

Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board Public Hearing Instructions

On December 15, 2015, the Tłı̨chǫ Government (TG) and Department of Environment & Natural Resources (ENR), Government of Northwest Territories submitted the “*Joint Proposal on Caribou Management Actions for the Bathurst Herd: 2016-2019*” to the Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) outlining proposed management actions for the Bathurst Caribou Herd in Wek'èezhii. Based on Section 12.5.4 of the Tłı̨chǫ Agreement, the Board opened the 2016 Bathurst Caribou Herd Proceeding on January 18, 2016.

The Proceeding encompasses the entire Joint Management Proposal, including closure of all harvesting of the Bathurst caribou herd and the development of mobile wolf-hunter camps. As a part of the overall Proceeding, the WRRB has decided to hold a Public Hearing, February 23-24, 2016, in Yellowknife, NT.

Following the public hearing, the WRRB will review all information received during its Proceeding and make recommendations to TG and ENR related to the entire Joint Management Proposal.

Format of WRRB Public Hearing

- Opening remarks by the Co-Chairs
- Presentation by ENR and then TG, followed by a question period.
- Presentations by Intervenors followed by a question period.
- General public will be given an opportunity to speak at designated times.
- Closing statements by intervenors, ENR, TG, and the Chair.
- Adjournment

- ENR will be given one hour to make their presentation followed by a one hour presentation by TG. A three hour question period will follow the presentations.
- Intervenors will be given priority to speak. Each Intervenor's presentation will be limited to 30 minutes, followed by a reasonable, but limited, period for questions. More than one person can deliver a presentation but the 30 minute time limit still applies. The WRRB cautions that presentations must be related to management actions of the joint management proposal.
- TG, ENR and Intervenors must provide a digital copy of their presentation and draft speaking notes to the WRRB by February 19, 2016. No new evidence may be submitted after February 19, 2016; therefore, presentations may not be changed. TG, ENR and Intervenors should provide 30 printed copies of their presentation to the Executive Director at the hearing. Copies of draft speaking notes will assist the interpreters and those preparing transcripts of the hearing.

- Time will be available daily for registered general public to present for a maximum of 10 minutes on a first come, first serve basis and, if time allows, the microphone will be open to the general public. There is no questioning during this time. General public wishing to present are asked to register at the door during the hearing. Registration will open at 9:00 a.m. on February 23, 2016.
- All presentations and oral statements must avoid disparaging and disrespectful comments.
- Party closing statements should be limited to 10 minutes and be used to wrap up the evidence submitted during the Hearing only.
- Final written arguments are to be submitted by Intervenors on March 8, 2016, and by TG and ENR on March 11, 2016. The public record will close March 11, 2016.
- Following the adjournment of the hearing and after careful review of all of the information presented at the hearing, the WRRB will submit its determinations and/or recommendations to TG and ENR by no later than May 13, 2016.
- All documents pertaining to the hearing can be found on the WRRB's public registry: www.wrrb.ca

For more information, please contact:

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