

**Sahtu Renewable Resource Board Meeting
5-7 February 2008
Deline, NT**

5 February 2008

ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS

Walter Bayha
Paul Latour
Keith Hickling
Rosa Etchinelle

STAFF

Glen Guthrie
Nicole Lights
Lori Ann Lennie
Jody Snortland

GUESTS

J.B. Gully – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC
Jimmy Dillon – Deline RRC
George Kenny – Deline RRC
Alfred Taniton – Deline RRC
Ed Reeves – Deline RRC
Jackie McDonald – Norman Wells RRC
Blaine McDonald – Norman Wells RRC
Edward LeBlue – Norman Wells RRC

Wilfred Lennie Sr. – Tulita RRC
Joe Bernarde – Tulita RRC
Shannon Andrew – Tulita RRC
Doris Taniton – Deline Knowledge Project
Boyan Tracz – ENR, Sahtu Region
Paul Rivard – ENR, Sahtu Region
Erin Freeland Ballantyne – Oxford University
Michael Neyelle – Translator

1. Opening Prayer

- Opening prayer by Alfred Taniton

2. Call to Order/Introductions

- Meeting convened at 9:12 a.m.
- Round table introductions

3. Review of Agenda

SRRB Motion #02-05-08-01

- To accept the agenda as presented

Moved by: Keith Hickling

Seconded by: Rosa Etchinelle

Carried Unanimously

4. Conflict of Interest

- No conflicts of interest were declared

5. Review and Acceptance of Previous Minutes

- 12-13 September 2007 Board Meeting tabled
- Revisions: Item #8 – change spelling of ‘fir’ to ‘fur’; Item #21 – Motion should read “... within the candidate Edaiila Conservation Zone/Protected Area” and Action Items should read “... within candidate Edaiila Protected Area”
- Action items reviewed; incomplete – conference call with Deborah Lewis re: Wildlife Studies Fund (scheduled for March 2008), legal opinion about term “affected RRC” (legal opinion being researched) and letter to DFO requesting biologist in Sahtu (incomplete)

SRRB Motion #02-05-08-02

- To accept the 12-13 September 2007 minutes with revisions

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle

Seconded by: Paul Latour

Carried Unanimously

6. Review and Acceptance of Finances

- 31 January 2008 Financial Statement tabled
- Wildlife Studies Fund: ~ \$3.00 million
- SRRB often acts as a funding conduit, therefore Consultants line item high; Professional Development includes registration fees and purchase of materials for courses taken; Field Equipment purchases are specifically for the Bosworth Creek Monitoring Project; Advertising includes the annual calendar and scholarship advertisements; Building Repairs & Maintenance includes construction of shelving in the office storage room; Legal fees from public hearing will be covered by additional funds recovered from Implementation Committee

SRRB Motion #02-05-08-03

- To accept the 31 January 2008 financial statement as presented

Moved by: Paul Latour

Seconded by: Rosa Etchinelle

Carried Unanimously

- 2008/2009 CORE Budget & Work Plan tabled
- Budget and work plan go to Implementation Committee for review and approval; Board has little input into this process; Rocky Norwegian Sr. is the Sahtu member
- Website upgrade – may be necessary to hire out

SRRB Motion #02-05-08-04

- To accept the 2008/2009 CORE Budget & Work Plan as presented

Moved by: Paul Latour

Seconded by: Keith Hickling

Carried Unanimously

7. Executive Director Update – Jody Snortland

- Report, entitled “*United States/Canada Cooperative Waterfowl Banding Report, Willow Lake, Mackenzie River Valley, Northwest Territories, August 2007*”, tabled
- Wolverine Land Management letter, dated 4 February 2008, tabled; proposal to hold an Introduction to Land Management Workshop, 25-29 Feb 08, using First Nations Forestry Program funding
- Received \$58,775 from Implementation Committee to cover public hearing costs; shortfall of \$14,075.26

ACTION (ED): To request additional funding from Implementation Committee to cover public hearing shortfall

8. Staff Updates

- Renewable Resources Communication Officer – Glen Guthrie
 - Handouts, entitled “*SRRB Facilitated Projects 2007-2008 & Project Sponsors*”, “*January 2008 SRRB Newsletter*”, “*Fur Harvesters Auction Inc Sale Results – January 7, 2008*”, “*NAFA January 2008 Auction – January 11, 2008*”, and “*Caribou Meat Chart*”, tabled
 - ENR/SRRB Trapping Cubbies – prevent trapping non-target species e.g. birds; versatile as able to use with both marten and red squirrel traps; to be distributed to communities
 - ENR/SRRB project to revise the caribou meat chart
 - Bosworth Creek Monitoring Project – funded in 2008 by the Environmental Studies Research Fund (ESRF) Management Board (\$35K) to produce a ‘Lessons Learned’ report
- Office Manager – Lori Ann Lennie
 - Completed T-4s and preparing for upcoming audit
- Environmental Assessment Specialist – Nicole Lights
 - Report, entitled “*Environmental Assessment Specialist Update, January 31, 2008*”, tabled
 - Development of seismic guidelines – regional consultations in Feb/Mar; SRRB comments have been included in recent revision
 - Discussions: environmental monitor courses (Aurora College); SRRB monitor forms – encourage RRCs to have monitors fill out and return to SRRB office
 - Resignation, effective March 28, 2008; to help out until position filled and with training; contract for billable hours

9. RRC Updates

- Fort Good Hope RRC – Report, entitled “*Fort Good Hope Renewable Resource Council 2007 Update*”, tabled; no delegates in attendance
- Norman Wells RRC – Jackie McDonald, Member
 - Report, entitled “*Norman Wells Renewable Resources Council Update – February 2008*”, tabled
 - MGM Seismic Program (Doctor Lake) – TK study completed; two monitors on-site; harvester assistance program continues
 - RRC involved with Mackenzie Mountain School cultural exchange with students from Paris, ON (March/April 2008) – request SRRB involvement
- Tulita RRC – Wilfred Lennie Sr., President
 - Mineral exploration along Keele River and at Caribou Flats (one monitor on-site); concerns of changes in caribou migration (noise); Husky Camp (one monitor on-site but will expand as drilling begins)
 - Hosting Monitoring Course 11-15 Feb in Tulita; harvester assistance program continues
 - Request increase in number of muskox tags available to communities and subsequent tag distribution to each RRC
- Behdzi Ahda’ RRC – J.B. Gully, Member
 - Horton Lake trip in September was successful; provided harvester assistance
 - Monitor training with elder involvement prior to trapping season; encourage consultation with community members
- Deline RRC – Jimmy Dillon, Member
 - Monitors on-site at Petro-Canada camp; RRC encouraged to fill out monitor feedback forms and send in to the SRRB office; monitor training with elder involvement as well as harvester education
 - Freighter boat purchased to be used for aquatic research, monitoring activities and hauling supplies

10. Chair Update – Walter Bayha

- Reviewed recent activities: NWT Board Forum, Bluenose Caribou Advisory Committee, Species at Risk Act, Far North Oil & Gas Forum, and Caribou TK presentations at various workshops & conferences

11. Agency Update – Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS), Paul Latour

- Presentation, entitled “*A New Approach to Managing the Incidental Take of Migratory Birds*”, Environment Canada letter, dated 14 December 2007, and report, entitled “*Summary of Environment Canada’s approach to the Incidental Take of Migratory Birds under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*”, tabled
- New approach: focus on populations, clarity in regulations, collaboration with provinces & territories; will not impact Aboriginal harvesters, SARA prohibitions, and prohibitions under Migratory Bird Conventions Act
- Improved regulatory process that recognizes different land uses, more enforceable, and an opportunity to slow population declines and reduce species at risk
- Ts’ude’hililine – Tuyetah (Ramparts Wetlands) PAS – 5 year land withdrawal granted in October 2007; currently assessing potential for oil and gas (geology); the area will become a National Wildlife Area under the Canada Wildlife Act upon completion of PAS process

12. Agency Update – Environment & Natural Resources (ENR), Paul Rivard & Keith Hickling

- Handout, entitled “*2007 – Forest Management Summary, Sahtu Region*”, tabled
- Fire season: 30 fires total in the Sahtu (largest – 90 ha at Carcajou River); disaster compensation for one value at risk (trapper’s tent frame); \$1.4 million spent on fire suppression in NWT; community fire crews being reviewed with possibility of centralization
- New GIS Specialist hired – Phil Spencer; plans to hire Wildlife Guardians in Deline and Colville Lake until RROs are hired (responsible for handling fur & problem wildlife and reporting harvest); GNWT budget reductions – ENR focus on being green, environment, water, land use plans and air quality
- Harvesting in the Mackenzie Mountains – questions from Sept 2007 board meeting are answered in report, which was provided to all community RRCs

Meeting recessed @ 4:11 p.m.

6 February 2008

ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS

Walter Bayha
Paul Latour
Keith Hickling
Rosa Etchinelle

STAFF

Glen Guthrie
Nicole Lights
Lori Ann Lennie
Jody Snortland

GUESTS

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Jackie McDonald – Norman Wells RRC
Blaine McDonald – Norman Wells RRC

Doris Taniton – Deline Knowledge Project
Boyan Tracz – ENR, Sahtu Region
Paul Rivard – ENR, Sahtu Region
Erin Freeland Ballantyne – Oxford University
Michael Neyelle – Translator
Julie Ward – INAC
Erin Huck – INAC

Edward LeBlue – Norman Wells RRC
Wilfred Lennie Sr. – Tulita RRC
Joe Bernarde – Tulita RRC
Shannon Andrew – Tulita RRC

Brenda Parlee – University of Alberta
Kimberly Howland – DFO
Moise Bayha – Public

Meeting reconvened @ 9:30 a.m.

13. Funding Proposal Presentations – Boyan Tracz

- PowerPoint Presentation, entitled “*Ecology of the Muskox Below Treeline in the Sahtu*”, tabled
- Muskox collaring completed (chemical immobilization used); 5 cows and 1 bull; last population census – 1997; RRCs interested in increasing the number of tags available for muskox
- Funding request \$43.6K – satellite monitoring, surveys and purchase of one collar (no collaring planned for 2008/09)

14. Agency Update – Environment & Natural Resources (ENR), Boyan Tracz

- PowerPoint Presentations, entitled “*Boreal Woodland Caribou in the Sahtu – February 2008 SRRB Update*” and “*Barren-ground Caribou Update*”, tabled
- Boreal Woodland Caribou – 20 calves to 100 cows sighted in November 2007; upcoming work: nine (9) collars to be deployed in March 2008, recruitment survey in March 2008 and productivity survey in May/June 2008
- Barren-ground Caribou – upcoming work: recruitment survey & collaring in March 2008, distribution surveys in June 2008, and classification surveys in July 2008; ENR part of proposed pilot project for Mobile Caribou Protection Measures

15. Funding Proposal Presentations – Kimberly Howland

- PowerPoint Presentations, entitled “*Monitoring of Lake Trout Stocks in Great Bear Lake: Update and Proposal*” and “*Identification and Description of Spawning and Over-Wintering Habitats of Anadromous Fish Species in the Mackenzie Valley*”, tabled
- Main fish species in all five arms of Great Bear Lake – Lake Trout; avg. length ~700 mm; avg. age ~17 years; comparison of 2000-04 data with data collected in 1984-85; fish growth is related to diet and morphotype; funding request \$34K for Turili (McVicar) Arm
- 2007 – no radio tag insertions (surgeries), rather use of nano tags; finding mixture of freshwater and anadromous species in middle Mackenzie River; funding request \$20.5K to focus on ground-truthing

16. Agency Update – Indian & Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Julie Ward & Erin Huck

- PowerPoint Presentation, entitled “*Contaminated Sites within Sahtu, February 6, 2008*”, and Report, entitled “*Canol Trail Brief, Logistic Plan Development - 2007/08*”, tabled
- In NWT, there are 217 inventoried sites (only 32 assessed); in the Sahtu, there are 43 sites suspected or contaminated (11 are currently being addressed); plans to address all assessed sites by 2014
- ARI Research Permit – not required to have permit for soil and water sampling (S. 20.1.5)

17. Funding Proposal Presentations – Kimberly Howland

- PowerPoint Presentation, entitled “*Quantifying Sedimentation Risk to Sensitive Fish Habitat in Sahtu Streams*”, tabled

- Excess fine sediment can harm fish & degrade habitat, i.e., smother insects and/or eggs and reduce quality of spawning gravel; Mackenzie Gas Project proposes to cross more than 250 streams in the Sahtu; >90% will be cross cut (high risk of sedimentation)
- Funding request \$10K to develop risk assessment tool (to aid regulatory agencies when reviewing development applications and to prescribe effective mitigation measures)

18. Caribou Traditional Knowledge Study Update – Michael Neyelle, Doris Taniton & Erin Freeland Ballantyne

- Focus group sessions in Deline – January 2007; 140 page transcript and Slavey caribou terminology report; Focus group sessions in Fort Good Hope – February 2007; Anne Marie Jackson interviewing and filming; Attended Horton Lake Hunt – Colville Lake, September 2007 (filmed by AM Jackson); transcribing archival materials; Erin Freeland-Ballantyne, Rhodes Scholar – working with students on impacts of climate change and development on community health (overlap with Caribou TK Project)
- Funding request \$49,861 to expand project into Tulita (Mountain Caribou)

19. Assessing Socio-Economic Tradeoffs: A Study on Sahtu Harvesting Patterns of the Bluenose-East and Porcupine Caribou Herds – Brenda Parlee

- University of Alberta, Faculty of Native Studies & Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences letter, dated 28 January 2008, tabled
- Research project collaboration (socio-economic focus); two graduate students to analyze harvest information and do additional interviews (provide assistance to complete final harvest study report); more specific terms of use to be identified; no confidential information to be provided; require permission to access harvest study database

Meeting recessed @ 4:08 p.m.

**** RRC Caucus** – to review and provide recommendations to the Board regarding research priorities

6 February 2008 – Evening Session

ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS

Walter Bayha
Paul Latour
Keith Hickling
Rosa Etchinelle

STAFF

Jody Snortland

Call convened @ 7:12 p.m.

20. In-Camera Session

SRRB Motion #02-06-08-05

- To go in camera

Moved by: Keith Hickling

Seconded by: Rosa Etchinelle

Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-06-08-06

- To come out of camera

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle
Seconded by: Paul Latour
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-06-08-07

- To approve the public hearing draft report as presented and amended 6 February 2008, subject to final review by legal counsel

Moved by: Paul Latour
Seconded by: Rosa Etchinelle
Carried Unanimously

Call adjourned @ 9:45 p.m.

7 February 2008

ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS

Walter Bayha
Paul Latour
Keith Hickling
Rosa Etchinelle

STAFF

Glen Guthrie
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Wilfred Lennie Sr. – Tulita RRC

Joe Bernarde – Tulita RRC
Shannon Andrew – Tulita RRC
Doris Taniton – Deline Knowledge Project
Boyan Tracz – ENR, Sahtu Region
Paul Rivard – ENR, Sahtu Region
Erin Freeland Ballantyne – Oxford University
Michael Neyelle – Translator
Ruth Errington – CFS

Meeting reconvened @ 9:18 a.m.

21. RRC Priorities and Concerns

- Unanimous that all proposals submitted were important and deserved funding

22. Protected Area Strategy – Edaiila & Tulita Mountain Area – Letters of Support

- Tulita District Land Corporation (TDLC) letter, dated 28 January 2008, and Deline Renewable Resource Council (DRRC) letter, dated 29 January 2008, tabled
- Both communities at Step 2 of the PAS process – to obtain regional support

SRRB Motion #02-07-08-08

- To support the community of Deline in its endeavour to secure Protected Area Status for Edaiila (Caribou Point)

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle
Seconded by: Keith Hickling
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-07-08-09

- To support the community of Tulita in its endeavour to secure Protected Area Status for the Mountain, Keele, Raven's Throat and Redstone Rivers, collectively called the Tulita Mountain Area

Moved by: Keith Hickling
Seconded by: Rosa Etchinelle
Carried Unanimously

ACTION (ED): To write letters of support to both TDLC and DRRC for their PAS initiatives

23. Association of Mackenzie Mountain Outfitters Proposal

- AMMO letter, dated 31 January 2008, tabled
- AGM in November – invited SRRB reps and RRC presidents to attend
- Responses: 1) extend wolf season in mountains to 15 April (requires regulation change), 2) increase wolf bag limit from 1 to 2 (requires regulation change), 3) minimum age – require Wildlife Act revision, 4) name change to Mountain Caribou – for consistency sake, the name should remain the same, 5) do not support earlier moose season as no baseline data available, and 6) do not support grizzly bear season as no baseline data available and culturally/spiritually sensitive issue

ACTION (ED): To write letter of response to AMMO re: requests for changes and write letter to Minister of ENR requesting regulation changes

24. Permanent Monitoring Plots Update – Ruth Errington

- PowerPoint Presentations, entitled "*An Analysis of Recent Historical and Future Vegetation Changes Along the Mackenzie Valley, NWT*" and "*Assessing Changes in Terrestrial Ecosystems Due to Climatic Changes and human Impacts in the Mackenzie Valley Region*", tabled
- Permanent monitoring plots (2007) in the Sahtu, five (5) sites with 14 plots established within two ecoregions; 2008 – six potential sites identified; connection of collapse scars will lead to loss of water and degradation of peat plateau; any repeated compaction (ATVs) will lead to erosion of permafrost
- IPY – Sahtu site established south of Canol Lake; temporary boardwalks installed to prevent wear and to ease the collection of measurements; five-year project
- Request for letters of support for both projects

ACTION (ED): To write letter of support for 1) the establishment of a series of permanent plots and 2) to study the potential effects of climate change on ecosystem carbon storage

25. In-Camera Session

SRRB Motion #02-07-08-10

- To go in camera

Moved by: Keith Hickling
Seconded by: Rosa Etchinelle
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-07-08-11

- To come out of camera

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle
Seconded by: Paul Latour
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-07-08-12

- To accept the traditional knowledge policy as presented

Moved by: Paul Latour
Seconded by: Keith Hickling
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-07-08-13

- To expand the scholarship criteria to NWT-students entering into a renewable resource related field with preference to Sahtu applicants

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle
Seconded by: Paul Latour
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-07-08-14

- To agree in principle to allow the University of Alberta, Faculty of Native Studies & Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences access to the Sahtu Settlement Harvest Study data for proposal development

Moved by: Paul Latour
Seconded by: Keith Hickling
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-07-08-15

- To approve the following research projects for the listed costs:
 - Surveys of Bluenose-West and Bluenose-East Herds of Barren-Ground Caribou – \$35,500
 - Community-Based Monitoring of Wildlife & Wildlife Health in the Sahtu – \$16,700
 - Ecology of the Muskox Below Treeline in the Sahtu – \$20,000
 - Monitoring of Lake Trout Stocks in Great Bear Lake – \$34,000
 - Mackenzie River Fish Tagging – \$20,500
 - Quantifying Sedimentation Risk to Sensitive Fish Habitat in Sahtu Settlement Area Streams from the Mackenzie Gas Project – \$10,000
 - Critical Habitats of Sensitive Fish Species in Streams of the Sahtu Settlement Area in Relation to Oil and Gas Development – \$10,000
 - Dene and Métis Ways of Respecting the Land – \$49,861
- The total funding of \$196,561.00 will be taken as follows from the Core Budget and Wildlife Studies Fund:
 - Core – \$10,000.00
 - Wildlife Studies Fund – \$186,561.00

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle
Seconded by: Paul Latour
Carried Unanimously

26. Next Board Meeting

- August 2008, Colville Lake

27. Adjournment

SRRB Motion #02-07-08-16

- To adjourn meeting at 3:38 p.m.

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle