



Building Trust in Mining Communities


Effectively Working with Aboriginal Stakeholders

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Denesoline/Chipewyan Community

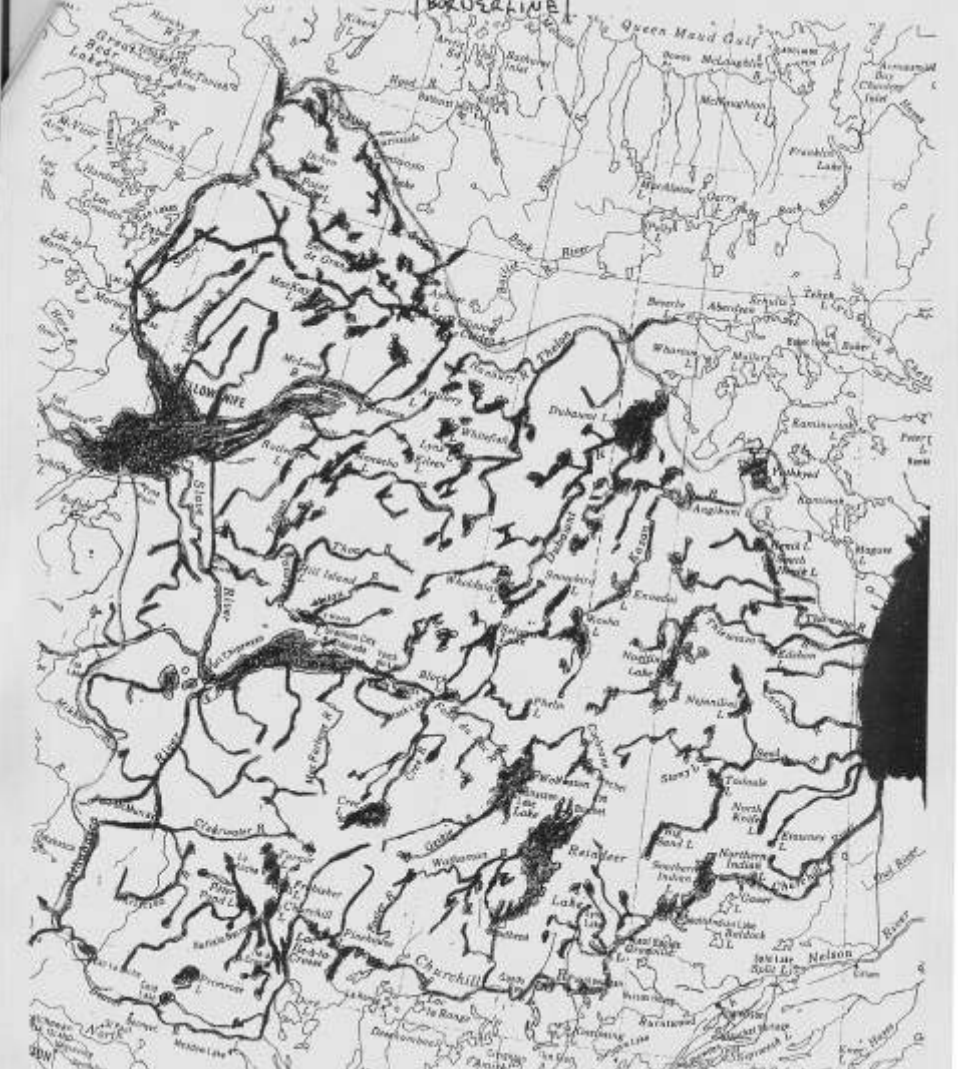
North of 60



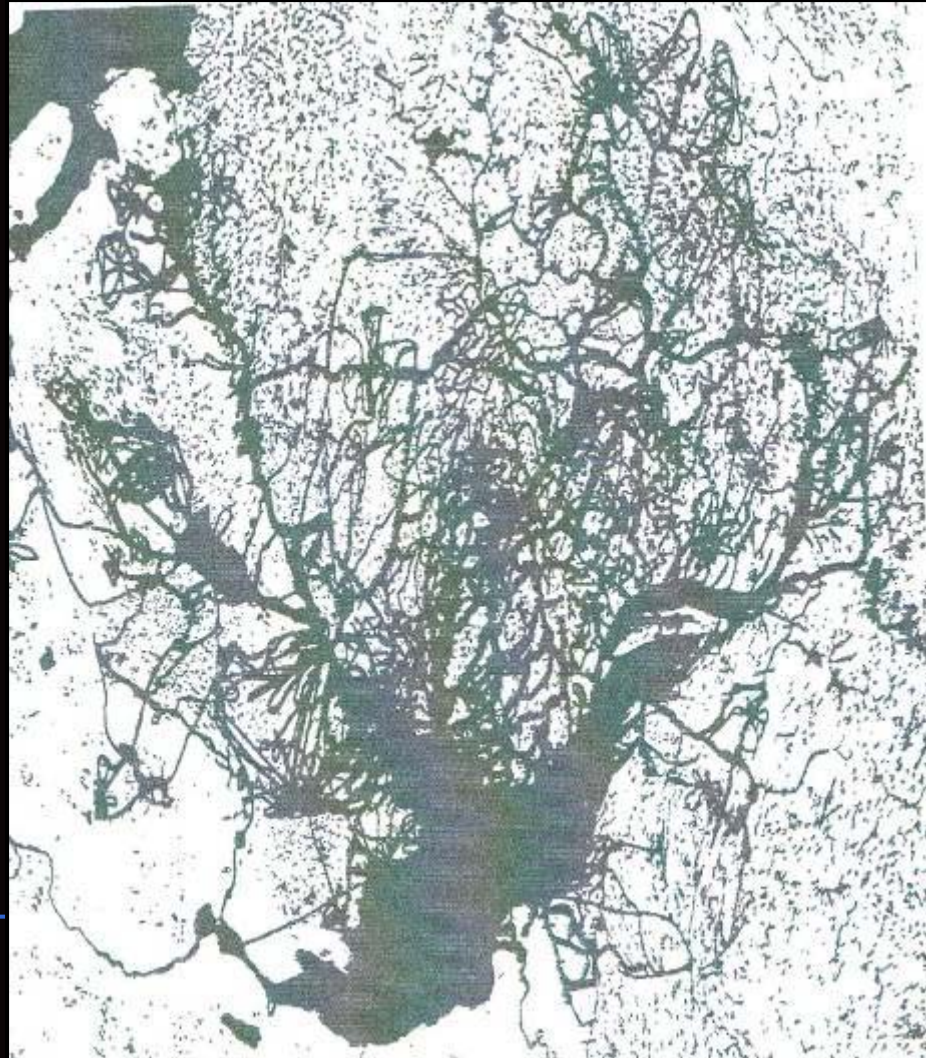
Lutsel K'e is
located on the
East Arm of The
Great Slave Lake,
150 km from
Yellowknife
Population 400

Lutsel K'e

Est. In the 1920's



Denesoline footprint from traditional times to today



Early routes of my ancestors

Later routes closer to home

This is the land where the Denesoline have traveled and lived for centuries. The land is criss-crossed with our travel routes and traplines.

We use our traditional knowledge to live well with the land.



What is Traditional Knowledge?

**Years of Experience
On the Land**

There are many ways to define Traditional Knowledge (TK), but generally it means knowledge that elders possess from their experience. The knowledge is passed down to them through the generations. It is continuous and grows. Interpretation of knowledge is important. Traditional Knowledge is not just the past, but the future combined with the past

**We continue to use
our traditional
knowledge. It is alive
and well.**

- Elders today still pass on the tradition to the younger generations.
- It takes a lifetime to become a real expert in TK.
- This knowledge teaches us how to use the land and respect it at the same time.



**Our traditional
knowledge is
alive and well,
being passed on
to future
generations**



Our true Serenity





In the future, Canada may become the number one producer of high quality diamonds. There are three diamond mines currently in the NWT, with more coming.



**These diamond mines
are changing the
landscape we live in by
draining lakes and
digging pits.**

**After they are mined, the
plan is to fill them with
waste rock or water.**

**This is the Misery Pit at the
Ekati Diamond Mine.**

Waste Rock Piles are appearing on our land.

- They cover up the vegetation and ponds.
- They may produce acid drainage as the rock gets exposed to the water and air.
- They may serve as a barrier to animal movement, especially the caribou which is so important to us.
- The effects of these piles is largely unknown, but they will be left over after mine closure.



SEP 28 2002



Waste kimberlite ore is being pumped as a slurry into lakes.

Healthy lakes are being changed into kimberlite containment areas.

The idea is to re-vegetate these areas upon mine closure.

What are the long-term impacts on vegetation? What about the animals that feed on them? What about the people who eat the wild animals?

Water flows are being changed and diverted.

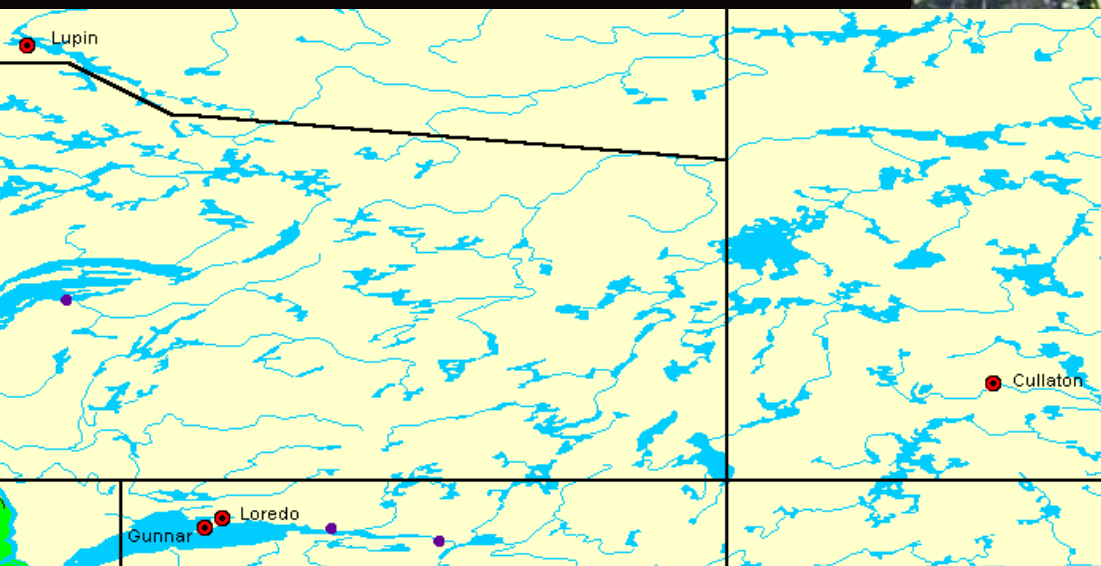
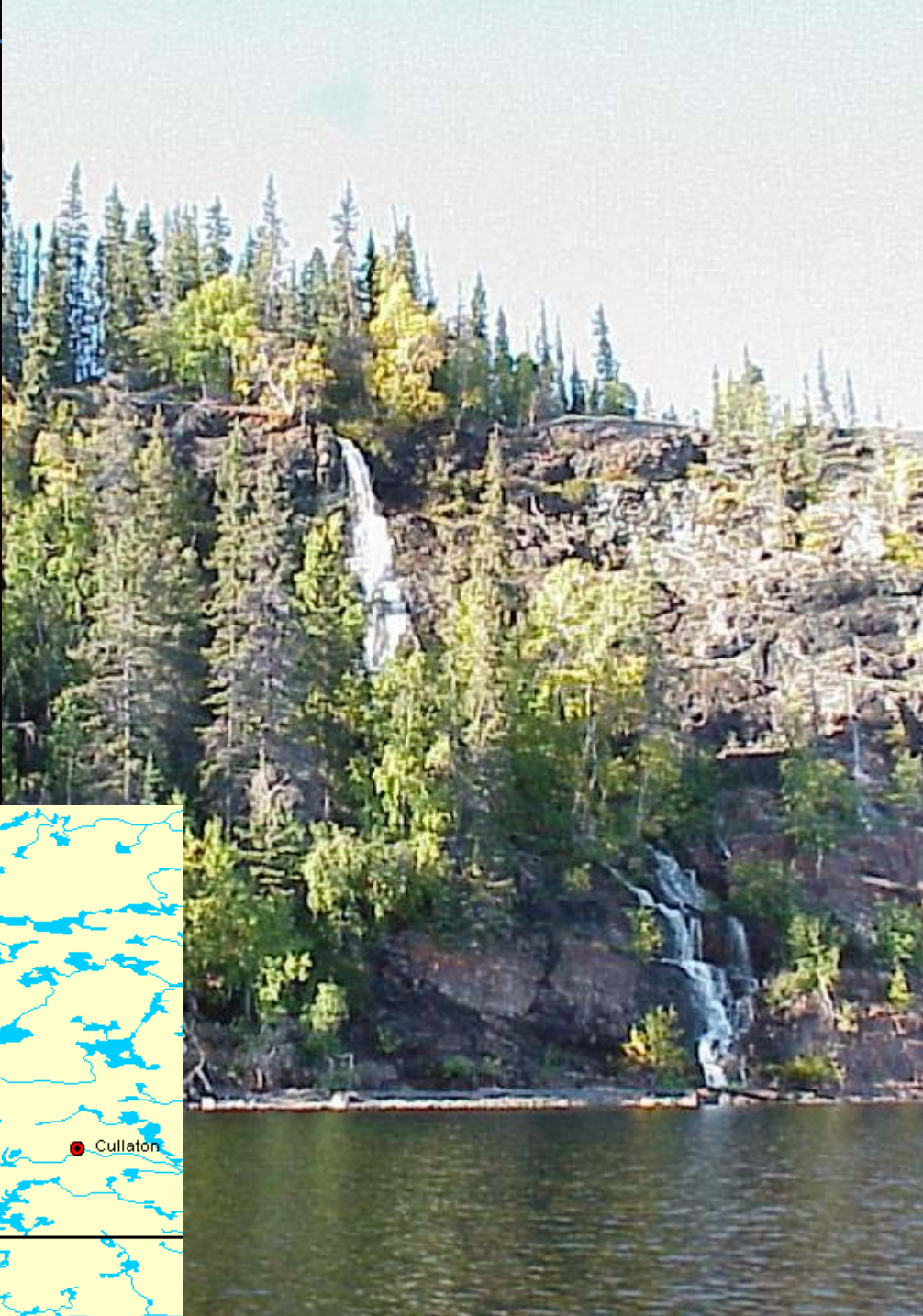
What are the impacts on fish? Water quality?

These diversions will either be left in place or the original streams will be re-opened upon closure. Will the water be the same again?

SEP 27 2002

The history of mine closure in the NWT has not been good

There are tons of arsenic in barrels underneath Yellowknife, left over from the Giant gold mine. The sites on the map are those in the NWT with acid rock drainage problems.



This is how an old Uranium Mine near
Lutsel K'e was reclaimed.



**We want to work with
industry to make sure
that the land is put back
to how it was before
mining activity.**

A person wearing a yellow wetsuit and a cap is sitting on a large rock in the middle of a lake. They are holding a notebook and a pen, appearing to be taking notes. The lake is surrounded by dry, brownish vegetation and some evergreen trees in the background. The sky is clear and blue.

How can aboriginal stakeholders and industry work together to reclaim the land?

We must be involved at all stages – from planning to action.

25.06.2004

Our Goals and Objectives

Overall, we want to be able to maintain our culture and our way of life. This requires a clean and healthy environment.

We need:

Water: Safe drinking supply for future generation

Wildlife: No decline in or extinction of any stock, edible.

Vegetation: Ensure food supply for the wildlife and the people. Also there are many medical plants!

Land: No barriers to our travel or harvesting access.

Air: Clean and fresh

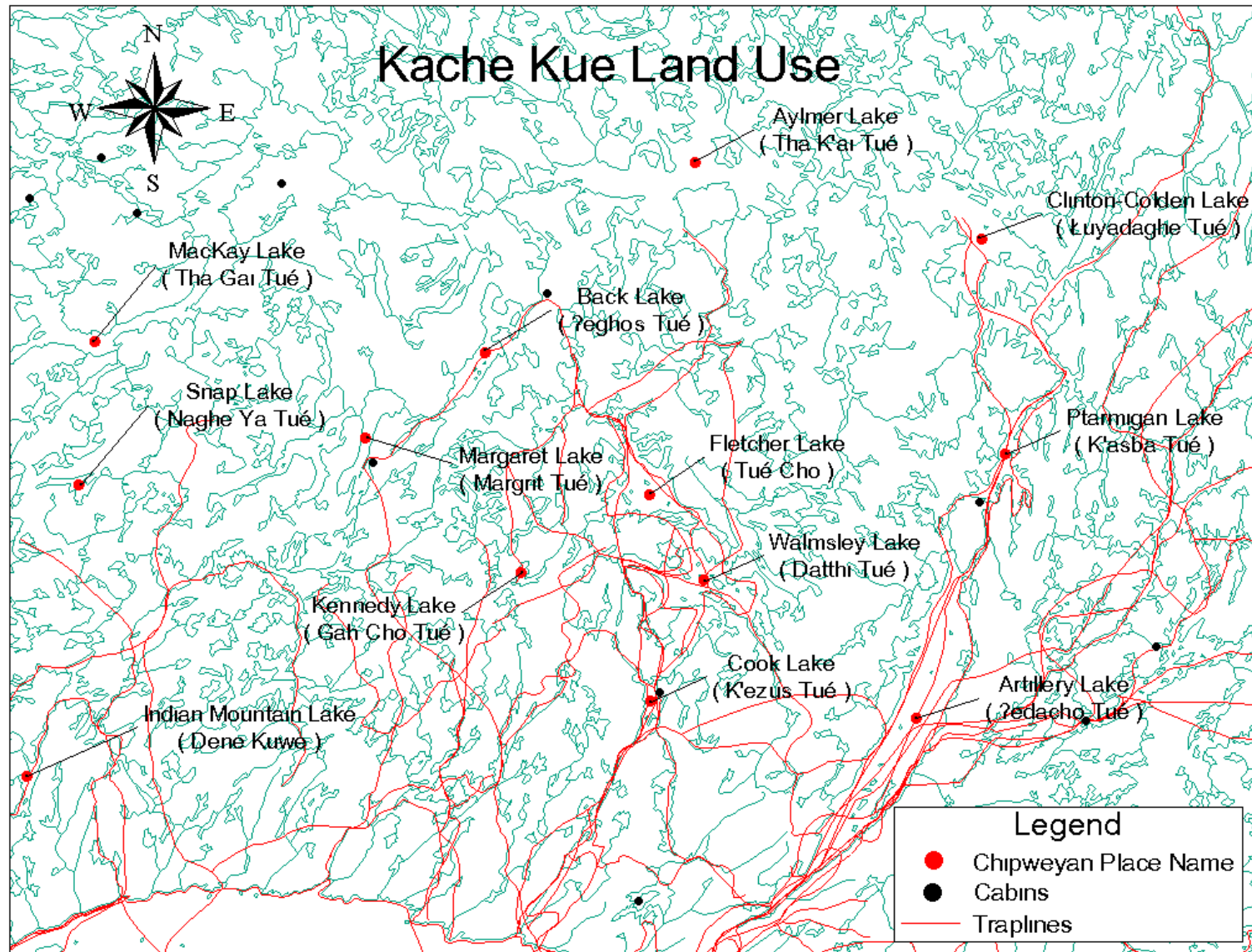
We want to guarantee these things for our children.

Consultation

- **We don't just want to be informed of industry reclamation plans. Rather, we want to inform them.**
- **This requires proactive consultation and a commitment to relationship building.**
- **We need clarity on the real risks of mining so that we can make informed contributions to reclamation design.**

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- Local land-use boards should develop and evaluate traditional knowledge input into reclamation plans. TK should be used in post-closure monitoring.
 - The knowledge of land-users, elders and scientists must be considered equally.
 - Local people need education on the science of reclamation. On the other side of the coin, mine managers and scientists need education in the ways of knowing and doing of aboriginal people.
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We can contribute our intimate knowledge of the environment to reclamation planning and monitoring.





MINE SITE REMEDIATION AND RECLAMATION

- Will this method be the best way revegetation what is already lost.
- Is there any other solution we can use TK with SK to help restore what is almost lost.

Ni hadi kue

Áútsyl K'e



*WILDLIFE LANDS
AND ENVIRONMENT*

Logo

Adult Questionnaire Results, Comparison of Four Cycles.

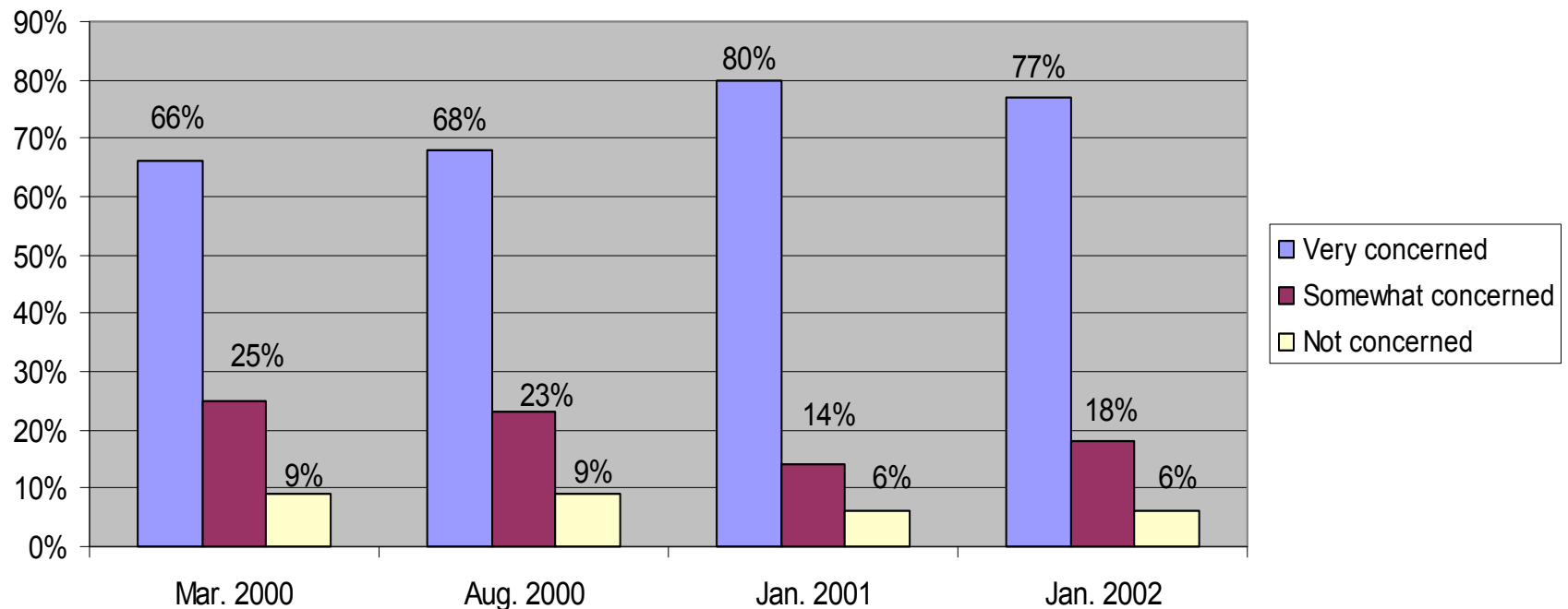
March 2000 Total Interviews 189

August 2000 Total Interviews 182

January 2001 Total Interviews 183

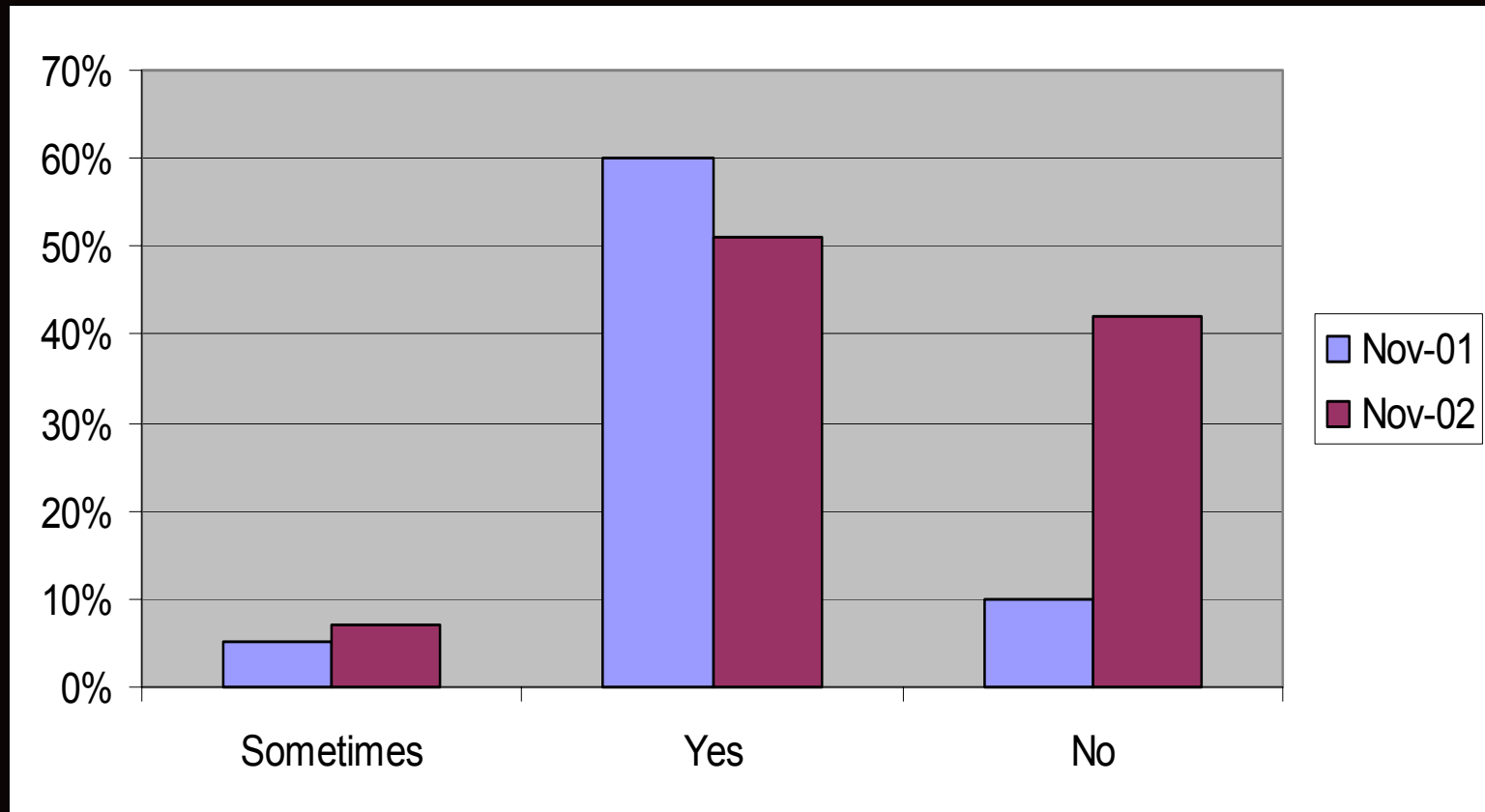
January 2002 Total Interviews 188

Are you concerned about the long term environmental impacts of mining in the area? : Comparison of Four Cycles.



Please Note: The first three cycles were gathered every six months and then on a yearly basis.

Do you think employment at the mines affects people's traditional way of life?



Quote of local people

“ No more development on our area, for our future generation. Our land is more important than money”

“The mines keeps our men away from us and we are the ones that have to raise our children alone without our partner. We are the ones that have to look for babysitters, the mines should build a day care, so both parents can work . Instead of having one spouse work in the family”

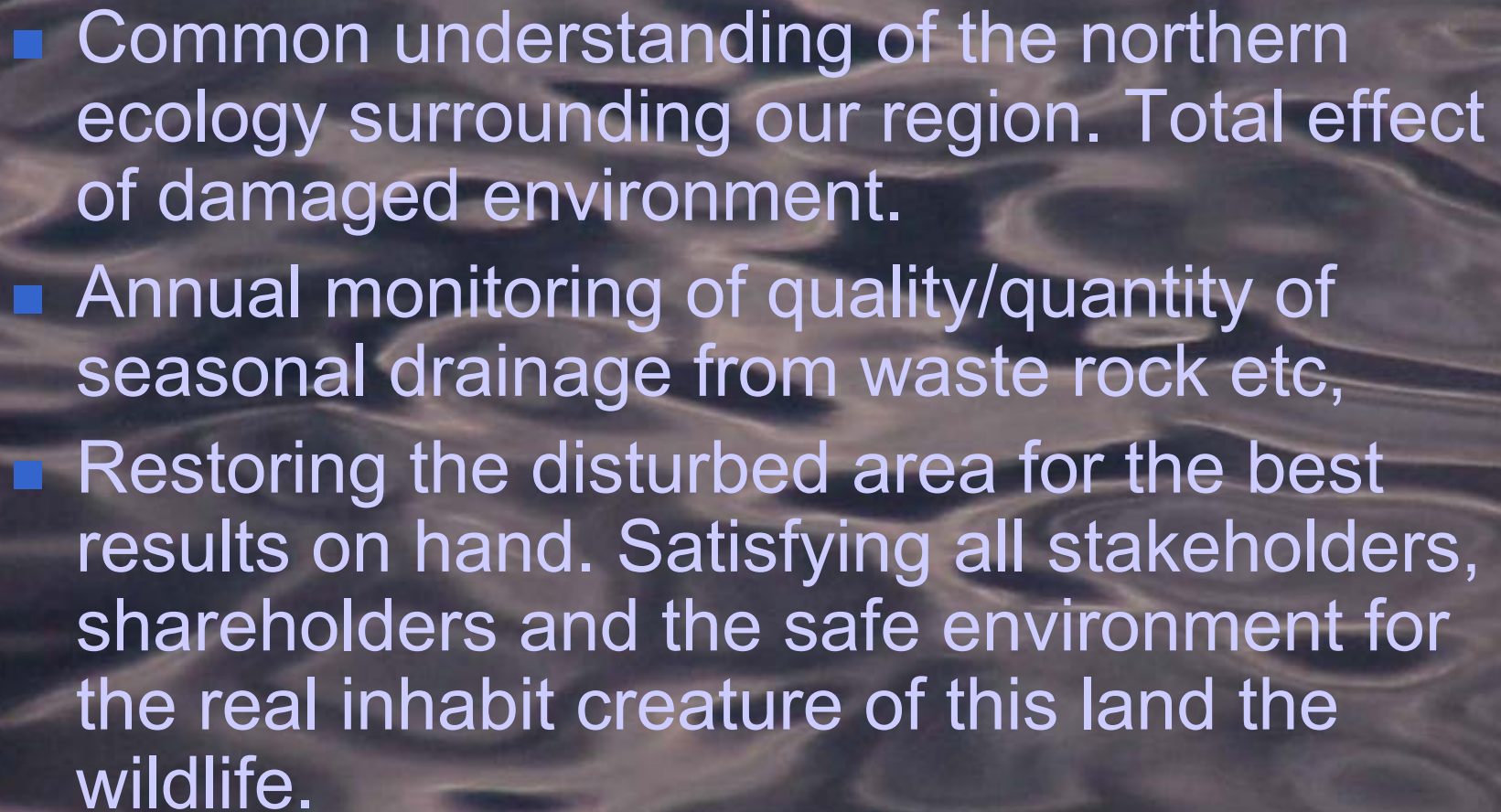
**Protection of
the Water
Quality.**

**Ensure the
protection of
fish habitat:
Zooplankton,
Phytoplankton
all other
creatures who
use the
healthy water
supply.**



Practical Realities of Implementing Reclamation

- Creating an Abandonment reclamation the best A& R plans best suites the first nation governments department and other agency and the industry
- Looking at the bigger picture, learn to improve adaptive run with the reality of our region and harsh climate

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- Common understanding of the northern ecology surrounding our region. Total effect of damaged environment.
 - Annual monitoring of quality/quantity of seasonal drainage from waste rock etc,
 - Restoring the disturbed area for the best results on hand. Satisfying all stakeholders, shareholders and the safe environment for the real inhabit creature of this land the wildlife.
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First Nation's Land V.S Industry V.S

The Canadian Government

INDUSTRIES
OIL
DIAMONDS
GOLD
Tourism

BARREN LANDS

**Survival of
natural state of
the earth**

GOVERNMENTS
N.W.T
FEDERAL
BRITISH CROWN

FIRST NATION'S
NATIVE LANGUAGE
ENVIRONMENT ELEMENTS
HISTORY
cultures

A scenic winter landscape. In the foreground, there are snow-covered evergreen trees, some with snow-laden branches. The middle ground shows a dense forest of tall, dark evergreen trees. In the background, a large, calm body of water stretches across the horizon, with snow-covered mountains visible in the distance under a clear blue sky.

Any Comments?

A view of our backyard at Lutsel K'e formerly known as Snowdrift.