return route, using moose skin boats in the spring. The trail was used to access winter hunting grounds for the Shit'a Got'ine (or Mountain People) where they would spend the winter taking moose, caribou and sheep. There are many stories of meeting Gwich'in or Yukon Indians in the mountains. These meetings

were marked with great celebrations, with hand games, story-telling and sharing. The trail was last walked in the 1950s, though it continues to be used in winter (2000:62)."

Summary

This research project carried out a cultural assessment of the headwaters of the Arctic Red River. Many sources were reviewed including hand-written Gwich'in translations, tape transcripts and summaries, interview and cassette tapes, CDs, documents, video logs, a database, a website and reports. From the analysis it is clear that there is little information about the Arctic Red River Headwaters area currently available.

To date no traditional knowledge or oral history information has been documented from Gwichya Gwich'in Elders for the Arctic Red River Headwaters area except for casual references to the use of this area without much detail.

In interviews for the oral history and ethno-archaeology projects carried out by GSCI between 1993-95, many Gwichya Gwich'in Elders mentioned family groups moving to the mountains through two trails at the Forks. The trails are at the confluence of the Arctic Red River and the Cranswick River. Elders talked about the upper Arctic Red River area as being important for sheep, moose and caribou hunting. Elders talked about a gathering place where Gwichya Gwich'in and Fort Good Hope people would meet and celebrate. A traditional winter trail that ran between Fort Good Hope and up the Arctic Red River was used by the two groups in both times. Both Annie Norbert and Julienne Andre spoke about meeting Fort Good Hope families who were travelling in the upper areas of the Arctic Red River. Gabe Andre and (Antoine) Tony Andre described their boat travels through the area above the Forks that matches the earlier description provided by their mother, Julienne Andre.

From the sources it appears the Arctic Red River Headwaters area was likely used more extensively and regularly in the early years that Julienne Andre spoke about in her stories. The generations after her talked more about using the areas towards the Snake River. For example, the Gwich'in people travelled to the west of Cranswick River towards the Snake River area to hunt caribou in the fall and winter. References to travel and traditional campsites were made to 'up the Arctic Red River', to the area 'where the Arctic Red River flows out of the mountains', and 'around the foothills' with no specific details given. Elders Hyacinthe Andre, Gabe Andre and George Niditchie have stories about the area.

Julienne Andre's stories on the COPE Tapes about her life in the mountains, and the *Trail to the Mountains* described in the Report of the Sahtu Heritage Places and Sites Joint Working Group, are the most promising sources with respect to the use of the Arctic Red River Headwaters area. A re-translation of Julienne Andre's tapes will pinpoint the known and new Gwich'in place names that she referred to in her stories. A map that marks the locations of Gwich'in place names mentioned by Julienne and a place named Ddhah dechan mentioned by Hyacinthe Andre will help to document and clarify the use of this area. Further research may uncover more information about the use of this area.

At the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board meeting held in February 2005 in Tsiigehtchic, Vice-Chair Charlie Snowshoe, also a Gwich'in elder and land user, made a comment about elders telling travelling stories. His observation may clarify the naming of places in Gwich'in stories. Charlie notes that it is common for Gwich'in elders to only refer to general areas when they tell stories about the land. For example, the storyteller will say they went into the mountains or they moved way up the Arctic Red River. The listeners, themselves familiar with the land, would already know the areas being referred to in the Elders' stories. Julienne Andre talked of a similar observation in her stories. She said Gwich'in people would know what was happening on their land no matter where they were and they knew which families and resources were in what area and in which seasons. It was told to one Gwichya Gwich'in group travelling back from Mayo who were in the Snake River area that someone had killed caribou. She said the travelling group knew exactly where their other people were upon hearing this news.

The Arctic Red River Heritage River was designated a heritage river through the Canadian Heritage Rivers System in 1993. This designation gives the Arctic Red River national recognition and promotes protection of the river through increased awareness, however it does not set aside land for conservation. The reallocation of the Arctic Red River Headwaters as a Heritage Conservation Zone could complement the management plan objectives (1993:12) of the Arctic Red River Heritage River. Further oral history interviews and an archaeological survey however is needed to help determine if this area is of outstanding historical and cultural significance.

Recommendations

This section provides recommendations for further research for Phase II in order to fill in the gaps identified in Phase I.

- It is recommended that the following tapes be re-translated and re-transcribed by a Gwich'in interpreter/translator along with a Gwichya Gwich'in speaker who has a fluent knowledge of the language, the areas and place names referred to in the stories. The tapes in question are from the Arctic Red River Oral History Project (1990) and the stories by Julienne Andre in the COPE Tapes (n.d.) series. For example, in her life story Julienne Andre provides a rich oral description about her travels in that area by walking and using dog packs, traditional life on the land, the landscape, family groups travelling in the area, Gwich'in names of people, and Gwich'in place names. She also sings two tea dance songs.
- It is recommended that further research be carried out to document and map the traditional land use area known as the Arctic Red River Headwaters and that this research be carried out in 2006 with families that used this area from Tsiigehtchic and Fort Good Hope. Gwichya Gwich'in Elders from the community of Tsiigehtchic should be interviewed about Gwich'in and English place names, stories, legends, traditional campsites, old time trails, resource harvesting locations and historic cabin sites for this area. Fort Good Hope families should be interviewed about Slavey names, stories, traditional campsites, old time trails, and resource harvesting locations for this area.

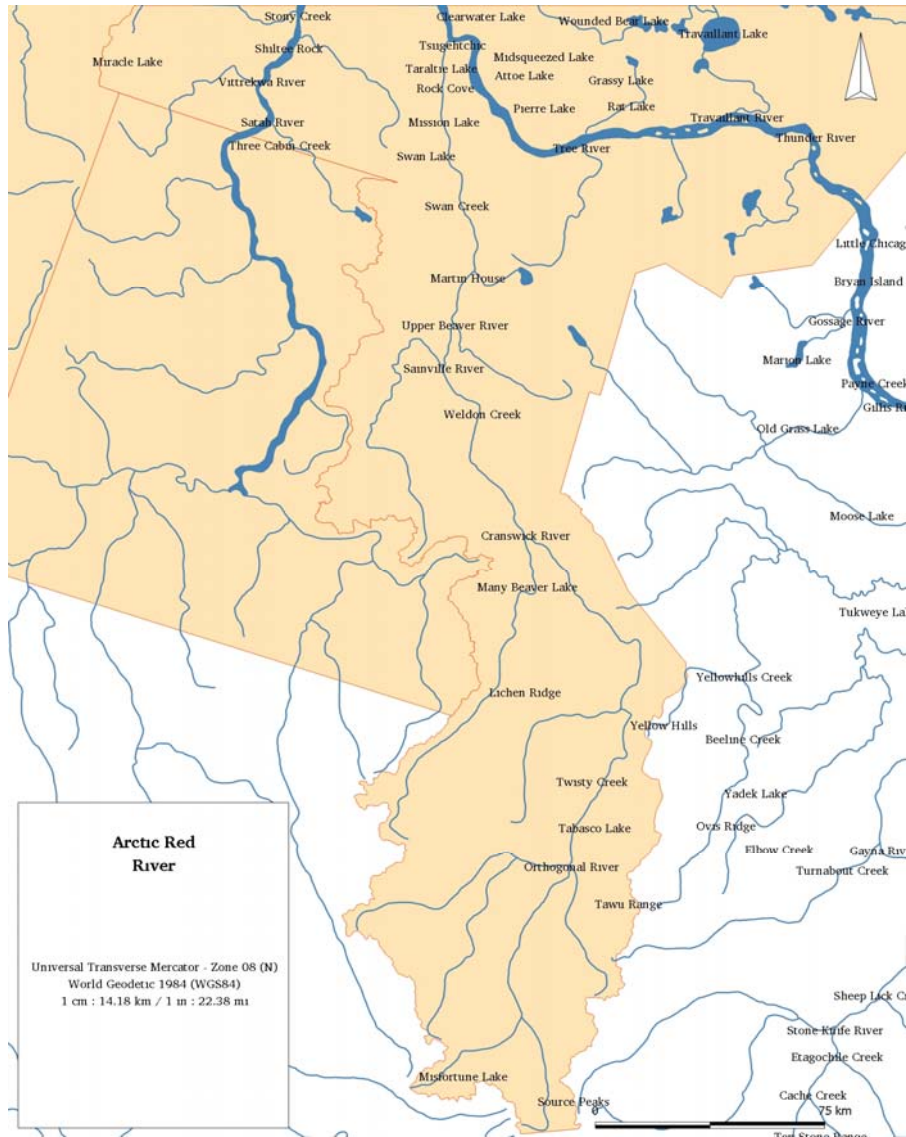
- It is recommended that an extensive archaeology survey be carried out during the summer of 2007 in the Arctic Red River Headwaters area by an archaeologist as this area is totally unknown from an archaeological point of view. It is further recommended that Sonny F. Blake of Tsiigehtchic who is knowledgeable about this area be hired as a guide and assistant.



View of the Arctic Red River (in the background) from Ddhahzhit Gwichoo, the area where the Arctic Red River flows out of the mountains, 1996.

Photo credit: Sonny Blake.

Arctic Red River Headwaters: Phase 1: Cultural Assessment - Gaps Analysis Final Report



English named places courtesy of National Topographic Survey Data, Gwich'in Tribal Council licensed. GSR shape courtesy of Gwich'in Tribal Council. Streams, lakes and rivers courtesy of World Wildlife Fund NWT Atlas - 1:2,000,000.

References cited.

Andre, Alestine

1990 Collection of Stories of Life on the Land: Told by Gwichya Gwich'in Elders. Arctic Red River Oral History Project. Ms. on file with GSCI, Tsiigehtchic, NWT.

Andre, Alestine and Ingrid Kritsch

1992 The Traditional Use of the Travaillant Lake Area Using Trails and Place Names of the Gwichya Gwich'in from Arctic Red River, NWT. Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, Tsiigehtchic, NWT.

Andrews, Tom

in prep. Tsiigehtchic Ethno-Archaeology Project. Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre & Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, Yellowknife, NWT.

Arctic Red River Heritage River

[Online] URL: <http://collections.ic.gc.ca/rivers/hp23.html>

Arctic Red River Heritage Planning Office

1993 Heritage River Management Plan for the Arctic Red River. Ms. prepared for Economic Development and Tourism, GNWT.

Benson, Kristi

2005 Gwich'in Traditional Knowledge Study of the Mackenzie Gas Project Area. Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, Tsiigehtchic, NWT.

Blake, Frederick Jr. (Sonny)

2005 Personal conversation on March 2, 2005. Tsiigehtchic, NWT.

Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement (COPE) Tapes

n.d. A collection of stories recorded in Gwich'in, Inuvialuit, and Slavey languages. Gwich'in collection on file with GSCI.

Dene Nation

1989 Dene Nation Mapping Project. Traditional land use data recorded from 1972-1989, proprietary to the Dene Nation and entered into a Geographic Information System (GIS) at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta.

Henoch, W.E.S.

1961 "Geographical survey of the lower Mackenzie and Arctic Red River area, 1960." In: *The Arctic Circular*. 14 (3):52-38.

Incorporated Settlement of Arctic Red River, Dept. of Economic Development and Tourism, and DIAND.

1992 Canadian Heritage Rivers System. Nomination Document for the Arctic Red River, NWT. Ms. prepared for Canadian Heritage Rivers Board. Ottawa, Ontario.

Kritsch, Ingrid and Alestine Andre

1993 *Gwichya Gwich'in Place Names Up the Arctic Red River and South of the Mackenzie River, Gwich'in Settlement Area, NWT*. Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, Tsiigehtchic, NWT.

Greer, Sheila, Alestine Andre and Ingrid Kritsch.

1995 Tsiigehtchic Ethno-Archaeology Project Final Reports 1994/95: Archaeology Report and Oral History Report. Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, Tsiigehtchic, NWT.

Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute & Information Networks (GNWT Dept. of Education, Culture and Employment)

1994 Tsiigehtchic Ethno-archaeology Video Project. Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, Tsiigehtchic, NWT.

Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute

2004 Gwich'in Place Names Database. Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, Tsiigehtchic, NWT.

1995 *Tsiigehtchic: Life Along the Arctic Red River*. Video. 27.35 minutes. Gwich'in with English sub-titles.

Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board

2003 Nành' Geenjit Gwit'rit Tìgwaa'in / Working For The Land. Gwich'in Land Use Plan. Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board, Inuvik, NWT.

Sahtu Heritage Places and Sites Joint Working Group (John T'Seleie, Isadore Yukon, Bella T'Seleie, Ellen Lee, and Tom Andrews)

2000 *Rakekée Gok'é Godi: Places We Take Care Of*. Report of the Sahtu Heritage Places and Sites Joint Working Group. Published by Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Yellowknife, NWT.

Tamarack Films.

1983 *Summer of the Loucheux: Portrait of a Northern Indian Family*. Tamarack Films. Edmonton, Alberta. Video. 27 minutes. Gwich'in or English language.

Appendix A: Annotated Bibliography

Andre, Alestine

- 1990 Collection of Stories of Life on the Land: Told by Gwichya Gwich'in Elders. Arctic Red River Oral History Project. Ms. on file with GSCI, Tsiigehtchic, NWT.
An oral history project carried out by Alestine Andre in 1989 / 1990 with Hyacinthe Andre, Andre Jerome, Joan Nazon, and Annie Norbert in Tsiigehtchic who recount their life on the land in the Travaillant Lake area, the Mackenzie Delta, and up the Arctic Red River. Products: report, 30 tapes, transcripts.

Andre, Alestine and Ingrid Kritsch

- 1992 The Traditional Use of the Travaillant Lake Area Using Trails and Place Names of the Gwichya Gwich'in from Arctic Red River, NWT. Report prepared under contract for NOGAP Archaeology Project, Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull, Quebec. Report on file, Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute and Canadian Museum of Civilization.
Publication outlines locations of old trails, trapline trails, 129 Gwich'in and English place names along with associated oral history of place, grave sites, cabin sites, traditional camp sites, and resource utilization in the Mackenzie River to Travaillant Lake area. Also recorded other ethnographic information (i.e. stories and legends). Products: 54 tapes, transcripts, and summaries, place names recorded on 1:50,000 scale NTS map made up of ca. 28 map sheets-other data recorded on clear acetate sheets which overlaid base map, all map info. except place names were digitized by CMC using SPANS, report in 1993. Since then, this data has been converted and this information and the place names have been entered into the GSCI Geographic Information System (GIS).

Andrews, Tom

- in prep. Tsiigehtchic Ethno-Archaeology Project. Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre & Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, Tsiigehtchic, NWT.
In 1994, Tom Andrews and Alestine Andre recorded interviews with Gwichya Gwich'in Elders in preparation for the archaeological survey that took place in the summer of 1995 with Tom Andrews, Gabe Andre, Frederick Blake, Jenny Andre, Erika and Ingrid Kritsch between the Forks and Bernard Creek. Products: artifacts, 8 tapes with summaries, rough transcripts, photographs and slides (people & places), 1:50,000 scale NTS maps, GPS readings taken during river trip.

Arctic Red River Heritage River. <http://collections.ic.gc.ca/rivers/hp23.html>

A website of the Canadian Heritage Rivers Systems that displays the heritage rivers across Canada that includes maps, photographs of the

rivers, geographical and historical information and the reasons why these rivers received heritage designation.

Arctic Red River Heritage Planning Office

1993 Heritage River Management Plan for the Arctic Red River. Ms. prepared for Economic Development and Tourism, GNWT.
Ms. prepared for GNWT Department of Economic Development and Tourism by Ron Cruikshank on behalf of the Arctic Red River Heritage River Planning Office. The management plan document highlights the natural and cultural heritage attributes of the Arctic Red River that makes it one of Canada's outstanding rivers. The nomination of the Arctic Red River as a Canadian Heritage River also gives it importance both regionally and nationally.

Benson, Kristi

2005 Gwich'in Traditional Knowledge Study of the Mackenzie Gas Project Area. Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, Tsiigehtchic, NWT. Final report to outline Gwich'in TK and potential areas of impacts by proposed Mackenzie Valley Gas pipeline. Included in taped interviews are land use areas outside the study area, like up the Arctic Red River. Products: report, 96 tapes and transcripts, digitized photographs (people), a GIS system of recorded Gwich'in traditional knowledge, 1:35,000 scale maps of GIS information, and 1:50,000 scale maps of GIS maps information.

Blake, Frederick Jr. (Sonny)

2005 Personal conversation on March 2, 2005. Tsiigehtchic, NWT. In our conversation, Sonny Blake provided information about the physical and geographic description of the front range near the Arctic Red River and the headwaters area, the area where he saw tree or stump 'cuttings', named places, animals and birds, and the Arctic Red River Outfitters camp at Sven Lake.

Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement (COPE) Tapes

n.d. A collection of old-time stories recorded on tapes of Gwich'in, Inuvialuit, and Slavey speakers by COPE in the 1960s and early 1970s. Many speakers recount stories about life on the land in their respective areas.

Dene Nation

1989 Dene Nation Mapping Project
In the 1980s, the University of Alberta worked in partnership with the University of Alberta to create a trail database and a tabular data. This was an early form of a Geographic Information System. Data used in the project came from the Dene Nation Mapping Project carried out from 1972-1989 with the Dene in the Mackenzie Valley who provided traditional and current land use information for their land claim

negotiations with the federal government. The trail database is a digitized geographic coverage of trails and the tabular table details trail usage, biographical information on the trappers, and source information.

Henoch, W.E.S.

1961 "Geographical survey of the lower Mackenzie and Arctic Red River area, 1960." The Arctic Circular. Published by the Arctic Circle (April 1962), Geographical Branch, Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, Ottawa. Vol. XIV No. 3:52-38.

In the summer of 1960, W.E.S. Henoch and Stephen Blasko carried out survey work in the lower Mackenzie and Arctic Red River areas.

Incorporated Settlement of Arctic Red River, Dept. of Economic Development and Tourism, and DIAND.

1992 Canadian Heritage Rivers System. Nomination Document for the Arctic Red River, NWT. Ms. prepared for Canadian Heritage Rivers Board. Background documents prepared for Canadian Heritage Rivers Board by Ron Cruikshank and submitted by the Incorporated Settlement of Arctic Red River, the GNWT Department of Economic Development and Tourism, and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. A submission document to the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board for the nomination of the Arctic Red River to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS). The document identifies the heritage significance of the river and justifies the inclusion of the river in the CHRS.

Kritsch, Ingrid and Alestine Andre

1993 Gwichya Gwich'in Place Names Up the Arctic Red River and South of the Mackenzie River, Gwich'in Settlement Area, NWT. Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute, Tsiigehtchic, NWT.

This report outlines 88 Gwich'in and English place names along with their translation, associated stories and legends, trails, traditional campsites, historic cabin sites and renewable resources up the ARR and south of the Mackenzie River. Products: 16 tapes, transcripts, and summaries, 1:50,000 scale NTS maps, 1:250,000 scale NTS maps, photographs (places & people), and publication. Place names information from this report have been entered into the GSCI Geographic Information System (GIS).

Greer, Sheila, Alestine Andre and Ingrid Kritsch.

1995 Tsiigehtchic Ethno-Archaeology Project Final Reports 1994/95: Archaeology Report and Oral History Report. Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute. Tsiigehtchic, NWT.

This report outlines the traditional and historic use of the Arctic Red River as recounted by Gwichya Gwich'in Elders. An archaeological survey used the traditional knowledge and land use history to identify sites for the lower 80 miles of the river, from Bernard Creek to the community of Tsiigehtchic. Products: artifacts, 6 tapes and transcripts, 1:50,000 scale

NTS maps, GPS readings taken during river trips, photographs and slides (places & people), and report.

Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute & Information Networks (GNWT Dept. of Education, Culture and Employment)

1994 Tsiigehnjik Ethno-archaeology Video Project. Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute. Tsiigehtchic, NWT.
Video footage and accompanying logs of interviews with Hyacinthe Andre, Annie and Nap Norbert, and Caroline and Tony Andre in Tsiigehtchic prior to the archaeological survey up the ARR in 1994 and footage taken along the river of significant named places, archaeological sites between Tsiigehtchic and Bernard Creek and interviews with archaeological survey crew. On the river trip were Dale Blake and Lawrence Andre (river guides), Anna May McLeod and Rita Carpenter (archaeological field assistants), young James Cardinal, (trainee), Ingrid Kritsch and Sheila Greer (archaeologists). Products: raw video footage of interviews in community, named places, and archaeological survey work along the Arctic Red River from Tsiigehtchic to Bernard Creek and video.

Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute

2004 Gwichya Gwich'in Place Names Database. Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute. Tsiigehtchic, NWT.
This database was created to store and retrieve Gwich'in place names information. Approximately 310 Gwichya Gwich'in and English place names information have been entered to date.

1995 *Tsiigehnjik: Life Along the Arctic Red River*. Video. 27.35 minutes. Gwich'in with English sub-titles.
Hyacinthe Andre, the oldest Elder in Tsiigehtchic talks to his son, Noel Andre, about the traditional use of the ARR. Video footage used in this production was part of the 1994 footage taken during the Tsiigehnjik Ethno-archaeology Video Project with Sheila Greer. Product: raw video footage of interviews in community and video.

Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board

2003 Nành' Geenjít Gwit'rit Tígwaa'in / Working For The Land. Gwich'in Land Use Plan. Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board, Inuvik, NWT.
A document created to ensure that proposed land use activities in the Gwich'in Settlement Area will be required to conform with the Gwich'in Land Use Plan.

Sahtu Heritage Places and Sites Joint Working Group (John T'Seleie, Isadore Yukon, Bella T'Seleie, Ellen Lee, and Tom Andrews)

2000 Rakekée Gok'é Godi: Places We Take Care Of. Report of the Sahtu Heritage Places and Sites Joint Working Group. Published by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Yellowknife, NWT.

The Sahtu Heritage Places and Sites Joint Working Group created pursuant to section 26.4 of the Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (1993) provides general recommendations that deal with heritage and cultural issues and site-specific recommendations that require special protection and commemoration in the Sahtu Settlement Area. Included are site recommendations such as Shit'a Got'ine Eht'ene / Trail to the Mountains, an important traditional trail which leads from Good Hope to the headwaters of the Arctic Red River in the Mackenzie Mountains, Deh Cho/Mackenzie River, Feetie Lushe/Thunder River Quarry, and Ghat'a Luwe Shee/Mouth of the Travaillant River that were used by both Sahtu and Gwich'in groups.

Tamarack Films.

1983

Summer of the Loucheux: Portrait of a Northern Indian Family.

Tamarack Films, Edmonton. Video. 27 minutes. Gwich'in or English.

A 27 minute video produced by Graydon McCrea is available in the Gwich'in or English language. The documentary portrays four generations of the Andre family at their summer camp at Tree River, which is 45 miles upstream from the community of Tsiigehtchic. Featured are Julienne Andre (grandmother), Hyacinthe Andre, Alestine Andre, and Lisa Andre. A narration of Julienne Andre's life up the Arctic Red River is included.