



Board Meeting Minutes

Location: Yellowknife, NT
Date: 10-11 May 2016

Board Members:

Archie Wetrade (Tłıchq Appointee)
Jonas Lafferty (Tłıchq Appointee)
Steven Matthews (GNWT Appointee)
Suzanne Carriere (GNWT Appointee)
Grant Pryzyk (Federal Appointee)

Staff:

Jody Pellissey
Boyan Tracz
Susan Beaumont

Translators:

James Rabesca
Violet Mackenzie

Technical Advisors:

Alice Legat
John Donihee (via teleconference)

Opening Prayer: Jonas Lafferty

Call to Order: 9:10 a.m.

No formal agenda was produced for this meeting.

1) 2016 Bathurst Caribou Herd Proceeding – Change Final Report Submission Date

A section-by-section review of the draft of Part A report was completed, with focus on Sections 2-8. The WRRB will meet on May 25, 2016 to finalize and approve the Bathurst Reasons for Decision, Part A report.

Motion #483-10-05-2016

To change submission date for the final Bathurst Reasons for Decision, Part A report from May 13, 2016 to May 26, 2016

Moved:

Steven Matthews

Second:

Jonas Lafferty

Abstain:

Archie Wetrade

Motion Approved

ACTION #314-10-05-2016 (ED): To notify Parties of the change to the Bathurst caribou herd proceeding schedule

ACTION #315-10-05-2016 (ED): To review Bathurst Report with Charlie Jeremick'ca prior to May 25, 2016 meeting and review Bluenose-East Report with Archie Wetrade prior to June 3, 2016 meeting

ACTION #316-10-05-2016 (ED): To hold training workshop on the use of videoconferencing (Skype, FaceTime)

2) Approval of Proposed Listing of Yellow-banded Bumble Bee on List 1 of SARA (Federal)

The Yellow-banded Bumble Bee was assessed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) as Special Concern in May 2014. Consultations on the proposed listing were scheduled between November 2015 and February 2016 with regional wildlife boards, and communities. Consultation packages were sent by email and mail to all affected communities in the Northwest Territories.

At the Board's January 2016 meeting, Dawn Andrews from the Canadian Wildlife Service updated the Board on the proposed species at risk listing for the Yellow-banded Bumble Bee.

Motion #484-11-05-2016 *To support the listing of Yellow-banded Bumble Bee as Species of Special Concern to Schedule 1 of SARA*

Moved: Archie Wetrade
Second: Jonas Lafferty

Motion Approved

ACTION #317-11-05-2016 (ED): To write letter to Director General, Canadian Wildlife Service to support listing of Yellow-banded Bumble Bee to Schedule 1 of SARA

3) 2016 Bluenose-East Caribou Herd Proceeding

- Harvest Management
 - Based on both science and Tłjchq knowledge presented, the Board determined that there is a conservation concern for the Bathurst caribou herd.
 - At the April 2016 meeting, the Board identified two options as possible responses to the proposed harvest management actions: #1) TAH = 950 (2.5% of herd harvest) and #3) TAH = > or < 950.
 - Harvest: underreported & wounding loss (avg 2700 caribou/yr; max 4000 caribou/yr); unless tight controls on harvest reporting, methods and enforcement, a TAH of 950 is agreeing to an actual harvest of ~1500-1600 caribou; consider changing the percentage of harvest (2.5% to 1.5-2%, no appreciable difference, i.e. cannot measure if harvest restrictions are resulting a stable and/or recovering herd; will not halt decline but will slow it), need to consider risk (<2.5% harvest is medium to high risk), precautionary principle; consider a zero harvest with no collars and no flyovers (leave the caribou completely alone as the elders have said); NWMB considering proposal for 340 Bluenose-East bulls only harvest
 - 65% cow harvest; consider requirement to show proof of bull harvest (subtract tag/card from community allocation if harvest cows); harvest of bulls is usually in August & September (once in rut, skinny and smelly) and March (regain fat). Old bulls vs. young bulls (use Tłjchq terms for bulls)
 - Allocation: herd wide vs. Wek'èezhii, TG & ENR response of April 22, 2016 did not provide any clarification; Undertaking #1 – jurisdictional question, outside

Wek'èezhì there is no application; must ensure that determination is consistent with Nunavut, ACCWM, TG & ENR; also have the WMAC (NWT) submission; prefer to use percentages provided by TG & ENR

- TAH drives allocation; TG will allocate to communities accordingly; communities want TG to be a leader and manage as they have stated; concern noted that no Gamèti elders were at April 2016 public hearing
- Wolf Management
 - At the April 2016 meeting, the Board identified three options as possible responses to the proposed wolf management actions to be conducted in tandem with the proposed feasibility assessment: #1) Wait for Bathurst Program to be completed before possible implementation; #2) Conduct similar training program at same time as Bathurst Program; #3) Limited time specific wolf control (emergency).
 - The pilot training program in Wekweètì did not happen in 2015/16; TG and ENR plan to conduct the pilot training program in 2016/17. Therefore, wait until program happens to determine successes/failures and whether or not implementation should happen on the Bluenose-East range.
 - Limited time specific wolf control is best conducted in May; therefore, not a realistic option for 2016; discussion to be included in Report #2.
 - To take initiative and a leadership role, the Board decided to recommend, in Report #1, that the WRRB conduct the wolf feasibility assessment, including: hold meeting with TG and ENR to develop a terms of reference to determine what should be included in the feasibility assessment (including pilot training program and limited time specific wolf control); cost share assessment with ENR/TG/WRRB (Board to use monies from Wildlife Studies Fund); hire contractor to conduct the assessment; ensure both a TK and science assessment, including conducting focus groups; include both Bathurst and Bluenose-East caribou herds; assessment will not be a review of ENR's wolf program.

Closing Prayer: Jonas Lafferty

Adjournment 4:30 p.m. (Motion #485-11-05-2016)

Minutes Approved:

ORIGINAL SIGNED

AUGUST 16, 2016

Chairperson

Date