



## Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 10 October 2024

**Location:** WRRB Boardroom, Yellowknife, NT

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Board Members:

Janelle Nitsiza (Tłıchq Appointee), Zoom  
Travis Washie (Tłıchq Appointee)  
Isabelle Duclos (Federal Appointee)  
Tom Lafferty (Tłıchq Appointee)  
Stu Niven (Special Advisor)  
Suzanne Carrière (GNWT Appointee)  
Steve Matthews (GNWT Appointee), Zoom (May 15)  
Joseph Judas (Chair)  
Eddie Chocolate (Tłıchq Appointee)

Staff:

Laura Meinert  
Amanda Weltman  
Mary Drake  
Jody Pellissey

Interpreters:

Jonas Lafferty  
Violet Mackenzie

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**Call to Order: 1:20 p.m.**

**Opening Prayer: Joseph Judas**

### 1.0 Agenda and Previous Minutes

#### 1.1 Approval of Agenda

**Motion #938-10-10-2024**      *To approve the 10 October 2024 agenda as presented*

**Moved:** Suzanne Carrière  
**Second:** Steve Matthews

**Motion Approved**

### 2.0 Business

#### 2.1 Review & Approval of Wildlife Research Permit Application – Collaring of Bathurst Barren-ground Caribou in Fall (October) Using Net-Gun Capture

As the attempts to collar Kqk'èetì Ekwò (Bathurst Caribou) in March and July 2024 had limited success, GNWT-ECC is proposing to capture Kqk'èetì ekwò in Fall 2024 (October-November). Since 2020, collar locations of Kqk'èetì, Sahti, and Beverly ekwò during the fall rut season (late October) have shown limited overlap, thus there is high potential to target Kqk'èetì ekwò at this time of year.

The Wildlife Research Proposal application, submitted to the WRRB on September 5, 2024, details that a) deploy up to 40 collars (30 on cows and 10 on

Satellite collars are essential for the Mobile Core Bathurst Caribou Management Zone, the only current method to measure immigration and emigration, and is aligned with recommendations for enhanced monitoring of the Kq̓k'èetì ekwò. Discussions included confirmation of existing Kq̓k'èetì ekwò collars (24 active collars, 18 cows, 6 bulls), the number of collars used for the mobile zone in Jan – Mar 2024 (30 collars at beginning of harvest season, fewer by mid-season, 50km buffer), cow collar allocations occur following calving, concerns noted by Tłı̨chq̓ citizens about miscommunication (seeing thousands of caribou but not able to harvest), and how to manage Kq̓k'èetì ekwò protection if unable to use mobile zone (static map, no mobile zone).

**Moved:** Travis Washie  
**Second:** Tom Lafferty

**ACTION #671-10-10-2024 (ED):** To write letter to ECC to approve the Wildlife Research Permit Application, entitled “*Collaring of Bathurst Barren-ground Caribou in Fall (October) Using Net-Gun Capture*”, pending approval of Wildlife Care Committee.

On August 19, 2024, ECC-GNWT submitted a Wildlife Research Permit Application to the WRRB, proposing a collaring program on the Mackenzie Ejie (Wood Bison) subpopulation, with collaring deployments occurring in fall 2024 to winter 2025. The management proposal summary includes the following: a) 2.5-year collars which must be removed by recapture, b) deploy up to 15 adult female collars, c) ground (by road) or helicopter captures may occur, d) capture will occur by darting and anesthetizing ejie, and e) ejie will be woken up by another drug combination. There is an active NWT Wildlife Care Committee (WCC) permit for this work.

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habitat, locate ejie for surveys, help correct populations surveys, and better inform habitat use. Discussions included updates to existing maps in the management plan (5-year review), current number of ejie collared (13 cows).

**Motion #940-10-10-2024**      *To approve the Wildlife Research Permit application, entitled “Mackenzie Bison Collaring Program 2024-28”, as presented*

**Moved:** Steve Matthews  
**Second:** Travis Washie

**Motion Approved**

**ACTION #672-10-10-2024 (ED):** To write letter to ECC to approve the Wildlife Research Permit Application, entitled "*Mackenzie Bison Collaring Program 2024-28*".

**ACTION #673-10-10-2024 (WMB):** To request an ejie collar for the Board's next meeting.

### 3.0 Financial

## 4.0 Operations

## 5.0 Information Items

## 6.0 Other Items

### 6.1 Set Date for Review of Sahtì Ekwò Joint Management Proposal

The record for the Sahtì Ekwò Management Proceeding closed on October 9, 2024. Closing arguments were received from the sole participant, Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, on October 16, 2024 and from TG and GNWT on October 18, 2024. The Board must now review the evidence on record and discuss the proposed management actions identified: 1) proposed increase in TAH from 193 to 395, and 2) proposed change in calving ground survey interval from every two years to every three years (from 2025 onwards).

Board Members agreed to meet virtually via Zoom on November 12, 2024. Following the meeting, Board staff will draft a reasons for decision report for final review and approval at the December 17-18, 2024 meeting.

**ACTION #674-10-10-2024 (ED):** To set up meeting with community directors to assist Tłıchq Members to participate during Nov 12, 2024 Zoom meeting.

## 6.2 Next Meeting

The next meeting dates are:

- December 17-18, 2024, Yellowknife
- February 11-12, 2025, Yellowknife

**Closing Prayer: Joseph Judas**

**Adjournment:**            **2:18 p.m. (Motion #941-10-10-2024)**

Minutes Approved:

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**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

**December 17, 2024**

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Chairperson

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Date