

**Sahtu Renewable Resource Board Meeting
18-19 February 2003
Tulita, NT**

February 18, 2003

ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS

Paul Latour
Russell Hall
Leonard Kenny
Norman Simmons
Ronald Pierrot
Keith Hickling

STAFF

Jody Snortland
Lori Ann Lennie
Janet Bayha

GUESTS

Hyacinthe Kochon – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC
Marie Kochon – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC
J.B. Gully – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC
Gordon Mackeinzoo – Deline RRC
Andrew John Kenny – Deline RRC
Leo Modeste – Deline RRC
Michel Lafferty – Fort Good Hope RRC
Winter Lennie – Norman Wells RRC
Roger Odgaard – Norman Wells RRC
Fred Doctor – Tulita RRC
Marlene Evans - NWRI
Ed Reeves - SLUPB
Tom Nesbitt – GBLWG
Karen Hamre – CPAWS

Alasdair Veitch – RWED-Sahtu
Michelle Swallow – RWED-Sahtu
Stephen Charlie – DFO
Kim Howland – DFO
Sam Stephenson - DFO
George Low – DFO
Agnes Naedzo - Translator
Edward Kenny - Public
Victor Menacho - Public
David Yallee - Public
Lindsay Carmichael – U of A
James Auld – SLUPB
Raymond Taniton – GBLWG/SLUPB

Meeting convened @ 9:30 a.m.

1. Opening Prayer/Introductions

- Opening prayer by Leo Modeste
- Round table introductions

2. Review of Agenda

- Agenda additions:
 - Recommendations for ATV Use
 - Bluenose-east Management Plan

SRRB Motion #02-18-03-01

- To accept the agenda with above additions

Moved by: Russell Hall

Seconded by: Norman Simmons

Carried Unanimously

3. Research Proposal Presentations

a) Aerial Population Survey of Moose in the Fort Good Hope Area & Aerial Population Survey of Muskox in the Sahtu Settlement Area

- Alasdair Veitch – RWED-Sahtu Region

- Power Point Presentations tabled
- Communities were in favor of surveys provided that there is an exchange of information (consultation); important for both communities and researchers to know whether increased development is affecting population health
- Moose survey – to determine whether or not there are other funding sources available, e.g. industry
- Muskox survey – to redefine the survey boundaries and size of survey area based on consultation with communities, e.g. focus on North Shore of Great Bear Lake, around Fort Good Hope & Colville Lake, along Keith Arm, along ridge behind Norman Wells

b) Sahtu Atlas Project

- James Auld – Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

- Power Point Presentation tabled
- Suggestion to distribute free copies to RRCs, schools, other community organizations as an important reference tool; to distribute copies to industry, southern libraries at a cost
- Involvement of a local Sahtu person with the creation of the Atlas
- Suggestion to produce the document in a binder format that would allow for the addition of new material; inserts would be available either on an annual basis by subscription or ordered through a catalogue listing the inserts; allows the Atlas to be a living document

4. DNA Tools for Wildlife Management

- Lindsay Carmichael – University of Alberta

- Power Point Presentation tabled
- Question about whether it is cheaper to do DNA work rather than satellite collaring; DNA work is used to answer breeding questions and collaring work is used to answer migration questions

5. Great Bear Lake Initiative/Great Bear Lake Advisory Group

- Tom Nesbitt & Raymond Taniton – Great Bear Lake Working Group

- Draft Framework to be discussed at March workshop; lays out how all groups can work together, roles & responsibilities of each group & the principles for managing the lake
- Three main issues to address: 1) day-to-day management by community of Deline (increased stewardship role), 2) creation of a separate board necessary, and 3) improve effectiveness of co-management boards (community unclear about role of boards; increased communication required)
- Community would like to see involvement of SRRB as well as other co-management boards and government as resource people (research/materials/funding)

- Great Bear Lake Advisory Group created to provide advice to the SRRB on management issues related to the lake; in the past few years, there have been few concerns to deal with and representation from Deline has not been strong
- Board's comments deadline: March 10

ACTION (Board & ED): Board to provide input into draft management framework and to send representative to March workshop

6. Research Proposal Presentations continued

a) Great Bear Lake Trout Movements and Assessment of Keith Arm Stock(s) & Assessment of Stock Composition of Great Bear Lake trout by Basin

- Kimberley Howland – Department of Fisheries & Oceans

- PowerPoint presentation tabled
- Detailed analysis being completed on lake trout but also collecting baseline data on other fish species
- Suggestion to provide sampled fish to other agencies, e.g. contaminant work
- Possible to reduce costs by staging and collecting samples in winter?

b) Fort Good Hope Index Netting & Lake Surveys and Contaminants Work

- Sam Stephenson – Department of Fisheries & Oceans

- Ideal time to index net is early August to catch coney and broad whitefish (heavily harvested by communities along the Mackenzie River)
- Possible to sample all important lakes in only one year? Any reason to believe that contaminants levels have changed in previously surveyed lakes?
- Suggestion to provide sampled fish to other agencies, e.g. contaminant work
- Suggestion to determine whether or not there are other funding sources available, e.g. industry; share information

7. DFO Update

- Stephen Charlie – Department of Fisheries & Oceans

- Provided an update on departmental objectives; plans for DFO inspections to occur this season on drilling projects near Colville Lake and Fort Good Hope
- Explained that explosives used in seismic operations are not allowed in NWT lakes that are not frozen to the bottom
- Suggestion to staff full time position in the Sahtu region and to assist with enforcement on Great Bear Lake; would require long term funding

8. Research Proposal Presentations continued

a) Middle Mackenzie River Project: A proposal to carry out Land Cover, Water Bird, and Water Chemistry Inventories

- Bruce MacDonald – Ducks Unlimited Canada

- Power Point Presentation tabled
- GRRB provided \$25K for this year's funding request
- Suggestion to determine whether or not there are other funding sources available, e.g. industry

Meeting recessed @ 4:45 p.m.

Evening Session convened @ 7:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:	<u>BOARD MEMBERS</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
	Paul Latour	Jody Snortland
	Russell Hall	
	Leonard Kenny	
	Norman Simmons	
	Ronald Pierrot	
	Keith Hickling	

9. In-Camera Session

SRRB Motion #02-18-03-02

- To go into an in-camera session

Moved by: Norman Simmons
Seconded by: Keith Hickling
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-18-03-03

- To come out of the in-camera session

Moved by: Leonard Kenny
Seconded by: Russell Hall
Carried Unanimously

ACTION (ED): To remind both government offices (DSD & RWED) about the SRRB's request re: Bluenose-east management plan

SRRB Motion #02-18-03-04

- In response to the common message from communities about SRRB-funded activities, the Board will introduce a Renewable Resource Communications Officer position to increase communication flow between the SRRB and communities

Moved by: Keith Hickling
Seconded by: Russell Hall
Carried Unanimously

ACTION (Chair & ED): To put together a job description for the Renewable Resource Communications Officer

ACTION (ED): To follow-up with biologist applicants to determine if interested in position change

SRRB Motion #02-18-03-05

- Due to personnel and budgetary constraints, the Board has decided not to proceed with the Executive Director Trainee position at this time

Moved by: Norman Simmons
Seconded by: Ronald Pierrot
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-18-03-06

- To accept the conflict of interest policy as presented

Moved by: Leonard Kenny
Seconded by: Russell Hall
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-18-03-07

- To accept the financial statement as presented

Moved by: Russell Hall
Seconded by: Leonard Kenny
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-18-03-08

- To accept the following list of minutes as presented:
 - 16 – 17 September 2002
 - 29 November 2002
 - 14 January 2003

Moved by: Russell Hall
Seconded by: Ronald Pierrot
Carried Unanimously

Evening Session recessed @ 9:20 PM

February 19, 2002

ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS

Paul Latour
Russell Hall
Leonard Kenny
Norman Simmons
Ronald Pierrot
Keith Hickling
Celina Stroeder

STAFF

Jody Snortland
Lori Ann Lennie
Janet Bayha

GUESTS

Hyacinthe Kochon – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC
Marie Kochon – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC
J.B. Gully – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC
Gordon Mackeinzoo – Deline RRC
Andrew John Kenny – Deline RRC
Leo Modeste – Deline RRC
Michel Lafferty – Fort Good Hope RRC
Winter Lennie – Norman Wells RRC
Roger Odgaard – Norman Wells RRC
Fred Doctor – Tulita RRC
Wilfred Lennie Sr. – Tulita RRC

Alasdair Veitch – RWED-Sahtu
Michelle Swallow – RWED-Sahtu
Patrick Cleary - SSI
Kim Horrocks - SLUPB
Ed Reeves - SLUPB
Raymond Taniton – GBLWG/SLUPB
Agnes Naedzo - Translator
Edward Kenny - Public
Marlene Evans – NWRI
Lindsay Carmichael – U of A

Meeting convened @ 9:25 a.m.

10. Research Proposal Presentations continued

a) Sampling of Mercury Levels in Fish in Lakes in the Sahtu Area

- Marlene Evans – National Water Research Institute

- Power Point Presentation tabled
- Research will allow communities to know which lakes are safe (water quality; consumption of fish); allow federal & territorial health agencies to put necessary advisories in effect
- Communities concerned about contaminants and their effect on people; plain language reports should be produced and distributed
- Research should focus on solutions rather than on problems; direct funding toward solutions

11. Proposed Changes to Wildlife Act & Species at Risk Legislation (Land Claim Integration)

- Patrick Cleary – Sahtu Secretariat Inc

- RWED met with SSI in early December 2002 to integrate land claim issues into the Wildlife Act & Species at Risk legislation; Frank T’seleie represented claimants at meeting
- Continuing meetings scheduled for March or April 2003 – how would the Board like to be involved in the Wildlife Act revisions and Species at Risk legislation to ensure that all issues related to the SRRB are identified?
- E.g. non-participants harvesting on Sahtu private lands, registered group trapping area, special harvesting areas, recognition of SRRB & RRC roles and responsibilities
- Board’s comments deadline: March 10

ACTION (Board & ED): To write letter to SSI indicating the desired level of involvement in the integration of land claim issues into the Wildlife Act & Species at Risk legislation

12. Draft Sahtu Land Use Plan

- Kim Horrocks – Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

- Power Point Presentation tabled

- Great Bear Lake Working Group framework/management plan to be incorporated into plan as becomes available
- Community consultations to begin in early April 2003; boundaries can be adjusted & conservation areas can be added
- Concerns about land use will be will be addressed by this plan once approved
- Board's comments deadline: March 15

ACTION (Board & ED): To provide comments to the SLUPB regarding the preliminary draft land use plan

** Concerns raised by Norman Wells and Tulita RRCs about not being included in the research proposal funding discussions; felt that they did not have the opportunity to provide input and prioritize research proposals **

Meeting recessed @ 12:20 p.m.

Meeting reconvened @ 1:30 p.m. – Board Members only

ACTION (Chair): To write letter to community RRCs in response to Board's decision to have a closed discussion about the distribution of funds for research proposals

ACTION (ED): To ensure that future board meeting agendas will include an item dealing specifically with RRC concerns

13. Research Proposal Funding Discussions

Muskox Survey

- Important information for communities, especially Deline; survey results required to increase muskox tag quotas through regulation; may provide additional information to the concern about muskox-caribou interactions
- Consensus was that the survey size could be reduced and the survey area may need a different emphasis (in consultation with RRCs)
- Suggestion to reapply for 2004-05 with revised survey area & size

Woodland Caribou

- Established study to be continued by RWED-Sahtu Region
- Full funding for both satellite tracking (\$15,000) & population composition (\$23,200) components

Moose Survey

- Ongoing program in the Sahtu
- Partial funding provided (\$20,000)
- Suggestion to approach industry, such as the Mackenzie Gas Producers Group, for the balance requested (\$16,000)

Index Netting

- Ongoing community-based study at Fort Good Hope
- Full funding to be provided (\$12,500)

Lake Surveys

- Lakes to be surveyed had not been chosen; consultation with RRCs should be completed to identify and prioritize fish harvest lakes that have not been previously studied
- Suggestion to reapply 2004-05 following RRC consultations

Mercury Sampling

- Communities are more interested in knowing the safe levels of mercury in the lakes they use and fish they consume
- Consultation with RRCs should be completed to identify and prioritize fish harvest lakes that have not been previously studied
- Suggestion to reapply 2004-05 following RRC consultations
- To aid in increasing awareness, the Board plans to initiate work with territorial and federal health agencies that will provide the communities with more information on safe levels of fish consumption; \$8000 was set aside for this work

Great Bear Lake Trout Movements

- Ongoing project at Deline
- Full funding to be provided (\$26,500), with the recommendation from the Deline RRC that sampling be completed further from the community

Great Bear Lake Stock Composition

- Expansion of the Great Bear Lake Trout Movements project
- Partial funding provided (\$30,000); to remove additional Keith Arm sampling as per budget scenario 2 (23 Dec 02)

Sahtu GIS

- Ongoing project in the Sahtu
- Full funding to be provided (\$28,574)

Sahtu Atlas

- Funding to be used to complete printing of resource atlas for community organizations, schools, boards, industry, etc.
- Partial funding provided (\$15,000), with suggestion that the atlas be sold to recover costs

Middle Mackenzie River Project

- Multi-cost shared project considered to be worthwhile
- Partial funding provided (\$25,000)

Evaluating Co-Management

- Conclusion of the ongoing evaluation of the SRRB
- Full funding to be provided (\$3500) to allow presentation of the draft report to communities and SRRB

Tulita Medicine Project

- Board felt that this project did not have any management implications for the Sahtu
- Similar herbarium project had recently been completed and published in booklet by RWED-Forestry Division
- Suggestion to contact Paul Rivard, Forest Manager, RWED-Sahtu Region for more information about their project

SRRB Motion #02-19-03-09

- To approve the following list of research proposals at the listed levels of funding and with above conditions:
 - An Aerial Population Survey of Moose in the Fort Good Hope Area, February 2004 - \$20,000
 - Woodland Caribou in the Central Mackenzie Mountains: Satellite Tracking - \$15,000
 - Woodland Caribou in the Central Mackenzie Mountains: Population Composition - \$23,200
 - Fort Good Hope Index Netting - \$12,500
 - Great Bear Lake Trout Movements and Assessment of Keith Arm Stock(s) - \$26,500
 - Assessment of Stock Composition of Great Bear Lake trout by Basin - \$30,000
 - Sahtu Geographic Information System Project - \$28,574
 - Middle Mackenzie River Project: A proposal to carry out Land Cover, Water Bird, and Water Chemistry Inventories - \$25,000
 - Sahtu Atlas Project - \$15,000
 - Evaluating Co-Management: A Framework for Analysis - \$3500

Moved by: Russell Hall
Seconded by: Norman Simmons
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-19-03-10

- To accept the 2003-04 Core & Harvest Study budget as presented

Moved by: Russell Hall
Seconded by: Celina Stroeder
Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #02-19-03-11

- To use \$171,606.00 for research funding from the Wildlife Studies Fund

Moved by: Russell Hall
Seconded by: Celina Stroeder
Carried Unanimously

ACTION (Keith Hickling & ED): To prepare letter to RWED recommending usage of ATVs, e.g. on Canol Heritage Trail

14. Next Board Meeting

- 14 – 18 July 2003 (3 days)

15. Adjournment

SRRB Motion #02-19-03-12

- To adjourn meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Moved by: Russell Hall