



Photo credit : Coralee Rideout , Tagish Lake

CARCROSS TAGISH RENEWABLE RESOURCES COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
APRIL 1, 2019-MARCH 31, 2020

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

Introduction

The Carcross Tagish Renewable Resources Council was established in February 2010. The fiscal year 2019-2020 was the ninth year of operation for the Council.

Our area of responsibility encompasses a wide region commonly referred to as the Southern Lakes. Four very distinct communities lie within the boundaries of the Carcross Tagish First Nation Traditional Territory: Carcross, Tagish, Marsh Lake and Mount Lorne. The C/TRRC meetings are open to the public and we invite everyone who is interested to attend the meetings, which are normally held on the first Monday of every month.

Mandate

The C/TRRC, established as the primary instrument for local renewable resource management under the Carcross Tagish First Nation Final Agreement, is the local advisory body for fish, wildlife, forestry and habitat related land use in the Carcross Tagish First Nation Settlement area.

The Council strives to be the voice of the Community in managing local renewable resources.

The Council provides strong input into planning and regulation processes by raising public awareness of specific issues and by providing local and traditional information.

The Council also plays an important advisory role to territorial, federal and First Nations governments and the Yukon Fish & Wildlife Management Board.

The C/TRRC is comprised of 8 council members including 2 alternate members, each appointed by First Nation and YTG.

Membership

Ken Reeder, Chair	May 5, 2017 to April 26, 2020	YG Nomination
Edna Helm, Vice-chair	Feb 15, 2020 to Feb 14, 2023	CTFN Nomination
Don Toews	March 8, 2018 to March 7, 2021	YG Nomination
Fiona Seki Giardino	May 29, 2018 to May 28, 2021	CTFN Nomination
Al Foster	April 9, 2020 to April 10, 2022	YG Nomination
Donna Wolfe	January 23, 2020 to December 17, 2021	CTFN Nomination
Zena McLean (Alternate)	Dec 19, 2019 to Dec 18, 2022	CTFN Nomination
Jacques Jobin (Alternate)	April 11, 2019 to April 10, 2022	YG Nomination

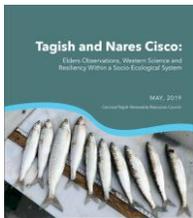
Office Staff Patricia Reeder

Highlights

The Annual General Workshop hosted by the Dawson District RRC and held in Dawson City, on November 15 to 17, 2019 was attended by three members and the executive director.

C/TRRC supported the Caribou in the Schools education program, this is ongoing support. The program should be implemented in the schools 2021/2022.

C/TRRC continued to support Dennis Zimmerman of Big Fish Little Fish Yukon Consultants with the “Respect for Fish” program. This program is being developed to educate anglers on respectful best managements practices associated with size selective harvest and catch and release fishing.



C/TRRC produced a brochure on Traditional Knowledge of the Tagish and Nares cisco. This brochure is on our website at ctrcc.ca.

C/TRRC had representation at all of the CTFN fall fairs, in Carcross, Tagish, Whitehorse.

C/TRRC continued to work on their community-based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan with a target date of June 2020 for a final Plan. .

C/TRRC hosted over 55 participants at the “on the land gathering” in Tagish to discuss Southern Lakes Caribou and the potential for a Carcross/Tagish Traditional Territory community-based fish and wildlife work plan.



The first day of the gathering was designated as Caribou Day and was developed and organized by the Southern Lakes Caribou Steering Committee. The day was designed as an indigenous process, with song, story, ceremony and conversations with Elders and youth. Wildlife Managers from various governments supported the meeting with western science-based updates on the status of caribou herds in the Southern Lakes region including the Atlin, Carcross, Ibex, and Laberge herds.



The focus of the second day was to bring numerous parties together to discuss the need and process for developing a community-based fish and wildlife work plan. The C/TRRC Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Engagement Report from the February meetings with communities of Mount Lorne, Carcross Marsh Lake, and Tagish was presented and a large part of the day was used to facilitate discussion of potential issues initiatives for this Plan. This report is available on our website ctrcc.ca.

C/TRRC published a brochure, to raise awareness of the RRC in the TT.

C/TRRC participated in and supported the wolf collaring and population studies in the Southern Lakes

C/TRRC had representation at a dinner that was a combined effort of the Local Area Committee, Tagish Fire Department, Tagish Emergency Services and the Carcross Tagish RRC. The idea of the dinner was to bring all the groups together, to familiarize with each group.

C/TRRC supported trappers this season by providing them with wolf snares.

C/TRRC submitted proposed regulation changes to YG and the YFWMB dealing with angling, management of bear attractants and roadside Grizzly bear hunting

Council participated in various workshops and events:

- Caribou in the Schools Planning Meetings
- Community Based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan meetings
- Salmon Resiliency Conference
- Two Wetland Policy Round Table workshops
- Tagish River Habitat Protection Area (HPA) process with the HPA Management Committee.

Council was represented and had input at various meetings:

- Tagish Habitat Protection Area Plan
- Off Road Vehicle Committee meeting
- Southern Lakes Forest Resource Management Plan
- RRC annual Chairs meeting
- Yukon Salmon sub-committee meetings
- YFWMB meetings
- Yukon River Panel Meetings
- FWMB Angling Group meeting
- FWMB Moose management meeting
- Yukon Resource Roads Regulations
- Roads and Wildlife presentation

Council drafted and letters of intervention and ministerial recommendations on the following resource issues and YESAB Land use applications:

- Alaska Highway right of way and brushing from Judas Creek to Jakes Corner with respect to highway caribou collisions and mortalities
- Farming of Wild Boar in Yukon Territory with respect to wildlife and habitat impacts from escaped animals

Challenges

- The vastness of the region, four distinct communities, and wide-ranging priorities for the residents of each community continue to present a variety of logistical and program challenges for the Council. It is challenging to hold meetings regularly in all the communities to engage the public.
- Due to close proximity to the Yukon's major population center the city of Whitehorse, the Southern Lakes region is under constant pressure from a variety of uses and interests wanting to recreate, use, occupy and develop land and natural resources in the area. This continuing pressure is impacting fish and wildlife populations and habitats and utilization of habitat and jeopardized the sustainability of traditional lifestyles and activities.
- The appointment process of new members is too slow and very often left vacant positions in the council making it difficult to meet quorum and conduct meetings.
- Due to warm spring weather C/TRRC was unable to go forward with their Youth Trapping Camp.
- Near the end of the year covid 19 caused some problems with hosting and attending meetings, as facilities were closed and gatherings had to be less than 10 persons.

Office Administration

- The office is centrally located in the Tagish Community Center, is open to the public by appointment and through phone and email contact.
- The Executive Director undertakes all facets of the day-to-day operation and does all bookkeeping duties.
- Successfully submitted Funding Agreement deliverables to YG, CYFN for common fund applications and YFWET
- C/TRRC advertises meetings on its website, through email, and posters in the communities.

Financial Reporting

Council engaged the professional services of M McKay and Associates, Certified General Accountants, of Whitehorse, Yukon, to do the audit. The council, in fulfilling its responsibilities, has developed and maintained a system of internal accounting controls designed to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded from loss or unauthorized use, and the records are reliable for preparing the financial statements.

Council is provided with a monthly financial report.

Council Administration

Council held 11 Regular meetings

Council held 4 Special meetings

Education and Training

C/TRRC council will participate in various local events (open houses, public meetings, workshops etc. hosted by other organizations, or in partnership with C/TRRC) to further awareness of the C/TRRC current projects.

C/TRRC members and staff participate in training opportunities as time and funds allow throughout the year but mainly by ensuring that all Council members are provided opportunities to participate in and represent the Council at special meetings processes.

Land Use Applications

Council had no land use applications to review during this period.

Summary

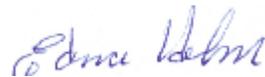
Council continued to build relationships with local area planning organizations and stakeholders to support the advancement of common area of concern; make informed and responsible recommendations to governments and management agencies regarding fish, wildlife and their habitat; and engage the communities in participative renewable resources management.

The Council was unable to complete all projects in the work plan for the past year due to factors beyond Council's control however council did stay within the budget set out.

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Ken Reeder, Chair



Edna Helm, Vice Chair



Photo credit: Don Toews