



Ms. Camilla Tutcho, Chair
Sahtú Renewable Resources Board
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September 01, 2021

Dear Ms. Tutcho:

Dél̄ı̄ne 2021 Virtual Public Listening: T̄ı̄ch'ádı̄ hé Gots'edı̄ (Living with Wildlife) / Predators and Competitors

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) has registered as a party to the upcoming Dél̄ı̄ne Public Listening Session. Given Colville Lake's application for judicial review of the Minister's Final Response to the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board (SRRB) following the 2020 Colville Lake Public Listening Session, ENR is concerned about the inclusion of the following two matters on the agenda:

- Primary responsibility for stewardship; and
- ʔehdzo Got'ı̄ne (Renewable Resources Council) powers.

On April 30, 2021, the Minister provided final responses for all decisions and recommendations related to these matters following the 2020 Colville Lake Public Listening Session and did not defer any decision or recommendation. The final responses and cover letter submitted to the SRRB by the Minister indicated that the issue of whether renewable resource councils may be granted the power to issue authorizations to participants from other Sahtu communities, and the related issue of the allocation, may be revisited at the SRRB's discretion after further discussions at a future public listening session. Given the pending Judicial Review, it would be premature to discuss these questions as we anticipate that the Court will be commenting on them, and any future decision making will need to take into account the findings of the Court.

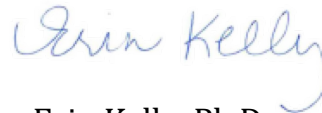
On August 6, 2021, Ms. Heather Sayine-Crawford, Director of the Wildlife and Fish Division for ENR participated in Teleconference #2. During that call, Ms. Sayine-Crawford expressed concern with the two proposed agenda items in the bullets above for the 2021 Dél̄ı̄ne Public Listening Session due to the two matters being at issue before the Northwest Territories Supreme Court. Depending upon the Northwest Territories Supreme Court's decision, and subject to any appeal, these two matters could be further addressed by the SRRB in a subsequent public listening session in a manner that is consistent with the court's decision.

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ENR will be unable to meaningfully discuss these two matters at the upcoming Déłıne Public Listening Session, if they remain on the agenda due to the matters being before the court. Given the important nature of these discussions, ENR would like to ensure it can meaningfully participate in all parts of this process. ENR therefore respectfully requests that these two matters be removed from the 2021 Déłıne Public Listening Session agenda.

We look forward to working with the SRRB to complete the 2021 Déłıne Public Listening Session.

Sincerely,



Erin Kelly, Ph.D.
Deputy Minister
Environment and Natural Resources

c. Dr. Brett Elkin
Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations
Environment and Natural Resources

Ms. Heather Sayine-Crawford
Director, Wildlife and Fish Division
Environment and Natural Resources

Mr. Jeff Walker
Superintendent, Sahtu Region
Environment and Natural Resources

Ms. Deborah Simmons
Executive Director
Sahtu Renewable Resources Board