

SUMMARY MEETING NOTES

Tagish River Habitat Protection Area
Steering Committee Meeting
Tagish Community Centre
May 16th, 2017

Attendees|

Steering Committee Members:

Mark Wedge CTFN · Miles Johnson CTFN · Georgianna Low CTFN · Nathalie Lowry CWS · Matt Clarke ENV · Todd Powell ENV

Observers|

Randy Taylor CTRRC · Paul Dabbs TAC

Other Staff|

Tess McLeod ENV · Tomoko Hagio EMR

Regrets|

Albert James CTFN · Margaret Campbell CWS · Frank James CTFN

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Agenda

Updates

- The Tagish River is very low at the moment compared to the last two years; however if you look over a longer term it is not extreme. It is ~30-40cm lower the first week of May this year compared to 2016.
- Boats have been seen out on the water already. There is a lot of open water but the buoys have not been put out yet; did not want to encourage use of the river yet.
- There was a helicopter picking up water from the river. It is most likely work that was being done by Yukon government, Community Services. The Steering Committee would like more information on this work. The Steering Committee should consider aircraft use in the area in the management plan. Notices could be placed at the airport with information on no fly zones and times.
- We need to be very cognisant of the overlapping issues with the Tagish Local Area Plan (TLAP) process. For example the boat launch overlaps the boundary of both processes. Wildlife is another very clear overlapping topic, among others.
 - The approval process for the TLAP is different than with the Tagish River HPA planning process.
 - The TLAP committee will be meeting in the coming weeks.

Management Plan Drafting

- The Steering Committee feels there has been a lot of work and information collected at this point and it is time to get management recommendation ideas out on paper.
- The Steering Committee reviewed an outline on an approach to drafting the plan using spring – migratory birds as an example. The Steering Committee is comfortable with this approach at this time. There will need to be more discussion about specifics and where different topics fit within the draft plan. The trick will be to decide where specific recommendations lie. At this point in drafting we may see a lot of overlap. We will need to consider season transitions – each season does not end abruptly but that different themes will move between seasons. We need this time to anchor ideas to see where we still need discussion or more research.
 - The main sections are:
 - Background (Traditional and Scientific)
 - Challenges and Opportunities
 - Interacting with the River
 - Management Options and Recommendations
- It was agreed that June may a good time to work on getting a draft plan outlined and as much detail written where possible.
- CWS representatives are unable to attend the meeting for June therefore there will not be quorum. The TLAC representative is also unavailable to meet in June.
- The YG Planner will work to coordinate plan drafting by meeting with CTFN Heritage Branch as well as communicating with Steering Committee members by email and smaller working groups.

Next Steps

- There is a need to get back to the community of Tagish with what stage of planning we are in and to summarise what we have heard so far. July 1 celebrations in Tagish may be a good time to do this.
- Will work on creating a ‘what we heard’ document for this event.
- Will also get the website up to date with meeting note summaries.
- CTFN would still like to approach YG for a coffee type meeting to brief senior management (Chief and Minister Level). There are still concerns around going through all of this work and not having agreement by all parties.
- The CTFN Learning Center Grand Opening is from June 19-21st, everyone is invited.

Closing Thoughts