



Teleconference Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2015
1:10 pm-4:08 pm
Minutes by Deborah Simmons

List of Acronyms/Terms Used

ACCWM	Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management
ENR	NWT Environment and Natural Resources
GRRB	Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
IGC	Inuvialuit Game Council
ᐱᕐᕈᕈᕐ ᑕᑕᑦᑎᕐ	Renewable Resources Council(s)
SARC	NWT Species At Risk Committee
SRRB	ᐱᕐᕈᕈᕐ ᑕᑕᑦᑎᕐ ᑕᑕᑦᑎᕐ ᑕᑕᑦᑎᕐ ᑕᑕᑦᑎᕐ ᑕᑕᑦᑎᕐ
WMAC (NWT)	Wildlife Management Advisory Committee (NWT)
WRRB	Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board

List of Attendees

Board Members

Michael Neyelle (Chair), Lesley Allen, Jeff Walker, George Barnaby, Leonard Kenny

Staff

Deborah Simmons (Executive Director)

Guests

Jessica Iveson and Lorraine Land (Olthuis, Kleer, Townshend LLP)

Jody Pellissey, Executive Director (Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board - WRRB)

Janet Winbourne

Celestino Oh (Crowe MacKay LLP)

Regrets

Keith Hickling, Joseph Hanlon

Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions, quorum check, opening prayer
2. Barren-ground caribou management
 - a. Bluenose East Caribou Hearing Preparation – DECISIONS REQUIRED

- WRRB invitation re joint hearing (Jody Pellissey has been invited)
 - b. Barren-ground caribou backgrounders by OKT LLP
 - c. Bluenose West Caribou Management – Joint meeting with Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board and Wildlife Management Advisory Committee (NWT) – DECISION REQUIRED
 - d. SARC Barren-ground Caribou Assessment Report review (Janet) (approve comments for submission)
3. Proposal for administrative systems review and training – DECISION REQUIRED
 4. Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management – DECISIONS REQUIRED
 - a. Memorandum of Understanding (approve)
 - b. Terms of Reference (approve)
 - c. Action Planning update (fyi)
 - d. Letter to WMAC (NWT) (fyi)
 5. Other Wildlife Management issues – DECISIONS REQUIRED
 - Muskox status review – proposed scope of work
 - Dall's sheep/domestic sheep
 - Request for future work: review of standard terms and conditions and guidelines for outfitters (Norman Wells RRC)
 6. Minutes of previous meetings (June 3 and July 31) – DECISIONS REQUIRED

1. Introductions, quorum check, opening prayer

Opening prayer by Michael Neyelle

2. Barren-ground caribou management

a. Bluenose East Caribou Hearing Preparation

Presentation by Jody Pellissey, WRRB

- Jody outlined the WRRB's perspective on the pros and cons of a collaborative hearing process. If the two Boards agree to this approach, the Boards and legal counsels should begin to plan for this as soon as possible.
- The costs would not be significantly greater, since the Boards would likely attend each other's meetings in any case.
- The WRRB is reviewing and update their hearing rules, as is the SRRB, in order to ensure consistency with current consultation requirements.
- If the collaborative approach is selected, the two Boards and legal counsel could meet prior to the SRRB's October meeting, and could also plan to join the SRRB's hearing workshop during that meeting.

- The next WRRB meeting is planned for September 23-24, and will then be considering plans for both Bathurst and BNE hearings.
- As former Executive Director of the SRRB during our 2007 Bluenose West Caribou hearing, Jody has a lot of knowledge of lessons learned. She’s willing to discuss this with us; Deborah Simmons will contact her.

Jody Pellissey left the meeting at 1:45 pm.

- Lorraine Land outlined what she sees to be the benefits and challenges in a collaborative approach to the hearing.
- The Board could also consider a collaborative hearing approach related to BNW caribou. We would need to consider whether we need to take a consistent approach to hearings with respect to both herds.
- The Board will also likely need to prepare for a BNW hearing in the new year. It was noted that many of the concerns and issues that would be put forward for BNE and BNW herds would be common to both. The decisions need to be distinct, but there may be benefits to combining hearings for both herds. However, it might be complex to address management issues for both herds at the same time.
- Jeffery Walker voiced support for collaboration in any hearing process.

Decision D2016-018

D2016-018	The Board staff and legal counsel will do more research on the options for future BNE and BNW caribou hearings; the Board will meet by teleconference on September 15, 1:00 pm in order to discuss the options and determine a path forward.	Consensus
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b. Barren-ground caribou backgrounders by OKT LLP

Overview of work underway by Lorraine Land and Jessica Iveson

- Deborah Simmons will discuss the history of BNW decisions with Jody Pellissey in order to ensure that our account of events is correct; some of the history has not been documented.
- Jeffery Walker spoke from his experience in tracking the history of decisions, and agreed that this is a difficult task; it was not always possible to find documented decisions.
- The documentation of the history is not only in order to ensure that we’re prepared for any questions posed about the Board’s actions, but also as a positive effort to document lessons learned in order to apply these as we move forward.
- Michael Neyelle urged that the Board maintain high consultation standards in decision-making processes. Jessica Iveson noted that there is a plan to develop consultation guidelines for the Board

based on inputs through a community tour in the fall or winter. George Barnaby noted that the focus for consultation should be with the communities most concerned.

c. Bluenose West Caribou Management – Joint meeting with Gwich’in Renewable Resources Board and Wildlife Management Advisory Committee (NWT)

Update by Deborah Simmons

- The Board delivered a letter to WMAC (NWT) and copied to the Inuvialuit Game Council

Decision D2016-019

D2016-019	The Board will meet during the week of October 20 in order to accommodate a joint meeting with the WRRB and WMAC (NWT) regarding BNW management issues; the Executive Committee will be charged contributing to agenda development.	Consensus
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Lorraine Land and Jessica Iveson left the call at about 2:35 pm.

d. NWT Species At Risk Committee Barren-Ground Caribou Assessment Report review

Presentation by Janet Winbourne; comments due on September 15

Decision D2016-020

D2016-020	Board staff and Janet will prepare comments to SARC based on her technical review as presented; the Briefing Note will be shared with ʔehdzo Got’ıneę and other community leadership organisations.	Consensus
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Janet Winbourne left the meeting at about 3:05 pm; Celestino Oh joined the call.

3. Proposal for administrative systems review and training

Overview of proposal by Celestino Oh

Celestino left the call at about 3:20 pm.

Motion M2016-012

M2016-012	Jeff Walker/Lesley Allen. The Board will proceed to implement the proposed administrative systems review and training per the proposal provided by Crowe MacKay.	Consensus
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4. Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management

Overview of update Terms of Reference and Memorandum of Understanding by Deborah Simmons

Decision D2016-021

D2016-021	The Board approves the Terms of Reference and Memorandum of Understanding reviewed and updated by the ACCWM.	Consensus
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5. Other Wildlife Management issues

a. Muskox status review – proposed scope of work

Overview by Deborah Simmons of proposal for literature review to assess status and harvest management for muskoxen

- Keith Hickling provided a comment on this question, opposing an assessment/literature review and proposing that the Board submit a letter recommending an expansion of the number of muskox tags.
- Jeffery Walker noted that he has discussed this with Heather Sayine-Crawford (ENR biologist) and she suggested that we apply for funding for some data collection on muskox numbers and distribution. Heather would like to work with ʔehdzo Got’ɪnɛ and the Sahtú Environmental Research and Monitoring Forum to develop a research proposal.

Decision D2016-022

D2016-022	Support ENR’s initiative to collaboratively develop a funding proposal for research with ʔehdzo Got’ɪnɛ and the Sahtú Environmental Research and Monitoring Forum; a recommendation to ENR on harvest management will be considered based on new evidence provided from such a study.	Consensus
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b. Thinhorn sheep/domestic sheep

Presentation by Jeffery Walker

- ENR recognizes risks of introducing domestic sheep to the region; management decisions affecting the entire range of thinhorn sheep will be necessary in the future (although other management issues are presently priority).

Decision D2016-022

D2016-022	The Board work with ENR staff to take steps so that we are well informed and prepared for future decision-making.	Consensus
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c. Request for future work: review of standard terms and conditions and guidelines for outfitters

Presentation by Jeffery Walker based on concerns expressed by Norman Wells ʔehdzo Gotʔine

- Concerns about compliance with appropriate practices in preparing meat are longstanding. ENR officers have been instructed to document any community concerns.

Decision D2016-023

D2016-023	Board staff engage with ʔehdzo Gotʔine to document concerns with outfitter practices, and put forward recommendations to ENR.	Consensus
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6. Minutes of previous meetings (June 3 and July 31)

Motion M2016-013

M2016-013	Lesley Allen/Jeffery Walker. Minutes of June 3 and July 31 approved.	Consensus
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Motion M2016-014

M2016-014	George Barnaby. Meeting adjourned at 4:08 pm.	Consensus
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Approval of Minutes

Approved by Board Motion M2016-020 on November 10, 2015



Michael Neyelle, Chair

Summary of Motions

Number	Description	Result
M2016-012	Jeff Walker/Lesley Allen. The Board will proceed to implement the proposed administrative systems review and training per the proposal provided by Crowe MacKay.	Consensus
M2016-013	Lesley Allen/Jeffery Walker. Minutes of June 3 and July 31 approved.	Consensus
M2016-014	George Barnaby. Meeting adjourned at 4:08 pm.	Consensus

Summary of Decisions

Number	Description	Result
D2016-018	The Board staff and legal counsel will do more research on the options for future BNE and BNW caribou hearings; the Board will meet by teleconference on September 15, 1:00 pm in order to discuss the options and determine a path forward.	Consensus
D2016-019	The Board will meet during the week of October 20 in order to accommodate a joint meeting with the WRRB and WMAC (NWT) regarding BNW management issues; the Executive Committee will be charged contributing to agenda development.	Consensus
D2016-020	Board staff and Janet will prepare comments to SARC based on her technical review as presented; the Briefing Note will be shared with ʔehdzo Got'jneᑦ and other community leadership organisations.	Consensus
D2016-021	The Board approves the Terms of Reference and Memorandum of Understanding reviewed and updated by the ACCWM.	Consensus
D2016-022	The Board work with ENR staff to take steps so that we are well informed and prepared for future decision-making.	Consensus
D2016-023	Board staff engage with ʔehdzo Got'jneᑦ to document concerns with outfitter practices, and put forward recommendations to ENR.	Consensus