



Saoyú-ʔehdacho
National Historic Site

Begháré Tıch'ádıı Káts'eneta Erıhtł'é

The Animal Sign Guide



Parks Canada
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Canada

Máhsi, Thank you

For your cultural knowledge,
wisdom, guidance and support;

Dene translator

Patricia Modeste

Dene proof reader

Sarah Cleary

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Department of Education

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Begháré Ṭich'ádii Káts'eneta Erjht'é

*Sahtúot'ine
Gokodé*

The Animal Sign Guide

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Ekwé



Ekwé beke gháré bek'éots'reshq:

- Xonjbe, “adzə tani” gokə, xonjbe há neká
- Qde ayi gogha nezq k'ə at'j, shuhta le nídé ne yíi górzqa tu njlj

Tjch'ádii tsóné

Ekwé tsóné netsjle garénədə há beyí gogá. Jhbé nídé, ekwé jt'ó tq hezá t'á betsóné netssele areyqné eferjt'e, kúlú xai nídé aju ghq shéye t'á eferít'ele. Jts'é tsóné nechá qt'e – otj dléabéré k'e ejiredele lájt'e qt'e. Łuk'ə há xat'á há nídé ot'j tsele areyqné lájt'e eferjt'e lájt'e, dechjare ghq shéya t'á. Kúlú jhbé nídé jt'ó ghq shéya t'á betsóné dezene há det'ó.

Tjch'ádii há jt'ó, k'áidzá ekanj bet'úe, jt'ó ts'íawehwe

Jt'ó, k'áidzá ekanj bet'úe, jt'ó ts'íawewe ghqadi. Jts'é rjts'əo deyare kanjwe nídé dech'jdá t'á jt'ó, k'áidzá ekanj bet'úe, jt'ó ts'íwhi. Diri gonáq tjch'ádii há hja k'ola yáwhela gháda gha sóqni. Ekwé eyi zq ts'ía há bedzio há ęła godé gqj; bedzio xat'á nídé zq whíle at'j, ts'ída łuk'ə negole t'áqəxq nídé zq whíle at'j. Eyi tjch'ádii náráwhále, ot'j eyi wela beghánadí – eyi ch'ue há tjch'ádii netselia yeghq sheya qt'e.

Tsáwé

Xai nídé ekwé betsáwé katle há jhbé nídé deshqné at'j.

Ekwé



ʔits'é



Jay Frandsen

ʔits'é beke gháre bek'éots'ershq:

- Gokəgəne k'ola hich'ine há bekəchu netsele neká at'į
- Gokə nedé – há k'ahjini eterehdo
- ʔits'é ɔde kareʔá tsele há nídé eyia at'į



ʔits'é

Sahdezene



Anné Guindon



Sahdezene beke gháre bek'éots'ershq:

- Beke lat'á k'e bání xonjbe
- Bekelú lagokegqone nek'one qt'e

Tjch'ádii tsqone

Tjch'ádii ęta gotsqone ęęę'e, bet'a asjı yáníę beta wela, jie, há tehtsá tjch'ádii netsel k'ola beta wela. Bé ghq sháye t'á, kúlú, betsqone dezene há betsj nátse. Sahcho tsqone beta xaghadzá sqoni.

Neyi kaorile

Sahcho (beęęq chirı natse t'á 'káweęa') há bekelú lagokegqone hjch'ine t'á neyi gots'ę detehtsá netsele, há dıę ekanı eyı neyi gots'ę kagole. Qde neyi kaorıla k'á ne há njba há, qdeye ne káredlá k'á yagola, há gonáq k'ola danı ayıla k'ola beorátı – betsqone há beke há k'ola heorát'ı.

Ts'ı k'e edekerets'e

Sah ts'ı k'e edekerets'e nıde goghá ehda ts'ı k'e wela. Sahcho beghá dehbae ehdáe k'ola bek'e, sahdezene bekwıghá ehkw'ı reęá há dekwoile nıde dezene denıdı. Ayıı ts'ı begha nezq nıde eyı ts'ı sıı bek'e qde begha nezq sıı bek'e kw'ıhchıne wıle.

Dene náoweré ghq godı nek'one datlé

Sahcho nezq betserıhcha sıı surı bet'áoreęá qt'e. Sahtu Dene há Tani mola ke há tjch'adıı gojk'q natse qt'e yek'ókerezhq. Qhda ká yeghq gokede "dene nechá ká" naxenı arıdı yek'okuruzhále gokedi t'á godá ekakedıle.



**Sahdezene beke gháré
bek'éots'eresheq:**

- Bela t'á belakw'ene gháré hjt'ále hjkáre qt'e
- Bekelú lagokegqóné nechá detq nedé



Sahcho

Diga



Sahdezene beke gháré bek'éots'eresheq:

- Tłı lajt'e beoratı: ełekt'e t'á otı bet'á edegháts'ereda láıkt'e. Gokát'ıa bekwé ch'íré deto ets'aréhmqone há tlı kelú lagokeqone hıch'íne káweqa, kúlú tlı eghálaeda lájt'éle kúlú tlıwá ke lájt'ále
- Bekelú lagokeqone hıch'íne hıde ts'é káweqa
- Eht'éta k'énada nıde eht'é k'e beke k'á gorat'ı ghanek'one qt'e

Tıch'adıı tsone

Dıga tsone otı t'ue lájt'e belo hıchıne. Beta ekwéné tone há beta k'ola eghá tı, eyı t'á hıdo dánét'e sa nıde hejı há wıle at'ı.

Yarıwo

Tı nıde, dıga tı ełehé k'enaá gots'e dúwe kienıne yákerıwo. Dıga tı gotıch'adıı akıt'e há yákerıwo nıde yeta dene ts'é gokede dáudı nıde asıı gode gha bek'éots'urushá kııwe t'á kedı.

Dirı dıga ke
arht'échu qt'e.



Sahdezene beke gháré bek'éots'ershq:

- Beketl'a ets'áremqne
béorat'j bekelú
lagokeqone nechá
- Bekelú lagokeqone nechá
- Beghá bekátl'a monq q't'e
t'a k'ényesq t'a bekátl'a
detlq, zhata dáudí nídé
kwewa t'a k'ényezo
- Beke k'é horat'jle

Tjch'ádii tsqné

Nqda otí nqdaya lákjt'e, detsqné
neqí yele dáudí nídé asj yíyele
nakeneh, t'a begots'jhaále.
Betsqné dezene gots'q bets'j nátse.



Hans Reisenleiter



Nqda

Nogéere

J. Pleau



Nogha

*Gonaa
tich'adii
areyoné tti
há nodaya
há lákýt'e*

Nogéere

Nogéere diga lákýt'éle, goke garénadé diga lájt'éle koyí k'ínakeǎá.

Nogha

Nogha tich'adii nátse qt'e t'á bech'áonejj há gøzhodéwé há narego qt'e gúlú ek'áowhéle njwé t'á goch'á k'enada. Nogha qde tich'adii kw'éné há bé há wela nídé eyia ghø shéyø qt'e há dñjå ekaní k'ola t'á godí t'á bet'á gotsónéta eghá tq t'á t'ue nájt'e. Eyi k'ola belø hich'íne qt'e.

Dene náoweré ghø godi nek'óne datlé

Nogha nákerégó há gokzho t'á Sahtu Dene há Tani Mõla há gokrjhchá. Gokrjhchá t'á gokw'éné wela nídé gots'é ats'et'jle há dzábegho gots'edéle qt'e.



Jay Frandsen



Nqwha

Diri ṭich'ádii ṣj̣j̣ naneᵛj̣ gháré
tehk'áe, ṭich'ádii netsel ekan̄j̄, cḥj̄
kan̄j̄ ghᵛ shéyᵛ t'á begháts'edále
ᵛt'e. Nᵛ nechá k'e k'enahᵛa. Bé
ghᵛ shékeyᵛ t'á gotsóné dezene há
hehdowe t̄ewela. Eyí "raah!" hadi
bewahkw'ᵛ níde ᵛt'í nᵛdaya há
cḥj̄ há lákedi, eyí wakh'ᵛ níde eyí
ṭich'ádii t̄ᵛ eyiadi.

Nqwha

Ch'ux̣e



Fritz Mueller



Dléa

Ch'ux̣e

Diri ṭich'ádii whík'énada há k'jwá há tse gḥ shéṭ begha neẓ, ch'ux̣e q̣de goregho, tsi, há decḥ t'á aṣj̣ yahoḷ yáwela nídé areỵq̣né yek'áreᵛa. Betsóné netṣele dléabéré herecho há deshíle gots'ę̣ ɣt'ŋ̣, há dehbae beorat'j̣. Goké k'e dikaṇj̣ beorat'j̣ beket'á ets'áreṃq̣né béorat'j̣ bekelú lagokeg̣q̣né nechá eyi t'á ts' i ekaṇj̣ k'e dekenaj̣ṭle. Areỵq̣né q̣déye ṭich'ádii etene g̣ɣḷj̣ nídé eyi k'e neẓo k'e kenada.

Dléa há Tsele

Dek'otse há Gokw'j̣k'e At'j̣

Diri ṭich'ádii netṣele ke q̣de aket' i nídé areỵq̣né gotsóné netṣele TicTac© láṇj̣ herehcho dehbae kířila gháre gok'éorej̣o há oṭj̣ dḷjabéré ɣt'ŋ̣ ts' i t'ue ḥyzháre k'e láṇj̣, há ot' i ts'énq̣ḥj̣ú ḷajt' e. Dléa kaᵛewák'w'ę̣!



Jay Frandsen

Wayne Lynch

Tsele

Tsá

Tsá gonáq̄ t̄ich'ádíi lájt'éle tuta begha nez̄o t'á tuta ták̄j̄ ȳj̄ nádé q̄t'e dir̄i ər̄jht'é kad̄i. Tsá x̄j̄yał̄j̄ t'á náokeredéle q̄t'e, kúlú tse, dech̄j̄ ekán̄j̄ yák̄j̄pa t'á goreh̄q̄le gok'éorej̄o. Tsá golakw'énége got'ué ḡq'̄j̄ t'á goke k'é h̄j̄úle q̄t'e. Tse, dech̄j̄ yák̄j̄pá t'á gotsóné deyí há oł̄i tselá lájt'e. Tse, dech̄j̄ ekán̄j̄ yaγ̄ıpa nach̄j̄le t'á tsák̄j̄ yájt̄sı nach̄j̄yale bek'éyagola bek'éorej̄o. Tsá tsák̄j̄ tan̄j̄ gots'é tew̄o tse gokw'éle ekan̄j̄ bek'e kıorela ȳj̄ nádé q̄t'e. Tsá tsák̄j̄ tu gha nõn̄ıpa ts'ęneę weq̄o t'á bet'á tu dáetl'é há bet'á neę weht̄sę.

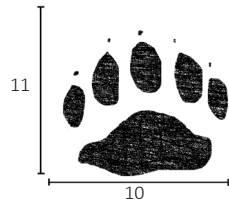


Tsá

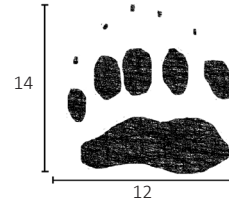
Duru Begharé
 Tych'ádu
 Káts'eneta
 Erıhtt'é
 Whuru
 Bek'eorujá

Dirı tıch'ádıı gozí Sahtúot'ıne
 Gokedé t'á halq gots'é
 gok'éorejq qt'e.

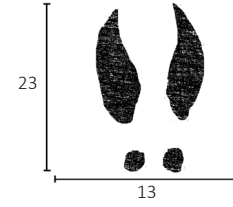
Tıch'ádıı goke eyı gháre ayı qt'e,
 dárecho qt'e, goké dáredo,
 daréhká qt'e yek'éokerezhq.



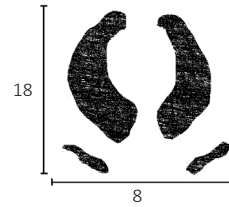
Black Bear
SAHREZENE



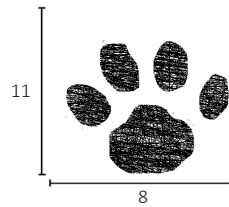
Grizzly Bear
SAHCHO



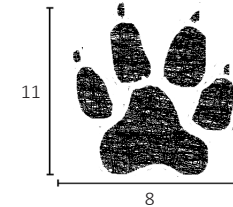
Moose
JTS'É



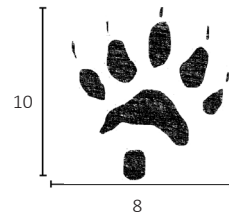
Caribou
EKWĚ



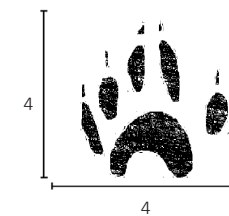
Lynx
NQDA



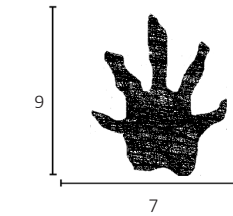
Wolf
DIGA



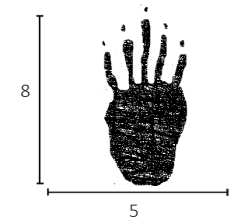
Wolverine
NQGHHA



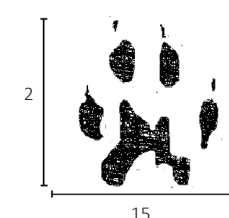
Pine Martin
NQWHĖ



Beaver
TSÁ



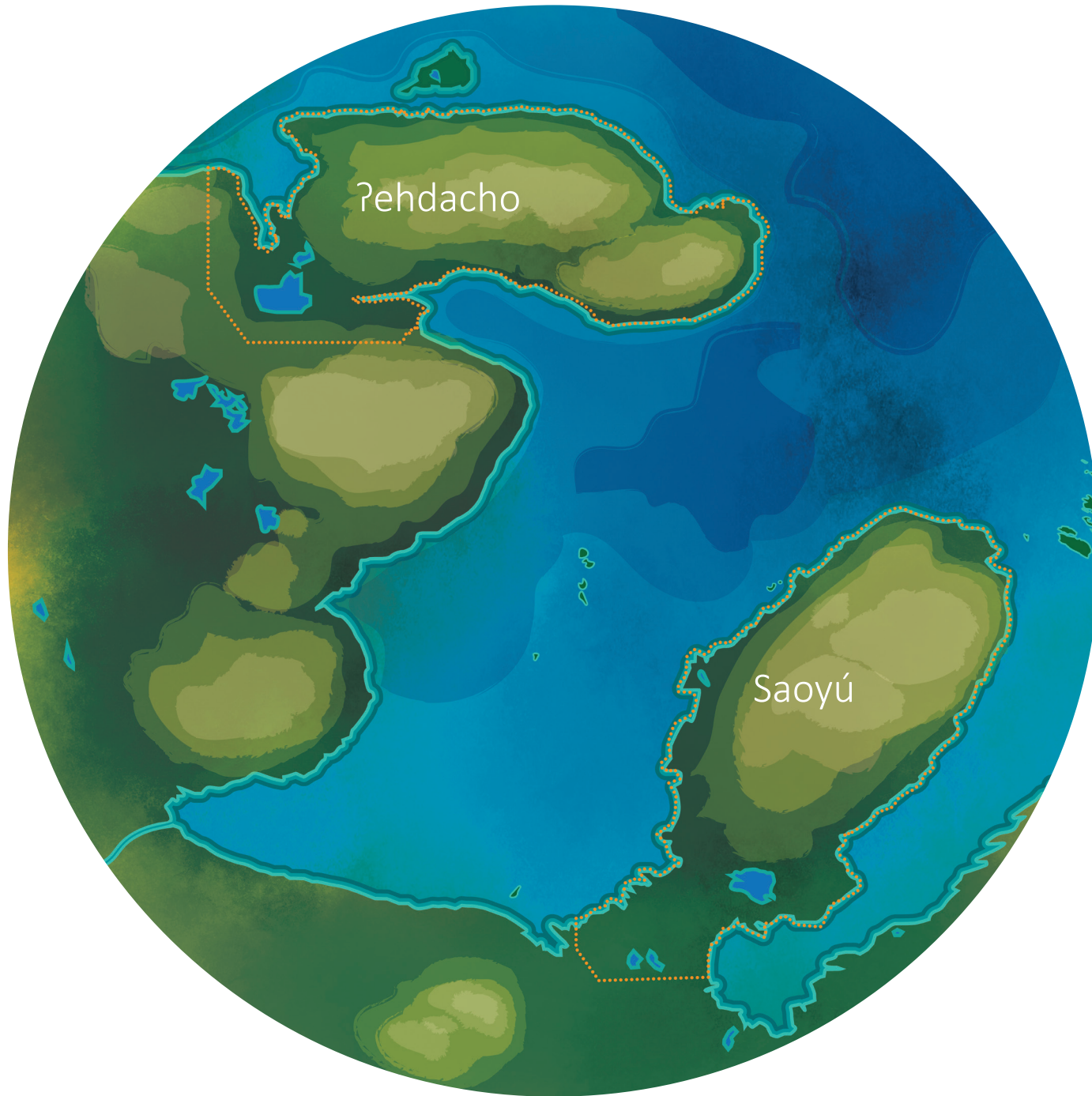
Porcupine
CH'UĚ



Red Squirrel
DLÉA



Human
DENE



The Animal Sign Guide

English Version

Caribou



Tracks:

- Curving, “half-moon” hooves, with angled dew claw behind
- Found in a variety of habitats, from the alpine tundra to lush valley bottoms

Scat

Caribou scat has jelly bean-sized pellets that are oval-shaped and dimpled. In summertime, when caribou eat leafy greens, these pellets clump together, but their winter diet of lichens keeps pellets separate. Moose feces are larger – roughly the size of chocolate-covered almonds. They look like compacted sawdust in spring and fall, when moose feed on woody stems. But a diet of leafy vegetation in the summer makes pellets dark and smooth.

Antlers and Rubs

Keep an eye out for peeled, roughed-up bark on willows and other woody plants. Male moose rub vegetation with their antlers in shows of strength during rutting (mating) season. You may also come upon old, discarded antlers from either species. Caribou are the only ungulate species in which both sexes grow antlers; males shed theirs after the autumn rut, while breeding females lose them after calving in the spring. Though it's tempting to take antlers as a souvenir, please leave them – they're a source of nutrients for porcupines and other rodents.



Caribou Scat



Moose Scat



Fur

Caribou shed their winter coats (wiry guard hairs and softer fur) in summertime.



Tracks:

- Pointed tips, rounded dew claw
- Long, nearly-parallel hooves
- Often found in moist, boggy areas or close by



Moose

Black Bear



Tracks:

- Curved upper edge of palm pad and alignment of digits
- Relatively short claws

Scat

Scat from both species looks similar, containing seeds, berries, and insects. Feeding on meat, however, makes for black, smelly scat. Grizzly feces are more likely to contain roots.

Digs

With strong arm muscles (their characteristic shoulder 'hump') and sharp claws, grizzlies can dig for roots, insects, and burrowing rodents. Their dig sites feature overturned soil and moss, scratch marks, and other sign – like scat and tracks.

Rubs

When bears stop to scratch on a tree, they leave some fur behind. Grizzlies have wiry, wavy brown strands, while black bears have straighter hairs which range from blonde to black in colour. Favourite rub trees have smoothed bark on one side.

Culture Note

Showing proper respect for sahcho is very important. The Sahtu Dene and Métis have long recognized the power of this animal. Elders speak about “the big guys” indirectly to avoid drawing their attention.



Tracks:

- Flatter upper edge of palm pad and alignment of digits
- Long, thick claws



Grizzly

Wolf



Tracks:

- Canine shape: symmetrical, with lobed palm pad, but larger than those from most domestic dogs
- Outer digital pads splay outward
- Claws may be visible if tracks are preserved in mud, clay, silt or snow

Scat

Wolf scat looks ropey and tapers at one end. It often contains bone shards and lots of fur, so it breaks down slowly over many months.

Howls

At night, listen for the unmistakable, mournful howling of wolf packs. Wolves are nocturnal and make these sounds to communicate, sending warnings or signals to others.

A well defined wolf track.



Tracks:

- Distinctly rounded track outline and digital pads
- Digital pads large relative to palm pad
- Bottom edge may be softened by dragging fur, especially in snow or sand
- No claw marks visible

Scat

Lynx, like domestic cats, take care to bury or cover their feces, so their scat is hard to find. It is black and smelly.



Lynx



Wolverine

Other Canids and Felids

Fox

Foxes have smaller, more oval tracks than wolves, and they typically take meandering routes.

Wolverine

A ferocious but evasive species, wolverine feed on scavenged kills and small rodents makes their scat ropey and full of fur. It tapers at both ends.

Culture Note

Wolverines are highly regarded by the Sahtu Dene and Métis for their quickness and cleverness. Respect is shown for wolverines by keeping away from carcasses and not speaking negatively about them.

Fox



Pine Martin

These secretive hunters, preying on small rodents and birds, are solitary and rarely seen. They roam over large individual territories. Their meat-based diet lends scat a black colour, and it has a curling, coiled shape. If you hear a raspy “raah!” call that sounds like a hybrid of cat and bird calls, you may be listening to one of these elusive mustelids.



Pine Martin



Porcupine



Red Squirrel

Porcupine

These slow-ambuling rodents have an appetite for bark and wood, porcupines leave extensive chew marks on shrubs, trees, and wooden structures. Their scat appears relatively smooth, is green to brown in colour, and forms peanut-sized pellets. Tracks show their characteristic long digits, which help them climb trees. They often use trails made by other species for easier walking.

Squirrels

Red and Arctic Ground

Sign from these little rodents includes rounded brown pellets that are similar to a TicTac® in size, mushrooms drying on tree branches, and hulled conifer seed cones. Listen for ground squirrels' high-pitched squeaks and the rapid-fire chirp of the red squirrel. But if you see sign of either species, keep careful watch over your snacks – they might try to help themselves while you're not looking!



*Arctic
Ground
Squirrel*

Beaver

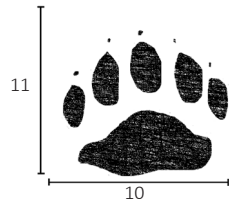
Their amphibious lifestyle makes beavers a unique mammal within this guide. Although they're relatively shy, you will probably see sign from these busy, tree-chewing animals. Beavers have distinct tracks owing to webbing between their digits. Their scat is coarse and woody, resembling pellets of compacted sawdust. You are most likely to encounter chewed logs, tree stumps, and beaver-built "structures". Beavers dwell in lodges, mounds of partly-submerged woody debris. They also block flowing water with dams to create ponds and wetlands.



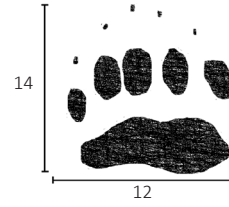
Beaver

Quick Reference Tracking Guide

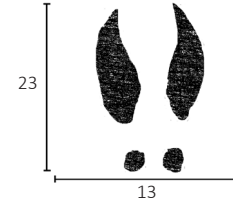
Sahtúot'jne Gokədə́ words are the names by which animals have been known for generations. Track sizes indicate the approximate length and width (in cm) of adult prints.



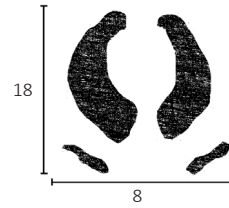
Black Bear
SAHREZENE



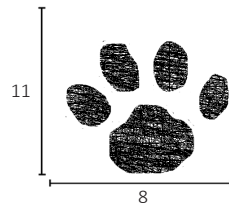
Grizzly Bear
SAHCHO



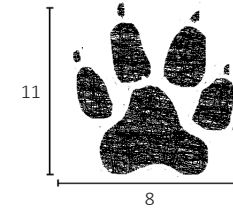
Moose
JTS'É



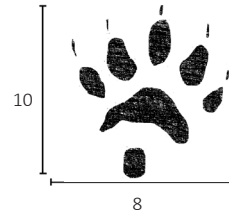
Caribou
EKWĚ



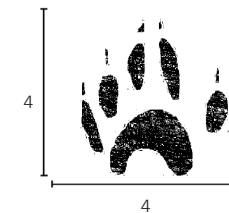
Lynx
NŌDA



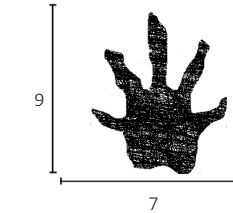
Wolf
DIGA



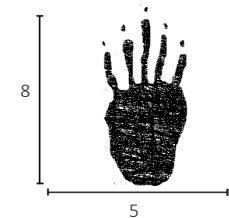
Wolverine
NŌGHA



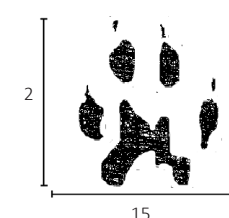
Pine Martin
NŌWHĒ



Beaver
TSÁ



Porcupine
CH'ŪĚ



Red Squirrel
DLÉA



Human
DENE

