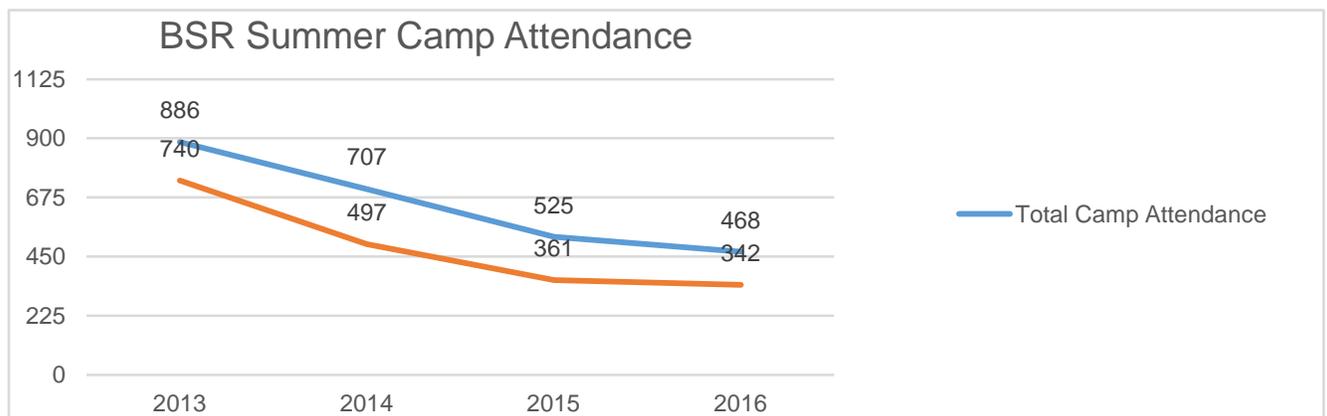


### Buckskin Council Executive Board Addresses Difficult Camp Issues

In the past 26 years four councils have merged to form the present-day Buckskin Council. The mergers were driven largely by a declining population, declining youth served, and a declining funding base. At the same time, the mergers have included seven camps of which only one has been sold during this same time period. The results are the Buckskin Council has consolidated the operational cost of administration and field staff while not significantly reducing the amount of camp property managed.

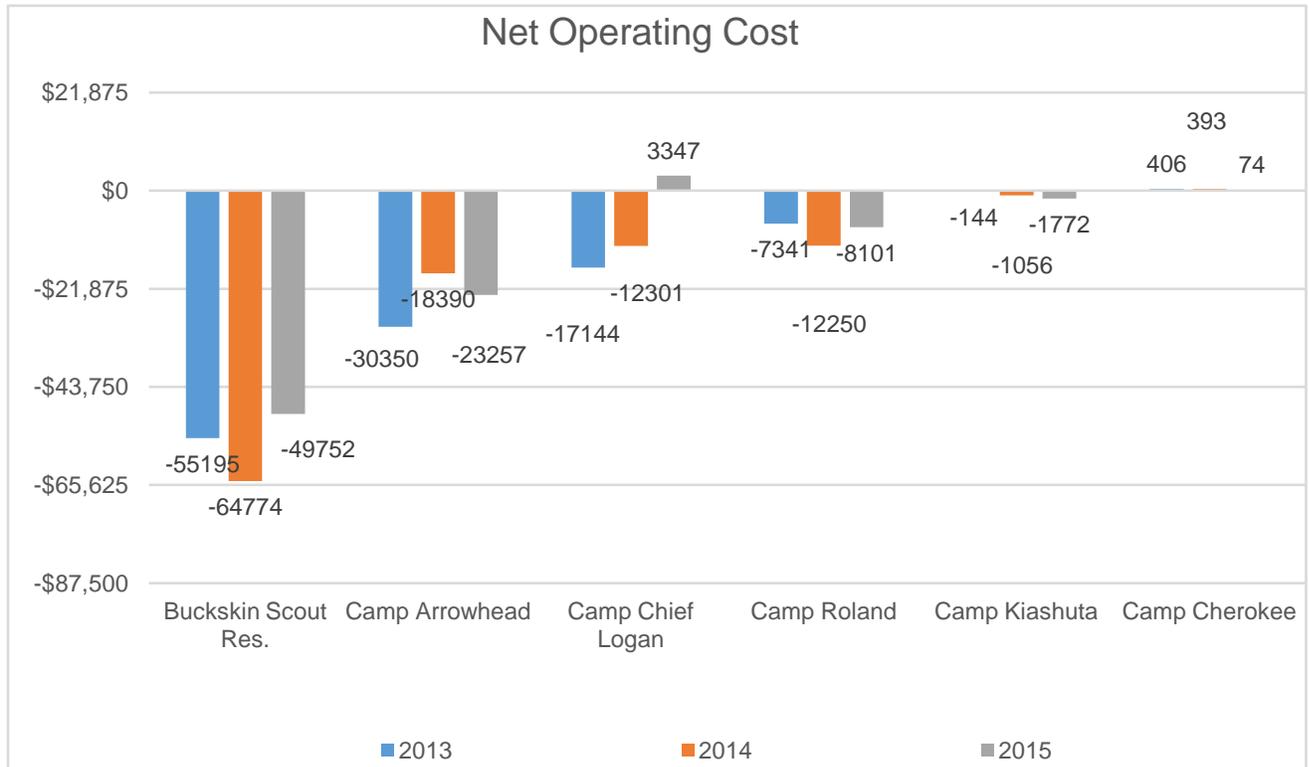
In the past 4 years, camp usage has been on a decline for certain properties. Buckskin Scout Reservation (BSR or Dilley's Mill) has experienced a summer camp attendance decline from 886 youth participants in 2013 to 468 in 2016. That is a 47% decrease in just three years. In-council Scout attendance has declined 34% during the same period (521 to 343). At the same time, non-summer camp usage for Buckskin Scout Reservation for 2015 was 562 single day uses. This is below the 2,445 single day uses for Camp Chief Logan and 4,741 single day uses for Camp Arrowhead in 2015. Camp Kiashuta also suffers from a lack of in-council usage, with only 178 in-council day usages and 570 out-of-council day usages in 2015.



Council camps are creating a net drain on council resources.

In 2015 four of the six camps experienced an operational loss. All camps combined generated a net operating loss of \$79,461 in that year. The three-year loss for all camps is \$297,876.

If the 2016 BSR operating loss is similar to that of 2015, the camp operating cost that has to be supplemented from other sources amounts to about \$118 for each Scout who attended summer camp.



Were Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) depreciation to be applied, all camps combined would have generated a 2015 net loss of \$318,315.

Were the portion of professional staff salaries attributable to camp operations and oversight also be allocated, the net loss would likely exceed \$400,000 annually.

Immediately-needed repair or replacement of structures and facilities at Buckskin Scout Reservation are estimated to be \$530,500 in the next few years.

In order for the Buckskin Council to implement a long term property sustainability plan, limited resources will need to be directed for replacement and long term maintenance of any camp property owned and operated by the Buckskin Council. The currently owned camp properties far exceed our funding capacity to maintain, and far exceed our camping facility needs.

Ready accessibility to camp properties has become increasingly important over the last decade.

Parents are desirous of easy access to their children both physically and through communications technology.

Long term camping experiences are more likely to see adult leadership changes during the week, requiring easily accessible camp properties to facilitate these changes.

The Buckskin Council service area contains many varied camping opportunities outside council-owned properties giving us greater flexibility than most councils in deciding the number and complexity of the properties we need. The Summit Bechtel Reserve also has the capacity to host thousands of youth weekly, and is in discussions on supporting local council camping needs and

opportunities.

Each council property has an emotional connection to a segment of our council's population, making any decision that much more challenging.

The Executive Board must utilize all of the council resources in a manner that ensures the long term sustainability for the council and its youth serving programs. Controlling the future expenses of underutilized camp properties and taking advantage of the new camping opportunities presented by the Summit Bechtel Reserve are the responsibility of the Executive Board. Therefore, the Buckskin Council has made the following changes for 2017.

**The Buckskin Council Executive Board has approved a recommendation of the Summer Camp Program Task Force to offer two weeks of Boy Scout Resident Summer Camp in 2017. One week of Summer Camp will be held at Camp Arrowhead on June 18th - 24th, 2017 and one week at Summit Bechtel Reserve Summer Camp will be offered from June 25th - July 1st, 2017.**

**The Buckskin Council Executive Board has designated Buckskin Scout Reservation (Dilley's Mill) as a primitive camping only facility. The cabins and dining hall will be winterized and kept in a dormant state. The Ranger position will become a caretaker position, much like the caretaker positions at Camp Roland and Camp Arrowhead.**