



Board Meeting Minutes

Location: Yellowknife, NT
Date: 15-16 March 2016

Board Members:

Charlie Jeremick'ca (Tłıchq Appointee)
Jonas Lafferty (Tłıchq Appointee)
Steven Matthews (GNWT Appointee)
Suzanne Carriere (GNWT Appointee)
Grant Pryznyk (Federal Appointee)
Bruce MacDonald (Special Advisor)

Staff:

Jody Pellissey
Boyan Tracz
Susan Beaumont

Translators:

James Rabesca
Violet Mackenzie

Opening Prayer: Jonas Lafferty

Call to Order: 1:15 p.m.

No formal agenda was produced for this meeting. The discussion focused on 1) the proposed management actions identified by the Tłıchq Government (TG) and the Department of Environment & Natural Resources (ENR), Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) for the 2016 Bathurst Caribou Herd Proceeding and 2) the proposed schedule for the 2016 Bluenose-East Caribou Herd Proceeding. No formal motions were made during this meeting.

1) 2016 Bathurst Caribou Herd Proceeding

Final Report

- Staff reviewed the proposed Table of Contents for the final Bathurst Caribou Herd public hearing and reasons for decisions report; Board Members recommended the following: 1) that much of Section 3.0 be included in an Appendix that lays out the historical context of the Bathurst caribou herd and the WRRB; 2) the concept of 'determination' be discussed in Section 8.0; and 3) a discussion about Nunavut, specifically the Government of Nunavut's calving ground and development policy, be addressed in the report. Additionally, a map showing current and proposed developments in Wek'èezhì should be included along with a discussion about environmental assessments and range planning.

Proposed Management Actions

- Staff reviewed the three management actions proposed by TG and ENR in the joint management proposal and provided different options the Board Members could consider, as well as, leading a discussion about items deemed 'outside the scope' of the management proposal
- 1) Harvest Management

- 5 options were presented to the Board: #1) TAH = 0; #2) TAH = 0, with cultural/educational harvest; #3) TAH = 300; #4) TAH = > 300 or < 300; and #5) No restrictions
 - Options #3-5 were discussed but quickly eliminated
 - Options #1-2 were identified as possible responses to the proposed harvest management action; technical advisors and staff are to find and provide evidence from the public record to assist with the decision, including support/non-support for a total allowable harvest and cultural/educational (ceremonial) harvest
 - Additional information about compensation
- 2) Wolf Management
 - While the proposed training program is not considered a management action by the Board Members, the Members recognize that the goal of the proposed pilot program is to enhance community participation in caribou management, i.e. community morale is increased by assisting with the harvest of wolves to help the Bathurst caribou herd. The pilot training program in Wekweètì has not happened to date.
 - Board Members noted that there is no urgency shown by ENR to conduct wolf management; the proposed feasibility assessment is taking a long time to be available; current information about wolf control programs is limited to the Yukon and Alaska and boreal woodland caribou
 - 4 options were presented to the Board: #1) Training Program (Mobile Camps), Tłıchq Only; #2) Limited time specific wolf control (emergency); #3 – No formal programs; and #4) Training Programs for ALL Aboriginal harvesters in Wek'èezhì
 - Option #3 was eliminated after a short discussion
 - Options #1/4 and #2 were identified as possible responses to be conducted in tandem to the proposed wolf management action; technical advisors and staff are to find and provide evidence from the public record to assist with the decision, including specific details related to Option #2 and measures of success for Options #1/4
 - Additional program information about resident/non-resident wolf harvest and other Aboriginal wolf harvesters and collaring wolves
- 3) Monitoring
 - Board Members noted that monitoring is not a management action; rather, monitoring is collecting information to support management actions
 - 3 options were presented to the Board: #1) Core only (Biological, including collars, Harvest & Wolves); #2) Core & Outside Scope (Environmental monitoring); and #3) Focused modified monitoring plus Core & Environmental
 - Option #1 was eliminated after a short discussion
 - Options #2-3 were identified as possible responses to the proposed monitoring actions; technical advisors and staff are to find and provide evidence from the public record to assist with the decision, including identifying necessary Core and Environmental monitoring actions and

how Core monitoring actions may be modified/focused to collect different information

- Board Members recognize limitations for funding and personnel exist; how best to maximize collection of information with the limitations
- 4) Outside of Scope
 - Board Members discussed and identified the following options as additional proposed actions; technical advisors and staff are to find and provide evidence from the public record to assist with the decisions
 - Fire Management (actioning in key habitats)
 - Mobile Protection Measures (decrease exploration at certain times/areas)
 - Species at Risk (possibly special concern; does this influence research & management actions)
 - Cumulative Effects (regional)
 - Forest Fires
 - Water Crossings
 - Range Management (timelines & thresholds)
 - Threshold Determinations for Disturbance (what currently exists?)
 - Small scale impacts/on-site mitigations (roads)
 - Zone of Influence
 - Habitat Classification & Analysis
 - Vegetation monitoring (productivity & phenology)
 - Change detection (satellite classification)
 - Mitch Campbell's work in Nunavut
 - Climate Change
 - Temperature
 - Drought monitoring (Russell)
 - Insects/parasites (Kutz)
 - Offsets
 - Additional discussion focused on the development of a process chart that list all programs (past & present) and identifies how each program affects/feeds into the other programs; who is overseeing/coordinating all the programs; is it possible to streamline the programs
 - Suzanne to develop process chart for April 19th meeting

2) 2016 Bluenose-East Caribou Herd Proceeding

- Bruce MacDonald indicated that he will not participate in the Bluenose-East Proceeding as his reappointment has not been finalized

Schedule Revisions

- Board Members discussed and accepted the following revisions:

- April 13-14 meeting to be changed to April 19-21; to be held in Yellowknife; April 19 to discuss Bathurst Proceeding and April 20-21 to discuss Bluenose-East Proceeding
- May 10-11 meeting to remain as is; to be held in Yellowknife; May 10 to discuss Bathurst Proceeding and May 11 to discuss Bluenose-East Proceeding
- May 27 meeting to be changed to May 25; to be held in Yellowknife to discuss Bluenose-East Proceeding
- Two technical sessions have been added to the schedule: March 17 – Science Technical Session, Yellowknife; March 22 – Traditional Knowledge Technical Session, Yellowknife

SRRB Hearing, Deline

- Steve Matthews provided a briefing on the SRRB Hearing, held March 1-3, 2016 in Deline.

Closing Prayer: **Charlie Jeremick'ca**

Adjournment **4:34 p.m.**

Minutes Approved:

ORIGINAL SIGNED

AUGUST 16, 2016

Chairperson

Date