



DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS

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November 26, 2009

Dear: Ms. Sarah True, Regional Environmental Assessment Coordinator

Re: True North Safari General Wildlife Permit Application, File #: NS2010GWP001

Dehcho First Nations does not support the application submitted by True North Safari for a General Wildlife Permit to bait black bears for the purpose of their big game outfitting operation. The position of Dehcho First Nations on matters relating to big game outfitters is clearly stated in Resolution #4 passed at the Spring Leadership Meeting hosted in the Hay River Reserve, NT on May 4-6, 2004.

The resolution clearly states that Dehcho First Nations will not support any big game outfitter in Dehcho Territory. This position is based on the following premises: (1) that Dehcho First Nations is in the process of negotiating a revised Land Use Plan to regulate access to Dehcho traditional lands; (2) the presence of big game outfitters on Dehcho Territory has conflicted with traditional land users; and (3) there is a general lack of enforcement of rules and regulations at the Federal and Territorial levels. Therefore, DFN is unable to support True North Safari in their endeavor.

Furthermore, in consultation with the Grand Chief, baiting bears is considered unethical and disrespectful. It is not a traditional Dene practice.

Mahsi cho,

Dahti Scott-Tsetso

Dahti Scott-Tsetso
Resource Management Coordinator

cc.

Grand Chief Sam Gargan
Ria Letcher, Executive Director

