Media Release
May 18 2018

Tšilhqot’in Issue Permits for Mushroom Harvest in Territory

Williams Lake, BC: The Tšilhqot’in National Government (TNG) will be issuing permits to mushroom harvesters within the Tšilhqot’in territory in order to protect culturally significant sites and ensure designated campsites are kept clean with adequate facilities.

Taking a collaborative approach, the TNG has partnered with the RCMP, BC Conservation Officer Service, and BC Natural Resource Officers to ensure the safety of harvesters and protection of specific sites. The Tšilhqot’in Land Rangers will also be monitoring the harvest. Mushroom Harvesters will be required to stay out of designated biologically and culturally sensitive areas “No Harvest Zones” within the territory.

Permits will be issued to buyers and harvesters from May 17, 2018 until June 29, 2018 online at http://www.tsilhqotin.ca/Lands-Resources/Stewardship and at the TNG Office, 253 4th Ave North, Williams Lake BC.

All proceeds from the permits will go towards ensuring designated campsites are kept clean with adequate facilities. Permits will not be issued for the declared Aboriginal Title Lands, nor do permits include private land. Citizens of the Tšilhqot’in Nation will not be required to purchase permits.

Maps locating “No Harvest Zones” and designated campsites, along with more information about the mushroom harvest can be found online at http://www.tsilhqotin.ca/Lands-Resources/Stewardship. For additional information please contact Luke Doxtator, TNG Stewardship Manager, at 250-392-3918.

Quote:

Nits’il?in (Chief) Joe Alphonse, Tribal Chairman, Tšilhqot’in National Government

“Our territory was home to the largest fires in BC last summer, meaning it will likely also be home to the largest mushroom harvest in the Province. If not organized, the harvest has the potential to be a hazard not only to people’s health, but also the culturally sensitive sites that we have throughout our area. The wildfires of 2017 have led to the Tšilhqot’in having an increased role in managing every aspect of our lands. This is part of that process. We ask all harvesters and buyers to purchase a permit if they are not from the Tšilhqot’in Nation.”

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