



November 5, 2013

Hon. Michael Miltenberger
Environment and Natural Resources
Government of the Northwest Territories
Box 1320
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Via Email

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Grand Chief Eddie Erasmus
Tł'chǫ Government
Box 412
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Re: 2013/2014 Bathurst Caribou Herd Management Recommendations – request for response

With respect to the Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) recommendations for the 2013/2014 Bathurst Caribou Herd harvest season, conveyed to the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and the Tł'chǫ Government (TG) in our letter of May 31, 2013, the WRRB is requesting a response from each Party by November 19, 2013.

The WRRB's recommendations were made under section 12.5.6 of the Tł'chǫ agreement (TA), and we note that our Recommendation 10 was that the recommendations be implemented by August 1, 2013, as per section 12.5.8 of the TA. Section 12.5.11 requires each Party to accept, vary or reject the WRRB recommendations.

We also draw to your attention section 5(i) of the WRRB Rule for Management Proposals, which states:

"Section 12.5.8 of the Agreement allows the WRRB to "indicate the date by which a Party is expected to respond to or implement" the Board's recommendations. Further, section 12.5.11 states that "a Party with power under its laws to implement a recommendation of the WRRB shall accept, reject or vary such recommendation. Where a Party rejects or varies any recommendation received from the Board, it shall give its decision in writing, with reasons, to the Board and shall give public notice of that decision". Except when the Board indicates otherwise pursuant to section 12.5.8 of the Agreement, the Board expects a response within 14 days of receipt of its recommendations for a Level 1 management proposal, within 30 days for a Level 2 management proposal and within 60 days for a Level 3 management proposal. A written request is required from a Party wishing to extend the response period for any level of management proposal. The Board will review the request and makes its decision within 14 days of receipt."

Should the GNWT or TG require additional time to respond to the WRRB recommendations, please submit a written request as described at the end of section 5(i) of the Rule.

The Board notes that to date the WRRB has received a response to our May 31, 2013 letter from the GNWT dated June 24, 2013 indicating the need for consultation with TG and Aboriginal people with

rights to hunt in Mowhi Gogha Dè Njutlèè. We have also received a copy of a letter from GNWT to Grand Chief Erasmus requesting TG views on the proposal by October 18, 2013. No other correspondence has been received from either Party on this matter.

In order to be in compliance with the TA, Parties that receive a recommendation from the Board must respond within the requested period as set out in sections 12.5.8 and 12.5.11 of the TA, or request an extension as set out in section 5(i) of the Management Rule.

The WRRB looks forward to continued collaboration with the GNWT and TG on Bathurst Caribou herd management.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact our office at (867) 873-5740 or jmccllum@wrrb.ca.

Sincerely,



Grant Pryznyk
Interim Chair

Cc Ernie Campbell, Deputy Minister, ENR
Fred J Mandeville, Superintendent, North Slave Region, ENR
Laura Duncan, Tł'chǫ Executive Officer, TG
Kerri Garner, Director, Department of Culture and Lands Protection, TG