

February 25, 2014 13:00 Teleconference

Sahtu Environmental Monitoring and Research Forum

Notes by Julian Kanigan

Participants

In Yellowknife: Deb Simmons, Todd Paget, Mike Nyellie, Julian Kanigan, Andrew Applejohn (partial)

On phone: Richard Popko, Shawna Morgan, Roger Odgaard, Patricia, Bradley, Joe, Trevor, Loretta Ransom

1. Opening prayer
2. Confirm WG chair is Mike Nyellie
3. Discuss agenda
 - a. Added to discuss a website and ESRF
 - b. Put Shawna and Richard at top of agenda
4. Shawna – Pembina Institute, Fort Nelson speaking tour
 - a. Chief and Lands Director of Fort Nelson conducting a speaking tour of Tulita, Mar 3; Norman Wells, Mar 6; and Fort Good Hope, Mar 5
 - b. Community meetings/presentations and opportunities for youth meetings to share stories and discuss their experience with oil and gas activity in their respective territories (Ft. Nelsen/Sahtu), especially shale gas (since around 2005 in Ft. Nelson area); balancing preservation and development; trying to set limits on water use and disturbance in their territory
 - c. ERMF can help by welcoming the tour and rounding up people to participate; need radio ads and posters; need good ideas from community members on how to publicize this event;
 - d. Subsequent discussion on engaging Gerald in Tulita (active 'Frac' Facebook page); and interpreters for Elders required.
5. Mike – Announced a Public Forum meeting in Tulita, Mar 6 (hosted by NEB/L&WB?) to discuss how the MVRMA structures work with the NEB. This is timed to coincide/integrate with the L&WB's annual tech session to inform the community on process.
6. Richard Popko – GNWT, Wildlife, Norman Wells – Described 3 SERMF proposals that were developed with help from January's Forum meeting for submission to GNWT-ENR for funding

- a. The SERMF developed a table of concerns that is 14 pages long; any concerns that were a Federal responsibility were set aside; this group can pursue Federal agencies for those concerns
 - b. Project 1: Sahtu Biodiversity monitoring framework (\$56,500). Community based monitoring system so that monitoring that industry and communities do fit together; a contractor will sit down with communities and boards to come up with a community based program along with government; details will be worked out later. Deb - Q: What's the point of discussing a monitoring project that doesn't have long term funding? A: Government and industry will have to continue the program. This could be a good reference condition approach to look at changes in areas affected by development. Patricia – Our RRC priorities are water, fish and moose
 - c. Project 2: Continue long term ongoing projects for caribou and moose (\$63,500). Jean Polfus genetics work with boreal caribou; Susan Kutz community monitoring caribou and moose long term health, includes Anja Carlson's work looking at stress on caribou and moose by industry
 - d. Project 3: Harvest monitoring (\$152,000). Program coordination to work with SRRB; researchers to come up with harvest levels; upgrade existing infrastructure (eg. Trailers and check stations; a new aspect of this project would be a monitoring pilot project so that community members would do their own patrol in key areas.
 - e. Discussion of other monitoring programs include boreal caribou range mapping; photo surveys of Bluenose West in 2015 - barren ground (Bluenose) caribou monitoring of collars – in 2015 need a population estimate, which will require 60 collars per herd at \$10,000/collar for purchase/acquisition and O&M costs; GNWT Wildlife is aware that there is resistance to collaring, and has respected the Elder's wishes for no collaring rule and no-fly zone around Colville Lake. Others – Bluenose east next/possible?; Dall sheep monitoring.
 - f. Richard expects to hear results on proposals at the end of March. Andrew – Q: What fisheries monitoring is occurring in the Sahtu? **Action Item 1 A: Loretta (Environment Canada) commits to producing a summary of what EC is sampling in the Sahtu and contacting Deanna Leonard (DFO) for a plain language summary of DFO projects in the Sahtu.**
7. Water Quality: Loretta Ransom (Environment Canada) discussed/proposed compiling a Summary of EC work, contacting DFO (Diana) for inclusion. ENR WQ info: Todd could contact WQ group to help? AANDC WQ info: Julian as above could help facilitate connection. Forum wishes plain language versions please
8. Terms of Reference:
- a. Cindy Gilday presented our ToR to SSI and there seemed to be a positive reaction
 - b. Mike has thought of a new Dene name for the group, translates to "people" and "knowledge"; due to debate over the name consensus that we can figure out a Dene name later
 - c. Michael to work with Patricia to propose Dene name for the Forum.

- d. Membership Questions: Discussion revisited of whether specific numbers of representatives required in TOR. Are we rushing? too many government representatives? Agreed to leave TOR as is which focuses TOR on groups/agencies acknowledged need to to be involved (with alternates!), not number of individuals, as long as Sahtu beneficiaries are the majority.
 - e. Motion to accept TOR (Micheal): important to complete task; helps with support/communication efforts. Round table all ok with motion to accept TOR, with last piece a 'placecard' to place Dene name for the Forum in document later.
9. Plain Language Summaries: Discussion to update (Debra ok to do) which can be posted to help communicate Forum information (i.e. Resrouce Baord website, others?)