

Development Plan and Purpose for Educational Camp and Facility at Mayson Lake

The Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc through its operational arm of the Tk'emlúps Forestry Development Corporation, wish to develop an educational facility on this property at Mayson Lake to explore opportunities of cross cultural education and training in natural resource management in a outdoor setting. The Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc (TteS) have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Thompson River University (TRU) and the two organizations have agreed to will work collaboratively to develop and deliver academic programs, training, accredited courses, certificate, diplomas and degrees of interest.

It is the intent to utilize the identified property at Mayson Lake to establish a camp to which research towards sustainability, management practices and stewardship can be based from.

The camp will be managed by the Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc through the Tk'emlúps Forestry Development Corporation.

The location of Mayson Lake is in the traditional territory of the Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc; the Simpcw First Nation is the closest First Nation neighbor. It is hoped that the development of this facility will make possible a greater involvement of the two bands in further initiatives of relationship building.

The location of the proposed camp has been selected by its proximity to the TteS and TRU. In addition, it has existing research establishment projects currently being managed is close proximity. The concepts of holistic management, fire management, habitat requirements, and watershed influences will be explored and studied in a cross educational framework. Post-secondary education and training opportunities will be facilitated.

The camp will serve as a central point for monitoring management effectiveness of management practices over time and space. It will also serve a facilitation purpose in the desire to re-establish the connection of the land to the youth of the TteS in a framework that brings greater understanding towards resource management in todays' society. The camp will also serve as an educational training facility to facilitate the immediate employment of First Nation workers into the natural resource management sector (fire suppression training, orienteering, fieldwork training, etc).. Concepts of subsistence economy (hunting, trapping, fishing, botanical plants & medicinal plant species) will be explored in a setting allowing for hands on realization of the importance of the seasonal cycles as it impacts management practices today.

A Cultural land ethic combining traditional harvesting practices with worldview and rules for respecting the land and others will be promoted from this camp location.

The facility is eventually to include road access, a network of trails, a boat launch, cabins and an educational training building. This will be built over time as funding and manpower becomes available.