

LANDS AND RESOURCES DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



**Lands and
Resources**
Ucwalmícw Tmícw

JULY 2019

Welcome to our first edition of the Lands & Resources
Department Newsletter!

We are introducing this quarterly newsletter to provide regular updates about the work carried out by the Lands and Resources Department. News and updates will also be posted on the Lil'wat Nation website. www.lilwat.ca

The Land is central to Lil'wat culture and identity as expressed in the
Ucwalmicwts phrase

"Pał7míntwal i ucwalmícwa múta7 ti tmicw"

The land and people are together as one.

This core belief is the cornerstone of the Land's and Resources
Department's work – it's goal being to maximize the
Lil'wat Nation's control over its land and resources.

Lands and Resources Department New Logo



We are very excited to be using this drawing created by Johnny Jones as the logo for our department.

The image can be found in pictographs throughout Lílwat Territory. It symbolizes the traveler.

Look for it on our vehicles and field worker uniforms.

Skél7awlh ~ STEWARD

To honour and recognize the important stewardship role our field workers take on throughout Lílwat Territory they will now be wearing uniforms with the words “Skél7awlh” and “STEWARD”.

The Ucwalmicwts word *Skél7awlh* was described by Charlie Mack as meaning a “resources or game steward” and used to describe a person with the responsibility to manage and protect the land and resources and pass this knowledge on to their kin.

Lands and Resources Department Staff

The Lands and Resources Department has nine (9) full time staff and many more seasonal and on-call workers. We do a variety of work through Lílwat Nation Traditional Territory, which extends south to Rubble Creek, north to Gates Lake, east to the Upper Stein Valley and west to the coastal inlets of the Pacific Ocean. We keep very busy to uphold the Lílwat Nation's Strategic Plan Objective for *"Maximum control over Lílwat Territory"* and working toward the Lílwat Nation Vision of *"Governing Lílwat 7ul and the territory under our own constitution and authority"*

Harriet Van Wart – Director



Ama Sq̓it Tákem Swat (Good day all)

As Director of the Lands and Resources Department, I oversee all the activities of our department, including field work, consultations and accommodations, and On-Reserve land management. I report regularly to Council to seek direction on how best to move forward regarding the stewardship of Lílwat Territory, title and rights. I have been Director since 2015 and working for the Lands and Resources Department since 2004. My educational background includes a master's degree in Indigenous Governance from University of Victoria, and Diploma in Dialogue and Negotiations from Simon Fraser University. Kukwstumkálap for the honour and privilege to work for the Lílwat Nation Lands and Resources Department.

Carrie Lester – Referrals Manager



My names is Carrie Lester and I am the Referral Manager for the Lílwat Lands and Resources Department. As Referral Manager, I am responsible for receiving and responding effectively to all Lílwat Nation referrals/activities throughout the Lílwat Territory (almost 800,000 hectares). I coordinate any archaeological research studies required, for all referrals received. I supervise 2 Full Time Cultural Technicians; and, 3 on call Archaeological Technicians. I have been Referral Manager since 2018 and before that I was the Lands and Resources Department Referral Coordinator since 2015. It is an honour and pleasure to work for the Lílwat Nation Lands and Resources Department for our Lílwat Nation Territory.

Lex Joseph – Cultural Technician



I was hired in 1997 and my first job description was to go on preliminary forest reconnaissance trips. There was no specific plan to follow, so we just made plans on each morning. A specific road or direction was chosen. On the road we would look for places that had cedar trees, we would then search for habitation remains, rock paintings, or trails. As our places to go dwindled we chose to seek guidance from hunters and fishermen. With the information provided we were able to locate culturally modified trees, hunting trails, and cabins. Additional information was taken from a list of known place names. At these places we would look to the place name description and try to determine what activity took place. Now my duties may include assisting the

On-Reserve Lands Officer to locate old lots. During the school year I at times go to public schools to present information about Lílwat culture and heritage for the school children. My work also includes working with the elders. On one trip with the elders we went to visit Lost Lake, where some of the elders today, may have been children when they were last there. My main job duties are to work with the Referral Manager, assessing and evaluating land use referrals, conducting preliminary research, interviewing elders, and other prominent people, and contributing to the education of all local schools.

Johnny Jones – Cultural Technician



My Lílwat name is Yaqalatqa7, (Weather Changer) and my non-native name is Johnny Jones. I'm the Archaeology Field Technician for the Lílwat Nation Lands & Resources Department. I am the acknowledged expert on our culture like our rock paintings, CMT's, house pits, and our Lílwat Traditional Territory. I've been working for the Lílwat Nation since 1991. I started part time after the Lillooet Lake road block and moved to full time in 2008. I had to do something to protect our Lílwat cultural sites from been destroyed. I review the referrals about land use in our territory, and make sure our field workers go out to look at the areas in question. I make sure we are consulted, and our title and rights are addressed before any work moves forward.

Julia Poetschke – On-Reserve Lands Officer and GIS Coordinator



Hello, my name is Julia Poetschke and I am the On Reserve Lands Officer and GIS Coordinator. I am responsible for administering the Lílwat Nation's land registry system and managing land use decisions on reserve by liaising with the Land Management Board, overseeing the Community Land Use Plan, and working with other departments. I also manage our GIS database and create maps whenever needed. GIS stands for Geographic Information Systems; it is a system used to capture, store, analyze and present spatial data. We have a large amount of spatial data for the whole territory which can help inform land use decisions. I have been in my role for two years now and I am very grateful for the opportunity to work with the Lílwat Nation and to help the Lands & Resources Department reach its goals.

Richenda Grafton – Office Coordinator



Entsas Psil'itqwa (Morning Glory) ~

I have been in the Office Coordinator position since January 2019 and I am so proud to be a part of such a wonderful team who are doing such important work for the Lílwat Nation. In my position, I perform all the administrative duties and responsibilities related to the correspondence and communications for the department. As well as the AR / AP for all of the many projects that are ongoing in our Nation. I work closely with the Referrals Manager regarding correspondence and keeping our Community Knowledge Keeper up to date. I am also the Minute Taker for the Referral Committee. I am also the creator of this newsletter that you are reading.

Vanessa Dan – Archaeological, Environmental and Fisheries Technician



Hello, I am Vanessa J. Dan – Kwikwskiska7 (Small Hands). I have been working for the band for most of my technical work. I have been doing Fisheries and In-Stream work since 1995 and hired officially as a Fisheries Technician since 2003. I have also worked as an Environmental Technician since 2014, conducting field work in watersheds throughout Lílwat Territory, and an Archaeological Field Technician since 2017. It is so amazing all the things I have been involved with for Lands and Resources Department in doing this work. I have 2 daughters and 1 granddaughter. I work and think for the future of our children and their children. – Nilh ti, Vanessa Dan.

Oliver James – Archaeological, Environmental and Fisheries Technician



I first started in 1994 working in the Fisheries dept doing different tasks, in stream and out, such as counting Sockeye Salmon, cleaning grandmother slough at #10 Reserve, and dead pitching salmon near the end of salmon spawning season. I trained in Environmental Monitoring through Land and Resources, working on several big projects such as Catalina Creek Flood washouts, and Strawberry Point camp site building. I am also trained as a Fisheries Tech to work on fish fence set up on Birkenhead River, Creel survey on the Chinook salmon, Coho bank walks during cold winter seasons, minnow trapping on the upper Valley streams after Capricorn Creek Flood and Mud slide. I have my certification and experience in Archaeology field work, which includes identifying CMT's, petroglyphs, rock painting's, and house pit depressions. I have worked on different projects throughout my career such as tailed frog survey upper Lillooet River, Birkenhead River Watershed, Birkenhead River enumeration of the Sockeye Salmon, Bird survey's, and I did a lot of archaeology reconnaissance hikes in Lílwat Nation Territory. My various tickets in First Aide include Level 1, Advanced Wilderness First Aide, Swift Water Rescue and recertifications of each area.

Wade Wallace – Fisheries Crew Supervisor



Hi, my name is Wade Wallace. I am the Crew Supervisor for the Fisheries Department. I conduct stock assessment for our salmon in the rivers and creeks ranging from Keyhole Falls down to Harrison Lake. I also assist with Environmental and Archaeological Monitoring.

Arnold (AJ) Nelson – Fisheries Technician



Hello, my name is Arnold Nelson Jr. I am a Fisheries Technician, my job is to count, sample and take care of our salmon. We do this by walking the rivers and looking for spawning salmon, sampling the dead, we take scales measurements and sometimes a small bone in the salmon's head called a otolith which tells the age of the fish the same way the rings of a tree tell age I love working outdoors all day and I love our fish and our water.

Kukwstumckacw

Tammie Jenkins – Archaeological, Environmental and Fisheries Technician



Hello, my name is Tammie Jenkins. I have been a member of Líl'wat since 1986 and I moved here in 1985 after Grade 12. I am 52 years old. I have been working with the Lands and Resources for the past 7 years. My duties here include: Fisheries Technician, Environmental Field Technician and Archaeology Field Technician. They cover an array of different projects, so I am never bored, and every day is a different adventure. Did I mention that I get to work in the outdoors with some pretty fascinating and fun people from all walks of life? Well, folks, for me I'd say, "Living a dream job". Love my life! Love you all ... Kúkwstumckacw

Maxine Bruce – Fisheries and Environmental Manager



Ama sqit Takem Swat

Entsas lhpatq, Lílwatullhkan, Statmecwlhkan

Good day everyone,

My name is Maxine Joseph-Bruce, and I am employed by the Lílwat Nation as the Fisheries & Environment Manager. I've held this role for 14 years now. In this role, I oversee the salmon stock assessment program as well as the environmental monitoring efforts within the Lílwat Nation traditional territory.

The Salmon Stock Assessment program involves river-roving and sampling efforts throughout the Lillooet River system and tributaries for the 5 species of salmon. The Chinook Salmon surveys are conducted from April to September, the Sockeye Salmon surveys are conducted starting in August and completed in late October, the Chum Salmon & Pink Salmon surveys are conducted in the Lower Lillooet River areas

in early to late fall and during the cooler weather the Coho Salmon surveys are conducted throughout the Lillooet River system and tributaries.

The Environmental Monitoring program involves the collection of raw data such as water quality sampling in areas where there's work being conducted "in or about a stream" and around land development and disturbance areas and at times includes conducting wildlife surveys. This work takes us into the Upper Lillooet River area, the Soo River area, in the Duffy Lake area and in the Lower Lillooet River area. The work we undertake involves our efforts in the Upper Lillooet River area around the assessment of geothermal energies; in the Soo River area we are conducting water quality sampling and the Lower Lillooet River and Duffy Lake area we are conducting the Grizzly Bear hair snag surveys. In August, we'll be working in the Whistler area conducting flood mitigation efforts in the Fitzsimmons Creek and in the upper Lillooet River area conducting an environmental assessment for flood mitigation works.

In conclusion, I want to thank Richenda for initiating this newsletter, as you can see, we are quite a hustle and bustle in the Lílwat Nation Lands & Resources Department. As a Lílwat person, I am proud to be working in natural resource management, especially since I'm able to work in my own territory and for my community.

Thanks so much for your interest in what we are doing. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me or stop by to visit, I'm more than willing to share with you.

S'ucum kálap,

Nilh ti

Lhpatq

Maxine Joseph Bruce

Fisheries & Environment Manager

Meet the Joffre Lakes Park First Nation Stewards!!

We are very excited to report that two Stewards, one from N'Quatqua and one from Lílwat, have been hired to work at Joffre Lakes Park for the season. The Stewards are tasked with assisting the Park Rangers with Park maintenance duties and sharing information with the public about N'Quatqua and Lílwat Territories.

Ncat7aoq Pierre – Joffre Lakes Park First Nation Steward



Kalhwa7acw entas Ncat7aoq Lílwatullhkan , Hello everyone my name is Ncat7aoq. I am from Lílwat Nation, I was born in Lílwat. I was raised by our Lílwat Nation elders while learning our ways. I believe it is important to protect the land for future generations to continue living off the land because of the saying “Pal7mintwal I ucwalmicw muta7 ti tmicwa”, which roughly translates to “the people and the land are together as one”. As we respect the land and take care of it the land shall take care of us, the land is where we are raised where we come from, which is why I took this job upon myself to educate people of our ways our laws and our dark history of residential schools and the Genocide that continues to happen today.

Cassidy Pascal –Joffre Lakes Park First Nation Steward



My name is Cassidy Pascal and what I do as a First Nation Park Steward for Joffre Lakes is important for our territory and for our people. It is important to preserve the land and spread messages to take care of the land because we still cherish everything the land gives us for medicine, plants and the animals. Growing up in the N'Quatqua territory and learning the teachings that come from the people and leaders who are from this territory, has helped me grow into the person I am today. The teachings I was informed to pass on are important not only for us but for the ones who visit because together we can make a difference to help keep this land as healthy as it should be. Simply by sharing with others the small tasks we do like picking up garbage on our way out or by staying on trail to help keep the plants healthy for future uses for our people, we can teach visitors the respectful ways to help protect the land.

Joffre Lakes Park Visitor Use Management Plan

Last January, Lil'wat Chiefs and Council appointed a team of Councilors and Land and Resources Department staff to work collaboratively with BC Parks and N'Quatqua to address the high numbers of visitors coming to Joffre Lakes Park.

Since 2010 we have seen a 168% increase in people coming to Joffre Lakes Park. We have witnessed the increased traffic on the road, safety concerns from people parking along the highway, and impacts from the garbage left behind. Lil'wat, N'Quatqua and BC Parks are now working together to try address these concerns using a framework called a Visitor Use Management Strategy.

The Visitor Use Management Strategy starts by identifying key values in the area, then builds strategies and an action plan to protect those values. For example, a value is recognizing that Joffre Lakes Park is within Lil'wat and N'Quatqua shared territory, and a strategy was to better inform the public of this by having First Nation Stewards working at the Park.

Lil'wat Nation has also created a short video to inform park users about Lil'wat Territory and asking people to respect the land and "leave-no-trace". <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qm3U9eKha74&feature=youtu.be>

A Visitor Use Management Action Plan was recently finalized for public distribution and can be found at the following link: [Joffre Lakes Park 2019 Visitor Use Management Action Plan](#).

The Action Plan is just an initial step in what we intend to be a long-term process and working relationship between Lil'wat, N'Quatqua and BC Parks.

We will continue to work collaboratively with N'Quatqua and BC Parks to address the on-going issues at Joffre Lakes Park and do our best to manage the high visitor use.



#leavenotrace

#respectjoffre

#kzumsTiTmicwa

~ Please respect the natural environment ~

Contact the Lands and Resources Staff:

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of this newsletter, please contact
richenda.grafton@lilwat.ca
to be added to our email distribution list.**

We hope you enjoyed the read and please provide any feedback or questions to richenda.grafton@lilwat.ca, or drop by and see us at Ullus.