

Northwest Territories to get new national park

Reuters

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OTTAWA -- The federal government will create a giant new national park covering 7,600 square kilometres along one of the country's most spectacular northern rivers, Environment Minister John Baird announced yesterday.

The Naats'ihch'oh National Park Reserve will cover the watershed of the South Nahanni river in the Northwest Territories. It will be adjacent to the larger Nahanni National Park Reserve, which the government said last year it would expand.

Naats'ihch'oh, which means "stands like a porcupine" in the language of the local Dene aboriginal people, is an important habitat for grizzly bear, Dall's sheep and woodland caribou.