

VIA EMAIL

March 2, 2010

Grant Pryznyk, Interim Chair
Wek'èezhii Renewable Resource Board
Suite 102A, 4504 49th Ave.
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 1A7

Dear Mr. Pryznyk:

RE: Management Proposal on the Use of Bait for Spring Black Bear Hunts

Thank you for your letter dated February 5, 2010 requesting additional clarification or supporting documentation. ENR North Slave Regional Office was not able to meet and gather all the information you had requested before the WRRB board meeting.

Please see below for the clarification to the points listed in your letter. Hopefully, these will comply with your requests and ensure that recommendations from the board can be given to ENR so that a decision on issuing the permit is conducted in a timely manner.

- Please see attached form for the 2009 biological samples collected.
- With regards to aspects of the operation that were altered.
 - In 2009, after bait sites were approved by ENR, an issue of public concern was raised, that one bait site was too close to a bush camp. It was immediately discussed with the operator who agreed and moved the bait site.
- With regards to the #7 of the draft terms and conditions ENR considered letters from the Tli cho Government and the WRRB (see below).
 - Letter dated May 29, 2009 - ***Appropriate Baits for use in Outfitted Harvests of Black Bears***, the Tli cho Lands Protection stated "It is not the Tli cho Lands Departments role to decide further what type of bait is or is not acceptable to use, however this responsibility does lie within the decision making authority of the WRRB."
 - Letter dated June 1, 2009 - ***Appropriate Baits for use in Outfitted Harvests of Black Bears***, the WRRB stated "Based on permit terms and conditions from last year, available scientific literature, expert opinion and the need to apply the precautionary principle where scientific certainty may be lacking, we recommend

only unprocessed fats and meats, oats, corn, fish and fish parts and other natural foods normally found in nature ion the Wek'eezhii area be used."

- ENR will conduct a literature review regarding approaches to black bear management plans and provide to WRRB and Tli Cho Government in fall 2010 to obtain direction on WRRB involvement in preparing a black bear management plan.
- Recognizing that it may be difficult to determine the difference between a female and male bear in the field ENR will revise the term "male" to "lone".
- In response to the changed requirements for the biological samples.
 - After receiving feedback from the Permittee that collecting some samples was creating logistical problems during processing.
 - ENR reviewed these conditions again and revised the types of samples to collect and still enable ENR to gather data to support their mandate for the management of black bears.
 - See revised attached draft Terms and Conditions.
 - These samples and measurements will allow ENR to obtain age, sex and condition information. The muscle sample can be used for a number of analyses such as contaminant levels, genetics, etc.
- The camper contacted ENR but did not attend a follow up meeting to provide details on the incident. No report is available.

If you have additional requests or questions please contact Lance Schmidt, Superintendent, North Slave Region, ENR at (867) 920-6114 or email: lance_schmidt@gov.nt.ca,

Sincerely,



Lance Schmidt
North Slave Regional Superintendent, ENR

CC

Susan Fleck
Wildlife Director, ENR

Eddie Erasmus
Director, Lands Protection, Tli Cho Government

