

Board Teleconference Minutes



October 11, 2017, 1:00-4:00 pm

Minutes by Deborah Simmons

List of Acronyms/Terms Used

ʔekwé/ zedə	Barren-ground caribou (Délıne/K'áhsho Got'ine dialects)
ʔehdzo Got'ine	Renewable Resources Council
ACCWM	Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management
ENR	NWT Environment and Natural Resources
Threatened	Łálak'óonq xae kúhyə wıleade gha sóonı (Tulıt'a/Délıne) or Líla horéno xai egúhyó behúle rágudı
NWT	Northwest Territories
SRRB/Board	ʔehdzo Got'ine Gots'ę Nákedı (Sahtú Renewable Resources Board)
tqdzı	boreal woodland caribou

Participants

Board Members

Michael Neyelle (Chair), Jimmy Dillon, George Barnaby, Jeffery Walker, Camilla Rabisca

Special Advisors

Gordon Yakeleya, Frederick Andrew, Leon Andrew, Paul Latour

Staff

Deborah Simmons, Joe Hanlon

Visiting Guests

Colin Macdonald, Northern Environmental

Claire Singer, NWT Species at Risk Specialist (agenda items 1 and 2)

Dawn Andrews and Isabel Duclos, Michael Svoboda, Canadian Wildlife Service (agenda items 1 and 2)

Jean Polfus, Liber Ero Fellow (final portion of agenda item 1)

Heather Sayine-Crawford, Assistant Manager, Wildlife Research & Monitoring, NWT Environment and Natural Resources Head Office

Stephanie Behrens, Cumulative Effects Biologist, NWT Environment and Natural Resources Sahtú Region

Regrets

Keith Hickling

Agenda

1. Opening prayer, roll call/quorum check.
2. Federal Boreal Caribou Action Plan (Colin Macdonald, Sjoerd van der Wielen, CWS representative)
3. Proposed Federal and Territorial barren-ground caribou Species At Risk listings – Threatened - Ł́lak'óonq̄ xae kúhyə wíleade gha sóq̄n̄ı̄ (Tulít'a/Déłı̄ne) or líla horéno xai egúhyə behúle rágudı̄ (K'áhsho Got'ı̄ne dialect – (Dawn Andrews, Canadian Wildlife Service, Yellowknife)
4. Caribou collaring proposal – Heather Sayine-Crawford
5. Updates
 - a. Intern Presentation – Summer/Fall Activities (Jordan Lennie)
 - b. Dene Ts'ı̄lı̄ School (Michael, Deb, Camilla, Jimmy)
6. Staffing
 - a. Intern application
 - b. Office Manager request
7. Approval of August 9 minutes

1. Opening

Opening prayer by Michael Neyelle.

- Quorum check – 4/5 voting members.

2. Federal Tq̄dzı̄ (Boreal Caribou) Action Plan

Presentation by Isabel Duclos, Michael Svoboda, Colin Macdonald, Jean Polfus

- Note that tq̄dzı̄ has been defined as Threatened under the Federal and Territorial Species At Risk Acts
- The term Threatened is understood in Dene terms as “Ł́lak'óonq̄ xae kúhyə wíleade gha sóq̄n̄ı̄” (Tulít'a/Déłı̄ne) or “Líla horéno xai egúhyə behúle rágudı̄” (K'áhsho Got'ı̄ne dialect – in 100 years, they might be gone. Noted that this term must have come from the elders; if we don't do something, they will be gone in 100 years.
- This is a challenging species to take conservation action on, since it's one of the most widespread species in Canada.
- Concerns about fire and muskox impacts.
- Need to consider what research and actions are needed – note that the SRRB is planning a knowledge exchange in the new year with the Ne K'ə Dene Ts'ı̄lı̄ Forum, focusing on modelling possible futures in the Sahtú Region and how tq̄dzı̄ and their habitat may be affected, and what actions might be required. This will be in conjunction with Wilfrid Laurier University's Northern Water Futures program.
- If there is a need to protect certain critical habitat areas, there may need to be a Federal Order to ensure this happens.
- The Species At Risk Act is about helping species that are in trouble – it's like being in the emergency room in a hospital. The intention is to get people to work together, and prevent the need for a Federal Order.

- Note that there is a Territorial Recovery Strategy for t̄odzı; the Territorial and Federal processes should work hand in hand.
- Discussion of the state of knowledge about t̄odzı; collaring of 15 caribou along the Franklin range was done a decade ago and was not analysed; this should be done in conjunction with Nick Larter's work.
- Jean Polfus provided an overview of the kinds of information that can be derived from the genetic samples for her research.
- There is great value in face-to-face discussion of research conservation actions.
- Traditional knowledge has an important role to play; each community and family has specific knowledge of t̄odzı in their traditional areas.

3. Proposed Federal and Territorial barren-ground caribou Species At Risk listings – Threatened

Presentations by Dawn Andrews and Claire Singer

- Timeline for NWT decision will be for the February meeting of the Conference of Management Authorities (Inuvik); Federal engagement will take place starting in January, consisting primarily of a questionnaire – and a decision from the SRRB will be needed in the fall of 2018.
- The SRRB's input on Species At Risk listing will be informed by status assessment of Bluenose East ʔekwé and Bluenose West ʔedə
- Agreed that Territorial, Federal and SRRB staff will meet to discuss coordination of engagement efforts.

4. Bluenose West ʔedə Monitoring – Research License Application

Presentation by Heather Sayine-Crawford

- Proposal to collar 60 Bluenose West ʔedə, in order to be able to support accurate count of population for survey next July. This is 45 in addition to the number already on the caribou. The collaring will take place in February, in the K'áhsho Got'ıne District.
- Last time collars were put on Bluenose West was in 2015, and will come off within the next year, and a lot of the collars have already been lost – there are currently 20 collars on Bluenose West ʔedə (17 tsída, 13 bull). A little over 30 collars were put out last time – due to equipment failure.
- Aiming for an even split between tsída and bull collars.
- The next time that collars will be put out for Bluenose West ʔedə will be 2021.
- Bluenose East ʔekwé collaring will not take place in the Sahtú Region, so the SRRB is not being consulted on this. 40 collars currently on, and another 15-20.
- Expandable collars will be used for males – this is new.
- Collaring would take in February and March.
- Wildlife Research License application response timeline – end of October.

10. Staffing

a. Intern application

Motion 2018-013

M2018-013	Approve hiring of Shelby Lennie as Intern. Jimmy Dillon/George Barnaby.	Consensus
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b. Office Manager request

- Further discussion with Office Manager will be required based on direction provided by the Board; the Executive Committee will address any follow up requirements.

Next Teleconference

Monday, October 30, 1-4 pm

Next Meeting Agenda Items

- Opening: prayer, roll call, quorum check, review of agenda
- Approval of July 24, August 9, and October 11 meeting minutes
- Bluenose East and Bluenose West status assessment, in preparation for November ACCWM (Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management) assessment meeting
- Community caribou conservation planning updates – Colville, Délı̄ne, Mountain Caribou
- Presentations to Wildlife Act Section 15 meeting on ways of dealing with visiting harvesters (Michael Neyelle and Rhea McDonald)
- Muskox harvesting, including Colville outfitting request
- Strategic plan update
- Operations Manual revised edition update

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm approximately.

Approval of Minutes

Approved by Board decision, October 30, 2017.



Michael Neyelle, Chair

Summary of Motions

Number	Description	Result
M2018-013	Approve hiring of Shelby Lennie as Intern. Jimmy Dillon/George Barnaby.	Consensus