

## **Kusawa Park CAFN Meeting Input**

### **Takhini River Subdivision**

**February 26, 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
- Frustration that outfitters can make \$'s from land but FN people cannot e.g. no commercial fishing
- CAFN is equal partner even though not in treaty
- No boundary line in old days
- (Kusawa Lake) Road put in half way in 1944
  - 1<sup>st</sup> campground put up over grayling camp
  - People moved further down
  - Then 2<sup>nd</sup> campground put up over another grayling camp
- “We were shafted for land down there”
  - No place for traditional use
- We want to be heard because we were forgotten
- Vision is 2008 – re-visit?
  - Mainly done with Elders

#### **Commercial Use**

- Right of first refusal on toll booth in future
- Want impact studies on effects of commercialization (e.g. chopper flights)
- Scale is very important
  - Rate of development
- Want to see benefits to FN people
- Dog mushing is traditional but can have impacts on trails and affect wildlife and furbearers

#### **Heritage and Culture**

- People should know what Annie Ned, Angela Sidney and Kitty Smith said about Kusawa. Also Louise Davis
- Many Tlingit trails from trading -want to keep these trails
- Might need to get Klukwan okay about old Tlingit trails – shared trails
- Caribou corrals

- Gatherings in the park, hosted by Kusawa Management Steering Committee. Alur Dan Park – combine Southern Tutchone and Tlingit
- Might need to get Klukwan OK about old Tlingit trails – shared trails
- Need to know trail history before deciding if okay to share
- Need to promote place names (Southern Tutchone and Tlingit)
- Need more research (especially south end) – priority on oldest people
- Want to see camps for people e.g. Annie Ned camp, gopher camp; get the youth out
- Need to educate ourselves before we make it “open sesame” – agreement between First Nations, make sure all satisfied
- Stewardship program needed – include monitorings

### **Traditional Uses**

- Fees for park access – could limit use
- Outfitters use of park
- Canoeists don't like net setting
  - Feel uncomfortable
  - “interfere” with their “wilderness experience”
  - Tourists need to be educated
- Public campgrounds limit our rights, no settlement lands
  - Take over traditional use areas
  - Other campers don't like FN hunters/fishers
- Many other sheep hunters
  - Boats are full by the time we're there
- Q: How does CAFN have input into wildlife mgmt..?
- A: Wildlife not managed by parks, same as outside park – park management committee can make recommendations in future
- Current river campground is Annie Ned's old one
  - Can we get it back? Recognition?
  - Lake campground was Jake Smith's camp
- Steamboat/Mendenhall Landing was a place where nets were set

### **Recreational Uses**

- Need park rangers to help monitor
  - First Nations people
  - Stewardship
- 3 FN's should be able to use campground for free
  - “paying to use our own backyard”

- Citizens will feel they benefit
- “Don’t want another Banff” – balance rec. uses

### **Access**

- Quads can affect land, like shaggy mane patches
- Need to be fair about quad access and clearly designate areas
- Aircraft landings
- Steamboat/Mendenhall usage affects FN use of the park
  - “gateway” to park
  - Affect fishing + FN fishing
  - Effect on properties

### **Facilities and Services**

- First aid facility – chopper landing\* need impact studies first
- RV sump dump – avoid dumping in hunting area

### **Habitat management**

- Don’t want to lose mgmt.. control for wildlife in park
- Used to get “net-fulls” of fish, now lucky to get one
- Beetle kill is affecting park – firesmart needs
- Kusawa was a benchmark lake for water quality
  - Want to know status of fish, quality of water
  - What studies done so far?
  - Need to establish salmon number
- Salmon spawning grounds protected
- Need impact studies on habitat to know “how much is too much”
- Be aware of helicopter effects