



**Sahtu Land & Water Board**  
**REASONS FOR DECISION**  
Issued Pursuant to Section 121 of  
**The Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act**  
And Pursuant to Section 54 of  
The **Waters Act**

**Water Licence S19L3-001 (Type "B")**

This is the decision of the Sahtu Land & Water Board with respect to an application for a Water Licence renewal dated March 6, 2019 made by:

**Great Bear Lake Lodge Ltd.**  
**950 Bradford Street**  
**Winnipeg, MB R3H 0N5**

for: the undertaking of use of Water for a fishing lodge with a capacity of greater than 50 persons, for the deposit of waste to a solid waste site and the deposit of grey waters to a gravel filtration field at Dease Arm of Great Bear Lake, Northwest Territories.

With respect to this application, written notice was given to 9 organizations within the Sahtu Settlement Area and 13 outside of the settlement area in accordance with Sections 63 & 64 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*. There was no Public Hearing held in association with this application.

**DECISION**

After having been satisfied that the project has been screened pursuant to s.124(1) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, and that any potential adverse environmental effects were insignificant or mitigatable with known technology, and as such the application could proceed through the regulatory process and after reviewing the submission of the Applicant and after reviewing the written comments received by the Board; the Board, having due regard to the facts and circumstances, the merits of the submissions made to it, and to the purpose, scope and intent of the MVRMA and Regulations made thereunder has determined that: Water Licence S19L3-001 will be issued subject to the terms and conditions contained therein.

The Board's reasons for this decision are as follows:


- The Board is satisfied that appropriate consultation has been conducted and that advice has been sought and considered, in accordance with sections 63 and 64 of the MVRMA;
- Information contained in Staff Report 1 for S19L3-001 relative to environmental impacts and/or public concern;
- It is the opinion of the Board that the renewal application is exempt from Preliminary Screening, as per Schedule 1, Part 1, section 2 of the Exemption List Regulations annexed to subsection 143(1) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*, noting that the location and activities described for S19L3-001 are the same as the original licence S12L3-002 that has been screened;
- It is the opinion of the Board that the terms and conditions attached to S19L3-001, pursuant to the MVRMA and the *Waters Act*, will ensure that any potential environmental impacts resulting from this activity are not significant;
- Conducting the undertaking in compliance with the terms and conditions imposed by the Licence will minimize any disturbance to the natural conditions of surrounding water bodies;
- The undertaking contributes to the socio-economic well-being and economic development of the region;
- It is the opinion of the Board that the Licensee has fulfilled the requirement for engagement with Deline Got'ine Government;
- The Licensee will continue comprehensive, meaningful and ongoing engagement efforts with local communities to address concerns and to improve local understanding of the undertaking and potential effects;

- It is the opinion of the Board based on the past performance review contained in the Staff Report 1 and commitments made during the review period, that the Licensee has satisfactory standing in the Sahtu region;
- It is the opinion of the Board that the undertaking is deemed a Legacy Use as defined under subsection 2.5.D.1.4 of the Sahtu Land Use Plan and thus as per subsection 2.5.D.3, exempt from application of certain Conformity Requirements applicable to Conservation Zone 27 (Edailla, Caribou Point) which includes Conformity Requirement #1 (Land Use Zoning) and as such, the use of water for the operation of a fishing lodge at the existing site is an acceptable activity;
- The Board has decided to require a Security Deposit in the amount of \$20,000.00 pursuant to section 35 of the *Waters Act*. This deposit is intended to ensure that restoration of the site and any necessary measures that may be required after discontinued use of the lands can be covered addressing concerns regarding facility integrity. This deposit is also consistent with the intent of meeting Conformity Requirement 12 (Financial Security) of the Sahtu Land Use Plan;
- It is the opinion of the Board, based on comprehensive review of the information presented by the Licensee and reviewers and in consideration of the terms and conditions included in S19L3-001, that the undertaking is determined to conform to the Sahtu Land Use Plan;
- The use of water and/or deposit of waste proposed by the Applicant is of a nature contemplated by the MVRMA and the *Waters Act*.

The Applicant has been notified through a provision included in the scope of the Water Licence S19L3-001, that compliance with the term and conditions of this Licence has no effect on the Licensee's responsibility for compliance with the requirements of any other legislation.

The Board will provide any referenced material or documents and/or reasons for decision for any specific clause or clauses contained within the application if requested to do so in writing.

SIGNED this 17th day of May 2019 on behalf of the SAHTU Land & Water Board.



Larry Wallace (Chair)  
SAHTU Land & Water Board