

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES: CONFERENCE CALL No. 72

Tuesday, 09 September, 2003

Members and Staff Participating

Ben Kovic	Chairperson
Robert Moshenko	Member
Kevin McCormick	Member
Nick Amautinuak	Member
Joannie Ikkidluak	Member
Jim Noble	Executive Director
Michelle Wheatley	Director of Wildlife Management
Michael d'Eça	NWMB Legal Advisor
Mary Nashook	Interpreter

Not Available

Meeka Mike	Member
Harry Flaherty	Member
Paul Pemik	Member
David Alagalak	Member (not yet sworn in)

Other Participants

Mitch Taylor	Dept. of Sustainable Development
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Tuesday, 09 September, 2003

1. Opening by Chairperson

The chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:45 am.

2. Review / Approval of Agenda

The members approved (**Resolution 2003-049**) the agenda with the addition of one

item:

- Request for additional quota in Division 0A from Baffin Fisheries Coalition

3. Polar Bear Quotas 2003

Mitch Taylor, Polar Bear Biologist reviewed the briefing note with the Board members. Mitch noted that all but four communities are getting their full quota. The following are the Department's recommendations:

Chesterfield Inlet decrease from 7 to 0
Igloolik decrease from 9 to 4
Kugaaruk decrease from 15 to 6
Taloyoak decrease from 15 to 9

All reductions are due to the over-harvest of females, but are subject to adjustments due to tags from other communities. Kugaaruk and Taloyoak may not need to be reduced due to new population estimates (1500 vs. 900) for the Gulf of Boothia (GB) population. Michael d'Eça noted that the MOUs are not binding on the NWMB and are only a recommendation; therefore the NWMB could vary this decision. Mitch also recommended that the moratorium for M'Clintock Channel be continued until the new MOU is established. Kevin McCormick recommended that the new estimates be used for determining quotas for the Gulf of Boothia. The Board decided (**Resolution 2003-050**) on the following:

- To continue the MC moratorium
- To reduce Chesterfield Inlet quota from 7 to 0
- To reduce Igloolik quota from 9 to 4
- Kugaaruk quota to remain at 15 due to current GB population estimate
- Taloyoak quota to remain at 15 due to current GB population estimate

4. MX / 22 Muskox Season Change Request Gjoa Haven

Michelle Wheatley reviewed the briefing note with the Members. This was a request from the Gjoa Haven HTA to modify the muskox sport hunting season for non-resident alien hunters in MX/22 to 15 August through 15 April from the current season of 01 October to 31 March. After considerable discussion, the Board decided (**Resolution 2003-051**) to not make any changes at present and to request DSD to the review information and consult with the communities on this issue.

5. Bowhead Hunt 2004

Jim Noble reviewed the briefing note with the members. Jim noted that DFO is concerned that if there is to be another bowhead hunt for the summer of 2004, that planning begins as early as possible. Previous hunt committees have recommended that communities start planning the hunt 6-12 months prior to the hunt to ensure that all arrangements are made. It was also noted that the current equipment requires

replacement and this will take considerable time to arrange.

Robert Moshenko suggested that the Board should approach DFO for an updated population status before the Board makes any decision, this would include any recent research or new information. Ben Kovic suggested a letter be sent to NTI asking about possible purchase of new equipment prior to the hunting season. It was decided that the Regional Wildlife Organizations would be approached for expressions of interest in a bowhead hunt for the coming season.

6. Request for Experimental Fisheries Licenses (Jencor, Kabva)

Michelle Wheatley reviewed the two briefing notes with the Board members. Jencor Fisheries Ltd is requesting an experimental licence for 450 MT of snow crab in Subarea 0. Michelle noted that the Board has previously approved experimental snow crab requests. DFO has noted a condition that only males over 95mm should be harvested. The Board decided (**Resolution 2003-052**) to approve the Jencor application for 450 MT and noted that this could be applied within the scope of the previous experimental snow crab quota.

Michelle continued with a review of the Kabva Marine Ltd request for experimental quotas for halibut, turbot, scallops, shrimp, Atlantic cod and crab in Frobisher Bay and Davis Strait within the NSA. After reviewing various concerns with the species requested, the Board decided (**Resolution 2003-053**) to approve only the one (1) MT of crab for Kabva Marine Ltd.

7. NWRT Funding Policy Revision

Michelle Wheatley reviewed the briefing note with members, noting that this followed on from a request that was made by members at the NWMB Special Meeting in April 2003. Members had suggested that researchers must obtain letters of community support prior to proposals being submitted. Michelle noted that this can be very difficult for researchers and offered three alternative measures. The Board decided (**Resolution 2003-054**) to change the NWRT Policy as follows:

- That the policy be changed to require researchers to at least have made contact with the HTOs/RWOs prior to submitting a proposal, with projects that submit letters of support receiving higher scores in the evaluation.

8. Final Decision on Non-Quota Limitations (NQL's) for Wildlife Act

Michael d'Eça reviewed his September 9th draft letter to the Minister of DSD regarding the Board's views on the final requirements for approval of NQL's. Michael reviewed the issues of concern outlined in the letter and provided an Appendix of Resolutions to approve the outstanding NQL's was provided for Board approval. The Board decided (**Resolution 2003-055 thru 2003-059**) to approve the outstanding NQL's. (**Note to file: Resolutions originally numbered 2003-047 thru 2003-051 in error**)

Carried

Date: September 9, 2003

Resolution 2003-051: Resolved that the NWMB not make any changes to the muskox sport hunting season in Zone MX/22 as per Gjoa Haven HTA's request until DSD has reviewed the information and consulted with the communities.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick Seconded by: Joannie Ikkidluak

Carried Date: September 9, 2003

Resolution 2003-052: Resolved that the NWMB approve a quota of 450MT of crab for Jencor Fisheries Ltd to conduct an exploratory fishery in Subarea 0 for the 2003 season.

Moved by: Robert Moshenko Seconded by: Nick Amautinuak

Carried Date: September 9, 2003

Resolution 2003-053: Resolved that the NWMB approve a quota of one (1) MT of crab for Frobisher Bay and the NSA for Kabva Marine Ltd. for the 2003 fishing season.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick Seconded by: Robert Moshenko

Carried Date: September 9, 2003

Resolution 2003-054: Resolved that the NWMB amend the current Nunavut Wildlife Research Trust Funding Policy as follows:

- That the policy be changed to require researchers to at least have made contact with the HTOs/RWOs prior to submitting proposal, with project that submit letters of support receiving higher scores in the evaluation.

Moved by: Robert Moshenko Seconded by: Nick Amautinuak

Carried Date: September 9, 2003

Resolution 2003-055: Resolved that the NWMB, pursuant to section 5.6.48 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, approve subsection 20(1) of Bill 35, subject to the inclusion within Bill 35 of a definition of "qualified persons" that explicitly includes qaujimaniliit.

Moved by: Robert Moshenko Seconded by: Nick Amautinuak

Carried Date: September 9, 2003

Resolution 2003-056: Resolved that the NWMB, pursuant to section 5.6.48 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, approve section 46 of Bill 35, subject to:

- (i) the modification of the current wording of section 46 to include an explicit recognition that the Superintendent may cancel, suspend or reinstate a licence where it is necessary to implement an accepted decision of the NWMB; and
- (ii) the consequential modification of the current wording of section 51.

