



CHILKOOT TRAIL

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
OF CANADA

Management Plan



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2004

Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan.

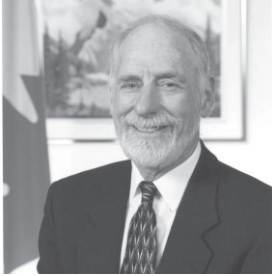
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Foreword



Canada's national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas represent the soul of Canada. They are a central part of who we are and what we are. They are places of magic and wonder and heritage. Each tells its own story. Together, they connect Canadians to our roots, to our future and to each other.

What we cherish as part of our national identity, we also recognize as part of our national responsibility. All Canadians share the obligation to preserve and protect Canada's unique cultural and natural heritage. Together, we hold our national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas in trust for the benefit of this and future generations. To achieve this, practical action grounded in long-term thinking is needed.

These principles form the foundation of the new management plan for Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site of Canada. May I offer my deep appreciation to the vast range of thoughtful Canadians who helped forge this plan. I am especially grateful to our very dedicated team from Parks Canada and to all those local organizations and individuals who have demonstrated such good will, hard work, spirit of cooperation and extraordinary sense of stewardship. This plan makes special provisions for the interests of First Nations near the Site and emphasizes cooperation and partnership with organizations such as the White Pass and Yukon Route Railway. Finally, as part of a thematically linked international network of gold rush sites, Parks Canada is committed to developing a cooperative management regime for this site, tied in to the others that comprise the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park.

In that same spirit of partnership and responsibility, I am pleased to approve the Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

David Anderson
Minister of the Environment

■ Management Plan Recommendations

Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site of Canada

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■ Chilkoot Trail NHSC

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Cover photograph: Rock work along the trail near Crater Lake

■ Executive Summary

Background

No image better represents the Klondike Gold Rush than that of the line of stampeders struggling over the Chilkoot Pass during the winter of 1897–98. Today Chilkoot Trail NHSC commemorates this extraordinary journey.

For centuries before Europeans and American traders arrived in the area, the Chilkoot Trail served as a coastal Tlingit and interior Athapaskan trade and travel route from the coast to the interior. The trail remains an important part of First Nations history, but it was the Klondike Gold Rush of 1896–1899 that transformed the Chilkoot Trail into legend. Although there were many routes to the gold fields, to the stampeders the Chilkoot Trail provided the shortest and cheapest way to the Klondike, as it permitted individuals to transport supplies over the trail by their own labour.

On November 5, 1985 the federal Minister of the Environment, the Provincial Secretary and the Minister of Government Services for the Province of British Columbia agreed to transfer 135 square kilometres of land for the establishment of the Chilkoot Trail NHSC. The Chilkoot Trail was proclaimed a National Historic Site of Canada in 1987, and in 1988 the Site's first Management Plan was approved. Long-term vision and development concepts for the Chilkoot Trail, as described as the 1988 Site concept plan, are reaffirmed in this plan.

Current Situation

The Chilkoot Trail straddles the United States-Canada border at the northern end of the Alaska panhandle, extending 53 km from tidewater at Dyea in Alaska, to Bennett in British Columbia. The Canadian portion of the trail extends 26.6 km through the northwest corner of B.C. and is entirely located within Chilkoot Trail NHSC.

The 1988 Management Plan has guided Site management and development over the past ten years. In 1993 Parks Canada initiated revisions to the Management Plan, and held a series of public consultation forums in the Yukon communities of Whitehorse and Carcross, and in Skagway, Alaska. While the Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Teslin Tlingit Council and the Taku River Tlingit First Nation were consulted in the review of this plan, it is understood that nothing in the plan shall affect any aboriginal claim, right, title or interest and shall not prejudice First Nations treaty negotiations. Changes resulting from public input included summer use limits, and initiation of a process to manage trail use in the winter.

Through a "Trail Centre" in Skagway, Parks Canada staff provide informal information and interpretive services to help reduce visitor impacts at or near historic stopping places, and also provide formal information services to all hikers. All visitors receive an information package with a map of the trail and a highly detailed preparation guide that outlines protection of artifacts and appropriate warnings of hazards on the Site. To address the impact of increasing trail use, a mandatory permit and reservation system was implemented in 1997. It limits the number of people entering the Canadian portion of the trail to 50 per day.

Commemorative Intent

Commemorative intent is a statement of that which is nationally significant about the Site. For the Chilkoot Trail this refers to ministerially-approved recommendations (November, 1987) of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada that: *"... in the context of the Klondike Gold Rush as a social phenomenon, the Chilkoot Trail is of national historic significance and its development, jointly with the American Park Service, as part of an International Historic Park should be encouraged"*.

The statement of commemorative intent for the Chilkoot Trail as a traditional trade and travel route connecting the upper Yukon River with the Pacific Coast is determined as:

- designated place defined as the route through the Chilkoot Pass and its role during the gold rush period (1897–1900) as an access to the Yukon;
- cultural landscape being the setting of the trail, its topography and its views as part of reflecting the impact of the trail experience upon those present during the Rush;
- built resources, including landscape features, in-situ resources and collected objects relating to this period as features that shaped the experience and subsequently defined the memories, stories and history of the gold rush traveller; and
- in-situ resources and collectable objects, designated place, landscape features and built resources identified for the Chilkoot Trail must not be threatened or impaired.

Proposed Site Management

A final draft of the Management Plan was delayed in order to address new national guiding principles and operational policies for National Historic Sites (1994), and to allow preparation of commemorative integrity statements (1997) for the Sites managed by Parks Canada. In managing Chilkoot Trail NHSC, Parks Canada will:

- maintain the geographic character of the historic trail corridor characterized by the linearity of the route and the visual sense of containment in its own valley;
- manage the evolution of the corridor's natural environment as a continuing cultural landscape;

- maintain the relationship between the commemorated trail, natural stopping places and the local topography;
- maintain unimpaired views from the summit of the pass and historic trail corridor;
- provide opportunities for outdoor recreation activities such as hiking, multi-day backcountry recreation, overnight or day hiking in the Log Cabin, Bennett and Lindeman City areas, day-use activities, cross country skiing and snowmobiling;
- provide visitor services, presentation programs and facilities that allow visitors to appreciate, enjoy and understand the national historic significance of the Site and its relationship to other National Historic Sites;
- continue to provide services and facilities based on the principle of self-sufficiency by each visitor and group while minimizing conflicts between user groups;
- develop and market opportunities for high quality heritage experiences and ensure heritage tourism is an integral part of Site operations while ensuring that use levels do not exceed limits of the historic resources;
- identify related cultural resources in adjacent properties and encourage protection and presentation of these resources;
- collaborate with the U.S. National Park Service in delivery of messages for public safety and promotion of the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park; and
- adhere to all Parks Canada National Historic Sites Policies and manage the Site according to applicable federal and provincial legislation, statutes and regulations.

■ 1: Introduction

The Klondike Gold Rush captured the imagination of the world. No image better represents that historic event than the line of Stampeders struggling over the Chilkoot Pass during the winter of 1897-98 (see page 12). Today, Chilkoot Trail NHSC commemorates this extraordinary journey.

Before Europeans and American traders arrived in this area, the Chilkoot Trail served as a trade and travel route to the interior for the coastal Tlingit and interior Athapaskan First Nations for centuries. Aboriginal control of the trail by the Chilkoot Tlingit remained strong through the nineteenth century. By the 1880s the First Nations allowed prospectors and exploration groups to use the Chilkoot route; however, the dramatic increase in numbers of prospectors going into the Yukon during the 1890s soon eroded Tlingit control.

As a traditional aboriginal trade and travel route, the trail remains an important part of First Nations' history, but it was the Klondike Gold Rush of 1896-1899 that transformed the Chilkoot Trail into legend. Although many routes to the gold fields were available to the Stampeders, the Chilkoot Trail provided the shortest and cheapest way to the Klondike. Known as the poor man's route to the Klondike, it permitted an individual to transport their supplies over the trail by their own labour. Movement over the Chilkoot Trail peaked during the winter of 1897-98. After the completion of the railroad through the White Pass in 1899, the Chilkoot Trail was virtually abandoned as a route to the Klondike. Today the Canadian portion of the Chilkoot Trail is commemorated as a site of national significance.

Objectives for National Historic Sites

These objectives are summarized in Parks Canada's Guiding Principles and Operational Policies:

- to foster knowledge and appreciation of Canada's past through a national program of historical commemoration;
- to ensure the commemorative integrity of National Historic Sites administered by Parks Canada (Figure 1) by protecting and presenting them for the benefit, education and enjoyment of this and future generations, in a manner that respects the significant and irreplaceable legacy represented by these and their associated resources; and
- to encourage and support the protection and presentation by others of places of national historic significance that are not administered by Parks Canada.

Commemoration focuses on what is nationally significant about a site, and includes protection as well as presentation. The National Historic Sites Policy states that: "protection and presentation are fundamental to commemoration since without protection there can be no Historic Site to be enjoyed, and without presentation, there can be no understanding of why the Site is important to our history and, hence, to all Canadians".

Commemorative Integrity

Commemorative integrity is a term used by Parks Canada to describe the health or wholeness of a National Historic Site. A National Historic Site possesses commemorative integrity when the following occur:

- resources that symbolize or represent its importance are not impaired or under threat;

- reasons for the Site’s national historic significance are effectively communicated to the public; and
- the Site’s heritage values are respected by all those whose decisions or actions affect the Site.

For every National Historic Site administered by Parks Canada, a statement of commemorative integrity is developed to focus the management of a site on what is most important; and to ensure that the whole (the “Site”) is addressed, not just the parts (the “individual resources”).

To effectively focus on commemorative integrity it is necessary to identify and evaluate those characteristics of a site that led to its recommendation by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) and designation by the minister. Level I cultural resources make a site important to all Canadians. A site is determined to have an historic value of regional or local importance if it has Level II cultural resources. All Level I and Level II cultural resources will be managed by Parks Canada under the principles of the Cultural Resource Management Policy.

A sound grasp of historic value is essential to ensuring commemorative integrity. This includes a definition of what constitutes the nationally-designated place. The Parks Canada Cultural Resource Management Policy requires that resources be evaluated not only for their importance, but as to “what it is that constitutes their value”; that is to say, what particular qualities and features make up their historic character. Historic value can reflect both physical (tangible) as well as symbolic (intangible or associative) attributes. It can be derived from an association with many periods in history, a single episode, or from the interaction of nature and humans.

The final drafting of this document included the development and approval of a commemorative integrity statement (CIS) for the Site. This statement addresses the three

elements of commemorative integrity as described above, establishes the management priorities for the Site, and is fully integrated in the respective sections of the plan as the goals and objectives for the commemorative integrity of the Site. Commemorative integrity is also the basis for reporting to Canadians on the state of their National Historic Sites.

1.1 Site Management Planning

The goal of management planning is to ensure the commemorative integrity of national historic sites, and to apply the principles and practises of cultural resource management.

Management goals, objectives and actions prescribed within this document reflect the formal commitment of Parks Canada to ensure the protection and presentation of the National Historic Sites under the direct stewardship of the agency’s Yukon field unit. This document also establishes a framework for subsequent management decisions, program implementation and detailed program planning for the Site.

Developing this plan required contributions from many different disciplines, legislation, public interest groups and government policy and programs. The actual planning process is summarized later in this document. The plans will be reviewed in five years from the date of its approval, as prescribed for management planning of National Parks, Historic Sites and Marine Conservation Areas in the 1998 legislation establishing Parks Canada as an agency.

Implementation focuses on maintaining commemorative integrity and providing appropriate and cost-effective services to the public. The plans establish an accountability framework which includes:

- **goals** that focus on what is most important in the management of a site, prescribed for key elements of each site

as a Place of Historical Significance, a Place for People, and a Place for Stewardship ;

- a set of **objectives** or measurable targets for each of the stated goals; and
- a set of **key actions** to be carried out for each set of objectives.

Parks Canada will continue to focus on maintaining the Site's commemorative and natural resource integrity, and on providing appropriate and cost-effective visitor services.

This Management Plan provides direction for the site's business and work plans for the next five to ten years. Parks Canada will use its business and work planning processes to consider the delivery and improvement of Site operations, describe management strategies for plan implementation, and prepare reports on the state of the Site. The business planning process will provide the mechanism to address the goals, objectives and management prescribed in the plans.

On November 5, 1985 the Federal Minister of the Environment, the Provincial Secretary, and the Minister of Government Services for the Province of British Columbia agreed to a transfer of 135 square kilometres of land for the establishment of the Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site (Figure 2). The Chilkoot Trail was proclaimed a National Historic Site in 1987, and gazetted under the *National Parks Act* in 1993. In 1988 the Site's first Management Plan was approved. The 1988 Management Plan prescribed a concept for the Site which has served to guide management and development over the past ten years.

In 1993 Parks Canada initiated the process of drafting a revised Management Plan for the Chilkoot Trail. Between 1993 and 1995, four newsletters were prepared to solicit public input into the future management direction of the Site. These newsletters were part of a series of public consultation forums that took place in Whitehorse and Carcross in the Yukon, and in Skagway, Alaska. In the last newsletter (August 1995), Parks Canada

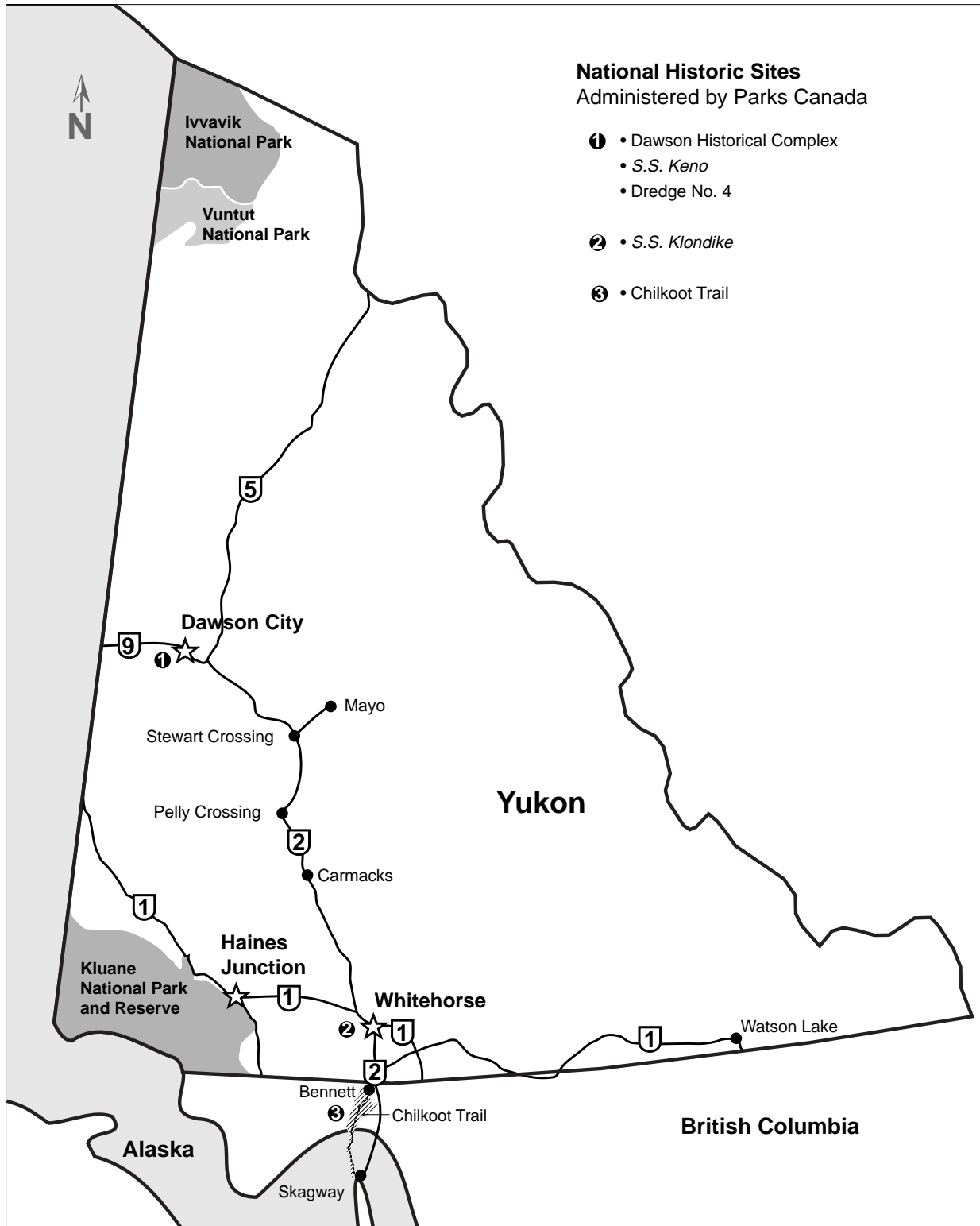
provided a summary of public comments on a set of proposals to revise the plan, and identified recommendations to revise the Chilkoot Trail Management Plan.

The Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Teslin Tlingit Council and the Taku River Tlingit First Nation were consulted in the review of this plan. However, it is understood that nothing in the plan shall affect any aboriginal claim, right, title or interest and shall be without prejudice to any treaty negotiations of either First Nation.

Two significant changes were implemented as a result of the public consultations. Summer use limits were established, and a process for managing winter use was undertaken and put into place. In the same newsletter, Parks Canada identified a series of other initiatives and directions for the Chilkoot Trail that are now included in this revised Management Plan.

Although a Management Plan was subsequently drafted for the Site, a final draft of the plan was delayed to address new national guiding principles and operational policies approved for National Historic Sites by the federal government in 1994. This resulted in the development of commemorative integrity statements for the National Historic Sites managed by Parks Canada, including a statement prepared for the Chilkoot Trail in 1997. This statement has been integrated into this Management Plan and identifies commemorative integrity of the Site as the priority for its management.

Figure 1: National Historic Sites of Canada in the Yukon Field Unit administered by Parks Canada



1.2 Regional Context

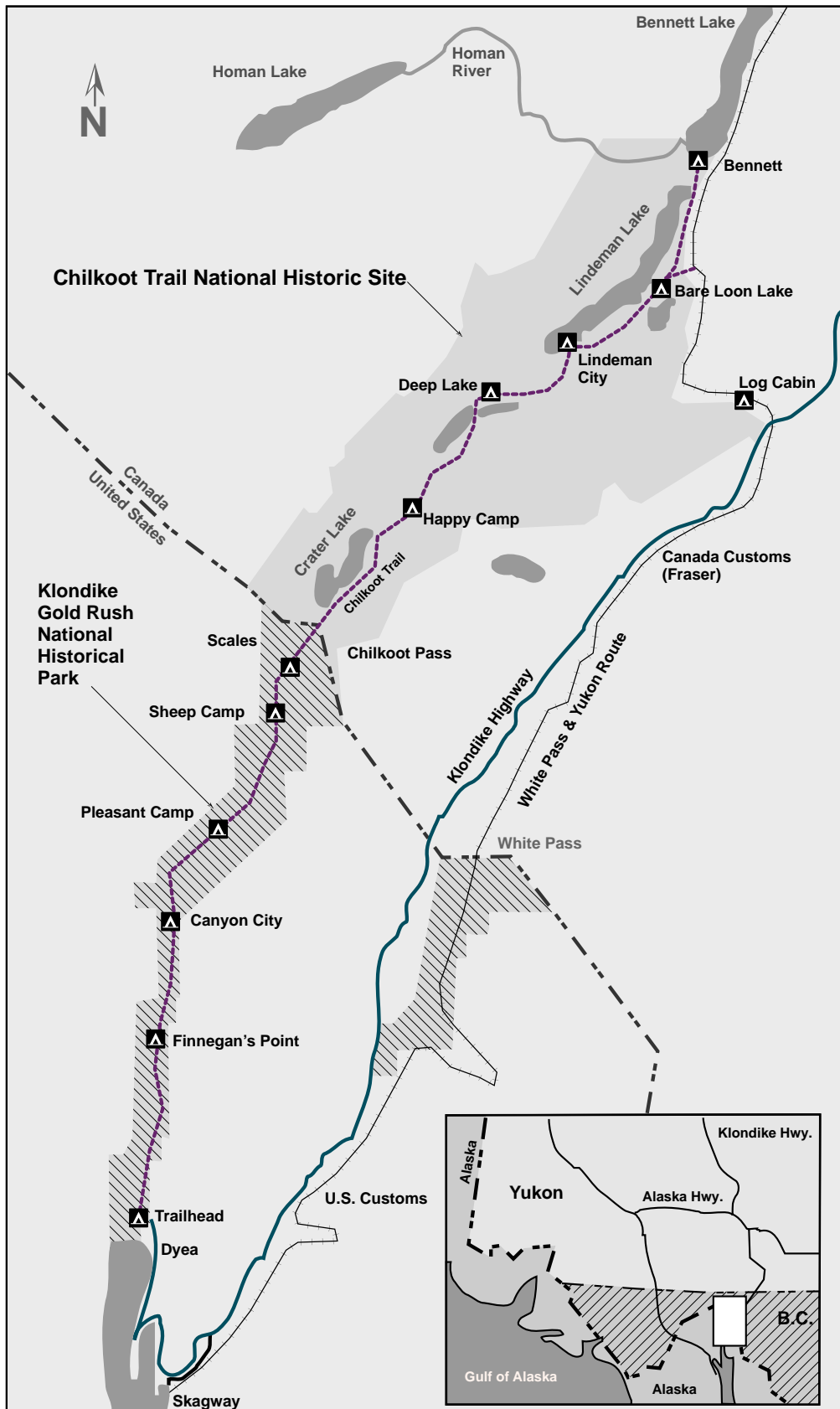
The Chilkoot Trail straddles the U.S.-Canada border at the northern end of the Alaska panhandle. It extends 53 km from tidewater at Dyea in Alaska to Bennett in British Columbia (Figures 2 and 3). The Canadian portion of the trail extends 26.6 km through the northwest corner of British Columbia, and is entirely located within Chilkoot Trail NHSC (Figure 3). The Chilkoot Trail is 135 square kilometres in size.

The Site is located in the traditional territories of the Carcross/Tagish and Taku River Tlingit First Nations. The communities closest to, and most affected by, the management of the Site are Whitehorse and Carcross in the Yukon; Atlin, in British Columbia; and Skagway, Alaska. Both the Taku River Tlingit and the Carcross/Tagish First Nations have extended claims over the Chilkoot Trail area at this time. If land claims settlements affect the Site during the time that this Management Plan remains in force, the Management Plan will be adjusted as required.

The southern boundary of the Chilkoot is defined by the international border. To the east, the Site borders the South Klondike Highway for approximately 0.5 km near the area known as Log Cabin. The highway is an all-weather road that connects Skagway, Alaska to Whitehorse in the Yukon. Log Cabin is approximately 41 km from Skagway, 65 km from Carcross and 140 km from Whitehorse. The highway is an important regional transportation corridor, providing access to northwestern British Columbia and the Yukon. The highway is also important for transporting natural resources and commercial and industrial goods.

The Site also borders the White Pass and Yukon Route railway. Before the completion of the South Klondike Highway in 1979, the railway was the primary mode of transportation between Skagway and Whitehorse. It provided a means of transporting goods to and from the Yukon; in later years it was a transportation link for hikers returning to Skagway or other communities from the end of the Chilkoot Trail at Bennett. The railway now operates primarily as a tourist attraction on a seasonal basis.

Figure 2. Dyea to Bennett



**Figure 3. (inset)
Regional Setting**

1.3 Vision for the Future

The long-term vision for the Chilkoot Trail as described in the 1988 Site concept plan is reaffirmed in this plan. Including the commemorative integrity statement (CIS) for the Site in this Management Plan will ensure that the commemorative integrity of the Site is a priority, and that Parks Canada's accountabilities for the Site are more clearly defined. The following four vision statements adapted from the 1988 Management Plan prescribe the long-term vision for the Site:

- The Site is managed as a continuing cultural landscape in accordance with the Site's CIS and Parks Canada's Cultural Resource Management Policy. Combined with outdoor recreation activities, such as hiking, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling, the Site offers a unique opportunity for visitors to appreciate, enjoy and understand its national historic significance.
- Opportunities continue to be provided for a broad range of the heritage tourism market and regional population to appreciate, enjoy and understand the national significance of the Site. These range from multi-day backcountry recreation to day-use activities. Areas in the Site identified for different purposes are subject to different levels and kinds of management and development. This will continue to reduce potential conflicts between different activities. Backcountry hiking and



Approaching Deep Lake Campground

camping are the major activities in the Site, including the traditional south-north hike along the Chilkoot Trail, and overnight and day hiking in the Log Cabin, Bennett and Lindeman City areas. Appropriate facilities are provided.

- The Site's management strategy encourages outdoor winter recreation activities. These generally take place close to Log Cabin, Bennett and Lindeman City; a minimum level of facilities and services is provided. The Log Cabin parking area remains open throughout the year and on-site interpretive displays present the Site's national significance, its other heritage values, and the spectrum of opportunities it offers. Interpretive information at Log Cabin focuses on the history of the Log Cabin Area, First Nations and the North-West Mounted Police, with emphasis on the Chilkoot Trail and the great human journey of the Klondike Gold Rush.
- Day-use activities are concentrated at Log Cabin and Bennett. Log Cabin is developed as a day-use area for people travelling the South Klondike Highway, with associated facilities such as an interpretive display, parking and picnic areas. Only essential facilities are developed at Bennett, and they will be located outside the historic zone. Development at Bennett is dependent on private services, including train and water vehicle access. Parks Canada is collaborating with stakeholders interested in day-use opportunities at the Site to develop tours that have minimal impact on Site resources and on the experience of overnight hikers.

1.4 Land-Use Zoning

Land-use zoning remains an important element of the long-term vision for the Site. The strategic goal of land-use planning is to provide Parks Canada and visitors with a system within which consistent and ordered planning, development and use may occur. The management objective is to provide a zoning system that can be used to determine

which uses can occur, locations for resource management prescriptions, and which land-use policies apply in specific areas. Land-use zoning will be respected in all management decisions affecting the Site. Site management will also encourage other agencies to develop complementary land-use zones in adjoining jurisdictions.

The land-use classifications titles and descriptions for the Chilkoot Trail have been slightly modified from those identified in the 1988 Management Plan. The actual zone boundaries remain unchanged. The following four land-use prescriptions reflect the goals, objectives and management actions prescribed in this Management Plan (see Figure 4):

- **Historic Area and Visitor Activity/Site Operations Corridor:** This is a general historic and contemporary use area. All services and facilities will be within this zone (except facilities and services provided at Log Cabin);

- **Historic Preservation:** This zone identifies sites of historic significance and priority for research and documentation. All intrusive elements are removed (these areas are localized archaeological sites identified on separate maps);
- **Natural Areas:** These zones will be maintained in a natural state to ensure designated place is protected. This zone will include wildlife habitat, and First Nation camp sites and harvesting areas. No facilities will be permitted in these zones; and
- **Site Facility and Service Nodes:** These are day-use visitor contact points and Site operation centres. Services, facilities and Site operations are provided in a manner complementary to the Site's historic and heritage values. Site plans are required for these zones.

The 1988 Chilkoot Trail NHSC Management Plan Concept Summary

The 1988 Chilkoot Trail management plan concept was expressed through a series of four concept statements as well as a land-use classification system.

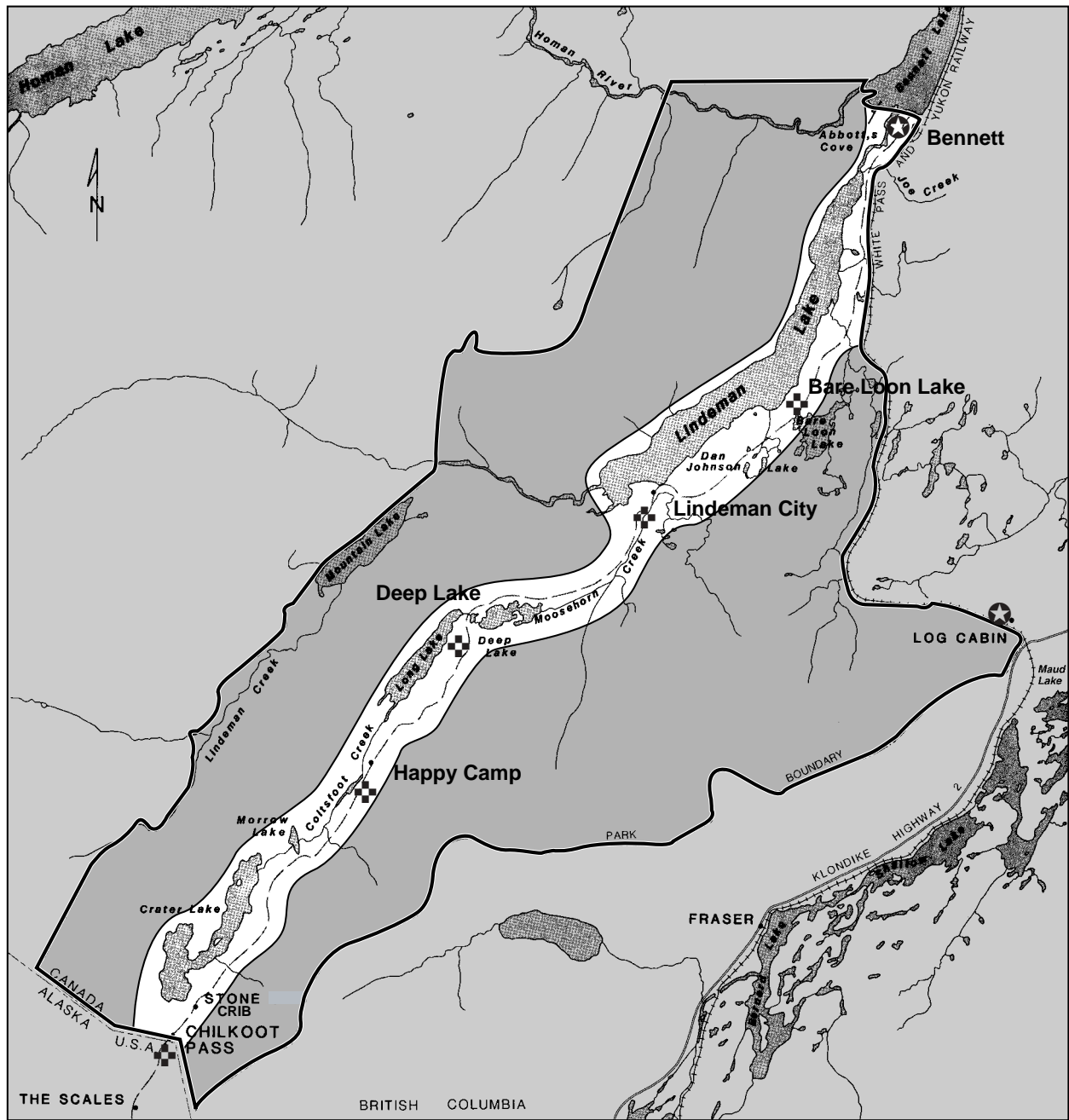
Site Concept Statement Summary

- In-situ historic resources will be managed as a continuing cultural landscape and protected from human degradation.
- Opportunities will continue to be provided for a broad range of the heritage tourism market and regional population to appreciate, enjoy and understand the Site's national significance;
- The encouragement of outdoor winter recreation within the Site; and
- Day-use activities will be concentrated at Log Cabin and Bennett.

Land-use Classification Summary

- **Historic Area and Visitor Activity/Site Operations Corridor:** This is a general historic and contemporary use area. Generally, all services and facilities will be within this zone;
- **Historic Preservation:** This zone identifies the sites of historic significance and priority for research and documentation. All intrusive elements are removed from these sites;
- **Natural Areas:** These zones will be maintained in a natural state to ensure designated place is protected. No facilities will be permitted in these zones; and
- **Site Facility and Service Nodes:** These are day-use visitor contact points and Site operation centres. Services, facilities and Site operations are provided in a manner complimentary to the Site's historic and heritage values. Site plans are required for these zones.

Figure 4. Land-use Zoning, Chilkoot Trail



1 .5 0 1 2 3 km

- Natural Areas
- Historic Area and Visitor Activity/
Site Operations Corridor
- ★ Site Facility and Service Nodes
with Day Use Area
- + Site Facility and Service Nodes

■ 2: A Place of Historical Significance

Commemorative Integrity

ACCOUNTABILITY: *As a first priority ensure the commemorative integrity of the National Historic Site.*

The *Historic Sites and Monuments Act (1953)* allows for the creation of National Historic Sites such as the Chilkoot Trail. Parks Canada is mandated to ensure that commemorative integrity is a priority in the administration and management of all the National Historic Sites administered by Parks Canada.

Declared of national historic significance in 1987, Chilkoot Trail NHSC is part of the complex of Canadian National Historic Sites related to the Klondike Gold Rush. These Sites, some with recommendations dating from 1926, consider the social, economic and political components shaping the Yukon



Chilkoot Pass, 1898 (Vancouver Public Library)

region over the last century. From Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) minutes in 1967 it is clear the Board was aware of the intimate connection between the gold rush and the importance of the Chilkoot Trail in the movement of goods and people into the Yukon.

Commemorative Intent

Commemorative Intent is a statement of that which is nationally significant about a Site. It refers specifically to the approved recommendations of the HSMBC. At its November 1987 meeting the Board recommended that: “... *in the context of the Klondike Gold Rush as a social phenomenon, the Chilkoot Trail is of national historic significance and its development, jointly with the American Park Service, as part of an International Historic Park should be encouraged*”.

From this recommendation the Statement of Commemorative Intent was incorporated into the Commemorative Integrity Statement for the site, which was approved in 1997.

Commemorative Intent

The Chilkoot Trail NHSC was designated a National Historic Site because of the role it played in the mass movement of people to the Yukon during the Klondike Gold Rush.

The primary responsibilities of Parks Canada in the management of a National Historic Site are protecting resources that symbolize the Site’s importance, effectively communicating messages that describe the reasons for its national significance, and respecting its heritage values. The following sections of this plan address these responsibilities for the Chilkoot Trail NHSC.

2.1 Resources

Strategic Goal:

Resources that symbolize or represent the national historic importance of the Chilkoot Trail NHSC are not impaired or under threat.

The first element of commemorative integrity focuses on resources that symbolize, or represent, the Chilkoot Trail's national significance. These resources have been instrumental in, or integral to, the designation of the Site as being nationally significant:

- **Designated Place:** the route through the Chilkoot Pass and its role during the gold rush period (1897–1900) as a means of access to the Yukon;
- **Cultural Landscape:** the setting of the trail, its topography and its viewsapes, are part of the continuing cultural landscape reflecting the impact of the trail experience upon those present during the rush;
- **Built Resources:** landscape features, in-situ resources and collected objects relating to this period are the focus of cultural resource management because of their relationship to the national historic significance of the Chilkoot Trail. These features shaped the experience and subsequently defined the memories, stories and history of the gold rush traveller; and
- **In-situ and Collectable Objects:** designated place, landscape features, built resources, in-situ resources and collected objects are resources identified for the Chilkoot Trail that must not be threatened or impaired.

Designated Place

The Chilkoot Trail extends from Taiya Inlet in Alaska to the headwaters of the Yukon River in British Columbia. A traditional trade and travel route of First Nations people of the region, the trail connects disparate ecological zones and encouraged a long-term mutually beneficial communication between culturally distinct First Nations groups. For the gold rush stamper the trail was part of a larger network of trails and river routes used to reach the Klondike Gold Fields of the Yukon interior. The Chilkoot promised the shortest and most immediate access for stampedeers. Although the trail has a long history of continuing use, Chilkoot Trail NHSC specifically commemorates the social aspects of the mass movement of newcomers to the Yukon during the Klondike Gold Rush.

The associative values of the Site as a designated place/cultural landscape or “geographical area modified, influenced, or given special cultural meaning by people” are as follows:

- The overall geography of the route through the coastal mountains. The linear nature of the route and visual sense of containment in its own valley, the obvious relationship between the siting of the historic trails, the natural stopping places and the surrounding topography were and continue to be central to the travellers' experience. The viewsapes from the trail are an integral part of the value of the Site.
- A strenuous hike from the mild Pacific rainforest climate through the exposed high alpine summit, to the dry cold of the boreal forest of the Yukon River headwaters. In the summer the sound of moving water fills the trail corridor. In winter the glistening white of wind-packed snow and blazing blue skies are visually striking, and the wind blows through the pass year round. At the summit of the pass the stampedeers often broke out of the fog and clouds of the marine environment to

gaze northward upon the sunlit, ragged mountain tops defining the narrow, rugged valley of the Chilkoot.

- The First Nations saw the trail as a meeting place between homelands. The stampedeers endured it as an obstacle on their journey to the promise of a golden frontier. Different cultures experienced the trail in different ways during the gold rush, but all groups shared the physical challenges and visual excitement of this striking mountain environment. This shared experience is a central element in defining the social character of the gold rush on the Chilkoot.
- The attributes of the designated place of greatest importance for this commemoration are the unimpaired geographic character of the route; that is, its linearity, visual sense of containment, the relationship of the trail's history to the dynamic natural environment and the dramatic views from the trail.



Bennett Lake, 1898 (Public Archives of Canada)

OBJECTIVES

- maintain the geographic character of the historic trail corridor, which is characterized by its linear aspect and the visual sense of containment in its own valley;
- manage the evolution of the corridor's natural environment as a continuing cultural landscape;
- maintain the relationship between the commemorated trail and the natural stopping places and the local topography;
- maintain, in an unimpaired state, the views from the summit of the pass and the historic trail corridor (the skyline is a particularly vulnerable resource in this respect); and
- communicate to the broad community the importance of the views from the trail to reinforce both national and local dimensions of the Chilkoot story.

Current Situation

Informal information, interpretive services and designated campsites are provided at the Site. This serves to reduce/eliminate visitor impacts on the cultural landscape at or near historic stopping places. Currently, staff also provide formal information services to all hikers through the Trail Centre in Skagway. All hikers receive a detailed information package, which includes a map of the trail and a highly detailed preparation guide with information about the protection of artifacts and appropriate warnings regarding hazards on the Site. All hikers have to check in at the trail centre in order to pick up their permits and are advised of any closures due to bear activity or other hazards. In 1997 over 13,000 people visited the Trail Centre and 1,538 information packages were sent by mail to approximately 3,000 hikers. A toll-free telephone service, accessible throughout all of the USA and Canada, is also part of the registration service. To address the impact of

increasing trail use, the mandatory permit and reservation system implemented in 1997 limits the number of people entering the Canadian portion of the trail to 50 per day. Evaluation of the permit and reservation system, service delivery and visitor satisfaction will continue on an annual basis.

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) within Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site of Canada (CTNHSC) is an evolving process aimed at preserving the commemorative integrity of the Site and its resources. An integral component of CRM is annual monitoring that integrates baseline documentation established in the interim CRM Site Monitoring and Practices (1988-89), Parks Canada CRM Policy (1994), the Site's commemorative integrity statement (1997), archaeological monitoring recommendations defined in field research programmes (1982-92) and responses to current resource issues and impacts.

The monitoring program is conducted throughout the field season by operational staff and forms an important feedback mechanism to facilitate a proactive, holistic resource management approach. Current monitoring has indicated areas of concern in portions of high-use campgrounds. These can be caused by trail creation and braiding in areas where cultural resources are present. Such concerns are being addressed through capital project-based assessment initiatives and work planning for upcoming field seasons.

An inventory of the historic trail corridor is near completion and will be integrated into the development of asset management and trail maintenance work plans, providing direction for the monitoring and protection of historic resources along the length of the trail.

Many of the Site's individual resources remain under threat from natural processes such as corrosion and erosion. Appropriate intervention is being undertaken to protect resources of national significance, but since

CTNHSC is managed as a continuing cultural landscape, natural processes will continue to shape it.

KEY ACTIONS

- *employ the land-use zoning and vision prescribed in this plan and the commemorative integrity statement as the principal guides to the protection and preservation of the Site, and to screen all developments and activities proposed for the Site;*
- *give priority to the protection of historical resources in the management of all on-site visitor activities;*
- *continue the inventory and monitoring of historic trail resources;*
- *evaluate, on an annual basis, the permit and reservation system, visitor satisfaction and service delivery;*
- *assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:*
 - *present the commemorative values of designated place, establish broad public and client learning objectives for these values, and monitor understanding of these values;*
 - *offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs, developed to gain a broad public and client understanding of the values of designated place;*
- *provide orientation, on-site information and interpretive services that help to reduce/eliminate visitor impacts on the in-situ resources and continuing cultural landscape;*
- *collaborate with the Province of British Columbia, First Nations and adjacent land holders/managers to ensure the viewscapes of the designated place are maintained;*
- *collaborate with flight-seeing operators to reduce impairments to the on-site user experience and to promote Site values.*

Landscape Features

Cultural features in the landscape are another physical expression of designated place. People have left an imprint of their presence and of the social organization developed to cope with their mass movement through the pass during the gold rush. These physical attributes are directly connected to the commemorative intent and include both transport and camp remains. The following reflect the values of the Chilkoot Trail as Landscape Features:

- The foot trails from the period of commemoration, vestiges of the associated water routes, traffic wear patterns and surviving log and stone work or the trails, docks and roadways are heritage defining features.
- Natural stopping places along the trail, used by gold rush stampedeers and by earlier First Nations travellers, are distinctive cultural features. Stopping places exist at the summit, along the shores of the lakes, and at creek crossings. Sheltered positions on the hillsides house tent platforms, rock walls, dugout embankments and graves. These features are tangible modifications to the place and illustrate the life and experience of those travelling through the pass during the gold rush.

Current Situation

Parks Canada maintains the trail according to prescribed guidelines developed for the long-term protection of the trail. Work is in progress to define the long-term goals and objectives for trail maintenance. The wagon roads and other trail components are being recorded to determine their locations and potential, as are real threats to the integrity of the Site's landscape features.

OBJECTIVES

- maintain the location, orientation and character of the commemorated trail;
- evaluate changes made to protect cultural resources and public safety under the Cultural Resource Management Policy;
- maintain the location and character of these landscape features;
- preserve the quality and character of these features according to conservation standards;
- monitor erosion and visitor damage to these features through full heritage recording;
- monitor and realize the presentation values of these features through full heritage recording; and
- study and interpret the relationship between these features.

KEY ACTIONS

- *identify and document the historic alignment and treadway of the trail, and develop and implement a strategy to maintain these heritage values;*
- *protect and present the trail as a historic corridor of foot trails, roadways and vestiges of associated water routes of the Chilkoot from the summit of the Pass to Bennett;*
- *inventory, record and monitor the impacts of visitor activities and take appropriate action to preserve historic landscape features;*
- *preserve landscape features according to current conservation standards;*
- *compile and synthesize existing landscape feature records to facilitate monitoring, presentation and management of these resources;*
- *assess landscape features as to condition and relationships to other historic resources, and identify their capacity for interpretation; and*

- **assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:**
 - **present the heritage values of the continuing cultural landscape, establish broad public and client learning objectives for these values, and monitor understanding of these values; and**
 - **offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs, developed to gain a broad public and client understanding of the continuing cultural landscape's heritage values.**

Built Resources

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church at Bennett is an important tangible resource directly related to the designation of this National Historic Site. It sits on its original location on a hilltop overlooking Bennett Lake and the WP&YR station. The church has an important symbolic value as the sole surviving structure from the commemoration period. The heritage defining features of the church are its location and orientation, massing, rustic cladding, remaining original materials and architecture. The method of its construction by volunteers during the rush, and its use as a centre of social activity in the community of Bennett, are also factors directly linking this structure to commemorative intent. Its survival and continued maintenance as a built feature of the Bennett landscape reflects its recognized importance as a symbol of the gold rush community.

Current Situation

The historic resources at the Site have been recorded in accordance with conservation standards, and any components which have been removed from the Site are stored in the artifact collection in Whitehorse. Based on annual field observations, Parks Canada staff have identified some concerns for the long-term structural integrity of the church steeple. Parks Canada currently provides

personal and non-personal interpretation of the Site during the summer season, and takes a proactive approach to managing threats such as wildfire and vandalism.

OBJECTIVES

- maintain the location and orientation of the church;
- retain its appearance, defined by massing, rustic cladding, and architecture;
- conserve its original building materials and cladding according to conservation standards;
- through full heritage recording, realize the presentation value of the church as the only extant gold rush structure on the Site; and
- interpret the church's physical and social relationships to the Chilkoot Trail and former community of Bennett.

KEY ACTIONS

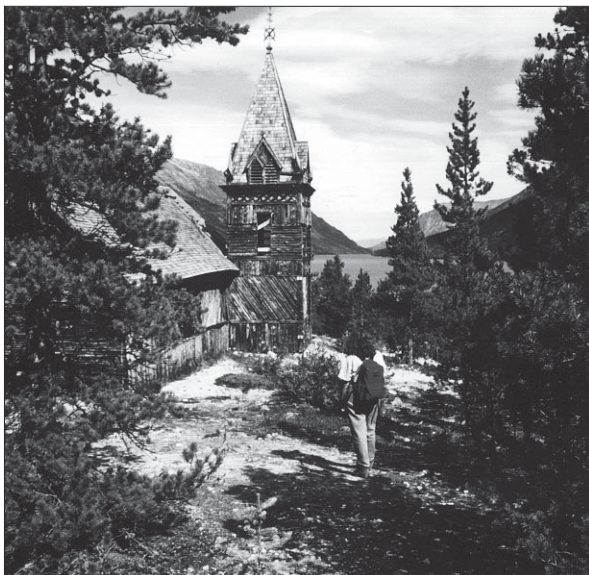
- **take appropriate measures to protect the structure from vandalism and fire;**
- **assess the structural integrity of the church steeple and take appropriate actions to ensure its long-term protection;**
- **maintain, record and monitor conditions of the structure;**
- **assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:**
 - **present the heritage values of the Level I structure, establish broad public and client learning objectives for these values, and monitor understanding of these values; and**
 - **offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs, developed to gain a broad public and client understanding of Level I resource heritage values;**

- *compile and synthesize existing landscape feature records to facilitate monitoring, presentation and management of the structure; and*
- *distinguish new materials or reproductions from original fabric in both Level I and Level II resources.*

Moveable Resources

The route of the stampeders is littered with the remains of their trip. Discarded tins and boxes, boats frames and old sleds, graves and cemeteries, horseshoes and wagon wheels, even patches of introduced botanical species are associative indicators of the appearance and lifestyle of the newcomers. In-situ cultural resources, dating from between 1897–1900 and linked to the mass movement of people, are of national significance.

The heritage-defining attributes of these in-situ resources are their location, content and deposition. Several collections of objects related to the Chilkoot Trail are managed by Parks Canada. They are valuable in that they represent certain artifacts found on the trail (which may be lost to natural deterioration) and they form a permanent record of what



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

was once found on the trail. Artifacts related to the commemorative period and directly linked to the commemorative intent are considered cultural resources of national significance. The heritage defining attributes of these tangible items will vary, but will generally be built upon knowledge of their provenance, purpose, and physical condition.

OBJECTIVES

- respect documented in-situ resources and in-situ remains of the commemoration period in areas identified of “potential archaeological significance” for the period, according to the Cultural Resource Management Policy; and
- protect collected objects of the commemoration period and ensure access to them for research and interpretation.

Current Situation

Each year Parks Canada staff carry out an in-situ resource monitoring program and archaeologists continue to identify and evaluate the Site. All collected resources are recorded and maintained to current conservation standards. Visitor impacts on these resources are mitigated through messages (interpretation) on Site, and by restricting access to vulnerable sites (i.e., designated campsites, locating the trail to avoid fragile resources, erosion control actions, etc.).

KEY ACTIONS

- *identify, record, and manage moveable resources and their records according to Cultural Resource Management Policy;*
- *develop and implement a strategy for the long-term protection, maintenance and use (presentation and research) of moveable resources;*

- **develop and implement a strategy to define the scope of the collections required to support the commemorative integrity of the Site;**
- **collaborate with other authorities/owners to exchange information and protect records related to Level I resources of the Site;**
- **conduct material culture research to ensure authenticity and accuracy in the presentation of Level I messages utilizing artifacts, and make this data available to others;**
- **identify, take and monitor appropriate actions to minimize visitor impacts to the in-situ resources; and**
- **maintain a photographic reference collection to support the preservation and presentation activities at the Site, and make it accessible to others.**

2.2 Messages

Strategic Goal:

Reasons for the Site's national significance and its role in Canadian history are effectively communicated to the public.

A second element of commemorative integrity focuses on effectively communicating the reasons for the Site's national historic significance. Each of the elements of



Building foundation remains on the trail

commemorative intent form an important component of the messages which must be delivered if the Site is to have commemorative integrity. This means that visitors to the Site must understand not only the significant role of the Chilkoot Trail as it relates to the mass movement of people into the Yukon, but also the context of the Klondike Gold Rush as a social phenomenon that shaped the Yukon region over the last century. Effective delivery of these learning objectives also implies that the messages are based on research, knowledge, and awareness and sensitivity to current historiography regarding the elements of commemoration. It also suggests that presentation is balanced. This means that various perspectives on the events associated with this Site are communicated. Moreover, the individual components of the story should not be treated in isolation, but be integrated into the presentation of the Site as a whole.

OBJECTIVES

- present to all Site clients, in a manner in which they will understand, the Site's national significance and its role in Canadian history;
- communicate to Site clients the geographic and historic relationship of the Site to the various regional mountain passes in northwest North America to provide a wider context for the significance of the Site;
- provide both on-site and off-site interpretation in an integrated and balanced manner, and ensure the importance of the Site as a whole is understood;
- present the character, importance and use of the Site as a link between the Pacific coast and the Yukon interior;
- interpret, in an integrated and balanced manner, the different cultural perspectives on the trail experienced during the commemoration period;

- diversify and balance interpretive media to ensure a meaningful experience for all Site clients. The Chilkoot Trail will be presented as a place to learn about a nationally significant part of Canada's past;
- present the messages and the trail with integrity, acknowledging conjectural information and distinguishing it from original resources and contemporary services; and
- encourage community support for, and participation in, events and activities at the Site related to the messages of national significance.

To achieve commemorative integrity the principal learning objective for visitors to the Chilkoot Trail is to understand the role of the Chilkoot Trail in the mass movement of people into the Yukon during the Klondike Gold Rush of 1897–1900. Messages supporting this understanding include:

- the character, importance and reasons for use of the Chilkoot Trail as a route between the coast and the interior;
- the border character of the Chilkoot Pass summit; and
- the culture and perceptions of the Chilkoot Trail by the diverse groups who experienced it during the commemoration period.



Park Warden interpreting the trail at Lindeman City

Current Situation

Site messages and orientation are now provided to all hikers at the Trail Centre in Skagway, Alaska. Messages delivered through on-site media do not currently accurately reflect the Site's national significance. Learning objectives and appropriate monitoring criteria need to be refined for the Site. A gradual replacement of these media is planned for the Site, including a new interpretive exhibit placed at Log Cabin in 1999. In addition, through a toll-free phone number Parks Canada staff are now in contact with, and can exchange information with, a majority of potential trail users.

KEY ACTIONS

- **assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a strategy to:**
 - **give priority to presenting the Site's Level I messages, establish broad public and client learning objectives for these messages, and monitor public understanding of these messages;**
 - **identify and focus visitor audience information to develop appropriate programs to meet market needs;**
 - **offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs designed to gain a broad public and client understanding of Level I messages;**
 - **identify and present key commemorative linkages to other National Historic Sites;**
 - **distinguish reproductions from Level I and Level II resources; and**
- **collaborate with the administrators of other heritage sites included in the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park to present each Site's respective heritage values.**

2.3 Other Heritage Values

Strategic Goal:

The Site's heritage values are respected in all decisions and actions affecting the Site.

A third element of commemorative integrity is demonstrating respect for the Site's other heritage values. Beyond the values of national historic significance, the heritage values associated with the Chilkoot Trail include the evolution and character of the area's natural environment; its history and continuing use as a First Nation trade and travel route and homeland; the pre-Rush use of the trail by prospectors exploring the Upper Yukon River basin; post-gold rush recreational use; and a range of related values and linkages with the Chilkoot Trail. Included in these related values are the integration of the Chilkoot Trail into the National Historic Sites system, partners and community links, and related heritage places.

Natural Environment: The dynamic ecology of the Chilkoot route's natural environment is an important aspect of the traveller's experience. The opportunities to witness seasonal changes and ecological transitions from rainforest to alpine to boreal forest are an integral part of the Chilkoot's value. Many visitors to the Site are attracted by the rich and varied natural experience provided by the local wildlife populations and distinct ecological zones.

First Nations: First Nation use of the trail before, during and after the commemoration period reflects the use of the route as a link joining families. It has been used as a trading route for both indigenous and imported products, and as an area for harvesting the region's natural resources. First Nation use of the trail as a trade and travel route before the gold rush can be divided into several periods. Trade before the early 19th century was largely based on the exchange of

indigenous materials. By the mid 1800s, a commercial fur trade peaked. The development of a successful packing business to manage the initial Euro-American entry into the Yukon interior was subsequently overtaken by the events of the gold rush. Continuing use of the trail area as a First Nation hunting and berry-picking area remains an important part of the heritage of the area. Resources associated with these activities include place names, archaeological remains, historic objects, contemporary family camps and a vibrant oral tradition.

Both the Taku River Tlingit and the Carcross/Tagish First Nations have extended claims over the Chilkoot Trail NHSC area at this time. If the settlement of land claims affects the Site during the time that this Management Plan remains in force, it will be adjusted as required.

Recreational Use: The area near Log Cabin continued to fulfil a transport function after the gold rush. There are remains of a hotel that operated to about 1915, and some related railway services that are still in use. These sites reflect the continuing evolution of the transport function in the Chilkoot region. Recreational use of the trail in the post-gold rush period reflects the continuing desire of visitors to obtain an understanding of the trail's importance to the iconography of the Canadian northwest.

Integration Into the National Historic Sites System: The Chilkoot Trail is part of the family of National Historic Sites. It is valued as an integral element of this national system, which commemorates aspects of the country's complex heritage and identity. Thematically the Chilkoot Trail NHSC is directly linked to an international network of gold rush and Yukon heritage sites. These include Seattle, Skagway/White Pass and the Dyea/Chilkoot units of the U.S. National Parks Service (USNPS); Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site (managed by Parks Canada) and Discovery Claim National Historic Site, as well as a series of sites

co-managed by the Yukon government and Yukon First Nations, including the Thirty Mile River Canadian Heritage River, Canyon City and Fort Selkirk.

Partners and Community Links: There has been an operational partnership with the USNPS Dyea/Chilkoot Trail unit for many years. As more management issues are jointly addressed, cooperative links are expected to strengthen and enhance the effectiveness of both agencies. Many people within the Yukon, northern British Columbia and southeast Alaska claim a special personal relationship with the Chilkoot Trail. Annual trips and the celebration of past and present adventures on the trail ensure significant community interests in the management of the Site.

Related Heritage Places: Adjacent to the Site is a range of important heritage resources including related gold rush period sites, artifacts and railway materials. The White Pass & Yukon Railway continues to operate in an area immediately adjoining the Site. Trail resources include some of the best preserved examples of a turn-of-the-century North-West Mounted Police post, horse-packing camps and trail corduroy. Continuing use of the area by newcomers is clearly demonstrated by the rail right-of-way and associated structures such as the station, outbuildings at Bennett and the remains of earlier rights-of-way.

Current Situation

Natural Environment: Parks Canada continues to monitor all activities taking place on site to identify impacts to its ecosystems. Trail markers are used to reduce trail braiding and erosion, and steps have been put in place at Bennett to reduce erosion caused by people walking to the Church or campground. It is standard procedure for Parks Canada staff to assess all projects at the proposal and implementation stage for potential environmental impacts, and to mitigate any impacts identified.

First Nations: An exhibit has been put in place at Bennett to inform visitors of First Nations' use of the Chilkoot Trail as a traditional trade and travel route and their continued use of the area for harvesting of natural resources. In collaboration with the Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Parks Canada has also developed new exhibits at Log Cabin. Parks Canada continues to work with the Carcross/Tagish First Nation to identify employment and training opportunities in the operation and management of the Site.

Recreational Use: In 1997 and 1998, Parks Canada joined forces with WP&YR to offer interpretive tours of Bennett, providing train service for passengers and hikers. Parks Canada staff provided the tours, revising the theme in 1998 to promote a better understanding of the Site's commemorative intent, the role of the White Pass and Yukon Railway in the rise and fall of Bennett as a shipment centre, and First Nations use of the Chilkoot Trail and White Pass before and after the gold rush.

OBJECTIVES

Natural Environment

- ensure the structure and function of the Site's ecosystems are unimpaired;
- communicate to Site visitors the changes evident in the natural environment to help place the trail in a historical context;

First Nations

- respect and acknowledge First Nation history, cultural values and resources related to the Site;
- continue to support the active traditions of First Nations involvement in the Site;
- collaborate with First Nations in the identification, documentation and protection of sites and artifacts of significance to First Nations;

Recreational Use

- acknowledge the evolution of the Site's use and identity, including the development of recreational use of the trail corridor;

Integration into the National Historic Sites System

- communicate to visitors the significance of the Chilkoot Trail as part of the larger system of National Historic Sites;

Partners and Community Links

- work with the community and Site personnel to emphasize the importance of working together to improve the cultural experience of the Site;
- identify related cultural resources in adjacent properties and encourage protection and presentation of these resources; and

Related Heritage Places

- explain the thematic links of the Chilkoot Trail to other gold rush sites.

Integration into the National Historic Sites System: At Lindeman City, an interpretive display and library provide information on the trail, its natural heritage and other sites associated with the gold rush. Staff provide informal interpretation services on the trail.



White Pass & Yukon Route station, Bennett

Partners, Community Links and Related Heritage Places: As part of the 1998 gold rush centennial celebrations, Parks Canada collaborated with community groups to host special events such as the Dyea to Dawson Race, the Chilkoot Bakery and the RCMP Grave Rededication. These activities increased the understanding of links to other sites, such as Dawson Historical Complex and Discovery Claim National Historic Sites, and fostered a better working relationship with the community. Most significant in 1998 was the proclamation of the Site as part of the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park.

KEY ACTIONS

- *assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:*
 - *present the Site's Level II messages, establish broad public and client learning objectives for these values, and monitor public understanding of them;*
 - *offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs designed to gain a broad public and client understanding of the Site's Level II messages;*
 - *identify and present key thematic linkages with other National Historic Sites;*

Natural Environment

- *prepare and implement a Site conservation strategy to prioritize tasks and programs for the protection and management of the Site's natural resources;*

First Nations

- *collaborate with First Nations to address management concerns and opportunities of mutual concern;*
- *pending settlement of outstanding land claims, allow traditional First Nation harvesting activities to continue in the Site;*

- *collaborate with First Nations and employment/training agencies to promote First Nation training and employment opportunities in the Site;*
- *acknowledge and respect First Nation history, cultural and natural values, resources, and harvesting areas in all decisions affecting the Site;*

Recreational Use

- *market the Site as a high-quality heritage experience within its regional setting;*

Integration into the National Historic Sites System

- *integrate the operation of the Site with other heritage parks and sites within the region;*

Partners and Community Links

- *where applicable, contract regional companies and personnel to provide services associated with the Site's development and operation;*

- *pursue cooperative agreements with the Province of British Columbia, affected First Nations and adjacent land-owners to address the management of adjacent lands;*
- *include information on the region in the presentation of the Site;*
- *encourage volunteers, local associations and the general public to contribute to the development and operation of the Site;*

Related Heritage Places

- *continue to collaborate with the USNPS in managing the entire Chilkoot Trail;*
 - *collaborate with British Columbia and affected First Nations to consider the historic White Pass for protected area status under the province's protected area strategy.*
-

■ 3: A Place for People

ACCOUNTABILITY: *Parks Canada will ensure opportunities are provided to visitors that enhance public understanding, appreciation, enjoyment and protection of the cultural and natural heritage, appropriate to the Chilkoot Trail as a National Historic Site.*

To fulfil the mandate of National Historic Sites, it is important that people continue to experience Chilkoot Trail NHSC in ways that respect its national significance. Parks Canada will support and encourage opportunities to enhance public understanding, appreciation, enjoyment and protection of the national heritage that are appropriate to the Chilkoot Trail as a National Historic Site.

Parks Canada is committed to ensuring that the Chilkoot Trail remains a place for people. To enable this, specific management objectives and actions for visitor use have been defined. These will be carried out within the context of the commemorative integrity management objectives and actions, as well as Parks Canada's stewardship of the Site.

3.1 Heritage Tourism

Strategic Goal:

To provide opportunities for the public to enjoy high-quality, authentic leisure and travel experiences that are appropriate to the purpose of the National Historic Site.

OBJECTIVES

- develop and market opportunities for high-quality heritage experiences;
- ensure heritage tourism is an integral part of Site operations; and
- work with the regional tourism industry to promote the understanding and implementation of a heritage tourism strategy for the Site.

Current Situation

Tourism continues to be a significant sector of the Yukon, northern British Columbia and Alaska economies. The communities of Carcross, Atlin, Whitehorse and Skagway all play a significant role in the regional tourism industry. In support of the regional economy, Chilkoot Trail NHSC tourism opportunities will embrace recreational experiences that focus on the cultural and natural resources of the Site. Parks Canada continues to work with the Yukon's Tourism Industry Association to promote the trail as a heritage tourism opportunity.



Interpretive exhibit, Bennett

KEY ACTIONS

- *collaborate with local, regional and territorial authorities to collect and analyse visitor research to identify and take appropriate actions that will encourage and provide essential Site presentation and services to meet visitor needs;*
- *collaborate with various tourism businesses and authorities to encourage the development and promotion of tourism products and services associated with the Site that enhance visitor understanding of the Site's Level I messages;*
- *collaborate with local government, the tourism industry/associations, affected First Nations, and the Yukon government in marketing tourism opportunities and services in the region and local community;*
- *collaborate with community businesses and organizations to support, where appropriate, shoulder-season tourism opportunities associated with the Site;*
- *collaborate with other protected heritage sites/organizations/agencies to promote heritage tourism opportunities at the regional and national level;*
- *collaborate with accredited education programs to develop and implement heritage interpretation accreditation and certification; and*
- *provide the tourism industry with timely information about fees, tourism opportunities and visitor safety, as well as impacts to the commemorative integrity of the Site.*

3.2 Visitor Services

Strategic Goal:

To provide a range of recreational and tourism opportunities, facilities and services that enable visitors with varying interests and abilities to have a high-quality experience at the Site while minimizing impacts and reducing conflicts between user groups.

People visit the Chilkoot Trail NHSC to experience its historic and backcountry recreational resources. The combination of historic attributes, natural landscape, and primitive facilities help to generate strong impressions of the gold rush in the minds of Site's visitors. For this reason the Chilkoot Trail is considered one of the classic backcountry recreational experiences in North America. Recreational activities on the Chilkoot Trail allow visitors to interact with the Site's features and facilities.

These activities are:

- backpacking;
- camping;
- canoeing/kayaking;
- aircraft sightseeing;
- heritage appreciation;
- hiking/walking;
- skiing;
- snowmobiling;
- snowboarding; and
- snowshoeing.



Warm-up shelter construction at the Summit

Visitors also engage in some of these activities through guided services, especially backpacking, hiking, and aircraft-assisted sightseeing.

OBJECTIVES

- continue to provide services and facilities based on the principle of self-sufficiency by each visitor and group;
- continue to provide information that will assist visitors in evaluating their personal levels of preparedness and self-sufficiency;
- continue to provide a range of recreational and heritage tourism opportunities, from day-use to multi-day backcountry recreation;
- continue to utilize a permit system that restricts the number of people participating in backcountry recreation;
- continue to concentrate day-use activities at Log Cabin and Bennett; and
- maintain services and facility user fees based on the principles of fairness and appropriateness to the user groups.

Current Situation

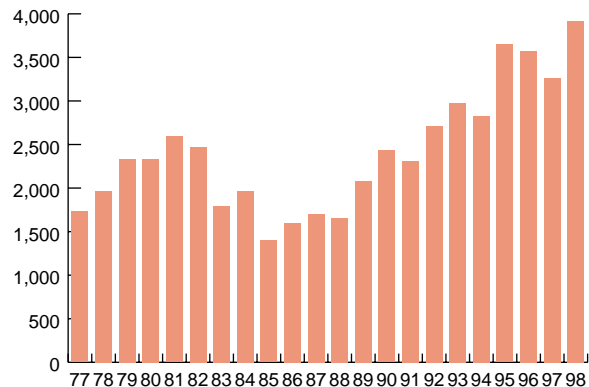
Visitor Characteristics

Overnight Hikers: Overnight hikers (backpackers) make up the largest visitor group to Chilkoot Trail NHSC. The majority of backpackers spend 2–4 nights on the entire trail, including the American section. The majority of hikers (96%) proceed north from Alaska to B.C.

Visitors wish to enjoy the historic and wilderness/backcountry attributes of the trail,

experience the wilderness setting, and experience and learn about the history of the Chilkoot Trail. Figure 5 illustrates the number of backpackers on the Chilkoot Trail from 1977 to 1998.

Figure 5. Number of Backpackers, 1977–98

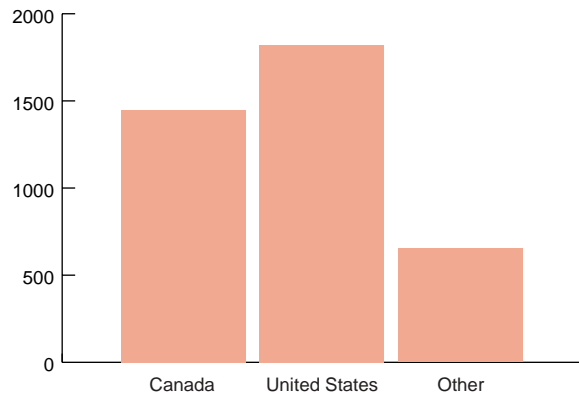


Between 1990 and 1995 the daily average number of backpackers traversing the trail in July was 35; in August it was 33. On some days in 1996, more than 100 backpackers crossed the Summit. The median age of visitors to the Chilkoot Trail is 36. While visitors from a variety of countries seek the adventure of hiking the Chilkoot Trail, the majority of survey respondents arrived either from the USA (40%) or Canada (35%).

The vast majority of Chilkoot Trail backpackers surveyed had completed some post-secondary education (85%); all had graduated from high school. Of the survey respondents, 64% had graduated from college or university. Backpacker group size typically ranged from one to 15, with a mean of 4.2. A two-person party was the most common group size, reported by 33% of backpackers, followed by groups of four at 13%, and groups of three at 11%. Only six backpackers, representing 1.3%, reported a group size larger than the voluntary limit of 12.

Figure 6. Country of Origin of Backpackers

Source: 1998 Permit Statistics



Most visitors to the Chilkoot Trail (87%) are there for the first time. Visitors participating in their second trip accounted for 9%, while people who have taken three or more trips accounted for 4%.

Day-Users: Day-use visitors do not intend to hike the entire trail but spend only part of the day visiting the Site. They travel to Log Cabin via the Klondike Highway, or to Bennett via the WP&YR. These visitors engage in activities such as hiking, picnicking and heritage appreciation. They seek low-risk environments and tend to rely on site facilities and information in easily accessible locations.

Day-use visitation by the WP&YR fluctuates according to the train schedule. Prior to 1995, cruise ship passengers comprised many of the day-use visitors to Bennett. In 1995, however, the railway stopped soliciting business from the cruise ships in Alaska and the train did not run to Bennett at all during the 1996 season.

In 1997, the railway offered about two trips per month for a total of seven for the summer season, ending on the September long weekend. Generally, rail day-users are older than backpackers and take the train to Bennett as part of a larger planned tourism package. Train day-users experience the scenery and history in a passive form of exploration. More so than backpackers, train

users on excursion packages also engage in a social experience. In 1998 White Pass provided service to and from Bennett four days a week during the summer season; in 1999, five days a week.

People who lack the time or inclination to hike the entire Chilkoot Trail engage in day hiking to Bennett or Lindeman City. While exact figures are not available, on-site Parks Canada staff have observed an increase in this activity.

Winter Users: The Site has become a significant recreational destination for the people who live in the region. Winter use occurs primarily on weekends, as people visit the Site from the Carcross, Skagway, and Whitehorse areas.

Winter use includes cross-country skiing, snowboarding, dog sledding, telemark skiing, snowmobiling, and snowmobile-assisted downhill skiing. The major uses are cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. Skiing was the most popular winter activity in 1996. Popular ski areas within the Site include Lindeman City and Halcyon Mountain. Each year, local residents hold the Buckwheat Classic cross-country ski race along the Father Mouchet trail, outside of the Site near Log Cabin. The race draws between 150 and 300 skiers, track setters and volunteers. Snowmobiling was the second most common 1996 winter activity. Popular locations for snowmobiling within the Site include Fraser Mountain and Lindeman Lake. Winter recreation use on the Chilkoot Trail and adjacent lands has increased since 1986, when the South Klondike Highway was opened year round. The majority of winter use occurs from February to mid-April and depends largely on the temperature and snow conditions (which vary from year to year).

Chilkoot staff monitored visitor activity levels at Log Cabin from February to March 1996. Visitation during the winter season at Log Cabin totalled 1,011 person days. Of the Site visitors staging at Log Cabin,

approximately half undertook activities within the Site boundaries. Overnight use of the Site is limited during the winter months; in 1996, records indicate 73 person nights from February to April.

Facilities: All facilities that support recreational use are compatible with the historic and natural qualities of the Site. The design is low-key and primitive in nature, and evokes a period atmosphere. Natural and indigenous materials are used whenever possible and buildings incorporate measures to reduce energy consumption and minimize operating costs.

The campsites at Deep Lake have been redeveloped to ensure the protection of in-situ resources, and work is pending on the Bare Loon Lake sites. This is required to reduce user impacts on the sites' cultural and natural resources, and to provide enough campsites to be consistent with use levels at other designated camping areas along the trail. At Lindeman City or Bennett, building new campsites or expanding old ones will not be considered, as this would impose unacceptable impacts on cultural resources.



Hikers en route to Happy Camp

KEY ACTIONS

- *collaborate with other tourism operators/ authorities and local businesses to orient visitors to events, programs and services available in the community and surrounding region;*
- *collaborate with local authorities, and disability support organizations to develop and provide alternate methods of presentation access, both physical and intellectual;*
- *deliver and design Site programs appropriate to the Site's various client groups and provide basic comfort and safety to these visitors;*
- *monitor visitor statistics on a regular basis and use market trends to guide investment, operational and marketing decisions for the operation of the Site;*
- *as conditions warrant, replace signs and information to conform to the Parks Canada corporate identification strategy;*
- *give priority to protecting and presenting the Site's Level I resources and messages when providing visitor services and facilities;*
- *provide the current range of year-round recreational opportunities at the Site;*
- *collaborate with user groups to implement and refine a winter use management strategy for the Site;*
- *collaborate with user groups to study the feasibility of charging user fees to support winter recreational use of the Site;*
- *design and develop facilities to be low-key, primitive in nature, evoke a period atmosphere, be energy efficient, and minimize operating cost;*
- *permit camping only in designated areas at Happy Camp, Deep Lake, Lindeman City, Bare Loon Lake, Bennett, and Log Cabin (winter season only at Log Cabin);*
- *provide day-use only shelters for public safety at the Chilkoot Pass, Happy Camp and Lindeman City;*

- *provide appropriate sanitary facilities at Chilkoot Pass, Happy Camp, Deep Lake, Lindeman City, Bare Loon Lake, Bennett and Log Cabin;*
- *prepare site plans for each day-use area and campground to identify the location and number of campsites, presentation services, access paths, shelters, central cooking areas, food caches, privies, and rehabilitation requirements;*
- *collaborate with the Province of British Columbia to investigate the short- and long-term requirements related to Site egress;*
- *limit day-use opportunities to the Log Cabin and Bennett areas;*
- *promote self-reliance on the part of the visitor through the provision of pre-trip information on the opportunities, skills required, requirements/options for entry and exit to the Site, facilities and services provided, and hazards associated with the respective uses in the Site; and*
- *maintain visitor search and rescue services for the Site.*

3.3 Effective Human Use Management

Strategic Goal:

Encourage and support a range of visitor opportunities and to manage those opportunities to ensure the commemorative integrity of the Site.

Current Situation

Parks Canada has been working with the USNPS to ensure that summer use levels on the entire trail do not exceed its carrying capacity. Since public consultation on the plan review, visitor entry quotas have been established for hiking on the Canadian portion of the trail. With the redevelopment of

campgrounds on both the American and Canadian sides of the trail, a daily entry quota of 50 people has been established for the trail. This number is based on the travel patterns of hikers and acceptable levels of campground occupancy along the trail. The daily entry quota may be adjusted based on monitoring observations for user impacts and campground occupancy rates. Parks Canada has established a seasonal office operation in Skagway, Alaska to facilitate a reservation, permit and user-fee system for the summer use of the trail.

OBJECTIVES

- ensure use levels on the Chilkoot Trail do not exceed the limits of historic resources and heritage values to sustain summer use, and minimize conflict between use groups; and
- ensure use at the Site does not exceed the limits of historic resources and heritage values to sustain winter use, and minimize conflict between user groups.

The 1988 Site Management Plan stated that only non-motorized travel would be permitted in the Site, except as required for Site operations needs or for traditional First Nation harvesting activities. Since then Parks Canada was petitioned to re-evaluate motorized winter use of the Site. In considering the issue, a review of winter activities was conducted. Parks Canada's key priority in providing any winter activity was to first ensure that the commemorative integrity of the Chilkoot Trail was not compromised, and also to provide strong support for sustaining the cultural and ecological values of the larger area.

The review of winter activities was conducted by both Site staff and functional specialists from all levels of Parks Canada. The review examined dog sledding, snowboarding, downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and snowshoeing.

It concluded that the current range of winter recreational activities were all considered “allowable activities” for the Chilkoot Trail NHSC.

The review also identified a number of concerns associated with the current range of winter activities. It recommended that Parks Canada permit the existing range of current winter activities with specific controls. It recognized that controls were necessary to ensure the protection and maintenance of the Site’s commemorative integrity, First Nations subsistence activities, cultural and natural resources, public safety and the quality of experience for all winter users. It also recognized that the current conflict between mechanized and non-mechanized winter recreational activities had not been adequately addressed or resolved. Because the management mechanisms and controls would effect all winter user groups, and would potentially lead to polarity between mechanized and non-mechanized users, Parks Canada was directed to facilitate a conflict resolution process with itself, Chilkoot Trail winter user groups and



Hiker approaching the Summit

adjacent land managers through a third-party consultant.

Parks Canada is committed to implementing the consensus-based recommendation identified by the Winter Users Stakeholder Group. These recommendations must ensure the protection and maintenance of the following:

- the Chilkoot Trail NHSC’s commemorative integrity;
- First Nations subsistence activities;
- the Chilkoot Trail NHSC’s cultural and natural resources and associated values;
- public safety; and
- the quality of the experience for all winter users.

Parks Canada will respect the spirit and context of these recommendations and will include them within this Management Plan.

KEY ACTIONS

Summer

- *collaborate with the USNPS to develop and implement a backcountry management strategy and an integrated visitor activity data base for both the American and Canadian sections of the trail;*

Winter

- *permit existing winter use, with specified controls, including non-motorized access on every third weekend and area closures to protect cultural resources, historic features and to ensure privacy and protection to the trapper’s cabin and trapline areas;*
- *collaborate with the winter user groups to monitor, evaluate and adjust the winter use strategy, determine the management mechanisms to control winter use, and, where any one of the current winter uses fails to comply with the strategy, exclude it as a permitted activity within the Site.*

4: A Place for Stewardship

ACCOUNTABILITY: *In achieving protection and presentation for the Chilkoot Trail, leadership is established by example, by demonstrating and advocating environmental and heritage ethics and practices, and by assisting and cooperating with others.*

Stewardship involves both a leadership and a participatory role. Varying degrees of cooperative action are inherent in all of the Parks Canada heritage activities. Parks Canada promotes the concept of an integrated family or network of heritage areas, and cooperation with provinces and territories in their protected area and heritage strategies.

4.1 Working With Others

Strategic Goal:

To ensure key policy, land-use, and planning decisions are made in a timely and fair manner, consistent in their approach, and are arrived at in an open and participatory manner.

Opportunities will be provided to visitors that enhance public understanding, appreciation, enjoyment and protection of the national heritage, and which are appropriate to the purpose of each National Historic Site. Essential and basic services are provided while maintaining commemorative integrity and recognizing the effects of incremental and cumulative impacts.

Public opportunities should be provided for in ways which contribute to heritage protection and national identity objectives, and which build public support for and awareness of Canadian heritage.

Parks Canada recognizes the need for control and management of appropriate activities. Public demand alone is not sufficient justification for provision of facilities and services. Services, facilities and access for the public must directly complement the opportunities provided, must be considered essential, take account of limits to growth, and not compromise commemorative integrity or the quality of experiences.

Appropriate use also recognizes that there are inherent dangers associated with some natural and cultural features and public activities. Parks Canada will work with others to develop risk management programs that promote visitor safety. Public safety considerations are built into planning and design processes. Priority will be placed on accident prevention, education and information programs consistent with the commemorative and ecological integrity of heritage places. Visitors are encouraged to learn about any risks associated with heritage places and to exercise appropriate self-reliance and responsibility for their own safety in recreational or other activities they choose to undertake.

OBJECTIVES

- collaborate with the USNPS and the Yukon government to ensure the protection and presentation of the sites included in the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park; and
- ensure key policy, land-use, and planning decisions are made in a timely and fair manner, are consistent in their approach, and are arrived at in an open and participatory manner.

Current Situation

Parks Canada and the USNPS continue to collaborate in delivering consistent messages for public safety and resource management for the entire Chilkoot Trail. As part of the 1998 centennial of the Klondike Gold Rush, Chilkoot Trail NHSC was proclaimed to be part of the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park.

The Trail Centre in Skagway is staffed by both Parks Canada and USNPS employees, who collaborate in providing visitor facilities and services as well as public safety training sessions. Parks Canada also continues to utilize a visitor accident prevention and response program, including pre-hike trail information and up-to-date information on trail conditions. Self reliance on the part of the visitor and pre-trip planning are emphasized.



Multi-agency search and rescue training

KEY ACTIONS

- *collaborate with local community, appropriate agencies and other interests in the preparation of any major developments and the ongoing management of the Site;*
- *collaborate with the USNPS and the Yukon Territory to develop a cooperative management regime for Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park;*
- *collaborate with the Yukon government, post-secondary educational institutions and other agencies to develop and implement education, outreach, interpretation and marketing opportunities associated with the Site;*
- *encourage volunteers, community groups, local associations and the general public to contribute to the development and operation of the Site;*
- *collaborate with the WP&YR to ensure a continued means of exiting the Site and accessing Bennett from Log Cabin;*
- *collaborate with the USNPS in the design and provision of interpretation, visitor services, research, public safety, resource protection and site operations for the U.S. and Canadian portions of the historic Chilkoot Trail;*
- *encourage and support First Nations and the Province of British Columbia to designate the Canadian portion of the historic White Pass Trail as a protected area and proclaim the site as part of the Klondike Gold Rush International Historic Park; and*
- *collaborate with First Nations, the Province of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory for complementary planning and development of the areas adjacent to Log Cabin and Bennett.*

4.2 Managing Natural Resources

Strategic Goal:

Integrity of natural and cultural heritage is maintained by striving to ensure that management decisions affecting these special places are based on sound cultural resource management and ecosystem-based management practices.

Natural ecosystem features and palaeontological resources frequently form an integral part of the history and landscape of a National Historic Site. These features and resources in the National Historic Site will be valued in a manner that reflects the role of Parks Canada as an important environmental steward.

Due to the large size and rugged wilderness nature of the Site, a number of natural resource conservation issues must be considered that are not normally associated with the management of a National Historic Site. Accordingly, a high level of emphasis is given to natural resource management and protection. To achieve this, the Parks Canada Natural Resource Management Process will be applied on a reduced or more focused scale for the Site.

Along with many valuable historic resources, there are also natural resource values that are important to the overall character and commemoration of the Chilkoot Trail. These



Southbound hikers approaching the Summit

values could be lost unless a conscious effort is made to protect natural resources. Of particular concern is the long-term impact that visitor activities will have on the natural resources along the trail corridor and overnight use nodes. Without rationalized visitor use and development guidelines within the Site, valuable or sensitive resources can deteriorate or even disappear from the Site's ecosystem.

OBJECTIVE

- natural ecosystem features of special significance will be managed in accordance with the principles and relevant policies regarding the protection and management of natural ecosystems as set out in national park policy.

Current Situation

A bio-physical assessment of the Site was initiated in the 1980s but has yet to be completed. Parks Canada staff continue to record wildlife sightings, which are compiled annually. Bear management guidelines are in place to deal with bear-human conflicts, and a number of measures, including proactive food and waste management protocols, have been taken to prevent undesirable interactions from occurring.

In addition to taking measures to mitigate human impacts on the natural environment (i.e. trail markers to reduce erosion and trail braiding, erosion control on existing trails, and designated campsites), it is standard procedure for Parks Canada staff to assess all projects at the proposal and implementation stages for potential environmental impacts and reduce any impacts identified.

KEY ACTIONS

- *maintain an integrated data bank for input, storage, manipulation and retrieval of natural and cultural resource information;*
- *in collaboration with affected First Nations identify and address deficiencies in the basic natural resource inventory, which is essential to effective Site planning and management;*
- *prepare and implement a Site conservation strategy to prioritize tasks and programs for the protection and management of the Site's natural resources; and*
- *until a Site conservation strategy is developed, collaborate with affected First Nations and the Government of British Columbia to develop and implement interim guidelines and procedures for consistent management of major resource conservation issues.*

4.3 Operations and Administration

Strategic Goal:

To apply the fundamental accountabilities outlined in the Parks Canada Business Plan to the administration and operation of the Site.

The unique character of the Site requires that Parks Canada must address many operational issues that are not normally related to National Historic Sites. Staff at the Site must be able to address such issues as public safety and natural resource management.

There are facilities to support the operation of the Site in various locations. Skagway currently accommodates the summer season reservation, permits, and fee collection system, and is operated collaboratively with the USNPS. Four other areas in the Site, including the Chilkoot Pass, Happy Camp, Lindeman City, and Bennett, provide

operation facilities. A maintenance compound and Site administration are located in Whitehorse.

Appropriate policy, legislative acts and regulations pertaining to resource conservation, public safety and law enforcement will be respected and enforced at the Chilkoot Trail NHSC. The Site's law enforcement program facilitates the protection of historic and natural resources, maintenance of public peace, and embraces the concept of visitor communications and education. The Site has developed user information programs for both pre-trip and on-site applications, stressing the rationale for regulations and the responsibilities of visitors for respecting the Site's mandate and related regulations.

OBJECTIVES

- adhere to Parks Canada policy and legislation, and applicable federal and provincial statutes and regulations in the management and operation of the Site;
- establish leadership by example, demonstrate and advocate cultural and environmental heritage ethics, principles and practices, and cooperate with others to ensure and promote the maintenance of commemorative and ecological integrity;
- ensure provision of service to clients, and the use of public funds in a wise and efficient manner; and
- undertake a comprehensive evaluation of the Site's security and safety program to identify current and future security and safety requirements.

Current Situation

The Site is currently administered by the Yukon Field Unit office in Whitehorse, where the Site Superintendent is located. Operation

and management of the Site adheres to Parks Canada policy and legislation, and to applicable federal and provincial statutes and regulations.

KEY ACTIONS

- **collaborate with First Nations and employment/training agencies to promote First Nation training and employment opportunities at the Site;**
- **develop and implement a visitor risk management strategy for the Site;**
- **ensure the Site is fully operational from late May to mid-September, staff is present on a periodic basis in the operating winter season and a modest outreach program is supported in the off-season (e.g. Site security, visitor safety, resource protection, presentation);**
- **consult with affected stakeholders interested in proposals to change Site user fees;**
- **develop and implement safety and security guidelines for the Site to meet occupational health and safety standards;**
- **develop and implement an emergency preparedness strategy for the Site;**
- **utilize State of the Parks reporting to Parliament to monitor the state of the Site's commemorative integrity;**
- **review the structural and functional condition of the Site's operations support infrastructure and develop and implement a strategy to meet the Site's operational and administrative needs;**
- **conduct strategic environmental assessments of the Site management and sub-activity plans subject to the Environmental Assessment Process for Policy and Program Proposals; and**
- **utilize the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act to assess the environmental impacts of projects before they are undertaken.**

4.4 Management Plan Environmental Assessment

An environmental assessment review of this Management Plan was conducted in accordance with the *Environmental Assessment Process for Policy and Program Proposals* Cabinet directive. The screening was carried out early in the Management Plan review to ensure that the environmental effects of plan initiatives were considered before irrevocable decisions were made. A companion document, *Environmental Assessment of the Chilkoot Trail NHSC Management Plan*, provides a detailed account of the results summarised here.

A workshop was conducted to identify Management Plan proposals capable of producing adverse environmental effects. This document reaffirms the direction in the 1988 Management Plan. A limited number of new facilities are proposed, such as day-use shelters and sanitary facilities. These will be simple structures integrated into their environment. Existing structures, such as the church at Bennett, will be maintained and protected using standard construction and restoration methods. The environmental impacts of this is insignificant or can be mitigated with known technology.

Several initiatives in the draft Management Plan may result in increased visitation. The visitor use impact assessment will provide direction to manage visitor impacts on cultural and natural resources at the Site.

Portions of the Management Plan are conceptual and lack the detail necessary to assess environmental impacts. Further information is required before these initiatives, and the projects they will generate, can be adequately assessed. As specific projects are developed they will undergo screening pursuant to the provisions of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA). Appropriate mitigative measures will be included in the assessments. Projects will not be implemented prior to environmental assessment review and approval from a responsible authority under the CEAA.

■ 5: Implementation Strategy

The management plan provides long term strategic direction for Site managers. It is a framework for more detailed planning and decision-making, and a strategic reference for capital expenditure forecasts and future management and operations. Implementation of the plan is the responsibility of the Superintendent and Field Unit Staff.

Implementation depends upon the availability of funds. All necessary approvals will be sought as implementation proceeds. Priorities may be reconsidered in response to new circumstances or information, or changing national priorities and decisions.

The priorities will be linked directly to the Site's business plan and to the three year business planning cycle and will cover the five year life of the management plan. They will be grouped according to Parks Canada's service lines as part of the new planning, reporting and accountability structure. The priorities will lead to results in the main areas of accountability:

- 1) Ensuring commemorative integrity and contributing to maintaining ecological integrity;
- 2) Improving service to clients; and
- 3) Making wise and efficient use of public funds.

Progress will be determined through annual reporting on business plan performance and through the State of the Parks reports which are issued regularly.

Of the Key Actions cited above, the following are the priority activities to be achieved at the Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site of Canada over the next five years of this management plan:

- Complete resource protection projects at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Cemetery to protect resources from visitor impacts and natural threats.
- Prepare and implement site plan for Bennett for Chilkoot Trail NHSC.
- Establish inventory of Boatmen's Encampment, Teamsters Quarters and North Deep Lake.
- Review and update the Cultural Resource Management Monitoring and Protection program for the Site to ensure the objectives of the Site's Commemorative Integrity Statement are being met.
- Review the structural and functional condition of the Site's operations; support infrastructure, develop and implement a strategy to meet the Site's operational and administrative needs.
- Prepare and implement a Site Conservation Strategy to prioritize tasks and programs for the protection and management of the Site's Natural Resources.
- Offer programming to school groups to increase park/site awareness, understanding and support.
- Continue First Nation Elders' workshop for the Site.
- Seek opportunities whereby the Carcross/ Tagish First Nation can offer interpretation on the Chilkoot Trail.
- Develop, on the site website, an outreach/education program, particularly targeted to engage youth.
- Monitor heritage presentation effectiveness through the completion of annual surveys (including continuation of the national client survey).

- Develop a wayside exhibit plan for the Chilkoot Trail with USNPS.
- Establish a Klondike International Historic Park working group to coordinate activities of mutual interest.
- Maintain or enhance current level of personal programming by ensuring that park/site heritage presentation positions are staffed by qualified individuals in a timely manner.
- Annual review of training needs of heritage presentation managers and staff to ensure professional delivery of program.
- Develop a marketing strategy for the site with emphasis on social marketing and changing visitor behaviour.
- Meet with key carriers to accommodate rail traffic to historic Bennett City.
- Make improvements to the quality of services provided at Log Cabin.
- Maintain Chilkoot Trail NHSC reservation system.
- Participate in the BC treaties process for the Carcross/ Tagish First Nation in relation to the operation of the Chilkoot Trail NHSC.
- Support the Carcross/ Tagish First Nation in the Carcross waterfront development project where appropriate.
- Upgrade infrastructure at Deep Lake, Happy Camp and Bare Loon Lake.

■ Glossary

Commemorative Integrity	A historic place may be said to possess commemorative integrity when the resources that symbolize or represent its importance are not impaired or under threat, when the reasons for its significance are effectively communicated to the public, and when the heritage value of the place is respected.
Cultural Resource	A human work or a place which gives evidence of human activity or has spiritual or cultural meaning, and which has been determined to have historic value.
Cultural Resource Management	Generally accepted practices for the conservation and presentation of cultural resources, founded on principles and carried out in a practice that integrates professional, technical and administrative activities so that the historic value of cultural resources is taken into account in actions that might affect them. In Parks Canada, Cultural Resource Management encompasses the presentation and use, as well as the conservation of cultural resources.
Federal Heritage Building Review Office	An interdepartmental advisory body responsible for identifying which federal buildings merit designation as federal heritage buildings, and for monitoring the conservation and continued use of these buildings.
Heritage Tourism	An immersion in the natural history, human heritage, the arts and philosophy, and the institutions of another region or country that creates understanding, awareness and support for the nation's heritage.
Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC)	A board of appointed members representing all provinces and territories of Canada, which reports to the Minister (of the Environment). The Board receives and considers recommendations regarding the commemoration of historic places, the establishment of historic museums and the administration, preservation and maintenance of historic places and historic museums, and advises the Minister in the carrying out of his or her powers under the <i>Historic Sites and Monuments Act</i> .
Historic Value	Historic value is a value or values assigned to a resource, whereby it is recognized as a cultural resource. These values can be physical and/or associative.
Level I Cultural Resource	A cultural resource that is of national historic significance. It directly relates to the reasons for a site's national significance.

Level II Cultural Resource	A resource that is not of national historic significance may have historic value and thus be considered a cultural resource.
Management Plan	A management is a strategic guide to future management of a national park, national historic site or national marine conservation area. It is required by legislation, guided by public consultation, approved by the minister responsible for Parks Canada, and tabled in parliament. It is the primary public accountability document for a national park, national historic site or national marine conservation area.
National Historic Site	Any place declared to be of national historic interest or significance by the Minister responsible for Parks Canada.
State of the Parks Report	Biennial report which assesses the ecological and commemorative integrity of Canada's national parks and national historic sites, services offered to visitors, and progress in establishing new heritage places. It is approved by the Minister and tabled in Parliament.
World Heritage Site	A cultural or natural site that is designated as having outstanding universal value by the World Heritage Committee, according to its criteria. The committee was established to oversee implementation of UNESCO's 1972 World Heritage Convention.
Yukon Field Unit	An administrative unit of Parks Canada, based in the Yukon, responsible for the management of the following heritage places: Chilkoot Trail NHSC; <i>S.S. Klondike</i> NHSC; <i>S.S. Keno</i> NHSC; Dawson Historical Complex NHSC; Dredge No. 4 NHSC; Kluane National Park/Reserve and Vuntut National Park.