

# NWT Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program

## SAHTÚ REGION 2017 SUMMARY



*To watch and understand the land so it can be used respectfully forever.*

### 2017 NWT CIMP-FUNDED PROJECTS IN THE SAHTÚ SETTLEMENT AREA

NWT CIMP projects in the Sahtú region address key regional cumulative impact questions of regulators, governments and communities.

Last year, NWT CIMP provided **\$438,000** to support **13 projects in the Sahtú region**, nine of which overlapped with other regions. Approximately **30% (\$139,600)** of the funding was distributed directly to regional, community and co-management organizations. This year, five projects will be supported directly in the region in addition to four multi-region projects.

### HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

#### Understanding changes in aquatic ecosystem health and water quality in the Fort Good Hope – Ramparts area

CIMP193 – NEW, YEAR 1 OF 3

##### LEAD

Kirsty Gurney, Environment and Climate Change Canada  
[kirsty.gurney@canada.ca](mailto:kirsty.gurney@canada.ca)

##### PURPOSE

To establish a community-based water quality monitoring program to evaluate the cumulative impacts of human activities and natural processes on wetlands near Fort Good Hope.

##### WHY?

To better understand the effect of environmental changes will improve water conservation and management decisions.

The Northwest Territories Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program (NWT CIMP) provides important environmental information about cumulative impacts and environmental trends to decision-makers and communities. Cumulative impact monitoring is a requirement of settled land claim agreements in the NWT, and the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.

Government of  
Northwest Territories



Sahtú regional environmental monitoring and decision-support tool set

CIMP178 – YEAR 2 OF 3

LEAD

Deborah Simmons, Sahtú Renewable Resources Board  
director@srrb.nt.ca

PURPOSE

To develop a collaborative regional environmental monitoring and decision-support tool.

WHY?

To promote increased knowledge of the relationships between environmental and traditional knowledge research and monitoring data. Results will help community and decision-makers better understand environmental trends and cumulative impacts.

Long-term monitoring of Great Bear Lake fisheries and the aquatic ecosystem

CIMP127 – YEAR 7 OF 9

LEAD

Kim Howland, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
kimberly.howland@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

PURPOSE

To build on recent baseline fisheries and ecosystem assessments of Great Bear Lake by combining continued community-based monitoring with analysis of existing datasets.

WHY?

To better understand the lake and how fish productivity is maintained. Large lake monitoring protocols and baseline data collected form an important basis for tracking and understanding the cumulative impacts of climate change, fishing and other anthropogenic (human-made) drivers on Great Bear Lake.

Establishing a watershed framework for assessing cumulative impacts of development

CIMP152 – YEAR 5 OF 5

LEAD

Krista Chin, GNWT – Environment and Natural Resources  
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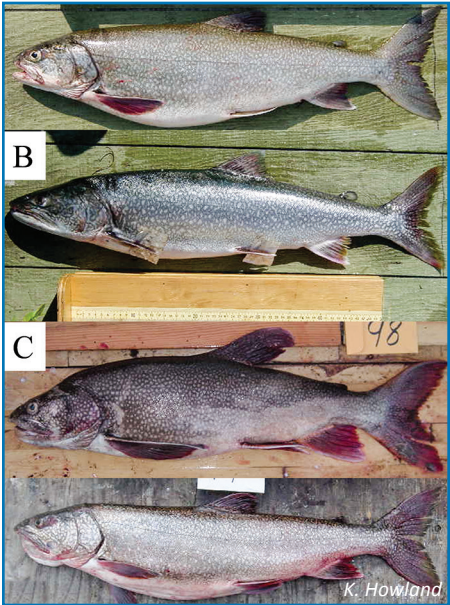
PURPOSE

To develop a framework for assessing the impacts of oil and gas development on watersheds, and the quality and health of streams and rivers in areas of potential development in the Sahtú region.

WHY?

To develop mapping products to allow communities and regulators to track and assess the level of disturbance in watersheds of key interest. It will also help to inventory existing data, identify data gaps and provide a framework for planning field-based monitoring activities to better understand cumulative impacts of development on stream health.

Cumulative impacts are changes in the environment caused by human activities and natural processes that accumulate over space and time. It is important to understand both the environmental impacts of individual developments and the cumulative impacts of many developments in a region.



Different lake trout morphs found in Great Bear Lake.



Local community monitors-in-training learning aquatic data collection methods.

CONTACT INFORMATION

NWT CIMP is guided by a Steering Committee of Aboriginal, territorial and federal government representatives.

SAHTÚ REGION REPRESENTATIVE

Cindy Kenny-Gilday (Sahtú Secretariat Incorporated)  
(867) 587-4433 or SSI\_Exec\_Director@gov.deline.ca

FOR MORE PROJECT RESULTS, VISIT

nwtcimp.ca or search for the CIMP project number at  
nwtdiscoveryportal.enr.gov.ca

FOR GENERAL PROGRAM INQUIRIES, CONTACT

(867) 767-9233 or nwtcimp@gov.nt.ca