

**Sahtu Renewable Resource Board Meeting
20-21 September 2006
Tulita, NT**

20 September 2006

ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS

Walter Bayha
Paul Latour
Leonard Kenny
Keith Hickling
Rosa Etchinelle

STAFF

Glen Guthrie
Nicole Lights
Janet Bayha
Lori Ann Lennie
Jody Snortland

GUESTS

Richard Kochon – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC
Charlie Kochon – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC
Dolphus Tutcho – Deline RRC
Jimmy Dillon – Deline RRC
Greg McDonald – Norman Wells RRC
Jackie McDonald – Norman Wells RRC
Wilfred Lennie Sr – Tulita RRC
Boniface Ayha – Tulita RRC
Peter Taktogon – Kitikmeot HTO
Michael Neyelle – Translator
Alasdair Veitch – ENR, Sahtu Region
Boyan Tracz – ENR, Sahtu Region
Ron Doctor – ENR, Sahtu Region

Susan Fleck – ENR, HQ
Keri Barringer – Justice, HQ
Jenny Vandermeer – PAS, Sahtu Region
Armin Johnson – INAC, Sahtu Region
Lorraine Tremblay – CGA
Chief Frank Andrew – Public
Mayor Gordon Yakeleya – Public
Walter Doctor – Public
Joe Bernarde – Public
Fredrick Andrew – Public
John B. Hetchinelle – Public

1. Call to Order

- Meeting convened at 9:18 a.m.

2. Opening Prayer/Introductions

- Opening prayer by Boniface Ayha
- Round table introductions

3. Review of Agenda

SRRB Motion #09-20-06-01

- To accept the agenda as presented

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle

Seconded by: Leonard Kenny

Carried Unanimously

4. Conflict of Interest

- No conflicts of interest were declared

5. Review and Acceptance of Previous Minutes

- 7-9 February 2006 Board Meeting
- Action items reviewed
 - Wildlife monitors letter to be completed

- Business Arising from Previous Minutes
 - As the GIS Project is continually funded by the Board, it will be added into the Core Budget to eliminate the need for an annual funding proposal

SRRB Motion #09-20-06-02

- To accept the 7-9 February 2006 minutes as presented

Moved by: Paul Latour

Seconded by: Leonard Kenny

Carried Unanimously

6. Review and Acceptance of Finances

- 2005-2006 Audited Financial Statement, 31 March 2006, tabled
- Lorraine Tremblay reviewed audit; consistent & stable financial operations

SRRB Motion #09-20-06-03

- To accept the 2005-2006 Audited Financial Statement as presented

Moved by: Leonard Kenny

Seconded by: Rosa Etchinelle

Carried Unanimously

- 31 August 2006 Financial Statement tabled
- Wildlife Studies Fund = ~ \$3.15 million

SRRB Motion #09-20-06-04

- To accept the financial statement as presented

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle

Seconded by: Paul Latour

Carried Unanimously

7. Chairperson Update – Walter Bayha

- Handout, entitled “*Chairperson’s Comments*”, tabled
- Recent visit to Alberta Star drilling camp; wildlife monitors assisting with drilling program; set of recommendations provided for monitors to Deline RRC

8. Executive Director Update – Jody Snortland

- Emergency Leave Policy
 - Handout, entitled “*Policy 6.26.5 – Maximum Allowance for Special Leave*”, tabled

SRRB Motion #09-20-06-05

- To change the current wording of *Policy 6.26.5 – Maximum Allowance for Special Leave* to the following: “Employees will be granted a maximum of five (5) days per year of paid Special Leave. Special leave in excess of five (5) days may be granted with or without pay at the discretion of the Executive Director and/or Chairperson.”

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle

Seconded by: Keith Hickling

Carried Unanimously

- Draft Rules for Public Hearings
 - Handout, entitled “*Draft Rules for Public Hearings*”, tabled
 - In light of caribou situation, the Board may be required to hold a hearing (SDMCLCA 13.8.21(b)); draft rules adopted from the Sahtu Land & Water Board
- Additional Items
 - SSI Presentation, 8 September 2006, tabled
 - Indian & Northern Affairs Canada letter re: Board Appointments, 25 May 2006, tabled
 - Master Thesis, entitled “*Predicting Mountain Woodland Caribou Habitat in the Mackenzie and Selwyn Mountains through Correlation of ARGOS Collar Locations and MODIS Spectral Reflectance, September 2006 – by Tracy Creighton*”, tabled

9. Staff Updates

- Office Manager – Lori Ann Lennie
 - Handout tabled
- Harvest Study Coordinator – Janet Bayha
 - 2004-2005 Harvest Study Data Report tabled
- Renewable Resources Communication Officer – Glen Guthrie
 - PowerPoint Presentation, entitled “*Renewable Resource Communications Officer Summary Report, September 2006*”, tabled
 - Trapping Instructor Training; monies obtained through Fur Institute of Canada and Industry, Tourism & Investments; first workshop in January 2007 in Deline
- Environmental Assessment Specialist – Nicole Lights
 - Handout, entitled “*Environmental Assessment Specialist Update*”, tabled
 - Applications with concerns to go to Board Members and affected RRCs for review & comment; in the future to consider requiring motions for all applications
 - Ensure wildlife recommendations are standardized with other agencies re: disturbance to birds 610m (CWS)

10. RRC Updates

- Behdzi Ahda’ RRC – Richard Kochon, President
 - Difficult for wildlife monitors to provide useful feedback to companies
 - Must reduce wounding rate – educate the youth
- Deline RRC – Dolphus Tutcho, President
 - New Board elected May 2006
 - Summer 2006 activities included: Fisheries & Oceans Canada research studies; Keith Arm monitoring; Great Bear Lake Management Plan implementation; Sayoue/Edacho protected area implementation
 - Exploration activities in 2006 include: Alberta Star mineral exploration; Talisman Energy two-year seismic program; Santana diamond exploration & drilling; Petro-Canada delayed until 2007 (through benefits & access agreements, the RRC is responsible for all wildlife & environmental monitoring)
 - Increased whitefish harvest at Deerpass Bay; ~100 healthy caribou harvested at Caribou Point (August 2006); trapping assistance provided where possible (monies available from ENR needs to change with the times)
- Norman Wells RRC – Jackie McDonald, Member
 - New Board elected August 2006
 - Spring/fall hunt assistance, including purchase of satellite phones for members

- Tulita RRC – Wilfred Lennie Sr, President
 - Wildlife monitoring contracts in 2006 include: Husky; ColtKBR (AMEC); IPL (monies collected from monitoring used to provide assistance to trappers)
 - Two environmental monitoring & safety training courses held in community
 - Additional exploration activities in 2006 include: Kaska Minerals exploration; Westhawk Developments coal exploration
 - Harvesting compensation; work ongoing between Tulita, Deline and Fort Good Hope; monies available from the Sahtu Secretariat Inc if all RRCs work together
 - 12th Annual Willow Lake Duck Banding Project: two banding assistants hired by RRC & two summer students hired by RRC/SRRB
 - Fall hunt underway at Caribou Flats; meat given to elders and families requiring assistance

11. Agency Update – Fisheries & Oceans Canada

- Handouts, entitled “2006 Fisheries & Oceans Canada Summary Report – Rob Smith & George Low”, “Summary Report Great Bear Lake Keith Arm 2006 – Simon Wiley”, and “Summary Report Great Bear Lake By Basin 2006 – Simon Wiley”, tabled

12. Agency Update – Indian & Northern Affairs Canada, Armin Johnson

- PowerPoint Presentation (Slides 1 to 11), entitled “INAC Update”, tabled
- Four inspectors in the Sahtu Region: two land use inspectors, pipeline inspector, and water licence inspector; mineral claims inspector & contaminated sites office – YK
- Majority of leases in Sahtu visited (cabins, outfitters & companies); focus on removal of old fuel drums around Great Bear Lake
- Winter 2006 work includes: Talisman seismic program; Dept of Transportation winter road/bridge program

13. Agency Update – Environment & Natural Resources, Jenny Vandermeer

- Handout, entitled “Sahtu Settlement Area – Protected Areas Update, September 2006”, tabled

14. Bluenose Caribou Photo-Census Results – Alasdair Veitch

- PowerPoint Presentation, entitled “Census Results for Bluenose-West, Bluenose-East, and Cape Bathurst Barren-ground Caribou Herds, July 2006”, tabled

Meeting recessed @ 4:50 p.m.

21 September 2006

ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS

Walter Bayha
Paul Latour
Leonard Kenny
Keith Hickling
Rosa Etchinelle

STAFF

Glen Guthrie
Nicole Lights
Jody Snortland

GUESTS

Richard Kochon – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC
Charlie Kochon – Behdzi Ahda’ RRC
Dolphus Tutcho – Deline RRC
Jimmy Dillon – Deline RRC

Paul Rivard – Forest Mgmt-ENR, Sahtu Region
Judith Wright-Bird – SLUPB
Tony Grandejambe – Tulita/Norman Wells PAWG
Colin Bayha – SSI

Greg McDonald – Norman Wells RRC
Jackie McDonald – Norman Wells RRC
Wilfred Lennie Sr – Tulita RRC
Boniface Ayha – Tulita RRC
Peter Taktogon – Kitikmeot HTO
Michael Neyelle – Translator
Boyan Tracz – ENR, Sahtu Region
Ron Doctor – ENR, Sahtu Region
Jenny Vandermeer – PAS, Sahtu Region
Lisa Smith – Forest Mgmt-ENR, Fort Smith

Howard Townsend – SSI
Mayor Gordon Yakeleya – Public
Chief Frank Andrew – Public
Fredrick Andrew – Public
John B. Hetchinelle – Public
Maurice Mendo – Public
David Etchinelle – Public
Joe Bernarde – Public
Rocky Norwegian – Public
Fred Clement Sr – Public

Meeting reconvened @ 9:08 a.m.

15. Bluenose Caribou Photo-Census Results – Discussion

- Bluenose-West caribou herd – population decreased by 4000 animals from last year; Bluenose-East caribou herd – population stable
- Main recommendations: concentrate harvest on bulls and reduce overall harvest, i.e., “take only what is needed”
- Additional suggestions: promote fall hunts; harvest other wildlife or fish; study caribou habitat/food; study climate change effects; study impacts of airplanes/helicopters (decisions made will impact on other wildlife populations); develop education programs; involve Tlicho and DehCho in future discussions
- Kugluktuk: mixed harvest of bulls & cows (estimated annual harvest ~1000 caribou); trying to eliminate commercial harvest; SRRB & ENR, Sahtu Region to present information to Hunters & Trappers Organization (include Mathieu Dumond, Regional Biologist)

ACTION (Chair & ED): Set up meeting with Kitikmeot HTO and Mathieu Dumond to present Bluenose Caribou information

16. Agency Update – Environment & Natural Resources, Boyan Tracz & Keith Hickling

- PowerPoint Presentation, entitled “*Boreal Woodland Caribou in the Sahtu, September 2006*” and Brochure, entitled “*NWT Species at Risk – Are Caribou Important to You?*”
- Boreal Woodland Caribou background research completed; consultation ongoing; seven collared caribou at Stewart Lake; action plan to be completed June 2007
- As seasons change, the availability of habitat changes (winter having the least amount available); twice as much habitat will be affected by the proposed pipeline compared to Mackenzie Gas Project’s projection
- Suggested that the Board request up-to-date digital seismic data be given to ENR as part of land use permit recommendation
- Handout, entitled “*GMVF Fur Program*”, tabled
- Staffing changes: Steve Hannah, Superintendent, ENR-Sahtu Region, retiring; Deline Renewable Resource Officer and trainee positions to be staffed; Environmental Protection Officer and Environmental Assessment Biologist positions to be staffed
- Over \$1 million in marten pelts sold in 2005-2006; in 2006-2007, increased fur advances and markets anticipated to remain similar to last season
- Adequate funding for RRCs to assist current harvester’s need is required

17. Agency Update – Canadian Wildlife Service, Paul Latour

- Protected Areas:
 - June 2006: second season of field work at Ts'ude'hline-Tuyetah (Ramparts River & Wetland)
 - Tulita District proposal – if Willow (Brackett) Lake included, then CWS will become involved
- Summer 2006: shorebird surveys along proposed pipeline and participation in Joint Review Panel Hearings

18. Rescheduling COSEWIC-listed Species to SARA (Rusty Blackbird), Paul Latour

- Handout, entitled "*Rusty Blackbird Surveys Along the Mackenzie Valley*", tabled
- Rusty Blackbird – current Northwest Territories' specie that is scheduled for re-listing from the COSEWIC list to Schedule 1 of SARA as Species of Special Concern
- Request SRRB support re-listing of the Rusty Blackbird

SRRB Motion #09-21-06-06

- To support the re-listing of the Rusty Blackbird from the COSEWIC list to Schedule 1 of SARA as Species of Special Concern

Moved by: Leonard Kenny

Seconded by: Rosa Etchinelle

Carried Unanimously

ACTION (ED): To write letter of support to Environment Canada re: listing Rusty Blackbird on Schedule 1 of SARA

19. Agency Update – Sahtu Land Use Planning Board, Judith Wright-Bird

- Maps, entitled "*Sahtu Land Use Plan (Draft Only) – September 2006*", "*Sahtu Land Use Plan (Draft Only) – Oil & Gas Licences, September 2006*", and "*Sahtu Land use Plan (Draft Only) – Mineral Activity, September 2006*", tabled
- Both Deline and K'ahsho Got'ine Districts have completed work on conservation zones for the land use plan and have begun work on protected areas; Tulita District work ongoing for both protected areas and conservation zones
- First Draft completed – January 2007; 6-8 weeks of feedback from stakeholders and approval by Sahtu Secretariat Inc, then forwarded to territorial and federal government; Second draft anticipated – June 2007
- Request that SRRB support in principle the maps presented; Sahtu Land & Water Board could then use as a guideline when issuing land use permits and water licences

SRRB Motion #09-21-06-07

- To support, in principle, the September 2006 draft Land Use Zone designations as presented, subject to approval of the final draft of the complete Land Use Plan by the Sahtu communities, the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board (SLUPB), the Sahtu Secretariat Inc, and territorial & federal governments

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle

Seconded by: Leonard Kenny

Carried Unanimously

ACTION (ED): To write letter of support in principle to Sahtu Land Use Planning Board re: September 2006 draft Land Use Zone designations

20. Tulita District Project Areas Working Group, Tony Grandejambe

- Handout, entitled “*Tulita Conservation Initiative*”, tabled
- Three main areas defined: 1) Willow Lake & Wetlands, Mahony Lake Massacre Site, Bear Rock & The Smokes, 2) Keele & Raven’s Throat Rivers and headwaters, and 3) Mountain River; to further define conservation zones, culturally sensitive areas, burial grounds, and traditional use areas; seeking interim land withdrawal for Bear Rock
- Nahanni Headwaters removed from Tulita District plan; already progressing through PAS with Parks Canada
- Coordinating process with Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

21. Permanent Sample Plot Program, Lisa Smith & Paul Rivard – ENR Forest Management Division

- PowerPoint Presentation, entitled “*Long Term Forest Monitoring in the Northwest Territories*”, tabled
- Permanent monitoring plots are a good estimation of how fast forests grow; information can be used for land use and forest management plans; plans to establish total of 73 plots in the Sahtu
- Request SRRB support to establish long term forest monitoring plots

SRRB Motion #09-21-06-08

- To support the establishment and re-measurement of permanent monitoring plots in the Sahtu Settlement Area as a resource management tool

Moved by: Keith Hickling

Seconded by: Rosa Etchinelle

Carried Unanimously

ACTION (ED): To write letter of support to Forest Management, ENR re: permanent monitoring plots program

22. Species at Risk Act – Public Consultation Document

- Handout, entitled “*Management of Species at Risk in the NWT: Proposed Legislation*”, tabled
- ENR soliciting comments on public consultation document by 30 September 2006
- Forward SRRB comments to Sahtu Secretariat Inc and district land corporations

ACTION (Members): To review and comment on Species at Risk Act – Public Consultation Document by 29 September 2006

23. Proposed Division of Total Allowable Harvest for Bluenose-West Caribou

- Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) 18 July 2006 letter and PowerPoint Presentation, entitled “*WMAC (NWT) Recommendations on Divisions of Caribou Total Allowable Harvest Between Regions*”, tabled
- Due to calculation differences with Sahtu Settlement Harvest Study data, the Board feels that the fairest distribution of the total allowable harvest would be to give 3% to the Gwich’in and to divide the remainder equally amongst the Inuvialuit (48%) and the Sahtu (48%); the remaining one percent can be used by any of the three regions in cases of over harvest
- Further work needs to be done to determine who will be responsible for keeping track of distribution

SRRB Motion #09-21-06-09

- To support the following division of the total allowable harvest for Bluenose-West caribou: Gwich'in 3%, Inuvialuit 48%, and Sahtu 48%

Moved by: Keith Hickling

Seconded by: Paul Latour

Carried Unanimously

ACTION (ED): To write letter of support to Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) & Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board re: proposed division of total allowable harvest for Bluenose-West caribou

24. In- Camera Session

SRRB Motion #09-21-06-10

- To go into an in-camera session

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle

Seconded by: Keith Hickling

Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #09-21-06-11

- To come out of the in-camera session

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle

Seconded by: Keith Hickling

Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #09-21-06-12

- To increase staff salaries, effective 25 September 2006, as follows:
 - Office Manager (Lori Ann Lennie) \$49,848.79 (Step 6)
 - Harvest Study Coordinator (Janet Bayha) \$59,702.61 (Step 7)
 - Renewable Resource Communication Officer (Glen Guthrie) \$69,556.44 (Step 6)
 - Executive Director (Jody Snortland) \$79,941.80 (Step 8)

Moved by: Rosa Etchinelle

Seconded by: Paul Latour

Carried Unanimously

SRRB Motion #09-21-06-13

- To extend the current Executive Director's contract for two-years with the option of a third-year renewal

Moved by: Paul Latour

Seconded by: Keith Hickling

Carried Unanimously

ACTION (Chair): To revise current Executive Director's contract to reflect above motion

25. Next Board Meeting

- 12-16 or 19-23 February 2007, Norman Wells

26. Adjournment

SRRB Motion #09-21-06-14

- To adjourn meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Moved by: Paul Latour