



**3Nations**  **BC**  
COLLABORATION & STEWARDSHIP

Guardian Program Update

# Overview

- 3N Coordinator job review
- Guardian community visits and updates
- Hunter/Land User Surveys
- Challenges
- Successes
- Proposed joint training



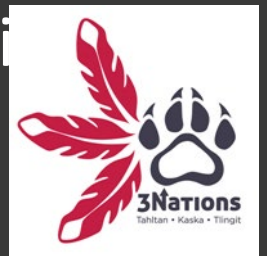
# 3 N Wildlife Coordinator Role Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 2017- Sept 27, 2019

- Coordination of all meetings for the 3 Nations Wildlife Project;
- Develops and maintains good working relationships with the 3 Nations team members, BC provincial staff and any 3 Nation members who may be requesting information;
- Communicates with other First Nations and Government Agencies for follow up from meetings and to complete action items that may be assigned to the incumbent during meetings;
- With direction from 3N WLL, prepares and provides information agenda and supporting materials for all meetings,
- Being willing to make presentations for and in cooperation with the 3 Nations and BC Wildlife Lead
- Works in cooperation with 3N WLL to organize meetings as required to support internal 3 Nations teamwork and to ensure cooperative communication with the BC team members as required,
- Coordinates and supports ongoing communication processes within the 3 Nations and provincial Wildlife staff as required to support wildlife management activities in the 3 Nations territories.
- Provide technical wildlife and lands expertise
- Be involved as needed with strategic planning sessions to make sure front line perspective is included
- Reports and advice as needed



# 3 N Guardian Coordinator Role September 27<sup>th</sup> 2019- Current

- Guardian Community Visits
- Review Data Management
- Research joint reporting options for CSF
- Work with programs to explore joint training initiatives
- Keep guardian programs informed of TWG and Governance outcomes
- Other (feedback from 3 Nations on how they want this position to assist with each program)



# Tahltan Guardian Program November 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2019

- Predator program
- Beaver trapping program
- Wildlife observations
- Land user surveys
- Klappan Moose Count
- Tseneglode Caribou and Climate Change Project
- Hunter surveys & observations
- Joint CO patrols (land & air)
- Transboundary water sampling program
- Jade boulder stone sheep project



# Tahltan Wolf Trapping Program

- Record track observations
- Eliminate numbers of wolves within traditional territory
- Increase ungulate numbers
- Predator management is a priority for Tahltan.
- Focusing on areas around Dease Lake, the Burn, and Klappan.
- Last season a total of 7 wolves were trapped
- The goal of the predator program is to ensure our communities are safe, and to increase the abundance of ungulate populations



# Beaver Trapping Program

- Nuisance beaver removal in partnership with LDM
- Focus along highways with Traditional Territory
- Beaver used for bait in wolf trapping program
- Educational program at schools teaching about skinning hides and traditional use of beaver and harvest



# Data Collection Software

- Lightship  
<https://www.lightshipworks.com/>
- Ability to export to excel and maps
- Hunter survey form
- Hunter info survey
- Theodolite app for photos





# Taku River First Nation Guardian Program November 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019

- Water sampling program
- Invasive species program
- Caribou and wolf surveys
- Wildlife observations
- Land user surveys
- Conflict wildlife workshops with COS (November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019)



# Taku River First Nation Guardian Program

## Additional projects

- Contaminants Sampling
- Working with fisheries
- Climate change preparedness and adaption
- Benthic sampling
- Grizzly Bear Stewardship program
- Archeology

# Overview of Land Guardian Program

## TRTFN Land Guardian Program



### What is the Land Guardian Program?

The Land Guardian program is an initiative of the Taku River Tlingit First Nation (TRTFN) Lands & Resources Department. The Land Guardians act as the “eyes and ears” of TRTFN Lands Department by monitoring land activities that inform decision making. The Land Guardian program supports the long term sustainable management of Tlingit lands and resources and plays a vital role maintaining strong cultural ties to the land and water.



Top right: Land Guardian Shauna Yeomans collects soil samples as part of a remediation experiment. Top left: Land Guardian Trevor Williams planting a willow seedling in a former placer mine site. Bottom: Quinta Carlick & Shauna Yeomans – in 2016, the Land Guardians planted 3000 seedlings in 5 separate placer mine sites as

### What do the Land Guardians do?

- Land Guardians conduct regular monitoring patrols to observe, record & report information on land, water, and wildlife and how they are used.
- Land Guardians act as a liaison between TRTFN Government, Tlingit citizens and the general public.
- Land Guardians conduct inventories of abandoned equipment & contaminants in placer mines.
- Land Guardians engage in harvest monitoring by informing licensed hunters of BC hunting regulations & by working with the local Conservation Officer to monitor for compliance.
- Land Guardians engage in habitat rehabilitation through remediation, re-vegetation, and invasive species management.



Land Guardians Phil Williams & Trevor Williams on a caribou track survey to monitor caribou habitat use.

### Why is this program important?

- The Land Guardian program increases understanding that the Taku River Tlingit First Nation are active stewards of their Traditional Territory.
- The Land Guardian program enables Tlingit citizens to develop a sense of pride in the management of their Traditional Territory.
- The Land Guardian program builds capacity among Tlingit citizens and increases Tlingit engagement in the TRTFN Lands & Resources department and in land management.
- The Land Guardian program promotes cultural revitalization through implementation of cultural values and integration of the program with Elders and youth.



is a proud sponsor of the TRTFN Land Guardian Program.

# Water Sampling Program

- Placer mining activity
- Auxiliary Guardian hired to assist
- Parameters being sampled



# Data Collection Software

- Currently collecting handwritten field data
- Switching over to survey 123
- Arc GIS



# Kaska Dane nan yé dāh Land Guardian Program (Lower Post, Good Hope Lake, Kwadacha)

- Staff gauge data collection program
- Moose population surveys
- CABIN training (online & field data collection)
- Project management training
- Kaska language lessons
- Creating SOP's for guardian program (safety, survey use,
- Winter driving skills training
- Hunter harvest and camp observation surveys



# Kaska Dane nan yé dāh Land Guardian Program Kwadacha

- Training
- Ice Safety Rescue Technician
- Wilderness First Aid
- Wetlands
- Intro to GPS
- Microsoft
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- Surveys
- Mountain Goats
- Kokanee, Bull Trout and Arctic Grayling
- Kokanee Spawning
- Cirque Camp Reclamation
- Olive-sided fly catcher



# Data Collection Software

- Survey 123
- Arc GIS & ARC online
- Avenza pro
- Dropbox for all data collected, photos and templates





# Staff Gauge Data Collection

- 11 stations set up within traditional territory in tributaries into all major river systems
- Locations in proximity of placer mining sites
- Data collected:
  - - water depth
  - - ice thickness
  - - Snow depths
  - -pH, Dissolved oxygen, conductivity, water temp and turbidity
- Community participation and training



# Completed 3N Training

- Wilderness 1st Aid
- Incident Investigation Training (BC Forest Safety Council)
- CO Land Guardian Phase 1
- CO Land Guardian Phase 2
- Eco System Health
- Regulatory Enforcement & Compliance Training(Yukon College)
- Mining and Compliance Training
- App and Map Training
- Archaeology RISC Training



# Joint Training Recommendations

- Avalanche
- Ski-doo/ ATV
- Project Development
- Firearms
- Trapping Course
- Team Building & Workplace Wellness
- Conflict Mediation (Justice Institute of BC)
- Wildlife Danger Tree
- S100/S185 Fire Suppression & Entrapment
- Ice Rescue
- Swift Water Rescue
- Boat Safety
- Bear Awareness
- Environmental Monitor Certification
- Invasive species identification & Community Planning



# Proposed Recommendations from Guardians

- Guardian Involvement with TWG
- 3N to meet to discuss data sharing and collection across the collective territories
- Understanding UNDRIP and its importance to the land guardian program and the work they do



# Traditional Knowledge Observations

- Abundance of berries this season than last year
- River ice freezing from bottom and ice chunks due to rain and warm weather
- Weather (rain in winter months, warmer temperatures)
- Changes in animal behavior



# Hunter Survey Forms Tahltan 2019 Season August – October 2019

- General questions regarding regulation changes
- Overcrowding
- Pollution
- 5 hunter harvest surveys
- 21 wildlife observations
  
- NOT ALL DATA CAPTURED FOR SEASON



# Hunter Survey Forms Kaska 2019 Season August – October 2019

- Hunter harvest surveys (9 completed)
- Hunter Camp Observations ( 24 completed)
- Environmental Concerns (69 completed)
- Wildlife Observations (142 completed)
- Land Patrols Completed ( 65 Completed)



# Land user Surveys TRTFN 2019 Season August – October 2019

- 33 completed in total
- 6 hunter camp observations
- 27 surveys completed with land users





# Challenges from all 3N

- Getting completed surveys during hunting season
- Relationship building with land users
- Better communication as to what guardian programs do
- Capacity issues
- Signs on regulation changes not provided
- Updates when reports are put into RAPP line

# Feedback on options for joint reporting

- Hunter Harvest surveys questions general regulation questions
- Joint report template?
- Joint guardian data collection survey?
- Traditional knowledge reporting

*Shówe sénlá'*

*Meduh*

*Gunalchéesh*

*Thank You*

