



**CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT**

DATE: 14 November 2013

TO: Board Chair Reginald Moody and Board Members

FROM: Darla Blake, Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: **BC Parks – Ministry of Environment – Draft Operational Park for bear viewing in the Atnarko River Corridor – Tweedsmuir Park**

Administration received a letter from the BC Parks - Ministry of Environment (see attachment) inviting comment on the draft operational plan for bear viewing in the Atnarko River Corridor – Tweedsmuir Park.

While this is not a regional district mandated activity and no decision of the board is required, in the interest of the wider community the information has been put onto the agenda to advise of the opportunity to submit comment on the draft document.

**Timelines include:**

October 31 – November 29 2013	Stakeholder/Permit Holder Review
December 1, 2013 – January 15, 2014	Public Review and web posting
January 15, 2014 – January 31, 2014	BC Parks and Nuxalk Nation Final Review and subsequent sign - off

For more information we recommend contacting BC Parks:

Volker Michelfelder  
 Planning Section Head  
 BC Parks  
 Hagensborg, BC

(250) 982-2701 ext 2224

CCRD has a copy of the draft document available for public viewing in the CCRD office located at 626 Cliff Street, Bella Coola.

Respectfully Submitted

Darla Blake  
 Chief Administrative Officer

**Board Meeting**  
 NOV 14 2013  
 CCRD ITEM F(d)



BC Parks

RECEIVED

OCT 31 2013

Central Coast Regional District

October 30, 2013

To Permit Holders/Stakeholders,

**RE: Invitation to comment on the draft operational plan for bear viewing in the Atnarko River Corridor-Tweedsmuir Park.**

BC Parks is very interested in your views and invites you to comment on the attached draft operational plan for bear viewing in the Atnarko River Corridor- Tweedsmuir Park. Any comments – verbal or written - are greatly appreciated and will be considered in development of the final operational plan.

BC Parks and the Nuxalk Nation have collaboratively developed this bear viewing plan for the Atnarko River Corridor as per the Collaborative Management Agreement between the Province of BC and the Nuxalk Nation (February 2010).

The plan is a direct response to increasing public safety and bear conservation concerns related to the Atnarko River Corridor. Thus, the purpose of the plan is to guide bear viewing and other park user activities to safeguard bears and humans in the Atnarko River Corridor. The plan provides management direction, appropriate levels of use, and operational guidelines for bear viewing and other recreational and human activities in the corridor.

The authority for BC Parks to regulate human activities, such as commercial and public bear viewing in the corridor, stems from the *Park Act* and the *Park, Conservancy and Recreation Area Regulation*. The act and regulation both apply to the Atnarko River Corridor because the corridor is part of Tweedsmuir Park - a Class A Park as per the *Park Act*.

The opportunity for public review of the operational plan includes a review period for stakeholders and permit holders and a subsequent review period for the general public. Once the public review is completed, BC Parks and the Nuxalk Nation will commence with a final internal review followed by plan sign off.

The approval process for the operational plan is guided by the following approximate timeline:

**Timeline**

October 31 – November 29, 2013  
 December 1, 2013 – January 15, 2014  
 January 15, 2014– January 31, 2014

**Detail**

Stakeholder/Permit Holder Review  
 Public Review and web posting  
 BC Parks and Nuxalk Nation Final Review and subsequent sign-off

**Ministry of  
 Environment**

BC Parks & Conservation Officer  
 Service Division  
 Thompson Cariboo Region

**Office Location:**  
 1650 Airport Road  
 Hagensborg BC V0T 1H0  
 Phone: 250-982-2701

**Mailing Address:**  
 PO Box 38  
 Hagensborg BC V0T 1H0  
 Fax: 250-982-2706

February, 2014

Web posting of final plan

**By November 29, 2013, please submit your comments on the draft operational plan directly to myself** via email at [Volker.michelfelder@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Volker.michelfelder@gov.bc.ca), or phone me at 250 982 2701 ext 2224 to set up a meeting to discuss the operational plan. Also, feel free to contact me directly if you require more time to review the draft operational plan.

Sincerely,

Volker Michelfelder  
Planning Section Head  
BC Parks  
Hagensborg, BC

CC

Jeff Leahy, Regional Director, BC Parks  
Dave Zevick, PPA Section Head, BC Parks  
Megan Moody, Natural Resources Stewardship Director, Nuxalk Nation

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Environment**

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