



NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

HIGHLIGHTS OF MEETING #22

16 - 20 MAY 1999

IQALUKTUTIAK, (CAMBRIDGE BAY) NUNAVUT

1. This was the twenty-second regular meeting of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and the second meeting of the Board in the community of Ikaluktutiak (Cambridge Bay).



2. The Board's interim financial statement for the fiscal year ended 31 March indicates a slight and highly manageable over-expenditure of about 2% for the period. Arrangements are in place for the Board, along with the other institutions of public government (IPGs), to meet with DIAND officials in June, with the mutually-agreed purpose of developing a concrete plan to deliver a funding arrangement that will meet the needs of all the parties.

3. The Board undertook a comprehensive review of its accumulated task list and reconciled the various items by re-confirming some and eliminating others.



4. The Board was advised by the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) that the United States is proposing to remove the anatum subspecies of peregrine falcon from its endangered species listing, since the population targets that were set out in the recovery plan have now been met. This is a shared population of peregrines that nests mainly in northern Canada south of the tree line. The proposed de-listing has potential implications for Canada because it will likely be coupled with the permitting of falconers (in the USA) to once again harvest these birds.

5. The Board heard an update from the CWS on the challenge that was brought by a coalition of interests against the (then being proposed) regulation to increase the harvest of the mid-continent population of lesser snow geese and greater snow geese. The matter proceeded to Judicial Review. The proposed regulation withstood the challenge in its essential aspects and is being implemented.

6. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) provided a summary of research and related projects being pursued this year using the funds provided to the Department under the Implementation Contract. Fifteen projects with a total expenditure of about \$325,000 are underway or planned. The list is heavily oriented to the research priorities earlier established by the Board. Many of these projects are also being funded by the Nunavut Wildlife Research Trust.



7. The Board heard a presentation pertaining to Canada's Oceans Strategy and the possible implications and opportunities for the Nunavut Settlement Area. The new Ocean's Act provides basic authority for the establishment of integrated management plans; for the establishment and enforcement of guidelines, criteria and standards for marine ecosystem health; and for the establishment of marine protected areas. DFO is considering making dedicated resources available to the Nunavut IPGs to help further this initiative.
8. The Board has taken notice of the recommendation of the Northern Shrimp Advisory Committee that a new exploratory shrimp fishery be established in Shrimp Fishing Area 2, north of 63°. The Board has urged the Minister of DFO to allocate the bulk of this new opportunity to the adjacent fishers of Nunavut.
9. Pending the receipt of recommendations from the recently-struck Walrus Working Group, the Board considered and approved an interim policy for allocating walrus sport hunts. On the basis of this interim policy the Board approved walrus sport hunts involving five communities for 1999 as follows:
 - Igloodik: twelve walrus for the HTO;
 - Igloodik: two walrus for Igloodik Outdoor Adventures (with conditions);
 - Coral Harbour: fifteen walrus for the HTO;
 - Cape Dorset: five walrus for the HTO;
 - Hall Beach: three walrus for the HTO;
 - Salluit (in Area of Equal Use and Occupancy): four walrus for W. Keatainak.
10.  The Board reviewed the hunting rules and by-laws that were drafted and submitted by six communities in their efforts to demonstrate that they qualify to participate in the new management system for narwhal. Under the new system, "qualification" is based on a community having in place systems for administering the narwhal hunt through the use of tags; for controlling narwhal hunting practices through appropriate rules; and for reporting all narwhal struck, lost and landed. The Board determined that, with a few minor adjustments yet to be made, the narwhal hunting rules and hunt-administration practices proposed and submitted by Pond Inlet, Broughton Island, Repulse Bay, and Arctic Bay were adequate for the required purposes. On this basis the Board decided to proceed with implementation of the new narwhal management system for these four communities, including the removal of quota restrictions, all this on a three-year trial basis as previously set out. The Board determined that the materials submitted by Hall Beach and Igloodik, although demonstrating a good first effort, required further development. The Board noted that although narwhal quotas are currently in place for these two communities, these quotas are not ordinarily very constraining because they are seldom approached by the actual harvests.
11. The Board considered nine applications received in respect to the 1500 metric tonnes of turbot currently available to the Board for allocation in NAFO Division 0B in 1999. On the basis of its established policy and criteria, and recognizing that the Pangnirtung winter fishery has already harvested 30 MT, the Board allocated as follows:
 - 720 metric tonnes to Cumberland Sound Fisheries
 - 320 metric tonnes to Nattivak HTA
 - 280 metric tonnes to Qikiqtaaluk Corporation
 - 40 metric tonnes to Clyde River HTO
 - 40 metric tonnes to Kabva Marine
 - 40 metric tonnes to Pond Inlet (Mittimatalik) HTO
 - 30 metric tonnes to Aqviq Marine Limited



12. The Board considered five applications to participate in the Exploratory Fishery that will be continuing in Division 0A in 1999. Using the same policy and criteria as for the 0B fishery, the Board allocated as follows:
- 28 fishing days to Cumberland Sound Fisheries
 - 17 fishing days to Nattivak HTA
 - 6 fishing days to Clyde River HTO
 - 6 fishing days to Pond Inlet (Mittimatalik) HTO

13. The Board considered five applications to participate in the fishery for striped pink shrimp in the Nunavut Settlement Area in 1999. The Board has 500 metric tonnes available for allocation. On the basis of its established policy and criteria in respect to this matter, the Board allocated as follows:
- 150 metric tonnes to Cumberland Sound Fisheries
 - 150 metric tonnes to Qikiqtaaluk Corporation / Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board
 - 50 metric tonnes to Pond Inlet (Mittimatalik) HTO
 - 50 metric tonnes to Nunavut Imaq Incorporated



14. The Board was briefed on the current process of granting and administering experimental fishing licences for the purpose of demonstrating (or not) the feasibility and viability of new (primarily charr) fisheries. The Board decided that the system needed to be revamped in order to comply with the NLCA, while at the same time recognizing the need for administrative efficiency.
15. The Board was advised that the new Department of Sustainable Development (DSD) is working to develop a scenario, for consideration by DFO, for transferring some available southern Atlantic inshore groundfish licences to Nunavut, thus permitting Nunavut fishers access to southern stocks.
16. The Board heard workload projections for the Harvest Study to the effect that the analysis and reporting phases will almost certainly require more than one year to complete after the data-acquisition phase is finished. The Board agreed to re-profile the Harvest Study budget through an additional year (2002/03), all this within the monetary scope of the overall Study budget as earlier approved.
17. The Board reviewed the briefing material at hand stemming from a consultant's report accepted earlier on the matter of establishing qualifications for big game hunting guides. The Board decided to establish a Working Group to prepare detailed recommendations with respect to development and administration of a process whereby the NWMB would in fact set mandatory qualifications.
18. The Board considered and approved a revised policy for allocating and administering funding to agencies flowing from the Nunavut Wildlife Research Trust. The revised policy is expected to provide better guidance to agencies and should improve the capacity of the NWMB to evaluate proposals and administer the program, including in particular with respect to multi-year projects.
19. The Board considered and approved a revised policy for allocating and administering funds made available by the Board through the NWMB Study Fund. The revised policy is expected to provide better guidance to proponents and should improve the capacity of the NWMB to evaluate proposals, with particular provisions for assisting proponents in developing their submissions.
20. The Board considered and approved a revised policy for establishing research priorities. Research priorities are key to the development and evaluation of proposals to the Board for NWRT and NWMB Study funding. Under the policy, research priorities will

be established every two years, with formal input from RWOs, HTOs, government agencies, other organizations, and the NWMB itself.

21. The Board re-visited its commitment to and participation in the screening of applications for scientific research licences and for land- and/or water-use permits. The Board re-affirmed its earlier decision to exercise its discretionary role in these matters, but concluded that it was imperative that this role be better streamlined. Staff were instructed to continue working with the other pertinent agencies, notably the Nunavut Research Institute and the Nunavut Impact Review Board, to develop a system that better economized the NWMB input.



22. The Board received a summary briefing on the research and study funding allocations made by the Board at its last regular meeting and previously, for the year 1999-2000 and beyond. Commitments that are on record are as follows:

- From the Nunavut Wildlife Research Trust, in respect to 20 projects:
 - New funding of \$764,370, along with carry-forwards of \$111,830 plus returned funds of \$66,200, for a total NWRT commitment of \$942,400 for the current year 1999-2000.
 - Committed funding of \$502,700 for ongoing projects in 2000/01.
 - Committed funding of \$103,800 for ongoing projects in 2001/02.
- From the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board Study Fund, in respect to 13 projects: New funding of \$289,240, along with carry-forwards of \$40,000, for a total commitment of \$329,240 for the year 1999-2000 only.

23. The Board agreed to provide support-in-kind up to an amount of \$7,500 to the World Wildlife Fund to assist with development of a conservation plan for the Eastern Arctic population of bowhead whales. The Board also agreed to provide \$4,500 towards the travel costs of HTO representatives to attend a workshop to assist DFO in its efforts to develop a stock status report on the Hudson Bay - Foxe Basin population of bowhead whales.



24. The Board heard a presentation from Isaac Klengenber, Chairperson of the Kitikmeot Hunters and Trappers Association (RWO). Mr. Klengenber noted that the RWO recently changed its by-laws regarding membership so as to include only one rather than two members from each HTO. This is expected to dramatically reduce the cost of meetings, which have been a major drain on the organization's finances. Mr. Klengenber reported that all of the HTOs in the Region are operating smoothly, but a potentially serious financial deficit has been identified on the part of the Ikaluktutiak HTO.

25. With the imminent departure of one of the members, the Board decided to reconstitute its Executive Committee. A new Executive Committee was elected by secret ballot.

26. The Board scheduled its next (23rd) regular meeting for the week of August 23rd in Repulse Bay.

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