



# REFERENCE PAPERS

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## THE NATIONAL PARKS OF CANADA

### ADDENDUM

It was announced late in February 1972 that more than 18,500 square miles of land in the Yukon and Northwest Territories had been set aside to create three new national parks -- in the Kluane area of the Yukon Territory, and, in the Northwest Territories, along the South Nahanni River and on the Cumberland Peninsula of Baffin Island. These are Canada's first national parks above the 60th Parallel.

Their creation means that ten new parks have been established since 1968, whereas only two were set aside in the preceding 30 years. For the first time, outstanding natural areas in every province and territory of Canada are represented in the national parks system.

The three northern parks will increase the total area of Canada's national parks by more than 50 per cent, from 31,300 square miles to 49,800 square miles.

The three northern parks contain some of the most spectacular scenery in Canada.

The Kluane area (8,500 square miles), in the southwest corner of the Yukon Territory, includes Mount Logan, the highest peak in Canada (19,850 feet) and one of the world's largest non-polar icefields systems.

The new park along the South Nahanni River covers 1,840 square miles -- more than double the 870 set aside in April 1970. The South Nahanni is Canada's most spectacular wild river and the best of it is now protected within the park, which includes Virginia Falls (twice as high as Niagara), three major canyons reaching 4,000 feet in height, and a vast number of caves and sulphur hot-springs.

RP/A