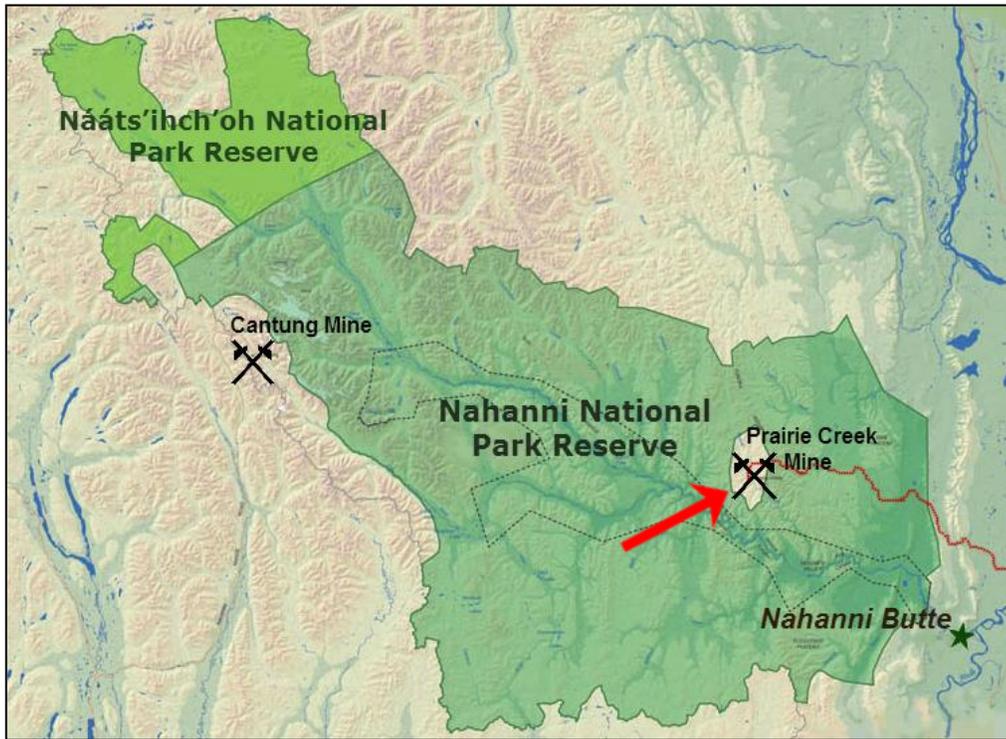


INFORMATION SHEET: Proposed Prairie Creek Mine

Nahanni National Park Reserve includes 91% of the South Nahanni River Watershed: as of 2009, it is over six times its original size!

Prairie Creek Mine in Relation to Nahanni National Park



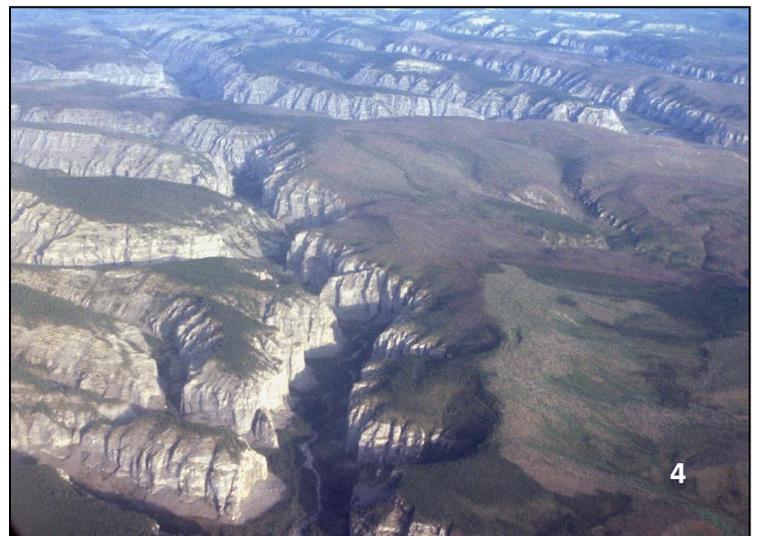
Map: The winter road to Prairie Creek Mine is highlighted in red.

Photos 1 and 2: Mine site and tailings pond. Photo 3: Erosion from exploration roads near Funeral Creek, upstream of Prairie Creek. Photo 4: Ram Plateau karstlands (which the road passes through).

The Canadian Zinc Corporation's (CZN's) Prairie Creek mine site is located within the expanded boundary of Nahanni National Park Reserve and World Heritage Site. This base metal mine (zinc, lead, silver) is **not operating yet**, but was given the green light to proceed to permitting following environmental assessment (EA) of mine production by the Mackenzie Valley Review Board in December 2011.

CZN received the required licenses and permits for mine production in summer 2013, as well as for operating the winter road. However, as of winter 2013-14, the company has not been able to raise the financing required to move into production.

The company's winter road (see map above) was originally built in the early 1980s, and is now slated for upgrading and completion to serve mine production. The road passes through the expanded National Park Reserve and the extremely sensitive Nahanni karstlands (see photo 4). Full mine operation will see heavy use of this road and will require careful oversight by Parks Canada and the MVLWB.



Site and Ownership History

Date	Event
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> August: Water License and Land Use Permits granted for development and upgrade of access road (winter road) Mackenzie Valley Review Board determines that a new approach (variable load-based effluent quality criteria) is the best way to control effluent discharge into Prairie Creek and issues Water License. Drilling permit extended for a 5 year term
2012	The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board issues a Class 'A' Land Use Permit for the activity of underground decline development, for a period of five years starting in May.
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mackenzie Valley Review Board Environmental Assessment decides that the proposed mine is "not likely to have any significant adverse impacts on the environment or to be a cause for significant public concern", and does not provide specific terms and conditions for the development. Project is referred to the MV Land and Water Board for permitting (as a handful of separate permits).
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CZN applies for full mine operation (4 separate applications deemed incomplete), and is referred to environmental assessment by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada on request of the Nahanni Butte Dene Band. Water licenses for re-constructing and operating a winter road to the mine are issued.
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land use permit issued to re-construct the proposed winter road to the Prairie Creek mine. Despite significant public concern, the permit includes only weak terms and conditions to protect water, wildlife and karst formations. CZN applies for a water license to re-construct a section of the winter road to all-season standards.
2006	A drilling permit is issued without all of the recommendations from the environmental assessment.
2005-06	Water license for the metallurgic plant and underground work is reissued.
2005	Permitting for the highly-contested winter road is done without an EA.
2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land use permits and water license for metallurgic plant and underground work issued by Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board without some of the conditions recommended in the EA process. Nahanni Butte Dene Band withdraws from the Prairie Creek Development Cooperation Agreement due to concerns about the environmental impacts of the mine, potential damage to tourism and traditional activity revenues, and their interest in supporting the expansion of Nahanni National Park Reserve.
2001-02	Permits are granted for Phase I drilling program.
2000	CZN completes Scoping Study for re-development of the mine and mill. Costs for new operation are estimated at \$40.5 M, including an all-weather road. Study notes concern of high mercury levels in ores.
2000-01	CZN applies for permits to drill, develop a metallurgic plant, develop underground, and recover a fuel cache. Applications are sent to environmental assessment (EA).
1999	The Company changes its name to Canadian Zinc Corporation (CZN).
1996	The Company negotiates a Development Cooperation Agreement with the Nahanni Butte Dene Band.
1991	Nanisivik Mines Ltd. acquires Prairie Creek property through bankruptcy proceedings.
1991-95	San Andreas Resource Corporation acquires Prairie Creek Property for \$3.25 million ¹ . Drilling continues.
1985	Earthquakes occur on October 5th (magnitude 6.6) and December 23rd (magnitude 6.9) with epicentres approximately 100 km northeast of mine site.
1983	Silver price collapses and Cadillac Explorations Ltd. goes bankrupt.
1981-82	Exploration activity throughout property. Environment Canada warns that contaminants could enter the South Nahanni River, but the federal government decides against holding a full environmental review.
1980	Texas-based Hunt brothers (Cadillac Exploration) finance the mine. Winter road built from Liard Highway to the Prairie Creek Property. Silver mine and mill infrastructure put in place, but are never used.
1960s-70s	Cadillac Exploration Ltd. acquires property (1966) and mineral exploration continues.
1928-66	Small scale base metal exploration occurs at Prairie Creek.

¹ From Mining Watch Canada's "A Disaster Waiting to Happen: Prairie Creek Mine" February 2004. Joan Kuyek. www.miningwatch.ca



CPAWS supported protection of the entire South Nahanni Watershed in an expanded national park for years, and is thrilled to have played an important role in the 2009 Park Reserve Expansion.

CPAWS-NWT continues to participate in regulatory processes for the proposed Prairie Creek Mine to ensure its development is held to the highest possible standard.

Please consider donating to the CPAWS-NWT to support our ongoing work to increase public awareness of the value of the NWT's wild places, and help maintain the ecological integrity of Nahanni National Park Reserve.

For more information, visit www.cpawsnwt.org.