



Kluane National Park Management Board
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Meeting Minutes 05-24
6:00pm, May 28th 2024
KNPMB Office, Haines Junction

1. Call to Order 6:08pm

Elsabe Kloppers (Chair), Robin Chambers (Vice Chair), Ellen Bielawski, Grace Southwick, Todd Chambers via Google Meets (CAFN Candidate), Linaya Workman (Site Manager, Parks Canada), Christa Egli (Office Manager), John Haselmayer (Yukon Field Unit Superintendent), Lisa Larson (Parks Ecologist), John Trotter (ARRC), Ben Schonewille (EDI), Jonathan Lowey (EDI)

2. Review draft Agenda 05-24

Motion 01 05-24: Ellen motions to approve Agenda 05-2024, Robin seconds, approved unanimously.

3. Review Minutes 04-24

Motion 02 05-24: Robin motions to approve Minutes 04-2024, Ellen seconds, approved unanimously.

4. Presentations & New Business

4.1. ARRC Presentations & Update on Kathleen River Project with John Trotter, Ben Schonewille and Jonathan Lowey with EDI (via Meets)

- Concerns of declining angler success for Lake Trout in Kathleen River
- Research funding was acquired to look into the declining numbers
- Collaborative effort between Parks, ARRC, EDI, CAFN due to how far the fish travel between Kluane, Dezadeash, and Kathleen systems.
- Additional year of research funding provided to continue research into 2024
- Successful snorkel survey done in Mid Aug – Oct 2023 to measure water quality, number counts, and environment assessments
- Plans to repeat snorkel survey in 2024 to confirm numbers, spawn habits, assess habit mapping, genetic analysis
- Keen interest in learning more about the spawning habits as there is the possibility that the lake trout are spawning in the river which would make them a unique population.
- More research needs to be done before decisions can be made about regulation application, but there are some very interesting elements that need to be investigated that are possibly unique to the Kathleen watershed.
- Public consultation to occur fall 2024.

4.2. Introduction of John Haselmayer, Yukon Field Unit Superintendent

5. Old Business

5.1. Chair's Update

- Elsabe attended Parks All-Staff event with Ellen. Always refreshing to see the team and hear about the upcoming parks projects in the works.

5.2. Site Manager's Update

5.2.1. Management Plan

- Executive Director has approved Management Plan. Currently waiting for Senior VP of Operations approval. The board should begin preparing draft letter of recommendation so that it can be sent along with the plan for final review and approval.

5.2.2. Park Season Opening – Just opened, but very cold still.

- Otentik reservations are going well so far, and this is the first year for actual camp ground reservations online.
- Looking for local use feedback.

5.2.3. Sheep Update, MOU and Signatory Discussion

- Board to sign MOU and KFN letter of recommendation today at meeting.
- The Board has a mandate to work with the First Nations for commercial trapping opportunities in the park. FNs have subsistence rights to harvest in the park.

5.2.4. Remediation Update

- Identified that this a priority project with remediation to occur 2025-2030
- Listed as one of the sites under the contaminated site list
- Fuel contamination is primary concern. Looking into soil treatment, be it on-site, or off.
- Once remediation decisions are made, then a plan is created and approved by CAFN, then a tender can be made regarding the treatment.
- Ground water and Pine creek have been tested and are being observed.
- Comms to be developed so that the public can stay informed with accurate information

5.3. Wolverine Management Plan Discussion

- General board comments presented by Elsabe & Ellen focusing on the lack of Yukon data, and lack of current / recently updated data.
- No information on transboundary.
- More concern about wolverine negatively impacting sheep numbers.
- Without knowing current Yukon population numbers, it is difficult for the board to provide informed comments.
- Most of the current recommendations are already being applied here in the Yukon.
- Lack of recognition of traditional knowledge, subsistence rights etc. in the Yukon specifically.
- Questions regarding effectiveness of only "providing education" to the public.
- Be sure to include information on mining and the effects on Wolverines.
- Plans for the board to provide comments to Lisa Larson with Parks so that she can round out her official Parks comment.

5.4. Alsek River Rafting Trip and Culture Camp, KNPMB Contribution

- Parks Canada is working with Champagne Ashihik for a raft trip into Naludi for a 3-day culture camp mid July 2024
- Plans to fly elders in to participate in the culture camp.

- Goals are: "Reconnection", talk kokanee, explore some of the oral history of the area, training opportunity for the CAFN guardians. Learn how to map the river, and do assessments on the way down.
- CAFN 20-25 people, Parks Canada members, 2 Board Members
- Board has reserve funds (\$5500 + funds required to fly 2 board members in) set aside to support the flying in of youth and elders into the camp.
- Board provides verbal support for the project and funds allocation. (*Motion deferred.*)
- River part July 14th-16th, 16th-18th Culture Camp located.
- Todd Chambers is around for the dates and is interested in attending.
- Ellen motions to approve funding, Tom seconds

6. Finance and Administration

6.1. April 2024 Financials

Motion 03 05-24: Grace motions to approve April financials, Ellen seconds, approved unanimously.

6.2. VISA Update

6.3. Signing Authorities Status

6.4. Administrator's Update

6.5. Swag & Merch – Board authorizes Admin ensure merch is stocked up for upcoming GAs

6.5.1. Office Manager Position Competition

- Elsabe will be going away so Robin, Ellen, and Grace to take over.

7. Updates or Additions

8. Action Log Review

9. Next Meeting Dates

- KFN GA June 14-16th 2024
- CAFN GA July 19-21st 2024 @ Kusawa Campground
- June Board Meeting: June 11th 2024 (Burwash Landing)
- July Board Meeting: July 23rd 2024

10. Adjournment 8:35pm



Chair or Vice-Chair



Administration

