

Nę K'ә Dene Ts'ıłı Forum Teleconference April 18, 2018

Participants

Déłıne: Deborah Simmons, Cyre Yukon, Jimmy Dillon, Jonas Modeste, Camilla Tutcho,
Walter Bezha

Tulít'a: Joe Hanlon, Gordon Yakeleya

Fort Good Hope: Dolly (Linda) Edgi, Camilla Rabisca

Yellowknife: Miki Ehrlich, Climate Change Community Liaison, Climate Change Community
Liaison, NWT Association of Communities

Victoria: Mary-Anne Neal, Royal Roads U

Saskatoon: Kirsten Jensen, Leon Andrew, Kirsty Gurney (ECCC)

Edmonton: Monica Kohler (ABMI), Ken Caine (Sociology, UAlberta)

Ontario: Mylene Ratelle (UWaterloo)

Call begins at 1:00 PM

Opening Prayer – Camilla Tutcho

Introductions

Discussion

- Leon Andrew – summary of workshop he is currently attending with Kirsten Jensen (new SRRB Community Conservation Planner).
- Researchers introduce their research / interests / backgrounds.
- Community members provide feedback based on experiences and interests in their communities.
- Deb Simmons – Overview of ArcticNet proposal – two ideas to be discussed at this meeting – acoustic monitoring and Indigenous environmental governance.
- Monica Kohler – Introduction to Erin Bayne's acoustic monitoring work.
 - Place recorders (ARUs) on trees or posts, leave them there, will catch any sound that birds, amphibians, bats, etc make.
 - Been using them in Alberta for about five years, have such a large amount of recordings now that we are looking at using computers to identify specific animal sounds and then have people confirm. Also using computers to help identify multi-species sounds (multiple birds singing at once). Opportunity to involve community members in identifying things.
 - Results are being used in different ways – large lab with many graduate students. Some are looking at local impacts and effects of disturbance like pollution or seismic lines, some are feeding into larger monitoring projects to look at regional or long-term trends or habitat preferences or distribution. Some provincial, some nationwide.
 - Proposed work in Tulít'a this summer to review the recordings.
 - Discussion of other potential uses in the communities.
 - Walter asks about potential for fish monitoring / winter road impacts (not possible with these units).

- Gordon talks about how to incorporate elder/traditional knowledge to figure out where different kinds of birds are, and also teach younger people. Cross-cultural work is a good way to do these things. Very supportive of these programs and want to see strong community component. Also want to see traditional knowledge work be the first part of any of these projects.
- Dolly – traditional knowledge and monitoring go hand in hand; we are keepers of the land. Would definitely support this kind of work.
- Kirsty Gurney – Note that I was working with Samuel Haché last year, and there was a request to put monitors out at our sites. We didn't place them because we didn't have a good way to get them out. But I can continue to work with Sam about getting those placed – community should get in touch with me about that.
- Ken Caine – “Governance and Sustainable Development” – ArcticNet is looking for a research project about rethinking governance. It's directly related to a lot of the things that are being done in the Sahtu already. This project would not only build on the work that has already been done but might also develop a model for governance that is different than what people have thought of before, not just a political thing. Guardian program could fit in here. Also could look at language or language revitalization. There are a number of projects going on in the Sahtu and we need to bring them together to show what governance might look like in a different way.
- Discussion of proposals and opportunity for community participation and feedback.
- Review of research licenses – Joe Hanlon
 - Culturally Appropriate Search and Rescue (SAR) Prevention and Survival Training in the Sahtú Region, Northwest Territories: An On-the-Land Program
 - Joe notes that this is currently out for review but the RRCs are not on the distribution list.
 - Discussion of Dene Ts'ı̨ł School and on the land programs.

Meeting concludes at 3:47 PM.