

# Board Teleconference Minutes

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February 12, 2013, 9:15 am-noon and February 13, 9:00 am-11:30 am  
Teleconference 1-866-969-8429 and code 4950573#

*See appended table of decisions.*

## Board Participants

Walter Bayha, Chair

Pat Bobinski

Michael Neyelle

Gordon Zealand

Laurel McDonald

Jeffrey Walker

Keith Hickling (halfway through)

Paul Latour

## Staff Participants

Deborah Simmons, Executive Director

Joe Hanlon, Program Coordinator

Catarina Owen, Environmental Assessment Researcher

## Resource Person

Jean Polfus, University of Manitoba

## Agenda

- **Wildlife Management Issues** – 5 minutes or less introduction to each topic by Board/staff members
  - Update on the new Wildlife Act (Walter and Jeff)
  - Update on boreal woodland caribou management (Paul)
  - Update on Bluenose Herds management planning (Walter and Paul)
  - Update on Bathurst Caribou management planning (Michael and Pat)
  - Update on caribou and moose study (Jean)
- **Program Review and Workplanning for 2013-2014**
  - Environmental Assessments (Joe)
  - Harvest Study Assessment
  - Wildlife Research Fund GIS Fund
  - Externally funded research
    - ESRF Wildlife, Habitat and Harvesting
    - Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program
    - Language and Stories of the Land (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council-SSHRC)

### **Motion M075**

Approve the agenda.

*Moved by Pat. Carried.*

## **SAR Conference of Management Authorities Update**

*Paul and Walter*

At their December meeting, the CMA assessed boreal caribou as threatened. Once they are officially listed as threatened, a recovery strategy has to be developed over the next year or so. Recommendations will have to refer to harvesting, and IF there is a limit it has to go back to the communities for consultation, so it isn't unilateral. The board should be in touch with the RRCs and communities about the broader status of boreal caribou. Maybe June is possible for an opinion to take back to the CMA.

## **ACCWM – Bluenose Herds Management Plan**

*Paul and Walter*

About 2 weeks ago the advisory committee met to talk about bluenose herd management plan. The main item was a couple of letters from the Inuvialit settlement region wherein they raised the concerns/beliefs that we are not in fact talking about three herds, in their opinion, but one herd.

### ***Decision***

SRRB approves the ACCWM response to the Inuvialuit letter on Bluenose Herds Management Plan.

## **Bathurst Caribou Gathering**

*Pat and Michael*

Pat and Michael provided an overview of the proceedings of the Bathurst Gathering that they attended and Deb co-facilitated on January 29-31. A full report on the Gathering is forthcoming.

## **Caribou and Moose Study**

*Jean Polfus*

Jean provided a summary of the community tour and plans for future support for the RRCs to coordinate the collection of samples.. Memoranda of Understanding have been received from three of the four partnering RRCs. Deb added a note about the amount of work that this has entailed, and the benefits to the Board of the collaboration with the RRCs.

## **Association of Mackenzie Mountain Outfitters**

*Deb and Jean*

### ***Decision D029***

The SRRB does not support provision of grizzly bear harvesting tags until there is more research on their status.

## **Environmental Assessments**

*Catarina and Joe*

Catarina will continue to respond to the applications for development. SRRB will continue to make recommendations. It is expected that there will be horizontal fracking applications from two companies this spring. It is recommended that a letter be sent to the co-management boards regarding the SRRB's perspective on the need for an environmental assessment.

Joe described the ConocoPhillips TK project that he observed last week. The SRRB should work with RRCs to get together a traditional knowledge standard that we can present to anyone doing TK research in the Sahtu region.

## **Harvest Study Assessment**

*Deb and Joe*

The outcome of the work so far is a very strong recommendation that we need to undertake a whole additional program of work to fully complete the harvest study. So this assessment turns into being a first step in scoping out what is required and what the objectives would be for completing the harvest study. Joe has collected the data sheets and sent the info to Kristi Benson for more analysis.

## **Wildlife Research Fund**

*Deb*

The Board discussed priorities for allocating funds over the coming fiscal year. The only application was from DFO for the ongoing trout monitoring program. Other priorities include proactive Environmental Assessment research, Harvest Study completion, and TK/Monitoring manuals. The Wildlife Fund is doing better than it has in previous years.

### ***Decision D030***

The Board will assess our approach to supporting research/monitoring programs at a future meeting.

## **Sahtú GIS Project/SRRB Web-Mapping Contract**

*Deb*

We haven't used the services of the Sahtu GIS office over the past few years. We can work in more a hands-on way with that office to assess their capacity and figure out how we can positively work together. Kristi Benson is assisting with this, thanks to \$10K returned to the SRRB by ENR from our GIS Project contribution.

### ***Motion M076***

Adjourn and reconvene meeting tomorrow.

*Moved by Pat. Carried.*

Meeting reconvened February 13, 9:00 am

## Wildlife Fund (resumed)

### *Motion M077*

That the Board provide funding support for the proposed Trout Monitoring program at a reduced amount of \$35K.

*Moved by Gordon; Seconded by Pat. Carried.*

## Funding Proposals

### *Deb*

Deb briefed Board members on CIMP (Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program) proposals. We've submitted proposals for caribou research, winter track count monitoring, and repatriation of the Dene Nation Mapping Project.

The Letter of Intent to the SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council) Partnership Fund *Stories and Language of the Land* will be submitted on February 15.

***Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 am.***

## Table of Decisions

Decision Type	Item #	Topic	Decision	Result
Decision	D028	Wildlife Management	SRRB approves the ACCWM response to the Inuvialuit letter on Bluenose Herds Management Plan.	Consensus
Decision	D029	Wildlife Management	The SRRB does not support provision of grizzly bear harvesting tags until there is more research on their status.	Consensus
Decision	D030	Research	The Board will assess our approach to supporting research/monitoring programs at a future meeting.	Consensus
Motion	M075	Meeting Procedure	Pat Bobinski. Approve the meeting agenda.	Consensus
Motion	M076	Meeting Procedure	Pat Bobinski. Adjourn and reconvene meeting tomorrow.	Consensus
Motion	M077	Research	That the Board provide funding support for the proposed Trout Monitoring program at a reduced amount of \$35K.	Consensus