



October 14, 2022

Mr. David Harpley, VP Environment  
NorZinc Corporation  
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VANCOUVER BC V6B 4N9  
[david.harpley@norzinc.com](mailto:david.harpley@norzinc.com)

Dear Mr. Harpley:

**Notice Informing NorZinc that the Conditions from the Approval of the Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan for Phase 1 of the Prairie Creek All-season Road Project have been met**

In a letter dated October 27, 2017, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) informed Canadian Zinc (CZN; now NorZinc) that they were required under Section 95 of the *Wildlife Act* to submit a Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan (WMMP) for the Prairie Creek all-season access road project for approval by the Minister of ENR.

The draft WMMP for the project has undergone several reviews and updates throughout the environmental assessment (EA) and post-EA regulatory phase conducted by the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB). This process has provided ENR and other parties with several opportunities to comment on the WMMP, and for NorZinc to respond to those comments.

On July 15, 2022, NorZinc submitted a revised version of the Phase 1 WMMP to ENR and Parks Canada for approval. On August 10, 2022, after a final review, ENR issued an approval with three conditions that were to be met 30 days prior to commencing construction of the Pioneer Winter Road. On October 5, 2022 NorZinc submitted a revised version of the WMMP which included amendments to address the approval conditions.

This letter is to notify NorZinc that the three approval conditions outlined in Attachment 1 have been satisfied. The October 2022 Version of the WMMP is now considered the final approved WMMP for the Prairie Creek all-season access road project and will be posted to ENR's website.

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ENR would like to remind NorZinc that the approved October 2022 version of the WMMP is binding and enforceable under the *Wildlife Act*. It is NorZinc's responsibility to meet the commitments and timelines identified in the WMMP.

Please contact Kathy Unger, Manager of Environmental Assessment and Habitat, at [Kathy.Unger@gov.nt.ca](mailto:Kathy.Unger@gov.nt.ca) or at (867)767-9237 extension 53227 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Erin Kelly, Ph.D.  
Deputy Minister  
Environment and Natural Resources

Attachment

c.     Shane Thompson  
Minister  
Environment and Natural Resources

Grand Chief Herb Norwegian  
Dehcho First Nations

Chief Steve Vital  
Nahanni Butte Dene Band

Chief Kele Antoine  
Łíídlı́ Kúé First Nation

Sub Chief Brenda Berreault  
Acho Dene Koe First Nation

Dr. Brett Elkin  
Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations  
Environment and Natural Resources

**Julian Kanigan**

Assistant Deputy Minister, Environmental and Climate Change  
Environment and Natural Resources

**Heather Sayine-Crawford**  
Director, Wildlife and Fish  
Environment and Natural Resource

**Jamie Chambers**  
Superintendent, Dehcho Region  
Environment and Natural Resources

**Jonathan Tsetso**  
Superintendent, Nahanni National Park Reserve  
Parks Canada

**Allison Stoddart**  
Environmental Assessment Specialist  
Parks Canada

**Shelagh Montgomery**  
Executive Director  
Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

**Mark Cliffe-Phillips**  
Executive Director  
Mackenzie Valley Review Board

**Georgina Williston**  
Head, Environmental Assessment North  
Environment and Climate Change Canada

**Alison de Pelham**  
Executive Director  
Dehcho First Nations

**Boyd Clark**  
Advisor/Band Manager  
Acho Dene Koe First Nation

**Liza McPherson**  
**Executive Director**  
**Łíídlı́ Kúé First Nation**

**Soham Srimani**  
**Acting Band Manager**  
**Nahanni Butte Dene Band**

## **Reasons for Decision - Approval of the Prairie Creek All Season Road: Phase 1 – Pioneer Winter Road Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan**

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The July 2022 Version of the Prairie Creek All Season Road: Phase 1 – Pioneer Winter Road was approved with three conditions.

**Condition #1:** NorZinc shall update Section 8.1.2.1 to reflect the addition of a follow-up survey in August 2023.

*Section 8.1.2.1 and text throughout the WMMP reflect the addition of a collared pika monitoring survey in August 2023.*

**NorZinc has satisfied Condition #1.**

**Condition #2:** NorZinc shall amend Section 7.4 and SOP #1 of the WMMP to clarify that reporting of wildlife-vehicle collisions within 24 hrs extends to any project-related vehicle either traveling on the Pioneer Winter Road or an NWT highway. Wildlife-vehicle collisions involving project-related vehicles on NWT highways should also be summarized in annual WMMP reports.

*Section 7.4 and SOP #1 of the WMMP were revised to clarify that any project-related collisions with wildlife when traveling on the Pioneer Winter Road or an NWT highway will be reported within 24 hours.*

**NorZinc has satisfied Condition #2.**

**Condition #3:** NorZinc shall amend SOP #1 REPORTING, RESPONDING TO, AND DETERRING WILDLIFE to remove euthanization as a response when wildlife are encountered from Table 1 and Section 5.1.1 on territorial lands.

*NorZinc has amended Table 1 and Section 5.1.1 of SOP #1 so that the decision to euthanize critically inured or sick animals will be made by ENR on territorial lands.*

**NorZinc has satisfied Condition #3.**