

National parks reserves. Amendments to the National Parks Act were introduced to the House of Commons in December 1986. Among the major proposals were significant increases in the fines and penalties for poaching. The federal Environment Minister and the NWT Minister of Economic Development and Tourism signed an agreement, in September 1986, to establish the Ellesmere Island National Park Reserve. Negotiations were begun with British Columbia to create a park in South Moresby, and with Ontario, for a park on the Bruce Peninsula.

1.8.2 Environmental review

The Environmental Assessment and Review Process (EARP) is administered by a federal review office to determine the potential environmental consequences of proposals that require a federal government decision. This includes activities initiated by all government departments, boards and agencies.

EARP is administered when a department intends to undertake any proposal of its own or when it has the authority to make a decision about

a proposal of another organization that might have an environmental effect on government responsibility, would require government funds, or would be undertaken on federally administered lands, including those offshore. It deals with the physical, biological, and directly related social effects of proposals.

Early in planning before irrevocable decisions or actions are taken, a department makes an initial assessment of each proposal. As a result, it may proceed with or without mitigation, be abandoned, or be referred to the Minister of the Environment for a public review by an independent panel appointed by the Minister. This review is a detailed examination with many opportunities for public participation, including public hearings. A panel determines and studies the potential environmental impacts and examines the scope and importance of issues and concerns. It produces a report with recommendations for the Environment Minister and the Minister who referred the proposal for review. The report is made public and the initiating Minister decides the extent to which the recommendations are necessary before proceeding.

Sources

- 1.1 - 1.1.4, 1.2.1, 1.2.4 - 1.2.5 Geographical Services Division, Surveys and Mapping Branch, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.
- 1.2.2, 1.4, 1.6, 1.8 - 1.8.1 Information Directorate, Department of the Environment.
- 1.2.3 Communications Directorate, Department of Fisheries and Oceans.
- 1.3 Geoscience Information Division, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.
- 1.5 Physics Division, National Research Council.
- 1.7.1 Parks Canada, Information Branch, Department of the Environment.
- 1.7.2 Heritage Canada Foundation.
- 1.7.3 Supplied by the respective provincial government departments.
- 1.7.4 Public Activities Branch, National Capital Commission.
- 1.8.2 Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office.