

## SUMMARY MEETING NOTES

Tagish River Habitat Protection Area  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Kwanlin Dün Cultural Center, Classroom A – Whitehorse  
December 13, 2017 10pm-4pm

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### Attendees|

#### Steering Committee Members:

Mark Wedge CTFN · Nathalie Lowry CWS · Margaret Campbell CWS · Frank James CTFN ·  
Johanna Smith YG-EMR · Albert James CTFN

#### Observers|

Randy Taylor CTRRC · Paul Dabbs LAC

#### Other Staff|

Tess McLeod YG-ENV

### Regrets|

Matt Clarke YG-ENV · Georgianna Low CTFN

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### Welcome

#### Opening Prayer

#### Agenda and previous meeting notes

- The agenda was approved
- The notes from the October and November meetings were approved.

#### Updates

- The Carcross/Tagish Renewable Resources Council (CTRRC) is committed to working with the management planning partners to assist with implementation and implementation tracking of the Tagish River Habitat Protection Area (HPA) management plan once it is complete.
  - The CTRRC may also have funds to contribute to the implementation of the management plan.
  - Partnership with WildWise to help in educational initiatives would be one opportunity we should consider during implementation. WildWise has done

recent work with Carcross/Tagish First Nation (C/TFN) on bear view education and other projects that went well.

- a C/TFN Land Management Board (LMB) meeting was held on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017
  - The Tagish River HPA planning process was discussed, the concept of the wildlife corridor was discussed at previous meetings.
  - The LMB indicated their agreement of the importance of a wildlife corridor in the Tagish area for wildlife; however there were some concerns regarding this particular area and the need for more information on the wildlife values as well as the need for C/TFN citizen input on this idea.
  - By making this area of land a wildlife corridor, consideration of what that may mean in regards to C/TFN future development, needs to be clear and have support from C/TFN citizens.
  - The Steering Committee will wait to hear back from the LMB and C/TFN regarding direction on this topic. C/TFN will look into information needs to help with this discussion.
- Two species that likely occur in the Tagish River HPA have been added to Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act: Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) and Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) both are listed as Threatened. They should be reflected in the recommendations put forth in the management plan.
- A Tagish resident sent a letter outlining some concerns with the planning process for the Tagish River HPA. Concerns included meaningful input into the process as well as management measure that may be put in place that could affect use of the river front.
  - There is a need to reach out the community with information about the status of the planning process and when residents can expect to be further engaged.

#### **Tagish River HPA – review of the draft management recommendations**

- The Steering Committee reviewed edits to the draft recommendations document titled – *Draft December 2017: Tagish River HPA Management Recommendations*. The sections reviewed were: Boating and Shoreline and Waterfront Use.
  - The Steering Committee discussed management concerns regarding docks on the Tagish River HPA.
  - There is a need for further information on how Water Lot Leases may impact water related rights under the Umbrella Final Agreement and CTFN's Final Agreement.
  - More information is also needed on the actual human impact footprint on the Tagish River.
- Changes to each section discussed at this meeting will be reflected in an updated draft

- The Steering Committee will continue to make edits to this document at the next meeting in January 2018 – outstanding review needs include: Fish, Wildlife, Birds, Water Quality and Quantity, and Climate Change.

#### **Indigenous Land Use Planning – Presentation by Tami Grantham (CTFN)**

- Tami gave a presentation about the Indigenous Land Use Planning Process that C/TFN is working on in the Southern Lakes region.
  - This planning process is being led jointly by C/TFN, Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwächän Council.
  - The plan will focus on Indigenous world views with strong influences from Traditional Knowledge sources and language.
- The Tagish River HPA Management Plan and the Tagish Local Area Plan will be incorporated into the overall Indigenous Land Use plan once they are complete.

#### **Closing thoughts and prayer**

- The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on January, 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018.