





Map 1: Northwest BC/Southwest Yukon and south Alaska, showing the location of the discovery site and other local features.

eagles and spawning salmon. Along with adjacent protected areas in Yukon and Alaska, it comprises the world's largest internationally protected area, and has been designated a United Nations World Heritage Site (BC Ministry of Environment Lands and Parks, BC Parks Division & CAFN: in press).

There are no roads in the park, nor settlements in this part of the province. The find area is about equidistant between the two closest contemporary aboriginal settlements, Klukwan, a Chilkat Tlingit community near Haines, Alaska, and Klukshu, a Champagne and Aishihik First Nations' settlement in the Yukon south of Haines Junction.

The park is located within the B.C. portion of the traditional territory of Champagne and

Aishihik First Nations. CAFN's rights to the Yukon portion of their traditional lands and resources were confirmed in 1993 with the signing of their land claim agreement. The First Nations' claim to lands in British Columbia remains outstanding, though in 1996, the Province and CAFN signed an agreement to co-manage Tatshenshini-Alsek Park. The First Nations have had a formal Heritage Program since 1993.

CAFN's aboriginal language is Southern Tutchone, a member of the Athapaskan language family. Until recently, many CAFN elders also spoke the Tlingit language (McClellan 1975). Traditionally, CAFN people pursued a subsistence-hunting and fishing lifestyle. Caribou, moose, Dall's sheep, moun-

































