

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES: CONFERENCE CALL No. 74

Tuesday, 21 October, 2003

Members and Staff Participating

Ben Kovic	Chairperson
Robert Moshenko	Member
Kevin McCormick	Member
Nick Amautinuar	Member
Joannie Ikkidluak	Member
Paul Pemik	Member
David Alagalak	Member
Jim Noble	Executive Director
Michelle WheatleyTues	Director of Wildlife Management
Evie Amagoalik	Interpreter

Not Available

Meeka Mike	Member
Harry Flaherty	Member

Other Participants

Karen Ditz	DFO Iqaluit
Margaret Treble	DFO Winnipeg

Tuesday, 21 October, 2003

1. Opening by Chairperson

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:33 am. Ben welcomed David Alagalak back to the Board and noted that David had been sworn in the day before.

2. Review / Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved (**Resolution 2003-065**) with the addition of one item

under other business:

- Review of Section 111 of the Nunavut Wildlife Act

3. Greenland Halibut (Turbot) Integrated Fisheries Management Plan Approval

Karen Ditz, Fisheries Management Biologist with DFO noted that the Board has been provided with final draft of Greenland Halibut Management Plan. Karen noted that management measures were reviewed and changes were noted in a briefing note (dated August 15). Margaret Treble, DFO Winnipeg noted that the small fish protocol requirement to move in OB would be maintained, but not in OA. This decision has yet to be identified in the plan. Karen noted that they had removed limits on participation and added use of foreign long liners for 2003. The plan also refers to the decision to reflect the addition of 1B to OA/1A for management. Karen noted that DFO is requesting the Board to approve plan at this time. Michelle Wheatley noted that she had not completed a final review of the plan. The Board decided (**Resolution 2003-066**) to approve the plan in principle, subject to the Director of Wildlife's review.

4. Qikiqtarjuaq Request for 15% Increase of Narwhal Tags for 2003

Michelle Wheatley reviewed the briefing note with the members. Karen Ditz noted concern that the community is not meeting its requirements of collecting struck and lost information. Karen noted that it was highly unlikely that there would be such a significant change in struck and loss numbers from the previous season. When the request for increase was first received, we were told the community was over quota by four whales, the current information suggests they were not over quota. Karen suggested that the community was not treating this arrangement like a partnership and that communications certainly need to be improved. The members were concerned with the hunt in Qikiqtarjuaq and felt that more information was required and that it would be better not to approve any increase. The Board decided (**Resolution 2003-067**) to not approve the request from Qikiqtarjuaq to increase the narwhal tag quota by 15% for the 2003 season and have a letter written to the community explaining the concerns.

5. Final Decision on Request for 400MT Turbot Quota Increase Division OA

Jim Noble noted that there had been earlier discussions by phone on the request for an increase of the turbot quota in Division OA. The Board continues to have conservation concerns. However, information to-date suggests the recommended quota of 8000 MT (for OA + 1A) will not be exceeded. Based on this information, the Board considered a 10% increase, equal to 400 metric tonnes, which was seen as unlikely to exceed conservation limits. The Board decided (**Resolution 2003-068**) to recommend an increase of 10% or 400 MT of turbot to the current Canadian quota for Division OA of 4000 MT to the Minister of DFO.

6. Implementation Contract Negotiations

Jim Noble reviewed the briefing note with the Board members. Jim noted that at the previous conference call members had requested that staff review the Harvest Survey budget. This review was conducted and staff developed the concept of splitting the project into two contract periods, with the Baffin Region being completed over a three year period during the first contract period and Kivalliq and Kitikmeot together during the second contract period. The staff also developed various other cost cutting measures to reduce the total requested by approximately \$2,000,000. The Board decided to accept the revised Harvest Survey proposal and have the staff complete the revisions to the budgets, including development of Appendices based on the modified version of the Harvest Survey presented in the briefing note.

7. Appointment of Executive Committee Members

Jim Noble noted that the Board's Executive Committee is short two members, Kevin McCormick and Harry Flaherty being the only members remaining. The Board decided (**Resolution 2003-069**) to appoint Robert Moshenko and David Alagalak to the NWMB's Executive Committee.

8. Signing Authority for the NWMB and NWRT

Jim Noble noted that those currently having signing authority for the NWMB are Gordon Tomlinson, Jim Noble, Ben Kovic and Harry Flaherty. Jim recommended that the Director of Wildlife Management be given signing authority until a new Director of Finance and Administration is hired. The Board decided (**Resolution 2003-070**) to remove Gordon Tomlinson's signing authority and to appoint Michelle Wheatley as signing authority for the NWMB. Signing authorities for the NWRT Fund and Royal Bank Account were deferred to the December Board Meeting.

9. Appointment to DFO Minister's Advisory Committee on Oceans

Jim Noble advised that the Minister of DSD had asked if Ben Kovic would accept a nomination to the DFO Minister's Advisory Committee on Oceans. Ben Kovic advised that he would like to move from the Biodiversity Working Group with CWS to this Committee with DFO. Kevin McCormick suggested that the NWMB needs to look seriously at these memberships for their relevance to the NWMB. Kevin further suggested that the terms of reference for these committees be obtained for the Board's consideration at the December meeting.

10. NWMB Policy and Procedures

Jim Noble noted that the Board hired a contractor to develop a new set of policy and procedures for the NWMB. This contract has ended and any further development of these policies and procedures will require the direction of the Executive Committee. Jim noted that some members had received copies of the first three sections of the new manual for review. Jim was directed to get copies out to members who had not received the first draft and Kevin McCormick recommended that the Executive

Committee should review this material and report back to the Board at the December meeting.

11. Review of NWMB Job Descriptions/Staffing

Jim Noble noted that the Board received new funding on July 9th 2003 and that the Board will have to take some time to do some strategic planning. There is funding available for new positions which the Board needs to discuss and plan. The Board agreed to try and make time during the December session to do some strategic planning.

12. Director of Wildlife – Training Update

Michelle Wheatley provided a brief update on her training for the MBA program. Michelle noted that she had completed the course work requirements and that all that remained was the final thesis / project. For her final project, she will be completing a review of the requirements for establishment of TAH's and Balls and a strategy for implementing this new system of harvest management. Michelle advised that over the coming months she will be interviewing a wide range of individual and groups to come up with this information and then write up her thesis, which will be a report and recommendations to the NWMB.

13. New Office Space

Jim Noble provided a brief update on progress on the new office complex to be rented from the Amarok HTA. Jim noted that problems arose late in the summer and materials for construction of the new building were not ordered. The project is therefore on hold until the Board reviews this commitment and decides whether to proceed. The Board requested that any commitments to the new building be outlined at the next Board meeting. It was decided that a decision on whether to proceed with this project should be made as soon as possible.

14. Other Business

- **Section 111 Wildlife Act**

Jim Noble noted that he had received a call from staff at DSD regarding concerns with Section 111 of the new Nunavut Wildlife Act. This section relates to guiding for sport hunters. The Board made a decision in the NQL letter to the minister earlier, that one item was contrary to the Claim. The NLCA states that HTOs can decide not to have guides for hunters. The Board said it was contrary to claim and Minister agreed. Now there is concern that this may not be such a clear cut issue and the drafters are asking the NWMB to review this issue again. Kevin McCormick recommended that the Board respect the claim in this matter.

- **DFO / Makivik / NWMB / NTI Meeting – Kuujuuaq**

Moved by: Kevin McCormick Seconded by Nick Amautinuak
Carried Date: October 21, 2003

Resolution 2003-068: Resolved that the NWMB recommend an increase of 10% or 400 MT of turbot to the current Canadian quota for Division 0A of 4000 MT to the Minister of DFO.

Moved by Nick Amautinuak Seconded by Joannie Ikkidluak
Two/ No votes: Robert Moshenko and Kevin McCormick
Carried Date: October 21, 2003

Resolution 2003-069: Resolved that the NWMB appoint Robert Moshenko and David Alagalak to serve on the NWMB's Executive Committee.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick Seconded by: Nick Amautinuak
Carried Date: October 21, 2003

Resolution 2003-070: Resolved that the NWMB remove Gordon Tomlinson's name and add Michelle Wheatley's name as signing authority for the NWMB's Royal Bank Account.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick Seconded by: Robert Moshenko
Carried Date: October 21, 2003