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Ecological Monitoring Protocols for the Management of Agay Mene Territorial Park



Jesse Vigliotti has been devising and testing a series of field protocols for long term tracking the ecological health of a new territorial park being planned. This work in partnership with the YG Territorial Parks branch and the Carcross Tagish FN builds on work conducted earlier with birds of prey and is seeking to develop other repeatable field surveys that will serve to monitor the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems of the park. Indicator ‘focal’ species, in particular top-of-food-chain and ‘keystone’ species like birds of prey, aquatic species like loons and forest dependant birds have been the focus. Five survey protocols and data bases have been started: 1) Large stick nesting birds of prey (Bald Eagle and Osprey), 2) Common loon nesting counts, 3) Swallow nest box occupancy, 4) Predator winter track count and 5) standardized Pland Watch. By focusing on these indicators the idea is make a cost-effective process that can be maintained by park staff and others over time.