

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES: CONFERENCE CALL No. 59

TUESDAY, 31 JULY 2001

Participants:

Ben Kovic	Chairperson
Makabe Nartok	Member
Joan Scottie	Member
David Alagalak	Member
Okalik Eegeesiak	Member
Gordon Koshinsky	Member
Jim Noble	Executive Director
Gordon Tomlinson	Director of Finance and Administration
Michelle Wheatley	Director of Wildlife Management
Michael d'Eça	NWMB Legal Advisor

Not Available:

Moses Koonoo	Member
Kevin McCormick	Member
Meeka Mike	Member

1. Opening by Chairperson

Ben Kovic brought the Conference Call to order at 13:05 p.m. He thanked everyone for their participation.

2. Agenda for the Conference Call

The Board approved (**Resolution 2001- 065**) the Agenda for the Conference Call as put forward by the Executive Director.

3. Funding Proposal and Workplan for the Next Planning Period

Michael d'Eça reminded the Members that he had been instructed at the last NWMB Conference Call regarding minor revisions to be made to the draft of the submission as it stood at that time. Michael led the Board through the latest version of the workplan and funding components (Parts 3 and 4) of the submission, prepared by him on the basis of those instructions. Revisions made to Part 3 since the previous draft have focussed on:

- Blending the Conservation-Education initiative into Communications;

- Expanding the section on the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ) initiative, incorporating some anticipated administrative costs. This section was developed in particularly close consultation with Okalik Eegeesiak;
- Eliminating the call for certain additional administrative staff; and
- Bringing forward and expanding the material pertaining to honouraria.

With respect to the IQ initiative, Gordon Koshinsky urged that provision for validation be stressed as a key component of the proposal to develop this NWMB capability. Okalik had some further suggestions for rendering the section less paternalistic. She also pointed out that the proposed IQ Co-ordinator should be assigned specific responsibility for developing IQ evaluation techniques.

Gordon Koshinsky observed that the Nunavut Marine Council had only peripheral treatment in the current draft of the workplan. He predicted that this would not be well received by The Parties. He noted that the NWMB was seeking support in the workplan and budget to substantially increase its profile with respect to broad-scale environmental concerns, and suggested that the NMC be identified as the NWMB's operational end-point for these kinds of initiatives. This could logically be extended to seeking support for operation of the NMC as an entity.

Gordon Tomlinson led a discussion of key considerations in the current version of Part 4, the Detailed Funding Proposal.

The Board decided (**Resolution 2001- 066**) to approve the current version of the Funding Proposal and Workplan as written, subject to additional modifications as discussed. Gordon Koshinsky noted that he had submitted a large number of mainly-editorial comments to Michael some time ago, which had not yet been taken into account. The Board also decided, as part of its Resolution, to authorize the Chairperson and the Executive Director to vet the document prior to its submission, and re-affirmed the target submission date of August 10.

Gordon requested, and Members agreed, that he be replaced by David Alagalak at the presentation session scheduled for Arviat on September 14.

4. Proposed Change to Exploratory Shrimp Fishing Zone within SFA2

Michelle Wheatley advised that DFO is proposing to change the location of the exploratory fishing zone in Shrimp Fishing Area 2, from that part of SFA2 north of 63° N latitude to that part of SFA2 east of 63° W longitude. Very limited success has been achieved in this exploratory fishery to date, and operators have been reluctant to go as far north as is required to stay within the existing demarcation. The Nunavut Fisheries Working Group favours the change, with two conditions:

- That the exploratory designation be maintained for this fishery until the standing stock and productivity of the shrimp are better understood; and
- That fishers keep separate records of catches from this exploratory fishery.

The matter pertains to Zone I as set out in the NLCA, and DFO is obliged to seek the advice of the NWMB. One effect of the change would be to decrease the amount of inshore water included in the fishery and subject to direct NWMB jurisdiction.

The Board decided (**Resolution 2001- 067**) to recommend that DFO make the proposed change to the boundaries of the area designated for experimental shrimp fishing in SFA2, subject to the conditions put forward by the Nunavut Fisheries Working Group.

5. Request for Eider Down Quota at Sanikiluaq

Michelle Wheatley advised that the Sanikiluaq Co-op has requested a 500-pound annual eider down quota for the next three years. There has been a moratorium on the harvest of eider down at Sanikiluaq. The local HTO supports the proposal, and CWS has informally indicated concurrence. Numerous conditions would need to pertain to the harvesting operations.

The Board decided (**Resolution 2001- 068**) to approve the request from the Sanikiluaq Co-op to harvest eider down from the local area this year, subject to:

- Formal concurrence from the Canadian Wildlife Service; and
- Stringent conditions on harvesting as outlined in the harvesting plan being followed.

6. Licence to Fish NAFO Sub-Area 0, Division 0B

Jim Noble suggested that since DFO appears ready to grant a groundfish licence to Nunavut fishing interests in respect to NAFO Division 0B, it might be prudent to request a licence for Division 0A as well. Such a licence would be issued to the NWMB, for dispersal according to criteria developed by the Board.

Michael d'Eça observed that putting forward such a request might have implications for the ongoing litigation regarding turbot allocations. He suggested that NTI be consulted, to ensure that the litigation exercise is not compromised.

The Board decided (**Resolution 2001- 069**) to approach DFO to grant a groundfish licence in respect to NAFO Sub-Area 0, Division 0A, this licence to be granted to the NWMB on behalf of Nunavut fishing interests, and with this initiative subject to confirmation that NTI is in agreement.

7. Beluga Quota at Pangnirtung

Michelle Wheatley advised that Pangnirtung hunters are technically in excess of their 2001 beluga quota. They have already harvested 38 animals on a quota of 35 that was to move to 41 pending finalization of beluga hunting rules by the HTO and approval of those rules by the NWMB. The HTO appears very close to

completing these hunting rules, and approval of them by the NWMB will be a crucial matter. Michelle asked for direction on how to proceed.

The Board decided (without formal Resolution) to authorize NWMB staff (culminating in the Chairperson and Executive Director) to vet and approve (or not) the Pangnirtung beluga hunting rules upon receipt from the HTO.

8. Adjournment

Ben Kovic closed the Conference Call at 16:20 p.m.

Minutes Approved by: _____
Chairperson Date

RESOLUTIONS: CONFERENCE CALL 59

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Resolution 2001- 065: Resolved that the NWMB adopt the agenda for Conference Call No. 59, as presented.

Moved by David Alagalak
Carried

Seconded by Gordon Koshinsky
Date: 31 July 2001

Resolution 2001- 066: Resolved that the NWMB approve the current version of the Funding Proposal and Workplan as written, subject to additional modifications as discussed, and further:

- to authorize the Chairperson and the Executive Director to vet the document prior to its submission, and
- to re-affirm the target submission date of August 10.

Moved by David Alagalak
Carried

Seconded by Makabe Nartok
Date: 31 July 2001

Resolution 2001- 067: Resolved that the NWMB recommend that DFO change the location of the exploratory fishing zone in Shrimp Fishing Area 2, from that part of SFA2 north of 63° N latitude to that part of SFA2 east of 63° W longitude, subject to the following conditions:

- That the exploratory designation be maintained for this fishery until the standing stock and productivity of the shrimp are better understood; and
- That fishers keep separate records of catches from this exploratory fishery.

Moved by Okalik Eegeesiak
Carried

Seconded by Gordon Koshinsky
Date: 31 July 2001

Resolution 2001- 068: Resolved that the NWMB to approve the request from the Sanikiluaq Co-op for a commercial harvest of eider down the local area this year, subject to:

Stringent conditions on harvesting; and

Formal concurrence from the Canadian Wildlife Service.

Moved by Makabe Nartok

Seconded by Joan Scottie

Carried

Date: 31 July 2001

Resolution 2001- 069: Resolved that the NWMB approach DFO to grant a groundfish licence in respect to NAFO Sub-Area 0, Division 0A, this licence to be granted to the NWMB on behalf of Nunavut fishing interests, and with this initiative subject to confirmation that NTI is in agreement.

Moved by Joan Scottie

Seconded by Gordon Koshinsky

Carried

Date: 31 July 2001
