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**Ivvavik National Park Management Plan
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IWAVIK



Canadian Heritage
Parcs Canada

Patrimonio Canadien
Parcs Canada

Iwavik National Park
Management Plan

This Management Plan for Ivvavik National Park reflects the partnership between Parks Canada and the Inuvialuit of the Western Arctic, a partnership in the protection of the wilderness character of the Yukon North Slope and the integrity of its ecosystems and cultural resources.

Ivvavik National Park protects an area of incredible beauty and diversity where the sub-Arctic and the Arctic meet. It is an important part of the range of the Porcupine caribou herd, protecting the Canadian portion of the herd's calving grounds. The park is also part of the homeland of the Inuvialuit people. The Vision Statement for Ivvavik, "the land will support the people who protect the land" expresses the idea that Ivvavik National Park protects the land, its wildlife and habitats, and that the land in turn will support the people: aboriginal people with their traditional lifestyles and harvests, and visitors with good camping areas, clean water, and enriching experiences.

This plan recognizes the significance of Ivvavik to the region, and stresses the importance of cooperation with other managers and the people of the Western Arctic. The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope), with Inuvialuit, Yukon Government and federal government members, is especially important in the coordination of conservation efforts for the North Slope of the Yukon.

I am most gratified for the role the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) plays in coordinating the cooperative management of wildlife and habitat, as spelled out in



Michel Dupuy, Minister of Canadian Heritage

the Inuvialuit Final Agreement and as lived from day to day in the region. The success of the Council will ensure the continuation of the spring calving of the Porcupine caribou herd, of the Inuvialuit use of the land and its resources, of important evidence of the people who lived in the area thousands of years ago, whose descendants live in the region today.

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) has recommended the plan to me. On that recommendation, I am pleased to approve the Management Plan for Ivvavik National Park.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Michel Dupuy". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Michel Dupuy
Minister of Canadian Heritage

Dear Minister:

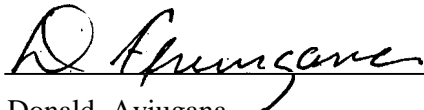
The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) is pleased to recommend the Ivvavik National Park Management Plan to you for your acceptance.

Ivvavik National Park was the first national park in Canada established pursuant to a comprehensive land claim agreement - the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. This unique origin is reflected in the cooperative management regime established for the Park in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement and fully developed in the Management Plan.

The Plan establishes a strong relationship between the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, the National Parks Act and the Management Plan objective that derive from each. These have resulted in a Plan that gives full and explicit recognition to the rights of the Inuvialuit in the use and management of the Park's resources on which they have traditionally depended. It also recognizes the interest of all Canadians in conserving an area of outstanding national and international significance.

Cooperative management arrangements with other government agencies, Inuvialuit organizations and wildlife co-management bodies are important elements of the Plan. Parks officials have demonstrated their commitment to these arrangements throughout the planning process. This same cooperation will be vital to the conservation of migratory wildlife populations, the protection of critical habitat and the conservation of ecosystems extending beyond the Park.

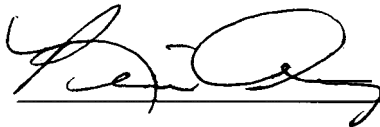
This Plan represents another important step in establishing a comprehensive conservation regime for the entire North Slope and we are pleased to endorse it.



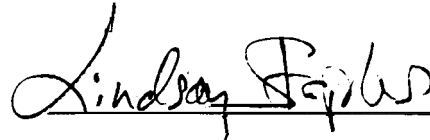
Donald Aviugana
Inuvialuit Game Council



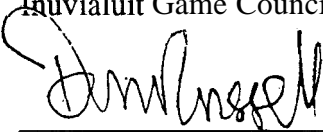
Brian Pelchat
Yukon Renewable Resources



Renie Arey
Inuvialuit Game Council



Lindsay Staples
Chair,
Wildlife Management Advisory Council
(North Slope)



Don Russell
Environment Canada

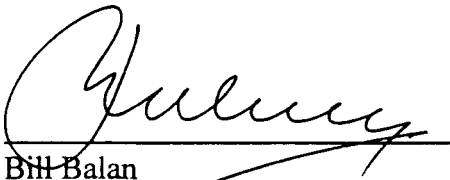
Ivvavik National Park

Management Plan

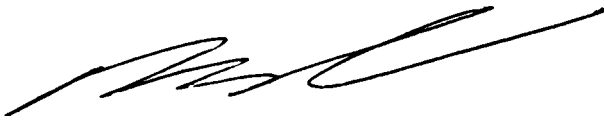
Recommended:



Tom Lee
Assistant Deputy Minister
Parks Canada



Bill Balan
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Prairie and Northwest Territories Region



Peter Lamb
Superintendent
Western Arctic District

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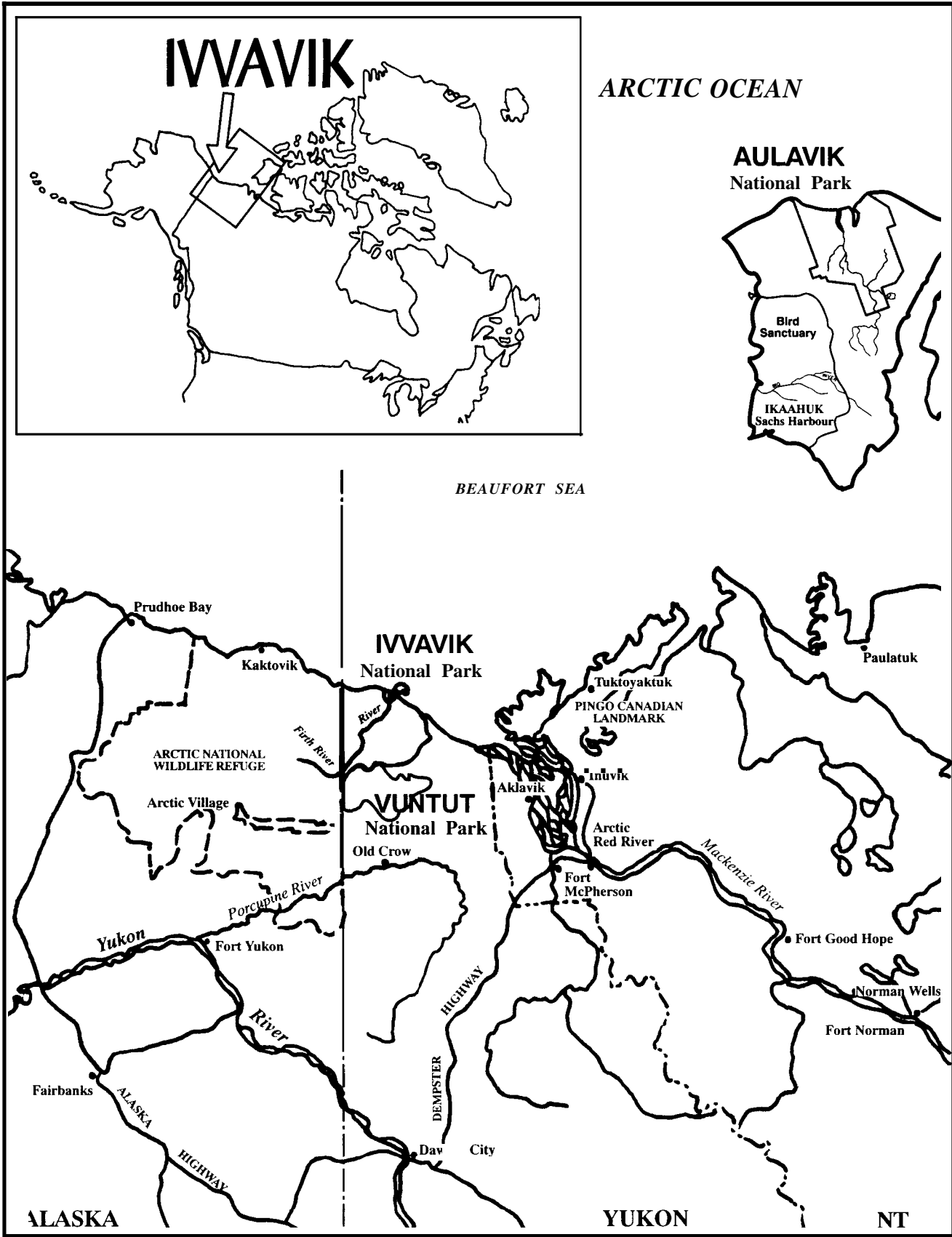
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REGIONAL SETTING



1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ivvavik National Park was created as a consequence of the settlement of the Western Arctic land claim. This settlement, detailed in the 1984 Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), set in place a cooperative conservation regime for the entire north slope of the Yukon. Established by the IFA using the National Parks Act, Ivvavik is the major protected area component of this larger conservation regime, protecting an area of national and international importance.

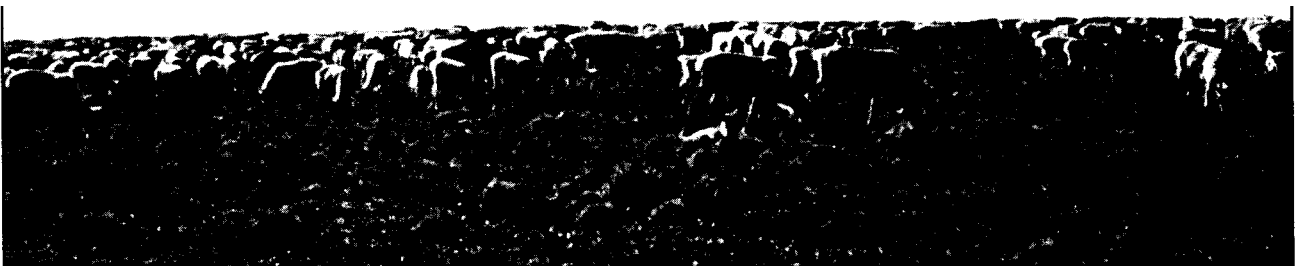
Ivvavik is managed under the two pieces of legislation, the *National Parks Act* and the IFA, which differ in their emphasis, but are compatible. The *National Parks Act* dedicates national parks "to the people of Canada for their benefit, education and enjoyment" and goes on to state that "the National Parks shall be maintained and made use of so as to leave them unimpaired for future generations." (NPA Section 4) The IFA establishes that the dominant purpose for management of the Yukon North Slope is "the conservation of wildlife, habitat and traditional native use" (IFA Section 12(2)). Ivvavik's specific objective under the IFA is the protection of "**the wilderness characteristics of the area, maintaining its present undeveloped state to the greatest extent possible . . .**" and the protection and management of "**wildlife populations and wildlife habitat within the area**" (IFA, Section 12(6)).

The IFA also created the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) (WMAC(NS)) with equal numbers of Inuvialuit and government members to coordinate cooperative management of the north slope region, including Ivvavik. Hence, Ivvavik is the first national park to be established within a cooperative management regime for a larger regional ecosystem.

The WMAC(NS) advises on the management of the national park and is held responsible by the IFA for recommending the park management plan to the Minister responsible for national parks. This plan is the result of a cooperative effort between Parks Canada, the Inuvialuit, the Yukon Government, other agencies and the public in the spirit of the IFA. A shared vision for Ivvavik guided this cooperative national park planning effort:

*"THE LAND WILL SUPPORT THE
PEOPLE WHO PROTECT THE LAND"*

Ivvavik means "a place for giving birth, a nursery," in recognition of the park's role as the calving ground for the Porcupine caribou herd, for thousands of years the traditional subsistence base for the Inuvialuit and other peoples of the North Slope region. The vision statement embodies the idea that Ivvavik National Park protects the land, its wildlife and habitats, and that the land in turn will support the people: aboriginal people with their traditional lifestyles and harvests, and visitors



with good camping areas, clean water, and enriching experiences. The name and vision also implicitly recognize what the IFA guarantees: that the Inuvialuit have the exclusive right to harvest game within the national park.

The management plan entails the specific application of the IFA, the *National Parks Act*, and Parks Canada policy to the management of Ivvavik National Park. The management plan details an ecosystem-based regime to manage and protect both the ecological and cultural resources of Ivvavik. Since the IFA details the collaborative nature of management on the North Slope, this plan emphasizes regional cooperation, the use of traditional knowledge and the development of information management within a regional ecosystem.

Parks Canada will develop an Ecosystem Conservation Plan for Ivvavik to further detail the integration of research, monitoring and protection in the regional ecosystem. This plan will set priorities for protection, research, monitoring and management.

The management plan details a predominantly wilderness zoning strategy with select access areas. Protection is emphasized commensurate with the fragile nature of this Arctic landscape. Ecological management is given attention with the designation of an Ecologically Sensitive Area to recognize and protect one of the world's great wildlife spectacles, the migration and calving of the Porcupine caribou herd. A Culturally Sensitive Area designation provides specific management attention to the Trout Lake archaeological sites. Further protection of the eastern Babbage River basin is proposed, to preserve the ecological integrity and improve representation of the natural region.



Firth River

The focus of cultural resource management in Ivvavik is Inuvialuit history, culture and involvement. The plan details an archaeological resources strategy for the park through research and protection. The plan also recognizes that Inuvialuit culture is vibrant and active on the land today. Understanding and integrating this living culture is a key component of the park's strategy toward cultural resources and park management in general.

Historic resources at the Bar-1 DEW Line Station at Komakuk Beach will receive special attention through off-site interpretation. The plan details the incorporation of this former DEW Line site into Ivvavik upon decommissioning by the Department of National Defense. A Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office assessment will be sought for the structures at the Hudson's Bay Company Trading Post at Clarence Lagoon.

Visitors come to Ivvavik to raft, kayak, hike and to seek an Arctic wilderness experience. Given the wilderness purpose and nature of the park, visitors are expected to be self-reliant and self-sufficient. There are no visitor facilities in Ivvavik and the development of commercial facilities is specifically excluded by the plan. Air access is provided for at a number of areas (Margaret Lake, Sheep Creek, Nunaluk Spit and Stokes Point) to

facilitate compatible wilderness recreation. The park's information and marketing strategies will emphasize the park characteristics and commensurate need for visitor preparedness.

The Firth River, an area of significant natural and cultural features, is the major visitor use corridor within Ivvavik. To manage this use for high quality wilderness recreation and for protection of the natural and cultural environment, a comprehensive planning program will be carried out specifically for the river corridor.

While visitor use is presently low, the potential visitation is larger than the park could realistically sustain. The plan recognizes this potential and directs future strategies toward the development of capacity limit studies, outlining the relationships Parks Canada will foster to ensure effective regional coordination in natural and cultural environmental management.

Full implementation of this plan is contingent on the availability of financial resources and the co-operation of many co-management partners. Many of the plan provisions require partnerships, especially with Inuvialuit individuals and organizations. Through the IFA, the Inuvialuit have preserved for all people a truly exceptional part of Canada. The provisions of this management plan reflect their wishes and rights.

2 PARK DESCRIPTION

Ivvavik National Park was established in 1984 through the settlement of the Inuvialuit land claim. The "Inuvialuit Final Agreement" (IFA) is legislated through the Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Claim Settlement Act. Therefore, Ivvavik National Park was established under and is directed by two pieces of legislation: the Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Claim Settlement Act and the *National Parks Act*. The park protects the western portion of the Yukon North Slope, a wilderness area of Canadian and international significance in the Northern Yukon and Mackenzie Delta Natural Regions.

2.1 Park Establishment History

During the 1970s the northern Yukon area received nation-wide attention during the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry, led by Justice Thomas Berger. The inquiry recognized the importance of the Porcupine Caribou herd and called for the protection of the herd's range. An "International Wildlife Range" was proposed to protect the herd in Alaska and Canada.

For the Canadian side of the border, Justice Berger proposed a "northern Yukon Wilderness Park" in 1977. Parks Canada had earlier identified part of the northern Yukon Territory as a Natural Area of Canadian Significance. In 1978, the minister responsible for national parks proposed a "national wilderness park" of 20,910 square kilometres. The proposed "national wilderness park" would receive the highest level of environmental protection and would allow traditional aboriginal uses such as hunting, fishing and trapping. Land was withdrawn from development, but it was necessary to settle aboriginal

land claims in the region before the park could be established.

Negotiations over the Western Arctic Claim were resolved through the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) that also established Ivvavik National Park (originally called Northern Yukon National Park). Ivvavik covers 10,170 square kilometres in the northern part of the area proposed in 1978. The southern part of that proposed park falls within the traditional area of the Vuntut Gwich'in of Old Crow, Yukon. The creation of a separate park is being pursued through the settlement of the comprehensive claim of the Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation.

The IFA defines the boundaries of Ivvavik National Park and sets out conditions for planning and management. The IFA states that "the planning for the National Park and the management thereof shall have as their objects to protect the wilderness characteristics of the area, maintaining its present undeveloped state to the greatest extent possible, and to protect and manage the wildlife populations and the wildlife habitat within the area" (IFA, Section 12(6)).

An important area of the IFA relates to the establishment of the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) (WMAC(NS)) (Sections 12(46) to 12(56)), made up of representatives of the Inuvialuit, the Yukon government and the federal government. This council advises the minister responsible for national parks on aspects of park planning and management and recommends the park management plan to the minister. The council also advises both the federal and Yukon governments on wildlife and habitat management on the Yukon North Slope.

2.2 Regional Setting

Ivvavik National Park lies on the north slope of the Yukon Territory. It is bordered by the Beaufort Sea on the north, Alaska on the west, the height of land to the south, and the east shore of the Babbage River on the east. The closest communities are Aklavik, NWT (population 900), Old Crow, Yukon (population 232), and Kaktovik, Alaska (population 224). Inuvik, NWT (population 3250) is the regional centre through which most visitors pass on their way to Ivvavik.

Ivvavik is surrounded by lands managed predominantly for conservation. On the Yukon North Slope to the east, the IFA provides for special land use and conservation measures. To the west lies the vast Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. Herschel Island Territorial Park lies off-shore to the north. Adjoining Ivvavik on the south are the lands proposed for the establishment of a national park through the Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation Final Agreement (Figure 1).

2.3 Landforms

The British Mountains dominate the North Slope with elevations of up to 1650 metres in the park. The Babbage, Firth and Malcolm Rivers carve their way through the mountains and across the coastal plain to the Beaufort Sea. The Beaufort coastal plain extends from the Buckland Hills and the British Mountains to the sea.

Glaciers covered a small portion of the coastal plain during the last ice age. The rest of the park escaped glaciation. There are no cirques, U-shaped valleys or upland moraine deposits typical of glaciated landscapes. Instead, the British Mountains were shaped by uninterrupted river and stream erosion. The park exhibits V-shaped valleys, isolated conical hills and gently sloping surfaces thinly cov-

ered with layers of sediment. The area was part of the "Beringia Refugium," an unglaciated area extending between North America and Siberia.

2.4 Ecosystems

Overview

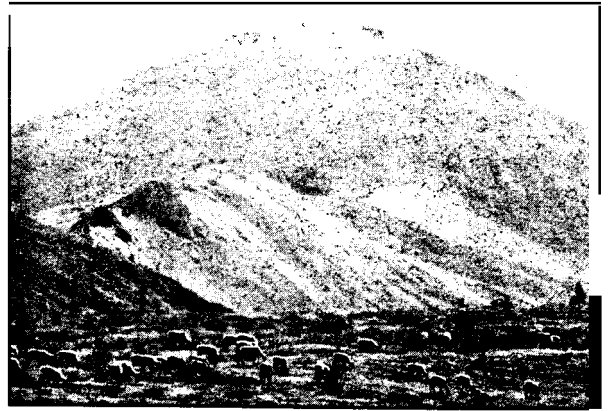
Ivvavik National Park is an Arctic area of exceptional ecological diversity and integrity, predominantly treeless Arctic tundra, with alpine tundra at higher elevations. The southern part is taiga, the transition between boreal forest and tundra. Besides the terrestrial biomes, Ivvavik has freshwater lakes and rivers, brackish lagoons and a small marine component.

The diversity of species reflects the diversity of habitats and the area's history as a refuge from the glaciers. Some of Ivvavik's plants and animals are unique to this region.

Human Impacts

Regional ecosystems were affected by human activities prior to park establishment. Before the turn of the century, bowhead whales were commercially hunted and other wildlife was hunted to supply the whalers. A subspecies of muskox was extirpated from Alaska and Yukon. There was gold mining on the Firth River, construction at the Stokes Point and Bar-1 DEW Line sites, and a community on Herschel Island.

Present activities outside the park also affect regional ecosystems. Migratory birds are suffering from habitat loss, pesticides and hunting along their migration routes. Exploration for oil and gas continues in the region, although at a much slower pace than in the 1970s. Offshore hydrocarbon development and transportation may threaten marine and coastal environments, while oil development proposals on the calving grounds of the



Part of the Porcupine caribou herd

Porcupine caribou herd in Alaska have generated international concern. Other concerns that could affect Ivvavik include global climate change, long distance transport of pollutants, and a thinning northern ozone layer.

In spite of these concerns, the terrestrial, marine, freshwater and brackish water ecosystems of Ivvavik National Park remain healthy. The park displays a high degree of ecological integrity, that is, the ecosystem is functioning in a natural way, with little human impact on the animal and plant communities, their habitats and inter-relationships.

Vegetation

There are three major vegetation types in Ivvavik: Arctic tundra, alpine tundra and taiga. The Arctic tundra supports sedges and low-growing shrubs such as willow, dwarf birch, Labrador Tea, cranberry and cloudberry. The alpine tundra has scattered patches of mountain avens, saxifrage, alpine bearberry, and lichens. In the taiga there are open stands of stunted white spruce and balsam poplar, some of the most northern trees in Canada. Permafrost phenomena such as tussock and trailing heath tundra, patterned ground, ground ice and beaded drainage are well represented.

Wildlife

The annual migrations of the over 160,000 strong Porcupine caribou herd take them into and through the park to calving and post calving areas on the coastal plain. The tundra of the coastal plain provides rich forage and the breezes of the coast give caribou relief from insects.

The park area supports healthy populations of grizzly bears, Dan's sheep, and Arctic foxes. Muskoxen from Alaska's north coast are expanding their range into the park. Golden eagles, gyrfalcons, peregrine falcons, and rough-legged hawks are seasonal residents. The coastal plain provides critical habitat for nesting, staging, and moulting waterfowl such as snow geese and tundra swans, and many species of ducks.

The park has important fish habitat in salt, brackish and fresh water. The Babbage, Malcolm and Firth Rivers are prime wintering, spawning, and feeding areas for Dolly Varden charr and Arctic grayling. The narrow coastal strip of the Beaufort Sea is important to Arctic and least cisco. The many lakes and ponds of the coastal plain also support populations of pond smelt, broad whitefish, and lake trout.

2.5 Cultural History

The most important elements of Ivvavik's cultural history are related to precontact and historic aboriginal use. Archaeological sites in the park represent most of the known Canadian examples of Western Arctic cultural history. Sites at Engigstciak, on the coastal plain near the Firth River, show 5,000 years of occupation by nine different cultures including all Western Arctic Inuit cultures. Historic Inuvialuit driftwood homes are found only

along the Arctic coast west of the Mackenzie Delta at sites such as Clarence Lagoon and Nunaluk Spit. Many of these historic sites are traditional camping areas that Inuvialuit continue to use today for the purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping, whaling, etc.

The Vuntut Gwich'in of Old Crow, Yukon, traditionally lived in the area to the south of Ivvavik. They came to Ivvavik to fish in areas known as the fish holes and travelled through the park to trade at Herschel Island.

Other historic resources include a trading post at Clarence Lagoon, the first Distant Early Warning Line (DEW Line) structures near Komakuk Beach, and evidence of mining and prospecting along the Firth River.

2.6 Park Use

Inuvialuit of the Mackenzie Delta hunt, fish and camp along the Yukon's north slope. This use is focused on the coastal areas of the park. They also travel along Ivvavik's coast to visit friends and relatives in Alaska.

Wilderness seekers come to the park to enjoy the rugged terrain, raft the rivers or hike the land. The Firth River is an internationally recognized rafting experience and visitor use is focused along this corridor. Researchers in the natural and cultural sciences work on many park-related projects.

3 PARK VISION AND MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

3.1 Vision Statement

The land will support the people who protect the land

This vision statement illustrates that Ivvavik National Park protects the land, its wildlife and habitats. The land in turn will support the people, traditional users and visitors, by supplying good camping areas, clean water, traditional harvests and enriching experiences.

3.2 Park Establishment Objectives

1. "...to protect the wilderness characteristics of the area, maintaining its present undeveloped state to the greatest extent possible, and to protect and manage the wildlife populations and wildlife habitat with the area" (IFA, Section 12(6)).
2. To protect the ecological integrity representative of the Northern Yukon and Mackenzie Delta Natural Regions.

3.3 Management Objectives

1. To protect the integrity of ecosystems and cultural resources based on an understanding of the cultural and natural evolution of the park area.
2. To develop an understanding of the ecosystems within the park and its natural region and to monitor their integrity.
3. To cooperate with others and participate in a regionally integrated environmental management framework.
4. To facilitate the relationship between Inuvialuit and the land.
5. To promote and conduct research that supports the reasons for establishment and primary management objectives.
6. To encourage appreciation, understanding, and enjoyment of park values through presentation and interpretation of natural and cultural systems, landscape and resources, and provision of extension programs, living culture and environmental messages.
7. To facilitate appropriate visitor activities in the park.
8. To hire and train Inuvialuit beneficiaries so that the predominant number of persons employed in the operation and management of the park will be Inuvialuit.

4 PARK CONSERVATION

4.1 General

Conservation within Ivvavik National Park plays a part in maintaining the integrity of regional ecosystems and protecting the region's cultural heritage. The IFA states that the "Yukon North Slope shall fall under a special conservation regime whose dominant purpose is the conservation of wildlife, habitat and traditional native use" (Section 12(2)). As a partner in this special conservation regime, Parks Canada will work with other conservation agencies and people in the region to protect ecosystems and cultural resources. Parks Canada will demonstrate leadership by example and through collaboration in conservation in the Western Arctic.

In Ivvavik National Park, the natural and cultural environments are closely tied. For example, oral histories gathered from Inuvialuit provide information on the park's natural environment and the human history of the area. Similarly, archaeology will provide insight into both the cultural and natural environments.

4.1.1 Regional Cooperation

In the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, and on the Yukon North Slope in particular, cooperation is essential for effective environmental management. Section 14(2) of the IFA states that "in order to achieve effective protection of the ecosystems in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, there should be an integrated wildlife and land management regime, to be attained through various means, including the coordination of legislative authorities."

The IFA sets out the mechanisms for cooperative management. The Wildlife Management

Advisory Council (North Slope) (WMAC(NS)) coordinates the cooperative management of the north slope. There are several conservation agencies and organizations in the region with which Parks Canada must work. The major groups are summarized in section of this plan.

- Parks Canada will work with other organizations that gather environmental information to further the understanding of regional ecosystems and environmental management.
- Parks Canada will work with Inuvialuit organizations, the Yukon Government, cooperative agencies and other managers to protect regional ecosystems and cultural heritage and achieve other park objectives.

4.1.2 Inuvialuit Use

Inuvialuit have lived along the Yukon North Slope and the area of Ivvavik National Park for generations. Parks Canada supports the continuing traditional use of the North Slope and recognizes Inuvialuit rights to harvest game within the national park. Inuvialuit traditional use in the park will not be affected by the zoning system described in chapter 6. The following provisions of the IFA pertain to Inuvialuit traditional use of the park:

- Inuvialuit have the exclusive right to harvest game within Ivvavik National Park, subject to the laws of general application respecting public safety and conservation (IFA, Section 12(24)). This right includes the right to use present and traditional methods of harvesting and the right to possess and use all equipment reasonably needed to exercise that right (IFA, Section 12(36)).

- Inuvialuit have the right to use existing hunting, fishing and trapping facilities associated with their game harvesting activities, and to establish new facilities, after consultation with Parks Canada. The location of new facilities shall be determined on the basis of the management objectives for the park (IFA, Section 12(38)).

4.1.3 Traditional Knowledge

Local people, especially elders, know a great deal about the region, its history, the land, environmental conditions, wildlife and habitats. Their information will be indispensable in understanding regional ecosystems and cultural histories. Both Inuvialuit and Gwich'in have useful information about the natural and cultural environment of the park.

The IFA formally recognizes traditional knowledge in section 14(5): "The relevant knowledge and experience of both the Inuvialuit and the scientific communities should be employed in order to achieve conservation."

- Parks Canada will use traditional knowledge, including traditional ecological knowledge, in park conservation, management and interpretation.

4.1.4 Ecosystem Conservation Plan

An Ecosystem Conservation Plan is the major natural and cultural resource management planning document for a park. A dynamic document, an Ecosystem Conservation Plan develops and identifies specific goals for the maintenance of park ecological integrity and management of the park's ecosystems and cultural resources. The goals are based upon the objectives identified in the Park Management Plan and other planning processes.



The Firth River in winter

Because the ecosystems of Ivvavik are part of larger regional ecosystems, conservation of the park must use an approach that considers the surrounding region and involves other managers. Parks Canada must apply a structured approach to dealing with park and regional ecosystem threats.

In consultation with other managers in the region, Parks Canada will survey and assess present and future threats to ecosystems, cultural resources, and public safety. This will include understanding and assessing the dangers of oil spills, poaching, illegal aircraft landings and illegal park use, wildlife harassment, pollution, threats to archaeological sites, and the effects of visitors on cultural resources and ecosystems. Strategies to reduce or overcome these threats will then be developed. The Ecosystem Conservation Plan for the park will set priorities for protection, research, monitoring and management.

- Parks Canada will prepare an Ecosystem Conservation Plan that uses a regional ecosystem approach.

- Parks Canada will establish monitoring, research and management programs to determine acceptable limits of environmental change.

4.1.5 Information Management

Information about ecosystems, cultural resources, and management activities is necessary for effective park management. New types of information, technologies, and management challenges are demanding new ways of managing information. Ecosystem oriented information, oral histories, and traditional ecological knowledge are some of the new types of information to be handled. New technologies, including automated information management, communication technologies, computer databases and geographical information systems are useful tools for information management. Management is challenged with the needs of cooperative and integrated management regimes, and with the need for reliable, current information in support of decision making.

- Parks Canada will establish a database system based on a geographical information system. The database system will inventory and map the natural and cultural environments of the park, including biotic and abiotic components, and human activities past and present.
- Parks Canada will develop methods to ensure that information from the park database is available for use by other agencies.



Dal/s Sheep

4.2 Natural Environment

In keeping with the park's objectives, management of the natural environment will be based on maintaining regional ecological integrity and cooperative environmental management with partners in the Yukon and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

4.2.1 Park Ecological Integrity

The ultimate result of any program in Ivvavik is to help maintain the integrity of the region's ecosystems. Parks Canada will strive to understand, monitor, and maintain ecological integrity within the park and the region. This entails the investigation and monitoring of processes, indicator species, and other environmental parameters within terrestrial, aquatic, estuarine and marine ecosystems. Ivvavik National Park, as an undisturbed area, will serve as an indicator of regional and global ecosystem health.

- Parks Canada will work towards a greater understanding of ecosystem structure and function to provide the foundation for monitoring and protection programs in the park and region.

4.2.2 Research and Monitoring

The park management objectives express the importance of research and monitoring in the maintenance of ecological integrity. Ivvavik

represents two natural regions of Canada and provides an example of ecosystem integrity within those regions. Ecosystem goals will be adaptive and will be established at local and regional scales.

- Parks Canada will identify and monitor the species and processes judged to be indicative of ecosystem health.
- Parks Canada will cooperate with research partners to ensure regionally integrated and coordinated research and management.
- Parks Canada will ensure that research activities have negligible environmental impact and are subjected to environmental assessment.
- Parks Canada will give priority to research that is supported by neighboring communities and is integrated regionally.
- Parks Canada will collect and use traditional (Inuvialuit) ecological knowledge.
- Parks Canada will seek ways to prevent conflicts between visitors and wildlife (especially sensitive wildlife such as nesting falcons and potential safety hazards such as bears).
- Parks Canada will monitor environmental impacts in high-use areas, especially the Firth River Corridor.
- Parks Canada will continue to monitor the condition of vegetation in high-use areas, such as camp sites and trails. Information from this monitoring will help to direct management practices to avoid or eliminate environmental impacts.

- Parks Canada will collect data for national State of the Parks reporting.
- Other ecosystem research and monitoring, appropriate to the park's objectives, will be undertaken as priorities, financial resources and public safety issues demand.

4.2.3 Babbage River Basin Protection

The present eastern border of Ivvavik follows the east bank of the **Babbage** River. The eastern part of the **Babbage** drainage basin lies outside the national park. However, it is important to the region's ecological integrity and the entire basin deserves protection. The **Babbage** basin on both sides of the river is important to bull and non-breeding caribou in the spring. Dolly Varden charr spawn in the eastern tributaries of the **Babbage** River. The river delta is important to waterfowl. One way to improve the protection of the area is to consider and to establish where warranted additional cooperative management arrangements.

- For purposes of managing for ecological integrity, and improved protection of the entire **Babbage** basin, Parks Canada will work through the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) and directly with the Inuvialuit Game Council, the Fisheries Joint Management Committee, the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee and the Yukon Government to establish additional cooperative management arrangements as required for the area.
- Parks Canada will work with other regional planning processes such as the conservation planning process for the North Slope or the northern land use planning program to identify additional management actions for the **Babbage** basin.

4.2.4 Waste Management

With increasing use of the park, larger amounts of human waste and garbage will need to be managed. Visitor activities concentrated along the Firth River have the potential to threaten water quality, damage aquatic ecosystems, attract bears and degrade visitor experience. Parks Canada will work to ensure that wastes are collected and disposed of in a manner that is the least damaging to the park and the region.

- Parks Canada will develop and implement a waste management strategy.

4.2.5 Environmental Emergency Readiness

The oil and gas industry continues to explore for hydrocarbon reserves in the Beaufort Sea. This creates the potential for an oil spill off the coast of Ivvavik National Park. To prepare for such an event, and to play a part in its prevention, Parks Canada will establish links with environmental emergency organizations. Ecological integrity monitoring will include efforts to detect oil and gas contamination.

- Parks Canada will monitor the coastline, sensitive species and developments to detect potential environmental impacts.
- Parks Canada will participate in regional environmental emergency preparedness.

4.2.6 Firth River Corridor Plan

The Firth River corridor, from the Margaret Lake area to the coast, is the major visitor use area in Ivvavik. Recreational use of the river must be carried out in ways that will not harm the natural and cultural environments nor impair the wilderness experience of park visitors. In managing use to achieve these goals

Parks Canada will develop an environmental monitoring and visitor management plan for the Firth River corridor. This plan will involve other managers and stakeholders in its preparation.

- Parks Canada will prepare a Firth River Corridor Plan in consultation with key stakeholders.
- Specific ecosystem, cultural resource and visitor experience goals will be set, which Parks Canada will use to evaluate impacts and determine management actions.
- Parks Canada will develop a comprehensive understanding of key natural and cultural components of the Firth River corridor, including sensitive areas, features and processes. From this, Parks Canada will select key indicators of ecological health.
- † Parks Canada will set limits on acceptable levels of ecological and visitor experience change.
- Parks Canada will establish and implement a monitoring program and a reporting mechanism.
- The Firth River Corridor Plan will set guidelines for visitor use such as party size, scheduling, and no-trace backcountry travel.
- The Firth River Corridor Plan will be implemented, reviewed annually and revised when necessary.

4.3 Cultural Environment

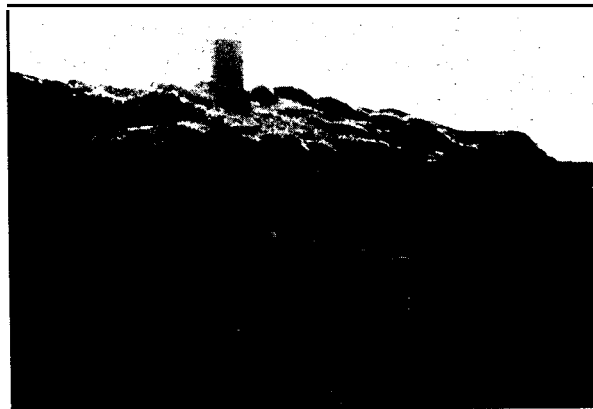
The park lies in an area of cultural value and is important to Inuvialuit and Gwich'in.

- Parks Canada will facilitate cultural research, protect cultural resources, use cultural information in park management and interpretation, and support cultural activities.
- In managing cultural resources Parks Canada will follow principles of value, public benefit, understanding, respect and integrity as expressed in Parks Canada Cultural Resource Management Policy.

4.3.1 Inuvialuit History, Culture and Involvement

The cultural environment of Ivvavik National Park encompasses a range of cultural resources, cultural activities, and ongoing Inuvialuit use of the land. Within the cultural environment are archaeological and historical sites, Inuvialuit knowledge of the land and its history, and the continuing ties between Inuvialuit and the North Slope. Inuvialuit oral histories and traditional knowledge are an important cultural component of the park, and will help to guide park management. By its actions, Parks Canada will promote respect for Inuvialuit culture, language and traditions, both past and present.

- Parks Canada recognizes the importance, of Inuvialuit culture and its historic resources to the fabric of Ivvavik.
- Parks Canada will work with Inuvialuit and use Inuvialuit traditional knowledge in cultural resource management.



Inuvialuit House

- Parks Canada will work with Inuvialuit communities, elders and organizations to ensure Inuvialuit participation in cultural resource management, the use of Inuvialuktun (the Inuvialuit language) and cultural information in park management and interpretative messages.
- Sensitive areas, such as grave sites, will be respected. Any issue related to such areas will be discussed with the appropriate Inuvialuit groups.

4.3.2 Themes

The historical themes for the park are Western Arctic cultures and Inuvialuit land use. Sub-themes include Inuvialuit history, including whaling, hunting, fishing, trapping, travel and trading; Vuntut Gwich'in activities including travel and trading; and Euro-Canadian activities including mining, military activity, and trading.

- Parks Canada will use Ivvavik's themes to communicate broader cultural and environmental messages in the Western Arctic region and to all Canadians.

4.3.3 Research and Monitoring

The park management objectives express the importance of research and monitoring in the maintenance of the integrity of cultural resources. Managing the park requires an understanding of the cultural evolution of the park area.

- Parks Canada will conduct cultural research in support of cultural themes and park objectives.
- Parks Canada will monitor the condition of cultural resources, especially within Zone I, Special Preservation areas. The cultural resources along the Firth River will be considered in the Firth River Corridor Plan described in .
- Parks Canada will cooperate with other researchers and agencies in cultural research.
- Parks Canada will give priority to research that is supported by neighboring communities and is integrated regionally.
- Parks Canada will support community-based cultural research, including oral histories and traditional knowledge research.
- Parks Canada will cooperate with community cultural agencies in the interpretation and presentation of findings to visitors, residents and the public.

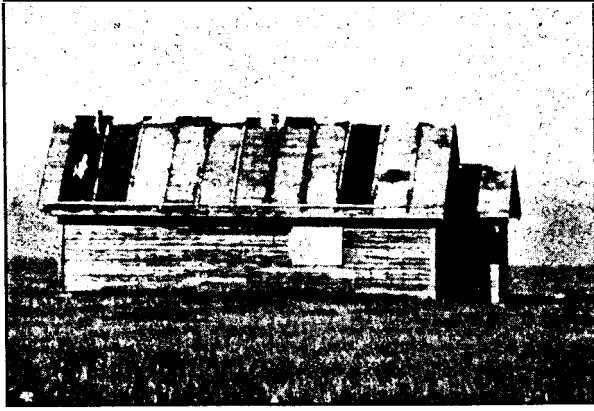


Bar-1 DEW Line Station

4.3.4 Bar-1 DEW Line Station near Komakuk Beach

This site will eventually become part of Ivvavik National Park. The Department of National Defence (DND) will 'decommission and dismantle the DEW Line Station and clean up the site. An unstaffed DND North Warning radar site, much smaller in scale, will remain on the site. Bar-1 was the first DEW Line Station built in Canada. The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) has considered the history of this DEW Line Station, and has suggested that the site be interpreted in acknowledgment of its local or regional significance.

- Parks Canada will record the site and obtain all available documentation of the station.
- Parks Canada will interpret the history of the DEW Line Station by off-site means, taking into consideration HSMBC, community and other heritage agency advice.
- Structural foundations will be the only remnants of the Bar-1 DEW Line Station left on the site.
- The site will undergo an Environmental Assessment following the decommissioning of the DEW Line Station and prior to the site becoming part of the park.



Clarence Lagoon Trading Post

4.3.5 Clarence Lagoon Trading Post

The abandoned Hudson's Bay Company trading post at Clarence Lagoon is a 70 year old structure. Parks Canada will submit the building to the Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office (FHBRO) for evaluation. The evaluation will assess the heritage character of the trading post building under the Federal Heritage Buildings Policy.

- Parks Canada will prepare historical research as the basis for FHBRO evaluation.

5 VISITOR ACTIVITIES

Ivvavik National Park is a land of ecological and cultural importance. It protects an area of Canadian significance with unique landforms and ecosystems, Inuvialuit history and culture, and opportunities for wilderness adventure. Ivvavik provides an Arctic wilderness experience that can inspire in visitors an understanding of the importance of this environment and the need for its protection.

Visitors come to Ivvavik National Park to experience the Arctic environment, to see wildlife and landscapes and to appreciate the cultural environment. Potential visitors can

learn about the park through Parks Canada and outfitters. Visitors must register, usually at the park office in Inuvik, or elsewhere such as with the RCMP in Old Crow. The park is over 200 kilometres from the nearest road, necessitating access by chartered aircraft. Several aircraft landing areas have been identified.

Although there are many opportunities for experiencing Ivvavik, visitation is presently concentrated along the Firth River corridor. Rafting, kayaking, and hiking are the primary activities, reflecting the non-motorized, wilderness nature of the park. Visitors are expected to exercise the hallmarks of wilderness recreation, self-sufficiency, self-reliance, and no-trace user techniques.

Over the past five years, the number of visitors to Ivvavik has ranged from under 100 in 1988 to over 350 in 1992. Most visitors travel down the Firth River during the summer, spending a week or more in the park. It appears that the Firth River is becoming a better known destination and visitation is expected to increase. There is likely more visitation potential than the park can sustain. Because visits are confined to a short season, mostly between late June and mid-August, and are concentrated along a single corridor, impacts on resources and experiences will occur if no management action is taken.

Parks Canada encourages appreciation, understanding, and enjoyment of the values of Ivvavik National Park. Although people are encouraged to experience Ivvavik, use limits may be required to protect the natural and cultural environment and ensure the high quality of wilderness experience.

5.1 Park Interpretation and Environmental Citizenship

Park interpretation will incorporate the principles inherent in Ivvavik's vision statement: "*the land will support the people who protect the land.*" Interpretation will communicate how the protection of this area benefits Inuvialuit, users of the Porcupine caribou herd, visitors, and all Canadians. Interpretative themes specific to Ivvavik National Park include the tundra and taiga ecosystems, western Arctic cultures including the Inuvialuit, and the fact that the park is a product of an agreement between Canada and the Inuvialuit.

The values and experiences of Ivvavik National Park will be interpreted to provide visitors, residents and the public with an appreciation of the park and an understanding of the values for which the park was established. The interpretation program will ensure that the public learns about Ivvavik as a special place, with an important role in the protection and sustaining of local and regional ecosystems and cultural resources. It will develop public understanding of the land claim and subsistence harvest rights and traditions. The public will also appreciate Ivvavik's importance as an area of Canadian significance, part of Canada's system of national parks. Within the Western Arctic, Parks Canada will strive to motivate Canadians to make environmentally responsible decisions, support the sustainability of heritage resources, and to accept their role as global environmental citizens responsible for ecosystems and cultural resource protection.

Most interpretation will be done outside the park, at local, regional, and national levels. Within the park, many park visitors presently

travel in outfitted parties. Parks Canada will work to ensure that guides, outfitters and others working with visitors are aware of, and can inform visitors about the significance of the park, the importance of its protection, and how to experience the park with minimal impact. At a local and regional level Parks Canada will develop community interpretation programs in Aklavik, Inuvik and other neighboring communities, and at regional visitor centres, such as those in Inuvik, Yellowknife and Whitehorse. Information about the park will be made available nationally, especially through other Parks Canada offices.

- Parks Canada will make interpretive information available to businesses (air service companies, guides and outfitters associated with Ivvavik National Park) so that they can deliver Parks Canada messages to their clients.
- Parks Canada will develop a community-based interpretative program for communities in the region.
- ▶ Parks Canada will cooperate with the Governments of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon in ecotourism development in the Mackenzie Delta and Beaufort Sea region.
- ▶ Parks Canada and the Yukon Government will cooperate in the interpretation of Ivvavik National Park and Herschel Island Territorial Park.

5.2 Visitor Experience

River rafting and hiking are currently the primary activities visitors pursue in Ivvavik National Park. While in the park, visitors also

enjoy photography and wildlife viewing. The Firth River corridor has the highest level of use. Visitors raft down the river, usually from Margaret Lake to Herschel Island or Nunaluk Spit, most often in a guided and outfitted party. Rafting parties spend some days hiking in areas near the river. Other visitors come to the park specifically for hiking across part of the park. Less frequent uses of the park include canoeing and kayaking on the Babbage River and boating along the coast.

Except for the Firth River, the present number of visitors is low and it is difficult to predict future visitor patterns. Instead of speculating on future types of use, Parks Canada will use an adaptive approach. Parks Canada will monitor visitor use of the park and assess its impacts on the natural and cultural environment and on the wilderness experience of visitors. The park will employ exemplary standards of environmental stewardship.

Parks Canada will minimize facility development in Ivvavik. Both the IFA provision to maintain the park in “. . . its present undeveloped state to the greatest extent possible . . .“ (Section 12(6)), and the views expressed by visitors and other members of the public strongly indicate that visitor facility developments are unwarranted.

Visitors must be prepared to be both self-sufficient and self-reliant, because services and rescue capability are based in Inuvik. Visitor groups should be large enough and well enough equipped that they can provide themselves with a reasonable level of security.

- All park visitors must be self sufficient and use no-trace camping techniques.



Camping beside the Firth River

- All park visitors must be self-reliant, and able to ensure themselves a reasonable level of safety in the event of mishap.
- Because wood is scarce in the park, visitors will not be allowed to collect wood for fires, except in an emergency.
- Parks Canada will protect natural and cultural resources and wilderness experiences in the Firth River corridor by managing the numbers and schedules of travelers according to the Firth River Corridor Plan.
- Parks Canada will use a variety of direct and indirect strategies for managing public use such as limiting access, controlling group sizes, scheduling and education to ensure protection of the natural and cultural environment and ensure the opportunity for an outstanding wilderness experience. If necessary, strategies will be developed to ensure that visitors activities do not impact on traditional users.
- Parks Canada will collect information relating to visitor impacts on ecosystems and cultural resources and apply the information in decision making.
- No visitor facilities or commercial infrastructure will be provided in Ivvavik National Park.

5.3 Air Access Guidelines

Visitor access to Ivvavik is generally by aircraft. The intent of the park aircraft access guidelines is to direct access to areas capable of sustaining visitation while minimizing potential impacts on wildlife and the wilderness experience of other visitors. It is the intent of Parks Canada to work with the regional air service companies to cooperate in responsible aircraft use.

- ▶ Parks Canada will work with charter and scheduled air service companies to develop altitude and operating guidelines. These guidelines may include recommended flying altitudes and routes to minimize impacts on wildlife and visitors, as well as temporal and overflight restrictions to protect critical wildlife habitats at certain times of year.
- ▶ No landing facilities will be constructed and no airstrips are, or will be, developed or serviced in the park. Landings are at pilot's discretion at all approved landing areas in the park.
- ▶ All landings require prior Parks Canada approval.
- ▶ Four areas are identified for air access: the Margaret Lake area, the eastern end of Nunaluk Spit, Stokes Point, and the Sheep Creek area, near the operations centre. Margaret Lake, Nunaluk Spit and Stokes Point are near water bodies that are usable by float equipped aircraft (Figure 2).
- ▶ Parks Canada recognizes the potential for congestion in the Sheep Creek area, and will consider mitigative measures through the Firth River Corridor Plan. Visitor air



Rafting on the Firth River

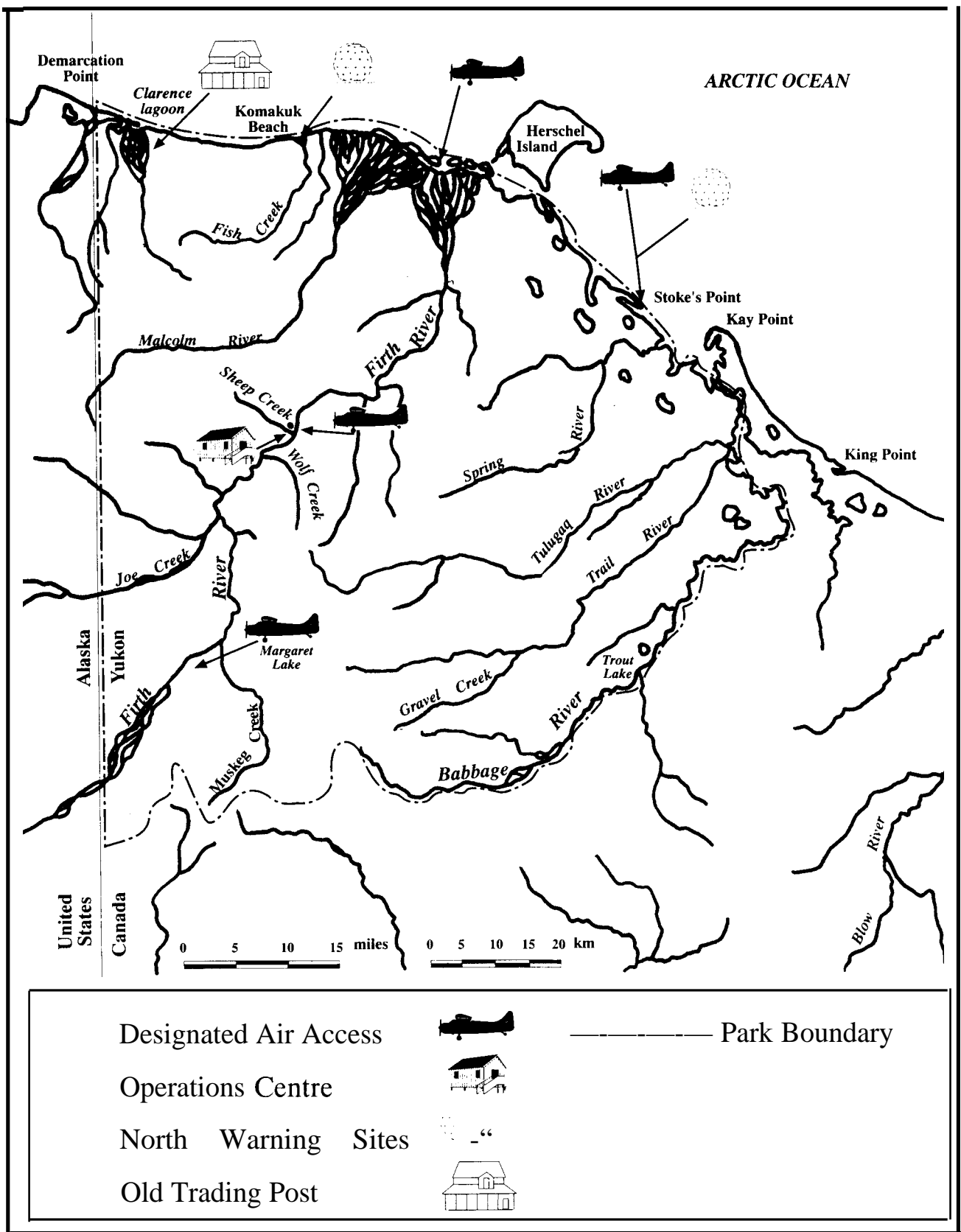
access to Sheep Creek will be re-evaluated at the next park management plan review.

- Parks Canada will seek out other possible landing areas to provide alternatives to Sheep Creek for visitors wishing access to mid-park areas.
- Parks Canada will consider air access applications to other sites in the park in support of multi-day, no-trace activities that encourage appreciation of the environment. Requests for access will be scrutinized carefully for potential impacts on the natural and cultural environment and on visitor wilderness experience.
- ▶ Parks Canada will minimize the impacts of air access required for park operations and approved research.

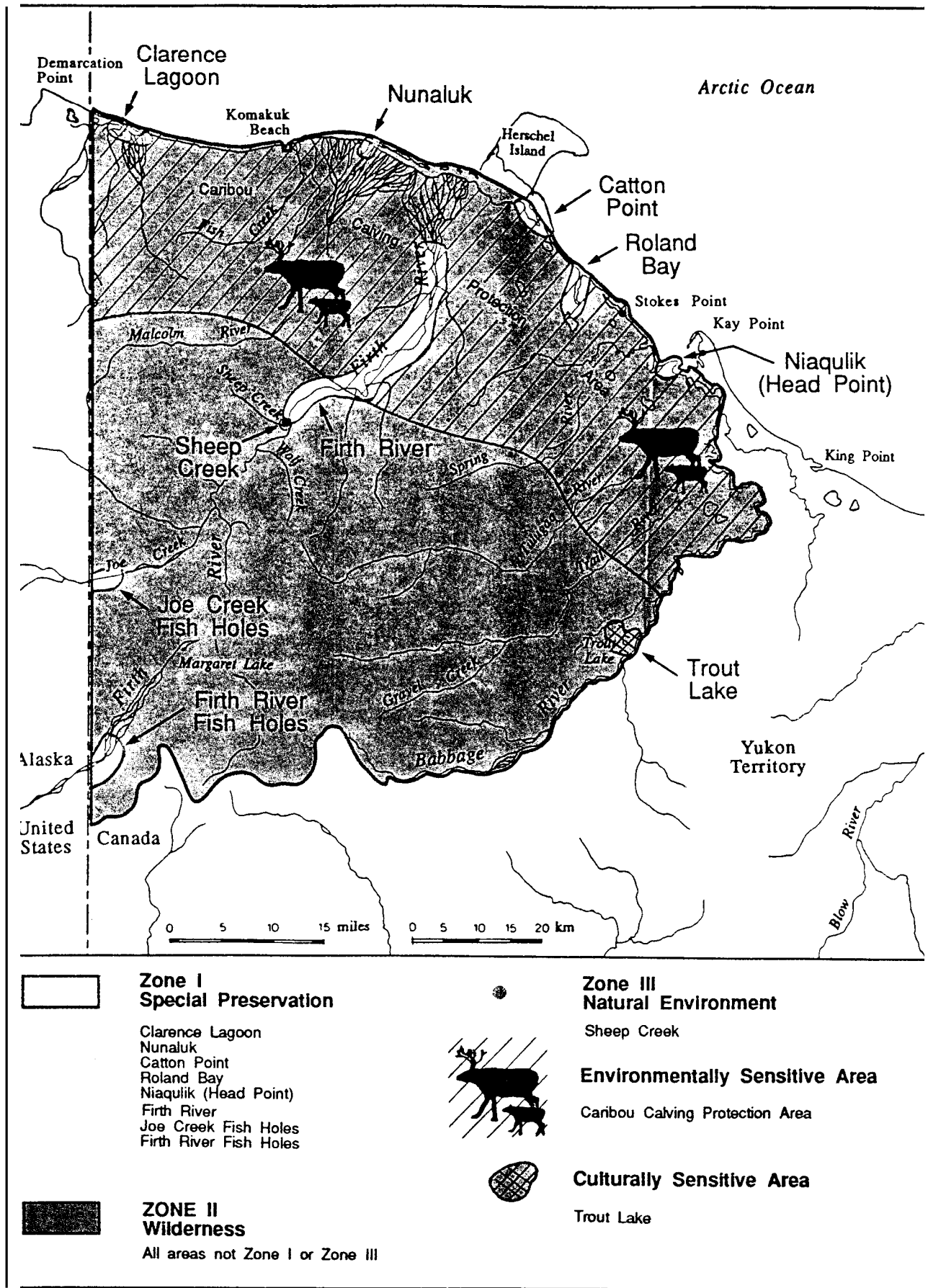
5.4 Outfitting Licences

The IFA states that, to the extent that the management regime of Ivvavik National Park provides for economic activities, opportunities should be provided to Inuvialuit on a preferred basis (IFA, Section 12(43)).

ACCESS



ZONING



6 ZONING

6.1 Zoning in National Parks

The national parks zoning system is an integrated approach by which land and water areas are classified according to ecosystem and cultural resource protection requirements, and their capability and suitability to provide opportunities for visitor experiences. The zoning system provides a framework for the area-specific application of policies and programs, such as for resource management, appropriate visitor activities, and research. Management plans map national parks into zones that strike a balance between the capability of areas to sustain use and their need for protection (Table I).

Some areas may require special recognition or management not provided through zoning

designation. Park management plans may designate sensitive sites or areas and set out the guidelines necessary for their protection and use. These are termed Environmentally or Culturally Sensitive Areas and can occur in any zone. They are useful for focusing and communicating objectives for research, protection and visitor experience.

6.2 Zoning in Ivvavik National Park

The IFA directs planning and management of the park to “. . .protect the wilderness characteristics of the area, maintaining its present undeveloped state to the greatest extent possible . . . “ (Section 12(6)). It further states that “the National Park shall be zoned and managed as a wilderness oriented park” (Section 12(7)). Zoning in Ivvavik National Park reflects the intent of the IFA and the wilderness qualities of the park.

Parks Canada’s zoning system for national parks consists of five zones:

Zone 1, Special Preservation, is a zone where public use may be controlled to protect especially important or fragile resources. No motorized access is permitted, including visitor air access.

Zone II, Wilderness, is a zone that covers large areas that are good representations of the ecosystems of the park and will be maintained in a wilderness state. Motorized use is not permitted, although strictly controlled air access to remote areas may be permitted.

Zone III, Natural Environment, is for areas that are maintained in a natural state, although allowing for more use than Zone II wilderness. Zone III allows for limited motorized access, usually by public transport.

Zone IV, Outdoor Recreations, are areas capable of accommodating a broad range of opportunities for education, outdoor recreation and related facilities for visitor enjoyment, in ways that respect the natural landscape and the park environment. Motorized access is permitted.

Zone V, Park Services, is for park communities such as Banff and Jasper and major service or park administration centres.

The vast majority of the park is zoned for wilderness (Zone II) and special preservation (Zone I). Parks Canada will pursue legislated wilderness status for all Zone I and Zone II areas of the park, thus providing the highest degree of protection available under the *National Parks Act*. The zoning plan meets park objectives to maintain and monitor ecological integrity and protect natural and cultural environments. A small area at Sheep Creek is zoned natural environment (Zone III). Zones IV and V are not appropriate for Ivvavik National Park.

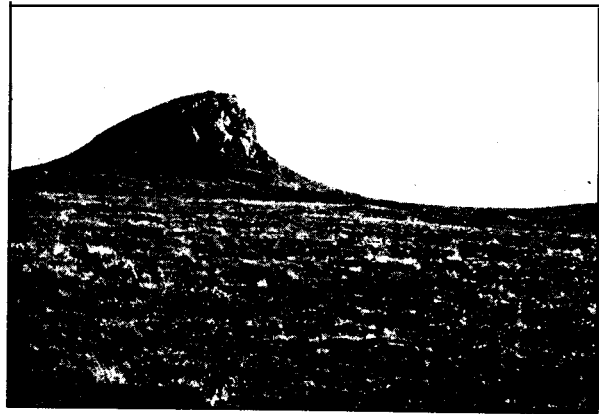
Two areas are identified which require special management not provided through zoning designation. An Environmentally Sensitive Area is designated to protect the calving areas of the Porcupine caribou herd. A Culturally Sensitive Area is designated to protect the cultural resources and the lake environment at Trout Lake (Figure 3).

6.2.1 Zone I - Special Preservation

Eight areas are designated as Zone I, Special Preservation. The management regime for each Zone I area reflects its reason for designation. Parks Canada will ensure careful control of activities in all Zone I areas.

Archaeological Areas

Five archaeological areas are designated Zone I in recognition of their value and the fragility of the cultural resources. The intent of the archaeological Zone I areas is to monitor change, to manage access and use, and to work with Inuvialuit to interpret and protect sites.



Engigstciak

1. Clarence Lagoon
This area is important because of its cultural resources, including a cluster of early Inuvialuit sites.
2. Catton Point
This area has historic and late precontact resources, including a cluster of early Inuvialuit sites.
3. Nunaluk; and 4. Niaqulik (Head Point)
These areas are single village sites, from the historic and late precontact periods.
5. Roland Bay
This is an important Inuvialuit site, with the remains of several structures.

Cultural and Ecological Area

The Firth River Zone I area has cultural resource and ecological protection purposes. The intent of the Zone I designation is not to deny access, but to control access and activities to protect cultural and natural environments and the quality of wilderness experience. The Firth River Corridor Plan will be developed and implemented to manage visitor use and to protect the entire length of the well-travelled river corridor, from Margaret Lake to the coast, including this Zone I area.

6. Firth River Corridor
The Firth River, from below Sheep Creek to the upper part of the delta, is rich in cultural resources and is important ecological-

ly. Along this part of the river are several sites relating to the Western Arctic Tradition, notably in the Engigstciak area. Evidence of more recent human use of the river area includes areas of placer mining and trapping. The river is important fish habitat, the canyon area is important to nesting birds of prey and Dan's sheep use the river side.

The lower part of the Firth River corridor has the most important and the most dense concentrations of resources. The corridor is a focus of visitor activity in the park. The lower part of the corridor has many natural constraints on river users, due to a limited number of camping and stopping areas. These constraints concentrate potential visitor impacts in a small number of areas, requiring careful monitoring and management.

Ecological Areas

Two areas are designated Zone I for their ecological importance. The intent of these Zone I areas is to monitor change and to manage access and use.

7. Firth River Fish Holes; and
8. Joe Creek Fish Holes

These two areas are critical breeding and over-wintering habitat for Dolly Varden charr. The areas are small with a very high density of fish for over six months of the year, potentially vulnerable to poaching and accidental pollution.

6.2.2 Environmentally Sensitive Area

Coastal Plain Caribou Calving Protection Area

This area represents the entire Canadian portion of the concentrated calving grounds of the Porcupine caribou herd. More calving occurs within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. There are both Zone I and Zone II designations within this Environmentally Sensitive Area and the specific zoning provisions apply in addition to the caribou calving protection provisions.

The intent of this Environmentally Sensitive Area is to protect the caribou during the calving season and to ensure the protection of calving habitat. Special management will be in place during the calving and post-calving period in May and June. Parks Canada will prohibit aircraft landings by park visitors near active calving grounds and will protect caribou from disturbance.

6.2.3 Culturally Sensitive Area

Trout Lake Area

The Trout Lake Culturally Sensitive Area protects a lake ecosystem and archaeological resources relating to the Western Arctic Tradition. Parks Canada will control access and monitor condition of resources. A decision on the suitability of air access will be made after an environmental review is completed in consultation with the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee (HTC).

6.2.4 Zone II - Wilderness

The intent of this zone is to maintain the wilderness character of an area. Wilderness zoning guides visitor use (low density, dis-

persed, unobtrusive, temporary, non-motorized activity) and service or facility development (minimal, primitive and appropriate to a wilderness experience). Wilderness is the largest zone category in the park, reflecting the park vision, establishment and management objectives, and the IFA. All areas of Ivvavik National Park that are not within the Zone I or Zone 111 areas are designated as Zone II, wilderness.

The presence of an unstaffed Department of National Defence (DND) North Warning Station at Stokes Point is considered to be a non-conforming use. This use is governed by a consent agreement between the Inuvialuit and the government of Canada.

6.2.5 Legislated Wilderness

The *National Parks Act* provides for the establishment of legislated wilderness areas. Section 5(8) of the Act empowers the Governor in Council, upon the recommendation of the Minister, to "declare any region of a park that exists in a natural state.. .to be a wilderness area. "

The intent of this amendment was to provide a greater degree of stability to the management of wilderness areas. Once legislated as wilderness, an Order in Council is required to change the zoning. Zone I areas surrounded by Zone II Wilderness zones are included in wilderness legislation.

Parks Canada will pursue the legislation of wilderness for all areas of the park other than the Zone III area at the Sheep Creek Operations Centre. This will give the bulk of Ivvavik the highest degree of protection available under the *National Parks Act*.



Tundra Swans

6.2.6 Zone III - Natural Environment

Zone III, Natural Environment areas have a dual management objective - maintaining a natural setting while providing basic facilities. The Sheep Creek Operations Centre area is designated Zone III. In this case, the facilities are provided for park operations, not for visitation purposes. This area includes the park operations buildings, the landing area and the trail between them. The intent is to recognize the present level of park operation activity at the site. This zoning is not intended to facilitate the development of visitor services, facilities, or new levels of access or use.

6.2.7 Future Assessment

The area around the Bar-1 DEW Line Station (near Komakuk Beach) is not presently part of the park. Upon the decommissioning of the station and cleanup of the site, the land will become part of Ivvavik National Park. The area will be managed in accordance with the provisions for Zone II during any interim administration before the area is legally part of the park and before the next plan review. During the next review of Ivvavik's management plan Parks Canada will assess the site and consider access and other zoning considerations.

7 REGIONAL INTEGRATION

7.1 Principles of Regional Integration

Ivvavik National Park lies within three regions defined by social, political and environmental characteristics: the North Slope, the North Yukon, and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. The North Slope stretches from the Northwest Territories to Alaska, from the height of land to the Beaufort Sea. The North Yukon region is roughly the area north of the Porcupine River. The Inuvialuit Settlement Region is defined in the IFA to include the North Slope of the Yukon and the lands surrounding the Beaufort Sea in the Northwest Territories.

Ivvavik is an important component of cultural resource and ecosystem management in these regions. Only by developing cooperative liaisons and partnership activities can effective management and protection be achieved.

Ivvavik was established under the IFA in a manner that committed park management to be carried out within a framework of cooperative management and regional coordination. Several sections of the IFA relate to the need for cooperation and coordination. Section 14(2) states, "to achieve effective protection of the ecosystems in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, there should be an integrated wildlife and land management regime". In section 14(39), "Canada undertakes to ensure that wildlife management and habitat management produce an integrated result with respect to migratory species within the Yukon Territory, the Northwest Territories and the adjacent offshore."

Parks Canada program policy encourages collaboration with others who share common

goals and objectives. Conservation areas cannot be managed in isolation from the regions in which they are situated. Parks Canada will seek to integrate its programs with the surrounding landscapes, ecosystems, regions and communities to encourage the achievement of mutually supportive environmental, conservation, social and cultural objectives.

- Parks Canada will support cooperative ventures and management that further the protection of the natural and cultural environments within the region and the understanding of ecosystems.
- Parks Canada will work with educators in the region to develop interpretative programs and environmental education.
- Parks Canada will develop the Firth River Corridor Plan, the Ecosystem Conservation Plan, and other operational plans in consultation with Inuvialuit, Yukon Government and other managers.
- Parks Canada will support twinning Ivvavik National Park with the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska.

7.2 Inter-agency cooperation

The IFA mandated the creation of several advisory bodies with Inuvialuit and government members. Together these joint bodies coordinate environmental management within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. These include the two Wildlife Management Advisory Councils, for the Yukon North Slope (WMAC(NS)) and for the Northwest Territories (WMAC(NWT)), the Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC), the Environmental Impact Screening Committee and Environmental Impact Review Board. WMAC(NS) is served by a secretariat in

Whitehorse, while the others are served by the Joint Secretariat in Inuvik. Parks Canada will participate in regional ecosystem management by working with these groups.

The WMAC(NS) is responsible for recommending Ivvavik's Park Management Plan and the management plan for Herschel Island Territorial Park to the appropriate ministers. WMAC(NS) is also responsible for preparing a wildlife conservation and management plan for the Yukon North Slope. The implementation of these plans will provide the opportunity for cooperation and coordination between agencies in order to achieve an integrated result in wildlife management.

- Parks Canada will work through the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) and directly with the Inuvialuit Game Council, the Fisheries Joint Management Committee, Hunters and Trappers Committees and the Yukon Government in regional ecosystem management, interpretation, regional tourism, wildlife management and other matters of mutual interest.
- Parks Canada will work with several Inuvialuit organizations. Hunters and Trappers Committees (HTC) are coordinated regionally through the Inuvialuit Game Council. The Game Council represents Inuvialuit interests with respect to wildlife. Representing other Inuvialuit interests are the Community Corporations and the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation. Elders committees in each community provide guidance on some issues. The Inuvialuit Social Development Program works with social concerns, including the maintenance of traditional practices and perspectives.



Parks Canada Staff

- Parks Canada will work with other aboriginal groups and beneficiaries of adjacent land claims on issues of mutual concern. The Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation, of Old Crow, Yukon, have historic ties to Ivvavik National Park. They will be involved in the management of the proposed Vuntut National Park. Their history and heritage on the North Slope will be respected. The Tetlit Gwich'in are another neighbour in the Mackenzie Delta
- In addition to the above, Parks Canada will work with other federal government agencies, the Government of the Northwest Territories, and other joint management bodies, such as the Porcupine Caribou Management Board, to achieve the conservation and other objectives of Ivvavik.
- Ivvavik National Park borders Alaska. Management of natural and cultural environments on the north slope of Alaska is the mandate of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and the North Slope Borough. Parks Canada will strive to develop a partnership with the managers of ANWR and effect a twinning of ANWR with Ivvavik National Park.

8 ADMINISTRATION

8.1 Western Arctic District Office

Ivvavik National Park will be administered through the Western Arctic District Office of Parks Canada, located in Inuvik, NWT. The district office also will be the administrative centre for Aulavik National Park on Banks Island, the Pingo Canadian Landmark near Tuktoyaktuk, and any other national parks or national historic sites established in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. An example is the proposed national park in the Bluenose Lake area.

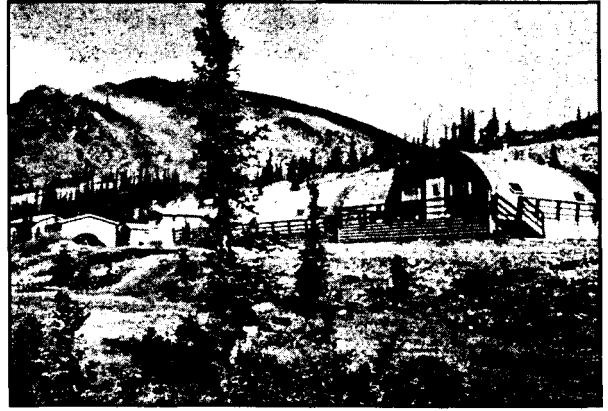
8.2 Staff

- Parks Canada will hire and develop staff so that the predominant number of staff for Ivvavik National Park will be Inuvialuit. To this end, Parks Canada will implement recruiting strategies and training programs.

8.3 Park Operations

An operations centre is centrally located in the park, on Sheep Creek near the Firth River. The centre is used in support of park operations and research. Stokes Point provides a location for park operations along the coast. Coastal operations will be conducted out of temporary facilities.

- Parks Canada will review the long-term operational requirements of the park. Future facility development or recapitalization will depend on the results of an analysis of operational requirements.
- Parks Canada will provide emergency and operational services from the Sheep Creek operations centre.



Sheep Creek Operations Centre

9 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

9.1 Environmental Assessment Process

This management plan has been assessed for potential environmental impacts and mitigation requirements. A screening report is available upon request from Parks Canada. In addition to the Parks Canada review of the plan, the Environmental Impact Screening Committee of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region has examined the plan for potential negative impacts.

9.2 Socio-economic Statement

Parks Canada is committed to sustainable use, seeking to maximize the long-term social and economic benefits of national parks while protecting their natural and cultural integrity. To ensure that social and economic issues are assessed in the preparation of management plans for national parks, provision has been made for socio-economic input to be included in the management planning process.

The operation of Ivvavik will provide a small, but significant, number of long-term jobs to the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. Also, Parks Canada has been providing and will continue to provide training to Inuvialuit staff, which will better their chances for future employ-

ment. Beside direct employment, operation of the park will require expenditures within the region.

The park will attract a growing number of tourists to the region. Residents of **Inuvik** and **Aklavik** may have the opportunity to benefit economically through providing tourist services. The most important services will be guiding, outfitting and air charter.

The park has a social role in continuing to support the connection between the **Inuvialuit** and the land of **Ivvavik**. Through recognition of **Inuvialuit** traditional knowledge about the park area, having predominantly **Inuvialuit** staff, and a community-based interpretation program, Parks Canada will have a role in encouraging local people to continue to respect and value the land.

APPENDIX A: Glossary

ANWR: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (in northeastern Alaska, created through the Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act, in 1980).

Commemoration: Ministerial recognition of national significance by one of the following means: acquisition of property for purposes of protecting and presenting heritage places and resources, erection of a plaque, monument, etc.

Cultural Resource: Cultural resources are those that have importance to the heritage of Canada and the heritage of the local area. It is for this importance that cultural resources will be safeguarded and when appropriate, presented for public benefit. A cultural resource may



Caribou

be a human work or a place that gives evidence of human activity (past or present) or has spiritual significance. It may include living culture, cultural landscapes and sacred sites. Traditional knowledge as well as scientifically acquired information is used in determining the relative importance to the area's heritage.

DEW Line: Distant Early Warning Line (built in the 1950s, now obsolete and being replaced by the North Warning System).

DND: Department of National Defence.

Ecological Integrity: ecological integrity of an area means that the area's ecosystems are complete and uncorrupted. Another way to express ecological integrity is to say that the ecosystems are healthy. (**Integrity:** Completeness, or the condition of being unmarred or uncorrupted, in the original perfect condition.)

A technical definition of **Ecological Integrity in National Parks:** a state of ecosystem development that is optimized for its geographic location, including energy input and colonization history. For national parks, this optimal state has been referred to by such terms as natural, naturally evolving, pristine and untouched. It implies that ecosystem

structures and functions are unimpaired by human-caused stresses, that native species are present at viable population levels and, within successional limits, that the system is likely to persist. Ecosystems with integrity do not exhibit the trends associated with stressed ecosystems. National parks are part of larger ecosystems and determinations of integrity in national parks must consider these larger ecosystems.

Ecology: The science that deals with the relation of living organisms to their environment and to each other. It includes the study of ecosystems.

Ecosystem: a group of organisms and its accompanying cycles, processes, structures and energy flows. Ecosystems are systems of interacting organisms and species, including humans, and their non-biological environments. Another way to define **ecosystem:** a system of plants and animals, and their environment, land, water and air, and their interactions. For example a tundra ecosystem is made up of caribou, wolves, lemmings, people, lichens, mosses, shrubs, grasses, cold dark winters, rivers, rain and snow and wind, soil and permafrost. It also includes the relationships; such as caribou eating lichen, wolves eating caribou, people hunting wolves and caribou, lemmings digging in the ground, and wind blown snow blasting the shrubs.

FJMC: Fisheries Joint Management Committee (a co-management group created through the IFA).

Heritage: Heritage is the natural and cultural legacy with which we are charged with conserving for the future.

HSMBC: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

HTC: Hunters and Trappers Committee (a community based body created through the IFA).

IFA: Inuvialuit Final Agreement (the agreement which settled the Western Arctic Land Claim of the Inuvialuit people, originally brought forward by the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement (COPE)).

Inuvialuit Game Council: representing the Inuvialuit interest in wildlife throughout the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

Inuvialuit Regional Corporation: representing Inuvialuit interests throughout the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

Monitor: establish baseline levels, visit sites and measure changes.

Salvage Archaeology: recording sites, and recovering artifacts that are in danger of destruction through erosion or other natural or human induced process.

Sustainability: Sustainability is the equitable use of or impacts upon the world's species or ecosystems in balance with the species' or ecosystems' capacity for recovery.

WMAC(NS): Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) (a co-management group created through the IFA).

WMAC(NWT): Wildlife Management Advisory Council (Northwest Territories) (a co-management group created through the IFA).

APPENDIX B: Organizations

Inuvialuit Organizations	<p>Hunter and Trapper Committees Inuvialuit Game Council Community Corporations Inuvialuit Regional Corporation: Inuvialuit Development Corporation Elders committees Inuvialuit Social Development Program</p>
Territorial Governments	<p>Yukon Government: Renewable Resources Tourism</p> <p>Government of the Northwest Territories: Economic Development and Tourism Renewable Resources Education, Culture and Employment</p>
Federal Government	<p>Environment Fisheries and Oceans Transport National Defence Indian Affairs and Northern Development</p>
Joint Management Organizations	<p>Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) Fisheries Joint Management Committee Environmental Impact Screening Committee Environmental Impact Review Board Porcupine Caribou Management Board</p>
United States	<p>US Department of the Interior: Fish and Wildlife Service: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Alaska Department of Fish and Game North Slope Borough</p>