NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Minutes Conference Call No. 85

Monday, April 18, 2005; 10:30 a.m. (Eastern time)

Members and Staff Participating:

Joannie Ikkidluak Member
Nick Amautinuar Member
Paul Pemik Member
Abraham Kaunak Member
Robert Moshenko Member
Kevin McCormick Member

Johnny Peters Makivik Member

Joe Tigullaraq Chief Executive Officer
Jim Noble Chief Operating Officer

Evie Amagoalik Interpreter Michael d'Eça Legal Advisor

Not Available: Harry Flaherty A/Chairperson

DIAND Appointee Vacant

Advisors: Stas Olpinski Makivik

1. Discussion/Decision on Interim Chairperson for Conference Call

The COO advised members that A/Chairperson Harry Flaherty was not available for this meeting and an interim chairperson would have to be appointed. The Board decided (Resolution 2005-027) to appoint Nick Amautinuar as A/Chairperson for Conference Call No.85. Johnny Peters, Alternate Member for Makivik, replaced Harry Flaherty for the meeting.

2. Review/Approval of Agenda

The members decided (Resolution 2005-028) to approve the agenda as presented.

3. Nunavik Request for Beluga Harvest in Nunavut and Possible Future Bowhead Hunt for Northern Quebec

Johnny Peters reviewed the Makivik briefing note with the Members. This was a request from Nunavik hunters to hunt:

- Twenty-five (25) beluga from the Sanikiluaq hunting area (Nunavik Hunters)
- Fifteen (15) beluga from the Ottawa/Sleeper Island (Nunavik Hunters)
- Twenty-five (25) beluga from the West Hudson Bay stock various Kivalliq communities (Nunavut Hunters)

Johnny Peters noted that recent surveys indicated approximately 57,000 whales in the West Hudson Bay stock compared to only 3,100 in the Eastern Hudson Bay stock. Joannie Ikkidluak questioned why he had heard the figure 64,000 rather than 57,000. These figures were to be verified. Stas Olpinski noted that there was a further 7,000 whales counted in the Nelson River area and this might account for the addition numbers. It was noted that at the LUMAC meeting DFO staff had suggested that this additional harvest for Nunavik from the Western Hudson Bay stock would be sustainable. It was suggested that it would be good to have the revised stock status reports for the Western and Eastern Hudson Bay stocks before making decisions. It was further recommended that there would need to be letters of support from the key parties before proceeding. The Board decided to defer this item to the June meeting to allow time to gather more information. The issue of a possible bowhead hunt was also deferred to the June meeting.

4. Northern Coalition Request to Fish Shrimp inside the NSA

The COO reviewed the briefing note with Members. It was noted that the Board has the authority to transfer an additional 500 tonnes of striped shrimp from the 3,300 tonne annual quota in SFA2, 3&4, to the inshore near Resolution Island. It was further noted that the Northern Coalition was given 250 tonnes inshore in 2004. The Board decided (**Resolution 2005-029**) to approve the Northern Coalition for 250 tonnes for the 2005 fishing season and to review this allocation process for the future.

5. NWRT Minor Amendments to Approved Allocation: Project 4-05-2 (Charr Project Cambridge Bay) Clarification of Funding for Projects Requiring Further Information

The COO reviewed this issue with the Board. The staff's recommendation was to approve an addition of \$700.00 for NWRT Project 4-05-2 (Charr Project Cambridge Bay) after further clarification with the applicants. The Board decided (Resolution 2005-030) to approve an increase in NWRT Project 4-05-2 for 2005/06 fiscal year of \$700.00.

6. Species at Risk: Update

The COO provided a brief update on developments with regards to the Species at Risk Act. The Board has been advised that the Minister of Environment may make a decision in early May 2005 on several major species for Nunavut and the Board will have to respond to this decision.

7. Other Business

A. Gill Netting for OA Fishery

The COO reviewed the DFO briefing note with the Members. Recent problems with gill netting in the Division OA fishery have caused some major concerns with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. DFO is recommending that gillnetting no longer be permitted in OA for the following reasons:

- Gillnets catch non-target species, including marine mammals
- The risk of losing nets, which will continue to cause fish and marine mammal mortality, is high

Fish caught in gillnets are of lower value than fish caught by other means.

The Board decided to have staff write a letter to the Minister noting the Board's concern over this recommendation. It was also felt that other measures could be taken to control problems with the gillnet fishery. One recommendation was to close the gillnetting season earlier in the year to prevent problems with ice.

8. Meeting Adjourned

Minutes Approved by:

Chairperson

Date

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2005-027: RESOLVED that the NWMB appointed Nick Amautinuar as Interim Chairperson for Conference Call No. 85.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick Seconded by: Abraham Kaunak

Carried Date: 18 April 2005

Resolution 2005-028: RESOLVED that the NWMB approve the agenda with one addition to other business.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick Seconded by: Joannie Ikkidluak

Carried Date: 18 April 2005

Resolution 2005-029: RESOLVED that the NWMB approve a quota of 250 metric tonnes of Striped Shrimp for the Northern Coalition inside the NSA near Resolution Island for the 2005 fishing season.

Moved by: Joannie Ikkidluak Seconded by: Abraham Kaunak

Carried Date: 18 April 2005

Resolution 2005-030: RESOLVED that the NWMB approve an additional seven hundred dollars (\$700.00) for NWRT Project 4-05-2 for the 2005/06 fiscal year.

Moved by: Kevin McCormick Seconded by: Joannie Ikkidluak

Carried Date: 18 April 2005