

# FEBRUARY 2006 NEWSLETTER

Sahtu Renewable Resources Board - To protect, conserve & manage renewable resources



## BACK ON THE LAND

Four schools are ready to go out on the land as soon as the weather gets a bit warmer. The Sahtu Renewable Resources Board has helped to organize these programs with the help of the Sahtu Regional Office of the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) and three GNWT Ministers - Brendan Bell [ITI], Michael Miltenberger [ENR], and Michael McLeod [Youth]. Colville Lake will continue with the Take a Kid Trapping Program. Fort Good Hope will send the first group of students out for seven days to Hume Lake. The Deline project received a wonderful contribution from Ann-Marie Tout on behalf of Enbridge Pipelines (NW) Ltd. that will help them continue and expand their program. Tulita will begin a new program soon and will be trapping marten, maybe beaver and rats, and snaring rabbits.

While all the programs are unique, they all mainly target the same animal: the marten.



COLVILLE LAKE

Marten are worth a lot of money and could earn trappers about \$100 each this year (this is how the programs will help to pay their own costs in the future). These back on the land programs are teaching how the most commonly used marten traps work. We're using Sauvageau 2001-5 Quick Kill traps that comply with the Agreement on International Humane Trap Standards (AIHTS) and are designed to operate at full efficiency in their current form. When these traps are altered, they become less efficient at killing the marten quickly. This can lead to a prolonged and agonizing death for the animal. Therefore, it's very important to use the traps the way they come from the factory. Control your target's approach and use both of the springs each time.



DELINE



THE RIGHT WAY



THE WRONG WAY

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Back On The Land
- Trapper News
- The Sahtu Renewable Resources Board

## COMPANIES THAT CARE

A special thank you to **Enbridge Pipelines (NW) Ltd.** for your generous contribution to ?ehtseo Ayah School's Aboriginal Traditional Studies Program. Thank you also to **Winnipeg Outfitters Inc.** for your donation of winter gear to Chief T'Selehye School's Youth On The Land Program. **Mackenzie Gas Project** also supported this program. Thank you everyone for your help.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Sahtu Renewable Resources Board** has two new Board Members. Welcome Steve Hannah, GNWT representative with Environment and Natural Resources and Bruce MacDonald, who is with the Department of Environment (CWS). Mr. Hannah has replaced Celina Stroeder (formerly RWED) as a Member. Mr. MacDonald is an Alternate Member and is replacing recently retired Dr. Norman Simmons.



## MARTEN PELT HANDLING - PART ONE: SKINNING

Marten are one of the Sahtu's most valuable furbearing animals. They are in large demand, easy to catch and easy to skin. They are used to make full-length clothing and also used as trim. Therefore, marten don't need to have some of the parts attached to them like other pelts used for rugs and wall-hangings. In fact, if some of these parts are not removed, they will damage the pelt during the processing stage later on. Bad handling during the skinning phase can seriously reduce their value and consequently, the trappers bank account. Here are a few things that will help you make more money.

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- (1) Take along supplies that allow you to bag or wrap each trap with its marten together as an individual package. This will reduce damage from banging around in the back of the sled or boggan.
- (2) Skin the marten as soon as possible. This prevents taint in the belly area, which causes the biggest loss of value.
- (3) Remove the lower lip.
- (4) Remove the claws.
- (5) Leave the front legs in.



Respected Elder, Trapper and Deline Renewable Resource Council Director Alfred Taniton with marten and fox at the community ENR office.  
Photo by Toby Halle

## WHO'S WHO ON THE SAHTU RENEWABLE RESOURCES BOARD

The Sahtu Renewable Resources Board is one of the co-management boards that was created by the Sahtu Land Claim. We are responsible for fish, wildlife and forest management in the Sahtu Settlement Area. The Sahtu Settlement Area is more than 283,000 square kilometers in size and has lots of different kinds of plants and animals that rely upon each other to exist. The People rely upon these plants and animals to exist too and it is our responsibility to make sure that these renewable resources are safe, healthy and plentiful for all time.

The Sahtu Renewable Resources Board has six Members, six Alternates and one Chairman. The Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated (SSI) nominates three Members and three Alternates that represent the three Sahtu Districts. The District Members are Rosa Etchinelle from Tulita District, Leonard Kenney from Deline District and Ronald Pierrot from K'ahsho Got'ine District. Three Members and three Alternates are nominated by governments. Federal Government is represented by two Members and two Alternates and the Territorial Government is represented by one each. Currently, only one of the Federal Member positions is filled. The Department of Environment (through CWS) is represented by Dr. Paul Latour. The position held by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans is vacant. The GNWT Member is Steve Hannah with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The Board nominates a Chairperson who is a resident of the Sahtu Settlement Area and this position is currently held by Walter Bayha.

The Alternate positions represent each Member in their absence at meetings and have voting power. There are only two Government Alternates as the Department of Fisheries and Oceans position is vacant. Bruce MacDonald represents the Department of Environment (through CWS) and Keith Hickling represents the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The three District Alternate positions are currently vacant.

### Sahtu Renewable Resources Board

Chairperson Walter Bayha

<u>Districts</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Alternates</u>	<u>Governments</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Alternates</u>
Tulita	Rosa Etchinelle	Vacant	CWS	Paul Latour	Bruce MacDonald
Deline	Leonard Kenney	Vacant	DFO	Vacant	Vacant
K'ahsho Got'ine	Ronald Pierrot	Vacant	ENR	Steve Hannah	Keith Hickling