

Kusawa Park KDFN Meeting Input

KD Potlatch House

April 24, 2014

Input was received through an open meeting format and recorded on flip charts as follows:

Overall comments:

- Want FN citizens involved in planning – grassroots, sub-committee

Heritage

- Make sure we know where old camps are and are not destroyed
- Will there be signage at these sites? Want to let public know about Mrs. Ned's camps, please respect
- Like to see signs in FN languages (as with Sea to Sea Highway – Squamish-Whistler, BC)
- Geographical Place Names
- Haines, Alaska Fish and Wildlife official Tim Ackerman and documented trail and stone house in southern part of the park
- Are any cabins restorable? Most are on Settlement Land ; decisions by FN's
- Want to see resources for restoring old places

Traditional Use

- Annie Ned used to stay at Stony Creek
- Takhini River Campground was put in at Annie Ned's fish camp; Kusawa Lake Campground was put in at her second camp
- YG was informed a traditional camp will be built at Kusawa Lake outlet in June 2014 with tent frames, cooking shelters, drying racks to teach FN people about traditional use
- Camp poles burnt by tourists
- Let people know about our rights
- Teach our kids how to get our traditional food; stay open for our camps
- FN fishnets and people trolling for fish; snag up in nets
- People who want to take pictures of animals that FN want to hunt; public needs to be educated about our rights
- Signs to protect property - not OK to take
- People camping where we are hunting

Facilities

- Can there be lodges built? – no one else can apply for land; 20 private lots in park area

- Want FN people to take training as park rangers; need good FN representation e.g. Tombstone and Qikiqtaruk plans
- Interpretive centre that educates about the history
- Want to be able to fence off traditional sites – Russel fence, eco-friendly, not chain link
- Are there guidelines for facilities like outhouses, docks? (Like other agencies) Parks needs to get permits; want to make sure don't affect land

Fish & Wildlife

- Is there a baseline study? YG Env. Doing a fish population assessment study summer 2014; sheep survey in 2009
- Need traditional use surveys, too
- How could sport fishing affect lake? Some lakes are declared “high quality waters” with higher mgmt..
- Monitor global warming effects
- Monitor salmon population: how many coming up river? Old spawning grounds, recovery program
- Leave No Trace ethic e.g. carry out toilet paper
- Protect calving areas and rearing – moose, sheep, caribou

Access

- FN people can use “current methods” for hunting/fishing – ATV's, boats, argo's
- Old trails can be upgraded
- FN trails not well documented; 2007 mapping of recreational trails
- No motorbikes/trail bikes at night – noise, park after 9pm

Commercial

- Mgmt. committee needs to do impact/benefit discussion about any activities; look at principles; effects on traditional uses and habitat
- Want to see benefits to FN's from businesses operating in park
- Uniqueness of area makes it a product: people will come from all over; need co-operative management
- Dog mushing and horses affect trails, wildlife: need more research, possibly regulate
- How much is too much
- Need short term/long term plan