

Porcupine Caribou Management Board Meeting Minutes

July 30, 2007
Teleconference

IN ATTENDANCE

Members

Joe Tetlich, Chair
Georgie Moses, Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation
Steven Buyck, First Nation of Na-cho Ny'ak Dun
Roberta Joseph, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in
Ron Morrison, Government of Northwest Territories
Billy Archie, Inuvialuit Game Council
Doug Larsen, Government of Yukon

Deana Lemke, Secretariat

Regrets

Sonny Blake, Gwich'in Tribal Council
Ian McDonald, Government of Canada

Call to Order

Joe Tetlich, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Joe explained that since the meeting was not able to happen, as scheduled, in Old Crow, in July, this teleconference was required to deal with some issues currently before the Board.

Review and Approve Agenda

The agenda for the teleconference included:

1. Harvest Management Strategy Update
2. Funding/Budget Update
3. Annual Report
4. Hart River Herd Recommendations
5. Set Next Meeting

Harvest Management Strategy

An update on the status of the HMS was provided. Signatures from most parties have been secured on the HMS Protocol, with the exception of Canada. Canada still hasn't responded with respect to which department would actually be responsible for signing. However, Canada has consistently indicated its support for the HMS and even provided its share of the funding to move the strategy forward.

The next step will be organizing the HMS Workshop in Inuvik. The Board discussed the timing of the workshop and decided that the most appropriate time would be mid-October. Deana was asked to check dates with Doug Urquhart, who will be contracted to facilitate the workshop and work through the HMS process. Deana will confirm dates with the Board members via e-mail. All signatories will be sent a letter advising of the status of the HMS and that the Workshop has been scheduled. The Working Group will need to be appointed, which will include a representative from each signatory organization. Each signatory will also be expected to appoint an alternate, as outlined in the HMS Protocol.

Action 07-15: *Deana to confirm HMS Workshop dates with facilitator and Board members.*

Action 07-16: *Deana to draft letter to all signatories advising of the status of the HMS and requesting appointments to the HMS Working Group.*

Action 07-17: *Deana to draft letter to all stakeholders advising them of the status of the HMS and inviting them to participate in the upcoming Workshop.*

Funding/Budget Update

An update on the status of the Board's funding was provided, in addition to an Interim Budget, which was subsequently approved by the Board. The Board's funding proposal to INAC was approved for \$55,056, which includes its commitment of core funding in the amount of \$13,950. This proposal-driven funding provides assistance with some administrative costs, public information projects, website development and maintenance fees, harm mitigation work in the ANWR area (including conference participation and travel), and some promotional materials for the Board.

GNWT committed to an increase to the Board's core funding. The total core funding will be \$75,000, in response to the Board's request. Government of Yukon has indicated their support for an increase to the core funding, but confirmation will need to come following the budget approval in the fall. Canada has responded by stating that they are considering the Board's request.

HMS funding has been received from Canada (Parks – Western Arctic Field Unit), and GNWT in the amount of \$30,000 each. GY has also committed to providing \$30,000 to the Board for HMS work.

Motion

It was moved that the Board accept the Interim Budget, as presented.

Moved by Ron Morrison
Seconded by Steve Buyck
Carried

Annual Report

The draft 2005-06 Annual Report was distributed to all members and they were requested to review the document and provide comments to Deana by August 15. This will be a special 20th Anniversary Edition. Deana is also working on last year's report and should have a draft of the content available at the next meeting.

Action 07-18: *Board members to review draft 2005-06 Annual Report and respond to Deana with any comments by August 15.*

Hart River Herd Recommendations

The Board received a response from the Yukon Minister of Environment, dated June 7, 2007, which attempts to clarify his earlier correspondence regarding the Hart River Herd recommendations that were submitted jointly by the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board and the PCMB. In his June 7 letter, he is requesting the Board review his suggested approach and respond. Deana was asked to discuss this with the FWMB to determine a potential joint response from the Boards. This issue will be discussed further at the next Board meeting.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

The Board set the next meeting date for September 22-24, 2007, in Whitehorse. The subsequent meeting will be held in Old Crow on December 3-5, 2007.

The Board discussed the option of holding a future meeting on the land as a retreat for the Board members. Unfortunately, this wasn't able to happen as anticipated this summer, but the Board reconfirmed that it is something that would be beneficial to pursue at the next appropriate opportunity.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.