

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Minutes Conference Call No. 96

Friday, April 7, 2006; 10:30 a.m. (Eastern Time)

Members and Staff Participating:

Joe Tigullaraq	Chairperson
Joannie Ikkidluak	Member
Harry Flaherty	Member
Makabe Nartok	Member
Paul Pemik	Member
Pitseolak Alainga	Member
Kevin McCormick	Member
Jim Noble	Chief Operating Officer
Joe Justus	Director of Wildlife Management
Erin Calder	Wildlife Biologist
Michael d'Eça	Legal Advisor
Evie Amagoalik	Interpreter

Not Available:

DFO Appointee	Vacant
Abraham Kaunak	Member

Other Participants:

Gabriel Nirlungayuk	NTI
Drikus Gissing	DOE, Nunavut
Mitch Taylor	DOE, Nunavut
Seeglook Akeeagok	DOE, Nunavut
Stefan Romberg	DFO, Iqaluit
Keith Pelley	DFO, Iqaluit
Andrejka Lokar	DFO, Iqaluit
Johnny Peters	Makivik
Willie Annanack	Makivik

1. Opening by A/Chairperson

The Chairperson convened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and welcomed members.

2. Review/Approval of Agenda

The members decided (**Resolution 2006-079**) to approve the agenda with minor adjustments - the addition of "Offshore Review" to Other Business, and moving agenda item 6 to follow item 3.

3. Makivik Request for Beluga Harvest – Sanikiluaq

The Wildlife Biologist reviewed the briefing note with Members, it was noted that new information received from DFO indicates that DFO will only support Makivik's request to harvest twenty-five beluga from the Sanikiluaq area if the harvest in Hudson Strait is held to a maximum of 135 whales. Johnny Peters advised that during the Lumac Committee meeting held in Sanikiluaq in February, meetings were held with the Sanikiluaq HTA and they had agreed to this harvest. Johnny noted that Item 5 in the briefing note was not accurate and Joannie confirmed that arrangements for compensation to Sanikiluaq had already been arranged. Joe Tigullaraq noted that the NWMB has still not received a letter from the Sanikiluaq HTA confirming this harvest. DFO staff advised that the harvest near Sanikiluaq would be acceptable if the Hudson Strait harvest stays within the 125-135 range. The Board decided (**Resolution 2006-080**) to approve the request of Makivik to harvest 25 beluga in the Sanikiluaq area, subject to Makivik following the DFO recommendation of ensuring that a maximum of 135 whales be harvested from the Hudson Strait area, that approval of the Sanikiluaq HTA be received, and that Sanikiluaq hunters be involved in the hunt.

4. NWMB Overdraft Protection at Royal Bank

The Chief Operating Officer advised Members that a resolution is required to enable the Board to apply for an overdraft at the Royal Bank of Canada. Staff are recommending that an overdraft of \$100,000.00 is required to carry the Board operations until the first monthly payment for 2006-2007 is received from DIAND. The Board decided (**Resolution 2006-081**) to approve an overdraft protection of \$100,000.00 at the Royal Bank of Canada until the end of the first quarter of fiscal year 2006-2007 (June 30th).

5. Polar Bear Credit Conversions and TAH Approval

The Director of Wildlife Management reviewed the briefing note with the Members. Makabe Nartok questioned whether the Board would have to establish a new TAH each year. The Director of Wildlife advised that the Board would not have to establish a new TAH each year unless new IQ or Scientific information indicates a change of status. Gabriel Nirlungayuk questioned how often changes would have to be made. The Director of Wildlife noted that the current TAHs were based on the most current IQ and Science information at the signing of the MOUs. Unless new information is received that changes this situation, the TAH

will remain the same. Gabriel noted that the intent of the MOU was to get away from the annual allocation of TAH. The Director of Wildlife agreed and suggested that his recommendations will allow the MOU to better work as it was planned. The NWMB Legal Advisor noted that it is the NWMB's job to set an initial TAH for a population, monitor the situation, make necessary changes as circumstances require, and make sure credits don't get used contrary to the principles of conservation. The Board decided (**Resolution 2006-0082**) to approve the following recommendation:

That the NWMB discontinues its current practice of annually re-establishing TAH for polar bear populations in Nunavut for one year periods.

NWMB will continue to annually review polar bear harvest data submitted by GN-DoE to ensure that cumulative TAH rates have not been exceeded by the application of accumulated credits into harvest tags as per the PB-MOU and whether or not there is any new scientific data or IQ to suggest that established TAH rates for specific polar bear populations need to be considered for modification.

NWMB would continue to make an annual decision to accept the GN-DoE request to issue a certain number of harvest tags per population for a harvest season where the cumulative TAH is not exceeded.

NWMB would continue to make an annual decision to reject the GN-DoE request to issue a certain number of harvest tags for the upcoming season in cases where the cumulative TAH for the population is exceeded or where there are not enough accumulated credits to support the conversion or new scientific data or IQ indicate that the established cumulative TAH for the population needs to be modified.

The current practice of notifying the GN-DoE Minister in writing of the NWMB annual review of the polar bear management system by letter would continue.

It was further decided (**Resolution 2006-083**) to accept a second resolution, recommending that the polar bear credit requests from Nunavut communities recommended by the Department of Environment be accepted and those request not recommended by the Department be denied.

6. Kingnait Fiord/Cumberland Sound Arctic Charr TAHs

Item deferred

7. Other Business

7.A Organizational and Performance Review of Nunavut's Offshore Fishery

The NWMB Legal Advisor provided a brief update on progress with the Performance Review of Nunavut's Offshore Fishing Industry. It was noted that the NWMB had written to all fishers advising that this review had been completed, that consultations were to follow and finally that the Fisheries Allocation Policy had to be revised. A six step agenda was presented to the members:

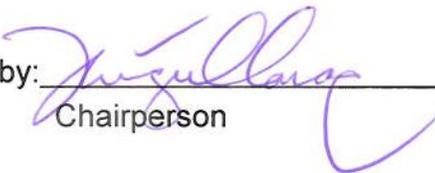
1. That the Offshore Review Report be sent out to all fishers with a request for comments by June 1st;
2. That a meeting be held in June with the co-management partners to discuss how to move forward;
3. That during the month of June, after the NWMB Regular Meeting No. 46, consultations are held with all fishers in a workshop;
4. That during the summer, each of the organizations do necessary follow-up work to ensure that all fishers, HTOs, management agencies, etc. are adequately prepared to administer, assist, and/or comply with the requirements of the new allocation policy;
5. That during September/October there is further consultation, if necessary, with the public and industry on the new draft allocation policy; and
6. That the new Fisheries Allocation Policy be finalized in plenty of time for applicants to properly prepare their applications for the 2007 season.

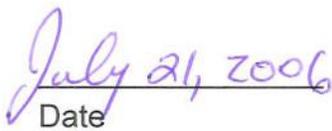
The Board decided (**Resolution 2006-084**) to move to an in camera session to make its final decision on several items.

The Board decided (**Resolution 2006-085**) to move out of the in camera session.

8. Meeting Adjourned

Minutes Approved by:


Chairperson


Date

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2006-079: Resolved that the NWMB approve the agenda with noted changes.

Moved by: Pitseolak Alainga
Carried

Seconded by: Harry Flaherty
Date: April 7, 2006

Resolution 2006-080: RESOLVED that the NWMB approve the request of Makivik to harvest 25 beluga from the Sanikiluaq area subject to Makivik following DFO's recommendation that a maximum of 135 belugas be harvested from the Hudson Strait area, that approval of the Sanikiluaq HTA be received, and that Sanikiluaq hunters be involved in the hunt.

Moved by: Harry Flaherty
Carried

Seconded by: Pitseolak Alainga
Date: April 7, 2006

Resolution 2006-081: RESOLVED that the NWMB approve an overdraft protection of \$100,000.00 at the Royal Bank of Canada until the end of the first quarter of fiscal year 2006-2007 (June 30th).

Moved by: Harry Flaherty
Carried

Seconded by: Joannie Ikkidluak
Date: April 7, 2006

Resolution 2006-082: RESOLVED that the NWMB, pursuant to section 5.6.16 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, affirm its October 6th 2004 and October 17th 2005 Total Allowable Harvest (TAH) decisions for polar bear populations within the Nunavut Settlement Area, but with the modification that the TAHs are no longer only for a specific 12-month period (for instance, from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006), and instead are cumulative annual TAHs. By "*cumulative annual TAHs*", the NWMB means that the number of bears lawfully permitted to be harvested between July 1st of one year and June 30th of the following year can never be more than the annual TAH number plus any credits accumulated from the under-harvest of bears in previous years or minus any over-harvest of bears in previous years - as set out in the "*flexible quota system*" of the 2004 *Polar Bear Management Memoranda of Understanding* (MOUs).

FURTHER RESOLVED that the NWMB continue to review – as circumstances require, and at least annually - polar bear harvest, research and other data submitted by the Government of Nunavut's Department of Environment, and other interested organizations or individuals:

- To ensure that no cumulative annual TAH will be exceeded by the proposed application of the "*flexible quota system*" in the MOUs; and
- To determine whether there is any new scientific data or Inuit Qaujimaqatuqangit that warrants, on conservation or other grounds in the NLCA:

- a review and potential modification of one or more polar bear cumulative annual TAHs; or
- a review and potential denial in that circumstance of the application of the flexible quota system in the MOUs.

Moved by: Pitseolak Alainga
Carried

Seconded by: Joannie Ikkidluak
Date: April 7, 2006

Resolution 2006-083: RESOLVED that the NWMB, having assured itself in relation to NLCA S.5.6.16 that, in the following 11 instances, no cumulative annual TAH will be exceeded by the proposed application of the “*flexible quota system*”, and being satisfied that the principals of conservation have been met, accept the following requests for conversion of accumulated polar bear credits into polar bear harvest tags:

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Qikiqtarjuaq | convert one male polar bear credit from the Baffin Bay population into one harvest tag in compensation for a defense kill. |
| Grise Fiord | convert two female polar bear credits from the Lancaster Sound population into two harvest tags in compensation for defense kills. |
| Grise Fiord | convert one female polar bear credit from the Norwegian Bay population into one harvest tag in compensation for a defense kill. |
| Resolute Bay | convert three female polar bear credits from the Lancaster Sound population into three harvest tags, one of which is in compensation for a defense kill. |
| Kugluktuk | convert four male and two female polar bear credits from the North Beaufort population into six harvest tags. |
| Gjoa Haven | convert 0.66 of a female polar bear credit from the Gulf of Boothia population into 0.66 of a harvest tag in compensation for a female over harvest under the flexible quota system described in the PB-MOU. |
| Igloodik | convert four male polar bear credits from the Foxe Basin population into four harvest tags |
| Iqaluit | convert four and one-half polar bear credits from the Davis Strait population into four and one-half harvest tags; two and one-half in compensation for defense kills. |
| Cambridge Bay | convert one female polar bear credit from the Viscount Melville population into one harvest tag. |

- Pangnirtung convert three male polar bear credits from the Davis Strait population into three harvest tags; one in compensation for a defense kill.
- Cape Dorset convert one female polar bear credit from the Foxe Basin population into one harvest tag in compensation for a defense kill.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the NWMB, having assured itself that, in the following instance, the cumulative annual TAH will be exceeded by the proposed borrowing of a potential future credit, and that the principles of conservation would not be met under such circumstances, **reject** – pursuant to NLCA S.5.3.3(a) - the following request for conversion of a potential future polar bear credit into a polar bear harvest tag:

- Qikiqtarjuaq convert one female polar bear credit from the Baffin Bay population into a harvest tag in compensation for a defense kill.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that the NWMB, having assured itself on the evidence presented that, in the following instance, the principles of conservation would not be met by applying the flexible quota system, **reject** – pursuant to NLCA S.5.3.3(a) - the following request for conversion of accumulated polar bear credits into polar bear harvest tags:

- Baker Lake convert five male and four female polar bear credits from the Western Hudson Bay population into nine harvest tags.

Moved by: Pitseolak Alainga
Carried

Seconded by: Makabe Nartok
Date: April 7, 2006

Resolution 2006-084: RESOLVED that the NWMB move to an in camera session.

Moved by Joannie Ikkidluak
Carried

Seconded by: Makabe Nartok
Date: April 7, 2006

Resolution 2006-085: RESOLVED that the NWMB move out of in camera session.

Moved by: Pitseolak Alainga
Carried

Seconded by: Joannie Ikkidluak
Date: April 7, 2006