

Porcupine Caribou Management Board Minutes of Meeting

February 10, 2015
Inuvik, NWT

In attendance

Members/Staff

Joe Tetlich, Chair
Billy Storr, Inuvialuit Game Council
Steven Buyck, Nacho Ny'ak Dun
Marsha Branigan, Government of the Northwest Territories
Jamie McLelland, Government of Yukon
David Frost, Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation
Wilbert Firth, Gwich'in Tribal Council
Ian McDonald, Government of Canada (Alternate)
Stephen Charlie, Government of the Northwest Territories (Alternate)
Torrie Hunter, Environment Yukon (Alternate)

Deana Lemke, Executive Director
Matthias Lemke, Assistant

Presenters

Mike Sutor, Regional Biologist, Government of Yukon
Kelly Milner, Communication Consultant

Regret

Art Christiansen, Trondek Hwechin

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Joe Tetlich opened the meeting with a prayer at 9:20 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

Motion to accept agenda
Moved by Torrie Hunter
Seconded Stephen Buyck
Carried

Minutes/Action Items

Minutes of the December 5 and 6, 2014 meeting were distributed and reviewed.

Motion to accept Minutes of the December 5 and 6, 2014 meeting as distributed

Moved by Billy Storr

Seconded by Wilbert Firth

Carried

Chair's Update

Joe Tetlich stated that there were no significant updates to report on since the last meeting. There are still no caribou on NWT side of the border to speak of, while about six or seven were harvested near Engineer Creek.

United States President Obama's suggestion to Congress to designate the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness is good news for the PCH. The only other time that the ANWR was close to being protected in this manner was in 1995.

Administrative and Financial Report

Financial update

Deana Lemke distributed and reviewed the current financial variance report. The archiving and digitizing historical PCMB photos project, which was one of the items for which the budget was recently reallocated, was completed by Dorothy Cooley over the holidays.

Herd Update

Government of Yukon

Mike Sutor explained that no field work has been done since December 2014. They are now preparing for telemetry work in the spring. The Alaskans will be doing all of the collaring work in March because the herd is in their area.

There was one more information request to YESAB regarding the BBC project, *The Great Race — Caribou*, seeking more information and clarification. BBC clarified they would not be using drones.

David Frost related that community members had a lot of questions about the project and supported BBC when a community meeting was held in Old Crow.

Northwest Territories

Marsha stated that nothing new has happened since December 2014. She noted that the Dempster regulations have been rescinded on the NWT side.

HMP update

With the 5th Annual Harvest Meeting starting the next day, the Board discussed preparing for the five-year HMP Implementation Plan review. There are still challenges with milestones and harvest information from communities. If the herd ever gets into the red zone, communication could be challenging, so this needs to be improved beforehand. Community members should realize that the harvest information they provide will help them in the long run. The Board will focus on assisting parties to get that message out to the communities, and to prepare for what-if scenarios.

Marsha Branigan felt that the first portion of the Implementation Plan needs to be adjusted. Some items have been complete since year 1 and should be updated. The Board should also decide what to recommend to the Parties.

Joe Tetlich pointed out that since some of the parties' leaders who signed on to the agreement are no longer around, Board members also need to go back to their leadership and explain the process and responsibilities.

Each Board member should think about what has worked and what hasn't. The Board can then get feedback from the Parties on points regarding HMP objectives and commitments that are seen as challenges.

Communication Strategy – Kelly Milner

Kelly Milner presented copies of a series of new posters designed to promote harvest data reporting. The posters can be modified with logos of the PCMA Parties in each community user group.

Kelly also provided sample copies of a new caribou meat chart, a "Full of Bull" poster to promote bull focused harvesting, and several one-page communication tools with graphics and information about herd population, size and trend, and average body condition.

Work is proceeding on the proposed puppet video about Porcupine Caribou. A 30-second clip will be prepared for review and approval by May 2015.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next PCMB meeting will be held on the long weekend in May during Caribou Days in Old Crow. The meeting will focus on consideration of the HMP Implementation Plan five-year review.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm.