

# Elders Team Update



From the project:  
*Evolving Co-management practice: community-based environmental monitoring with Tl'azt'en Nation on the John Prince Research Forest*

## ~ Project information ~

Issue 2, August 2007

This community-based environmental monitoring project is working with two groups of Tl'azt'en Nation community members to create a way to monitor and protect important plants and animals on the John Prince Research Forest, a part of Tl'azt'en territory.

The two groups of Tl'azt'en community members working on this project are:

- the Forest Team (FT)
- the Elders Team (ET)

Together with the FT and ET, we will develop a community-based environmental monitoring method that incorporates the needs, beliefs, and concerns of the community.

This project is focused on developing an environmental monitoring method for one plant or animal in each of the following traditional use activities:



ET members at the Elders Team Retreat at Cinnabar on Aug.20 & 21 2007.



Hunting moose



Trapping beaver



Fishing salmon



Gathering soapberries  
for medicinal use



Picking  
huckleberries

## Elders Team Progress Update...

- The Elders Team retreat was held on August 20 & 21<sup>st</sup> at Cinnabar. At the retreat, members of the Elders Team discussed each of the plants and animals selected for environmental monitoring in this project.
- On the first day of the retreat, 3 group discussions took place regarding hunting moose, trapping beaver, and fishing salmon. On the second day of the retreat, 2 group discussions about picking huckleberries and gathering soapberries for medicinal use took place.
- The Elders teachings helped us to understand how things have changed over time and the importance of protecting the health of moose, beaver, salmon, huckleberries, and soapberries for the future of Tl'azt'en Nation and for environmental sustainability.
- The Elders shared their knowledge, wisdom, and expertise over the course of this two day retreat. Their invaluable contributions to this project are deeply appreciated.



# Meet the Elders Team!



(Left to right, back to front): **Betsy Dennis, Doreen Austin, Pierre John, Seraphine Mattess, Willie Mattess, Celestine Thomas, Helen Johnnie, Lizzie Alexis, Mary Lebrun** (Missing: **John Alexis**)



# Special moments from the Elders Team Retreat



(Left to right, back to front): **Leona Shaw, Amelia Stark, Betsy Dennis, Doreen Austin, Pierre John, Seraphine Mattess, Willie Mattess, Bev John, Deanna Yim, Celestine Thomas, Helen Johnnie, Lizzie Alexis, Mary Lebrun, Annie Anatole** (Missing: **John Alexis**)



## Talk to us for more information!



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Picture Left: John Alexis sharing his knowledge and stories during a boat ride on *Chuzghun Lake*, (Tezzeron).  
Picture Below: Leona Shaw, Mary Lebrun, & Lizzie Alexis talking about traditional uses of fir.

Below left to right: Celestine Thomas & Seraphine Mattess listening during a discussion; Pierre John sharing in a discussion; Helen Jonnie taking a walk; Betsy Dennis & Amelia Stark spending time together; Willie Mattess enjoying the weather; Doreen Austin & Annie Anatole talking outside.

