Harvest in Kuane National Park & Reserve


Welcome to Kuane National Park and Reserve (KNP). This area is an important part of the traditional territories of Champagne and Aishihik First Nations (CAFN) and Kuane First Nation (KNF) and continues to be highly valued for its abundance and diversity of northern plant, fish, and wildlife populations. Today, KNP is managed cooperatively with CAFN and KNF who maintain a deep cultural and spiritual relationship with the land.

This Brochure is intended to summarize the harvesting rights of CAFN and KNF citizens as well as to promote safe and responsible harvesting practices within KNP to ensure visitor safety.


Harvesting in KNP means hunting, trapping, fishing or gathering plants and includes travel and camping associated with harvesting activities. Harvesting methods have evolved over time and CAFN and KNF citizens may harvest using traditional hunting, trapping, fishing equipment and technologies such as traps, nets, spears, harpoons, snowmobiles, GPS, etc. CAFN citizens are asked to observe the Voluntary No Discharge of Firearms Within 1 km of the Kakehuk Lake Campground.

As provided for in Chapter 18, Schedule A (CAFN) & Schedule G (KNF) of the First Nations Final Agreements, CAFN and KNF citizen harvesting may occur for all fish, wildlife and plants for yourself, family and for ceremonial purposes.

Preparation for Harvesting in the KNPR

While harvesting is often spontaneous, Parks Canada is requesting first nation harvesting harvesters to inform KNPR staff in advance of any planned wildlife harvesting activities within the park. This is not a requirement, but rather a request that will allow park staff to notify other users and reduce the likelihood of human-wildlife and other wildlife conflicts. Contact Information for KNPR is provided at the end of this brochure.

No permit is required for CAFN and KNF citizens exercising their harvesting rights within the park; however, you should carry proof of enrollment from your respective First Nation while harvesting in KNP as it may be requested by a Park Ward or enforcement officer.

After a Successful Harvest in KNP

CAFNR and KNF citizens are asked to report locations of harvested animals or substances with harvesting equipment left near edible wild plants in the park or within a First Nation’s boundaries. This information will allow for better monitoring and understanding of harvest trends within the park, by both the First Nations governments and Parks Canada. We also request that you properly dispose of game remains and garbage (e.g. bears coming across & kill site with bear activity).

Heritage Resources

A Land Rich In History, A Land That Provides

Brush houses, brush shelters and drying racks
Calhins, caches and dog houses
Campfire with old pots, pans, traps and mining equipment
Archaeological sites with stone tools (arrow points, spear points, etc.). Note flakes left behind when making stone tools
Evidence of old trails (cropped trees, small fragments of sodded bone)
Plants of native plants with chells (especially in the high sub-arctic country, including haring, bearberry, or bear-grass, etc.)

Heritage sites in the park are protected and are not to be disturbed. Please respect these areas by leaving nothing except your own footprint (i.e., any artifacts are left where they were found). Do not collect artifacts, burn stamps or wooden structure remains. If you see something unusual, please report it to KNPR staff or First Nation staff and if possible GPS and take images of the location.

Harvesting

in
Kuane National Park & Reserve

Contact Information

Please contact the appropriate office for further information related to harvesting, or for help planning your harvesting activities in KNP.

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations
700 4th Avenue
PO Box 1000
Yukon, Y1A 2N8
Canada

(867) 834-4236 ext. 241

CAFNR (Yukon) (867) 834-4231

CAFNR (NWT) (867) 834-3308

Fax # (867) 834-2458

Kuane First Nation
111 Simon Drive
PO Box 91
Yellowknife, NT X1A 3J1
Canada

(867) 873-3000

Main Switchboard (867) 873-3535

Recreational Services & Ward Park Ward Office (867) 873-4579

Park Canada 24-Hour Emergency Dispatch (877) 873-3535

Visitor Centre Desk (867) 873-7207

Fax # (867) 873-7206

Guiding Principles

CAFNR and KNF governments encourage all subsistence harvesters to follow their traditional practices of caring for and respecting the land and its inhabitants.

Take only what you can use and use all that you take.

Respect the rights of other KNPR users and understand their appreciation, understanding, and enjoyment of the park.

Please carry out your harvesting activities in a respectful manner, and be considerate and respectful of each other.

Please set and maintain your harvesting that will minimize encounters with wildlife and ensure public safety.

Leave the land in the same condition as before as if you were a visitor.

Citizens of CAFN and KNF have the right to harvest traditional and summer foods and for subsistence harvesting within KNP, which include snowmobiles and ATVs. Please remember, your harvesting rights only apply within your respective traditional territory of KNP, and you are also required to observe the No Harvest Zones (see Map).

This brochure is a joint initiative developed in cooperation between Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, Kuane First Nation, Kuane National Park & Reserve, and Kuane Park Management Board.

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