



APR 30 2010

Mr. Grant Pryznyk
Interim Chair
Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board
Yellowknife Office
102A - 4504 49TH AVENUE
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 1A7

Dear Mr. Pryznyk:

WRRB Public Hearings Adjournment - Progress Report

Attached is the requested Progress Report on discussions between the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) and the Tł'chǫ Government (TG) regarding updating the Bathurst Caribou Joint Proposal from the March 2010 Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) public hearings:

In addition to the progress report please find attached the following supplemental information specific to discussions between ENR and the TG regarding the updating of the Bathurst Caribou Joint Proposal:

- Environment and Natural Resources – Tł'chǫ Government discussion summary, April 13-15, 2010 meeting.
- Environment and Natural Resources – Tł'chǫ Government discussion summary, April 27-28, 2010 meeting.
- Draft outline.

Due to the nature of the discussions between ENR and the TG we would request that the WRRB consider the supplemental documents described above as confidential and not post them to the public registry.

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In addition to the above progress report ENR has continued to conduct research on barren-ground caribou and would like to submit the following reports, modeling and maps to the WRRB for consideration and posting on the public registry.

- Interim report on 2009-10 harvest of Bathurst and Bluenose-East herds, ENR
- Interim report on condition samples from Bathurst Herd, ENR
- March winter distribution survey of Bathurst and Bluenose-East herds, ENR
- Bathurst spring composition survey (calf survival), ENR
- Bluenose-East spring composition survey (calf survival), ENR
- *A Year in the Life of a Barren-Ground Caribou Herd: Four examples of how births and deaths of cows, calves and bulls add up over a one-year period:* J. Adamczewski, ENR, April 29, 2010.
- *Model simulations of various levels of hunter harvest on the Bathurst caribou herd's likely future:* J. Adamczewski, ENR, April 29, 2010.

If you have any additional questions regarding this information please contact Mr. Jason McNeill, Senior Policy Advisor, Aboriginal Relations at (867) 920 3298.

Sincerely,



Ernie Campbell
Assistant Deputy Minister

Attachments

- c. Grand Chief Joe Rabesca
Tłı̨chǫ Territory Government



Tlicho Government

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April 30, 2010

Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board
102A, 4504 49th Ave
Yellowknife
X1A 1A7

Attention: Jody Snortland

Re: Adjournment Progress Report to Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board

Ms. Snortland,

Following the March 22-26, 2010 Bathurst Caribou public Hearing, the WRRB gave the Tlicho Government and ENR an adjournment. This adjournment was given with the expectation that the two parties would go back to the table and work together in an attempt to resolve any differences that existed in the original proposal submitted on November 5, 2009, namely issues 4 and 5.

Since the adjournment, the Tlicho Government and ENR have worked together in 2 sessions - one held April 13-16 and another held April 27,28. We will hold one more session on May 11-12, 2010. The two parties feel they have made significant progress on the issues at hand.

We will be submitting the progress report in partnership, as indicated by ENR. We do ask that in order to ensure the confidentiality and continued progress on the management proposal, the summary documents and outline are kept confidential and off the public registry.

In Tlicho Unity

Joe Rabesca
Grand Chief Joe Rabesca

Adjournment Progress Report to Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board

Submitted by:

Tlicho Government
Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT

April 30, 2010

This progress report is provided to the Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) to comply with the following conditions of the Board's March 26, 2010 WRRB Adjournment Ruling:

1. The Tlicho Government and Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) must provide an interim report on progress by April 30, 2010.
2. This report shall include a summary of consultations conducted with other parties and sufficient detail to enable the Board to determine whether substantial progress has been made.
3. Board staff and independent expert will participate in the process as observers and report to the Board on an ongoing basis.
4. The Board expects that any new proposal filed by May 31, 2010 will address:
 - a. Harvest numbers
 - b. Allocation of harvest for both Bathurst and Bluenose-East Caribou within Wek'eezhii Management Area.

The Tlicho Government and ENR met on April 13-15 and April 27-28 and have another meeting scheduled for May 11-12. Summaries of both meetings are attached so that the board may assess progress to date. Board staff have participated in both meetings and will report to the board. However, it is expected that board staff will respect the confidential nature of these meetings between both governments.

An outline for the new proposal to be submitted by May 31, 2010 to the Board is attached. This may be revised at the May 11-12 meeting.

Currently, the new proposal will address the following components of the joint proposal submitted by the two governments in early November 2009 to the Board:

1. Management actions 4 and 5 in Appendix A
2. Monitoring actions 1-8 in Appendix B will be incorporated into the adaptive management framework.

The new proposal will contain the following new components that address issues raised at the public hearing:

1. Predator management – this expands on the actions identified in ENR's presentation at the public hearing
2. Increased access to wood bison in Wek'eezhii to reduce pressure on caribou – this expands on actions identified in ENR's presentation at the public hearing

3. Monitoring actions for other harvested species such as moose or woodland caribou
4. Capacity and governance
5. Social and cultural relationships

As discussions between the two governments have not been completed and are confidential, it is requested that the Board not distribute the summaries from the two meetings and the outline for the new proposal.

As requested by the Board, ENR is reporting on consultations with the following intervenors and organizations:

Organization	Status
NWT Barren-ground Caribou Outfitters	Meeting held on April 21, 2010. Issues and recommendations raised at public hearing discussed.
NWT Wildlife Federation	ENR committed to raise issues heard at this meeting at joint sessions with Tlicho Government and report back.
City of Yellowknife	
Karen McMaster	
NWT Tourism Association	
David Livingstone	
Bob Turner	
NWT Metis Nation	Discussions continue regarding setting up meetings on caribou management actions outside of Wek'eezhii
North Slave Metis Alliance	Discussions continue regarding setting up meetings on caribou management actions outside of Wek'eezhii
NWT Treaty 8 Tribal Corporation	Discussions continue regarding setting up meetings on caribou management actions outside of Wek'eezhii
Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce	No response to invite to April 21 meeting
National Rifle Association	No response to invite to April 21 meeting
Sahtu Renewable Resources Board	Letter to be sent.
Dehcho First Nations	Letter to be sent.
Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated	Letter to be sent.

Finally, as requested by the Board, ENR has attached to its cover letter new information collected in recent months from ongoing monitoring actions as well as additional population model projections for posting on the Board's public registry.