

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES: CONFERENCE CALL No. 57

WEDNESDAY, 16 May 2001

Participants on behalf of the NWMB:

Ben Kovic	Chairperson
David Alagalak	Member
Joan Scottie	Member
Kevin McCormick	Member
Gordon Koshinsky	Member
Makabe Nartok	Member
Moses Koonoo	Member
Meeka Mike	Member
Okalik Egeesiak	Member
Jim Noble	Executive Director
Michelle Wheatley	Director of Wildlife Management
Michael d'Eça	NWMB Legal Advisor

1. Opening by Chairperson

Ben Kovic opened the Conference Call at 1:00 p.m. Iqaluit time. Ben expressed the intention of trying to make the call as short as possible, with a two-hour time limit. He thanked all the Members for taking the time to participate.

2. Agenda for Conference Call

The Board approved (**Resolution 2001- 041**) the Agenda for the Conference Call as presented.

3. Pre-Hearing Consultation Summary: Community-Based Management

Michael d'Eça reviewed his draft paper titled "Pre-Hearing Consultation Summary of the NWMB Concerning Community-Based Management."

Attached to and forming part of the Consultation Summary is the NWMB Discussion Paper concerning Improvements to Community-Based Management. It is proposed in the Discussion Paper that the survival and expansion of community-based management (CBM) will depend upon the achievement of five main objectives:

- (a) Harvests must at all times remain within sustainable limits;
- (b) Reporting of struck and lost animals must be complete and accurate;
- (c) The number of struck and lost animals must be reduced;
- (d) Up-to-date population estimates, based upon both science and *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit*, must be assembled; and
- (e) The NWMB, DFO and NTI must more effectively contribute to the effort to make community-based management a success.

Michael suggested that the fundamental issue is what number of narwhal in each community participating in the CBM system would constitute a sustainable harvest.

Michelle Wheatley advised that at the recent meeting of the Scientific Working Group of the Canada-Greenland Joint Commission on Narwhal and Beluga in Greenland, it was noted that there may be more than one stock, perhaps even nine to fourteen stocks or aggregations of narwhal in Baffin Bay. It does not appear that there is much sharing of these animals, as originally thought, other than between Grise Fiord and Greenland. Greenland is planning surveys this coming fall, and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans is planning surveys for the summer of 2002 onward. The basic advice from the Scientific Working Group was that there are few concerns at present but that we should proceed carefully as some stocks may be over-harvested.

Kevin McCormick suggested that proper stock delineation must precede efforts to estimate the size of the stock.

Gordon Koshinsky suggested that it may not be the most appropriate or cost-effective to focus on population levels exclusively. Stock delineation and productivity may be more important factors, and the whole issue should be examined in the context of risk analysis.

There was discussion and agreement that the NWMB Chairperson should contact the communities participating in CBM, and stress the importance of reducing struck and lost rates.

Kevin McCormick stressed that the Board should not make blanket financial commitments without knowing the costs of such commitments.

The Board noted that there was some urgency to deal with the Broughton Island hunt closure, and accordingly decided that this portion of the overall review should be separated and dealt with independently. It was also decided to defer the pre-hearing report for further discussion at the next NWMB meeting, especially with reference to the Board's recommendations.

RESOLUTIONS: CONFERENCE CALL No. 57

Resolution 2001- 041: Resolved that the NWMB approve the agenda for Conference Call 57 as presented.

Moved by: David Alagalak Seconded by: Joan Scottie
Carried Date: 16 May 2001

Resolution 2001- 042: Resolved that the NWMB approve the Community-Based Management System for narwhal at Kugaaruk for a one-year period, with a limit of forty (40) narwhals, following the accepted Hunting Rules for Kugaaruk.

Moved by: Meeka Mike Seconded by: Kevin McCormick
Carried 1 abstention (David Alagalak) Date: 16 May 2001

Resolution 2001- 043: Resolved that the NWMB approve the Community-Based Management System for narwhal at Arctic Bay for a one-year period, with a limit of one hundred and fifty (150) narwhals, this on condition that the Arctic Bay HTO reinstate the item pertaining to conservation in their community hunting rules.

Moved by: Moses Koonoo Seconded by: Okalik Eegeesiak
Carried Date: 16 May 2001

Resolution 2001- 044: Resolved that the NWMB not approve the request for narwhal quota increases for the communities of Pangnirtung and Clyde River on the basis that there is insufficient scientific or IQ knowledge of the current stocks to warrant such action.

Moved by: David Alagalak Seconded by: Gordon Koshinsky
Carried 1 opposed (Meeka Mike) Date: 16 May 2001

Resolution 2001- 045: Resolved that the NWMB approve the request for a cod test fishery near the community of Igloodik, this on condition that the licence be issued to the Igloodik Hunters and Trappers Association.

Moved by: Gordon Koshinsky Seconded by: Joan Scottie
Carried Date: 16 May 2001

Resolution 2001- 046: Resolved that the NWMB approve the request for Arctic charr and Greenland cod test fisheries in the Cumberland Sound area, this on condition that the licence for this fishery be issued to the Pangnirtung Hunters and Trappers Association.

Moved by: David Alagalak Seconded by: Makabe Nartok
Carried Date: 16 May 2001