



Double rainbow at Goz Creek, Snake River. [JP]

purpose of this atlas

The interests, rights and stewardship role of the First Nations of Nacho Nyak Dun and Tetl'it Gwich'in, to the lands, waters, wildlife and resources of the Peel watershed are established through Final Agreements and various trans-boundary arrangements. Renewable Resource Councils in both the Yukon and NWT, and the land use planning bodies established through land claims agreements, also have a key role in all land, conservation and resource planning in the region.

In addition, a wide range of people and groups have interests in the Peel River watershed, from community people who rely on the watershed for drinking water, big game outfitters and tourism operators who guide here, trappers who use trap-lines, members of the public who pursue outdoor recreation activities, conservationists who seek the protection of important ecological areas, to businesses and industries that seek to explore for oil, gas and mineral resources or pursue other economic activities. It is important that this wide range of interests be considered when developing a land use and conservation plan. Although lots of information exists for some aspects of the Peel watershed, others are not nearly as well known.

This atlas shows existing information for a wide range of conservation values and resources in the Peel River watershed. Existing digital data sources were used to create maps that display what can be complex information in a clear and concise way that can be used by people with

varying backgrounds and expertise. Most maps are at the same scale, making spatial comparisons between different values easier.

It is our hope that this atlas will help everyone understand where the various values and resources in the watershed are located, how these relate to various interests, and where there may be data gaps.

CPAWS-Yukon developed this atlas to:

- provide a source of public information for land use and conservation planning;
- to assist the Renewable Resources Councils and Peel River Land Use Planning Commission in planning and management within the Peel basin;
- to educate & inform interested parties on the conservation values and related resources in the Peel River watershed ;
- to help inform various government resource development processes, including the Oil & Gas Call for Nominations process;

- to identify data gaps;
- to obtain corrections/revisions to data;
- to encourage other interested parties to provide additional data that can be used for land use and conservation planning.

To assist in the identification of data gaps and revisions to existing data, we have included a blank base map at the end of the atlas (Appendix A). We would like to encourage all those who feel that information is missing or incorrect to make their corrections on this blank base map and mail this back to CPAWS-Yukon. Any other comments and digital data sets would be welcomed too. This atlas is a working draft, a starting point, not a definitive work on all values in the Peel River watershed.

Grass of Parnassus [JP]
Riverside cooking on a CPAWS
community trip. [CA]

