

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Minutes Conference Call No. 119

Friday, July 3, 2009 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time)

Members and Staff Participating:

Harry Flaherty	A/Chairperson
Joannie Ikkidluak	Member
Robert Moshenko	Member
Makabe Nartok	Member
Kevin McCormick	Member
Willie Nakoolak	Member
Jim Noble	Chief Operating Officer
Adam Schneidmiller	Wildlife Management Biologist
Evie Amagoalik	Interpreter

Not Available:

Vacant	Chairperson
Peter Awa	Member
Pitseolak Alainga	Member

Guest Chris Lewis DFO, Iqaluit

1. Opening by A/Chairperson

The A/Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed members, staff and guests to the Conference Call.

2. Review/Approval of Agenda

The Board decided (**Resolution 2009-044**) to adopt the agenda as presented.

3. Request for Support to Conduct Shrimp Stock Assessment in Nunavut

The Chief Operating Officer reviewed the briefing note with the members. Over the past four years, a lot of new information on shrimp distribution has been obtained from these Northern Shrimp Research Foundation (NSRF) surveys. Upon review of the 2008 Final Report, the NWMB technical staff advises the Board to:

1. Support the continuation of the fifth year (2009) of the proposed shrimp stock assessment survey in waters adjacent to Nunavut, including the

survey work within the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA), subject to the following conditions:

- The license for the survey work explicitly states that there is no historic attachment for any vessel or fisher participating in the research survey.
- A representative from the Eastern Arctic Area (Nunavut office) of DFO continues to be appointed as a member of the NSRF.

The Board decided (**Resolution 2009-045**) to support the continuation of the fifth year (2009) of the proposed shrimp stock assessment survey in waters adjacent to Nunavut, including the survey work within the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA), subject to the conditions recommended by NWMB technical staff.

4. Request to Use Gill Nets for Cumberland Sound Turbot Test Fishery

The Chief Operating Officer reviewed the briefing note provided with the members. In September of 2007, the NWMB considered a request from the Baffin Fisheries Coalition for approval to use gillnets to fish the remainder of the 500 tonne turbot quota established in the Cumberland Sound New Management Zone. After reviewing the information, the NWMB decided, for conservation reason, to disallow gillnets use in the new management zone. NWMB staff then requested more information from DFO on how to employ gillnet to explore for turbot, without causing shark and whale bi-catch. DFO again recommended against gillnet use in the Cumberland Sound, but did suggest that if the NWMB decided to allow gillnets that stringent measures should be invoked. In May of 2009 Pangnirtung Fisheries Limited, wrote to the NWMB again requesting the Board's approval to allow the use of gillnets. Staff provide two options for members to consider. NTI staff questioned the difference in catch rates between longlines and gillnets, it was suggested that this question will continue to be asked if they are not allowed to establish what the economic viability of the two methods are. The Board decided (**Resolution 2009-046**) to reaffirm its original decision to not allow the use of gillnets in the new turbot management zone.

5. Baffin Bay Polar Decision on Total Allowable Harvest (TAH)

The Wildlife Management Biologist reviewed the briefing note with members. It was noted that on June 30th, 2009 the NWMB received a Ministerial Management Initiative as per Article 5.3.25 of the NLCA requesting the NWMB to consider modifying the current Total Allowable Harvest (TAH) for the Baffin Bay polar bear population due to conservation concerns. The Minister has requested a decision in time for implementation in October 2009. NWMB staff recommend that this issue be considered on September 29th at its Regular Meeting No.61 including four recommendations. The Board agreed with the staff's recommendations and directed them to proceed.

6. Approval of Letter to Minister Re: Community Based Management

A draft copy of the proposed letter to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans outlining the Board's decision with regards to the Community Based Management System for Narwhal was presented to the Board. No comments were received and staff was directed to send the letter.

7. Update on Three Bowhead Whale Hunt Plans for 2009

The Chief Operating Officer reviewed the briefing note with the members. It was noted that three communities have been selected for the 2009 hunts, Rankin Inlet, Kugaaruk and Cape Dorset. Rankin Inlet has almost completed their hunt plans, Kugaaruk and Cape Dorset have not yet submitted. The COO noted that if finalized, these hunt plans will need to be approved by the Board and summer is a difficult time to attempt conference calls as many members are on annual leave.

8. CCEO and COO - Position Update

Discussion on the status of the Chief Executive Officer's appointment as Chairperson was reviewed, it was noted that the Chief Operating Officer's ad would be posted soon and arrangements for screening and interviewing would have to be discussed.

9. Other Business

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 Noon

Minutes approved by:


A/Chairperson


Date

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2009-044: RESOLVED that the NWMB adopt the agenda as presented.

Moved by: Makabe Nartok
Carried

Seconded by: Willie Nakoolak
Date: July 3, 2009

Resolution 2009-045: RESOLVED that the NWMB support the continuation of the fifth year (2009) of the proposed shrimp stock assessment survey in waters adjacent to Nunavut, including the survey work within the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA), subject to the following conditions:

- The license for the survey work explicitly states that there is no historic attachment for any vessel or fisher participating in the research survey.
- A representative from the Eastern Arctic Area (Nunavut office) of DFO continues to be appointed as a member of the NSRF.

Moved by: Joannie Ikkidluak
Carried

Seconded by: Willie Nakoolak
Date: July 3, 2009

Resolution 2009-046: RESOLVED that the NWMB reaffirm its original (2007) decision to not allow the use of gillnets in the new turbot management zone.

Moved by: Robert Moshenko
Carried

Seconded by: Makabe Nartok
Date: July 3, 2009