



Ms. Jody Pellissey, Executive Director
Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board
4504 49TH AVENUE
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 1A7

Dear Ms. Pellissey:

Discussions on procedural matters

The Tłıchǫ Government and Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), Government of the Northwest Territories would like to thank you for the meeting via conference call this morning. We appreciate the willingness of staff of the Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) to have discussions with us on procedural matters as they relate to the wolf management proposal and look forward to continuing dialogue. Further to these discussions, we would also like to bring to your attention the engagement our two governments have undertaken over the past two months on wolf monitoring and management actions.

The Chiefs Executive Council of the Tłıchǫ Government was briefed on wolf management actions by its staff and gave their approval on January 16, 2020. Community meetings were held in February 2020 as part of the Tłıchǫ Government, Department of Culture and Lands Protection community tour in Wekweètì (February 3), Gamètì (February 5) and Whatì (February 25). Between 10 and 20 community members were present at each of these meetings. Wolf management actions including harvest support and aerial removals were discussed and no major concerns identified.

In addition, a harvester meeting was held in Wekweètì, December 17th, 2019 and subsequent training workshop on January 9- 13, 2020, brought in 18 Tłıchǫ participants from surrounding Tłıchǫ communities. At the workshop the possibility of aerial removal of wolves was discussed as a supplement to harvesting if the community based program was not successful at reaching targets. Some concern was raised that aerial removal would take away harvesting opportunities from trappers and possible income.

ENR engaged with a number of Indigenous governments and organizations focusing on both the Joint Proposal on Management Actions for the Bathurst Ekwò (Barren-ground caribou) Herd: 2019 – 2021 and the Joint Proposal on Management Actions for the Bluenose-East ʔekwò (Barren-ground caribou) Herd: 2019 – 2021. A detailed engagement log is provided in the attachment.

Further, it is noted that discussions and support for wolf management actions was heard at WRRB's public hearing on the Bluenose-East herd held in Behchokò, April 9-11, 2019.

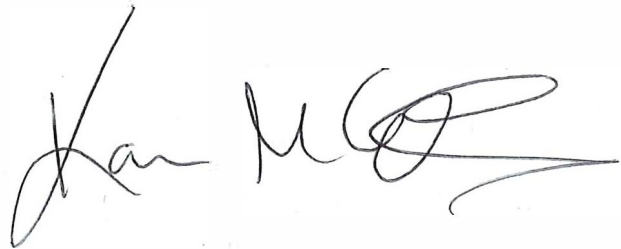
The Government of the Northwest Territories is currently consulting on the Joint Proposal on Management Actions for Wolves (dìga) on the Bathurst and Bluenose-East Barren-ground Caribou (ʔekwò) Herd Winter Ranges: 2020 – 2025. The consultation period closes today and we cannot yet comment on the outcome.

If you have any questions on the above, please do not hesitate to contact either of the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Ms. Tammy Steinwand-Deschambeault,
Director
Department of Culture and Lands
Protection, Tłıchǵ Government
Behchokò, NT
TammySteinwand@tlcho.com



Ms. Karin Clark,
A/Director, Wildlife Division
Environment and Natural Resources
Yellowknife, NT
Karin.Clark@gov.nt.ca

Attachment

- c. Bruno Croft, Superintendent, North Slave Region
Environment and Natural Resources

Michael Birlea, Manager, Culture and Lands Protection
Tłıchǵ Government

ATTACHMENT

ENGAGEMENT LOG:

October 29, 2015

Planning and Consultation meeting – conducted with elders and interested dīga harvesters from all Tłıchq communities

November 23 – 24, 2016

Tłıchq Government conducted training of Tłıchq harvesters from all Tłıchq communities in collaboration with Greg Robertson taxidermy

March 8, 2018

Tłıchq Government conducted dīga planning and consultation meeting with elders and interested dīga harvesters from all Tłıchq communities to implement training activities and a harvesting program.

August 28 – 30, 2018

Francois Lake Gathering where dīga (wolf) harvest incentives were discussed with Indigenous leaders, elders and youth in North Slave Region.

January 21 – 23, 2019

Tłıchq Government and Government of Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Community tour – Behchokò, Whatì, Gamètì and Wekweètì

January 24, 2019

Government of Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Meeting with Yellowknives Dene First Nation

January 29, 2019

Government of Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Meeting with Northwest Territory Métis Nation

January 30, 2019

Government of Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Meeting with Sahtú Renewable Resources Board and Tulít'a Renewable Resource Council

February 6, 2019

Government of Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Meeting with Łutsel K'e Dene First Nation

February 18, 2019

Government of Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Meeting with North Slave Métis Alliance

February 20, 2019

Government of Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Meeting with Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Organization

December 17, 2019

Tłıchǵ Government Planning and Consultation meeting in Wekweṯ with elders and interested dıga harvesters from all Tłıchǵ communities

January 9 – 13, 2020

Tłıchǵ Government - Dıga Harvesters Training Workshop in Wekweṯ in collaboration with Alberta Trappers Association

January 30 – February 11, 2020

Tłıchǵ Government – Dıga Harvest Program; Harvest Rotation one

February 3, 2020

Tłıchǵ Government – Department of Culture and Lands Protection (DCLP) conducted a community tour in Wekweṯ to update on DCLP matters which include dıga harvesting program

February 5, 2020

Tłıchǵ Government – DCLUP conducted a community tour in Gameṯ to update on DCLP matters which include dıga harvesting program

February 11 – 25, 2020

Tłıchǵ Government – Dıga Harvest Program; Harvest Rotation two

February 22, 2020

Government of the Northwest Territories – Government of Nunavut Barren-Ground Caribou Research & Management Meeting with Indigenous government leaders

February 25, 2020

Tłıchǵ Government – DCLP conducted a community tour in Whaṯ to update on DCLP matters which include dıga harvesting program

February 25 – March 6, 2020

Tłıchǵ Government – Dıga Harvest Program; Harvest Rotation three