



Marine Transportation Services

Arctic Development Expo

June 2025



Outline

- The NWT's multimodal transportation ecosystem
- Marine system
- Challenges
- Opportunities



The NWT's multimodal transportation ecosystem



- 1.35 million km²
- 44,970 people
- 33 communities
- Significant challenges with delivery of goods and services
- Limited and aging infrastructure network plays a critical role in re-supplying all NWT communities
- Critical infrastructure has limited redundancies

Government of
Northwest Territories

A Snapshot of the Department of Infrastructure

From roads to runways, buildings to energy systems - we plan, build, maintain, and manage the infrastructure that supports transportation, energy, and essential services across the NWT.

27 AIRPORTS **30** RUNWAYS



Average of
50 Million
litres of fuel
moved to
21 communities
each year



3,873 Km
of roadways including
1,385 Km of winter roads
115 bridges
4 ferry crossings

826

Public Buildings maintained by INF
107 leases of general office space
including: health centres, schools,
fire halls, water treatment plants,
office spaces, air terminals,
correctional facilities, etc.

13 Driver & Vehicle Offices

15 000

Drivers' Licences issued yearly

BARGES deliver **3,400 t**
of essential cargo annually from
Hay River, Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk



**NWT leads
Canada in
SUSTAINABLE
WOOD PELLET
HEATING**

Responsible for **12** pieces
of Territorial Legislation

Transportation: Motor Vehicles Act, All-Terrain Vehicles Act, Public Airports Act, Deh Cho Bridge Act, Public Highways Act, Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act Safety: Gas Protection Act, Electrical Protection Act, Elevators and Lifts Act, Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act Profession: Practice of Engineering, Geoscience and Applied Science Technology Act, Architects Act



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Marine System

- 10 NWT communities have some form of annual marine resupply
 - deck cargo (e.g., construction materials)
 - petroleum products (e.g., heating fuel, gas)
- Tuktoyaktuk: Arctic marine gateway
- Hay River: Syncrolift and multimodal transportation hub
- Strategically located to handle freight between Arctic coast and Southern Canada
- In recent years, positioning fuel off Arctic coast for delivery along Mackenzie River



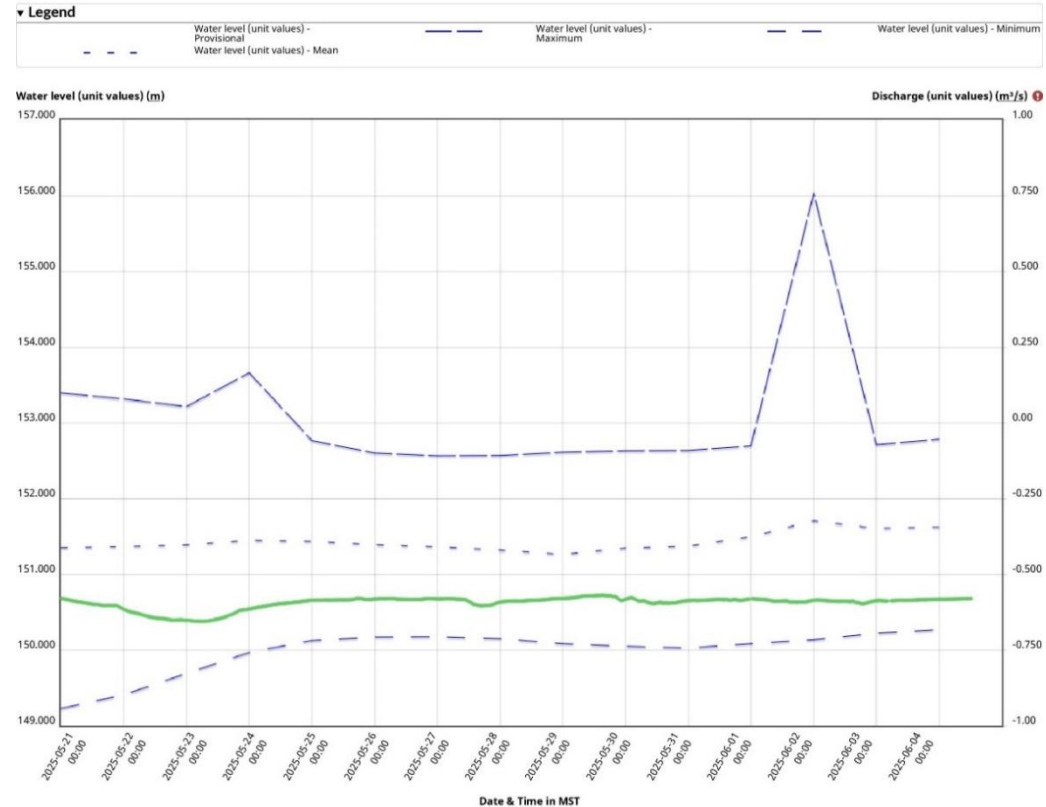
Challenges - Environmental

- Record low water levels
- Ice conditions in the Western Arctic
- Service interruptions due to wildfires
- Climate change adaptation



Real-Time Hydrometric Data Graph for MACKENZIE RIVER NEAR FORT PROVIDENCE (10FB001) [NT]

All times are specified in Local Standard Time (LST). Add 1 hour to adjust for Daylight Saving Time where and when it is observed.



Challenges - Operational

- Cost of living and doing business in the North
- Backlog of critical maintenance to marine facilities
- Ageing marine assets
- Evolving Transport Canada regulations



Challenges - Rail System

- CN Rail-operated single-track line how extends only to Enterprise, NT
- 2023 wildfire season significantly damaged the CN rail line from Enterprise to Hay River
- ~3,000 railcar loads delivered bulk fuel from southern Canada to Hay River annually prior to 2023 wildfires.



Opportunities

- MTS governance structure
- Staff expertise
- Western Arctic Marine Training Centre
- M-18 project
- Importance of Arctic sovereignty and security



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Thank you | Merci | Quana
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kinanāskomitin | Mahsı

