

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES: CONFERENCE CALL No. 28

MONDAY, 24 MARCH 1997

Participants:

Ben Kovic	Chairperson
Joannie Ikkidluak	Member
Gordon Koshinsky	Member
Meeka Mike	Member
David Igutsaq	Member
Harry Flaherty	Member
Malachi Arreak	Member
Jim Noble	Executive Director
Dan Pike	Director of Wildlife Management
Michael d'Eça	NWMB Legal Advisor
Evie Amagoalik	Interpreter

Not Available:

Kevin McCormick	Member (with cause)
David Aglukark	Member (with cause)

1. Call to Order

The Chairperson, Ben Kovic, convened the Conference Call at 11:00 a.m.

2. Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

3. Policy For Allocation of Groundfish in Zones I and II

Dan Pike reviewed the policy that he had drafted for *Allocation of Groundfish in Zones I and II*. He noted that groundfish management Divisions 0A and 0B extend right to the shore, and thus overlap the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA) which includes the first 12 miles offshore. All of Sub-Area 0 that is outside the NSA is in Zone I. NLCA Zones I and II are described in Article 15 of the Agreement: Zone I = Baffin Bay/Davis Strait; Zone II = Hudson Bay/Hudson Strait.

With respect to turbot, the Canadian quota for Sub-Area 0 for 1997 has been set at 5,500 MT, of which 1,500 MT is for NWMB allocation. The NWMB has full management authority within the 12-mile limit, but only management advisory authority for Zones I and II. Since turbot fishing (except for the Cumberland Sound winter fishery) is effectively confined beyond the 12-mile limit (outside the NSA), the responsibilities of the NWMB are to:

- Provide advice to DFO on the fishery (DFO is obliged to consult).
- Identify research requirements.
- Ensure adherence to principles of adjacency and dependence.
- Recommend to the Minister on allocations of assigned quotas.

Dan reviewed his proposed criteria for allocation of quotas and his proposed procedures for seeking and developing applications. He also discussed scheduling for these matters. He suggested that the NWMB advertise in Nunatsiaq News by early April of each year, to announce to the public what quotas are available and to declare the deadline for applications. Dan suggested that the interested enterprises will stabilize over time, and the process should become routine. The Board approved the policy as presented. **(Resolution 97-153)**

4. NWMB-Funded Projects and Contributions

4.A NWMB-Funded Research Project Proposals

4.A.1 Bowhead Whale Research Proposal: Canadian Circumpolar Institute

Dan Pike observed that the proposal has two objectives:

1. To search the written accounts of non-Inuit (traders, police officers, missionaries, medical officers, etc.) for references to bowhead whales. This information would be compiled to determine if there was any indication of population increase or decrease, changes in distribution, or changes in group size and composition.
2. To document the cultural and nutritional needs of Inuit for bowhead whales. This information would be obtained by reviewing published material and interviewing Inuit people knowledgeable about bowheads,

The proponents anticipate that the findings will be useful to counter arguments from international groups opposed to bowhead hunting in particular.

The Board concluded that the proposal, while intending to pursue different sources of information, entailed considerable overlap in terms of basic objectives with the Board's Inuit Bowhead Knowledge Study. Members were of the opinion that the Board should have opportunity to finish and digest the results of its own Study

before entertaining other similar projects. The Board decided not to approve funding for the proposal. **(Resolution 97-154)**

4.A.2 Snow Goose Project Proposal: Arviat HTA

Dan Pike reviewed his briefing note pertaining to this three-year funding request. The overall goal of the project is to determine the causes of observed habitat changes and to understand the effects of these changes on geese and other wildlife. The project would entail ground surveys (in conjunction with aerial surveys), study plots (fenced and unfenced), and banding.

Gordon Koshinsky asked whether another experimental harvest was planned in conjunction with this proposed project for 1997. Dan replied that such a harvest was indeed planned, but that this year it was being denoted as a subsistence harvest, deemed (by the proponents) not to require approval. Michael d'Eça suggested that the NWMB write to the Arviat HTA, suggesting that the HTA request the approval of the NWMB for the harvest, in order to provide some basis for CWS to issue a permit.

Some Members suggested that the Arviat HTA proposal was really a CWS project, written in a manner to access NWMB funds outside the Research Trust. The Board nevertheless agreed to fund the project for one year in the amount of \$12,000. **(Resolution 97-155)**

4.B NWMB-Funded Non-Research Project Proposals

4.B.1 Nunavut Sivuniksavut TFN Training Program: Request for Donation

Jim Noble reviewed his briefing note on this item. The request is for a donation to allow 13 students currently enrolled in the Training Program to travel to Europe in late March to campaign against the anti-trapping movement. Gordon Koshinsky noted the need for the Board to develop an education/training policy to cover such matters. The Board approved a donation for the students in the amount of \$5,000. **(Resolution 97-156)**

4.B.2 World Council of Whalers: Request for Support

Dan Pike advised that this newly formed group is seeking funding assistance (\$125,000) from DIAND, and would like a letter from NWMB in support of their request. The group aims to promote the interests of Inuit whaling in international fora. The Board agreed to support the Council with an appropriate letter to DIAND. **(Resolution 97-157)**

5. Contribution Agreement with DIAND for 1997/98

Jim Noble advised that DIAND is proposing a Contribution Agreement for 1997/98 with significant changes from previous years. The proposed changes would seem to have the effect of significantly eroding the nature and independence of the NWMB. Numerous details of the proposed wording would suggest that this is a generalized “off the shelf” format, without recognition of NWMB’s particular status in law. Michael d’Eça suggested that the Board develop and forward to DIAND a counter-proposal Agreement, based on the previous Agreement but incorporating those DIAND concerns which were reasonable (and legal). The Board agreed with this course of action. It was also agreed to inform NTI of the situation.

6. Adjournment

The Conference Call adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Minutes Approved by: _____
Chairperson **Date**

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

RESOLUTIONS: CONFERENCE CALL No. 28

24 March 1997

Resolution 97- 153

Resolved that the NWMB accept the *Policy for Groundfish Allocation in Zones I and II* as presented.

Moved by: Malachi Arreak Seconded by: Gordon Koshinsky
Carried Abstained: Harry Flaherty Date: 24 March 1997

Resolution 97- 154

Resolved that the request from the Canadian Circumpolar Institute (Dr. Milton Freeman and Dr. Marc Stevenson) for research funding assistance not be approved at the present time.

Moved by: Harry Flaherty Seconded by: David Igutsaq
Carried Date: 24 March 1997

Resolution 97- 155

Resolved that the NWMB approve the Arviat HTA request for funding to carry out a research program on snowgeese in the Western Hudson Bay area, in the amount of \$12,000 for the 1997/98 season.

Moved by: Joannie Ikkidluak Seconded by: David Igutsaq
Carried Date: 24 March 1997

Resolution 97- 156

Resolved that the NWMB approve a donation of \$5,000 to the Nunavut Sivuniksavut TFN Training Program, to support the travel of students to Europe in March 1997 to campaign against the anti-trapping movement.

Moved by: Malachi Arreak Seconded by: Meeka Mike

Carried Date: 24 March 1997
Resolution 97- 157

Resolved that the NWMB write to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development supporting the request for funding assistance by the World Council of Whalers to DIAND.

Moved by: Gordon Koshinsky Seconded by: David Igutsaq
Carried Date: 24 March 1997