

LANDS AND RESOURCES DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



**Lands and
Resources**
Ucwalmícw Tmícw

JANUARY 2020

NEWS AND UPDATES WILL ALSO BE POSTED ON THE LÍŁWAT
NATION WEBSITE. WWW.LILWAT.CA

The Land is central to Líłwat culture and identity as expressed
in the Ucwalmícwts phrase

“Pal7míntwal 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 to maximize the
Líłwat Nation's control over its land and resources.

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR - HARRIET VAN WART

Welcome to our third edition of the Land and Resources Department Newsletter. Over the last three months we have been busy with our fish stock assessments, initiating new policy developments, and engaging in land management issues.

We would like to welcome Councillor Lucinda Phillips as our new Council representative for the Referral Committee and Councillor Helena Edmonds as our new Council representative on the Land Management Board. We are very happy to have both these Councillors involved and supporting our Lands and Resources Department.

The Referral Committee is a five-person committee appointed by Chiefs and Council and operates under our Lílwat Nation Land Use Referral Policy.

The Committee meets monthly to review land use applications throughout Lílwat Territory.



Councillor Lucinda Phillips

The Land Management Board is a ten-person board appointed by Chiefs and Council and operates under the our Lílwat Land Law.

The Board meets every six weeks and makes decisions and recommendations for on-reserve land registrations and land use issues.



Councillor Helena Edmonds



From left to right: Carrie Lester, Maxine Bruce, Julia Poetschke, Lex Joseph, Harriet Van Wart, Richenda Grafton, Johnny Jones

MEAGER AND KEYHOLE HOT SPRINGS VISITOR USE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

HARRIET VAN WART – DIRECTOR, LANDS AND RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Lilwat Chiefs and Council have directed the Land and Resources Department to work in partnership with the Province to develop a management strategy for Meager and Keyhole Hot Springs.

Both hot spring areas have unique ecological, wildlife and cultural values and are beautiful places to visit. We are concerned that new and improved road access to both sites will lead to recreational use impacts to these important areas within Lilwat Territory. We are therefore working with the Province to develop a strategy for how these areas should be managed.



Meager Hot Springs is located in the Upper Lillooet River valley on Meager Creek. The site is officially closed, and the forestry road access is closed to the public. However, people are still managing to access and use the area.



Keyhole Hot Springs is located on the Upper Lillooet River, downstream from Keyhole Falls. With improved road access on the Upper Lillooet Forest Service Road there was a large influx of visitors in 2016 leading the Province to close the hot spring access trail due public safety and risk of human-bear conflict.

We are gathering input from the community about how these areas should be managed. We held a community meeting in November and received lots of great input. Thank you to all that attended.

We now have an on-line survey that will be open until January 31st.

Please go to the following link to find the survey:

<https://lilwat.ca/meager-and-keyhole-hot-springs-community.../>.

By completing the survey, you can put your name in for a draw prize of a \$200 gift certificate for Tsípun or Lilwat Station. We appreciate your input to help guide us in this important work.

If you have any questions, please contact Harriet Van Wart - Director at 604-894-6115 ext. 2464, harriet.vanwart@lilwat.ca or drop by our office at Úilus.

LÍL'WAT LAND USE REFERRALS

CARRIE LESTER — REFERRAL MANAGER

What Is the Lil'wat Land Use Referral Process?

Our referral process has been created to establish a process by which the Líl'wat Nation can communicate efficiently and effectively with all levels of governments and any third parties who seek to utilize lands and resources within Líl'wat Territory and subject to the Líl'wat Nation's aboriginal title and rights. Líl'wat Territory covers almost 800,000 hectares of land and we receive over 100 referrals each year for proposed land uses such as proposed forestry cut blocks, outdoor guiding tours, and flood mitigation work. Our referral process is guided by the "Líl'wat Nation Land Use Referral Consultation Policy", approved by Chief and Council February 21, 2012.



All referrals are reviewed by our five-member Referral Committee who provide recommendations and directions for our response. If you have any questions about our referrals please contact Carrie Lester, Referral Manager at 604-894-6115 ext. 2462, Carrie.Lester@lilwat.ca or drop by our office at Úl'us.

Summary of our 2019 Referrals

The Líl'wat Land and Resource Department received 129 referrals in 2019. Referrals were received from the following governments and organizations:

- **Local Governments:** Resort Municipality of Whistler; Village of Pemberton; Squamish-Lillooet Regional District; Pemberton Valley Dyking District
- **Clubs/Associations:** Pemberton Valley Trails Association, Pemberton Wildlife Association, BC First Nations Forestry Council
- **Forestry Companies:** Northwest Squamish Forestry Ltd.; Squamish Mills/Halray Logging/Pebble Creek; Cheakamus Community Forest; Líl'wat Forestry Ventures
- **Recreation Companies:** Blackcomb Helicopters, Whistler Blackcomb
- **Government Ministries and Crown Corporations:** Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development; Ministry of Environment; Climate Action BC; BC Parks; BC Hydro; Environment and Climate Change Canada; Environmental Assessment Office; Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure; Health Canada
- **Researchers:** Simon Fraser University, University of Illinois

A BIT OF LIL'WAT HISTORY

LEX JOSEPH – CULTURAL
TECHNICIAN



Rancherie Street - 1960's

Notice the wooden walkway
signifying the time of the photo.

Everything looks new; like this house on the left which was spooked in the 1970's. The house was spooked on account that there was still a table and chair set, and upstairs there were a couple of beds that seemed to be waiting. As soon as we stepped through the door our hair stood up, yet we went upstairs to have a look.



Bell at Old Reserve

The Bell at the former location of our church signifies our strong ties with religion and a place like our land of shades. Both the land of shades towards the west below the horizon and the land of heaven; both have an impenetrable wall that is guarded by a sentry. Sentry is guards they keep track of who's coming and they announce their arrival.

Harry Dick cut the poles on his mill. One band member Aurthur Pascal placed the cross on the roof in the 1980's.

LAND ALLOTMENT POLICY UPDATE

JULIA POETSCHKE — ON-RESERVE LANDS OFFICER

Our work to develop a new land allotment policy is underway. We have been reviewing relevant Lilwat policies and plans, mapping information, and other First Nations' approaches to land allotments, and we held our first community engagement session in November. We received great feedback at this meeting and now we are looking for more!

Take the Land Allotment Policy Community Survey!

We have just released a community survey, which will be open until February 12, 2020. We want to hear from you so we can develop a policy that reflects Lilwat values and visions for the future. By completing this survey, you can enter a draw for a \$200 gift card to Tsípun or the Lilwat Gas Station!

Click on this link or enter it into your browser to take the survey online: <https://forms.gle/eaAhwUPNrPELpYRaA>

Paper copies of the survey will be available at the following locations: Úlilus reception, Youth Centre, Health Centre, Post Office, Tsípun, Tšzil. Paper copies can be submitted in the survey submission boxes in these locations.

If you have any questions, please contact Julia Poetschke at 604-894-6115 ext. 2463 or Julia.poetschke@lilwat.ca or drop by the office at Úlilus.

What is a land allotment policy?

A land allotment policy will guide the allocation of reserve land to citizens without access to family land. With a growing population and limited land base, the goal of the policy is to provide a fair, consistent and transparent process to citizens seeking land allocation while protecting services and resources that benefit the community as a whole.

Why are we developing this policy?

Lilwat Land Law states that individuals without family land may apply for a piece of land, and that a policy for requests for land should be developed. The number of land requests grows each year; however, we have not had a policy to guide the allocation of reserve land.

FISHERIES REPORT

MAXINE JOSEPH-BRUCE – FISHERIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER

Áma swa takem swat

S7entsas Lhpatq, Lheltsamecwkan

I take this time to provide an update regarding the salmon stock assessment program that we undertake. The surveys are conducted by way of river-bank walks and using a sonar underwater camera.

From about mid-October to about end of February each year we are involved with the Coho salmon surveys. The salmon data that we have collected to date somewhat reflects that the amount of Coho salmon that have returned to the Upper Lillooet River area which includes the Birkenhead River, Green River, Ryan River, Poole Creek, Sampson and Railroad Creeks and as far up the valley as Alena Creek. The overall tally of the Coho Salmon observed is 1096. However, this number does not truly reflect the actual amount of Coho Salmon, as the number does not consider the salmon that are hiding in the undercuts and/or deep pools or areas in which our techs are not able to get into.

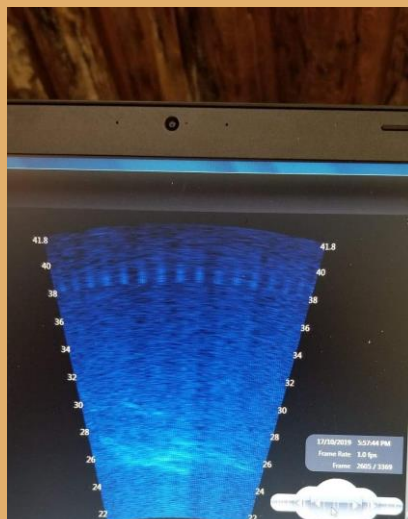
This year, the Lílwat Fisheries have begun another way to survey the Coho Salmon that are returning, as we continue to seek better and more efficient ways to conduct the surveys, so this fall we've utilized an "underwater camera" to assist us in counting the Coho Salmon returns. We installed the camera into the mainstem of the Lillooet River and now our task is to review the pictures on our computers and count the Coho Salmon through that method. Mind you it takes a lot of time and greatly depends on our attention to detail. We'll keep you updated on the results of this method.

In closing, I'd like to acknowledge the efforts of the Lílwat Fisheries Technicians for the good work they do. In the summertime they work in the 35°C heat and in the cold seasons, you'll see them working in the -14°C temperatures.

Thanks so much to you all for taking the time to learn about the work we do. Should you like to learn more about what we do, please don't hesitate to contact me or stop by for a visit.

Kùkwsturnckálap, Nilh ti7

Sonar Camera Recordings



Contact the Lands and Resources Staff:

Harriet Van Wart, Director - harriet.vanwart@lilwat.ca or 604 894 6115 Extension 2464

Maxine Joseph-Bruce, Fisheries and Environmental Manager - maxine.bruce@lilwat.ca
or 604 894 6115 Extension 2465

Carrie Lester, Referrals Manager - carrie.lester@lilwat.ca or 604 894 6115 Extension 2462

Julia Poetschke, On-reserve Lands Officer - julia.poetschke@lilwat.ca
or 604 894 6115 Extension 2463

Lex Joseph, Cultural Technician - lex.joseph@lilwat.ca or 604 894 6115 Extension 2460

Johnny Jones, Cultural Technician - johnny.jones@lilwat.ca or 604 894 6115 Extension 2461

Richenda Grafton, Office Coordinator - richenda.grafton@lilwat.ca
or 604 894 6115 Extension 2467

If you would like to sign up for a digital copy
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 Úlilus.