

Kivalliq Musk ox Management Plan

Action Plan

February 2010



Prepared by

Kivalliq Wildlife Board

In collaboration with

GN Department of Environment / NTI Wildlife

ACTION PLANS

The following action plans are a component of the management plan. They list essential tasks that the KWB recommends for the management of Musk ox. The action plans support and emphasizes programs and projects that have proven to be of value in better Musk ox management and recommends what needs to be done to achieve the goals of the management plan.

Action plans assign responsibilities for conducting programs and projects and cover four main categories:

1. Aerial Survey of Kivalliq Musk ox Population
2. Gathering of Hunter Data Sheets and Other relevant IQ
3. NWMB Decision on Regulation Changes
4. Community Consultation

Action plans are dynamic and subject to modification to reflect changing circumstances. They are reviewed and updated annually.

1. Aerial Survey of Kivalliq Musk ox Population

Background:

The Rankin Inlet HTO applied and was approved for funding through the NWMB in fiscal year 09/10 (\$30k) to conduct an aerial survey in conjunction with GN DOE, unfortunately the GN did not secure funding for their portion of the project until fiscal year 10/11, work to take place in summer 2010. An aerial survey of the Kivalliq Musk ox population is crucial in determining an up to date count and location of the herd and establish the expansion of its range.

Problem Statement:

GN Doe has committed approximately \$80k towards the upcoming aerial survey for 2010 however it is hoped that the Rankin HTO's portion of the project funding can be carried forward into the next fiscal year to assist with the project.

Objectives:

Get commitment from NWMB that would allow the Rankin Inlet HTO to carry over their project funding into the 10/11 fiscal year to assist with the proposed aerial survey of the Kivalliq Musk ox.

Methods:

1. Rankin Inlet HTO to draft a letter to NWMB requesting carries over of project funding into fiscal year 10/11.
2. GN DOE send supporting letter to be attached with Rankin Inlet HTO letter to NWMB.

Schedule:

February 2010 – Letter from Rankin Inlet HTO to NWMB

February 2010 – Letter from GN DOE to NWMB supporting Rankin HTO

Evaluation:

Fall 2010 KWB Meeting

Lead Role:

Rankin Inlet HTO & GN DOE

2. Gathering of Hunter Data Sheets and Other relevant IQ

Background:

There is limited scientific information and even less IQ information available on the Kivalliq Musk ox population, it is imperative that all data be collected and analyzed in order to ensure proper decision making. In addition to the hunter information that the GN has collected over the years, the HTOs have now been collecting their own information in regards to harvest locations, herd sizes, health, as well as other pertinent information. There is also relevant data that can be collected from elders that has not yet been included in any literature.

Problem Statement:

In order to ensure proper and true management of the Kivalliq Musk ox population, all scientific and IQ data and knowledge must be reviewed and analyzed thoroughly prior to making decisions.

Objectives:

Compile the hunter data sheets from the local HTOs and determine locations where harvesters are sighting Musk ox, information to be compared to scientific data. Elders to be interviewed; their knowledge about Musk ox in the region to be documented.

Methods:

1. NIWS staff to assist KWB in gathering HTO hunter data sheets.
2. GN DOE / NTI Wildlife Staff to assist in analyzing information.

Schedule:

June 2010 – collect HTO hunter harvest sheets

July-August 2010 – conduct elder surveys

Evaluation:

KWB fall 2009 meeting

Lead Role:

KWB & HTOs

3. NWMB Decision on Regulation Changes

Background:

The co-management partners are responsible for the protection, conservation, management of the herd in a sustainable manner however the NWMB has an important role to play in the decision making process with regards to changes in the Wildlife Act Regulations. The KWB has requested and received support for permanent changes to the regulations which require a decision from the NWMB.

Problem Statement:

The NWMB must realize that the proposed management plan, action plans and changes to the Regulations are a culmination of years of relentless effort by the co-management partners to reach a consensus on an otherwise contentious issue.

Objectives:

The KWB has developed a Management Plan, Action Plan and compiled letters of support for their position in regards to improved management of the Kivalliq Musk ox population; the objective is to have the plan and requested changes approved by NWMB so that the plan can be implemented.

Methods:

1. NIWS, NTI and GN DOE to assist KWB in preparing Management Plan
2. NTI and GN DOE to provide letters of support
3. NIWS to assist KWB in preparing Plan and briefing note for NWMB meeting
4. KWB to attend NWMB April meeting

Schedule:

March 2010 – KWB to submit Management Plan, Action Plan to NWMB
March 2010 – KWB to submit briefing note and letter(s) to NWMB
March 2010 – NTI Wildlife to prepare support letter for Management Plan
March 2010 – GN DOE to prepare support letter for Management Plan

Evaluation:

KWB AGM – May 2010

Lead Role:

KWB / GN DOE / NTI Wildlife

4. Community Consultation

Background:

It is very important that communities are consulted throughout the process and are involved in research, gathering information and that their knowledge and wishes be listened to and more importantly, be included in the decision making process. Regular community visits are important, attending HTO or regional meetings are critical in

order to acquire valuable information and maintain a true relationship, this is the foundation for community consultation.

Problem Statement:

Consultation is too often viewed as one way street and input gathered from communities is not taken seriously and often not implemented.

Objectives:

The co-management partners have consulted the communities on an on-going basis to ensure that management of the Kivalliq Musk ox population is reflective of their views and their comments, concerns and input is included in the decision making process.

Methods:

1. GN DOE and NTI Wildlife to attend KWB and HTO meetings(whenever possible).
2. KWB to promote Management Plan to HTO Memberships once approved.

Schedule:

March 4-5, 2010 – KWB meeting, review of Plan and regional consultation

March 2010 to future – on-going consultation with co-management partners and communities on the status of the Kivalliq Musk ox population

Evaluation:

On-going

Lead Role:

KWB, GN DOE and NTI Wildlife

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