

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A REGIONAL TOTAL ALLOWABLE HARVEST FOR THE
BLUENOSE EAST CARIBOU HERD

June 16, 2016

Pages 1 TO 274

HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL

CAMBRIDGE BAY, NUNAVUT

VOLUME 1

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1 OPENING AND PRAYER

2 THE CHAIR: Good morning, everybody. Welcome
3 back again to our new meeting agenda and a public hearing
4 for Bluenose East caribou herd. I hope you all had a good
5 rest last night. I think everybody's a little tired right
6 now, too, but to open the meeting up I would like Caleb to
7 say an opening prayer. Thank you.

8 (PRAYER)

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

10 Okay. Just a few little items before we begin.
11 I don't think there's any need for introductions, as we all
12 know each other, and I don't believe there's anybody new at
13 table at all.

14 So I think all of you have your briefing binders
15 for organization in front of you. If you don't, please let
16 us know. Also, again, there's digital hearing material
17 also available on chips on your computers, if need be.

18 I think that the decision we made yesterday is a
19 important one, that the transcripts and information that
20 was passed on in the last hearing will be transferred to
21 this hearing, so we do all have all that record of
22 information that's common to both hearings on file, and I
23 just ask you all to remember that when making your
24 submissions and asking questions.

25 So with that, up is Government of Nunavut. And,

1 Drikus, I'll hand the floor over to you. Lisa Marie, go
2 ahead.

3 GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT SUBMISSION

4 MS. LECLERC: Mr. Chair, I'm Lisa Marie, the
5 regional biologist for the Kitikmeot Region; and as for the
6 Bathurst herd, I'm going to do the presentation for the
7 Bluenose caribou.

8 As we agreed yesterday, I'm going to try to
9 mention, but forward a little bit, what was already
10 explained and precise where need to be and what's actually
11 specific for the Bluenose caribou.

12 So as I mentioned for the Bathurst caribou herd,
13 the presentation I'm going to be presenting to you is
14 actually the same presentation that was presented to the
15 HTO, RWO, and NTI and co-management partners in January
16 14-15, 2016. And, in addition, what I want to precise is,
17 during that meeting when we were talking about caribou, the
18 herd was specified at each time to make sure that we were
19 talking about the right harvest management for the right
20 herd for clarity. Next slide.

21 So here's, again, the Government of Nunavut
22 mandate. I'm not going to go through it. As was explained
23 yesterday, there's a lot of caribou, subpopulation caribou,
24 in the Kitikmeot region, but the one that we're going to
25 focus today -- the third slide -- is the Bluenose East

1 caribou.

2 So when you look at this map, that herd range is
3 represented in yellow. So this herd actually is found
4 calving around Kugluktuk, at the very proximity of
5 Kugluktuk south of it, all the way west to the Bluenose
6 East lake (verbatim), and then in the wintertime, that herd
7 moves down in the tree line in the Northwest Territories.

8 When we look at the Bluenose herd estimate from
9 2000-2015, we see that there were decline from 2000 to
10 2005, but that decline was actually confirmed in 2006.
11 After the peak of the population in 2010, which the
12 population was estimated at 123,000 caribou, the herd was
13 declining to 68,000 in 2013.

14 So, once again, all the report survey,
15 population update was mentioned to HTO and KRWB at
16 different ongoing meetings, especially AGM, and there were
17 all report of the public.

18 For this herd, specific to this herd, since
19 2009, there were ongoing management plan meeting to develop
20 the taking care of the caribou where the Bluenose herd is
21 actually mentioned. There were ongoing public
22 consultation. There were specific even in Cambridge Bay
23 and Kugluktuk that was taken every year (verbatim), and
24 there were the workshop in 2007 that actually included
25 discussion on the Bluenose East herd.

1 I really want to point out the community-based
2 management action that Kugluktuk has developed. Their
3 education awareness program, there were shift to harvest
4 alternative species such as muskox, there were no sport or
5 commercial harvest of Bluenose caribou in Nunavut -- as
6 Kugluktuk -- and there were very strong participation at
7 consultation meeting, workshop, and so on, that touched
8 that herd.

9 So, as you know, the 2013 population estimate
10 was 68,000. In June 2014, during the reconnaissance
11 survey, it showed that the herd has declined or was
12 continuous between 2013 and '14. There were intermediate
13 population size, there were reduced recruitment between
14 2012 and 2014, there were reduced pregnancy rate from 2010
15 to 2012, and there were low adult survival rate.

16 So at this time, once again, we started
17 consulting with the Kugluktuk HTO, which the DoE represent
18 as the main user and harvester of that Bluenose caribou
19 herd. So most of the meeting was included Kugluktuk. The
20 February 2011 meeting, even if both herd was addressed,
21 Kugluktuk was actually -- the first TAH proposal was
22 discussed for the Bluenose herd. At this time, we didn't
23 know how the population estimate was, so we had to go back
24 to the last one, the 2013 estimate. So that was putting
25 the herd in an intermediate size; they were not doing as

1 good as they were in 2010.

2 I just want to precise here or give you a little
3 bit background information between going a little bit more
4 on what was done or discussed in that February 2011
5 meeting.

6 So the BKCMB which is a different management
7 plan for the Beverly and Qamanijuaq Porcupine, the
8 Porcupine herd management plan, and also ENR, have
9 developed a rule of thumb for harvest, like, basically what
10 percentage of harvest should be acceptable depending on how
11 well the herd are doing. So, basically, when a herd go in
12 red, it's zero; orange, 1 percent harvest; when the herd is
13 in medium, well, could be from 2 to 4 percent in yellow;
14 and when the herd is doing very well, it's 5 and plus
15 percent.

16 Once again, at that time, we know that the herd
17 was declining. We have justification that they were doing
18 not so well when we take the vital information. So based
19 on that, the GN first recommendation was to propose a
20 harvest ratio, which was not conservative, of 4 percent.
21 That was meaning a 2,800 total harvest from all the user to
22 that herd, which would represent 2000 TAH that was
23 mentioned to the Kugluktuk HTO at that time.

24 Of course, ENR did not accept with that, and
25 they were proposing a 2 percent harvest which mean, not

1 2,800, but 1,300, with much more allocation proportion for
2 Kugluktuk.

3 The thousand TAH was discussed with the HTO, and
4 that was the closer approximation of what was the current
5 harvest for Kugluktuk at this time; Kugluktuk harvest
6 between 1,000 to 1,500 caribou. Therefore, as we were
7 trying to match the current practice, we thought that we
8 had time to educate the community about the harvest
9 restriction, and there will be a limited enforcement
10 because we actually just apply what was done.

11 In September 2014, the taking care of the
12 caribou management plan was finalized and signed by five
13 member. The Nunavut represent, the KRWB, signed the
14 agreement in May 14, 2015. One month later, in June 2015,
15 the new survey came. Because of the new population
16 estimate, the ACCWM -- which KRWB is mentioned or part of
17 that group -- listed the herd in the orange which show an
18 agreement with the user that the herd is in medium-high
19 risk rate of harvest, and such management with that
20 population change would be more appropriate. So based on
21 that, the GN lowered the harvest rate to 2.5 percent on a
22 herd that was now 38,000.

23 So in the June -- January 2016, all the HTO and
24 Kugluktuk HTO was consulted on the new revised TAH, based
25 on the harvest rate of 2.5 percent which actually

1 represented total harvest for all user of 950, which mean
2 the Kugluktuk will have a share of 340, and that would have
3 been male only. So that, again, was the consultation that
4 was taking place in January.

5 Why a TAH harvest present show a low of 2.5
6 percent? Well, the June 2015 population estimate was
7 38,000 animal, down from 68,000 caribou in 2013. There was
8 significant decline of annual rate of 21 percent.

9 What was more worrisome is the breeding female
10 dropped by about 50 percent in only two years, going from
11 34,000 in 2013 to 18,000 in 2015. The rate of the decline
12 was twice as fast as almost the annual rate. Once again,
13 when we look at the vital, the late calf-cow ratio was
14 below, calf survival was 71 percent, and there were a low
15 pregnancy rate in some year. All this indicator was
16 pointing that the herd was in a decline, and that decline
17 was not slow. It was really steep. So more drastic
18 measure was needed, and at the current harvesting rate of 6
19 to 9 percent, that was too high for what was recommended.

20 So how we got to that proportion of what
21 Kugluktuk should take from the overall harvest: We know
22 that harvest management program, overall, the harvest is
23 around 3,500 caribou and the subsistence harvest in Nunavut
24 is between, as I mentioned earlier, 1,000 to 1,500
25 annually. So when you look at the average, 1,250, as a

1 percentage of the overall harvest, you have 36 percent.

2 And that 36 percent allocation was discussed between user
3 in January 2016.

4 So, with 38,000 caribou with a recommended
5 harvest rate of 2.5 percent -- which now GN, ENR, and
6 Tlicho kind of came into agreement -- now is representing a
7 total harvest of 950 on the whole herd for all user --
8 Nunavut and Northwest Territories. And 36 percent will
9 mean 340 caribou for Nunavut.

10 And that recommendation, the first thousand was
11 not, you know, sex base, but because the female are
12 declining or not breeding so much, then a male
13 recommendation was made. And with previous discussion, we
14 know, and it was alighted (phonetic) and a lot of
15 consultation that was ongoing with the taking care of the
16 caribou management plan for the Bluenose that there were a
17 risk to take bulls for genetic in the strong bull and so
18 on. So there was a little bit of controversy there. So
19 the male-only was to give the female a chance to, again,
20 survive, reproduce, give birth to the calf, to jump start
21 again the population.

22 That will be it for my presentation. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Lisa Marie.

24 With that I'll open it up to questions from
25 Board Members, if there's any. Charlie.

1 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

2 MR. INUARAK: Mr. Chairman, Charlie Inuarak,
3 NWMB.

4 Can you show me on the map where Bluenose East
5 is -- Great Bear Lake, where is it on the map?

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie. Do you have
7 any further questions? Go ahead.

8 MR. INUARAK: Mr. Chairman, NWMB.

9 So we're talking about more than one herd, are
10 we?

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

12 Lisa.

13 MS. LECLERC: No, we're just talking about one
14 herd, the Bluenose East caribou.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

16 Charlie. Caleb.

17 MR. SANGOYA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 When I'm sitting here listening to this
19 consultation process, I really like to get exact
20 information. These consultation surveys and monitoring;
21 when we are asking questions about consulting and
22 monitoring, it seems as though the only answers we get is,
23 "I don't know," "Might be," "Estimate," perhaps.

24 And every time we ask questions, perhaps get to
25 the point right away instead of explaining the whole

1 process of what you did. Perhaps if you give us exact
2 information to the point, it would be less confusing; and
3 when you're just listening to your explanations or your
4 reports, there's only estimations and no actual information
5 that we're hearing.

6 So your surveys are from 2010 and 2013 only?
7 That's good that you have that report, but as of '2016,
8 what is your estimate of that population? Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

10 Lisa.

11 MS. LECLERC: Lisa here.

12 So we have 2010, 2013, and the last population
13 number is in 2015, and that's 38,000 caribou.

14 Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

16 Caleb.

17 MR. SANGOYA: I'm not asking about 2010, 2013.

18 Today is 2016. How many do you think there are in 2016?

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

20 Lisa.

21 MS. LECLERC: So, in 2016, we just finish
22 another reconnaissance survey, and that number or result is
23 not available at this time.

24 Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa. But just for

1 clarity, I think what you did say: As of 2015, the
2 population is 38,000 animals. Is that clear?

3 MS. LECLERC: This is correct.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

5 David.

6 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. David
7 Kritterdlik, Kitikmeot.

8 To date, the recommended number is 340 animals
9 for Nunavut. Nunavut would be Kugluktuk community, and I
10 understand, looking at the map, there are other communities
11 where the herd usually go around to. 340 animals for
12 Nunavut, is that looking at one community only? Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

14 Lisa.

15 MS. LECLERC: Lisa.

16 So our understanding is that Kugluktuk is the
17 only and principal harvester of the Bluenose herd, but that
18 TAH allocation would be determined by the RWO.

19 Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

21 David, any follow-up?

22 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Yes, thank you. David
23 Kritterdlik.

24 There has been a number of consultation visits
25 to Kugluktuk, and technical meetings, and meeting with

1 Regional Wildlife Board since 2014. Were there any mention
2 of any possible cause of the decline?

3 Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

5 Lisa.

6 MS. LECLERC: Yes, there were mention of
7 possible cause which, right now, we think is a natural
8 cycle.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

10 Simeonie.

11 MR. KEENAINAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 Simeonie from NWMB. My question: When you do
13 your surveys, have you come across any dead caribou
14 carcasses? We would really like to know why there's an
15 estimate decrease in population; and if you come across any
16 dead caribou, have you gotten any samples to see why they
17 were died? That's my question.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simeonie.

19 Lisa. Mathieu.

20 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

22 Just maybe to clarify a little bit. There's a
23 whole mix of potential factors leading to the decline of
24 the herd, as we've heard for the Bathurst, and there's
25 likely a natural cycle driving the general trends and the

1 general up and down of those caribou; but there's a number
2 of things also happening on the range. And like we
3 mentioned for the Bathurst, there's a few aspects from it
4 was mentioned a lot with predation, disease, harvest, land
5 use. And as we mentioned for the Bathurst, there's likely
6 a cumulative effect of a lot of factors that maybe didn't
7 trigger -- the cycle may be natural, but the amplitude of
8 the cycle and how long they going to stay down, how fast
9 they decline and how well they can recover, all this will
10 be influenced by the activities on the range.

11 So just to clarify a little bit that, although
12 the main driver is likely a natural cycle, there's other
13 factors that will influence the length of that cycle and
14 the amplitude of that cycle and the shape of that cycle.
15 So that's one thing I wanted to clarify.

16 And like for the Bathurst, there's no hundreds
17 and thousands of dead caribou on the land. There's
18 probably hundreds and thousands that haven't been born or
19 died very quickly after birth. And just this spring when
20 we were out, one thing noticeable is that there's very few
21 yearlings, which means that the caribou, even if they calf,
22 the young are not surviving very long, because there's no
23 yearling nearly a year after when they go back to the
24 calving ground.

25 So this is what is happening in general is that,

1 it's not necessarily a mass number of caribou are dying;
2 it's that a mass number of caribou are not born. And the
3 herd needs that recycling of continuously having a good
4 productivity to maintain the herd because a lot of the
5 caribou die naturally from different causes every time.
6 Even when there's no decline there's still caribou dying
7 from old age, from disease, from predation, from
8 harvesting; from all kind of reason -- accidents.

9 And so they need that productivity of calves to
10 maintain the herd. And when that productivity is not
11 there, suddenly you have a herd that doesn't replenish
12 itself and still sustain the loss through predation,
13 harvest, disease, and all those factors.

14 So, of course, it's going to decline without
15 leaving a trail of dead caribou behind. It's just it's
16 declining because it's not producing new caribou. Thank
17 you.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

19 Any follow-up, Simeonie?

20 MR. KEENAINAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 One more question. We are aware of the comments
22 you were making, because those of us who live off the land
23 and hunters are very familiar with that cycle; and
24 especially in the winter, if there's ice freeze-up on the
25 land, that does affect the population. As a biologist,

1 because you studied that genetics, even from the caribou,
2 you can actually take that and study the genetics of that
3 caribou.

4 But according to the other cumulative affects
5 like the climate and the disease and less production of
6 calves, do you have any idea which one or more of those
7 effects has been most affecting the population, decrease of
8 population?

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simeonie.

10 Mathieu.

11 MR. DUMOND: At this time, I think the only
12 thing we can say is that there's a mix of factor, and the
13 thing we know are the factors we are able to influence.
14 There's probably lots of factors that have some importance
15 in the decline that we cannot really influence (verbatim)
16 where we cannot make nature or the weather do what we'd
17 like it to do to avoid freezing rain or things like that.
18 So there's only a number of things that we can influence,
19 as people, to try to help the herd recover for the benefit
20 of people at the end and future generation.

21 So the main thing we can influence are our
22 activities, and that includes harvest and land use, and
23 those are the two main two things that we can influence.

24 Now, it doesn't mean that other factors, like
25 natural factors, don't have a very important influence in

1 what's happening, but it's very hard to do anything about
2 those. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

4 Caleb?

5 MR. SANGOYA: Thank you.

6 Yes, we want to hear properly from the -- I know
7 the hunters tell us stories of what they've seen, where
8 they go. And I have a question. Here there are some
9 questions I'd like to ask. How many, approximately how
10 many, are being bothered by the mines? Have you noticed?
11 Have you noticed anything that -- when there is a mine on
12 their migration route, have you noticed how many have been
13 displaced because of the mines on their migration routes?

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

15 Lisa or Mathieu, GN.

16 MR. DUMOND: The microphone war.

17 Just add: The Bluenose East caribou herd is
18 somewhat fortunate in that on its range it has fairly
19 limited amount of development, and, in particular,
20 industrial like mining and exploration. So recently there
21 was approval by the Nunavut Impact Review Board of some
22 exploration within the range on the south edge of the
23 Bluenose East calving ground. There are a few
24 infrastructure and project or communities in the winter
25 range in the NWT, but I'm not aware of any major

1 development, such as mining or other industrial
2 development.

3 So the Bluenose East has benefitted from a
4 fairly low level of industrial activity on its range at
5 this time.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.
7 Caleb.

8 MR. SANGOYA: Thank you. You didn't answer my
9 question. How many, approximately, of the caribou herd has
10 been driven away from the exploration?

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.
12 Mathieu.

13 MR. DUMOND: Just to make sure I understand the
14 question properly, are you talking in general or specific
15 to the Bluenose caribou herd?

16 MR. SANGOYA: Both.

17 MR. DUMOND: Well, I'll be able to answer the
18 general part. For the Bluenose herd specifically, because
19 there's been only a very low level of development on the
20 range at this time, there hasn't been specific studies
21 looking at the effect of those specific project on the
22 Bluenose herd range; however, in general, like it was
23 mentioned for the Bathurst, there was a few studies done on
24 the impact of the large mines -- like, in particular, the
25 diamond mines -- on caribou movements. And the results --

1 and I hope I'm accurate. I think it was showing that there
2 was a strong influence on the movement of the caribou up to
3 14 kilometres from the mine -- 13 or 14, yeah.

4 So there was an effect on caribou movement up to
5 14 kilometres away from the mine. Caribou were modifying
6 their movement due to the mine presence, and that's one of
7 the key studies that was done. There was a few smaller
8 studies or studies on behaviour. Unfortunately, I don't
9 have all the details of the results in my mind right now,
10 but there was some evidence of effects on caribou movements
11 and behaviour around the mines.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

13 MR. SANGOYA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't
14 think he wants to answer me. Thank you.

15 Another one: Approximately how many are being
16 killed off by wolves and grizzlies, what we're talking
17 about, the herd that we're talking about? How many
18 predators -- or how many are being killed off by predators?

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

20 Mathieu.

21 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

23 We don't have that information of how many
24 caribou are killed or eaten by wolves or bears. We do not
25 have that information.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

2 Caleb.

3 MR. SANGOYA: Thank you.

4 Approximately how many go over to Alaska, and
5 have you noticed any caribou that have moved over to Alaska
6 or Greenland?

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

8 Lisa.

9 MS. LECLERC: Lisa here.

10 To answer your question about predator, like,
11 how many they eat or -- no? Okay.

12 So I don't think that the Bluenose East is going
13 to Greenland or Alaska. They're a very small number of
14 female that go from one herd to the other, but that's a
15 very, very low percentage. Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

17 Caleb.

18 MR. SANGOYA: Finally, the ones that dying off
19 from the disease, do you know what kind of disease are
20 killing them off, the ones that were killed from the
21 disease?

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

23 Lisa.

24 MS. LECLERC: Can you specify which disease?

25 MR. SANGOYA: Any kind of disease.

1 MS. LECLERC: Okay. So, basically, we don't, at
2 this point, think that there's any pandemic or epidemic
3 that went through the Bluenose East caribou and causes a
4 massive die-off, and there is serology made potentially
5 available, and I would have to defer maybe more specificity
6 on the disease to the GNWT.

7 Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

9 MR. SANGOYA: Thank you.

10 Now, because you haven't worked on this
11 particular -- but I see that Inuit, the ones -- there was
12 3,500 that they were able to harvest. It seems that you
13 haven't considered that by the Nunavut government, the
14 harvesting effect.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

16 Lisa.

17 MS. LECLERC: Just for clarification, the 3,500
18 is all aboriginal people that share this herd across the
19 range. We did consider the actual Nunavut harvest which is
20 estimated from 1,000 to 1,500 in this total allowable
21 harvest.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

23 David K.

24 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 David Kritterdlik.

1 Of the possible or estimated 38,000 in 2015,
2 recommended now total allowable to Nunavut is 340, and we
3 know that there are other users of that herd in NWT,
4 possibly five, six other communities in that. Have they
5 been advised of the decline, or, also, is there a
6 recommended number of allowable harvest to those
7 communities? Are the two governments working together on
8 this in regard to number of communities in Nunavut. Taima.
9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

11 Lisa.

12 MS. LECLERC: Yes, we are working together since
13 the start. We had a common 2.5 percent agreement for a
14 harvest ratio, which was meaning 950 for both jurisdiction
15 as the total that we could take from that herd. Northwest
16 Territories actually made a decision this week of 750
17 caribou, which is lower now than what the GN and GNWT's
18 proposing.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

20 Charlie.

21 MR. INUARAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 I'm from NWMB, Charlie Inuarak. I have
23 questions. There's a few questions I'd like to ask.

24 Yesterday when we were dealing with Bathurst
25 caribou, you said that they were also declining, the

1 Bathurst caribou, and I know that is the case. But on top
2 of that you're saying that the Bluenose East is also
3 declining and the ones that are total allowable harvest by
4 the communities in that range that we do share. But my
5 question is: And the NWMB will be meeting to make a
6 decision to deal with the evidence and the arguments that
7 they hear. Now, they will have to make a decision.

8 And while I'm a Board Member, I'm one of the
9 harvesters, and I've travelled on land, when I'm able to.
10 And I know the behaviours of the wildlife, and it seems
11 that if we set a total allowable harvest, less than the
12 BNL, the wolves were mentioned yesterday by the experts and
13 the Elders; they said there's too many wolves. That was
14 mentioned yesterday, but I just want to make it clear.

15 Because I'm from Pond Inlet and they deal with
16 geese across the community, and they're studying the geese
17 as to what -- they describe for us that their produce eggs
18 from far away, and their eggs are being eaten by the foxes,
19 when they're able to, and they go to the lakes. The geese
20 go to the lakes. And the fox follow the geese, and they
21 will start killing, because they eat the young geese, from
22 what I'm hearing that the Elders were saying that, and the
23 HTOs kept saying that the wolves -- the wolves can harvest,
24 kill off many caribou, especially the calves. They kill
25 off the young caribou, and then they go to another one and

1 then just kill it without eating them. And what you're
2 saying, that they're not producing enough calves, I don't
3 think that is the case because the predators tend to kill
4 off the calves, and they go after the young calves.

5 Perhaps you should consider the predators, and
6 we should be managing the predators so that the population
7 of the caribou can increase instead of decline. And if we
8 don't manage the predators, they're going to be killing off
9 the young calves.

10 And I just want to mention that the Canadian
11 government and the GN, they were killing off the wolves
12 using tainted meat, tainted baits, and people who knew that
13 there were lots of -- there were lots of wolves, grizzlies,
14 even sea gulls. They died off that time, and they were
15 culling the wolves, and the caribou population were coming
16 back very rapidly after there had been a wolf cull. And I
17 feel that maybe the GN and the GNWT should start culling
18 wolves, but I don't want to use the tainted baits. Perhaps
19 you should look for something more effective without using
20 tainted baits to cull the wolves.

21 That's all I want to say.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, very much, Charlie.
23 Very good comments.

24 I'm not sure if the GN wants to respond to that
25 at all? No.

1 Okay. David Igutsaq, questions.

2 MR. IGUTSAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 I want to ask: The caribou we're talking about
4 this morning, have you studied the Bluenose East whether
5 they go towards Baker Lake and whether they have their
6 calves in the Baker Lake area. I'm just wondering; have
7 you noticed any movement of the Bluenose East caribou that
8 goes east to have their calves.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

10 Lisa.

11 MS. LECLERC: Lisa here.

12 So I just want to point out that the Bluenose
13 that we're talking about is the most western Nunavut herd,
14 caribou herd, that we have; and the Bluenose calving
15 ground, to my knowledge, has stayed there. And the
16 collared female has never move around Baker Lake area. So
17 we have a herd that's been calving at the same location for
18 very long amount of time, with no knowledge of that calving
19 ground shifting before in the past. Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

21 David.

22 MR. IGUTSAQ: David Igutsuq, and I'm a Board
23 Member for NWMB.

24 Yes, the total allowable harvest -- we have to
25 try to find whether they go in the other areas before you

1 produce a number. So I feel that it would be preferable to
2 me, because the caribou can go anywhere. Especially today
3 in the years -- there are airplanes that fly over looking
4 for minerals and mines. I think you should -- I feel that
5 the exploration should be considered when you do a survey
6 or study.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

8 Lisa.

9 MS. LECLERC: Lisa, Mr. Chair.

10 Maybe just, as mentioned, that this herd's been
11 collared, too, for a very numerous amount of years, 20
12 years, so we know where they go into the pattern. And when
13 we did that population survey that is going to go in a
14 little more in detail on the area that they survey, we
15 actually -- if you remember, we started here, and we cover
16 all the west side of Bathurst Inlet, and we didn't find any
17 other large aggregation of caribou in June on that big wide
18 study area.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

20 Is there any other questions from the Board?

21 Charlie.

22 MR. INUARAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 I'm from NWMB. I just want to make another
24 comment. We have the same thing in Nunavut and
25 Kitikmeot -- well, Kitikmeot -- because we always talk back

1 and forth regarding wildlife, but the people from Nunavik,
2 especially from Puvirnituk, yes, last year, last fall when
3 we were there, they were saying that they have four
4 different herds of caribou, and the caribou were distinct
5 from one another.

6 I think they were coming down from Baffin Island
7 caribou, and they didn't know how they went across. And I
8 asked, "How do you know that, that they were from
9 Baffin Island caribou?" They said that they look the same
10 as our Baffin Island caribou, and they said they were nice
11 and fat. And the Elders were trying keep that away from
12 the younger generation. So the Baffin Island caribou would
13 return to Baffin Island, they want the younger generation
14 to cull them off.

15 And we heard from the people from Grise Fiord
16 HTO. They told us that they're way up there. They have
17 Peary Caribou in their area. They're small caribou, and
18 they think some of them do come over this way.

19 They said that they have a different caribou,
20 and they were darker, and they were way larger than the
21 Peary Caribou, and they thought they were all bulls when
22 they were females.

23 The GN and the GNWT; the studies that you do,
24 you only look at a certain small area. You don't consider
25 the whole of the north, from what we hear. We know that

1 the hunters don't lie to us. You should talk to them more;
2 if we hear from you what you hear from the hunters, you
3 should consider them.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Charlie.
5 More of a comment, but, Mathieu, would you like to say
6 something.

7 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut. I would
9 just like to clarify that, although we acknowledge, and
10 learning from local hunters and from traditional knowledge
11 that there is some movement of caribou from one place to
12 another and they move around, that's not a contest.

13 However, there's been collars on all the
14 mainland herds for the past 20 years, and, more recently,
15 with a higher number of collars to allow better monitoring.
16 There's been surveys for the past at least ten years,
17 pretty much every year, of every areas that we could fly,
18 basically, and especially areas that we knew from previous
19 information, that we knew from local communities, where
20 people thought there were caribou. All those area were
21 flown over. We had lots of collars on all the mainland
22 herds.

23 So if the question of about the 100,000 moving
24 and hiding somewhere that we cannot see them is still on
25 the table, then it might be an issue, because I think we

1 did -- between GNWT and Nunavut, the communities and all
2 the people involved in monitoring those herds -- I think
3 all the efforts were made to ensure that there's no large,
4 large number of caribou that we haven't been able to
5 locate.

6 So if the question is still that caribou may not
7 have declined, and just moved somewhere else, I think it
8 will set us back in time in trying to address the
9 situation, because, I mean, if you look at the evidence and
10 the survey results and the local knowledge and all that,
11 it's hard to find a place where you would have to look for
12 a very, very large number of caribou.

13 So I just wanted to make that more as a comment
14 that, you know, we can go over that question over and over,
15 but I'm not sure it's going to address the conservation
16 issue at hand here.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you for your comments,
18 Mathieu.

19 Any other questions from Board Members?

20 If not, staff? Peter, you have one? Go ahead.

21 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD STAFF QUESTIONS AND
22 COMMENTS

23 MR. KYDD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 Yes, I just have one question. It's getting
25 at -- I guess it might be answered by you, Lisa, or it

1 might go to the HTO. I just want to get a little bit of a
2 better understanding on the local management measures that
3 have been put in place, specifically with regards to the
4 shifting of your focus of the harvest from caribou to
5 muskox.

6 Do you have any idea how many more muskox are
7 being harvested and how many fewer caribou are being
8 harvested since you've started the shift in focus?

9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

11 Just on that, I mean, Lisa, you can answer, if
12 you wish; but I think that's a good question for the HTO
13 when they're up making their presentation in our rounds of
14 question. But Lisa, if you'd like to respond to that, go
15 ahead.

16 MS. LECLERC: I'm going to leave a lot of room
17 for the HTO to answer to that, because that's basically
18 their community-based initiation. However, we were
19 fortunate enough to fly a muskox survey in 2013 around
20 Kugluktuk because the community member were seeing a lot
21 more muskox; and because of that survey result, we were
22 able to increase the number of tag of muskox from 60 to
23 225.

24 And then I will leave that to the HTO how they
25 decide to manage that harvest on the community-based.

1 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you very much.

2 Any other questions from staff? Legal?

3 Quickly, Michael.

4 MR. D'EÇA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5 This is to Lisa Marie. My impression is that
6 the focus of your presentation today was on the day one
7 updates from your January 2016 meeting and the implications
8 for conservation, and I'm wondering if you could just spend
9 a little bit of time talking about day two where, again, my
10 understanding is that that was the day where everyone
11 turned more specifically to discussions about management
12 options and potential HTO actions. And that may be
13 referring to some of the things that were just talked
14 about. But can you just let us know a little bit about the
15 content of those discussions, especially with respect to
16 Bluenose East caribou; and, in particular, I'm wondering:
17 Did any of the participants raise the idea of or discuss
18 the developed of a management plan?

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

20 Lisa.

21 MS. LECLERC: So during the second day of the
22 meeting, of course, concern about predator, what they were
23 seeing, local observation, was shared. There were also, as
24 I mention, a mention and effort that the HTO was put
25 forward, and we tried to discuss about those other, like,

1 current effort that was made by the HTO.

2 At that time, to answer specifically your
3 question, there were no mention of another or
4 community-specific HTO-based management plan. Let me
5 rephrase that. There were no -- the HTO at that time, in
6 January, did not mention that they want to have their own
7 community-based management plan, although some action was
8 already ongoing.

9 THE CHAIR: Mathieu, you'd like to add?

10 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes,
11 please.

12 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

13 I just wanted to add a little bit to that,
14 because it makes it seems like everything started January
15 of this year, and the HTO can elaborate, because I think
16 it's not putting them on the spot. On the contrary, it's
17 putting them on the pedestal, because they've done a lots
18 of things not since January 2016.

19 As soon as the initial signs of decline of the
20 herd in 2005-2006, first of all, the information was
21 flowing to make sure the HTO and the KRWB were informed;
22 and, in 2007, we had a two-and-a-half-day workshop to put
23 on the table the information available from both science,
24 traditional knowledge; and discuss it. And then we had a
25 session to not make recommendations or anything that would

1 be kind of binding, in terms of management, but just to
2 throw ideas of what can be done to help the herd recover.

3 And we had that meeting in 2007, so that's nine
4 years ago, and, to their credit, the HTO implemented a lot
5 of the ideas that were put on the table, and those ideas
6 were not put on the table or imposed by the government;
7 they were put on the table by all the participants at the
8 workshop. And the report is actually a transcript of the
9 recordings of the meeting. So the report is what people
10 had to bring; like, that's not an interpretation or
11 anything like that.

12 So the HTO implemented a lot of those possible
13 actions that could help the herd, including stopping
14 community hunt on caribou and switching to muskox, trying
15 to provide alternative meat to the community, doing a lot
16 of education programs; and, if I recall correctly, it
17 included also an attempt to have community-based caribou
18 strategy that, to my knowledge, was drafted but not
19 continued on.

20 And if I recall correctly, as well, that
21 strategy was including the possibility of harvest
22 restriction, and it was what is talked about right now as
23 an alternative. It was, I think, a plan to try to put in
24 the hands of the HTO a way to manage the caribou crisis
25 locally and by the community.

1 Unfortunately, the HTOs have similar problems as
2 all organizations; they have turnover, and there's the
3 election, so change of board members, change of managers;
4 and I think that affected, a little bit, the continuation
5 of this strategy.

6 But just to remind that there is a base there,
7 but there's also a show that, despite all those efforts, it
8 seems that the herd needs more. As it was acknowledged by
9 the community, as well, there's a point where harvest
10 restriction may be necessary. And I think the debate here
11 might be more on the form those harvest restriction takes.

12 But just to remind that that consultation of
13 January 2016 that seems to be on a few people's mind as,
14 oh, that's only six months ago, you haven't consulted much
15 on this; you know, you have to consider that it's been a
16 long, long, working relationship on this issue, and it's
17 not just yesterday that things happen.

18 And I just wanted to precise that because,
19 again, it's not to put the HTO on the spot. On the
20 contrary, it's to show all the efforts they have attempted
21 without touching the harvest limitations; but they have
22 tried a lot of things to help the herd. I just wanted to
23 mention that history because I'm a little bit older. Thank
24 you.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much for, Mathieu.

1 And with that we'll break, 15-minute coffee break.

2 (ADJOURNMENT)

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, everybody, for coming
4 back. So we'll continue on.

5 Any other questions, comments from NWMB staff or
6 legal? Okay. We'll move on to the next round of questions
7 from the Government of Northwest Territories. Lynda.

8 MS. YONGE: Lynda Yonge from GNWT. We have no
9 questions. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lynda.

11 We'll just wait a second here until Simon gets
12 back.

13 Welcome back, Simon. Okay. So the next round
14 of questioning is to you, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
15 Board. Simon, so do you have any questions for the GN?

16 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17 Simon Qingnaqtuq, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
18 Board. I have a few questions.

19 According to your report, you have a huge
20 decline of Bluenose herd. Within the two years, it's a
21 very large decline; and I know when you do your research,
22 it's always an estimate. It would be nice to have an
23 accurate number, especially for the harvester in the
24 region. That decline, it's at least half of the
25 population; therefore, I'd like to ask the government:

1 During that two-year decline, have our Government of
2 Nunavut ever noticed from the other researchers, like the
3 biologists, that they have Bluenose herd in their region?

4 By saying that, the biologists, when they do
5 their research, they estimate, and they put collar on the
6 animals that they're researching. By having said that, if
7 I may say, with the Peary Caribou, our researchers used to
8 tell us that they are declining, and they have moved west.

9 The Peary Caribou is mainly from the High
10 Arctic. By saying that, it's from Resolute and Grise
11 Fiord. They had the Peary Caribou herd around Sachs
12 Harbour, and, like, according to traditional knowledge,
13 Inuit qaujimajatuqangit, they're accurate. By saying that,
14 when our biologist was telling us that the Peary Caribou
15 has declined, they had some hunters spot a Peary Caribou in
16 Baker Lake. By having said that, Inuit qaujimajatuqangit
17 should be number one information to gatherings like this,
18 to my knowledge.

19 And I'd like to ask our government: Have any of
20 the Kitikmeot or NWT -- by saying NWT, Inuit area -- have
21 any of the biologists ever noticed Bluenose herd around
22 their area?

23 And every time we're having wildlife issues --
24 not just caribou -- our government, or biologists always
25 tell us to harvest males only. By saying that, if the herd

1 is declining, why do we harvesters have to harvest only
2 males?

3 By looking at this report, within the two years,
4 the population went down by half, and by killing off the
5 males only, what are we going to have at the end? They're
6 the ones that are producing the caribou. Without the
7 males, we won't have any population. By having said that,
8 you know, I like to ask our government: Why can't we kill
9 off females, at least 2 percent of the herd? Because if we
10 kill off all the males, we'll have nothing left.

11 And, you know, it's a big issue. And the
12 Bluenose is the Kugluktuk population. But according to our
13 harvesters, it's not only the Kugluktuk area, to our Inuit
14 qaujimaqatugangit. Out of that 68,000 caribou, how many
15 percent of that was collared on this research?

16 And I'd like to ask our government: When they
17 do their research in order to put the collar on the
18 caribou, they tranquilize the animal. Have they ever come
19 up to a point where a caribou never recovered from that
20 tranquilizing?

21 That's all I have. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simon.

23 Government of Nunavut.

24 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

1 Regarding the movement of caribou from one place
2 to another, I think I provided an answer on that, and I
3 think, during their presentation, GNWT will probably talk
4 about the collars they have on the Bluenose East, and give
5 more details on the numbers and history of it.

6 Just one precision, though. The caribou, when
7 collared, are not tranquilized. There's no use of drugs on
8 caribou to put the collar, so they are captured in a
9 different way that does not use drugs. So just to clarify
10 that.

11 Now, for the male-only harvest, just to explain
12 a little bit, the idea behind it is that when one of the
13 priorities is the number that can be harvested, meaning
14 that there's more harvesting opportunity, then the bias
15 towards male of the harvest is important.

16 I know from a traditional perspective a mixed
17 harvest is preferred; however, this would probably lead to
18 a harvest limit proposal, whether it's a TAH or other kind
19 of limitation, that is lower. And maybe an analogy I can
20 take is; let's take a community where there's one man and
21 five women. You can potentially have five babies nearly
22 every year. If you have one woman and five men, you can
23 only have one baby every year.

24 So just to say that this idea of selecting
25 towards harvesting males is that, overall, to maintain the

1 population, males can go with several cows and still
2 maintain the productivity of the herd, whereas, if you
3 start to have not enough cows, you won't have any calves
4 that are born. So this is the idea behind it; rather than
5 to select towards male to maximize the harvest
6 opportunities.

7 And I think Lisa wants to add something to that.

8 MS. LECLERC: Lisa here.

9 I just add: The sex selectivity harvest is
10 something, as Mathieu say, we try to jump start the herd,
11 try to have as female that's going to produce as many calf,
12 and those calves going to be able to survive next winter.

13 During the February meeting, based on the
14 October technical meeting, it was proposed that 80-20 sex
15 ratio would be more, basically, representative of what
16 Kugluktuk's practice is. It was discussed with the HTO,
17 and, basically, there were no consensus based on that. And
18 an agreement that, in addition to what Mathieu has provided
19 of, you know, one bull can basically mate with 20 cow, we
20 know that, traditional knowledge, the harvesters when
21 they're going to harvest, the bull's going to be small and
22 not maturable. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

24 Simon, does that answer your questions?

25 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 Yes, I have no further questions.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simon.

3 Okay. We'll move on to Kugluktuk HTO. Larry.

4 KUGLUKTUK HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

5 MR. L. ADJUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 I had given notice to my board of directors
7 here, as we have a quorum that represents Kugluktuk Hunters
8 and Trappers Organization: I am going to give them full
9 access to questions for the panels, government agencies
10 that are here, as we are not facilitated enough to hold
11 this meeting in Kugluktuk where I'd be more comfortable
12 having my community in my background or behind me.

13 So on that, with the 700 GNWT new proposal this
14 week that was set, this is where we get no consultation. I
15 stated before that the HTO on Nunavut side, Kugluktuk
16 rarely gets this information, and we're feeling the brunt
17 of being left out, and yet we're feeling the brunt of
18 sweeping up the mess that has occurred. I stated that
19 yesterday when I mentioned it to the GNWT -- or was it
20 yesterday before?

21 I'd like to thank DoE for their kind words in
22 our management plans that we've had in the past, and maybe
23 that will answer one of the questions from Shin yesterday.
24 I hope that clarified a little more.

25 And a previous one: You forgot in 1970s, with

1 the Coppermine River, no commercial fish program, where we
2 exchanged nests mesh size to five-and-a-half-inch mesh.
3 That way, the smaller char will to get out. And it was a
4 net exchange on that one, part of our management programs.

5 Now, to get to the nitty-gritty. Where was I
6 again? In 2013, our decline went down for the Bluenose
7 East. Now, I might have to ask this to GNWT also -- which
8 I've asked yesterday or the day before: Because of the
9 shift from the Bathurst caribou herd harvest from NWT, I
10 think that has a big emphasis on decline of the Bluenose
11 East, or that helped on the emphasis on the decline of the
12 Bluenose East caribou. Because I know GNWT proposed to
13 have the Bluenose or the Bathurst shut down, Bathurst
14 caribou herd shut down, and then they request the
15 aboriginal to hunt on the Bluenose East side. On the
16 Bluenose East population side of the NWT side, we have
17 about six or five communities as opposed to only one
18 community on the other side of the border.

19 And, as Lisa stated, our basic needs level is
20 around 1,000 to about 1,500 for the Kuglutumuit. And I
21 stated earlier that we are fortunate enough to harvest from
22 three different herds, but these are harvested at different
23 times of the year, as I stated yesterday. So I'm not going
24 to go back into that again.

25 And the questions regarding disease came up.

1 Just wonder if there's -- the information from Susan
2 Coutts, I believe there is one disease that is associated
3 with the muskox and the caribou.

4 Maybe I'll stop there for now. We still have a
5 lot more questions yet.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

7 Government of Nunavut, Lisa.

8 MS. LECLERC: Lisa.

9 For the first question about the GNWT harvest,
10 switching the Bathurst herd to the Bluenose East harvest, I
11 won't be able to answer that, so I'm going to leave the
12 specificity and detail of that answer to my counterpart.

13 For Susan, the muskox and caribou lungworm, at
14 this moment, it was found in the Dolphin Union. I'm not so
15 sure about the Bluenose caribou.

16 MR. L. ADJUN: The reason I asked that question
17 is because we know the Dolphin Union travel to the mainland
18 side and around the Logger Point area north of Kugluktuk
19 and down to the Dismal Lake area. We have seen or sighted
20 Dolphin Union herd down in that area. That's why I wanted
21 to ask it. There's an association to that disease with
22 lungworm, and would it have an effect on the other species
23 of the Bluenose East?

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

25 Lisa.

1 MS. LECLERC: As you know, we collected feces
2 from the Dolphin Union, but not yet the Bluenose East.
3 Maybe some sample could be available from GNWT to explore a
4 little bit more an answer.

5 The lungworm: If the caribou have it, it's a
6 parasite, so there's no direct mortality. It would just go
7 in the lungs and actually make the animal more vulnerable
8 to predation. So, basically, if an animal have to run
9 because of a predator, it would be a little bit
10 incapacitated with its breathing capacity to run more.

11 I hope that answer your question, but there's no
12 direct mortality from caribou to lungworm.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

14 Larry.

15 MR. L. ADJUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 Thank you, Ms. Leclerc. On that, in regard to
17 mortality, the question came up regarding predation. Yes,
18 we have a high number of predators in our region. On the
19 west, southwest, north, and east of Kugluktuk we have a
20 high population of grizzly bears, and this year -- I'm
21 sorry, last fall, I believe, or this winter -- we had a new
22 quota put on the HTO. I believe it is now not a quota
23 system where the tag system has been removed, if I'm
24 correct.

25 THE CHAIR: Larry, I'll ask the GN.

1 Response?

2 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 Just quickly. Which species are you referring
4 to for your last question?

5 THE CHAIR: Go ahead, Larry.

6 MR. L. ADJUN: I'm talking about the grizzly
7 bears. I'm sorry. I was just informed also that we did
8 raise our sports hunts tag quotas to six, I believe, from
9 three which has been historically in there for the last 20
10 years when we had the sports hunts with Fred Webb -- oh,
11 I'm sorry -- five. Five grizzly bear tags now available.
12 And we originally had two to three, depending on the HTO
13 organization back then with our past sports hunts outfitter
14 which the HTO was in partnership with back then. But it
15 has now been dissolved.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

17 Just for clarification, I think that what that
18 part of Larry's question is to is: Is there a TAH on
19 grizzly bears there?

20 MR. DUMOND: No, there is no TAH on grizzly
21 bear. Yeah. The short answer is that.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

23 Larry, go ahead. Maybe I'm misinformed there.
24 Go ahead.

25 MR. L. ADJUN: Yeah, maybe I misled you.

1 We do have a high population of grizzly bears,
2 wolves, wolverines; and I believe we're in big contention
3 with Baker Lake for the highest number of furs harvested
4 from our predators; but I believe they might have the upper
5 hand on Kuglutumuit. Kuglutumuit have the highest rate of
6 grizzly bears and wolverines, if I'm correct, that are
7 harvested annually. And that might answer one of your
8 Board Member's questions earlier.

9 And as stated by Jorgen yesterday, we have a
10 hard time trying to hunt inside the tree line. It costs a
11 lot of money to hunt when we do go hunt inside the tree
12 line at or north of Great Bear Lake and south of Kugluktuk
13 inside the tree line.

14 So we do have a healthy population of hunters
15 that do predator hunting on the sides; but it is mainly the
16 guys that are working that can afford the gas, and that's
17 where it hurts, because there's not a lot of people in
18 Kugluktuk that have a job, a steady job -- or work for the
19 GN. And our younger generation, as stated, is not picking
20 up the information or the experience from us current
21 hunters now.

22 I believe, from that, I'll leave it up to the
23 rest of the board of directors. I believe I'm just making
24 a statement for the time being just to clarify for
25 information.

1 But like I said, I'd like to thank GN for their
2 kind words on our behalf.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Larry. Other
4 board members, Kevin?

5 MR. KLENGENBERG: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 On your GN recommendations, where did the 3,500
7 come from? And then, was that a good year of hunting or a
8 poor year of hunting? Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Kevin.

10 Lisa.

11 MS. LECLERC: The 3,400 overall harvest, I
12 cannot say if it was, like, a good year or a poor year. I
13 think it was, like, an average of what each community was
14 taking. So maybe Northwest Territories could give a little
15 bit more precision, but that's what was estimated for
16 everybody altogether.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

18 Kevin.

19 MR. KLENGENBERG: That's all I got, Mr. Chair.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Peter.

21 MR. TAKTOGON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 On your survey, I don't really disagree with it.
23 I know the caribou have been splitting for the last, since
24 2013, '14, '15, and '16. On your survey, how long did you
25 survey, and how much land did you cover?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

2 Lisa.

3 MS. LECLERC: The survey in 2015 was done in
4 June. We had four plane and one helicopter, and we
5 basically covered an area from Bluenose Lake all the way
6 to, basically, including Bathurst caribou calving ground.

7 And we flew transect line in between the two
8 herd to really make sure that we had delineation between
9 the two herd where one finish and the other one start.

10 Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

12 Peter.

13 MR. TAKTOGON: Yeah, thank you for your answer.

14 And I believe the weather is always a factor. I
15 know, I understand it, and everything. I know you could
16 miss a lot of caribou, and I don't believe that you would
17 cover enough land to cover the areas and everything.

18 For my experience part, for the last three
19 years, I know that herd's been splitting. And I know you
20 guys concentrated on survey areas only, the calving grounds
21 and everything. I totally disagree with what you said;
22 it's declining fast, 'cause I think it was two years ago,
23 Northwest Territories said, "How come it declined so fast
24 in just a year or so?"

25 From my experience there -- I travel all over

1 and everything -- half of the herd was way off course in
2 the east. It went from Napaktulik Lake right above Winso
3 River (phonetic) and area where it's never usually
4 migrated. I know that part. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

6 Lisa.

7 MS. LECLERC: No comment. I think it was more a
8 comment.

9 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you, Lisa.

10 Gustin? Go ahead, young fellow.

11 MR. G. ADJUN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

12 Gustin Adjun.

13 If the TAH system goes through with the Bluenose
14 East caribou herd, how long do you think the caribou
15 population will be at its highest point again?

16 Thank you.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Gustin.

18 Lisa.

19 MS. LECLERC: Lisa.

20 There is a lot of uncertainty in the future as
21 how long it's going to -- when the herd's going to start
22 showing start of recovery, if the decline trend's going to
23 continue, if the populations stabilize, at which level the
24 population's going to stabilize.

25 What is worrisome right now is basically the

1 same situation than the Bathurst herd, which raise a lot of
2 concern. So we don't know. I know that the survey for it
3 has been increased. So if there is any modification of the
4 TAH, the next survey won't be in ten years or five years;
5 it will be regularly monitor.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

7 Gustin.

8 MR. G. ADJUN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9 Gustin Adjun. On your aerial survey, how far
10 south did the herd go? Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Gustin.

12 Lisa.

13 MS. LECLERC: We actually survey area at the
14 border in the tree line, so, basically, the grid extended
15 from the calving ground located at the coast all the way
16 down, covering the male, and then until there were less
17 than one caribou seen by 10 kilometres.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

19 Government of Nunavut. Jorgen.

20 MR. BOLT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 A question here. You stated how much, and if
22 there's any switching in this herd? Guys talk about
23 switching, some caribou go down to the other side, some
24 would switch. Jan was talking about that yesterday where
25 there was some switching from one Bathurst going over to

1 the Bluenose and then coming from Bluenose, vice versa kind
2 of thing.

3 So is there switching, and if there is
4 switching, how much? Yeah, thanks.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen.

6 Lisa.

7 MS. LECLERC: Lisa here.

8 I know yesterday we did the exercise with the
9 Bluenose, Bathurst, and the Beverly, and the collar. I
10 believe that Jan would do the same thing with the Bluenose
11 West, Bluenose East, and Bathurst. So I will leave it like
12 that, and the answer is going to be fully answer shortly.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

14 Jorgen.

15 MR. BOLT: I was just looking at yesterday's
16 agenda -- or whatever -- meeting. And it seems to be kind
17 of -- I don't know how much information or how much data
18 you guys work amongst yourselves, but it seems to be kind
19 of contradicting itself, because you're talking about this
20 January meeting, and I believe Bruno was here, Bruno Croft.
21 He's the GNWT biologist; right?

22 And so I was reading yesterday some of the
23 minutes of that meeting that we had in January, and it
24 stated clearly in there that Bruno stated that there is no
25 switching amongst the herds. Did you see the minutes

1 yesterday of that January meeting?

2 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen.

4 Lisa or Mathieu.

5 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 I think, well, what Bruno said, no switching, I
7 think is maybe extreme; and if you refer to Jan's
8 presentation yesterday where there's a low level of
9 switching that is recognized, that there's some caribou
10 that will switch from one herd to the other; but that
11 number is very low. And if you put things into context,
12 basically, let's say with the Bluenose herd, the next herd
13 beside them is the Bathurst herd.

14 So even if you had a lot of switching between
15 those two herds, you're still talking about a herd that is
16 about 38,000 animals and a herd that is less than 20,000
17 animals. So whatever switching there is between those two
18 herds doesn't really affect the concern at hand here that
19 they all have declined. And if you go further east or
20 west, all the herds basically have declined.

21 So even if there's some level of switching, it
22 doesn't remove the main issue that all the caribou herds
23 are currently on the decline. Thank you.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

25 Jorgen.

1 MR. BOLT: So, you say switching. You just
2 keep going back -- you talk about segregating these herds,
3 whatever you want to call it, and you say -- okay. My
4 train of thought just kind of disappeared here for a sec.
5 I've got so many things going through my head right now.
6 So I'll write it down and come back to you after a while.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen. Peter.

8 MR. TAKTOGON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9 Why were we not consulted before you start
10 putting total harvest on Kugluktuk and Northwest
11 Territories? And why have you used the old TAH system from
12 the communities that was way back and outdated?

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

14 Mathieu.

15 MR. DUMOND: Thank you.

16 Okay. The estimate of the harvest for Kugluktuk
17 is based on trying to update what was gathered during the
18 harvest study, and updated with more current information,
19 and try to have a general estimate of the harvest and the
20 needs. However, it's compared to, also, the same type of
21 exercise in the NWT; and that's what was used for, I guess,
22 the agreement on how a TAH on that herd would be shared.

23 At the end of the day, if it's in the
24 establishment of a BNL, it's out of our hand. Like, it's
25 the role of the NWMB to really clearly establish what would

1 be the BNL for Kugluktuk. But in this case, we know that
2 whatever that BNL would be, it would be above what the
3 harvest recommendations are.

4 So it's mainly relevant in the sharing with NWT,
5 but that's something that I believe -- and, Peter, I think
6 you were the one involved in some of those meeting,
7 interjurisdictional meeting, and discussion with the Sahtu,
8 in particular, on this management issue. So there's even
9 some meetings where the government was not involved or
10 invited, and I think you potentially have actually more
11 information than us on this. Thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

13 Peter.

14 MR. TAKTOGON: Yeah, Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15 I'm just talking about not the Bathurst herd;
16 I'm talking about the Bluenose herd. You never answered my
17 question. Why were we not consulted before you guys put a
18 TAH on us and everything? Why you guys jumped from one
19 government to another government?

20 MR. DUMOND: At this time, there is no TAH --
21 oh, sorry.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

23 Go ahead.

24 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
25 apologize.

1 Mathieu Dumond Government of Nunavut.

2 At this time, there is no TAH on the Bluenose
3 caribou herd. At this time, there is no TAH. That's why
4 we're here. There is a proposal for a TAH from the
5 Government of Nunavut to address the current situation, but
6 there is currently no TAH in place on the Bluenose East
7 caribou herd. Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

9 Any other questions -- Kevin?

10 MR. KLENGENBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11 On your recommendations, again, where did your
12 2.5 percent come from?

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Kevin.

14 Lisa.

15 MS. LECLERC: Lisa here.

16 So the 2.5 percent came from two source. One is
17 from ENR, BQCNB, Porcupine herd. It's, basically, a rule
18 of thumb, a guideline, that is used to recommend the range
19 of harvest that a herd could be at different phase; if it's
20 high, if it's medium population, basically, if the
21 population is very low when we talk about 20 percent or 4
22 percent of the peak historical estimate or maximum estimate
23 of the herd.

24 So, basically, in fall 2015, the ACCWM listed
25 the herd in the orange zone, which has been signed by the

1 KRWB; and the orange zone and the management plan associate
2 with it is basically between 20 to 60,000. So there is the
3 population range, but we also, in that management plan,
4 look at how well the other indicator are looking; right?
5 Like, the pregnancy and calf survival and so on.

6 So we're more onto a lower part of that orange
7 going to the red, that yellow going to the green at that
8 time. So we had more rationale to go to a lower harvest
9 percentage, which is still not conservative. It could be,
10 like, from 1 to 2 percent. So we basically based it at 2.5
11 percent, which seems to be reasonable, according to the
12 high rate of decline and what -- yeah.

13 So we recognize that the taking care management
14 plan is not implemented by the NWMB or the minister, but
15 because there's so much community consultation, and KRWB
16 sign it, it was based as a guideline for recommendation on
17 that herd at that stage.

18 I hope that answer your question, Kevin. I know
19 there's, like, a big background, but I tried to be as clear
20 as possible.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

22 Kevin.

23 MR. KLENGENBERG: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.

24 Thank you, Lisa.

25 More of a comment and suggestion, I guess.

1 Like, everybody knows about our predator problem we have,
2 we all have. Like, if we raise the prices on pelts, like
3 the NWT does, I'm sure everybody's going to go hunting now,
4 if that fur price went up. Right now, nobody's hunting
5 wolves. It's not worth it; the price is too low. They
6 wouldn't make profit at all.

7 So just a suggestion, I guess, to raise the
8 prices on the wolves. Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much for that
10 comment, Kevin.

11 Larry.

12 MR. L. ADJUN: Quana, itsivautaaq.

13 I just noticed on the executive committee for
14 the KRWB we now have an elected or a working West Kitikmeot
15 Regional Wildlife Management board. I'm brain tired
16 already. But we have a new -- what is the title -- but I
17 don't see her at the table. All we have is the Eastern
18 Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Management board coordinator,
19 but we don't have the Western Kitikmeot Regional
20 coordinator here.

21 I believe that will give us a little more push,
22 a little more political bang for our buck, as it were, but
23 I just noticed that we don't have our representative, Eva
24 Ayalik, that represents western Kitikmeot region. I just
25 wanted to point that out.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

2 Is there any other questions, Peter?

3 MR. TAKTOGON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4 I just want to ask one question. Is there a
5 chance of surveying wolves? I know they're killing off the
6 caribou and everything. I know you had survey with grizzly
7 bears already. Is there a plan to survey wolves in the
8 future?

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

10 Government of Nunavut. Mathieu.

11 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

13 Like it was mentioned in the past couple of
14 days, like, surveying wolves and estimating the number of
15 wolves is extremely difficult, and, if feasible, would be
16 extremely, extremely costly, like, out of the range, I
17 think, of any budget we can hope.

18 So, at this time, there's no plan to survey
19 wolves. There's other programs on carnivores, but at this
20 time, there's no plan to estimate the number of wolves on
21 the range because we don't feel we can do it within our
22 resources. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

24 Jorgen.

25 MR. BOLT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1 calving grounds: Has the Bluenose herd calving grounds
2 ever shifted their calving grounds like the Bathurst herd
3 did? Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sam.

5 Lisa.

6 MS. LECLERC: I don't think so, no. I don't
7 think that we have any TK or monitoring of a shift like it
8 was done for the Bathurst or the Beverly.

9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

11 Sam.

12 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13 Thank you, Lisa, again. One last question.

14 When you're doing your caribou survey, I understand you fly
15 lines; right?

16 I've asked this question before regarding the
17 survey on the Bathurst caribou herd. What distance do you
18 fly in between the two lines? Because I know, when I
19 raised that question, whenever, on the Bathurst range side,
20 some of your flight lines were 10 kilometres apart. 10
21 kilometres is a pretty far range, and we know the terrain
22 is not flat. We know there's hills, we know there's
23 valleys, and 10 kilometres apart you're not going to see
24 everything; right? So I'm just wondering what your flight
25 lines -- or what your distance between the two flight lines

1 are when you were surveying the Bluenose East caribou.

2 Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sam.

4 Lisa.

5 MS. LECLERC: Lisa.

6 So we fly it twice when we do a population
7 estimate. We fly once with the 10-kilometre transect. At
8 that time, we want to know where the high number of caribou
9 are, and then that's when we bring the photo plane, and
10 then that 10 kilometres -- the space in between those lines
11 decrease significantly so we have somewhere between 2 and 5
12 kilometres to increase the percentage of animal that the
13 picture have taken in that high-density zone.

14 I hope that answer your question. So,
15 basically, what we did with the Bathurst; exact same thing
16 methodology that was applied with the Bluenose East.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

18 Sam.

19 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20 I'm just wondering: In your recent surveys,
21 what's the closest lines that you fly? Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thanks, Sam.

23 Lisa.

24 MS. LECLERC: It's 2.5 kilometres, yeah.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

1 Sam.

2 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

3 Thank you, Lisa. No further questions.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

5 Bay Chimo HTO. Peter, any comments for the GN?

6 BAY CHIMO HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

7 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8 Peter from Bay Chimo HTO. Just one question.

9 Do you have a number for a calf-and-cow ratio for the BNE
10 herd? Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

12 Government of Nunavut.

13 MS. LECLERC: Yeah, we're going to refer that
14 question to GNWT; they have the exact number, I presume.

15 THE CHAIR: Okay. Lynda, would you like to
16 respond to that at this point -- or Jan?

17 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government
18 Northwest Territories.

19 So we have late winter or spring calf-to-cow
20 ratios for the Bluenose East herd going back a few years,
21 and the last few years, those ratios have been in the range
22 of sort of 22, 25, 27 calves per hundred cows; and this is
23 usually measured in March, possibly early April. And the
24 general experience has been that you need ratios, sustained
25 ratios, of at least 30 calves per hundred and probably more

1 like 40 calves per hundred. That seems to be associated
2 with a stable herd. So the recent ratios for Bluenose East
3 and Bathurst have been similar, and for a number of years
4 now, they have been quite a bit below what we associate
5 with a stable herd.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

7 Peter.

8 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9 No further questions. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

11 Cambridge Bay HTO, Bobby.

12 CAMBRIDGE BAY HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

13 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14 I got a couple questions. Bobby Greenley from
15 the HTO.

16 Not only with the Bluenose East herd, but what
17 seems like all herds, there is always a low birthing rate.
18 What are your guys' thoughts or reasons, if you know, why
19 just about every herd has a low birthing rate? Is it
20 stress or vegetation disappearing on them where they
21 migrate? Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bobby.

23 Lisa.

24 MS. LECLERC: Here again, it's like a cumulative
25 effect, Bobby. Like, the pregnancy could be influenced by

1 the presence of disease like brucellosis that's goes to
2 affect the reproduction, and the percentage of that disease
3 in the herd.

4 Then you have vegetation. If the female is able
5 to feed enough to have plenty of fat to go through the
6 winter and be healthy to get pregnant -- starving cow have
7 usually lower pregnancy.

8 And also, affect: Insect harassment. You know,
9 everything that could make the female move and spend more
10 energy, that will also affect, not only the survival, but
11 the production. So there's a cumulative of that; right?
12 Because you know that some year it's cooler, hotter, the
13 insect vary. So is the grazing vegetation. So it's many
14 factor together.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

16 Bobby.

17 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you Lisa.

18 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

19 One more. Everybody talks about predators. Has
20 anybody ever thought about the overpopulation of snow
21 geese? They tend to dig right to the roots of where they
22 eat. They are very overpopulated now. So I don't know if
23 there's snow geese in that area for both herds, Bluenose
24 and Bathurst. I know for our area there is quite a bit of
25 snow geese here. But just wondering if anybody's ever

1 taken that into consideration.

2 Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bobby.

4 Mathieu.

5 MR. DUMOND: I think the best example of
6 showing that it was taken into consideration is that it's
7 something we discussed, actually, at that January meeting
8 and that you started to implement for other herds, as an
9 HTO that you started to work on this aspect. So I think
10 that's a good example.

11 I think for the Bluenose East itself, the snow
12 geese population is not as significant as it can be in the
13 Queen Maud Gulf, in particular, or some areas on the
14 island, maybe.

15 So I'm not sure. It could be a significant
16 aspect, but water fowl do compete somewhat or use some of
17 the vegetation that can be useful to caribou, so there's
18 definitely something to look at here. Thanks.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

20 Bobby.

21 MR. GREENLEY: No questions from me. I'll pass
22 it over to George. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Go ahead, George.

24 MR. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 Just want to commend GN and GNWT for all their

1 fine efforts in spending all their time and efforts in
2 getting our numbers for us.

3 I do feel, however, that your estimated numbers
4 are very conservative. I believe the numbers to be quite
5 close over the years. But this fall, Lisa Marie, if you
6 recall in January when you gave us your estimates, you had
7 very low numbers on the east side of Victoria Island. They
8 were very low; but after you were done your survey, a few
9 hunters -- myself included -- went to the east side after
10 the Edward Bay had closed, and then we went to cross this
11 bay, and we run across a lot of caribou tracks and also a
12 lot of caribou -- we harvested a few caribou on the east
13 side. But I wanted to, you know, see for myself, because I
14 know that they're starting to move over to the east side.

15 So with having said all that, the estimate
16 numbers and the these caribou following through on the east
17 side after you had flown all your lines; as a harvester --
18 and every harvester knows that sighting of caribou from the
19 distance that you're flying is very difficult. I mean,
20 you're going to miss a large percentage of them. I know
21 because, when I go out with some harvesters, they will tend
22 to drive by the animals -- myself included -- because they
23 blend in so well with the environment, the colouration of
24 the land. Very easy to miss. And I know that these large
25 numbers on the east side were missed by the plane that were

1 not seen.

2 So that's why I'm just saying that the estimates
3 are very low, and it could be included in all the herds. I
4 know in the NWT it's impossible, from the distance that
5 you're flying, to get all the animals. I mean, you could
6 miss two or three here and, another few kilometres, two or
7 three; and those numbers add up. You know, just to keep
8 that in mind when you're giving your estimates, because it
9 is impossible to get these accurate numbers; and every
10 harvester knows this. And, again, thank you for all your
11 efforts.

12 Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, George.

14 Lisa.

15 MS. LECLERC: Just a very quick comment, because
16 the herd that George is referring is the Dolphin Union
17 herd, which is a different herd than the Bluenose East.

18 I'm going to talk to you about -- because we did
19 have a collar in the east, and because of that, we were
20 able to add up on that population estimate for what we
21 might probably miss in the east. So we could talk a little
22 bit more in a separate meeting on what I did. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Mathieu, you got something to add?

24 MR. DUMOND: Yes, maybe just specific to the
25 Bluenose East herd. Just to mention that since

1 2010-2011 -- acknowledging what you said that, in the
2 classic surveys where there was a pilot, navigator, and one
3 observer on the side in the back, there was a recognition
4 that an unknown number of animals were potentially missed.
5 And since 2010-2011, we have modified the method to add
6 some observers, and, in that way, to be able to estimate
7 what one observer miss, because there's one or two other
8 observers behind. And with that we've been able to have a
9 much better confidence on the number counted on the
10 transects, and we feel that we're getting to the point
11 where it's quite accurate of the number of caribou on the
12 ground for the area that is surveyed by the plane.

13 So just to mention that we acknowledge what you
14 said, and that we have modified the method to try to
15 account for that. Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

17 George.

18 Okay. Thank you very much, Cambridge Bay.

19 Any questions from Elders representation or
20 Elders that are in the room today to the Government of
21 Nunavut? If not, we'll carry on to NTI. Bert?

22 NUNAVUT TUNNGAVIK INCORPORATED QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

23 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 Bert Dean, NTI's Wildlife and Environment
25 Department.

1 Thanks for your presentation, Lisa. A few
2 questions. One -- and I guess I'd asked this the other
3 day, as well, of some of the Kugluktuk delegates. Do you
4 have an approximate -- or do you know what the approximate
5 harvest of Bluenose East caribou would be by the hunters
6 from Kugluktuk?

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

8 Government of Nunavut, Lisa.

9 MS. LECLERC: I think that we had had a
10 consensus with the hunters there was a 1,000 -- between
11 1,000 to 1,500.

12 THE CHAIR: Mathieu.

13 MR. DUMOND: And just to add that, probably in
14 the recent years, this has probably went down a little bit
15 because of the low availability of the Bluenose herd for
16 Kuglutumuit. During the main harvesting period that was in
17 the winter and in the spring, the caribou were far enough,
18 usually, from the community that their harvest went down,
19 and their harvest shifted mainly to the Dolphin and Union
20 caribou herd that get a little bit heavier than the
21 previous years, probably, to compensate for that.

22 But, overall, I think the caribou harvest, from
23 the information we have that the HTO and the wildlife
24 officers are collecting, has slightly gone down from that
25 original number when the herd was plenty and fully

1 accessible around the community. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

3 Bert.

4 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 Thanks, Lisa. Thanks, Mathieu. And I guess

6 related to that: So what time of year is most of that

7 harvest happening?

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

9 Mathieu.

10 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

12 I'm sure the Kugluktuk HTO will be in a better

13 place to detail, a little bit, the seasonality and the

14 location of the harvest on the Bluenose. But from my

15 experience, when the herd was plenty, there was some level

16 of harvest in the fall time slightly south and little bit

17 east of Kugluktuk where, usually, in particular, the males

18 were found there. And then it was mainly in the winter,

19 and that harvest was associated with the furbearer harvest

20 usually close to the tree line, Dismal Lake and south of

21 Dismal Lake, in that area. The first year, anyway, I was

22 there when the herd was plenty. It was the core area where

23 a lot of harvesters were going. And then in the springtime

24 when the herd passed by, there was some level of harvest,

25 and over the summer, more scattered and opportunistic

1 harvests whenever there was isolated caribou or caribou
2 groups.

3 And in the more recent years, like, the winter
4 harvest has been very low because the herd has wintered in
5 more remote places and further away from the community.
6 There's been a few years where the herd was found, and
7 there was a little bit of an increase in harvest because
8 there was a good snow machine trail to go where the caribou
9 were, but it was still fairly limited because it was a
10 fairly long journey.

11 And I haven't seen, over the past few years,
12 many caribou in the fall time, so harvest in the fall time
13 now is quite limited. And, again, the Kugluktuk HTO can
14 correct me or confirm. So that's my understanding that,
15 with the low availability of those caribou, the harvest
16 pressure from Kugluktuk has decreased over the past few
17 years, slightly, from the original estimate of the harvest
18 level.

19 Yeah, that would answer, I think, the question.
20 Thank you.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

22 Bert -- and maybe you can save that question for
23 Kugluktuk when they make their presentation.

24 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 Yeah, I'll follow up on a few aspects of that

1 after the Kugluktuk makes their presentation.

2 Related to all of this -- and I know initially a
3 harvest study was done, but for this hearing, has any of
4 the harvest study information from Kugluktuk been entered
5 with the Board or been looked at or considered? Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

7 Government of Nunavut. Go ahead.

8 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm careful
9 now.

10 Well, if you refer to the harvest study, I mean,
11 I would assume that they are somewhat automatically entered
12 in what the NWMB has, because they were the one doing the
13 harvest study for the more recent estimates.
14 Unfortunately, there's no mandatory reporting, and we're
15 always in that blurry -- I mean, I say "unfortunately" for
16 the sake of those data -- we're always in a blurry area of
17 estimating what's out there, and, I mean, the officers and
18 the HTO have done a lot of work to get more hunters
19 reporting their harvest and reporting what they've seen on
20 the land and what they harvested.

21 But there's always that question mark of how
22 many don't report it and how many are harvested from those
23 who don't report it. And it makes it always very difficult
24 to have a hard number. It's always a rough estimate at
25 this time, and we're just left with that at this time.

1 Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

3 Bert.

4 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 Thanks again, Mathieu.

6 Yeah, and I guess where I'm going with the
7 questions is -- and, again, similar to a couple of days ago
8 is: How is either the distribution of caribou changed --
9 and I think that was one of the earlier questions again
10 today -- when they're closer to the community or when
11 harvesters are able to access them, whether it's winter or
12 in the fall or spring, and, again, depending on routes and
13 the fact that the community does -- at the moment,
14 anyhow -- rely on two herds of mostly Dolphin Union and
15 Bluenose East caribou? But occasionally it could also be
16 Bathurst caribou.

17 And any kind of management actions or, again,
18 buy-in and support from the community. I mean, all these
19 things, I think, are going to be important to try and get
20 the support from the hunters to reporting harvest and to be
21 getting and including their information. Because it's not
22 just, oh, they shot a caribou. Was it a bull or a female?
23 Was it in a large or small group? I think a lot of things
24 that the NWMB's pilot project with the community-based
25 monitoring was trying to gather.

1 But, hopefully, you know, by including that
2 information from the hunters, you'd be getting their input
3 and their recommendations. You know, very much hunters
4 themselves or the HTO, and I think as the government has
5 recognized, there's been quite a bit of work done, I can
6 easily say, over the last 20 years, because I've had the
7 opportunity to travel and work with the different HTOs; and
8 Kugluktuk, by far, has been one of the more active and
9 proactive HTOs that we have in Nunavut. So I think there's
10 an opportunity for us to work with the HTO and include the
11 information that the hunters are getting.

12 And related to that, I guess, is: Has there
13 been any work done in terms of habitat, you know, in terms
14 of the range itself and what's potentially going on? I
15 know in some of the other regions there's been some work
16 done, but I'm not sure if anything's been done in the
17 Bluenose East caribou range.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

19 Mathieu.

20 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

22 If I may, just on your original comment of using
23 local information, I just want to indicate that a
24 relatively recent example of doing so -- like, with the HTO
25 collecting that information from the harvesters on a

1 voluntarily basis -- and relatively recently, a few years
2 back, we actually moved forward proposal to increase muskox
3 TAH basically solely based, or mainly based, on harvesters'
4 report of observation of muskox, and we were successful in
5 doing so and increasing the harvest; and then subsequently
6 there was a survey, and it increased even more.

7 But, I mean, just to say that we've been trying
8 to use that information and to make management decision,
9 and that's one of the goals to have that community-based
10 information to inform, along with the other information,
11 management decision.

12 For the -- and now I lost your other question.
13 Sorry. I'm going to have ask you to repeat it. Oh, yeah,
14 for the habitat -- sorry. For the habitat. Lisa maybe can
15 provide more details, but there's been some similar work to
16 what was done in the Kivalliq in the Bluenose range of
17 satellite habitat map and ground truthing of those habitat
18 and that vegetation. So that will provide a base line and
19 a state of the habitat at that time and, potentially, for
20 some future monitoring of the evolution of that habitat.
21 Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

23 MS. LECLERC: Just a quick comment. Again, for
24 the Bathurst, we have a Bathurst range plan. We don't have
25 that going yet for the Bluenose East at the moment.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

2 Bert.

3 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 And thanks, Mathieu and Lisa.

5 Maybe for Lisa, the next couple of questions.

6 Just referring to back to the January workshop we were both
7 at, and I've been taking a closer look at the notes. Are
8 those still draft notes, or would you consider those the
9 final minutes from the January workshop? I'm just...

10 MS. LECLERC: So as you know, the January
11 workshop happened in January, and then soon after that, we
12 had to give that document for translation. And it was in
13 the draft stage, and it was in the draft stage, at that
14 time because that document was sent to all the HTO present
15 at the meeting to make sure that the accuracy of that
16 document was good, like, we reported what the consultant
17 actually wrote down was properly capturing what the
18 participant was saying. And I didn't hear back from them
19 yet.

20 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Lisa.

21 Yeah, and maybe I'm one of the guilty parties in
22 not providing feedback on the notes, but they are
23 incomplete; there's a lot of things missing. You mentioned
24 the meeting is recorded, and there is some notes we can go
25 back to. But I guess, from that workshop and the

1 consultations or the meetings that you've been trying to
2 have with the HTOs or in the communities, and even this
3 hearing: Do you get a sense -- from those previous
4 meetings, anyhow -- maybe not fair to bring this hearing
5 into the mix -- but that the delegates at those meetings
6 realized that, you know, a quota or a TAH was coming?

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

8 Lisa.

9 MS. LECLERC: Lisa here.

10 I think that the big surprise for the HTO came a
11 year ago, like, in January. That's when we, you know,
12 start having the hard conversation about stronger measure,
13 which was a thousand at that time.

14 There were also -- I didn't mention it in the
15 consultation, but there were also recommendation from the
16 HTO to talk to the public about it during the caribou week.
17 So the meeting was in February, and the caribou week was in
18 March.

19 As I mentioned, we show up, and nobody was there
20 from the public, which was one of the first time -- I don't
21 know if it was bingo night or something like that. But we
22 tried. We tried to get the information and reach out to
23 the public to a more serious management action.

24 So I think that that was ongoing in the mind of
25 people for a year previously to the January meeting.

1 THE CHAIR: Thanks, Lisa.
2 Bert.
3 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
4 And thanks, Lisa.
5 And so do you think harvesters or hunters back
6 in Kugluktuk, back in their home community of Kugluktuk,
7 are aware that this meeting's going on and there's a
8 potential TAH coming, they'll have to deal with tags for
9 caribou? Thank you.
10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.
11 Lisa.
12 MS. LECLERC: Lisa here.
13 It would be really hard to know what the
14 community know about that meeting, and so on, or how they
15 feel about it. So I think I will leave that to the
16 Kugluktuk HTO, because they have way more deeper connection
17 where they're a member and family in Kugluktuk.
18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.
19 Bert.
20 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21 And thanks, Lisa and Mathieu. That's all the
22 questions we have. Thank you.
23 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.
24 Okay. Before we go to KIA, maybe we'll break
25 early for lunch, and we'll all be back here at quarter

1 after one, 1:15. Thank you very much.

2 (Proceedings ended at 11:47 a.m.)

3

4 (Proceedings to recommence at 1:15 p.m.)

5

6 THE CHAIR: Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome back. Thank
7 you for being here on time and hope everybody had a good
8 lunch. The weather's not so beautiful out there, so we'll
9 just enjoy it inside here.

10 Next up on our agenda for questions to the GN
11 is Kitikmeot Inuit Association. Paul.

12 KITIKMEOT INUIT ASSOCIATION QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

13 MR. EMINGAK: Quana, itsivautaaq. Yes, it is
14 quite wet outside and messy, so we should enjoy our indoors
15 today.

16 My question is to the GN. I don't want to make
17 it too controversial, but I would like to understand a
18 little bit more, -- I guess, the questions were raised this
19 morning in regards to IQ, Inuit qaujimajatuqangit
20 principles.

21 My supplementary, Mr. Chairman, is: How often
22 does Department of Environment incorporate IQ into their
23 studies and into the work when they're building or, I
24 guess, when they're putting together proposals such as TAH,
25 total allowable harvests? Do they incorporate traditional

1 knowledge from other case studies such as: You know, when
2 we work with the mining companies in affected communities
3 we have a database. I'm just wondering if Department of
4 Environment has ever used our information.

5 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

7 Lisa.

8 MS. LECLERC: Lisa, Department of Environment.

9 On the survey report draft, if you turn to page
10 30 on your binder, there's actually a map of the study area
11 that our colleague, GNWT, will be presenting.

12 So the last survey was actually done with the
13 community member of Kugluktuk. Jorgen flew with us, and at
14 that time, with our meeting to plan that survey, the
15 community, it raised that around local point, they might
16 have caribou there, like, using local knowledge and
17 traditional knowledge, and they might be there in June.
18 Therefore, we actually take the plane and fly the survey at
19 that location, which was not part of this scientific-based
20 plan. So we actually included IQ at that time to fly the
21 survey. So that was an application on the survey.

22 Another application of IQ, it's basically the
23 young bull and small bull. If a bull is harvested, not use
24 the prime, huge bull. And that was actually documented
25 through numerous amount of community consultation that was

1 done when we were planning the taking care of the caribou
2 management plan.

3 Based on all that serious discussion that was
4 taking place from 2009 to actually when the plan was
5 finished in 2014, we actually had gather all that community
6 information per community that was using the Bluenose East,
7 and that document's actually available as an appendix for
8 the management plan. So along the way, we did include IQ.
9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

11 Paul.

12 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you very much for that
13 information, Lisa.

14 My other question, I guess, is in regards to the
15 same supplementary. I know that the Department of
16 Environment have used, you know, Inuit from the different
17 communities to sit as advisory committee members on
18 traditional knowledge or IQ. I'm just wondering if our
19 representatives from the region have ever participated when
20 you're discussing this type of proposal.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

22 Government of Nunavut, Mathieu.

23 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 To answer shortly your question, yes, the
25 representative of the traditional knowledge committee has

1 been present on many of those meetings in consultation
2 we've had over the past years; and additionally to that, as
3 I mentioned earlier, we had several meetings where the goal
4 was to lay out all the information coming from all
5 different sources, including IQ; and with encouraging
6 strongly to have the IQ on the table, as well, the
7 traditional knowledge.

8 So we've done a lot of efforts to integrate IQ
9 in our process and in our research and monitoring.

10 Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

12 Paul.

13 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you for the information.

14 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 Thank you, for the information, Mathieu.

16 I guess this is just a general comment before I
17 hand it over to Geoff.

18 There are a lot of times, you know, when we hear
19 from our Elders and past Elders; when governments or
20 researchers, you know, do conduct surveys or research,
21 oftentimes, you know, they consult with the affected
22 community or Elders, and often times in the past they've
23 been honest, they've been truthful, but when it comes down
24 to making a proposal or putting a research paper together
25 their knowledge is, I would say, not used often but more

1 of, I would say, western science, scientific information
2 that is used to present to governments or others. And I
3 think, you know, in this day and age to the organizations,
4 governments, you know, including NTI, RIAs, we'll need to
5 come together and work together on those type of
6 principles.

7 So thank you very much for your time.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

9 And I think that was more of a comment, then,
10 too. Geoff.

11 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 I'll turn it over to John Donihee for some
13 questions.

14 THE CHAIR: John, go ahead. Looks like the
15 lawyer lost his file.

16 MR. CLARK: I caught John by surprise. I
17 apologize for that.

18 THE CHAIR: No problem.

19 MR. CLARK: So I'll ask my questions.

20 THE CHAIR: Okay.

21 MR. CLARK: Thank you very much for the
22 presentation and the information.

23 The first question is, is that in the meeting
24 reports and a couple days ago in this hearing, the GN said
25 that a TAH is needed because non-Inuit harvest could be

1 significant. I want to explore this further, because I'm
2 not sure if this could be an unstated reason by the GN, why
3 the GN prefers a TAH as compared to working to implement
4 5.7.3 of the NLCA with Inuit.

5 And so I guess the question is: Is this an
6 important reason why the GN wants a TAH? Because it was,
7 you know, presented in the consultation summary as an
8 important reason versus exploring other options to manage
9 the caribou herd.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

11 Government of Nunavut. Mathieu.

12 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

14 I mean, this is one of the reason -- it's not
15 the only one, but it is one of the mechanism we have under
16 the Land Claim to address both non-Inuit and Inuit harvest,
17 and that's one of the very few and limited tools that we
18 have under the Land Claim to address both those issues.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu. Oh, Lisa, you
20 want to supplement?

21 MS. LECLERC: Just to be clear, I think that
22 we're facing, as the Bathurst herd, a conservation concern.
23 If that herds are -- I hope not, but if the reconnaissance
24 survey show that the herd has been declining 29 percent
25 again between 2015 and 2016, the number are disappearing

1 very quickly, and I think that's alarming, and we have a
2 conservation concern at this point to address. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

4 Geoff.

5 MR. CLARK: KIA has acknowledged that there's
6 a conversion concern. I am more familiar with harvesting
7 around Kugluktuk than around Bathurst Inlet.

8 And for the benefit of the Board, perhaps the GN
9 DoE could agree or disagree, perhaps. It's pretty hard to
10 do a consensus of resident harvesting in Kugluktuk, but, in
11 a sense, that there isn't hard data offered by the GN, but
12 in another way, it's pretty easy because there's very few
13 residents that harvest.

14 And the census was kind of easy because I'm one
15 of the residents, and there's another fellow in our office
16 who recently moved and no longer lives in the territory,
17 and between the two of us, we estimated we harvested one
18 Bluenose East caribou in the last five years.

19 And we're not sure if -- you know, we know that
20 many of the other residents in Kugluktuk don't have the
21 skills or the equipment or the time or even, sometimes, the
22 interest to harvest; and we don't know any others that have
23 come to us to talk to about harvesting caribou. And so
24 would you agree that the harvesting by residents in
25 Kugluktuk to date, if you want to say, I don't know, the

1 last five years or ten years has been negligible compared
2 to the overall harvest?

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

4 Mathieu.

5 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 What I'll agree to say is that, yeah, the
7 current resident harvest is limited, and as you can see
8 with the proposal, the restriction needed are beyond that;
9 and so to focus on this aspect of the current resident
10 harvest being minimum -- although there's nothing that
11 would prevent it to increase for any reason, let's not go
12 there, let's not speculate. But just at this time, as you
13 can see with the harvest recommendation that it's well
14 below even what Inuit are usually harvesting.

15 So to focus on the resident I don't think is
16 really relevant at this time. It's one of the reason that
17 there's a need to make sure that there's no future,
18 possibly, to have an unregulated harvest from
19 nonbeneficiaries on this herd, but it's not the only
20 reason, and to focus only on that cannot steer away from
21 the core of the problem here. Thanks.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

23 Geoff.

24 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 And thank you for the answer, Mathieu. That

1 does clear up a confusion that KIA had in terms of the
2 summary of the consultation summary that stated that a TAH
3 was required because resident harvest needed to be
4 eliminated, and it's clearly a bigger issue than that.

5 The GN has said during this hearing that some
6 communities did not want to use their authority in the NLCA
7 in 5.7.3 of the Land Claim or 5.7.6 of the Land Claim in
8 the past. I believe these were examples from other
9 communities and other regions of Nunavut.

10 In this case, did you ask the Kugluktuk HTO if
11 they wanted to use their NLCA 5.7.3 rights to manage the
12 caribou herd, or did you ask if they would prefer the GN to
13 implement a TAH?

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

15 Government of Nunavut. Mathieu.

16 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

17 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

18 I think there's two things here. As it was
19 mentioned, there was some consultation with some discussion
20 on what the communities felt and all that; and there was
21 also, as I mentioned earlier, that the consultation process
22 and the discussion with the community had started much
23 earlier, and there were some start of development of
24 strategies at the community level. So I'm not sure it's
25 solely up to the GN to kind of ask the community whether

1 you want to implement your rights under the Land Claim to
2 regulate your members on the harvest. That's something
3 that could have been done by the community at any time.

4 So the discussion included options on harvest
5 since 2006, and the government is proposing one way to
6 address the issue at this time, which is through a TAH,
7 which is a process identified under the Land Claim, based
8 on how Inuit designed the Land Claim. So thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

10 Geoff.

11 MR. CLARK: So in regards to any kind of
12 accommodation in this process that's been described as
13 consultation to look for alternatives to meet the
14 conservation need or objective related to the problem, the
15 GN never explored NLCA 5.7.3 with the HTO?

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

17 Lisa or Mathieu.

18 MR. DUMOND: I think, from our perspective, it
19 was explored since 2006 where we did discuss on trying to
20 find out all the possibilities and all the options to
21 manage the herd, and the option of self-regulation of the
22 harvest by beneficiaries was one of the option.

23 It's just that it's ten years later, and nothing
24 has been implemented in terms of limiting the harvest
25 number. There's a lot of initiatives that have been done

1 but that are not touching in terms of any limit on the
2 harvest itself. And it's been ten years, and so something
3 has to be done, considering the situation of the herd. And
4 I think that's where the government is coming from, and
5 we've done our due diligence to consult with the
6 communities and to inform them along those ten years, and
7 this is our recommendation at this time. Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Lisa, you want to add?

9 MS. LECLERC: I just want to add that in January
10 of '16 meeting, when you look at the Appendix 3 for the
11 presentation in your binder, so the wildlife management in
12 Nunavut, in the overview of the co-management partner; but
13 also there were a slide, hunter and trapper organization
14 and NLCA Article 5, Part 7, 5.7.3, where the function of
15 the HTO was rementioned at that meeting to all HTO present.
16 As well, at 5.7.6, the power and function of the RWO.

17 So this was revised at the January meeting
18 before explaining a TAH proposal from the GN. So they were
19 aware of that at that time. Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

21 Geoff.

22 MR. CLARK: Thank you for the answer. I've
23 seen this in various publications in the Northwest
24 Territories and Nunavut, whether it's consultation
25 summaries or answers from biologists that there's this

1 general rule or estimate -- oh, one wolf, on average, kills
2 about 25 caribou per year. Is this estimate roughly
3 accurate, or could you provide any more information around
4 this information that seems to be put out there?

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

6 GN. Mathieu?

7 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

9 I think you have to be extremely careful with
10 all those numbers that are usually taken out of context of
11 how people came up with them and what they were meant for.
12 And I won't -- I mean, people will know already what I'm
13 saying is that wolf eat caribou, they eat other things; and
14 they eat quite a bit of other things as well.

15 So it's very hard to have faith to a number and
16 start extrapolating that to the hypothetical wolf
17 population in the range, and say that, you know, your wolf
18 must be eating that many caribou because there's wolves
19 that kill caribou. Depending -- as we heard, depending
20 when they're in packs or in pairs or lone wolves, their
21 behaviour will be different, and their consumption rate
22 will be different.

23 So I think you have to be very careful with this
24 number, and I won't be able to comfort or to dismiss the
25 number you're bringing up, but I would just want to be

1 extremely careful with using those numbers as a flagship of
2 that's how many caribou wolves are taking every year.

3 I would just be very careful in using those
4 numbers. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

6 Geoff.

7 MR. CLARK: There's been conversation over the
8 last couple of days about turnover at HTOs and low budgets
9 and things that affect the capacity of the HTOs.

10 The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board lawyer, if
11 I recall correctly, asked about the HTOs discussing an
12 alternative management plan instead of a TAH, in day two.
13 And Lisa Marie had presented information to show that there
14 was a presentation on the NLCA to the meeting on January
15 14-15, 2016.

16 It's interesting that, in the meeting minutes,
17 there's very little discussion. And I presume during the
18 presentation there was words said that weren't recorded in
19 the minutes that we have printed, but in the questions and
20 answers and so on, there's very little discussion recorded
21 about Article 5, except for one person saying they should
22 have an understanding -- or one person from the Kugluktuk
23 HTO saying that they should have an understanding -- of
24 Article 5 of the NLCA as part of the meeting.

25 So the question is: Did the GN feel at this

1 meeting that the HTOs knew of their rights; and, if not,
2 was the effort at that meeting adequate to educate them?

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

4 Drikus.

5 MR. GISSING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 Drikus Gissing, Director of Wildlife, Government
7 of Nunavut.

8 If you're referring to the meeting that happened
9 here in Cambridge Bay, I was at that meeting myself; and we
10 believe that, yes, the answer is "yes" to your question,
11 and same as for other consultation meetings of that nature.
12 We invite NTI as a co-management partner to those meetings,
13 and it's our assumption that people do know their rights,
14 and NTI will make sure that people are informed about their
15 rights at those meetings; and that's one of the reasons we
16 do invite them to the meetings, to ensure that Inuit rights
17 are respected and to be there as -- that can inform the
18 community and advise them on their rights.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Drikus.

20 Geoff.

21 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 If an organization such as the HTO is not fully
23 aware of their rights, can a meeting focused on limiting
24 Inuit rights, such as a TAH, be considered adequate
25 consultation?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

2 Mathieu.

3 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

5 I think the onus of educating beneficiaries on
6 the Land Claim and their rights granted under the Land
7 Claim falls largely on Inuit organization, NTI, and any
8 organization that they delegate that responsibility to.

9 It has to be recognized that the GN has always
10 made effort to be transparent about what the Land Claim
11 entitles people to do, and like Drikus mentioned, has
12 always invited NTI to participate in those meetings to
13 correct or complement the information on the NLCA and the
14 rights of Inuit at the table.

15 So I do believe that we have done due diligence
16 to consult in the proper format. Thank you.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

18 Geoff.

19 MR. CLARK: The last will be a comment, and
20 it's for the benefit of the Board. It's in relation to the
21 presentation by the GN. It just adds more clarity to the
22 Board.

23 Just for clarity's sake that there is no active
24 mining in the range of the Bluenose East caribou herd. So
25 I know that there were some questions about mining in the

1 Bluenose East caribou range. There's been very limited
2 exploration that happened last year; and my understanding
3 is, is that the Kugluktuk HTO was invited to survey the
4 area before the exploration started to confirm that there
5 was no caribou in the area, and that was confirmed, and
6 then there was a brief exploration program.

7 And so that's the extent of any, I guess,
8 economic development-related disturbance except for a
9 cleanup of a historic exploration site southwest of
10 Kugluktuk generally called Hope Lake where a local
11 contractor was removing abandoned fuel, storage, and
12 related materials from an exploration project from the
13 1950s. And then, of course, perhaps the only other
14 activity in the area would be the surveys themselves of the
15 caribou population, which probably would have a minimal
16 impact on the population.

17 So this herd likely has had very limited to no
18 disturbance by humans except for, perhaps, hunting -- well,
19 except for hunting -- and is a good example of the natural
20 fluctuation of caribou herds, in terms of their population,
21 because there really is no disturbance in this area, and
22 the caribou population seems to be going down as part of a
23 natural trend, and it will probably go up again in the
24 future.

25 And another clarification, I believe, on a

1 question that was asked. And I may be wrong, but this is
2 based on what I believe is accurate, is that the Bluenose
3 East caribou herd calving ground has shifted over time, and
4 there was a proposed national park around Bluenose Lake
5 called Tukturn Nogait National Park, and the rationale that
6 the Government of Canada wanted to establish that park was
7 because that's where the Bluenose East caribou herd calved.

8 Over time, the Bluenose East caribou herd has
9 moved its calving ground to an area south and east of that
10 proposed park, and the calving ground is closer to
11 Kugluktuk now.

12 I don't know how long ago that shift happened,
13 but that appears to be common knowledge within Kugluktuk,
14 but I can't give you the science behind it, so I may not be
15 completely accurate, but that seems to be the understanding
16 in the community.

17 So, with that, I'd like to turn it over to John
18 Donihee.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff. John.

20 MR. DONIHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm finally
21 ready.

22 I have a couple of questions which are really
23 intended just to relate the record in this proceeding to
24 yesterday's because there's some differences in the filings
25 from GN. So we'll just go through them.

1 So the PowerPoint that you showed today had, at
2 slide number eight, a list of 2014-2015 consultations.
3 That's the title of the slide, and on that page you list
4 seven different consultation meetings beginning in
5 September of 2014 and ending February 11th of 2015. Yes,
6 that's the slide.

7 So they were all listed in your Bathurst
8 presentation, and I suggest that they represent seven of
9 the ten meetings referenced in the Board's table 1 in its
10 adjournment decision. And I wonder if you could just
11 confirm that, that this is the same list of meetings.
12 Because we questioned about them yesterday, and I don't
13 intend to go back through those questions, but I just want
14 to make it clear for the Board that we're talking about the
15 same meetings.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

17 Lisa.

18 MS. LECLERC: That's actually the meeting where
19 the Bluenose potential harvest management was discussed, so
20 there will be difference from the Bathurst meeting. And
21 then some, there's overlap. Some of them was talking about
22 both herd, and it's all specified in the community
23 consultation report.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

25 John.

1 MR. DONIHEE: Yes, thank you. That's why we
2 only have seven of ten here. There were a couple of
3 meetings that were Bathurst only, some were both, and I
4 guess I'm just wanting to confirm, though, that your
5 community consultation report refers to all of them for
6 both herds, and this presentation only refers to the ones
7 for Bluenose East.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

9 Lisa.

10 MS. LECLERC: That is correct.

11 THE CHAIR: John.

12 MR. DONIHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 Then slide nine, which is the next slide in that
14 presentation, it refers to the January 14th to 16th meeting
15 here in Cambridge Bay. There's been lots of questioning
16 and answering about that one, and that's the one where the
17 GN raised the possibility of the new TAHs of 340 for
18 Bluenose East and 30 for Bathurst.

19 I asked you about it in relation to the Bathurst
20 herd TAH of 30 yesterday, and when I asked you about that,
21 you said that was the first time that the GN had consulted
22 the HTOs on the specific Bathurst TAH of 30, and so I now
23 want to ask you to confirm that the same meeting was the
24 first time that you consulted the HTOs on the specific
25 Bluenose East TAH of 340.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

2 Lisa.

3 MS. LECLERC: Mr. Chair.

4 So in the January 15 -- if you go to that
5 presentation, the last slide, where the percentage of
6 location, percentage of harvest, and the final 950 is also
7 duplicate, was in the January meeting word by word,
8 basically, instead of Inuinnaqtun translation here. And,
9 in addition, there were precision that that TAH was
10 actually for the Bluenose with specificity to that herd.
11 Once again, that TAH was mentioned, but also from where we
12 went of the old TAH to the revised TAH, so the TAH of 1,000
13 was also presented and why we changed that TAH.

14 I hope that's clarified.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

16 John.

17 MR. DONIHÉE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 Yes, I understand from the evidence that that
19 was the situation. I guess the specific point, though,
20 that I would ask you to confirm is that that was the first
21 time that you raised the possibility that the TAH for the
22 Bluenose East had gone down from what you talked about in
23 2015 at about a thousand to 340.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

25 Lisa.

1 MS. LECLERC: Yes, that's correct.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

3 John.

4 MR. DONIHUE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 The other thing that I've done is to have a look
6 at the documents that support your PowerPoint in this
7 binder, the ones you filed with the Wildlife Management
8 Board; and I'll just say that the binder that the Board
9 prepared for those of us that can't seem to work a computer
10 include -- my arithmetic here. From tabs 5 to 11 there are
11 seven documents that support the GN's PowerPoint. And I'll
12 ask you this question subject to check, and all I mean by
13 that is you can check it later, and if you think I'm wrong,
14 please come back. But what I want to suggest to you is
15 that documents behind tabs 5, 6, 7, 10, and 11 are the same
16 as the documents that were filed for the Bathurst binder
17 and TAH yesterday. So 5, 6, 7, 10, and 11 are the same.

18 And you have two documents in here that are
19 different: Document 8 -- and they're different because
20 they're specific to Bluenose East, but I'm just, again,
21 trying to make sure this is really clear when the Board
22 tries to look at the record after the hearing.

23 So document number 8 is a September 24th --
24 sorry, my apologies to the translators -- it's a September
25 24th, 2015, letter from the Deputy Minister of GNWT ENR,

1 and it's entitled "Bluenose East Calving Ground Survey
2 Follow-up."

3 Document number 9 -- or the document at tab 9 is
4 entitled "GNWT ENR" -- it's an updated December 2014
5 document, and it's entitled "Rationale For Proactive
6 Harvest Management For Bluenose East Caribou Herd." It
7 doesn't actually have a specific date on it.

8 And I've reviewed these documents. I find no
9 reference whatsoever to consultation in either of them.
10 They're both biological technical documents.

11 I wonder if you'd just confirm that for the
12 Board.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

14 Government of Nunavut. Lisa.

15 MS. LECLERC: Well, those two different document
16 from the population which, you know, as you referred to --
17 the Bluenose East calving ground survey and the other --
18 one are technical document, and it's actually based on the
19 primary result of the population estimate, and the final
20 result was presented in January by the GNWT biologists.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

22 John.

23 MR. DONIHÉE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 And thank you for the answer. I'm not saying I
25 understand the biology, but I can tell a biological

1 document when I see one. That's what I understand them to
2 be. And, really, the point I just wanted to confirm for
3 the Board, because we had an exchange yesterday about
4 whether consultation happened or not. And so it's just a
5 matter of saying these two documents were not reports of
6 consultation meetings. They didn't give any additional
7 evidence about whether or not consultation happened.
8 They're technical documents that GN has decided to file to
9 support its application for a total allowable harvest.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

11 Lisa.

12 Okay. Carry on. John.

13 MR. DONIHUE: Thank you.

14 I have a couple of other questions about what's
15 been referred to as the caribou harvest rule of thumb, and
16 I'll sort of back up a bit.

17 First, I just want to know if GN is an active
18 participant in the -- it's ACCWM, Advisory Committee -- I'm
19 not sure what extra 'C' stands for, but the 'WM' is
20 Wildlife Management -- that, as I understand, is a group
21 that gets together to talk about caribou management on a
22 herd-wide basis. And I just want to know: In relation to
23 Bluenose East, when ACCWM was talking about a management
24 plan for Bluenose East, was the GN a participant in that
25 process?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

2 Lisa

3 MS. LECLERC: So the ACCWM is --

4 THE CHAIR: Yeah, I would ask that you go
5 through the Chair before you answer so the interpreters
6 have a signal. Go ahead, Lisa.

7 MS. LECLERC: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8 So, basically, the ACCWM and the KRWB sit on it,
9 and it's a very high level, NWMB part of it, but withdraw
10 of it. But it was left to the KRWB to be on that level of
11 direction for the management plan.

12 Then there is a working group where the GN and
13 the HTO sit on that working group, and it's been tasked by
14 the an ACCWM to direct what's needed to be changed, and so
15 on, in the management plan when it was drafted.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

17 John.

18 MR. DONIHUE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19 The document at tab 9 -- I referred to it
20 earlier -- it's called a rationale for proactive harvest
21 management. That's one of the two technical documents we
22 were talking about a moment ago. It has some material in
23 here about the Bluenose East. The document has got "draft"
24 stamped all over it, and I'm just wondering whether there
25 actually is a final management plan that emerged from this

1 process that addresses the Bluenose East caribou herd. Is
2 there a final plan yet?

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

4 Lisa.

5 MS. LECLERC: The rule of thumb is actually a
6 short-term management plan developed with the ENR based on
7 the taking care of caribou management plan, the old
8 umbrella and recommendation; and because that taking care
9 of the caribou management plan has been fully implemented
10 in GNWT, they use it as a primary guideline to their
11 recommendation for harvest management on the Bluenose East.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

13 John.

14 MR. DONIHUE: Thank you for that answer.

15 I do want to come to the rule of thumb, then. I
16 was just trying to set it out, I guess, in the context of
17 this planning process. But can you describe, I guess, for
18 the Board, in whatever detail is necessary, just what the
19 rule of thumb is? Is it some kind of science? I mean, to
20 show you why I'm asking, I mean, the PowerPoint that you
21 have up there, when you get to the last page of it, I'm
22 assuming -- you know, you're saying you got 38,000 caribou
23 in the Bluenose herd now, and you're multiplying that by
24 2.5 percent to give a number, which is 950. And that's the
25 recommended overall harvest for that herd of both

1 jurisdictions, and then Nunavut takes a proportionate share
2 of the 950.

3 So the 2.5 percent is quite an important factor,
4 in the end, because once you do the rest of the arithmetic,
5 it's going to determine how many caribou -- if there's a
6 TAH, it's going to determine how many caribou the HTO in
7 Kugluktuk is going to be allowed to harvest.

8 So can you tell me something about, where does
9 the 2.5 percent come from? Is it science? Is it horse
10 shoes? Is it hand grenades? How does this work?

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

12 Mathieu.

13 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

15 Just to try to answer your question while
16 putting things into context a little bit here, is there's
17 been several attempt to -- and successful management plan
18 with caribou elsewhere. And the initiative to have a
19 management plan for the Bluenose herd involved the
20 co-management partners, and involved drawing from the
21 experience of other areas where harvest management was
22 implemented.

23 So there was some background link to those
24 previous experience or other experience, and then there was
25 discussions along the way in the development of this

1 management plan that is not a document approved by the
2 Board at this time in Nunavut but that has been drafted
3 with the contribution and the approval of co-management
4 partner in Nunavut. So the resulting equation and
5 resulting percentage of harvest and distribution of harvest
6 and all that are things that were discussed and that
7 included the co-management partners during that process.

8 So I think the original, like, harvest rate, and
9 all that, is based on the best information available. And
10 then the distribution of that harvest is based on
11 discussion during the management plan drafting process with
12 co-management partners at the table.

13 Now, just again to restate that this plan has
14 not been sanctioned by the Nunavut Wildlife Management
15 Board at this time but has been developed by the local
16 co-management bodies. Thank you.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

18 John.

19 MR. DONIHÉE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20 Mr. Dumond, thank you. You skipped forward on
21 me, because I really only want to try to understand the
22 2.5 percent and where that came from.

23 I do understand that once you come up with a
24 number, 950, you have to decide how many the Tlicho will
25 get, or how many the Sahtu will get, and how many Nunavut

1 will get. To me, you need to have a number before you can
2 worry about allocation.

3 And, actually, I hadn't intended to ask you
4 about allocation, but what I'm trying to understand is that
5 2.5 percent, because, you know, is it based on professional
6 judgment, for example? You know, I mean, I don't think I'm
7 going to do this, but, you know, if I were to ask Mr. Adjun
8 -- you know, you say it was developed with the
9 co-management partners' participation and agreement, but I
10 bet you if I asked the Kugluktuk HTO where that two and a
11 half percent came from there would be consternation and
12 some blank looks.

13 So, you know, what is -- because the two and a
14 half percent -- that's the factor in this process that
15 really determines how much the TAH is going to be. And
16 what I'm trying to understand is: Are there biological
17 studies that say, you know, for a herd that's in this
18 status, that practical experience shows that you should
19 never harvest more than two and a half percent, or is that
20 a professional judgment from wildlife managers?

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

22 Mathieu.

23 MR. DUMOND: I think the honest answer is a mix
24 of both. There's been a lot of work trying to address this
25 issue, and there's some other management plan that have

1 worked on the issue to be able to implement harvest
2 limitation like the Porcupine and other herds; and it's a
3 mix of what we know about the herd and what we know affect
4 the herd and what portion of that herd can be taken in --
5 I'm losing my word -- that the portion of the herd that can
6 be taken, depending on the management objectives and based
7 on the demographics of the herd.

8 This is the base, and there's a scientific
9 aspect to it and whatever information is available about
10 the herd to inform that; and from there, there's
11 professional judgment of what seems to work and what seems
12 to be sustainable for the herd.

13 So, yes, it's a mix of the two, and we have
14 example of other herds where it seems to have worked and
15 provided some satisfactory results; and that's the base for
16 it, I believe.

17 And my colleague, Lisa, or my colleague from
18 GNWT maybe can -- I know Jan has a lot of experience with
19 other herds, as well, so either defer to their presentation
20 to have more details on that, unless Lisa can add to that.
21 Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

23 John, can we defer that until NWT makes their
24 presentation, or would you like an answer now?

25 MR. DONIHUE: Actually, I have a few more things

1 to ask about this. I'm happy to wait for whatever GNWT
2 says, and if the issue isn't resolved, I'll ask
3 Dr. Adamczewski some questions.

4 THE CHAIR: Okay. John, go ahead.

5 MR. DONIHUE: The question I really wonder --
6 and perhaps GNWT can deal with this directly. This is
7 warning, I guess, that I may ask it -- is, can you tell me,
8 for example, I know that they used this coloured diagram
9 within the population curve for the Porcupine Caribou
10 Management Plan and that kind of thing, but I'm just
11 wondering, you know, for example, what kind of sensitivity
12 there is to the 2.5 percent.

13 I mean, it sounds, from the way you're
14 describing, that, you know, it's best judgment, and lots of
15 things in life work that way. But, you know, if it were
16 3 percent, based on the population that you're estimating
17 now, that would be a couple hundred more caribou for
18 Kugluktuk. So, you know, it does make quite a difference,
19 I guess. And I'm just wondering: Do you have any
20 knowledge of other herds where, for example, it's been set
21 at 2 or perhaps even lower, or herds where maybe it's at 3
22 and a half and the experience has shown 3 and a half at,
23 you know, this stage of a population's demographic
24 situation is too much?

25 So how sensitive is the herd to the percentage

1 that's chosen? Because I want to suggest to you that the
2 Kugluktuk HTO is certainly going to be sensitive to the
3 percentage that you choose.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

5 Lisa.

6 MS. LECLERC: Lisa here.

7 First of all, yes, there is the harvest rate
8 that's part of the equation, but, also, the population and
9 allocations is not only the present rate. And if the
10 population was higher, then the TAH will be higher also;
11 right?

12 So, basically, Lynda showed the curve and the
13 different threshold for the Porcupine herd. That exercise
14 was done also with the Bluenose herd. So, basically, when
15 we consider the health, the co-management partner and
16 during a series of long discussion, we were able to end up
17 to that consensus.

18 When the Bluenose East is actually very healthy,
19 there's no harvest restriction; we're talking about 120,000
20 animal. When the harvest and the herd is in a very low
21 status and so on, we're talking about -- before the red,
22 we're talking about 20,000 animal. The yellow-orange zone
23 is marked at 60,000 animal.

24 What pretty much guided us in not being, like,
25 well, why not 4 percent right now, why not 1 percent on the

1 Bluenose herd to determine that harvest percentage is
2 actually -- that the ACCWM review that herd, and not only
3 in the population number, but also in other variable
4 environment factor was considered. And, basically, that
5 herd was labelled as an orange state, closer to red. So
6 therefore, a lower percentage was requested to address that
7 conservation issue, and the 2.5 percent, which is the state
8 of the herd, it's not conservative at all.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

10 And John, when you're asking your question, can
11 you just slow down a little bit for the interpreters?
12 Thank you.

13 MR. DONIHUE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 Apologies to the translators.

15 You say it's not conservative at all, and I'd
16 just like you to explain that. Please justify it.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

18 Lisa.

19 MS. LECLERC: Well, with all the -- if I say,
20 like, the decline is very alarming, the rate of the decline
21 is twice as fast at the annual declining rate and all the
22 vital -- like, the low calf-cow ratio, cow survival, low
23 pregnancy rate -- and most likely declining situation of
24 the herd right now, 38,000 is not too far from 20,000, and
25 we should be looking at more conservative approach with

1 maybe 1.8, 2.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

3 John.

4 MR. DONIHUE: Based on the confidence intervals
5 on your estimates, what's the possible range in population
6 for the Bluenose East? I mean, there isn't exactly 38,000
7 caribou out there. What's the range?

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

9 Lisa.

10 MR. DONIHUE: Mr. Chairman. Oh.

11 MS. LECLERC: So the estimate -- it was one
12 year -- one-plus-year-old caribou on the core. So the
13 estimate was 38,000, like 38,041 caribou, to be precise,
14 with a 95 percent confidence interval. So the range,
15 basically, is 33569 to 42,552. So we could actually took
16 the lower number of that confidence interval, and we
17 didn't. We took the middle of it. I mean, like, it's --
18 yeah.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank, Lisa.

20 John.

21 MR. DONIHUE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 At the risk of being argumentative, of course,
23 you could have taken a higher number, too. But I'll just
24 leave that there.

25 I do want to just confirm something, based on

1 what you've told me so far, and that is: When I asked you
2 about the ACCWM, you said that the KRWB was a participant.
3 Is the Kugluktuk HTO directly involved in the activities of
4 the ACCWM?

5 THE CHAIR: I'm sorry, go ahead, Lisa.

6 Thanks, John.

7 MS. LECLERC: No, we're not. The GN and the HTO
8 are working at the level of the working group.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

10 John.

11 MR. DONIHÉE: My last question, I think,
12 Mr. Chairman. I'll just finish with this.

13 Given the complexity of the kind of things that
14 we've just been talking about, how certain are you that the
15 Kugluktuk HTO really understands these kind of things and
16 are able to, you know, factor them into the way that they
17 respond to you in the consultation context?

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

19 Mathieu. Lisa -- Mathieu.

20 MR. DUMOND: I think over the years and the
21 close collaboration we've had with the HTO, in particular,
22 lead us to think that we understand each other; but at the
23 same time, I can guarantee that you understand what I'm
24 saying. So it's the same thing with anybody. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

1 John.

2 MR. DONIHÉE: Mr. Chairman, that's it for me,
3 but I think Mr. Emingak has another question.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John. Paul, go ahead.

5 MR. EMINGAK: Quana, itsivautaaq. Paul Emingak,
6 Executive Director for the Kitikmeot Inuit Association.

7 Yes, throughout this morning's discussion, and
8 this afternoon, there's been mention about co-management.
9 My question is to Department of Environment. I'm just
10 wondering: Are they aware that the Kitikmeot Inuit
11 Association is a co-management body?

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

13 Drikus.

14 MR. GISSING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 Drikus Gissing, Director of Wildlife, Government
16 of Nunavut.

17 At this stage, as a government, we do not have a
18 definition of "co-management partners" is the simple
19 answer.

20 We've been consulting with communities -- I've
21 been here since 2003, and the co-management partners that
22 we generally deal with and as identified under the Nunavut
23 Land Claims Agreement related to wildlife management
24 decisions and as identified under Article 5 is the HTOs,
25 the RWO; and we deal with NTI, who ensures that we comply

1 with the Land Claim Agreement. So those are the
2 co-management partners we generally deal with.

3 However, when it comes to issues like management
4 plan development that includes land use issues, we
5 definitely do see your organization as a co-management
6 partner in that process. But up until now, no regional
7 wildlife Inuit association has engaged as it relates to
8 specifically wildlife management issues like we're dealing
9 with here today.

10 Hopefully, that answers your question. So we're
11 dealing at a bit of a gray area at this stage because this
12 is the first time where we've had, as I mentioned -- I'm
13 repeating myself -- Inuit organizations got involved, and
14 we haven't really had this discussion with NTI to clarify
15 what role you will play as it relates to wildlife
16 management.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Drikus.

18 Paul.

19 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20 Paul Emingak, Executive Directive for the
21 Kitikmeot Inuit Association.

22 The reason for that question is that KIA and the
23 other RIAs make direct report to Nunavut Wildlife
24 Management Board; and, as well, we do have a board member
25 from KIA that sits on the NTI advisory wildlife committee;

1 and in all cases, you know, we would like to be at the
2 table to represent all the interests of Inuit, whether it
3 be wildlife management or environment. And that's the
4 reason for, you know, some of the questions that we raised
5 at this hearing today is to learn and to try and assist
6 with the precise.

7 So thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Paul.

9 Drikus.

10 MR. GISSING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 Yeah, I mean, we will respect the wishes of NTI
12 to identify designated Inuit organizations on specific
13 issues. So, you know, if NTI identifies you as a
14 co-management partner to be part of this process, we would
15 have no objection to that.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Drikus.

17 Paul.

18 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

19 Geoff has one more question, I believe.

20 THE CHAIR: Okay. Geoff.

21 MR. CLARK: Just a final question. Geoff
22 Clark here.

23 There was a long discussion about how that
24 2.5 percent came about, and it's clear it's a mix of
25 science, it seems professional judgment and, you know,

1 using, I guess, the art of being a biologist, and there's
2 decisions to be made there, and I respect that.

3 Back to wolves. If it be possible to come up
4 with a number, an estimate for what's the appropriate
5 harvest rate by hunters of a population using art, using
6 science, and so on, I would like, at this hearing, to use
7 your professional judgment and science to give us a number,
8 approximate -- you can put a range around it, if you
9 wish -- how many caribou does a wolf eat on average?

10 Because I don't think it's fair to avoid
11 answering certain questions and just saying, "I can't
12 answer that," but then to provide a lot of discussion and
13 detail about something that's clearly -- clearly involves a
14 lot of professional judgment.

15 So, once again, can I ask: How many caribou
16 does a wolf eat on average, averaging out all those
17 different situations of single wolves, pairs of wolves,
18 packs of wolves? Just please summarize it for the Board of
19 what the number would be.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

21 Lisa.

22 MS. LECLERC: The answer is very simple, Geoff.
23 We have a choice of what we're killing. The wolf eat a lot
24 of different things. I did the stomach content analysis
25 study, and the only thing that you could have is a soup

1 that you analyze from the stomach; and from that soup, you
2 have two choice. You have a number of species, by the
3 total number of species, to have a proportion, or you have
4 a weight by total weight of thing that the carnivores eat;
5 and most of the stomach that I look, so far, it's a
6 combination of prey.

7 So when you look at prey, predator-prey
8 relationship, it's not linear anymore. It's not an A to B.
9 It's a complex system.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lisa.

11 Geoff.

12 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Lisa.

13 That is understood. It's understood that wolves
14 eat lots of things. They eat hickies (phonetic), they eat
15 muskox, they eat caribou, they eat moose. They probably
16 generally specialize in certain animals, or that's the
17 common understanding.

18 And that experience, that one experience of
19 analyzing stomach contents -- is there no data? Is there
20 no science anywhere? Is there nothing that you can give to
21 the Board or to Inuit of what a particular number may be,
22 on average, in an arctic tundra caribou range text?

23 Because it just feels like there's a desire to
24 avoid answering that when the question is asked, and I
25 don't think it's that sensitive, and I don't understand why

1 it would be sensitive to answer it. And just put a range
2 around it, you know, plus or minus 50 percent.

3 You know, like, I understand that it's just like
4 population estimates that nothing can be completely
5 accurate, and we're not here to hold you to that, but just
6 to provide some understanding to the people in the room
7 based on your expertise. Can you give us a number? Thank
8 you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

10 Mathieu.

11 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut, and past
13 carnivore biologist, as well.

14 I mean, there's been a little bit more than
15 stomach contents analysis, and to try to assess that; but,
16 again, the studies are very limited in the way they can be
17 extrapolated. They usually relate to the movement or the
18 following of one pack or two packs; and to make a general
19 statement about that, I mean, they eat a few in a year.
20 Like, each wolf will eat a few caribou in a year.

21 I think to compare with our data on the harvest
22 data is somewhat unfair because the harvest is something
23 that you can ask people. You can do something about it, as
24 people can have a choice whether to harvest or not harvest,
25 more harvest, less.

1 We don't have that with the wolf. You can't ask
2 the wolf. And at this time, to my knowledge -- and maybe
3 GNWT will have more information, as I am kind of out of the
4 loop, maybe, in the past few years, and I may have missed
5 some of the studies. But to my knowledge, it's very hard
6 to be confident and let go of one of those numbers that get
7 out of hand, because we have many example of those number,
8 when they are thrown out in the middle, they're taken, and
9 they are taken anywhere out of context, and they become --
10 they have a life of their own. And I just don't want to
11 say something that has no ground behind it or just a very
12 wild guess that will become truth after a few steps in the
13 process, and I just want to avoid that.

14 And I don't think it's trying to avoid to -- I
15 mean, wolves eat caribou. I don't deny that. They do eat
16 a number of caribou every year. It's just to put an actual
17 number on it, that would be dishonest on my part to tell
18 you a number. I don't know. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

20 MR. CLARK: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

21 That's all our questions.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much to all of you,

23 KIA.

24 Okay. We'll move on, then, next to the North
25 Slave Métis Alliance. Shin.

1 MR. SHIGA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Shin Shiga,
2 North Slave Métis Alliance. I have no questions.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Shin.

4 Next, the Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board.
5 Jody or Jonas.

6 MR. D'EÇA: Thank you. The WRRB is also
7 acting in this hearing as a witness only, and as per those
8 requirements, we won't be asking any questions.

9 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you very much.

10 Is there any questions from the public to the
11 Government of Nunavut in regards to the Bluenose East
12 caribou herd? I don't see any.

13 Okay. I think before we have a coffee break,
14 we'll have the Nunavut -- Northwest Territories government
15 make their presentation. It's a long day. Thank you.

16 Are we waiting for a presentation to come up?
17 Is it up? Oh, okay. You know what? Let's take a
18 15-minute break while you're fixing all that up. Thank
19 you.

20 (ADJOURNMENT)

21 THE CHAIR: Okay. I would ask everybody to
22 sit down, and we'll resume. Just in the interests of time,
23 again, we are behind, but we'll make up, hopefully. We
24 might have to consider an evening session, tonight, but
25 we'll see where we're at.

1 With that, Government of Northwest Territories.

2 Lynda, go ahead.

3 GOVERNMENT OF NORTHWEST TERRITORIES SUBMISSION.

4 MS. YONGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5 Lynda Yonge, GNWT. And I have with me

6 Jan Adamczewski, a caribou biologist with the GNWT.

7 So similar to the Bathurst herd, we are here
8 today because the Bluenose East herd is a shared herd. We
9 have a number of communities in the Northwest Territories
10 that depend on this herd, and it's very important to them.

11 This herd has fallen to very low numbers, and
12 it's still declining rapidly, and so we feel it's important
13 that there be a consistent approach to management for the
14 herd.

15 There have been some management actions taken in
16 the NWT to help this herd, including closure of all
17 resident and commercial and outfitted harvests, and we have
18 put forward a proposal for a total allowable harvest,
19 herd-wise, of 950 animals on this herd. Again, we
20 recognize that our role is in the Northwest Territories,
21 and so we are here today to provide the information that we
22 have on the herd and explain the management actions and
23 proposals for the Northwest Territories.

24 Our presentation will look quite similar to the
25 one we did for the Bathurst herd; however, the information

1 we're presenting is specific to the Bluenose East herd. So
2 you may see maps that look similar, but today we're only
3 going to be talking about the Bluenose East portions.

4 We also have, as part of our presentation,
5 information that builds on what the GN presented, and
6 hopefully will answer some of the questions that have been
7 raised.

8 And with that, I will turn it over to
9 Jan Adamczewski. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lynda. Jan, go ahead.

11 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you. Jan Adamczewski for
12 Government of Northwest Territories.

13 And, Mr. Chairman, before I start, I would just
14 indicate that a few of our initial slides are very similar
15 to ones we had for the Bathurst presentation, so we'll sort
16 of go through them, but I will keep my presentation on
17 those slides fairly limited to save a little bit of time.

18 So our presentation today has two parts, a
19 little bit similar to the Bathurst one. The first part is
20 kind of our information about the caribou herd, and the
21 second half is largely focussed on management. So I will
22 present our information on the herd, and then Lynda will
23 take over the second part on proposed management.

24 So we showed this slide previously. These are
25 the annual ranges and calving grounds of the migratory

1 barren ground caribou herds that are partially or entirely
2 in the Northwest Territories. These are all based on
3 satellite collar locations over time, and, in most cases
4 now, we have an accumulation of about 20 years. So in this
5 case, the herd that we're interested in is the Bluenose
6 East, and Lynda has the pointer there. You can see the
7 calving grounds kind at the and north end there. This is
8 west of Kugluktuk. The neighbours are the Bathurst herd to
9 the south and the east, and on the other side is the
10 Bluenose West herd.

11 And just for clarification, Tuktu Nogait
12 National Park takes in the calving grounds of the Bluenose
13 West herd. Next slide, please.

14 So this one I won't talk about too much. This
15 is basically why we define herds the way we define them and
16 the fact that this is the standard approach across North
17 America. So in each case we have found that cows return to
18 their calving grounds approximately 96 to 98 percent of the
19 time. This is based on collared animals. And the same has
20 been the case for the Bluenose East herd. Next slide,
21 please.

22 This slide was also shown previously, so I won't
23 spend a lot of time on it. This is a graph from Alaska
24 that shows the estimated size of the Fortymile caribou herd
25 between 1950 and 1990. So this is a herd that was once

1 quite large -- at least 3,000 (verbatim) -- then fell to
2 lower numbers of 40 to 60,000 and as low as 7,000 in the
3 1970s.

4 The reason that we show this slide is just to
5 clarify that, yes, there is a cycle in caribou numbers, but
6 it is not always predictable, and sometimes caribou herds
7 will reach lower numbers, and then they will stay there.
8 And, in this case, the low numbers persisted for more than
9 40 years. Next slide, please.

10 This slide again was shown in our Bathurst
11 presentation. This is kind of the global look at caribou
12 and reindeer populations. Canada, North America is at the
13 bottom. Russia and Europe are at the top. And the point
14 here is that the red ranges are declining populations, the
15 ones that are green are increasing, and then there are gray
16 ones where information was insufficient or the status was
17 unclear. so the only point here is that, unfortunately, most
18 of the world that has caribou and reindeer is looking at
19 and trying to deal with declining populations. Next slide,
20 please.

21 Okay. So now we'll move specifically to the
22 Bluenose East herd and the information that we have on this
23 herd. This map shows the intensive survey area on the
24 Bluenose East herd's calving grounds in June 2015. The
25 survey was done at the same time as the Bathurst June

1 survey.

2 The GNWT was the lead on those surveys, but we
3 would, again, like to recognize the very extensive
4 participation and support from the GN and from Nunavut
5 observers primarily from Kugluktuk. And I recall that
6 Jorgen Bolt was one of those observers.

7 So each of the circles on the map shows a
8 10-kilometre segment on a survey line. All the areas with
9 collared Bluenose East caribou were flown and, in the end,
10 thousands of kilometres of lines where no caribou were
11 seen. The coloured circles show where caribou were seen,
12 and the larger ones show higher numbers, and the smaller
13 circles show smaller numbers of caribou. The largest
14 numbers of caribou were found in the block outlined in
15 orange which was surveyed by the photo plane.

16 The coloured circles that show as red were areas
17 with cows and calves. Circles with gray and orange had
18 more bulls and nonbreeding cows, and as before with this
19 herd and previous surveys, these were mostly south and east
20 of the main calving area.

21 The stars with the red dots are the locations of
22 30 collared Bluenose East cows. This was June 4th. All of
23 them were within the main survey area. Most of them were
24 in the photo survey block. We also had stars with black
25 dots, which are 24 collared bull locations. Most of these,

1 again, were east and south of the main calving area; and
2 this is similar to the previous June surveys of this herd.

3 Ground coverage within the photo block was 55
4 percent, and so we're confident that that, where most of
5 the cows were, was reliably captured on photos. The
6 overall distribution of the caribou was similar to what we
7 saw in June of 2010 and June of 2013. Next slide, please.

8 These graphs, you've seen a version of these
9 from Lisa Marie previously. They show the estimated size
10 of the Bluenose East herd in 2010, 2013, and 2015. The
11 same calving photo survey method was used in all three
12 years, and every year we try to refine the survey methods
13 to make the surveys as precise as we can.

14 In 2010, the herd was estimated at a little over
15 100,000 adult caribou. Since then, the estimated herd size
16 has declined to about 68,000 in 2013 and 38,000 in 2015.
17 The average rate of decline from 2010 to 2013 was about 13
18 percent per year, and it approximately doubled from 2013 to
19 2015. The downward acceleration in the herd is similar to
20 the most rapid decline in the Bathurst herd from 2006 to
21 2009. That herd also declined more and more quickly as it
22 reached lower numbers. Next slide, please.

23 This graph provides a little more information on
24 estimates of the cows in the Bluenose East herd again in
25 2010, 2013, and 15. So the total bars, blue and red, are

1 the total estimated numbers of cows in the survey area.
2 The blue bars are the numbers of breeding cows, the red
3 bars --

4 (TECHNICAL MALFUNCTION)

5 THE CHAIR: I think we're all back on, Jan.
6 Carry on.

7 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government
8 Northwest Territories. It must be fun for the organizers.

9 Okay. So these are estimates of total number of
10 cows, breeding cows, and then the none-breeding cows from
11 the last three surveys.

12 Both the total number of cows and, particularly,
13 the number of breeding cows has declined from 2010 to 2015,
14 and the proportion of the cows that were breeders is a
15 measure of the pregnancy rate the previous winter. The
16 survey results from 2015 are particularly concerning as
17 about 36 percent of the cows were nonbreeders. This would
18 suggest a pregnancy rate in the winter of 2014-15 as about
19 64 percent, which is well below the 80 percent we usually
20 see in a healthy herd.

21 And on the right, so just to reinforce the
22 numbers, the estimates of breeding females in the Bluenose
23 East herd in 2010, 2013, and 2015, and those numbers
24 dropped by about half in just two years. Next slide,
25 please.

1 In addition to tracking the numbers of breeding
2 cows and estimating overall herd size, biologists monitor
3 indicators, called vital rates, which help us understand
4 the herd's trend and whether it is likely to increase or
5 decrease in the near future. This will repeat a little bit
6 of what Lisa Marie presented earlier.

7 Three of the key vital rates are the survival
8 rates of the cows, which we estimate as the proportion of
9 cows that live through the year. Some will always die
10 every year, and some will survive. Population trend is
11 very sensitive to this rate.

12 The second is the survival rate of the calves
13 because, of course, this is the only way that the herd can
14 increase if lots of calves make it through their first
15 year.

16 And the third is the pregnancy rate of the cows.
17 If many cows are not pregnant, then there will not be many
18 calves born in June. For this herd, the cow survival rate
19 was estimated at 71 percent between 2013 and 2015. This is
20 well below the 80 to 85 percent cow survival rate
21 associated with stable herds.

22 Calf survival in the last two years has averaged
23 22 to 25 calves per hundred cows, which is well below the
24 30 to 40 calves per hundred that are generally associated
25 with stable herds.

1 We do not have annual pregnancy rates for the
2 herd, but, as we noted earlier, the June 2015 survey
3 suggested a pregnancy rate of about 64 percent, which is
4 lower than the 80 percent we would usually see in a healthy
5 herd.

6 Taken together, these vital rates are consistent
7 with the rapid rate of decline, and unless they improve
8 substantially, the herd is likely to decline further in the
9 next few years.

10 A question that is often asked when surveys have
11 documented a decline is whether the caribou might have
12 moved somewhere else, and already, to this point, that
13 question has been raised a number of times by various
14 participants. The information we have from surveys and
15 collars suggests that movement from the Bluenose East range
16 does not account for the decline documented for this herd,
17 including the most recent decline, 2013 to 2015.

18 This map shows the extent of the flying, in June
19 2015, over the calving grounds of the Bluenose East and
20 Bathurst herds. All the north/south flight lines are
21 shown. The lines that have empty gray squares were flown,
22 but no caribou were seen. Lines were flown between the two
23 calving grounds and to the west of the Bluenose East range.
24 With this level of ground coverage, it becomes very
25 unlikely that any larger groups of caribou from either herd

1 were missed. The locations of collared caribou also
2 provide some assurance that a high percentage of the herds
3 was accounted for in the survey areas.

4 For the Bluenose East herd, all 30 collared cows
5 were accounted for in the intensive survey area, and most
6 of those found in the high-density survey block that was
7 flown with the photo plane. Similarly, 31 Bathurst
8 collared cows were accounted for in the main survey area
9 for this herd west of Bathurst Inlet.

10 Areas between the two ranges, Bluenose East and
11 Bathurst, had no collared caribou, and no caribou were seen
12 there during the survey flying.

13 These findings, the extent of the flying,
14 increase our confidence that the Bluenose East herd's
15 distribution was well defined and that the herd's cows and
16 bulls were well separated from the herds to the east and
17 the west. Next slide, please.

18 This slide provides additional information about
19 movements of cows between the Bluenose East calving ground
20 and the neighbouring Bluenose West on the west and Bathurst
21 calving grounds on the east on either side. Lisa Marie
22 made reference to this information, and we'll just provide
23 a little more detail here.

24 So we tracked information from 2010 to 2015 on
25 collared cows for which consecutive June locations were

1 recorded and known. In total, there were 204 pairs of
2 locations for cows returning to calve in conservative
3 years. This was across the three herds.

4 In this figure, the curved arrows at the top
5 show how many times collared cows returned to the same
6 calving ground in consecutive years, and the straight
7 arrows show the switches. Of the 204 pairs of locations,
8 199 were returns to the same calving ground, and 5 were
9 switches. One cow switched from Bluenose East to Bluenose
10 West, and two switched in the reverse direction. Two
11 Bathurst cows switched to Bluenose East, and none switched
12 in the reverse direction. So overall, there's a 97.5
13 percent loyalty to calving grounds.

14 Similar evaluations for the Bluenose East herd
15 in the past have shown a 96 to 98 percent loyalty to
16 calving grounds, and when we have looked at other herds in
17 the Northwest Territories, the Cape Bathurst herd the
18 Tuktoyaktuk peninsula herd, the Bluenose West herd, we have
19 found the same rate of loyalty from the collared females.

20 These results suggest there has been a very low
21 rate of switching of cows between the Bluenose East and
22 neighbouring calving grounds between 2010 and 2015, with
23 the net movement to or from the Bluenose East range being
24 minimal. Movement from the Bluenose East range is unlikely
25 to account for the declining trend in the herd.

1 This is another slide that we used in the
2 Bathurst presentation, so I'll try and keep the speaking
3 words on this relatively short, but it's basically an
4 illustration of a population model, and this is a tool that
5 can help us understand what is going on with the herd and
6 where it is likely to go in future. At its simplest, it's
7 a form of balance sheet that tracks how many animals die
8 and how many are added in the herd and how this adds up.

9 So in this example, the blue line shows a
10 declining trend in a herd to the presented or current time.
11 In the future, a number of possible trends are possible:
12 The herd could stabilize, the herd could increase, it could
13 continue to decline at the same rate, or it could decline
14 more quickly. So this is the kind of use that we make for
15 a population model. Next slide, please.

16 So this is now a model projection for the
17 Bluenose East herd from the last survey in 2015 to 2018.
18 2018, we expect to do the next calving photo survey for
19 this herd. In this example, we have assumed that the
20 natural cows survival rate stays the same for this herd at
21 74 percent, and no harvest has been included in these
22 projections.

23 If the recent low calf survival continues at the
24 same level, then the herd will follow a trend similar to
25 the red line. If calf survival increases to an average

1 level, then the olive line is a more likely outcome; and if
2 calf productivity increases to levels seen between 2008 and
3 2010, then the bright green line is the likeliest trend.

4 Overall, unless the herd's vital rates improve,
5 the herd is likely to decline from the current estimate,
6 2015, of about 38,000 caribou to somewhere between 17,000
7 and 27,000 in 2018.

8 The model projections underline a point
9 mentioned earlier. If the cow survival rate is low, then
10 the herd is almost certain to be declining, as it is simply
11 difficult or impossible for the herd to produce enough
12 young to offset all the caribou that die. Next slide,
13 please.

14 This now concludes our first half of the
15 presentation on the Bluenose East herd's status, and we'll
16 move on to the second part of our presentation which is
17 focussed more on harvest and management; and, for this, I
18 will hand the microphone over Lynda.

19 MS. YONGE: Thank you, Jan. Next slide.

20 Okay. So I'd like to start by taking a minute
21 to talk about the overall management plan that includes the
22 management plan for the Bathurst caribou herd. So this is
23 the plan that Lisa was talking about earlier. The plan is
24 called "Taking Care of Caribou," and it's a plan for the
25 three herds: The Cape Bathurst, the Bluenose West and the

1 Bluenose East herds. And in the NWT, we're using this plan
2 as overall guidance for the management of the Bluenose East
3 herd.

4 The plan was put together by the ACCWM, and
5 that's the Advisory Committee For Cooperation on Wildlife.
6 So your second 'C,' John, is cooperation.

7 And that, it's a high-level committee made up of
8 the wildlife co-management boards. So when there were
9 questions of about who sits on that, this committee, the
10 ACCWM, is specifically the wildlife co-management boards
11 with management authority for those three herds.

12 The working group, which supports the ACCWM, has
13 additional members that help support the co-management
14 boards in the development of this plan, and there's a range
15 of different groups. So GN and the Kugluktuk HTO was on
16 that. The GNWT provides technical support. So that's the
17 way that that structure is set up.

18 The ACCWM plan was finalized and provided to us
19 in November of 2014. And that plan uses this colour chart
20 to define the status of the herds, and I just want to point
21 out a little bit, but that you'll see the colours: There's
22 bands of colours, and they meld together. They're not
23 straight severe lines. This kind of a colour chart isn't
24 based just on specific numbers. It provides guidance for a
25 way to look at what is happening with the herd.

1 So the green zone at the top represents a herd
2 that's at high numbers, the red zone represents herds that
3 are at low numbers, the yellow zone is for herds of
4 intermediate size that are increasing, and the orange zone
5 is for herds of intermediate size and declining. And the
6 distinction between the yellow zone and the orange zone is
7 important because you might have a herd at a specific
8 number on its way up, and you might take different
9 management actions at that point than that herd on the same
10 number that's on its way down. Okay? So it's not just the
11 number; but it's also the trend and other aspects of the
12 population that are taken into consideration.

13 This chart idea is used for each of the three
14 herds but the thresholds where you move from red to yellow
15 to green differ depending on the herds. So when we were
16 speaking yesterday about the Bathurst herd and comparing
17 the Bathurst herd and actions proposed for that herd
18 compared to Baffin Island and actions proposed for that
19 herd, they're different herds under different
20 circumstances, so different management objectives may be
21 appropriate. So it's the same with this chart. For those
22 three herds, the levels at which they move from green to
23 yellow to red may be different.

24 The ACCWM plan describes actions that can be
25 taken for each herd depending on its status, and those

1 actions can affect harvest management, predators, and
2 habitat, including land use. So for a herd in the orange
3 zone, which is where the Bluenose East was in 2015, actions
4 on harvest can include a total allowable harvest with a
5 recommended focus on younger, smaller bulls. So that's
6 what the plan recommends. Next slide.

7 Okay. So this map shows how the harvest of
8 caribou was tracked since 2010 in the North Slave Region of
9 the NWT where the main winter range of Bluenose East herd
10 has been. This particular map shows harvest from the
11 winter of 2010-2013. So we saw this map yesterday, but now
12 we're going to look specifically at the Bluenose East
13 areas.

14 On the map the green dots, as we showed
15 yesterday, are Bathurst collared caribou, and the blue dots
16 are the Bluenose East collared cows. The orange dots are
17 Bluenose East collared bulls. There were more Bluenose
18 East collars than Bathurst collars at the time that this
19 map was developed.

20 So most of the Bluenose East collared caribou
21 were in the northwest of the region south of Great Bear
22 Lake, and the Bathurst collars were mostly further east.
23 There was some overlap in the winter of 2012-2013 between
24 the two herds on the winter range, but it's the collars
25 that help us determine and allocate harvest to one herd or

1 another.

2 The coloured squares are ten by ten kilometres,
3 and they show where the db harvest occurred, yellow squares
4 show areas where just a few caribou were taken. Brown and
5 dark brown squares show where there were more caribou
6 harvested. In the dark brown squares, a few hundred
7 caribou were taken. So note that on this map, as we showed
8 yesterday, the two large zones, RBC 02 and RBC 03, those
9 are the areas where aboriginal harvest of Bathurst caribou
10 were limited to 300 animals.

11 Most of the harvest occurred at Hottah Lake,
12 which is south of Great Bear Lake, or on trails near Hottah
13 Lake, and this harvest was most likely Bluenose East
14 caribou. And like we had indicated yesterday, the
15 information that we used to develop these maps comes from a
16 combination of community monitors, community interviews,
17 check station, and information from wildlife officers.
18 Next slide.

19 So this slide shows the estimated harvest from
20 the Bluenose East herd for the winters 2009 to 2010 up to
21 2013-2014. And these numbers are based on the type of
22 harvest tracking that I showed you in the previous map.

23 THE CHAIR: Excuse me. Lynda, could you just
24 slow down a wee bit for the interpreters. Thank you.

25 MS. YONGE: Thanks.

1 For the Nunavut harvest, to estimate the Nunavut
2 harvest on Bluenose East caribou, we relied on estimates
3 provided by the experienced wildlife staff in Kugluktuk
4 with the Government of Nunavut. And as they indicated
5 earlier, those estimates range between 300, 1,000, 1,500
6 caribou, depending on the year.

7 So the overall estimated harvest of the Bluenose
8 East herd was about 2,750 caribou a year. Most of them
9 were breeding cows. As we indicated for the Bathurst herd,
10 this is likely an underestimation, but we don't know how
11 many animals or how much of that harvest has been missed.
12 Not everybody reports, not everybody stops at the check
13 station, and wounding losses were not accounted for. So we
14 think that the true harvest may have been about 4,000 a
15 year or more.

16 So you saw a graph very similar to this in our
17 Bathurst presentation. This slide shows the effect, what
18 happens when you take the same number of caribou every year
19 from a declining Bluenose East herd. So the solid black
20 line shows the estimated population size, and you can see
21 the decline. The red squares on the black line show where
22 we actually have population estimates. The dotted black
23 line shows the projected trend assuming the current decline
24 continues.

25 If you then look at the red lines, the dotted

1 red lines, the lower one shows a harvest of 2,600 animals.
2 So in 2010, when the population was estimated at 103,000, a
3 harvest of 2,600 caribou would have been about 2 percent of
4 the herd. It is unlikely that would have had much effect
5 on the population trend. By 2017, that same harvest of
6 2,600 caribou would be more than 10 percent of the herd,
7 and would substantially contribute to a declining trend.
8 If the harvest remained at 4,000, which was the meat
9 estimate, it would have an even larger effect; and that's
10 the higher line that you can see there.

11 As we showed in our Bathurst presentation, we
12 think that the effect of this constant harvest from a
13 declining herd contributed substantially to the rapid
14 decline of the Bathurst herd, and we think the same thing
15 is happening with the Bluenose East herd. Next slide.

16 So this is the same graph that Jan showed you a
17 few minutes ago. It shows the likely trend in the Bluenose
18 East herd from 2015 to 2018 with three different levels of
19 calf survival and a cow survival rate of 74 percent. This
20 model does not include any harvest. So you can see that
21 even without harvest, if the current conditions continue,
22 the herd is likely to number where between 17,000 and
23 27,000 by 2018. Next slide.

24 So this chart shows basically the same
25 information, except the bars show the herd's likely size in

1 2018. Again, there's no harvest, and the cow survival is
2 74 percent.

3 So the dotted purple line at the top shows the
4 estimated herd size in 2015; about 38,000 caribou. If calf
5 survival continues to be low, the red bar shows where the
6 herd is likely to be at 17,000 caribou in 2018. If calf
7 survival improves to average levels, the herd might be a
8 little over 20,000 in 2018, which is the middle bar; and if
9 calf survival gets a lot better, then the herd could
10 possibly be about 27,000 in 2018, and that's the bright
11 green bar on the far left. Next slide.

12 So keep that chart in mind. This graph now, or
13 this series of graphs, shows the projected Bluenose East
14 herd size in 2018 with three different levels of harvest.
15 Again, we've kept the cow survival rate at 74 percent. And
16 the purple line, the dotted purple line at the top, is the
17 herd size in 2015 at about 38,000 animals. So the three
18 bars on the left is the same as the previous slide: So
19 there's no harvest, three levels of calf survival. Green
20 is high, a good improvement, the middle green is improved
21 to average, and the red is continued low calf survival.

22 The bars, the three bars in the middle, show a
23 projection if there was an annual harvest of 950 bulls and
24 the same three levels of calf survival. Projected herd
25 size would be about 15,000 to 25,000 animals in 2018. The

1 three bars on the far right show a projection for an annual
2 harvest of 4,000 caribou, 65 percent cows. That's
3 representing what was a traditional harvest in the last
4 several years on this herd. With this harvest, projected
5 herd size would be between 8,000 and 18,000 animals by
6 2018.

7 So in a herd like the Bluenose East with a
8 naturally declining trend, any harvest -- even a bull-only
9 harvest -- will add to the decline. The risk of increasing
10 the decline needs to be considered in light of overall
11 management objectives for the herd and the importance of
12 the harvest to communities in the NWT and Nunavut.

13 So Lisa made a comment yesterday, when we were
14 talking about the Bathurst herd, and how, when you have a
15 declining herd, for purely scientific biological purposes,
16 zero is the best harvest; but we recognize -- everybody
17 recognizes the importance of the harvest. So then it
18 becomes a measure of how much risk and how much change to
19 the decline are you willing to accept? Next slide.

20 Okay. And I'm going to take a little bit of
21 time with this slide because it addresses some of the
22 questions that were asked earlier. Because of the declines
23 in all the barren ground caribou herds that we monitor and
24 that we've seen decline since about 2000, we asked an
25 independent statistician that we use for much of this

1 work -- his name is Jon Boulanger -- to assess the effect
2 of harvest on caribou herds, and a report on that
3 assessment has been provided to the Board as a background
4 document.

5 The main results of that work are summarized in
6 this slide, and this is related to the rule of thumb and
7 the 2.5 percent. So if you look at the square at the top,
8 that image, that graphic, this is one way that you can
9 assess the level of risk that a herd is facing. So it's
10 probably hard to read there, but if you go up on the
11 left-hand side on that access, at the bottom, it says "Fast
12 decline." In the middle is "Stable," and on the top is
13 "Fast increase." So they're indicators of herd trend going
14 from rapid decline all the way up to rapid increase.
15 Across the bottom there's indicators of herd size. So far
16 left is a low herd moving up through moderate and then to
17 high.

18 So when you look at the combination of the herd
19 trend and the herd size, you get a way of looking at the
20 risk. If you have a small population, a low population --
21 let me correct that -- a low population, and a fast
22 decline, then you're at the highest level of risk and
23 vulnerability for that herd, and that's the area you see
24 there in the red. If you have a populations that's
25 moderate -- so it's in between what we know as a peak and a

1 low and it has a fast decline -- it's still a serious
2 concern, but it's moved into the yellow because it's moved
3 across into a larger population size. And if you have a
4 population that's at a high, you have a lot of animals, but
5 you have a fast decline, that's a concern but not nearly as
6 high a risk. So it's in the green. So that's just moving
7 across the bottom.

8 Similarly, if you have a small population, fast
9 decline -- that's the highest risk -- low population, but
10 it's stable, the risk has decreased, and it's now in the
11 yellow zone. Low population, but a fast increase, then
12 your risk is quite a bit lower, and it's moving into the
13 green zone.

14 And then you've got a combination of all of
15 those. So that's the thinking behind the green, the
16 yellow, the orange, and the red. So it's a combination of
17 population size and what's happening with the trend.

18 So using that concept and using the work that
19 was done by Jon Belanger. He developed a model for us.
20 The model was based on all of the information that we had
21 on the herd, including things like rates of cow survival,
22 rates of calf survival, different harvest levels, and
23 different sex ratios in the harvest, putting all of that in
24 together -- and I am not a modeler; to me, it's a little
25 bit of magic -- but putting all of that together, developed

1 a statistical model that you can plug in a population size
2 and those parameters, and it gives you an idea of the
3 impact of different levels of harvest; and that's where the
4 5 percent, 4 percent, 3 percent, 2 percent comes from.
5 It's the impact of the level of harvest on a herd,
6 depending at what level of risk.

7 And if you look at -- and Jan's looking because
8 I'm completely diverging from our speaking notes. If you
9 look at the bar across -- and, again, it's probably hard to
10 see -- depending where you are across that bar, the model
11 suggests that, if you're in the green zone, you have a very
12 low level of risk, you can have a more liberal harvest of
13 around 5 percent. That generally means an unrestricted
14 harvest of either sex.

15 As you move towards the red, the rule of thumb
16 suggests -- based on the model -- suggests that your
17 harvest level should decrease. When you're in the orange,
18 the harvest model and the rule of thumb suggests that you
19 should be somewhere between 1 and 2 percent. So the two
20 and a half percent, when Lisa said it wasn't a very
21 conservative approach, it's on the upper end of what the
22 risk assessment suggests for a herd that size.

23 So I've completely gone away from my speaking
24 notes, but I'm hoping that helps people understand a little
25 bit how the rule of thumb works and how those colour zones

1 work; and, if not, then we can answer questions afterwards.

2 So in the case of the Bluenose East herd, what
3 we recommended was a harvest of 950 caribou a year, which
4 is about two and a half percent of the herd and all bulls.
5 Next slide.

6 So this slide now takes a look at the likely
7 effect of a cow harvest on the Bluenose East herd. On the
8 left-hand side is the annual rate of change in the caribou
9 herd or how the annual rate of change is affected by a cow
10 harvest. Left-hand side is the annual rate of change.
11 Level of zero would be a stable herd, so that's the black
12 line. Projections are done over seven years.

13 So if there's no harvest and the cow survival
14 and calf recruitment stay the same as they are now, the
15 herd is likely to decline at a continuing rate of 17
16 percent a year. That's the black line. If there's a
17 harvest of 950 bulls a year, the annual rate of decline
18 will start at 19 percent and slowly increase to about 22
19 percent. That's the green line. If there's a harvest of
20 950 caribou a year, half of them bulls and half of them
21 cows, then the annual rate of decline will start at 20
22 percent and increase to about 27 percent. That's the blue
23 line. And, finally, if there was a harvest of 950 cows a
24 year, so the annual rate of decline starts at about 20
25 percent and increases to 34 percent a year. That's the red

1 line.

2 So, overall, the effect of a cow harvest is to
3 speed up a downward decline, and the effect gets stronger
4 as each year goes by. And as I said, we think this is one
5 of the things that contributed to the decline of the
6 Bathurst herd and the downward acceleration of that decline
7 2006 and 2009 and has likely contributed to the recent
8 accelerated decline of the Bluenose East herd.

9 Another way of looking at the importance of a
10 cow harvest is shown in this graphic, which we've borrowed
11 from the Porcupine caribou management board. Shooting a
12 pregnant cow removes the cow, the calf she's carrying, and
13 all future calves she might produce and all future calves
14 her calves might produce. As shown in this graphic --
15 suggests that if a hunter chooses a bull instead of a cow
16 each year for ten years, there could be 23 more caribou in
17 the herd as a result.

18 So the Taking Care of Caribou plan does
19 recognize that bulls are also important to the herd,
20 particularly the large breeding males. A very large
21 bull-only harvest could also deplete the herd's breeding
22 bulls. So the level of bull-only harvest that has been
23 proposed -- 950 bulls a year -- especially if focused on
24 younger and smaller bulls, should leave enough large males
25 in the herd. Fall surveys can be done regularly to check

1 on the numbers of bulls compared to the number of cows to
2 make sure that it doesn't fall below acceptable levels.
3 Next slide.

4 Okay. So we'd like to move now to the
5 recommended harvest that the GNWT has put forward with the
6 support of the Tlicho Government, who also put this
7 forward. We recommended a total harvest of 950 caribou a
8 year, all bulls, for the following reasons: The herd is
9 now estimated to be about 38,000 animals, and it falls into
10 the orange or declining phase of the Taking Care of Caribou
11 plan. For the Bluenose East herd, the orange zone applies
12 when the population is between 20,000 and 60,000 and
13 declining.

14 And when the herd is in the orange zone, the
15 plan recommends a total allowable harvest with a bull
16 focus.

17 The herd isn't in the red zone yet. The red
18 zone has a threshold of 20,000 or less caribou, but we are
19 concerned that the herd could easily be in the red phase by
20 2018 if the current trend continues.

21 Secondly, the herd has had a very rapid decline
22 between 2013 and 2015, with a 50 percent loss of breeding
23 cows. Because the cows are most critical to the herd's
24 ability to stabilize and recover, we recommend there be no
25 harvest of cows and that the harvest focus on younger,

1 smaller bulls, and that's consistent with what is in the
2 Taking Care of Caribou plan.

3 Thirdly, the vital rates of the herd -- the cow
4 survival rate, calf survival, and pregnancy rate -- have
5 all been low, and the herd is likely to decline further
6 even if there is no harvest.

7 And, fourthly, any harvest from the herd adds to
8 the mortality rate of the adult caribou, and, in a
9 declining herd, adds to the risk of further decline.
10 Harvest of 950 bulls a year does increase the likelihood of
11 a further decline but to a much lower extent than a higher
12 harvest rate would. We also recommend that any
13 information, new information, be reviewed and management
14 actions be reviewed regularly. Next slide.

15 I'd now like to talk about the proposed
16 allocation for that recommended harvest. In 2015, after
17 the 2014 reconnaissance survey showed that the Bluenose
18 East herd was rapidly declining, we proposed a total
19 harvest of 2,800 animals with 1,800 for the NWT and 1,000
20 for Nunavut, and this is what Lisa talked about earlier.

21 The pie chart on this slide shows the
22 recommended allocation for each of the aboriginal groups
23 for that harvest. There were many factors that were taken
24 into consideration for that allocation, but primarily, it
25 was based on historical harvest from this herd. A similar

1 approach to this kind of allocation has also been used in
2 the Porcupine management plan, so there is precedence for
3 taking this approach.

4 After the 2015 survey confirmed the decline in
5 the Bluenose East, we've proposed a herd-wide total
6 allowable harvest of 950 animals, and we used the same
7 allocation formula to suggest how that harvest should be
8 allocated.

9 We did have a meeting of aboriginal user groups
10 of the Bluenose East herd to discuss this allocation, and
11 there was general agreement that this was an appropriate
12 way to allocate the harvest. That allocation has been sent
13 out to all the aboriginal user groups for their comment.

14 So I'm not going to go through in detail the
15 meetings we've had to come up with this proposal. There
16 have been many meetings. We went through most of these
17 yesterday when we did the Bathurst. Most of the meetings
18 that have been held were joint, both Bathurst and Bluenose
19 East, so I'm not going to go through that list.

20 But I would like to point out the difference
21 with the Bluenose East herd is that we have more user
22 groups on the Bluenose East herd than we do on the Bathurst
23 herd, and so there have been meetings with other groups as
24 well, and there have been two sets of public hearings in
25 the NWT, one by the Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board,

1 and one by the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board, because
2 they're both the primary instruments of wildlife management
3 for those respective areas and those user groups.

4 We'd also like to recognize the leadership of
5 the community of Deliné. I spoke a little bit to the
6 Deliné plan yesterday, but they have developed a
7 community-based plan for managing the harvest in their area
8 to fit in with these proposed harvest restrictions. Next
9 slide.

10 So we recognize that this hearing is really
11 focussed on a proposal for a total allowable harvest for
12 the Bluenose East in Nunavut, but as I said with the
13 Bathurst, it is our experience that people like to
14 understand the full range of management actions that are
15 also being taken. It's not just harvest restriction. So I
16 just want to describe a little bit the management context
17 in the NWT for Bluenose East. I've spoken about the Taking
18 Care of Caribou plan, and that's what we use as guidance.
19 The ACCWM is working on specific action plans; one for the
20 Bluenose East, and we'll be using that as guidance for this
21 herd as well.

22 As has already been indicated, there is no major
23 development on the range of the Bluenose East herd, as you
24 can see on the map there. There are no active mines, but
25 there has been some exploration. And some activity may be

1 coming forward, and so we participate in all the
2 environmental assessments that occur on the range for the
3 Bluenose East.

4 There's been a lot of talk about wolves. As we
5 said in our Bathurst presentation, we are doing a
6 feasibility study to look at both methods of monitoring
7 wolf populations and methods of controlling or managing
8 wolf populations, and we hope to have that done by the
9 fall.

10 We do have a wolf incentive program in place,
11 and that applies to harvesters harvesting wolves on the
12 Bluenose East range as well as the Bathurst. And the
13 Tlicho Government is piloting a project to increase wolf
14 harvest on the Bathurst range, and if that's successful, it
15 could potentially be applied to the Bluenose East range, as
16 well. Next slide.

17 And that's our presentation. Thank you very
18 much.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, very much, Lynda and
20 Jan.

21 Just before we move on, we have somebody that
22 joined us at the table. Eva, would you just state your
23 name and who you're representing, please. Thank you.

24 MS. AYALIK: Eva Ayalik, Kitikmeot Regional
25 Wildlife Board. I'm the Regional Coordinator for Kitikmeot

1 West.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

3 Oh, and, Paul, you're back too. Nice to see
4 you.

5 Okay. Well, we'll move on, as just in the
6 interests of time, we are quite a bit behind, so there's no
7 question we'll be meeting again tonight, just to let
8 everybody know about that, but we'll move on.

9 Is there any questions for NWT from the Board
10 Members? Caleb.

11 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

12 MR. SANGOYA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 First of all, I'd like to say, the surveys that
14 are done by biologists, in our communities, the biologists
15 are researching. About 15 years ago, when a
16 researcher/surveyor, when they didn't find any caribou and
17 then after supper they went back to the same spot. And,
18 also, they only saw barren ground and no caribou all
19 morning when they went out to survey. And in the
20 afternoon, the Inuk that went out with them said, "Just sit
21 still for a moment, and the rocks you thought was rock, and
22 just observe them," and these were caribou just standing
23 still. And once the biologist was just sitting still, they
24 obviously started to move.

25 So they didn't recognize the caribou because it

1 was camouflaged. I'm sure the airplanes will not capture
2 the whole number of caribou because of camouflage.

3 And the other question I have is total allowable
4 harvest for harvesters. We understand that you want to
5 conserve the caribou, and I do support your conservation
6 efforts, but that shouldn't be the way to do it. If you
7 have a TAH and you have to do allocation, and each
8 individual hunter will have a number to harvest, but in
9 that calculation of your TAH, you don't put into
10 consideration the disease and other predators that harvest
11 from the group of caribou, and that's not really explained
12 in your report.

13 And, also, noise and vibration or earthquakes
14 that contribute to the cumulative effects of harassing
15 caribou, because there's some earthquakes that happen, and
16 that's a sign for them that it's time for them start to
17 migrate somewhere else. And these cumulative effects that
18 are natural and from predators, how come you only report
19 the number of harvest harvested by hunters but you don't
20 calculate into that the number of cumulative effects from
21 natural predators and earthquakes or land use?

22 And you said there was 123,000 in 2010, and
23 today it's 38,000. What happened to the rest of that
24 8,200? This number in decline that you say, what happened
25 to that number in between? You can't explain what happened

1 to that large number of caribou, whether it was disease or
2 they have extirpated and moved over to Yukon or Russia or
3 Greenland.

4 I would like to see on a map before we say 100
5 percent that. Before we make a decision, I'd like to be
6 able to see in writing these cumulative like earthquakes,
7 mining companies, and other predators that contribute to
8 this decline, not only hunters harvesting from it.

9 And if we're going to be only harvesting males,
10 we know for a fact, as Inuit, the bulls are the lead of the
11 herd, and they protect the whole herd. And when there's
12 only females in that group because they depleted the bulls,
13 the females will move aimlessly because they don't have a
14 lead, and they will look for those bulls somewhere else
15 because they're their leaders and protectors.

16 And I'd like to get more information on
17 diseases, earthquakes, natural happenings, and predators.
18 Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

20 NWT.

21 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you. You covered quite a
22 lot of ground there, so I'll do my best to answer at least
23 some of your questions.

24 Could you go back to the slide with the caribou
25 ranges.

1 The issue of whether caribou move somewhere
2 else, I mean, that has been discussed before, and I know
3 Mathieu addressed it to some extent, but I wanted to sort
4 of point out, it's becoming much less likely that we would
5 miss any large numbers of caribou for a couple of reasons,
6 and in 2007-2008, we had surveys on the calving grounds in
7 June right across the Northwest Territories, and we
8 surveyed at pretty much the same time the Tuk Peninsula,
9 Cape Bathurst, Bluenose West, Bluenose East, Bathurst,
10 Beverly, Ahlak in the Queen Maud Gulf, and even the
11 Qamanirjuaq with the help of the GN biologists.

12 So all those calving grounds were basically
13 surveyed at the same time. There were lines flown in
14 between them, and in each case, we had collared caribou
15 from each herd, which give us confirmation confidence that
16 each herd is basically where it should be. And since that
17 time, at intervals -- at three-year intervals -- we do
18 population surveys of all the herds in the Northwest
19 Territories from Bathurst on west to the Inuvik region.

20 So it's always possible that we miss some
21 caribou. Small numbers can always be missed, but we're
22 pretty confident now, especially with the collared caribou,
23 that we will find the main parts of the herd, and we do
24 have collars now on bulls in each herd, as well as the
25 cows.

1 So 30 years ago, 40 years ago, it was a
2 different situation, and there were a lot more places for
3 caribou to hide, and we think, by this point, the
4 likelihood that there's some big bunch of caribou out there
5 that we missed is fairly low. And the collared caribou, as
6 we talked about in our presentation, consistently show the
7 same animals go back to the same calving grounds year after
8 year, with very high loyalty. So we feel fairly confident,
9 by this point, that we have the herds fairly well
10 identified, and we can monitor them, and the surveys are
11 frequent enough that I think we're keeping pretty close
12 track of what each of those herds is doing.

13 Just give me a second to check my notes here.

14 You asked about the extent of the decline, and
15 it is kind of shocking, sometimes, to see numbers dropping
16 as quickly as we've documented in this herd, especially
17 from 2013 to 2015.

18 The first thing I guess I would point out is
19 that this is not unique to our part of the world. There's
20 a herd called the George River herd in Quebec and Labrador,
21 and that herd was somewhere in low numbers in the 1950s,
22 probably went to about 800,000 in the late 1980s, and is
23 now estimated at somewhere around 10,000 and still falling.
24 So it's not unique to our caribou herds. Those kinds of
25 big increases and big declines have happened elsewhere

1 documented by other people.

2 As to what happens, we can't tell you what
3 happens to every single caribou, but when we do our counts
4 and then we use population models to help us understand
5 what's happening with the herd, in the end, it becomes a
6 balance between what is lost and what is gained. So if you
7 have a low pregnancy rate, then very few calves are born in
8 June. If their survival rate is not very good, then very
9 few make it through the first year.

10 If the adults are not living at high rates, if
11 the predators are killing a lot of them, and if harvest
12 adds to that, then your negative side of the balance sheet
13 gets big, and what you're adding on the positive side, in
14 terms of young animals, becomes relatively small, and it's
15 not difficult to lose 15 percent of a caribou herd in a
16 year, and we've seen higher rates of decline in the
17 Bathurst herd between 2006 and 2009.

18 So this is one way we look at a caribou herd is
19 kind of that balance sheet between what's added and what is
20 lost, and it is actually quite possible to see that rate of
21 decline when the balance between the positive and the
22 negative is quite large.

23 As far as the effects of predators, as our
24 colleagues from Nunavut have pointed out, wolves are very
25 difficult to count accurately. We do monitor them on our

1 surveys. We do get information from hunters, people at
2 meetings. Traditional knowledge would suggest that wolves
3 are still abundant on the Bluenose East range, and having
4 been on some of the calving ground surveys, Bluenose East,
5 we generally see more bears than wolves there. So there is
6 no question the predators are an important source of
7 mortality for caribou.

8 The harvest itself, as I think we pointed out
9 during the Bathurst meetings, we don't believe that the
10 harvest is a main driver in that big cycle, but when a herd
11 reaches low numbers and has a downward trend naturally and
12 the harvest is large, then it can start to have a fairly
13 major role in that decline. And, in this case in the
14 Bluenose East herd, when the herd was 100,000 and more with
15 good calf recruitment, then that harvest was not that big
16 of an issue; but the herd drops to lower levels naturally,
17 and the harvest is still fairly large, and then it becomes
18 much more of an issue.

19 In terms of mining, I think we pointed out and
20 GN pointed out there are no active mines on the Bluenose
21 East range, Nunavut or Northwest Territories. If you move
22 south and east into the Bathurst range, then you start
23 finding the diamond mines, more roads, and a lot more
24 concern about cumulative effects on that herd's range. But
25 Bluenose East has had very little of that. There is

1 exploration on the calving grounds Tundra Copper. We have
2 been engaged in environmental assessment processes in both
3 territories, and we have opposed any development on any
4 calving ground for any caribou herd, and we will continue
5 to advocate for that.

6 You asked about earthquakes, and I can't say
7 anything about earthquakes, but I would share one story
8 with you that may be of interest. In 1991, in the
9 Philippines, which is the other side of the planet in Asia,
10 there was a very large volcanic eruption. This is Mount
11 Pinatubo. And that volcano put a huge amount of ash in the
12 air, and the following year, 1992, the summer across the
13 Canadian north was very short, the spring came late, and
14 calf recruitment was really poor. Calf survival, calf
15 productivity was affected by an event that happened on the
16 other side of the planet, but it affected the weather and
17 the summer range condition in the following year.

18 So those things do happen, but again, as our
19 colleagues from Nunavut have pointed out, from the GN,
20 regardless of what has driven decline and what may still be
21 occurring, the list of things that you can actively manage
22 is always very short, and it's basically human influence,
23 harvest, land use, and possibly predators; and we're trying
24 to look at all of these things to see what we can do to
25 maybe not stabilize the herd but at least give it an

1 opportunity to stabilize and an opportunity to recover and
2 reach numbers where the kind of harvesting that our
3 communities would like are once again sustainable.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Jan.

5 David K.

6 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 David Kritterdlik, Board Member.

8 I'm not too experienced about number of
9 different herds up in this area. Bathurst west and
10 Bathurst east seem to be close together other than that map
11 boundary separating them.

12 How do we know, like, two different distinct
13 herds from each other, west and east? What's the
14 difference? Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

16 Jan.

17 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
18 Northwest Territories.

19 I think in this case I believe you're referring
20 to Bluenose West and Bluenose East, this one and this one.
21 And the two calving grounds on this map look like they're
22 relatively close, but, in a sense, it's a bit deceptive
23 because, in any one year, the area that is used is smaller
24 than what is shown here. So this is kind of a cumulative
25 calving ground over some number of years.

1 So if you were to track the collared females --
2 and we have them in both those herds and the rest of our
3 herds -- the separation in June at calving is fairly
4 complete. So the area within each of those calving grounds
5 in any one year that is used is smaller, and the separation
6 between those two -- the distance may not be as large as
7 between some of the herds, but we have found the same
8 loyalty to each of those calving grounds. And I can't show
9 you at this point with an animation, but they do separate
10 out quite distinctly in June.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

12 David.

13 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Thank you. David Kritterdlik.

14 More of a comment now. During the presentation,
15 it was mentioned that over hunting is causing decline. I
16 think we all agree that it does, and it's been many years
17 that's been going on, not only up in this -- all over, it
18 happens. And how we can stop that, I don't know.

19 But I'm from Kivalliq down the coast, west coast
20 of Hudson Bay, and we do have a herd that goes back and
21 forth every year. But the Inuit; we cannot enforce
22 experienced Inuit hunters to kill off bulls only in late
23 fall and winter unless they are the only caribou around.
24 It's a tradition that we cannot. It's been a tradition. I
25 don't think anybody can ever force an Inuk or any hunter,

1 experienced hunter, to kill what they don't want to kill.
2 I think a lot of people know about that, the bulls in the
3 fall and the winter.

4 And the only other thing that I wanted to
5 mention is that a thumbs-up to GNWT for a plan to look into
6 what wolves have in today's times. Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David. I think more
8 comments than anything else.

9 I'll pass it on to Simeonie. Question.

10 MR. KEENAINAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 The female biologist and her colleague, I'm very
12 impressed with your way of presenting your knowledge of
13 caribou, and I would even like to know how you learn all
14 about these caribou biology or information you presented.

15 You sound like experts in your field, so my
16 question is: In your presentation, there's no reference to
17 aboriginals or indigenous people who said this: Like, from
18 their information, I made this graph with different
19 colours, and I guess if you're academic or educated in an
20 institution you start using graphs and pie charts to try
21 and explain the environment.

22 Maybe perhaps if you can include traditional
23 knowledge of all the indigenous people into those pie
24 charts and to show what they say in your charts, perhaps
25 that way we can better understand what you are trying to

1 explain to us. But I do appreciate your presentation that
2 you have these graphs and percentages you're trying to
3 explain.

4 And I was trying to ask yesterday why caribou
5 are declining, and I just heard just now that one of the
6 explanations you got is that the weather pattern changed
7 because of a Philippine eruption as one of your examples.
8 That's really good to know because that's part of the
9 cumulative effect that might be contributing to the
10 climate, and that's why they're not producing as much
11 calves.

12 Perhaps all these information you just explained
13 from all over the world could be part of your
14 explanation -- not today -- but I'm sure in the future
15 we're going to be talking about caribou a lot more than we
16 have.

17 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you for those comments.

19 So would you like to respond, Lynda?

20 MS. YONGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

21 And thank you for your comments.

22 Just a comment on a couple of the graphics that
23 we used. So the chart where we have the red, the yellow,
24 the orange, and the green; we didn't make that up. We
25 stole that. We took that from the ideas from the ACCWM

1 plan, and that was developed by the co-management boards
2 who brought the traditional knowledge and the local
3 knowledge to those meetings, and they're the people who
4 developed it to reflect it in that way.

5 And the pie chart, the information on that pie
6 chart came from the local, the aboriginal harvesting
7 groups, who came together and told us what the level of
8 harvest is from each of their organizations. We put it in
9 a pie chart because people found it easier to understand
10 how much of a piece they would get, than just a chart of
11 numbers; but it is based on the information that we got
12 from local harvesters.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lynda.

14 Charlie.

15 MR. INUARAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 Charlie from NWMB.

17 My question: You're very thorough in your
18 presentation. And the caribou harvested; who's harvesting
19 more or less in the NWT and Nunavut. So I know now who's
20 harvesting more than us.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

22 Okay. Jan, go ahead.

23 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: If you'll allow me, Mr. Chairman,
24 could I respond to the previous comment?

25 THE CHAIR: Go ahead, Jan.

1 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: We try pretty hard with our
2 presentations to make them understandable by everyone, and
3 it is a challenge because some of the information is
4 technical, and some of the language, some of the terms we
5 use, are not familiar to everyone. So we're always looking
6 for ways to provide the information in a way that is going
7 to make sense to people.

8 I wanted to also just tell you a brief story
9 about when I first started to learn about caribou and that
10 started in 1981, in Coral Harbour. I was a young student.
11 I had no experience with hunting or fishing, I had never
12 been on the land, but I spent almost a calendar year in a
13 field. This was Coats Island. It's south of Coral Harbour
14 in Hudson Bay a small population of caribou.

15 And I went there many times with a very good
16 hunter named Joanasie Nakoolak. I don't know if he's still
17 alive. He was a very good hunter; he's a crack shot. And
18 he was my teacher about caribou, maybe the most important
19 teacher about caribou that I ever had.

20 And I recognized very earlier early that, you
21 know, I had university education, I had high school, I
22 could write lot of things; but he knew a lot more about
23 caribou than I did. And what I learned from him in those
24 years, about two and a half years, that's still an
25 important base of everything I know about caribou. And my

1 teacher was an old-style Inuk who was essentially
2 illiterate, in terms of reading, but his knowledge was like
3 a professor at university.

4 So we present graphs and charts and numbers, but
5 try to understand that we do have experience working with
6 people on the land, and that experience and what I learned
7 back then, and here 20 years ago doing muskox studies, it
8 still affects everything that I know and understand about
9 caribou.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

11 David Igutsaq.

12 MR. IGUTSAQ: Charlie -- oh.

13 THE CHAIR: I thought you were done, Charlie.
14 Charlie, go ahead.

15 MR. INUARAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 Although you didn't answer my question: Who's
17 harvesting more, NWT or Nunavut, was my question. You
18 didn't give me a chance to finish, so I want to know who's
19 harvesting more, NWT or Nunavut.

20 And the presentations you did yesterday and
21 today that you want to harvest only bulls and males and
22 you're also recommending that, in Bluenose East caribou,
23 that they harvest only males. I know you're trying to
24 explain the best you can. Males cannot get pregnant. We
25 know that. And the females are the only ones that can get

1 pregnant.

2 In Nunavut, we've been very well involved in
3 other species like polar bear management. We had to face
4 animal rights activists who said that the polar bears were
5 going extinct, and they were very vocal about. It was in
6 the public media. And, also, I started getting involved
7 with polar bear management with the government, how I can
8 help the government scientists, biologists.

9 And when there was a sex-selection ratio that
10 was implemented that if we harvested a female, they would
11 remove, from our TAH, males. So is this same TAH that is
12 being proposed for our caribou? This sex-selective ratio;
13 every time we harvest a female are you going to remove tags
14 from the males that we're supposed to harvest from? Is
15 that the same methodology that you're using? Is that going
16 to be the same rule for caribou like polar bear management?

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

18 Jan.

19 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you.

20 Jan Adamczewski with the Government Northwest
21 Territories.

22 And my apologies if I misread your question
23 initially. On your first point about who harvests more; in
24 reference to this herd, Bluenose East, I think there's no
25 question that the bulk of the harvest has been on the NWT

1 side. Our harvest numbers are not always complete or
2 completely accurate on either side of the border, but,
3 certainly, our harvest information would suggest that well
4 over half of it has been in the Northwest Territories in
5 the last few years. Basically, it is a matter, more than
6 anything, of accessibility. So the herd can be reached by
7 Deliné and some of the other communities, so it's easier to
8 hunt. Kugluktuk only has seasonal access to the herd.

9 In terms of the bull-only harvest, the same
10 issue has come up in Northwest Territories in some of our
11 other meetings and hearings. And it's a challenge, because
12 people tend to harvest in certain ways; and in the
13 Northwest Territories, most of the harvest is winter, and
14 hunters prefer cows. And how to kind of make that
15 transition from at least mostly cows to mostly bulls, you
16 know, we recognize that's going to take time, and this is
17 really where we need the help of the communities as to how
18 to do this in a reasonable way.

19 I would mention, from our contacts with our
20 Tlicho colleagues in the Northwest Territories, they have
21 talked about this. They have supported this bull-only
22 proposal for the Bluenose East herd, and part of what they
23 are looking at is focussing more on a fall hunt as opposed
24 to a winter hunt because, traditionally and more recently,
25 if it's a fall hunt in September -- August or September --

1 they would focus on bulls. Bulls are big and fat, and very
2 good meat at that time. And so they're talking about ways
3 of perhaps increasing the fall hunt, doing less hunting in
4 the middle of winter. They have talked about taking bulls
5 at the tail end of winter because they start to improve in
6 condition then. They're in a little bit better shape then.

7 But how best to do this: I think this is
8 something that we're going to need help from the
9 communities on. And, you know, we recognize changing ways
10 of hunting that have been there for a long time is not
11 going to happen in one year, but I think there's
12 recognition, at least on our side of the border, that it
13 will be important to spare the cows to give the herd a
14 chance to recover.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

16 Charlie.

17 MR. INUARAK: Yes, very briefly, supplementary,
18 the male-only. I know we can harvest bulls only. If we go
19 out and hunt, we can do that.

20 But I keep going back to the polar bear
21 management issue that, when we started, we know that when
22 we set up that sex-selection ratio, as soon as it was
23 implemented in one community, all the other communities
24 were made to follow the same sex-selective ratio. And if
25 you harvested a female accidentally, they automatically

1 take the tag from the male quota. So the number of tags
2 were depleted quite fast, and it was supposed to be
3 temporary, but it's been going on for years and years.

4 And I think at the present time there's an
5 explosion of population, there's a lot of males -- not
6 enough males to go around for these female polar bears.
7 They're going all over the place trying to look for males
8 to mate with.

9 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

11 Would you like to respond, Jan?

12 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
13 Northwest Territories.

14 The issue of the importance of the large
15 breeding males, we have heard about this many times in
16 meetings and hearings in Northwest Territories; and if you
17 look at the Taking Care of Caribou management plan -- Lynda
18 talked about that -- that is clearly spelled out there, the
19 importance from the traditional perspective of those large
20 males. So that plan suggests if you have a bull-focussed
21 harvest that you aim at the smaller, younger males and try
22 to leave the big males to do the breeding and have their
23 leadership role.

24 The other thing that I think is important to
25 point out is we're not shooting -- is that we don't shoot

1 all the bulls. The idea would be to shoot a limited number
2 of bulls and leave the large bulls to do the breeding and
3 monitor the bull-to-cow ratio in the herd so that we're
4 confident that there are still many breeding males out
5 there to breed all the cows. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

7 David Igutsaq.

8 MR. IGUTSAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 I'm going to be asking the experts. One
10 female -- if a female caribou has a natural mortality, how
11 many calves can they produce, like, one female can produce
12 calves through their lifetime?

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

14 Jan.

15 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: There are occasional reports of
16 twinning in caribou, but they seem to be fairly rare. It
17 happens occasionally in reindeer, and I know a few cases
18 where it's been documented, but certainly from
19 hunter-killed caribou, condition studies, various
20 communities, it's extremely rare that the cow will have
21 more than one foetus.

22 And in terms of the age of the cow, generally
23 speaking, if the cow is three years old or more, then she
24 has a fairly high chance of being pregnant. If she's two
25 and a half years old in October, she may be pregnant.

1 Yearling cows very rarely are pregnant. They can still
2 have calves when they're ten or eleven, but you often don't
3 see caribou going much past that age. So a
4 fifteen-year-old caribou is a very old caribou, and by that
5 point, typically, the teeth are not so good, the shape of
6 the animal is not so good, and most commonly they will no
7 longer be pregnant at that age. So, in a lifetime, a cow
8 that lives, you know, a good old age might produce seven,
9 eight, nine calves if things go really well and if she
10 lives a long time. Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

12 David.

13 MR. IGUTSAQ: Just a comment. We are here for
14 public hearings, and we understand all your presentations;
15 and we have a chance to hear from Inuit through their
16 questions and their comments.

17 And, Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for
18 giving us a chance to speak about this.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David. Any other
20 questions from the Board?

21 If not, staff. Peter.

22 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD STAFF QUESTIONS AND
23 COMMENTS

24 MR. KYDD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 I just have one question or clarification. On

1 the chart where the levels of risk are indicated, on the
2 bottom is the herd size, small herd -- I think small,
3 medium and large. That herd size is indicated how? Is it
4 a percentage of the peak population?

5 There we go, yeah. So the herd size, low,
6 medium, high, how is that determined? Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

8 Jan.

9 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Yeah, Jan Adamczewski with
10 Government of Northwest Territories.

11 This is one of the areas that kind of is
12 challenging because, in some cases for some herds, we have
13 fairly good historic information; in some herds, the
14 information, at least from surveys, doesn't go back quite
15 as far; but the idea in this case, to the extent that we
16 know, it would be kind of the percent of maximum that has
17 been recorded for that herd. So in the case of the
18 Bathurst herd -- we're not supposed to talk about the
19 Bathurst herd, but this is one of the considerations for
20 us, at least in terms of harvest from that herd, is that
21 the maximum size estimated was 470,000, and so they have
22 fallen a very long way from that number.

23 Some of our other herds, the Cape Bathurst herd
24 which is a terrible name -- it's not related to the
25 Bathurst herd, but it is a relatively small herd found kind

1 of in the Inuvik region; and, as far as we know, it has
2 never been more than perhaps 20,000 caribou -- currently, a
3 little over, around two and a half thousand, so it's low
4 relative to that number. But we're trying to sort of take
5 into account, as best we can, the relative maximum and
6 minimum, as best we know it for each of these herds.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Michael.

8 MR. D'EÇA: Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.

9 Thanks, Jan and Lynda.

10 I want to ask you about the Taking Care of
11 Caribou management plan, and I just want to make sure I
12 understand what the status of that plan is.

13 It's been signed by its members, and there's no
14 indication that it's a draft; and I take it that, actually
15 from the ACCWM's perspective, it's a final document. It, I
16 think, represents that committee's contribution to the
17 management of the three herds to be followed, or not, by
18 the various authorities that make decisions on the herds
19 and that the Government of Northwest Territories has
20 embraced that plan and is using it as an official guide to
21 as to how it manages those herds. Have I got that right?

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

23 Lynda.

24 MS. YONGE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 Yes, that's correct. We take it as it's been

1 accepted as guidance. We are waiting for the action plans
2 that will flow from that management plan as well. Guidance
3 or a guide is a correct way of looking at it because any
4 management actions taken under that plan still needs to go
5 through the relevant co-management processes.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lynda.

7 Michael. All right. That's it for the NWMB.

8 Government of Nunavut, questions for NWT?

9 MR. GISSING: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
10 questions from the Government of Nunavut.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Drikus.

12 Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board. Any
13 questions, Simon?

14 KITIKMEOT REGIONAL WILDLIFE BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

15 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 Simon Qingnaqtuq from KRWB.

17 I'd like to say thank you to them from the GNWT,
18 and they're presenting what they know, and they've come to
19 present it to the Nunavut managers. The researchers know,
20 but you have to utilize Inuit traditional knowledge, Inuit
21 qaujimaqatugangit within both Nunavut and Northwest
22 Territories. Yes, you have to. But I don't see the
23 researchers when they come up here.

24 I don't like the people that do the surveys,
25 myself, personally. They did a survey from the Northwest

1 Territories, and then they write up a report, but they
2 don't come to the communities. They give us a report, but
3 they don't come to the communities. And I have a question
4 because the people from the Northwest Territories, after
5 they do a survey, they give us a report, but they never
6 come to the communities.

7 But the caribou herd that we're discussing right
8 now, there was a forest fire in Northwest Territories, and
9 the smoke went over to Taloyoak, as far as Taloyoak. And
10 these people that do the surveys, they don't consider that.
11 They keep saying that the caribou are declining, but as a
12 hunter, I know the caribou have just moved to get away from
13 the forest fires because they can smell the smoke, and
14 their food is all burnt, food choice is burnt. So they
15 move elsewhere, and they don't go back there for a while
16 before their food choice grows back. Thank you.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simon. Simon, I think
18 that was more information and a comment that you made.
19 Would you like a response from NWT? Is there a question in
20 there?

21 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 Simon Qingnaqtuq from Kitikmeot Regional
23 Wildlife Board. Yes, I'd definitely like an answer from
24 NWT.

25 THE CHAIR: Okay.

1 Jan.

2 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
3 Northwest Territories.

4 So you raised a number of points, and I'll try
5 to address them as best I can. Traditional knowledge does
6 come into all of our management plans and the Taking Care
7 of Caribou plan that Lynda spoke about. This is one of the
8 documents that we sent to the Nunavut Board, the Nunavut
9 Wildlife Management Board, as one of our supporting
10 documents for this hearing. A second document that we sent
11 was a technical one, which is more of a summary on surveys
12 and the kinds of things that biologists do. And the third
13 document is quite long, and it is a listing of all the
14 community meetings, engagement meetings, and so on that
15 occurred in the development of that plan.

16 And Jody may correct me if I'm wrong, but that
17 plan was probably a good five years in the making. There
18 were multiple rounds of meetings in all of the regions
19 where these three caribou herds occur. The management plan
20 itself, if you read it carefully, there are many quotes
21 from Elders and people who participated in the meetings, so
22 it has a very strong, I think, traditional knowledge
23 foundation. And I think some of the things that are
24 recommended in the plan reflect not only science but
25 traditional knowledge of the people who participated.

1 We work quite a bit with the Tlicho Government
2 in the Northwest Territories. We had shared proposals to
3 the Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board on both Bathurst
4 and Bluenose East herds. They have a traditional knowledge
5 component, a group that works for the Tlicho Government.
6 They produce reports, they give us access to those reports,
7 and we try to make sure that we use that information that
8 their traditional knowledge researchers report, so we are
9 trying to bring traditional knowledge in wherever we can.

10 As far as coming to the communities, believe me,
11 in the last few years, with the caribou surveys and
12 declines, we've been to many, many community meetings: All
13 the Tlicho communities, the other aboriginal groups that
14 harvest this herd or other herds, hearings in the Sahtu
15 region, hearings in the Tlicho region. I've actually ended
16 up coming to Nunavut several times each of the last few
17 years either for meetings like this -- six days at the
18 Sabina hearing in April. So we do come to meetings here.

19 But for meetings in Nunavut and passing on
20 information from surveys, we do depend very heavily on our
21 colleagues with the Government of Nunavut, but there have
22 also been quite a few meetings where Bruno Croft has come
23 up from Northwest Territories. So if that's not quite
24 enough, then I'm sorry about that, but we are trying.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

1 Simon.

2 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 Simon Qingnaqtuq, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
4 Board.

5 My question, why they don't come to the
6 communities: I don't understand. But the people that do
7 the surveys, caribou surveys; for instance, when the forest
8 fire was happening in Northwest Territories, I know that
9 there was lots of smoke, so they've got to away from the
10 smoke, so they moved. And their food source also burnt, so
11 they had to move elsewhere. But the surveyors don't
12 seem -- they never mentioned those reasons why the caribou
13 have declined NTI area. They don't consider those forest
14 fires that result in the caribou moving elsewhere.

15 And, also, these caribou are being harvested by
16 Northwest Territories users, aboriginal users. When they
17 started meeting about these caribou, they're not going to
18 come near. Are they going to increase, or are they going
19 to decline? If they are declining, we have to find ways to
20 make sure that they don't decline any further. When are
21 they going to start to deal with the declining population?
22 Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simon.

24 Jan or Lynda.

25 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with the

1 Government of Northwest Territories.

2 You talked about the forest fires, and they are
3 a concern. They're definitely a major concern. As I think
4 people know, 2014 was the biggest fire year we've ever had
5 in the Northwest Territories; there were 3.4 million
6 hectares burned. It was off the charts.

7 Over the long term, we know -- and I think
8 people here know -- that caribou have lived with fire on
9 the winter range for a long time. Fire occurs in the
10 boreal forest, and that's a normal part of their forest
11 ecosystem, and it's not usually a huge problem for the
12 caribou as long as they have alternative areas to spend the
13 winter in.

14 It is true: When fires burn, especially severe
15 fires, the lichens that they want to eat in the winter will
16 burn, and the lichens are very slow growing. So after a
17 fire, it will be probably a minimum of 40 to 60 years
18 before caribou use that area again; and, in fact, often
19 they prefer areas that are at least a hundred years old
20 after fire.

21 One of the realities -- and we kind of saw this
22 earlier this year with the fire in Fort McMurray -- that's
23 a big province with a lot of people, a lot of resources,
24 way more than we have; and when you have very severe fire
25 conditions, the firefighters do the best they can to save

1 the communities. And, in this case, in Fort McMurray, I
2 mean, to some extent, they weren't even able to do that.

3 So when we have a year like 2014, the priority
4 is the communities, cabins, places where people live; and,
5 you know, we were fairly fortunate in 2014 that none of our
6 communities in Northwest Territories actually burned. But
7 it is a reality when you have a year like that, and the
8 land is very dry things, will burn.

9 And this is one of the big concerns for us with
10 climate change and the warming climate because there's at
11 least some study to indicate big fire years like 2014 are
12 going to keep happening more so than in the past, and there
13 may come a point when it will affect the amount of good
14 winter range for caribou.

15 So we try to monitor, we do our best to keep
16 those fires under control, but we have to also be a little
17 bit humble about what is possible when you get a really big
18 fire year and the priority is always going to be saving the
19 communities and the people that may be threatened by the
20 fire.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

22 Simon.

23 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

24 Simon Qingnaqtuq, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
25 Board. I have no further questions.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simon.

2 Okay. We'll carry on.

3 Next up for questions is Kugluktuk HTO. Larry.

4 KUGLUKTUK HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

5 MR. L. ADJUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 Time now, so I'll just make a statement first,
7 and hopefully we can stop for lunch -- or supper. So the
8 questions I made, I'd like to state this for the record.

9 The questions I read yesterday to GNWT I'd like
10 to go on record for this session on Bluenose East. I don't
11 want to raise up the questions again and have the answers
12 put back, but I just want to change first one question, and
13 I'll read it. It was already answered anyhow.

14 Prior to 2010 and onward, what has been the
15 estimated Inuit harvest of Bluenose East caribou per year?
16 Yesterday it was Bathurst. And for the rest of the
17 questions I did after that question, I'd like to go on
18 record just to save time on this.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Larry.

20 Okay. That question, then, Jan.

21 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
22 Northwest Territories.

23 I don't think I can add very much to the
24 information that our colleagues with Government of Nunavut
25 provided. We have relied on wildlife staff in Kugluktuk

1 for estimates of the harvest primarily from Kugluktuk, and
2 the estimates that we provided in our presentation included
3 the best estimate for each year. But those numbers all
4 come from people like Mathieu and Lisa Marie and Allan
5 Niptonatiak (phonetic), and so on. So, as far as we know,
6 something between 300 and a thousand per year, perhaps a
7 little more, depending on how accessible the herd was. But
8 we can't provide any additional information beyond the
9 estimates that the GN provided.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

11 Larry.

12 MR. L. ADJUN: I'm quite satisfied with that
13 answer.

14 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. And we assure
15 you that everything you said yesterday will be on the
16 record for this hearing today. Kevin.

17 MR. KLENGENBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18 I have a comment and a question. My comment is:
19 The KHTO harvests the Bluenose East all year round, like
20 you were saying, season. We hunt that herd on the north
21 side of Kugluktuk and the east side of Kugluktuk; and my
22 question, I notice all your documents on surveys, no
23 documents show that surveys have been on the north and
24 northwest side of the community of Kugluktuk. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Kevin.

1 Jan.

2 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government
3 Northwest Territories.

4 The surveys in June, which is what we have used
5 in the last few years -- 2010, 2013, 2015 -- the survey
6 area was, in part, guided by where the caribou are; and
7 with Bluenose East in the last few years we've had somewhat
8 variable numbers of collars, but as many as 60; and at the
9 low end, perhaps 30 collars, bulls and cows.

10 So when the survey is put together -- the
11 initial reconnaissance flying -- Lisa talked about that
12 yesterday -- we try to cover all areas that may have
13 caribou from the herd, and that includes the areas where
14 the bulls are found. So we let the caribou distribution
15 kind of tell us where we should be looking for those
16 caribou.

17 In the past, before 2010 and in 2010, we used
18 post-calving surveys which are done in July. I was part of
19 that one in 2010. We tried in 2009 and 2012, as well. And
20 in those surveys, they're a little bit different, but
21 again, we're guided by where the collared caribou are, and
22 then we fly all the areas that we know have caribou.

23 In some of those surveys in July, we tended to
24 find bulls, yearlings, some nonbreeding cows east of the
25 Coppermine river, sometimes a little ways south of there.

1 Cows with calves typically would be in the Rae and
2 Richardson valleys, and then sometimes, in July, further
3 north to the mainland coast. So if we flew the survey in
4 July, then we would be trying to cover all those areas. So
5 we're trying to cover every area that has either cows or
6 bulls. And again, the collared caribou give us a pretty
7 strong indication where we need to be flying.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

9 Kevin.

10 MR. KLENGENBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 So that means both governments rely on collars.

12 Is that correct?

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Kevin.

14 Jan.

15 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
16 Northwest Territories.

17 We do depend on the collared caribou for quite a
18 lot of things, a lot of applications, and certainly for
19 defining survey areas. But I would mention, if you saw the
20 survey area that we had June last year, it covered
21 everything that had collared caribou and then a lot of area
22 east, west, south.

23 You know, we had one survey crew that kept
24 flying hours and hours without seeing any caribou, and they
25 got a little restless. But because of the concern that we

1 try to capture everything, we end up flying a lot of
2 country that does not have caribou, and it becomes
3 important, I think, just to demonstrate, well, no, they
4 weren't over there, they weren't not south, they weren't in
5 the east. So our survey areas have gotten quite large.

6 And, yes, we depend on the collared caribou, but
7 we also try to make sure we cover a lot more country, just
8 to be on the safe said.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

10 Kevin. Larry.

11 MR. L. ADJUN: Just a quick question.

12 You stated before: Consultation with the HTOs
13 and DoE from the ENR department to inform us of aerial
14 surveys. Yes, you did that last year. We even had a
15 couple of the directors on the flights sitting here at the
16 table.

17 But last week you guys about another aerial
18 survey, and we found out from the HTO board that it was in
19 a public meeting during a different meeting. That night we
20 seen the representative from the NWT side standing in a
21 hallway, and we had to come up and ask them what they were
22 doing there, and they told us they were doing another
23 survey.

24 Now, this part about the consultation with the
25 HTO has got to get a little more -- hit the nail on the

1 head from both ENR and DoE. We have got to get
2 consultation, period.

3 That's all I want to say. Just a statement.

4 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you, Larry. Peter,
5 did you have something?

6 MR. TAKTOGON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

7 Just one question, a couple of questions. How
8 many bulls and how many cows were collared during your
9 collaring?

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

11 Jan.

12 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government
13 Northwest Territories.

14 In the last couple of years, we've had up to 50
15 collared caribou on each of Bathurst and Bluenose East, and
16 usually about 30 of those would be cows, and the rest would
17 be bulls. Some of the other herds to the west we've
18 actually had higher numbers of collars, cows and bulls, but
19 for this herd at least, that's approximately what we've
20 had; 50, including 30 cows and 20 bulls.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you Jan.

22 Peter.

23 MR. TAKTOGON: One more question. On the
24 Bluenose East, the number you're giving out, was HTO
25 consulted before Nunavut government?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

2 Jan.

3 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Lynda.

4 MS. YONGE: Lynda Yonge for GNWT.

5 From the GNWT side, we sent out information with
6 our proposal to all of the agencies at the same time.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lynda.

8 Does that answer your question, Peter?

9 MR. TAKTOGON: No, it didn't. Was Kugluktuk HTO
10 contacted on the surveys before they started putting TAH on
11 everything for each community before Nunavut government?

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

13 Jan.

14 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
15 Northwest Territories.

16 So maybe just a little bit of clarification. At
17 this point, there is no total allowable harvest on the
18 Bluenose East herd either in Northwest Territories or
19 Nunavut. Any total allowable harvest in Nunavut would be
20 basically under the direction of the Nunavut Wildlife
21 Management Board.

22 In the Northwest Territories, for the Bluenose
23 East herd, our Land Claim structure is little bit different
24 in the sense that we have a number of regional claims. In
25 this case the Sahtu and the Tlicho Land Claims apply in the

1 sense that this is where the Bluenose East winter range is
2 basically between those two. The Sahtu Board had a hearing
3 on Bluenose East caribou management, including total
4 allowable harvest, in March this year, and they have not
5 yet issued their report.

6 The Wek'èezhìi Board had a hearing on Bluenose
7 East caribou in early April, and they just issued their
8 report very recently, and Jody Pellissey would be able to
9 provide details. But that board, as they recognize, has
10 jurisdiction only within that Land Claim area, so total
11 allowable harvest in that sense is still very much a
12 work-in-progress.

13 The Wek'èezhìi Board has agreed that there is a
14 conservation need, and there needs to be a total allowable
15 harvest for this herd within their area. As far as Nunavut
16 is concerned, that is to be determined; and for the Sahtu
17 Board, we have not yet heard what they may recommend.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

19 Peter.

20 MR. TAKTOGON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 Just a comment. In the future, like what's
22 happening right now, we deal with three caribou in our
23 reason. Before anything being forwarded, could Nunavut
24 government and Kitikmeot Regional Board, Nunavut Wildlife
25 Management Board come to Kugluktuk first before anything's

1 happened? Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter. I think a
3 comment made by Peter. Any other questions from Kugluktuk?
4 Jorgen.

5 MR. BOLT: Just a couple of questions here.
6 Just want to go back to your slide show there to, I
7 believe, slide six. And you see where you said some of the
8 areas are -- some of the animals are moving away into the
9 green, some of it into the red there, some areas you can
10 see where you said, you indicated that the red is
11 decreasing and then the green where the caribou have
12 increased -- do you think that those caribou that were in
13 the red have moved into the green? Do you think they moved
14 up that way?

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen.
16 Jan.

17 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski, with Government
18 of Northwest Territories.

19 It's hard to answer that in a sort of a complete
20 manner because we're talking about many caribou and
21 reindeer ranges in different countries, and the level of
22 monitoring numbers of collars, those things are somewhat
23 variable.

24 The Alaskans probably have the best resources,
25 generally speaking, for their wildlife populations. They

1 have a lot more people, they have oil money; and for their
2 Alaskan migratory caribou herds, they often have as much as
3 100 collars per herd, and they do frequent surveys. So I
4 can certainly speak for those populations. They also
5 monitor those collars to see if there's movement between
6 herds.

7 As a general rule, they see the same pattern
8 that we do, which is some rates of switching between
9 neighbours, but, generally, very low. So at least for
10 those populations -- also Quebec, northern Labrador -- it
11 doesn't appear to be that that movement accounts for those
12 changes to any great extent. In other words, basically,
13 the herds are declining or increasing, but there isn't much
14 evidence for shifting between them.

15 I can't speak for every single caribou or
16 reindeer range. The Russian ones, I don't know that much
17 about them, sorry.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

19 Jorgen.

20 MR. BOLT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 Just another quick question -- actually two. In
22 your graphs there -- and I don't know what slide it is, but
23 you've got those ones with the little lines up there. You
24 got some lines that are going past up to 140,000, and then
25 you got another line going back down to, looks like a

1 little over 60,000. What are those lines? Is that just
2 estimate or give, or take, or what are those?

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen.

4 Jan.

5 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
6 Northwest Territories.

7 Those black bars that go up and down around the
8 estimate are the 95 percent confidence interval. That's a
9 statistician's term and, I guess, the way you could
10 interpret that: If the survey was done 100 times, then 95
11 out of 100 times the estimate would be within that range.
12 But there's also a probability distribution that goes with
13 it which says, if you did that survey 100 times, most of
14 the time the estimate would be close to the one we have and
15 with much less likelihood that it would be a lot higher or
16 a lot lower.

17 I could go on about the statistics, but
18 basically, that's what it is. And it's showing,
19 statistically, some uncertainty around the estimate, but it
20 doesn't mean that the number is just somewhere in that
21 range; it means it is most likely in the middle, and
22 there's a much lower likelihood, if you did the survey
23 again, that you would get a much higher or a much lower
24 estimate.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

1 Jorgen.

2 MR. BOLT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 One more quick question. You said some of these
4 are switching. Like you said, one moved west and couple of
5 them moved. I know for a fact that, when one caribou moves
6 one way, one will start following another caribou. You'll
7 always -- when one starts moving one way, it's not just
8 going to go around by itself; there's going to be more
9 caribou that follow these other caribou that are moving off
10 somewhere else.

11 Do you think that that one caribou -- I don't
12 know how would you say, but you think that other caribou
13 would follow this one collared caribou? Will it take 5,000
14 with it, 100? How many caribou you think that one collared
15 caribou will drag along moving away from, say, what do you
16 call a -- like, where she goes year after year after year?
17 And then you said that some of these were moving off away.
18 And like I said, I know for a fact that when one caribou is
19 going one way, lots of other caribou will follow it. I've
20 seen that.

21 And I'm just going to ask. I guess my question
22 is: Do you think that this one collared caribou will drag
23 away a bunch of caribou with her?

24 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen.

1 Jan.

2 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
3 Northwest Territories.

4 So there's no nice, simple answer to that
5 question, Jorgen, because having been on many surveys and
6 flown to collared caribou, sometimes you will see a lone
7 animal, sometimes you will see 10 or 15 caribou around it.
8 Sometimes in the lone animal in July there may be hundreds
9 of caribou nearby.

10 The way we generally look at this -- and we have
11 looked at it statistically, as well -- the collared caribou
12 are generally distributed more or less randomly. So where
13 there are more caribou without collars, there would be more
14 collared caribou. Where there are very few collared
15 caribou, there are will be very few other caribou. And
16 we're fairly confident with the numbers of collars that we
17 have now: 50 and sometimes more. They're a fairly good
18 representation of what the herd is doing and where the
19 herd's numbers are.

20 So if we take those collared animals as
21 representative, then again, going back to our graphic, 97,
22 98 percent of the cows keep going back to the same place,
23 and a very low percentage is going to go elsewhere. And we
24 believe most likely that is representative of the
25 proportion of the herd that essentially does the same

1 thing. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

3 Jorgen.

4 MR. BOLT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5 You guys keep -- an example of some of the
6 Quebec-Labrador herds that have dropped drastically. What
7 effect did these -- okay, the George River herd, for
8 example. I know there was a big project there, the James
9 Bay project, and that itself was -- I don't know, how would
10 you say? -- detrimental to the herd because I remember
11 seeing in the news that thousands and thousands of caribou
12 drowned when they flooded that area. And that was right in
13 their migration route.

14 So how much effect did that project have on that
15 herd?

16 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen.

18 Jan.

19 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
20 Northwest Territories.

21 So the further you get from home, I guess, you
22 know, the less in-depth knowledge I have, but I do recall
23 the incident. It was in the news. It's quite a few years
24 ago. And I think the estimate was something on the order
25 of 10,000 caribou that drowned because of the release of

1 all that water. But it happened -- I believe it was in the
2 early '90s, and at that time, the herd was still estimated
3 to be probably 600,000 or more. So that's a lot of dead
4 drowned caribou, but because it was such a large herd at
5 the time, its overall impact on the herd was probably
6 fairly small.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

8 Jorgen.

9 MR. BOLT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have no
10 further questions.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Larry.

12 MR. L. ADJUN: Last one, I promise you.

13 I'll either direct this to the ENR or Department
14 of Environment. The questions of wolves came up earlier,
15 and I just remembered the HTO and DoE ran a program where
16 we collected wolves, or the wolf skulls, and the money was
17 collected by the HTO and paid out to the hunter.

18 Whatever happened to the program, and what was
19 the closest outcome that we have on information on wolves
20 at that time?

21 THE CHAIR: I think we go out of process if we
22 went back to asking questions of the GN. So maybe the way
23 around it is the GNWT can start off answering the question
24 or defer that question to the GN.

25 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Oh, we're very happy to defer. I

1 do that all the time.

2 Jan Adamczewski with Government of Northwest
3 Territories.

4 So on the specifics of the program that Larry is
5 asking about, I don't think we can really say much of
6 anything. That would be for the GN to comment on.

7 We have had programs of that nature in our
8 territory: Carcass collection, skull collection, things
9 like that. But I don't think that's relevant to, I guess,
10 the program that Larry was asking about.

11 THE CHAIR: Did you defer that to the GN?

12 MS. YONGE: Yes, we would like to defer it to
13 the GN, please.

14 THE CHAIR: Okay. Mathieu.

15 MR. DUMOND: Thank you very much.

16 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

17 I think the answer is there was a program for a
18 few years, collecting a set number of samples on wolves,
19 and then it continue on with just a more reduced number of
20 samples on wolves. One of the goal of that program
21 originally was, in particular, to establish the diet and
22 the importance of various prey species in the wolf diet.

23 This is in the hand of a Ph.D. student, and I
24 haven't seen the result yet, and I don't think he has
25 finished to do all the analysis required for that. And

1 then the skull collection continued little bit more as an
2 incentive rather than -- because we had a hard time to
3 justify that it was providing a lot of information. But it
4 was meant more as an incentive and to assist, little bit,
5 the harvesters. And I know the carnivore biologist for
6 this season or this past season had a hard time to secure
7 the budget to continue it. So that was the issue for not
8 continuing, keeping in mind that it wasn't bringing that
9 much new information, and we were really waiting for the
10 analysis on the diet that was really one of the key
11 information we were hoping from that program originally.
12 Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

14 Larry.

15 MR. L. ADJUN: No further questions.

16 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you very much, Larry
17 and Kugluktuk.

18 Okay. We will break. I know everybody's tired;
19 it's been a long afternoon. We'll break, and can we be
20 back here by 6:45, then? And we'll continue with the
21 Bathurst Inlet HTO. Thank you.

22 (Proceedings ended at 5:21 p.m.)

23

24 (Proceedings to recommence at 6:45 p.m.)

25

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much for coming back on time, and
2 everybody's in better spirits and good spirits.

3 I would just like to mention again, in the
4 interests of time, we are quite a ways behind, so I'll just
5 repeat again that, just remember, keep in mind that with your
6 presentations and questions and answers that we do have all
7 the testimony from yesterday. As Kugluktuk has outlined,
8 they're satisfied with everything they presented yesterday,
9 and keep your questions and presentations as specific as you
10 can to the Bluenose East caribou herd.

11 So, with that, we'll carry on. Up next for
12 presentation is Bathurst, Bathurst Inlet HTO. Sam.

13 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 Sam Kapolak, Burnside HTO.

15 Just like to thank the Government of Northwest
16 Territories for their presentation.

17 I think Jorgen reminded me, and raised the
18 question for me, so I have no further questions. Thank
19 you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sam.

21 We'll move on to Bay Chimo HTO. Peter.

22 BAY CHIMO HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

23 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 Peter from Umingmaktok HTO.

25 Just one quick question. On your slide seven,

1 just for clarification, why do you classify non-antlered
2 caribou as nonbreeders? All females have antlers before
3 they shed them.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

5 GNWT.

6 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
7 Northwest Territories.

8 Our general experience has been that the cows
9 that are still pregnant will keep their antlers until a few
10 days after they calve. So on the calving grounds, when
11 there's a composition survey, which is to look at
12 proportions of different sex and age classes, cows that
13 have a calf obviously have just given birth, and cows that
14 still have hard antlers generally either have given birth
15 or are about to, and cows that have no antlers at all,
16 especially if they already have the spring growth showing,
17 those generally we consider to be ones that were not
18 pregnant, and so they're classified as nonbreeders.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

20 Peter.

21 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22 Is that for all females?

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter. Jan.

24 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski Government of
25 Northwest Territories.

1 So part of the survey in June is done either
2 from the ground or with helicopter, and the idea is to get
3 the proportions of different kinds of caribou on the
4 calving ground or in the survey area generally. So there
5 will be yearlings, there will be cows with calves, and
6 there will be cows that do not have calves. And so the
7 idea is to get a cross-section of what's there, and try and
8 identify the proportions; so looking at all the cows in the
9 survey area and trying to figure out the proportion of
10 those that had a calf or did not have a calf.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

12 Peter.

13 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No further
14 questions. Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

16 Moving on to Cambridge Bay HTO, Bobby.

17 CAMBRIDGE BAY HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

18 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

19 Looking at your slides, can you go to the one
20 where it has the calving grounds with all the different
21 herds? Yeah, that one there.

22 Like, I understand you guys follow the caribou,
23 that are collared, to the calving grounds. Now, if you go
24 to slide number six, I think it was -- no, let me see here.
25 It was where it was listed -- where there was a certain

1 area that was uncertain on your one slide -- the global
2 one.

3 Okay. Can I see it on this one here? Looking
4 at the calving ground ones, now you look at this global
5 one, number 12. It's right at the bottom near Cambridge
6 Bay area. It's where the Beverly herd is right there in
7 the middle.

8 Now, I understand what you're saying about the
9 cows are going to the calving area and whatnot, and you're
10 counting the bulls also that are collared, but now, this
11 area is uncertain of the number of caribou in that area.
12 Would it be possible, some that aren't collared follow
13 different herds to that area? Because that is a Beverly
14 area in most areas of that uncharted area or uncertain
15 area.

16 Do you understand my question? Thank you.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bobby.

18 Jan.

19 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
20 Northwest Territories.

21 So just a little bit of clarification on this
22 map. It's from a paper that was published in 2009, and
23 somewhere on that slide is the reference -- or I can
24 provide it for anyone that's interested. And the authors
25 were at the University of Alberta, and they pulled together

1 whatever information they had. They often don't have
2 access to all the government information. They rely, to a
3 large extent, on papers that are published in journals.

4 So I think what it means is that in some areas
5 there weren't a lot of recent surveys, and so it's not so
6 much that there wasn't any information, but the authors
7 presumably felt there wasn't enough to have a clear sense
8 of what the trend was. So that Area 12 -- and it's a
9 little hard to tell on the map -- but it takes in, I think,
10 a fair piece of the northeast mainland, yeah, so it would
11 be Queen Maud Gulf. I think what it means is, at that
12 time, the people who wrote this report were not able to get
13 sort of up-to-date information on caribou in that area, and
14 that's why they said it was unclear, uncertain.

15 As to your question about, could some of those
16 other caribou have moved into that area, it's always a
17 possibility, but I think the experience with the herds that
18 GN monitors and we monitor is, where we've had the collars
19 and we've looked at that loyalty to calving grounds, it's
20 consistently quite high. So it's always possible,
21 especially where there aren't recent surveys or maybe not a
22 lot of collars, but the general experience has been that
23 the loyalty to calving ranges and summer ranges is quite
24 high.

25 THE CHAIR:

Thank you, Jan.

1 Bobby.

2 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

3 Thank you for that answer. I have no more
4 question. George has.

5 THE CHAIR: George, go ahead.

6 MR. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 Thank you for your submission. Very helpful to
8 all of us.

9 Just to go a little further on that: Over the
10 winter our harvesters from Cambridge Bay in that area, the
11 gray area, they witnessed a lot of caribou going through
12 the Ellice River. They look exactly like the Bathurst
13 herd. Now, whether they're the Bathurst herd or the
14 Beverly herd is uncertain. I guess that's why it's
15 uncertain there.

16 You don't have any collared caribou that come
17 through that area this winter? Quana.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, George.

19 Jan.

20 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski, Government of
21 Northwest Territories.

22 So the survey area map that we showed, the one
23 that has kind of the big area, Bathurst and Bluenose East,
24 it shows the collar locations for those two herds.

25 We had and we still have collared caribou in the

1 Queen Maud Gulf on the other side of Bathurst Inlet,
2 Beverly and Ahiak caribou; and those animals this past
3 winter, they basically stayed up in the Queen Maud Gulf the
4 entire period. They never came anywhere near tree line.

5 And at the time of the surveys that we in June
6 last year, all of those collars were on the other side of
7 Bathurst Inlet, and we had some survey lines that flew more
8 or less over Bathurst Inlet and even on the other side. So
9 we're fairly confident we had enough coverage on either
10 side of Bathurst calving ground and Bluenose East calving
11 ground to show that there was pretty much complete
12 separation there. So we did have some collared caribou in
13 the Queen Maud Gulf in June that year, but they were
14 spatially physically quite well separated.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

16 George.

17 MR. ANGOHIATOK: Okay. Thank you. That answers my
18 questions. No further questions.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, George.

20 Next up is representatives for the Elders or
21 Elders in the room that would like to ask the Government of
22 Northwest Territories questions. Peter.

23 ELDERS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

24 MR. TAKTOGON: Not a question, but just a comment
25 just to clarify your board.

1 Earlier on, David asked if there was a
2 difference between the three herds. I just want to clarify
3 that. They are the Bathurst, Bluenose, and the Dolphin
4 Union. They're all different herds. Just to clarify for
5 the Board. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

7 Jan.

8 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
9 Northwest Territories.

10 Was that a comment or a question? Or -- I'm not
11 entirely certain about that.

12 THE CHAIR: That's fine.

13 Peter, can you just re-ask the question, please?

14 MR. TAKTOGON: Yes, I just pointing it to up to
15 Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. It's just a comment,
16 not to you guys. But I was just clarifying the difference
17 between the three herds. Thank you.

18 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. Jorgen.

19 MR. BOLT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20 Just one question. What do you classify as a
21 breeding bull?

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen.

23 Jan.

24 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
25 Northwest Territories.

1 That's a very interesting question, Jorgen. I
2 have been out in the fall in October on composition surveys
3 done at that time of year, and those are done basically at
4 the peak of the breeding season to get a sex ratio
5 proportion of males to females in the herd. GN does very
6 similar surveys to what we have, and, generally, when we do
7 those surveys, we classify big bulls and small bulls so the
8 big bulls are ones with a big rack, and the small bulls.
9 So the big bulls are, you know, ones with the bigger rack,
10 and the small ones have smaller racks. There is no
11 absolute separation that says one is one, one is the other.
12 It's a bit subjective.

13 We would generally think of the really big bulls
14 with the big racks as the prime breeders, as the ones that
15 are most likely to have a harem, a number of females that
16 they breed. There is some evidence that that those are not
17 the only males that breed, so some females will be bred by
18 smaller bulls that are opportunistic; they get in when they
19 get their chances; but, generally speaking, we would look
20 at the very large, prime bulls with the big racks as the
21 main breeders, at least on those fall surveys.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

23 Jorgen.

24 MR. BOLT: No further questions. Just to
25 kind of comment on that, I guess. Like I said, I've guided

1 for a long time on these lakes, and I know; I've seen a lot
2 of bulls. You talk about these breeding bulls, and, you
3 know, I see a lot of these big bulls up there what we call
4 Boone and Crockett that will make the books, and then you
5 got your average Joe, if you will, and then I always see
6 these big bulls.

7 They don't get big for no reason. They're
8 smart. I don't know how many times I tried to go after a
9 bull that should probably most likely be a breeder, and you
10 can tell right away that he's going to be the big boss
11 around that area. You can tell. When you got one bull --
12 he walks around like he owns the tundra. He owns it, and I
13 see a lot of times, while I'm guiding, I try to get to
14 those bulls. I can't. They know where to go, they know
15 where to hide, they hide in the middle of the herd and; you
16 end up just getting what you call your average Joe. Even
17 though they're big bulls, I believe that they're not the
18 breeding bull. But the big ones that are in their prime,
19 the big ones that push 400 plus pounds, I've seen them;
20 and, like I said, I tried to get to these bulls. I see
21 them, I watch them walk across in front of me, and I can't
22 get a shot. And like I said, they don't get big by being
23 stupid, you know.

24 So just want to kind of supplement or add to
25 some of the statements that have been made.

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen.

3 I believe, Sam, questions for the Government of
4 Northwest Territories.

5 MR. S. ANGOHIATOK: Those that are rutting, I've seen
6 caribou where antlers have clashed and are stuck, the heads
7 are stuck together, bulls that are rutting, and have died.
8 When they rut, they clash during the breeding season. They
9 get tired. I've seen they're so tired that they're unable
10 to stand even when you go beside them.

11 That's the way caribou are. As I've often
12 wondered; the big bulls have often been told to us, once
13 they deplete in numbers, I've often thought maybe the young
14 ones will grow, more young ones. Some of the caribou don't
15 have young ones at times during some years. Same with
16 seals, other wildlife when they're not bred.

17 I've often thought the more bulls are shot, then
18 we might not get young ones born. I have difficulty going
19 out on the land nowadays, but I know there's hunters that
20 go out and enjoy. People enjoy hunting and need the food.
21 If there's restrictions and they are caught with caribou
22 that they shouldn't shoot, then there's fines, courts
23 happen.

24 It's not the way I want things to go, but maybe
25 it will be difficult, I believe for many years. I enjoy

1 the wildlife out there, I've seen a lot out there, and
2 sometimes they go places that are distant. People that go
3 out hunting are aware of this, even non-aboriginal people.
4 That's the way it is. Non-aboriginal people like to go
5 hunting, too. Some do. They want to harvest and eat.
6 It's country food, too. That's the way things are.
7 Wildlife that are hunted, because they're alive and survive
8 and are out there. Yes, people realize or have seen
9 instances so they tell of those instances, and that's true.

10 Today I'm unable to get out on a lot of land.
11 As age creeps in and it gets difficult, I injure myself
12 easily; but our young people -- this is my son, my eldest
13 son. To enjoy wildlife out on the land, that's what he
14 does. As a young man growing up, that's how he was brought
15 up. They enjoy the land, the wildlife for food, also, to
16 catch wildlife that's out there. Those that are taught
17 well and spoken to well because they want to catch wildlife
18 that's out there. Once they're told, they're taught, and
19 they try, they learn.

20 It's good to hear all the comments from around
21 the table. To listen to some of the comments being made,
22 thank you. Wildlife is enjoyable to search for and to
23 catch. It gets tough if animals are not found and the
24 search continues. Sometimes they're easy to catch; other
25 times they aren't. That's what Inuit know of. I'm aware

1 of this.

2 I've often thought I could do it, because of my
3 body that I'm unable to do what I think I can or I should.
4 Thank you for all your comments. Even though people come
5 from different places, our thoughts are pretty well in
6 common around the table. If you're not at conferences,
7 maybe think on these things that you've heard. We really
8 want to share what we've seen, also, the stories; to listen
9 to those stories, thank you very much. I'm very thankful.

10 It's good to meet, such as what's happening
11 here -- it's good to see faces, even though time passes and
12 we don't see each other too often. Thank you, all of you,
13 every one of you. Those are my comments. Thank you. That
14 will be my comments. I just wanted to be thankful to you
15 all. Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Sam, for your
17 comments. Very much appreciated by the Board.

18 Bobby? Okay.

19 Go ahead.

20 MS. M. KANIAK: Quana, itsivautaaq.

21 I just wanted to comment. Some of the caribou
22 that are rutting are very dangerous -- I've seen
23 instances -- because they don't scare easily. And even
24 though we're looking to catch caribou, sometimes the bulls
25 get in the way because they're rutting, and they're not

1 afraid anymore. Because I've often gone on caribou hunts
2 in the Bay Chimo. The males, the young caribou; when adult
3 caribou bulls are rutting, mating, there always seems to be
4 a lot of them walking on the side. The ones that are not
5 mating, they walk on the sides away from the rutting that's
6 going on because it's dangerous.

7 On a snowmobile, I went out to go caribou
8 hunting to catch a female without a calf because I wanted
9 to catch caribou. I've seen instances where it's tough to
10 get caribou at times like this because you're wanting to
11 get caribou, but because of the rutting that's happening in
12 front of you, it's hard to pick out the ones you want
13 because the adult ones that are mating are in the way.
14 I've seen caribou in the situation. It's been years I
15 haven't seen this. I've often envisioned this. The young
16 ones seem to gather when rutting is happening because they
17 get out of the way, kind of.

18 The calving grounds; as you mentioned, there's
19 calving grounds where caribou don't often calve where
20 there's less wolves around, predators. Like children, the
21 females take their calves elsewhere away from the calving
22 area. That's the way they are where there is caribou herd
23 that are in numbers. I've seen that. It seems like
24 there's no more caribou because I don't get out on the land
25 as much.

1 Thank you for all your comments. It's good to
2 hear your comments and to listen to some of the stories
3 being told. Thank you very much. Those are my comments.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much for your
5 presentation. Appreciate it. Are there other comments
6 from Elders? Jorgen.

7 MR. BOLT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8 Yeah, I just want to comment there. When it's
9 breeding season, any animal always look for the best -- any
10 female always look for the best male to breed with. They
11 look for the strongest. I don't know if you'd say, some of
12 the birds, they look for the prettiest, whatever you want
13 to call it. But the females always look for the ones with
14 the strongest genes, and usually the strongest bulls have
15 the strongest genes. They're the ones that are passing on
16 their genes for the next generation of caribou.

17 And, like Sam was saying, I've seen bulls stuck
18 together. I found them out on the middle of the land stuck
19 together dead, both of them. I don't know how many I've
20 seen. And those breeding bulls, they're pretty much -- I
21 don't know how would you say -- eliminating themselves,
22 sometimes, from the herds by doing this. But they're
23 trying to pass on their genes so that the herd can survive.
24 They're the ones that are the most determined, they're the
25 ones that will survive, they're the healthiest, and they'll

1 pass on their genes to these females.

2 And, like I said, this cycle; right now I
3 believe we're probably hitting rock bottom, and with the
4 strongest genes probably passed on, they'll start coming
5 back up. Who knows how long; that herd will start to come
6 up, and, like anything, when the caribou start to go up,
7 the predators start to go up. They peak, both; now they go
8 down, and then now the predators have no more store to go
9 to. They're all killed off, whatever, eaten off. And now
10 the predators start to die off again. Like, we talk about
11 this cycle all the time, and I just wanted to kind of
12 comment on that.

13 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen.

15 Any other comments from Elders? If not, thank
16 you very much.

17 We'll move on to NTI questions. Paul.

18 NUNAVUT TUNNGAVIK INCORPORATED QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

19 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20 I got a couple questions and a comment.

21 Can you open the map where the Bluenose West and
22 Bluenose East -- yeah, that one. My question is: Bluenose
23 West and Bluenose East, are they the same species, like,
24 genetically? That's my first question.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

1 Jan.

2 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
3 Northwest Territories.

4 There have been a number of studies on genetics
5 of these caribou herds. There's a couple of recent papers,
6 one published this year, one was, I think, two years ago;
7 and, generally, the finding has been that neighbouring
8 herds like the ones -- Bluenose West and Bluenose East --
9 are genetically very similar. And if you start looking
10 further, if you were to compare, say, Bluenose East to an
11 Alaskan herd, then you will start to see some divergence
12 because they're a long way apart and there's no exchange
13 between them.

14 But so far, at least, all the genetics studies
15 that I'm aware of would suggest neighbouring herds like
16 these tend to be very similar genetically.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

18 Paul.

19 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20 And thanks for that answer. My second question
21 is: What is the population of Bluenose West? Is it
22 stable? Is it increasing? Is it decreasing?

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

24 Jan.

25 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski, Government of

1 Northwest Territories.

2 So in 2015 when we surveyed Bathurst and
3 Bluenose East, we also had post-calving surveys in July.
4 It's a different population survey. And those were done
5 for Bluenose West, Cape Bathurst and the Tuk Peninsula.

6 Bluenose West herd, based on last year's survey,
7 is declining, and the estimate is between 15 and 20,000;
8 but the trend is downward. Not quite as severe as Bluenose
9 East, but the trend is also declining.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

11 Paul.

12 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 And thank you for that answer.

14 As we all know that NWMB in Nunavut sets the
15 TAH, and then once they set up a TAH, then it's given to
16 the RWOs to allocate to the HTOs. That's our system in
17 Nunavut.

18 As we saw in your presentation, you're just
19 making recommendations. If I understood it correctly, you
20 were asking that the recommended TAH is 950, and on the
21 Bluenose East, Nunavut harvest has been 36.8 percent. So
22 those are just recommendations as far as I understood.

23 And I think, Bert, do you have any questions?

24 I'll leave it to Bert. Thanks.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul. Bert, go ahead.

1 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 And thanks, Lynda and Jan, for that
3 presentation. I just have a couple of questions, one just
4 in regards to the recent harvest, and it's on one of the
5 earlier slides. You mention that from 2009 to 2015 the
6 harvest of the Bluenose East caribou was tracked in the NWT
7 by a combination of community monitors, check stations, and
8 wildlife officer patrols. And I was wondering if you could
9 just elaborate a bit on that. Like, how did that work out
10 at the community level, and what was the involvement?

11 Thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

13 Jan.

14 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
15 Northwest Territories.

16 There's been a fairly strong effort to set up
17 community monitors in each of the four Tlicho communities
18 to monitor the harvest in their area through a
19 community-based approach. There's been a similar effort
20 out -- Lutselk'e, which is out on the east arm of Great
21 Great Slave Lake. Deliné; the estimates have been mostly
22 from the wildlife officer there for the last few years.
23 Previously, there was the Sahtu Renewable Resources Harvest
24 Study, which ended 2005. So we had numbers before that,
25 but not immediately after that.

1 This past winter was kind of, I guess, an
2 initial year for the Deliné community-based planning, and
3 part of that they chose to take on monitoring their harvest
4 in their area, so we have numbers from them.

5 For the Nunavut harvest, as I think we explained
6 earlier, we have largely depended on the best estimates
7 from the Government of Nunavut staff in Kugluktuk. So
8 it's -- and then a check station -- and I can't remember
9 exactly where it is, but on the winter roads to the Tlicho
10 communities.

11 So the question is always kind of: How much do
12 we get with all of that? And as I think Lynda explained in
13 our presentation, we have a pretty clear sense that it's
14 not a complete estimate. There is always some that is
15 missed. There's wounding loss, and we have the same
16 concerns with aboriginal groups in Northwest Territories
17 about fear of reporting, and, you know, if you report, it's
18 going to be used against you. So we know there's
19 underreporting, but it is hard to know exactly how much is
20 missed. So we think we have a pretty fair idea of the
21 overall scale of the harvest, and then there's some part
22 that gets missed, and it would certainly be good to have
23 more complete numbers.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

25 Bert.

1 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 And thanks, Jan, for that.

3 And in that same slide or in the explanation
4 here, you mention that once more restrictions were placed
5 on the Bathurst herd, it likely deflected the harvest east
6 and west. Is there any sense of -- and maybe it's
7 comparative to that earlier harvest study that was done.
8 Like, those more recent numbers of harvest on the Bluenose
9 East, did it increase quite a bit or just a small amount,
10 or is there any sense of, since the Bathurst harvest was
11 reduced, how much was deflected onto the Bluenose East?
12 Like, how much effort are these communities putting in to
13 go up and now harvest on the Bluenose East caribou herd?
14 Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

16 Jan.

17 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
18 Northwest Territories.

19 I think for the Deliné harvest -- and Deliné is
20 one of the communities with a long history with Bluenose
21 East -- that harvest probably has not changed very much
22 over the years. It has been somewhat variable basically
23 depending on how access accessible the herd is to Deliné.
24 There have been some winters when they are literally within
25 site of town, and the harvest tends to be higher. That's

1 not too surprising.

2 Tlicho hunters have a history of hunting
3 Bluenose East caribou also. So Hottah Lake is definitely
4 on a trail that goes up from Tlicho communities, so we know
5 that they have hunted there in the past.

6 We do think there has been an increase in the
7 Bluenose East harvest. We know that the Bathurst herd, up
8 to the end of 2009 before harvest was really restricted,
9 was very available on the winter roads to Gamèti and
10 Wekweèti, particularly; and those winter roads were
11 accessed by people from many communities. And it was a
12 road hunt, and, you know, pickup trucks were being used and
13 so on. So certainly some of that harvest -- we believe
14 some of the Tlicho harvest has now shifted over to Bluenose
15 East.

16 What complicates it a little bit is, based on
17 the collars the last couple of winters, Bluenose East have
18 been getting a little bit scarce as well. As their numbers
19 have contracted, they're kind of doing a little bit of what
20 the Bathurst has done, meaning they're wintering further
21 north, and, generally, they have been less accessible. So
22 this past winter and winter just ended, we think the
23 harvest was -- Bluenose East harvest was lower again
24 because, just harder to get to the animals.

25 So, overall, yes, we do think the Bathurst

1 harvest restrictions meant some of the Tlicho harvest and
2 some of the other aboriginal groups hunted Bluenose East
3 more. There's also a little bit of a deflection to the
4 east down into where Beverly-Ahiak sometimes winter.
5 Sometimes Qamanirjuaq actually has come over that way into
6 the Northwest Territories; but, generally, those numbers, I
7 think, have been lower.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

9 Bert.

10 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 I had a few other areas, but I think I'll wait
12 'til a bit later, but just to wrap it up and move on to
13 other people that have questions, like, the community
14 monitors and check stations and things like that, was that
15 sort of done at the community level and funded by them, or
16 was there funding or support for that? Or how was the
17 monitoring of the, whether it was community monitors or
18 check stations -- or was it a mixture? I'm just not sure.
19 Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

21 Jan.

22 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
23 Northwest Territories.

24 I think I'm right on this, but the community
25 monitoring program's basically been funded by ENR working

1 with the communities, but the basic funds have generally
2 been from us. The check station is generally run by
3 wildlife officers, and generally, I mean, there are regular
4 patrols on the ground by wildlife officers, as well, and
5 some aerial monitoring. So, yeah, I guess, essentially,
6 we've largely funded the programs.

7 THE CHAIR: Lynda.

8 MS. YONGE: Just to add to that. The check
9 stations, actually -- they are run by our officers, but
10 there's a community member with them as well, and so we
11 provide contribution agreements to the community, and they
12 run that part of it, but it is funded by us.

13 And I think, Bert, what you might have been
14 getting at with your first question is: There is some
15 growing pains with using a community monitor program like
16 this. It takes a few years for people to, A, get used to
17 be being monitored and what that entails, and then, B, used
18 to having members of their community monitoring their
19 harvest. And each year in this area where we've had it for
20 several years, it's improved each year.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lynda.

22 Bert.

23 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 And thanks, Lynda and Jan.

25 Yeah, and I guess part of the reasoning is there

1 was a thing in the news yesterday - I don't know if you saw
2 it, but it was on CBC and it was, I guess, in reaction to
3 the Wek'èezhìi statement or release about the allocation
4 and stuff, but it was out of Deliné. And just a bit of
5 concern, I guess, from that community about starting to
6 attach numbers and, I guess, because they are close -- sort
7 of like Kugluktuk -- when other communities or other
8 hunters are coming in from far away into your area to
9 harvest, and when actual numbers are put in, then
10 everybody -- I think the quote from the news release is
11 everybody wants a piece of the pie. So it starts to become
12 negotiating, and I think similar; you know, the concerns
13 from Nunavut will be, okay, how do these numbers get
14 arrived at, and how will they impact our communities?

15 But the other reason I bring it up is, whether
16 it's Bathurst caribou or the Bluenose East caribou, and
17 potentially -- and I say this for the delegates around the
18 table because there have been meetings about Dolphin Union
19 caribou -- our communities could potentially be in a
20 similar situation. And so, again, I mean, we always want
21 to take a critical look and ask the tough questions, but
22 it's also: What can we learn from each other so we're not
23 repeating the same mistakes, or if there's things that we
24 can do now or involve communities ahead of time so that
25 they are involved in this process. And that's just not a

1 question so much as a statement.

2 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert. NTI, complete?

4 Thank you very much.

5 Next up, then, is Kitikmeot Inuit Association.

6 Geoff.

7 KITIKMEOT INUIT ASSOCIATION QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

8 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9 Thanks again for the presentation from the
10 Government of Northwest Territories. Very good.

11 I guess due to the miracle of technology and the
12 internet and the time that we had between questioning the
13 Government of Nunavut and now with the Government of
14 Northwest Territories, we've been able to find some
15 information regarding predation rates on caribou-wolves.
16 We consulted Dr. Anne Gunn -- and for the benefit of the
17 Board, she's a retired biologist, and she worked in the
18 Kugluktuk office for the Government of Northwest
19 Territories for many years until 1996 and then moved to
20 Yellowknife, and I believe -- I could be wrong; Jan would
21 know better -- I think she was a senior biologist for some
22 time until she retired, and I believe you worked with her.
23 We just quickly sent a message and asked if she
24 had an estimate based on any published science, so
25 scientific information, about predation rates of wolves on

1 caribou. And her answer is the number is around 20 to 25
2 caribou per year for each wolf, and she sent us four
3 publications. She said there's others. I don't want to
4 read them into the record because it's going to take a long
5 time, in terms of the titles and so on, but I'll just list,
6 I guess, the authors and the year: Clarkson and Lepins
7 (phonetic), 1992. That's a Northwest Territories
8 publication. Kachensky, Haas, and Promberger (phonetic),
9 2005. That's a Wildlife Biology publication. Dale, Adams,
10 Bouier (phonetic), 1994. That's a Journal of Animal
11 Ecology publication. And Hays and Russell (phonetic),
12 2000. That's a Rangifer Journal publication, just so you
13 have a sense of the information we got.

14 Would you care to comment on the accuracy of
15 that estimate that the average wolf kills about 20 to 25
16 caribou per year, I guess, on the barren lands? Thank you.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

18 Lynda. Jan.

19 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with the
20 Government of Northwest Territories.

21 Some of the papers that you mentioned, Geoff,
22 are familiar. So that range of numbers, I've seen that
23 before, and I think it's -- you know, those estimates are
24 coming from fairly credible sources, so they're probably
25 fairly reasonable.

1 There will be some variability. I think Mathieu
2 talked little bit about this earlier. Sometimes wolves on
3 the calving ground have been known to kill five calves in
4 quick succession, and it's even called "surplus killing."
5 So that would be a little bit different because they're not
6 getting a whole lot of meat out of it. There would be
7 systems where wolves have major alternate prey, you know,
8 such as moose, muskox, or something like that in Alaska,
9 and then they're eating different things.

10 But I would say, you know, as a general
11 estimate, those seem to be credible estimates, and I've
12 seen numbers in that range previously.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

14 Geoff.

15 MR. CLARK: We also were provided information
16 that it's estimated, I believe by a biologist in the NWT,
17 last name of Cluff -- I've seen him, I don't think I've
18 ever met him, but a recent estimate in the Bathurst range
19 that that's 170 to 200 wolves and about 30 known and active
20 dens of where these wolf populations den.

21 Is there an estimate of the number of wolves on
22 the Bluenose East range and the number of active dens
23 within that range as well?

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

25 Jan.

1 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski, Government of
2 Northwest Territories.

3 We don't have an equivalent estimate for
4 Bluenose East. Yeah, Dean Cluff works for us, has for many
5 years, and he probably knows more about wolves in our
6 department than anyone else. So he's had wolf den surveys
7 in the Bathurst range since about 1996. So he goes back to
8 essentially the same wolf dens every year, I think a couple
9 of times in the summer, looks at how many wolves he finds
10 there, how much pups are produced, and then, later in the
11 summer, how many of those pups are still alive. So there's
12 some base of knowledge from those surveys.

13 Estimating the number of wolves associated with
14 a caribou herd is a difficult exercise. It's one of the
15 things that we feel we need to take a good look at, in
16 terms of the feasibility assessment that we talked about
17 earlier, because if you want to think about reducing the
18 numbers of wolves, you have to have some sense of what's
19 there and how many of those wolves you would need to remove
20 to actually have a meaningful effect on caribou.

21 There are some studies that I know from Alaska
22 with some of their caribou herds, and they do wolf surveys,
23 they do work in some areas. We're looking at those as
24 possibilities. Generally speaking, where they've provided
25 estimates for the number of wolves associated with a fairly

1 large caribou herd, it's some number of hundreds of wolves,
2 so we expect it's in that range; but, at this point, we
3 don't have an estimate for the Bluenose East herd, and we
4 don't have the same sort of den surveys for that range.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

6 Geoff.

7 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Last
8 question.

9 Jan, we've heard from Elders and Inuit that, in
10 the old days, how they would manage wolf populations was to
11 go to the dens and, for lack of a better term, I guess,
12 destroy or kill the pups and perhaps the non-alpha male and
13 female. I'm not sure what they're called, if they're
14 called helper wolves or others. Given that it appears that
15 the GNWT knows where the dens are, I know that through
16 Inuit qaujimajatuqangit that Inuit know where many of the
17 dens are.

18 How difficult do you think or easy would it be,
19 one way or the other -- comment on it, please -- of setting
20 up a program using knowledgeable Inuit to, I guess,
21 re-establish their practices using this information? Could
22 you please comment on that?

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

24 Jan.

25 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of

1 Northwest Territories.

2 I guess a little bit of context, Geoff. I've
3 heard about this traditional way of doing things in a
4 number of aboriginal communities, Northwest Territories and
5 previously in the Yukon. We knew some of the First Nations
6 people there that talked about this practice in the old
7 days as well.

8 I think, with our feasibility assessment, we're
9 sort of at a point where we want to consider all possible
10 options, but because wolf management and wolf culls and so
11 on are very controversial things and there's quite a
12 diversity of views, even in communities in our territory, I
13 think the feasibility assessment is kind of the first step;
14 and the next step, then, would be for probably senior
15 people in my department, perhaps boards, other leaders to
16 decide which of those options they want to actively pursue.

17 Having some history in the Yukon with wolf
18 control programs there -- not directly involved, but
19 knowing of them -- there's no wildlife management program
20 that gets more controversial than killing wolves.

21 And just to give you an example, we had a
22 hearing with the Wek'èezhìi board in February on the
23 Bathurst herd, and after one day of that, I had an inquiry
24 from a CBC reporter to ask about the GNWT wolf cull
25 program, and all we had talked about was a feasibility

1 assessment.

2 So we're going to have to tread very carefully,
3 and we're going to have to be very mindful of what our
4 communities and aboriginal governments will be willing to
5 accept; but it is an option that could be considered.

6 Now, the other complication, I guess, is that
7 some of this wolf den -- some of these areas that Dean
8 Cluff have surveyed are actually in Nunavut, and, again, we
9 have to be very conscious of the fact that we have no
10 jurisdiction in Nunavut, and it would be, perhaps, more up
11 to our colleagues with GN to assess whether they would want
12 to pursue that type of option.

13 Sort of a long answer, but I'm just trying to
14 give you kind of a sense of where we're at and some of the
15 considerations that need to go into this before we kind of
16 jump into anything.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

18 Geoff.

19 MR. CLARK: Just one, I guess, follow-up
20 question from that. So I understand the political
21 potential sensitivity around the issue. As a scientist,
22 from a scientific perspective, can you speak to the
23 feasibility of the traditional way of managing wolves?
24 Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

1 Jan.

2 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski, Government of
3 Northwest Territories.

4 I think if the den sites are well known and they
5 do tend to be reused year after year after year, it
6 probably would be feasible to try something like that. In
7 other areas, we don't necessarily have as good a knowledge
8 of where the wolf dens are, and, you know, somebody would
9 have to kind of map those out, and it may be that in some
10 of traditional communities people still have a good
11 knowledge of where the wolf den sites tend to be.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

13 Geoff.

14 MR. CLARK: Thank you. That is all our
15 questions.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, KIA.

17 Okay. Next on the list is North Slave Métis
18 Alliance. Shin.

19 MR. SHIGA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Shin Shiga,
20 North Slave Métis Alliance. I have no questions.

21 THE CHAIR: Okay.

22 The last one on the list, then, for questions
23 for NWT is the public. If there's any questions from the
24 public.

25 If not, thank you very much for your

1 presentation and answering all the questions. It turned
2 out to be a long day.

3 Okay, we're going to move on, then, next -- oh,
4 John.

5 MR. DONIHUE: Our apologies, Mr. Chairman.
6 Attima had reminded us -- asked us about a question
7 earlier, and we forgot. So it's our fault, but he has one
8 question.

9 THE CHAIR: Okay. We will allow it, but,
10 okay, quickly.

11 MR. HADLARI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 I have just one question. You know, as the
13 muskox died off from the lungworms, and so the caribou, as
14 well, has that same larva that lives in the caribou. And
15 biologists says they die off when the global warming starts
16 to warm up. So has that sort of thing been considered to
17 be studied? Thank you.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Attima.

19 Jan.

20 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski, Government of
21 Northwest Territories.

22 Susan Coutts is a parasitologist. She teaches
23 at University of Calgary now. She spent a number of years
24 studying the muskox lungworm, the one that was originally
25 found in the Kugluktuk area. And among the studies that

1 she took on working with captive animals, at the
2 university, was trying to figure out whether this muskox
3 lungworm would take hold, could infect other animals, and I
4 think the long and the short of it is it does not take hold
5 in caribou. Their immune system basically gets rid of it.
6 So that particular lungworm is definitely an issue for
7 muskoxen, but it does not appear to be one for caribou.

8 There is another -- well, there's a couple more
9 diseases that are in issue with muskoxen. There were
10 die-offs documented on Banks Island going back at least 20
11 years, and this was -- at that time, it was yersiniosis,
12 and this was a bacterial disease that seemed to be mostly
13 affecting them in the summer. And sometimes animals would
14 die -- you know, they were in good shape and just a very
15 acute rapid death.

16 More recently, there is a bacterial disease
17 called erysipelothrix -- it's a Latin name. I can't quite
18 spell it -- and that is now associated with major muskox
19 die-offs on Banks Island and Victoria Island. I know
20 Lisa Marie has been doing surveys and also working with
21 Susan Coutts on some of those studies.

22 And one of Susan Coutts's associates has also
23 looked at serum, blood samples, from quite a few caribou
24 herds, and the erysipelothrix shows up as an antibody. But
25 that, by itself, doesn't necessarily mean very much. It

1 means they've been exposed to that bacterium. It doesn't
2 necessarily mean that it made them seriously ill or that it
3 killed them. What is a little bit worrisome about it,
4 having talked with Susan about this, there are some
5 documented cases in British Columbia with boreal woodland
6 caribou where the same organism has been found to cause
7 mortality in caribou.

8 So we're sort of trying to keep an eye on it.
9 We don't have evidence at this point that it has caused a
10 lot of caribou to die. It clearly is quite a serious thing
11 for muskox populations, and, again, this is one of the
12 areas where a warming climate may just be making it that
13 much easier to create some of these outbreaks.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan. Taima.

15 Okay. Thank you very much.

16 Now we'll move on, then, to the presentation, if
17 the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board has a presentation to
18 make to the Board.

19 KITIKMEOT REGIONAL WILDLIFE BOARD SUBMISSION

20 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

21 Simon Qingnaqtuq, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
22 Board chair.

23 Our written submission on the Bluenose is pretty
24 much similar to the Bathurst. Excuse me, Mr. Chair. Do
25 you want us to read it over?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simon. If it's very
2 similar and there's nothing that is different that is
3 specifically for the Bluenose herd, it's in our register
4 already, so you don't have to read it over if you don't
5 want to.

6 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

7 May I ask the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
8 if I'm able to -- we the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board
9 are able to -- this is only the Bluenose?

10 THE CHAIR: Yeah, absolutely.

11 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: If that's fine with you.

12 THE CHAIR: That's fine.

13 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14 Simon Qingnaqtuq from the Kitikmeot Regional
15 Wildlife Board.

16 We, the board, are concerned about the Bluenose
17 herd. The public hearing, as we all know, it's the
18 Kugluktuk herd. We don't agree with the Nunavut Wildlife
19 Management Board, if I may say, having the public hearing
20 here in Cambridge Bay. By saying that, we, the Kitikmeot
21 Regional Wildlife Board, are representing our harvesters.
22 The main reason why we have the board is to help our
23 harvesters in the community of Kitikmeot, and we strongly
24 feel that they should have had the public hearing in
25 Kugluktuk on Bluenose.

1 By saying that, number one, the government has
2 not had public meeting with the community of Kugluktuk on
3 the Bluenose, which is only fair to have a public meeting
4 on the Bluenose. And by saying that, it's a very important
5 issue because, once the bill is passed, it will have a
6 total allowable harvest for the Bluenose, which is the
7 Kugluktuk herd. And for me as a director of Kitikmeot
8 Regional Wildlife Board, I'm not very comfortable with that
9 because, the way I see it, if we don't hold a public
10 meeting in Kugluktuk, our harvest, the way I see it as a
11 director of Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, the
12 harvesters are being attacked in Kugluktuk. That's not
13 fair.

14 To be fair with the harvesters in Kugluktuk and
15 for the community of Kugluktuk, I know it's hard for us to
16 have a public hearing in Kugluktuk, but I would appreciate
17 it if we would have the public hearing in Kugluktuk on the
18 Bluenose because it's a very important issue. It's going
19 to affect the whole community and the harvesters of
20 Kugluktuk. And it's going to make life really hard, and,
21 you know, once it's implemented by to the Nunavut Wildlife
22 Management Board, the community of Kugluktuk is going to
23 say to the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board: How come you
24 never help us? You're the Regional Wildlife Board for our
25 region. Then we'll come back to Kugluktuk and say, "At

1 least we tried, but nobody listened." Like, with big
2 important issues like this, I feel that, you know,
3 especially public hearings, they should have the public
4 hearing in the communities that are affected because you
5 only have five people from Kugluktuk representing the
6 harvesters in Kugluktuk on the Bluenose. If you have the
7 public hearing in Kugluktuk, you would have more
8 information, more concerns from the community. By saying
9 that, the information that is passed on to the Nunavut
10 Wildlife Management Board, I would say it's 50 percent, and
11 it's not very fair for our harvesters in Kugluktuk.

12 I would strongly feel that if the public hearing
13 was held in Kugluktuk, I would be satisfied for our
14 harvesters in Kugluktuk and for the people of Kugluktuk.

15 Thank you for listening. Qujannamiik.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simon, for your
17 comments and your passionate concern. Is there anything
18 else, then, any other presentations from the regional
19 board? Anything else?

20 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Simon
21 Qingnaqtuq from Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board. The
22 submission that we gave to the Board is the Bathurst
23 caribou herd and the Bluenose caribou herd, it's all in
24 one. We have no further submissions. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Simon.

1 Okay. With that, I'll open up the questions
2 from Board Members for the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
3 Board. Is there any questions? Charlie.

4 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

5 MR. INUARAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 Charlie Inuarak, Nunavut Wildlife Management
7 Board. My question: There seems to be three herds in
8 Kitikmeot. So you have three different herds that you can
9 harvest from as Kitikmeot Region?

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

11 Simon.

12 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 Yes, we do have three different herds, but we're
14 talking about Bluenose herd in this public hearing. Can
15 you clarify your question? The way I understand, we have
16 three different types of herds that we can harvest from,
17 but I'm talking about Bluenose caribou herd.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simon.

19 Charlie.

20 MR. INUARAK: Supplementary question. The
21 submissions from Nunavut government and GNWT government,
22 and there was a documentation that was submitted in their
23 presentation, and there is in-depth information that we're
24 going to have to consider when we make our decision during
25 this fall, sometime this fall. Because everything is being

1 recorded and noted, I would like to ask you: Are the
2 Kugluktuk residents only harvesters of Bluenose East
3 caribou, or do Cambridge Bay residents harvest from that
4 herd as well?

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

6 Simon.

7 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 As Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board chair, I'm
9 not sure if I can answer that question myself, but I would
10 like to refer it to my vice-chairperson who is a harvester.

11 THE CHAIR: Yes, go ahead. Peter.

12 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13 I believe Kugluktuk is the only residents that
14 harvest the Bluenose East. There is some Dene people, too,
15 that harvest the Bluenose. Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

17 Charlie? Good? David K.

18 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19 David Kritterdlik from the Board.

20 I just wanted to mention -- I don't have any
21 question. I just wanted to mention that this hearing took
22 some time for the Board to put together. We've held a
23 number of meetings about it, we received a lot of
24 correspondence from different places -- NTI, KIA, and other
25 interested groups -- where we were planning on holding it.

1 And then coming to a number of issues that were coming up
2 at the same time, we talked about having two hearings, one
3 in Kugluktuk, one in here, but that would have some
4 complications about travel, accommodations, and lots of
5 things that had to go back and forth. But we also talked
6 about we wanted to have some attendees from Kugluktuk, and
7 the Board agreed to help however they can to bring in a
8 number of people to this hearing.

9 We understand that this would have been very
10 important, very good for the hearing to be held in
11 Kugluktuk, but this is where we thought it was the best to
12 have it where everybody can come together and do the two
13 hearings at the same time.

14 I just wanted to comment on that. Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

16 Simon, is that okay?

17 David Igutsuq.

18 MR. IGUTSAQ: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19 David K. already covered what I was going to
20 say. So it was going to be the same, so I'm going to...

21 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you, David. Any
22 other questions from the Board? If not, staff -- Charlie.

23 MR. INUARAK: Just to comment, last year in the
24 Baffin Region, when we were able to harvest, really, all of
25 a sudden there was a moratorium on our herd because the

1 competent minister has the authority to do that in the
2 interim. I think we had a meeting similar to this public
3 hearing, with a number of people, and we were not prepared
4 at all, as well, when we had our first meeting.

5 After we had a public meeting, we were presented
6 with thick binders of information from the governments,
7 and, also, we were given documentation from NTI, and
8 wildlife biologist experts on caribou did their
9 presentation, and at that time, during the Baffin Island
10 caribou workshop, we were able to come to consensus on a
11 TAH.

12 What they came up with in this TAH was bulls
13 only, and a few days later, hunters started harvesting
14 female caribous, and I don't know what they did with those
15 hunters by way of enforcement, and I think by learning from
16 that experience, we were able to start working with the
17 communities. Have you, in the Kitikmeot Region, had that
18 similar problem?

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

20 Simon.

21 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22 Thank you for the question. Yes, we have a
23 management plan in place with Kugluktuk. If it was
24 implemented, we'll have to work together with Kitikmeot
25 Regional Wildlife Board and the HTO in Kugluktuk.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simon.

2 Any other questions? If not, staff, any
3 questions? Michael?

4 MR. D'EÇA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 I have a comment, a bit of a preamble, but I
6 will ask you a question.

7 I became curious about the Taking Care of
8 Caribou management plan that Government of Northwest
9 Territories somewhat walked us through today, and, you
10 know, as I was listening, it did seem familiar to me, and I
11 had looked at it a bit in the binder. It's at tab 20 of
12 the hearing binder. It certainly looked to be a
13 potentially thorough plan taking into account
14 qaujimajatuqangit and science.

15 So I looked into the matter a little more, and
16 it turns out that this management plan was approved by that
17 group, the ACCWM, in November of 2014, and all six of the
18 members of that committee signed through their chairperson,
19 and one of the members was the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
20 Board. So the plan was developed as a draft before it was
21 approved and made a formal official plan by the KRWB and
22 the other signatories. It was developed by a working
23 group, which, as far as I can tell, was set up in 2009, and
24 following approximately five years of work, that working
25 group, through its terms of reference, was the one to

1 develop this plan. And they did propose that final version
2 to the committee, the ACCWM, in the early fall of 2014;
3 and, by November, the committee had approved it.

4 And so I looked at who the agencies were that
5 appointed people to the working group, and I assume they
6 appointed staff people. It turns out, again, it was the
7 Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, it was the Government of
8 Nunavut Department of Environment, the NWMB appointed a
9 staff person, the Kugluktuk HTO, which, from the document,
10 appears to have been involved quite early, since 2007, with
11 this project -- and NTI as well.

12 And further to that, the NWMB was actually
13 originally a member of this ACCWM, which is a group of
14 mostly wildlife management boards and the regional wildlife
15 board for the Kitikmeot.

16 But the Board, my Board, withdrew in October of
17 2014, not because it was unhappy with the plan but because
18 the other members were seeking NWMB approval of the plan
19 and issuance of specific management advice to governments
20 prior to the NWMB going through its own hearing or a
21 similar procedurally fair process of approval. And from
22 the NWMB's perspective, it would first require invitations
23 to and then receipt and consideration of submissions from
24 affected Inuit, from the KRWB, from the Kugluktuk HTO, from
25 NTI, and from the public prior to making a decision. So

1 the Board withdrew and opted for observer status.

2 It's unclear to me what happened after that and
3 why the final plan has not yet been submitted to the NWMB
4 for approval, which I assume was always the idea; but it
5 appears to me that, first of all, as I mentioned, this plan
6 is within the NWMB hearing record. It appears to be a
7 credible and comprehensive management plan. The Government
8 of Northwest Territories has actually adopted it and is
9 using it as a guide. It addresses Bluenose East caribou,
10 it's been approved by KRWB and five Northwest Territories
11 wildlife boards. It was developed by, among others, staff
12 from Government of Nunavut Department of Environment, by
13 NTI, by KRWB, by the Kugluktuk HTO, and NWMB staff.

14 So my question, Simon, to you as the chairperson
15 of the KRWB is fairly general, and it's this:
16 Approximately a year and a half after providing your
17 approval of the plan, is there any reason why KRWB would
18 not still be in support of it? That's my question. I
19 don't want to put you on the spot; I'm not sure how
20 familiar you are with the plan or your fellow officials who
21 are here are with the plan, but I think it's an important
22 question to ask you; and when it comes time, I would like
23 to ask the Kugluktuk HTO and NTI -- I've missed my chance
24 to ask the Government of Nunavut -- but it seems like an
25 opportune time to have somewhat of a discussion about that

1 and see how the NWMB's key co-management partners, with
2 respect to the management of Bluenose East caribou, feel
3 about that management plan.

4 So I do put that question to you, and, as I say,
5 I don't expect an answer right away. I'm not sure how
6 quickly we could receive your views on it; the hearing goes
7 another day. So I'll leave it at that, and if you have any
8 questions of me, I'm happy to reply. Taima.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

10 Simon.

11 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.

12 Simon Qingnaqtuq, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
13 Board chair. Thank you for your question.

14 Just to let you know that I just started in
15 October of last year as chairperson, and I haven't gone
16 through all the detailed information on this management
17 plan, and I'll have to confer with my board members to ask
18 them if they know anything about this management plan and
19 get back to you on this, because I just started last year
20 as of October, and this was signed in 2014 before I
21 started. Although I'm the chairperson, I haven't been able
22 to read every single detailed document of that
23 organization. Sorry I can't answer you at this moment.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Simon.

25 Michael.

1 MR. D'EÇA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 As I was doing that bit of research, just over
3 my supper hour, but I looked at the NWMB letter writing to
4 the committee saying: Look, we're going to withdraw for
5 the reasons that I had mentioned, and I noticed that Attima
6 was chair of the KRWB at the time. So, again, you may be
7 able to have a chat with Attima and whoever else was on the
8 Board at that time. Taima.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

10 I don't think there is any question there,
11 Simon.

12 Okay. We'll move on. Any questions for the
13 Regional Wildlife Board from the GN?

14 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 No question at this time, thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

17 Any questions from NWT?

18 MS. YONGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
19 questions.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

21 Kugluktuk HTO, any questions?

22 KUGLUKTUK HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

23 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, I emailed a letter last
24 night. I just wonder if I could use that to help support
25 our chairman's statement.

1 THE CHAIR: Yes. Go ahead.

2 MR. L. ADJUN: Okay. I'll get it up on the
3 board. You haven't got it yet? Okay. I shall read it
4 out.

5 I'm now wearing a different hat as the hamlet
6 councillor, dated May 27th to whom it may concern. This
7 letter is to confirm the support from the Hamlet of
8 Kugluktuk to the Kugluktuk hunters and trappers
9 organization in their request to hold meetings in the
10 community regarding the Bluenose East caribou herd.

11 The community members of Kugluktuk are the main
12 harvesters of this herd. It is of interest of the
13 community to hold such a public meeting in Kugluktuk so
14 those affected are informed and can voice their concerns.
15 The Hamlet of Kugluktuk has multiple spaces to accommodate
16 such meetings, including a new visitor's heritage centre
17 boardrooms, community hall, and the hamlet office
18 boardroom. These facilities, combined with local hotels,
19 would be able to accommodate meetings of this nature in
20 Kugluktuk and keep the community informed of the discussion
21 regarding the Bluenose East herd.

22 The Hamlet of Kugluktuk, mayor and council,
23 signed by Ryan Nivingalok. As I stated, I gave the email
24 letter, but you guys did not receive it.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much for that

1 information, Larry. That's in support of the Regional
2 Wildlife Board at this point, so I'll leave it at that, and
3 thank you very much for that information.

4 MR. L. ADJUN: For the record, I'm going to use
5 that for Kugluktuk's presentation, but I will not read it,
6 but hopefully you guys have it.

7 And as a hamlet councillor, I have some
8 brochures on the facilities of Kugluktuk just for your
9 information.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Larry.

11 Okay. That's putting on your other hat. Are
12 there any other questions from Kugluktuk HTO to your
13 Regional Wildlife Board? No?

14 MR. L. ADJUN: No questions.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

16 Okay. We'll move on questions to the Kitikmeot
17 Regional Wildlife Board. Bathurst Inlet HTO, any
18 questions?

19 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No
20 questions.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sam.

22 Bay Chimo HTO, Peter, any questions?

23 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

24 Peter from Umingmaktok HTO. No questions.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

1 Cambridge Bay HTO, any questions? Bobby.

2 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
3 questions.

4 THE CHAIR: Elder representatives, any
5 questions for the Regional Wildlife Board? I don't see
6 any. We'll carry on.

7 NTI, any questions for Kitikmeot Regional
8 Wildlife Board? Paul.

9 NUNAVUT TUNNGAVIK INCORPORATED QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

10 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No
11 questions, but a comment for the record.

12 We are in support of KRWB statement and also the
13 comments made by Kugluktuk HTO that the hearing be held in
14 Kugluktuk where most of the people are affected. Thank
15 you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul. Noted.

17 KIA, any questions for the Regional Board?

18 KITIKMEOT INUIT ASSOCIATION QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

19 MR. CLARK: We have no question, but a
20 comment. We support the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
21 Board's statement regarding the location of the hearing for
22 the Bluenose East TAH proposal by the Government of
23 Nunavut. We were given a reason that there wasn't enough
24 hotel space that could meet 40 to 50 rooms for this
25 hearing.

1 I've counted about 24 people that would be
2 technical, Board, and out-of-town guests that would be
3 required at a Bluenose East hearing, and hearings of this
4 size have been easily accommodated by NIRB and the Nunavut
5 Water Board in the past, and the Board would have had the
6 benefit of hearing from a lot of people that would have
7 come out.

8 Two weeks ago, there was a consultation
9 regarding restoring a char-bearing creek in the Kugluktuk
10 area, and over 100 residents came out to listen and give
11 their advice. And, you know, a downside would be is that
12 the hearing would probably be three days long, four days
13 long, but you would have gained a lot of valuable
14 information and given the community a sense of inclusion in
15 this process. Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff, for your
17 comments, and they will be noted. That's it?

18 Next we have North Slave Métis Alliance. Shin,
19 any questions for the Regional Board?

20 MR. SHIGA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have no
21 questions.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

23 And the last one; is there anybody from the
24 public that would like to ask questions? If not, we will
25 carry on. Thank you very much.

1 Okay. Next on the agenda is Kugluktuk HTO. Do
2 you have a presentation, Larry, at all?

3 KUGLUKTUK HTO SUBMISSION

4 MR. L. ADJUN: Quana, itsivautaaq.

5 I'm going to read off my iPad. We don't have
6 enough of the binders with the English version so we have
7 to make do with what we have at hand.

8 I want it noted and on record our statement I
9 made yesterday or the day before to be noted, and right now
10 I'll read the final Kugluktuk HTO Nunavut Wildlife
11 Management Board submission for our proposal. I'm getting
12 a little tongue-tied here.

13 Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Association
14 submission to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board on the
15 Government of Nunavut's proposed total allowable harvest of
16 340 caribou, 340 Bluenose East caribou.

17 Could I read fast here? Do you guys have my
18 submission for the translators? So noted.

19 THE CHAIR: I believe they do have it, Larry,
20 but don't go too fast.

21 MR. L. ADJUN: Okay. Dated May 27th, 2016.

22 Introduction

23 Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Association
24 (KHTO) is making this summary submission to the Nunavut
25 Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) regarding its review of

1 the Government of Nunavut (GN) proposal to establish a new
2 total allowable harvest (TAH) on the Bluenose East caribou
3 herd. Our acronym is going to be BNECH.

4 The KHTO by resolution on May 9th, 2016, opposed
5 the GN proposal of TAH on the BNECH and requested more time
6 from the Nunavut -- I'm going to use acronyms; this is
7 going to take forever -- NWMB to better prepare the
8 submission which the NWMB denied. Okay. The KHTO resolved
9 that a TAH was not acceptable except as a last resort; that
10 it would use its own powers under...

11 THE CHAIR: You need to slow down a wee bit,
12 Larry, thank you.

13 MR. L. ADJUN: Under section 5.7.3 of the
14 Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, increase predator control
15 efforts, that it would work with the KIA to develop an
16 HTO-controlled management plan, and the KHTO and the
17 Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board should work together to
18 develop a local solution. (See Appendix A)

19 This submission includes a summary form
20 KHTO-controlled alternative to the GN-proposed TAH. The
21 KHTO has the right and authority to establish an
22 alternative management approach to the BNECH as part of
23 Article 5.7.3 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

24 The GN TAH proposal is an important restriction
25 on KHTO member rights. Transfer of harvest control from

1 KHTO to the GN is an important loss of control of Inuit
2 rights. Such a TAH proposal should be taken very seriously
3 and only imposed as a last resort.

4 Article 5.3.3 of the NLCA states or says that
5 Part 6 of the NLCA, which includes consideration of a TAH,
6 should only restrict Inuit harvest to the extent necessary.
7 The KHTO does not believe that a TAH is necessary and
8 should only be used as a last resort if other measures,
9 including Article 5.7.3 of NLCA, do not work.

10 The KHTO alternative is called an Integrated
11 Community Caribou Management Plan or ICCMP. It is an
12 integrated plan because it includes several measures that
13 are intended to contribute to conservation of the BNECH.
14 Some of these measures are non-quota limitations, and some
15 involve managing the harvest of KHTO members, both of which
16 are within the KHTO authority in the Nunavut Land Claims
17 Agreement. Other additional measures are presented to
18 support management of BNECH. Together, these measures are
19 "tools" as part of a "toolbox" that the HTO can use.

20 The tools of the ICCMP includes:

- 21 1) Setting a limit on KHTO member harvest which is
22 controlled by the KHTO;
- 23 2) Mandatory BNECH harvest reporting to the KHTO by
24 members;
- 25 3) Establishing a "No Caribou Hunting Zone" to reduce BNECH

1 harvest in an area that has easy access by trails and
2 all-terrain vehicles;

3 4) The establishment of a KHTO-controlled enforcement
4 system regarding BNECH harvest rates and zones, mandatory
5 reporting, and harvest practices;

6 5) Creation of a program and looking for partners to create
7 a predator management program to reduce predation pressure
8 on the BNECH. I'm sorry, that was item 5;

9 6) Continuing and improving education of KHTO members about
10 caribou, respectful harvest practices, and alternative
11 species to harvest; and

12 7) Increased effort to increase the fair quota of the KHTO
13 regarding muskox in the Kitikmeot harvest area to relieve
14 harvest pressure on BNECH.

15 The KHTO developed its draft ICCMP in
16 consultation with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, which
17 offered to support the KHTO if we requested support.

18 The KHTO believes that the tools in the ICCMP
19 will be a better alternative to the TAH, in part, because
20 monitoring and enforcement that is local is more respectful
21 and effective than enforcement by government. This ICCMP
22 is supported by a KHTO resolution made on May 20th, 2016.

23 (See Appendix 2)

24 The KHTO Approved Draft Integrated Community Caribou
25 Management Plan.

1 1) Setting a Limit on KHTO Member Harvest Which is
2 Controlled By The KHTO

3 The KHTO estimates that from May 2015 to May
4 2016 that about 190 Bluenose East caribou herd in this year
5 alone. The KHTO estimates the seasonal breakdown of the
6 annual BNECH harvest was about average 20 in the summer, 20
7 in the fall, 100 in the winter, and 50 in April. Of the
8 100 BNECH harvested in winter, these were harvested at
9 Napaktalik, which is about 200 kilometres southeast of
10 Kugluktuk where it appears that a large herd of caribou
11 wintered in the rocky hills in the area. There was
12 discussion about whether these were the BNECH, but it was
13 generally believed this herd was from the KHTO.

14 Page 3. Even if the KHTO harvest was
15 underestimated by 75 percent, the total harvest is less
16 than 340 TAH proposed by the GN. There have been years
17 when the harvest has been much higher and is related to the
18 BNECH population being higher, or the BNECH was close to
19 town for a period of time.

20 The reason for the reduced harvest in this
21 May 2015-May 2016 period are many and include: 1) many
22 Inuit do not have the resources or skills to harvest
23 caribou; 2) the BNECH population is on a decline, and the
24 opportunity to find and harvest BNECH is reduced as a
25 result (a natural feedback loop); 3) there are no winter

1 roads or airplanes used to hunt caribou around Kugluktuk,
2 so unskilled hunters and those without resources travel far
3 from town cannot harvest BNECH.

4 Thus, the Kugluktuk HTO is willing to enforce
5 its own limit of 340 caribou harvest in 2016-17 using
6 mechanisms the KHTO already has in place. The KHTO will
7 develop its own methods of distributing the right to KHTO
8 members to harvest 340 animals from the BNECH. There was
9 not enough time offered by NWMB to fully develop the
10 details of this KHTO-enforced plan, but the KHTO is
11 confident it can do it.

12 2) Mandatory BNECH Harvest Reporting to the Kugluktuk to
13 the KHTO By Members.

14 As part of a KHTO-enforced limit on it's members
15 of 340 BNECH to be harvested, the KHTO will implement a
16 system of monitoring the harvest of BNECH. This will
17 provide feedback as to whether the ICCMP has been effective
18 in achieving its goal. If harvest results are over the
19 KHTO-enforced limit, the KHTO can use adaptive management
20 to adjust the ICCMP to meet the limit. As part of this
21 harvest reporting, there will also be feedback sought from
22 hunters on the health and population of BNECH to be used as
23 a mechanism to assess the state of the BNECH -- for
24 example, number of calves, the number of pregnant females,
25 etcetera -- as we have successfully done to document the

1 increased population of muskox on the mainland east of
2 Kugluktuk which resulted in a TAH of this species. The
3 KHTO is confident it has the mechanisms available to
4 enforce regarding the BNECH harvest.

5 3) Establishing a "No Caribou Hunting Zone" to Reduce
6 BNECH Harvest in an Area That Has Easy Access By Trails

7 The BNECH often comes relatively close to the
8 Kugluktuk during the spring and fall migration. Access to
9 the southwest of Kugluktuk for a distance of about five to
10 ten miles is facilitated by the lack of river or stream
11 crossings and the development of trails. This allows rapid
12 access of hunters with limited resources or skills to a
13 relatively small area near Kugluktuk that the BNECH
14 sometimes passes through. A lot of BNECH harvesting can
15 happen if the BNECH passes through this area.

16 On page 4. KHTO proposes to establish an
17 Article 5.7.3 non-quota limitation on harvesting that
18 prohibits caribou harvesting in this area, which is shown
19 on Figure 1 and Figure 2. This area is about 300 square
20 kilometres for the most accessible hunting areas from the
21 Hamlet of Kugluktuk.

22 Could you show slide 4 with the maps, please.
23 Thank you.

24 This area is about 300 square kilometres of the
25 most easily accessible hunting areas from the Hamlet of

1 Kugluktuk. There are clear landmarks in this area that can
2 be used to establish this no hunting zone for caribou that
3 include major rivers and cliffs. The establishment of the
4 zone will result in significant reduction in caribou
5 harvest in years and seasons when the Bluenose East caribou
6 migrates close to town through this area. Further, many
7 hunters are not adequately or trained to harvest caribou
8 respectfully, and too many hunters in this area can pose a
9 human and hunter safety issue.

10 As shown on Figure 1, the proposed KHTO "No
11 Caribou Hunting Zone" outlined in red. This zone is
12 bounded by the Kugluk or Coppermine, Bloody Falls, and
13 Kungnahik (Richardson) River, the arctic ocean, and a set
14 of well-known cliffs on the Hotongak area to the southwest
15 and Gurling Point cliffs to the northeast.

16 Page 5. On Figure 2, the same proposed KHTO "No
17 Caribou Hunting Zone" outlined in red, but in a regional
18 setting from a far distance.

19 4) Establishment of a KHTO-Controlled Enforcement System
20 Regarding BNECH Harvest Rates and Zones, Mandatory
21 Reporting, and Harvest Practices.

22 The KHTO believes that it has the respect of the
23 community and the capacity to enforce compliance to its
24 proposed ICCMP. There was not enough time afforded by NWMB
25 to put in place formal enforcement mechanisms as part of

1 this submission, but it will not be hard to complete.
2 Enforcement mechanisms, include limiting future
3 opportunities related to BNECH harvest opportunities,
4 access to KHTO-subsidized goods, KHTO-sponsored community
5 hunts, and KHTO partnerships with government and industry
6 on various wildlife and environment activities. Loss of
7 these privileges is a loss of harvesting opportunity and a
8 loss to economic potential to members who do not follow
9 these rules or the rules, in addition to the moral shame
10 involved in breaking locally-enforced rules and values.

11 When the KHTO has made rules or voiced opinions
12 in the past, they have been respected. It makes sense that
13 rules made more locally are better adhered to and respected
14 than rules enforced by authorities that are seen to be
15 further away or not related to the community.

16 As an example, KHTO passed a resolution many
17 years ago that there should be no more cabins built on the
18 Coppermine River north of Bloody Falls because there was a
19 concern that too many cabins would disturb wildlife -- page
20 6 -- including caribou that use the area. This part of the
21 river is part of the border with the "No Caribou Hunting
22 Zone" proposed above. Even though the KHTO has no legal
23 authority to enforce this resolution (because it is not a
24 landowner), the community, by and large, has respected this
25 KHTO resolution, and few or no new cabins have been built

1 in this area on the Coppermine River. This is an example
2 of how both Inuit and non-Inuit in Kugluktuk respect the
3 desires of the KHTO.

4 Further, local enforcement of an ICCMP will be
5 more effective as there is a stronger moral obligation of
6 KHTO and Kugluktuk community members to follow the rules.
7 If one has to account to their grandparents, parent, uncle,
8 aunt or friend for why they broke the rules, this is a much
9 stronger incentive to comply than to worry about government
10 rules that may appear to be distant and unreasonable.

11 5) Creation of a Program and Looking For Partners to Create
12 a Predator Management Program to Reduce Predation Pressures
13 on the BNECH

14 For years, Kugluktuk HTO has expressed to the GN
15 DoE the observation of the high number of predators such as
16 wolves, grizzly bears that are present in the range of
17 BNECH. Traditionally, Inuit have harvested wolves and
18 grizzly bear in this area as part of day-to-day life on the
19 land. Now that most of Inuit spend the majority of their
20 time in established communities, there are fewer Inuit on
21 the land and less opportunity to harvest these animals.

22 Inuit have strong hunting skills in general, and
23 there is a long history as wolf hunters. This, combined
24 with extensive traditional knowledge about wolves and
25 grizzly bears, give Inuit the ability to be very effective

1 predator managers. For example, Inuit knew where many of
2 the denning areas are of wolves in the BNECH range in
3 Nunavut.

4 Inuit continue harvesting wolves and grizzly
5 bear to the present. Unfortunately, the price of fur
6 relative to the input cost of hunting had declined
7 drastically over the many years. As well, there have not
8 been any extra incentives from the government for Inuit to
9 harvest wolves since the 1970s.

10 Wolves are predators of caribou. It is
11 generally thought that a wolf eats about 25 caribou per
12 year. (I heard that somewhere.) A properly designed wolf
13 management program that uses the traditional skills of
14 Inuit could be a significant help to managing BNECH and
15 also conserve Inuit hunting skills. Take, for example, if
16 there was an incentive in place to motivate Inuit hunters
17 to spend more effort hunting wolves that, on a margin,
18 resulted in an extra 30 wolves being harvested each year,
19 these extra 30 wolves would represent 750 caribou that are
20 not eaten by wolves and available to assist with population
21 recovery. It would also more than offset the annual
22 harvest by KHTO members.

23 There is also traditional knowledge that the
24 grizzly bear population has increased considerably in the
25 West Kitikmeot Region of Nunavut and is expanding north and

1 east. It is known -- page 7 -- that there is a relatively
2 high number of grizzly bear in the calving and post-calving
3 range of the BNECH. Grizzly bear are known to be effective
4 caribou predators. GN has removed the quota on grizzly
5 bear for Inuit, and it is expected that the harvest of
6 grizzly bears in the area around Kugluktuk will increase as
7 a result. Increased rates of harvest are already
8 occurring.

9 The Kitikmeot Inuit Association has already
10 endorsed predator management measures and may be willing to
11 assist with securing funds for such a program. In the
12 Northwest Territories, hunters can get several hundred more
13 dollars as an incentive to kill wolves that is above the
14 price of the fur if the wolf is killed in the time of year
15 where the fur is valuable. The Government of Nunavut, in
16 geographic areas where there's conservation concern with
17 caribou, should mirror the GNWT programs to incentivize the
18 focus on managing wolves. The incentive should be offered
19 year round so that hunting on a den for pups can occur.

20 The KHTO will be willing to implement programs
21 to remove wolf pups in the summer which significantly
22 reduces the food requirements of wolf packs. This, along
23 with a properly designed incentive program for harvesting
24 wolves, would use impressive wolf hunting skills of Nunavut
25 to manage the herds. Further, unlike other aboriginal

1 groups in NWT, Inuit have no traditional beliefs against
2 hunting or handling wolves. Wolf fur is used in everyday
3 winter clothing by Kitikmeot Inuit.

4 6) Continuing and Improving Education of KHTO Members About
5 Caribou Respectful Harvest Practices and Alternate Species
6 to Harvest

7 The KHTO has an established caribou education
8 week based in Kugluktuk. This week includes activities
9 such as harvest practices, respectful harvesting, and
10 harvesting alternative animals. There are many other
11 resources of caribou food in the Kugluktuk area, including
12 muskox, moose, arctic char, seal, and geese, to name a few.
13 This education week will continue, along with everyday
14 transfer of knowledge from Inuit to younger generations and
15 include information and skills that is part of the ICCMP.

16 7) Increased Effort to Increase Fur Quota to the KHTO
17 Regarding Muskox in the Kugluktuk Harvest Area to Relieve
18 Harvest Pressure on BNECH.

19 A new muskox management zone designated by GN is
20 MX-11. It occurs on the mainland from the east side of the
21 Coppermine River all the way past Bathurst Inlet to the
22 west side of Ellice River. The KHTO, for years, noted that
23 muskox population on the east side of Kugluk or the
24 Coppermine River on the mainland has been increasing and
25 lobbied the GN to reevaluate the TAH. In 2013, the GN did

1 a survey of the western 25 percent of the MX-11, which is
2 closest to Kugluktuk. The GN estimated that there is a
3 muskox population of 6,746, plus or minus 1,851 in the most
4 western portion of MX-11.

5 Page 8. Based on a survey of 25 percent of
6 MX-11, GN estimated that a TAH of 225 was sustainable for
7 this population in all of MX-11. 225 muskox is 3.3 percent
8 of the 6,746 population estimate, which is a conservative
9 harvest rate for TAH. The eastern 75 percent of MX-11 was
10 not surveyed. The eastern 75 percent of MX-11 contains a
11 significant number of muskox as known by Inuit traditional
12 knowledge. Also, aerial surveys conducted east and west of
13 Bathurst Inlet by Glencore Limited, Sabina Gold and Silver
14 Limited, and Hope Bay Mining Limited conducted between 2006
15 and 2011 show muskox occur in the eastern section of MX-11.
16 There could be several thousand muskox in the remaining 75
17 percent of MX-11.

18 There is a significant potential that a survey
19 of the remainder of MX-11 will result in a higher overall
20 muskox population and a higher TAH for MX-11. A higher
21 muskox TAH for the Kugluktuk HTO will result in a potential
22 to shift more harvesting from the Bluenose East caribou
23 herd to muskox in MX-11.

24 KHTO Comments on GN DoE Consultation Regarding the Proposed
25 TAH

1 The GN DoE claims that the KHTO was consulted
2 ten times in the last two years about the imposition of the
3 currently proposed TAH of 340 BNECH caribou. In fact, this
4 is not true. Sharing information on general caribou
5 matters unrelated to a specific TAH proposal is not TAH
6 consultation. Avoiding focussed and detailed discussions
7 about the TAH proposal was not a consultation. Not
8 discussing valid NLCA alternatives to a TAH proposal is not
9 a consultation. It is merely "information."

10 The reality is that the GN DoE met once with the
11 KHTO in mid-January to present a TAH proposal of 340 for
12 the BNECH. The TAH proposal was not the focus of the
13 meeting; it was a 55-minute discussion on a two and a half
14 day meeting.

15 The summary consultation reported is flawed in
16 many respects: 1), it is not a final document; it is
17 listed as a draft -- what more can be added?; 2), GN states
18 this is not their position on the summary -- if it is not
19 the position on the GN DoE or the GN, then whose document
20 is this?; 3), the consultation summary was not internally
21 consistent with the contents of the presentations; 4), the
22 agenda does not clearly state the purpose of the meeting;
23 5), the roles of who was the chair, whose meeting it was,
24 and why the GN was even present was an issue at this
25 meeting. All of this is extra evidence that Kugluktuk HTO

1 was not aware of the purpose of the meeting or consulted
2 fairly or adequately on a TAH.

3 The purported consultation has failed not only
4 on a technical level. It has failed to a legal level as
5 well.

6 Conclusion

7 GN has made a proposal to impose a TAH on a
8 BNECH of 340 caribou bulls. Article 5.3.3 of the NLCA says
9 that Part 6 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, which
10 includes consideration of a TAH, should only restrict --
11 page 9 -- Inuit harvest to the extent necessary. The KHTO
12 does not believe that a TAH is necessary and should only be
13 used as a last resort if other measures, including Article
14 5.7.3 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, do not work.
15 This submission includes an alternative, as a summary, to a
16 TAH that is controlled by the Kugluktuk HTO, which, in its
17 own right to imposition as part of Article 5.7.3 of the
18 NLCA, is supported by the attached resolution.

19 The KHTO alternative to a TAH is called a
20 Integrated Community Caribou Management Plan or ICCMP. The
21 key parts of ICCMP include:

- 22 1) Setting a limit on KHTO member harvest which is
23 controlled by the KHTO;
- 24 2) Mandatory BNECH harvest reporting to the KHTO by
25 members;

- 1 3) Establishing a "No Caribou Hunting Zone" to reduce BNECH
2 harvest in an area that has easy access by trails and
3 all-terrain vehicles;
- 4 4) The establishment of a KHTO-controlled enforcement
5 mechanism regarding BNECH harvest rates and zones,
6 mandatory reporting, and harvest practices;
- 7 5) Creation of a program and looking for partners to create
8 a predator management program to reduce predation pressures
9 on the BNECH;
- 10 6) Continuing and improving education of KHTO members about
11 caribou respectful harvest practices, and alternative
12 species to hunt, and, lastly;
- 13 7) Increased effort to increase the quota to the KHTO
14 regarding muskox in the Kugluktuk harvest area to relieve
15 pressure on the BNECH.

16 The GN DoE claims to have consulted with KHTO
17 ten times regarding the current TAH proposal before the
18 NWMB. This is untrue. The KHTO only met once with GN DoE
19 about caribou management in January 2016, and it was not
20 clear to the KHTO that the purpose of the meeting was about
21 implementing the current TAH proposal to the NWMB. In the
22 KHTO opinion, this was not a consultation meeting.

23 And on page 10, I read that already. It's
24 noted. Page 11; the signatories again. Page 12; that's a
25 one-pager for the information that I have read.

1 I'm sorry. That's it, sir.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Larry, for a
3 very thorough and detailed submission. So thank you for
4 that.

5 And I think, with that, everybody, it's been a
6 long day. I think we will stop for the evening. And our
7 interpreters are tired, too. I know they are. So we'll
8 leave it at that and then get to questions first thing in
9 the morning to Kugluktuk, and we'll meet back here at 9:00
10 in the morning.

11 Thank you very much. Have a good night.

12

13 (Proceedings ended at 9:07 p.m.)

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1 Certificate of Transcript

2

3 I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing pages 1
4 to 274 are a complete and accurate transcript of the
5 proceedings taken down by me in shorthand and transcribed
6 from my shorthand notes to the best of my skill and ability.

7

8 Dated at the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta, on the day
9 11th of August, A.D. 2016.

10

11 "Adele Jones"

12 Adele Jones

13 Official Court Reporter, CSR(A)

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NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A REGIONAL TOTAL ALLOWABLE HARVEST FOR THE
BLUENOSE EAST CARIBOU HERD

June 17, 2016

Pages 275 TO 495

HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL

CAMBRIDGE BAY, NUNAVUT

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1 OPENING AND PRAYER

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much for coming
3 back, and quite an impressive group on time, boy, every
4 day. It's very nice to see.

5 We'll start off the morning with an opening
6 prayer from David Kitterdlik. Go ahead, David.

7 (PRAYER)

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

9 Okay. Yesterday we ended off with a very
10 thorough, detailed presentation by Kugluktuk HTO in regards
11 to caribou management of Bluenose East herd. So at this
12 point in time, I'll open it up for questions to Board
13 Members of the NWMB. Is there any questions? Charlie.

14 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

15 MR. INUARAK: Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq. NWMB.
16 My question: First of all, NWMB Board Members, usually
17 like to have prepared submissions and documented positions,
18 and I'm very proud of your submissions.

19 We had requested, as well, from Kugluktuk to see
20 a similar submission, and I just wanted to commend you for
21 being prepared and submitting a documented position from
22 your community. And these are very important and thorough
23 detailed submissions from your community so that when we
24 make our decisions, we'll be able to go through all the
25 submissions that were given from different management

1 parties.

2 In Kugluktuk, you requested, Kitikmeot Regional
3 Wildlife Board chair requested that they hold a public
4 meeting in Kugluktuk; and if that is the case and we go
5 through with the recommendation of holding a public hearing
6 in Kugluktuk, my question to you is: You supported the
7 Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Management Board's proposal to
8 hold a public hearing in Kugluktuk, and Kitikmeot Inuit
9 Association and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated also
10 supported this recommendation to hold a public hearing in
11 Kugluktuk.

12 So my question is: So we would be holding two
13 public hearings if we were to go ahead with a public
14 hearing in Kugluktuk and the present public hearing here on
15 the same herd. That's fine if we were to hold a public
16 hearing in Kugluktuk, but my question to our lawyer, as
17 well, is that: How would this work? If we're holding a
18 public hearing at the moment and we'll hold another one in
19 Kugluktuk?

20 And a similar thing happened in Baffin Island.
21 We were dealing with a public hearing on Atlantic walrus
22 that was supposed to be held in Igloolik, and we had to
23 defer that and cancel it, and we also did public hearings
24 on caribou and other species like polar bears.

25 So, normally, we hold one public hearing. So my

1 question is: If we were to hold another public hearing on
2 Bluenose East caribou herd in Kugluktuk, would that be a
3 second public hearing?

4 And the Department of Environment ministry is
5 also here, and I'm one of the directors, and also both
6 departments are here from GNWT and Nunavut government
7 Environment, and we have to ask them and invite them again
8 to the public hearing. It's your prerogative to request a
9 public hearing in your community, and the minister has the
10 authority, has ultimate decision. So if the minister feels
11 that two public hearings is out of the ordinary, would the
12 minister have the authority to not hold a second public
13 hearing? So these kind of questions I've been thinking
14 about on the legality of the public hearing process.

15 And I'm very proud of your community for giving
16 us a written submission. And that's what we like to see
17 from Inuit, a detailed submission to a public hearing from
18 Inuit qaujimajatuqangit, and I'm very proud, and commend
19 you for that.

20 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

22 Larry, would you like to comment on that?

23 MR. L. ADJUN: Thank you. Thanks for the kind
24 words for our proposals. Qujannamiik.

25 As stated earlier either by NTI, KIA, KRWB, we

1 all felt it important for Kugluktumiut to have the public
2 meeting there; but to my knowledge, is this not two
3 meetings, two public meetings? We based one on Bathurst,
4 and just yesterday we started on Bluenose. So to my
5 knowledge -- I'm not a lawyer -- but is this not two
6 meetings?

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry. Yeah, it is
8 definitely two public hearings, separate public hearings.
9 Charlie.

10 MR. INUARAK: Yes, we are holding two public
11 hearings, one for Bathurst herd and the other public
12 hearing is the Bluenose East herd; and what I was asking
13 about is, are we going to be holding two public hearings on
14 the Bluenose East caribou herd?

15 So Nunavut Tunngavik usually informs the
16 communities about letting you know beforehand about all the
17 public hearing information that we're going to be hearing
18 or requesting from the communities. So NTI usually helps
19 in preparing for the communities for public hearings, and
20 we come here and listen to both sides of the opinion.

21 And I'm just asking, legally, would we be
22 holding two public hearings on Bluenose East herd? That's
23 all I'm asking, if we have one here and in Kugluktuk.
24 Mr. Chairman.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

1 Larry, you can comment, and if you'd like to
2 defer this to our NWMB legal counsel, you can also do that.

3 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, just a further comment, and I
4 can defer this to your counsel.

5 But Kugluktumiut did want the Bluenose hearings
6 held in Kugluktuk. It's been stated already by previous
7 panels and agencies for this meeting.

8 No, I don't believe it's two meetings if you
9 have your Bathurst herd meeting here and Bluenose in
10 Kugluktuk. That's two meetings. And to my knowledge and
11 from I've seen this week, this is two public meetings. All
12 we requested was to have the meetings held in Kugluktuk for
13 the ones that are immediately affected, as opposed to
14 having a meeting in Yellowknife or Cambridge. Taima.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

16 Michael, would you like to add?

17 MR. D'EÇA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18 You know, NWMB's plans going forward; my advice
19 is for the NWMB to have a meeting with its counsel and get
20 advice with respect to how to proceed.

21 But I'll tell you where I see this situation and
22 going forward. I look at; there was correspondence going
23 back and forth between the NWMB and the parties, and the
24 last piece of correspondence from the NWMB -- it's at tab
25 51 of the binder -- a letter dated May 18th, and it

1 repeated some things that have been in other
2 correspondence, either emails or letters. And there I
3 think the NWMB made it clear that, in its reasons for its
4 decisions, it said the hearings -- there are two
5 hearings -- one, the oral part has been completed, and
6 we're in the midst of the second one with respect to
7 Bluenose East caribou.

8 So the hearings must proceed in June because
9 time is of the essence in addressing the urgent
10 conservation concerns affecting the two caribou herds. So
11 the NWMB is signalling there, look, we've got to make a
12 decision, and we feel it has to be made quite soon. So
13 because of the urgent conservation concerns, we are going
14 to proceed in June, which, unfortunately, means, certainly
15 from Kugluktuk's perspective, that we're going to hold the
16 hearings in Cambridge Bay.

17 But the NWMB went on to say, because of this and
18 also because from correspondence -- I can't remember if
19 it's from the Kugluktuk HTO or from KIA -- that, you know,
20 there were concerns; look, we're developing a management
21 plan, but there isn't enough time to fully develop the
22 management plan; and I think you made that clear yesterday,
23 that, you know, we're going down this road. We're not at
24 the end yet, and we do need more time to fill it out.

25 And so the NWMB spoke to that, and it said --

1 I'm quoting: (as read)

2 "If a favourable way forward will take time
3 to further develop (example, the
4 establishment of a management plan), the NWMB
5 and the minister have the co-jurisdictional
6 authority to make one or more interim
7 decisions while awaiting such further
8 development and eventual NLCA Article 5
9 consideration and decision-making."

10 I don't want to preclude what may happen during the day
11 today and how the NWMB is going to decide things, but my
12 sense is that Kugluktuk has presented an initial draft or
13 an early draft of a management plan, and it is indicating:
14 We want to work further on this. We think we can put it
15 all together.

16 And so, at some point, there will be a
17 management plan ready for consideration and approval, and
18 that's what we're referring to in the eventual NLCA Article
19 5 consideration and decision-making.

20 At that point, whatever decisions the NWMB
21 has made following this hearing, there may well be another
22 hearing concerning the management plan; and so, you know,
23 that may be an opportunity to hold the hearing in
24 Kugluktuk. Again, we have to look at accommodation and all
25 those practical concerns.

1 So again, I'm kind of speculating, and I'm a
2 little uncomfortable doing that, but I understand the
3 situation we're in. People want answers, and we want to be
4 open and transparent. I don't know what my Members
5 thinking are thinking. I don't know what their intentions
6 are. We haven't even completed this hearing. We don't
7 know what will take place over the next few hours, in terms
8 of questions and answers and how things will play out. But
9 I think that I'm reflecting what the understanding and
10 intention was in the period preceding the holding of the
11 hearing as reflected in the language of this letter and
12 other correspondence.

13 So I hope I'm assisting here, Mr. Chairman,
14 but I do want to underline I'm kind of speculating as to
15 where things might go as we move forward. Taima.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

17 Any comments, Larry?

18 MR. L. ADJUN: You have your legal side there, so
19 I don't know if I can comment on my side, but we have our
20 counterpart from KIA.

21 Also, I wanted to note, too, on record, I'd like
22 to state that the dialogue has already been spoken
23 previously on some of the issues that are stated. I want
24 to go on record as already discussed. So I don't know if I
25 should defer this to KIA, as they are our support on this

1 and they also have our legal staff on this.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry. You can;
3 however, KIA will have an opportunity. They will be making
4 their presentation, and I'm thinking, in the interests of
5 time, that we could wait 'til we get there, but the choice
6 is yours, Larry. The HTO of Kugluktuk has the floor. It's
7 your wishes.

8 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, I'd like to defer this to KIA
9 for later on.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

11 Okay. Next question on the Board is David K.

12 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 David Kritterdlik. I have seen it asked, the
14 last two days, hearing on two different herds. And whether
15 we called it public meeting or hearing, but we came here to
16 for the two hearings, and we are pretty well coming to the
17 end part of the second one; and we had from Kitikmeot
18 Regional Wildlife Board that they'd like to see a public
19 meeting in Kugluktuk in regard to the total legal allowable
20 number proposal. And, also, we've had from Kugluktuk HTO,
21 and, apparently, they have been preparing on this issue for
22 some time now, and they have a good plan already in place;
23 and the other organizations in this area that are involved
24 with the two herds, they have indicated that they are not
25 in support of the proposal, and we have had from KIA

1 Kitikmeot that they support that they're not supporting
2 that proposal.

3 I'm just wondering, if Kugluktuk already has a
4 good plan in place, how different will the other plan from
5 other groups be, or how is it going to be better than
6 Kugluktuk's plan? Even if we go back to Kugluktuk for
7 another meeting, another gathering, I don't see how we
8 would benefit more than what we have already benefitted
9 here from hearing from public or the people that make the
10 presentations.

11 Now, we have our scheduled meetings that, as
12 NWMB, and apparently this issue has been on the table for
13 some time now, and if we continue on waiting, the herds are
14 going to keep on declining. The more we wait, the more
15 they decline. I'm keeping that in mind. I think that we
16 should go from here. If anything else will come up in
17 regards to having some kind of a meeting in Kugluktuk, that
18 might help, that may be possible; but the way I see it, we
19 had two days of hearings in regards to two herds that we
20 came here to do. Taima. Thank you.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

22 Larry.

23 MR. L. ADJUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 I think, from Kugluktuk HTO's perspective, if we
25 had the meeting in Kugluktuk we'd have other agencies

1 behind our back, along with the general public: Social
2 services, hamlet, wildlife area office or regional office,
3 our local wildlife office, other agencies within the
4 community that can support our initiative, our proposal.
5 That's why we want to have this second part of BNE in
6 Kugluktuk, and that's why we still strongly feel it should
7 have been held in Kugluktuk, but due to time frame
8 allotted, we were not given enough time to state our cause
9 to have it held in Kugluktuk, but at least we did something
10 to get the meeting away from Yellowknife. Now we're on
11 Nunavut Territory, which is great.

12 But we wanted to have the Bluenose East meetings
13 held in Kugluktuk, and we'll always still feel strong to
14 have it done in Kugluktuk for those that are immediately
15 affected. That's why I state, it's better for us to have
16 it in Kugluktuk where we have more public and other
17 government agencies, not only the general, like I stated:
18 Hamlet, social services, Department of Health, any other
19 agencies that can come to a public meeting in Kugluktuk.
20 Quana.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

22 Is there any other questions from the Board?

23 Okay. We do understand you.

24 Any questions from staff? Peter, go ahead.

25 MR. KYDD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 Thank you, Larry. I'd also like to commend you
2 guys on the hard work you've done in putting together this
3 plan in the last two months, I'd say. So just a couple
4 questions.

5 One I asked to GN, but we decided to wait until
6 you guys had the floor, and it's in regards to the shifting
7 of harvest from caribou to muskox, and I was just trying to
8 get an understanding or a little bit of a handle on the
9 numbers, specifically, the increased number of muskox that
10 are harvested and how that corresponds to a decrease in
11 caribou with the shift of focus there. Thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

13 Larry.

14 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, I believe our last quota was
15 60 for West, and due to the information given from local
16 hunters and trappers within the community, they do other
17 reporting which is encouraged by the HTO and the wildlife
18 officers within our community to inform of other animals
19 that they have seen; and part of this information given,
20 along with aerial survey, gave more support to the
21 Department of Environment to increase our muskox quota to
22 225.

23 And I hope I'm not going to step on another set
24 of toes here yet, but we are supposed to be having another
25 meeting while we're here, with the Bathurst Inlet area, to

1 get more piece of the pie, as it were, for the muskox
2 quota. I hope I'm correct with the 60 number, but, with
3 given the nod from GN, I hope I'm hitting the nail on the
4 head here.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

6 Peter.

7 MR. KYDD: Thank you, Larry.

8 So one other question. This one's in regards to
9 the management plan, and point two, the mandatory harvest
10 reporting, there's a sentence in here that says: If
11 harvests results are over the KHTO-enforced limit, you
12 could use adaptive management to adjust the management plan
13 to meet the limit.

14 So are you referring to a reduction in
15 allocation for the next year if there's an over-harvest?
16 Say, above 340, 360, would you reduce the next year's tags
17 or limit by 20; and, if not, maybe just an indication of
18 what that adaption would be for the plan. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

20 Larry.

21 MR. L. ADJUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 As stated, this is a quick plan devised,
23 together with the KIA and KHTO. Part of our adaptive plan
24 management was, like I say, if you do harvest from that
25 herd, we're not going to give you the option of harvesting

1 next year. That's the kind of scenario we came up with.

2 I hope that answers the question.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

4 Peter.

5 MR. KYDD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 I think it does, but just a little more clarity
7 on that. So once the community's reached 340, and if
8 there's any harvest above that, whether it be, you know,
9 accidental on the same day that 340 is hit, are you saying
10 that whoever that person is would not be able to harvest
11 the following year? And sorry if I just misunderstood the
12 answer. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

14 Larry.

15 MR. L. ADJUN: As stated, this was only a short
16 plan, quick plan, written up by the KHTO and the KIA.

17 Some of the information that was given has still
18 got to be ironed out in the long run, but given the time,
19 no, it was not two months, it was one month after this last
20 Sabina meeting, so we had to work on it. So it is not two
21 months; it is one month.

22 Hopefully, that answers more of your questions.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

24 Peter.

25 MR. KYDD: Yeah, I think that's good. That's

1 it for me. Thank you.

2 Thank you, Larry.

3 THE CHAIR: Larry, go ahead.

4 MR. L. ADJUN: While you have your counsel on
5 that, just a quick mathematical equation for you. 340
6 caribou that's to be given to us; with the information with
7 wolves yesterday, one wolf eats 20. Now, 340 divided by
8 20, one wolf; that's 17 wolves, so there's our TAH right
9 there. And as already stated yesterday, we have a healthy
10 population of grizzlies and wolves in our region, just for
11 everyone's information.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

13 Michael.

14 MR. D'EÇA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have
15 one comment and also a question.

16 So, first of all -- and I think you'll be
17 getting this a lot today, Larry -- it's an impressive,
18 ambitious, and serious draft plan, and I do congratulate
19 you and those who worked on it and all the time and effort
20 you have put into it to date.

21 Of course, it is a relatively early draft, and a
22 number of questions arise, for instance, with respect to
23 the timing, staffing, enforcement, funding, and other
24 practical concerns. But I'm not going to take up too much
25 time, and I'll leave it to others to question and comment

1 on any of those and others aspects of the plan.

2 I want to use my time just to talk a little bit
3 about the financing issue, which is, of course, is key.
4 KIA -- and I hope I'm not misrepresenting its position --
5 but it appears to take the view that the Government of
6 Nunavut and the NWMB will be major funding sources for you.

7 And as I talked a little bit the other today, I
8 want to just talk about how funding under the Land Claims
9 Agreement works. Briefly stated, we have these ten-year
10 implementation planning years: 1993 to 2003, 2003 to 2013,
11 2013 to 2023 so far. And in the couple of years preceding
12 a planning period, there are intense negotiations among the
13 parties to the Land Claim -- NTI, the GN and the
14 government -- with respect to the funding amounts. And the
15 institutions of public government also get into that, and
16 they make their case for the level of funding that they
17 will receive during a planning period.

18 Early on, the RWOs and HTOs also, as independent
19 Inuit organizations working closely with NTI and with some
20 assistance and, certainly, the support of the NWMB, also
21 enter into negotiations with respect to their funding
22 amounts.

23 Those amounts are eventually negotiated.
24 Whether there's agreement or not, funding amounts are
25 settled, and that's what applies to the planning period.

1 The NWMB negotiates for its own operations. It does not
2 negotiate funding for the HTOs and RWOs. That takes
3 place -- it will comment on it during the negotiations --
4 but that takes place between NTI and the feds.

5 When that funding is settled, it is provided to
6 the HTOs and RWOs via the NWMB because of directions in the
7 Land Claims Agreement. The NWMB's role is to hand over
8 that funding and to require responsible reporting in
9 return, and it, in its own turn, provides that reporting as
10 part of its responsibilities to the federal government.

11 So the NWMB, you know, its operations are
12 completely accounted for in its funding, and it has to do
13 this for a ten-year period. So if it has five hearings in
14 a year or ten hearings in a year, it's just got to find the
15 money for that. So it's a very delicate and difficult
16 process to negotiate and to plan for such a long period.

17 The federal government has never put in place,
18 to date, an arrangement whereby, partway through, you could
19 say, well, you know, we need some more money -- at least
20 for the NWMB. It gets its funding, and that's what it has.

21 And all of this is, you know, the preamble to
22 saying that the NWMB is not set up, in terms of the
23 arrangements, the funding that it receives from the federal
24 government, to be a funding source to the independent Inuit
25 organizations, the regional wildlife organizations and the

1 hunters and trappers organizations. So I'll leave that
2 comment at that.

3 I do have a question for you with respect to
4 something else, but you may want to have questions of me,
5 or you may want to make a comment with respect to what I've
6 just said. Taima.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

8 Larry.

9 MR. L. ADJUN: Quana, itsivautaaq.

10 The only information that we know of is, our
11 local HTO is funded due, in part, by the GN DoE office, and
12 the Nunavut Wildlife Inuit Secretariat, they are now our
13 financial -- what's the word? They look after the all the
14 financial funding for the HTOs, and that's as far as I
15 know.

16 And, for the record, could we have the questions
17 shorter, 'cause like I said, we're going to be here,
18 Kugluktumiut's going to be here 'til Sunday, so if you have
19 your questions a little shorter for all the rest of they're
20 oncoming on stream soon. It's been a long week.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

22 Michael.

23 MR. D'EÇA: All right. I'll try to keep this
24 one shorter.

25 I want to turn, actually, to that "Taking Care

1 of Caribou" management plan. It also appears to be a very
2 well-thought-out plan. It's a higher level kind of
3 umbrella agreement, as I see it. It talks about, you know,
4 the approach to management and so on.

5 I mentioned to KRWB and put it to them, you
6 know: Here we have a higher-level plan that doesn't
7 preclude -- in my view, may well invite -- a more specific
8 community-focussed plan such as the one that you are
9 developing. But we have that plan. NTI, the NWMB, KRWB,
10 Kugluktuk HTO, Government of Nunavut all helped to develop
11 that.

12 The KRWB was a signatory to it, one of the six
13 supporting agencies that promotes the plan, that says:
14 "Here it is, world," and invites management agencies,
15 governments to adopt it. You know, the Government of
16 Northwest Territories has done that.

17 And I'm asking you the same question as I asked
18 KRWB: Do you remain in support of that plan? Do you want
19 to see it go forward to the next stage, which would be a
20 consideration and approval within the territory of Nunavut?
21 It ticks a lot of boxes. It demonstrates cooperation with
22 jurisdictions that share these caribou populations. From
23 government and NWMB's perspective, it addresses section
24 5.3.4 of the Land Claims Agreement which directs the
25 minister and the NWMB: You've got to take account of

1 neighbouring jurisdictions and what they're doing, and
2 there's an implication that: Try to cooperate and
3 collaborate and work with those jurisdictions. And the
4 NWMB places a lot of emphasis on that; for instance,
5 working with our Nunavik neighbours to the east and
6 Labrador neighbours.

7 So, again, I'm not sure how familiar you are
8 with it. Your organization has been involved in it for
9 many years in the development of it. I'm seeking an
10 indication, either during this hearing or sometime soon, as
11 to the Kugluktuk HTO's view as to next steps for that plan.
12 Taima.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

14 Larry.

15 MR. L. ADJUN: Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.

16 As stated earlier, it is an election year. Same
17 with my position and several of the board of directors
18 here. But the Kugluktumiut have always used a good rule of
19 thumb of looking after our wildlife. Caribou is one of
20 them.

21 One of the initiatives that came out of the past
22 caribou talks, I believe it was in Yellowknife -- GN or
23 GNWT could correct me later on when they're questioning
24 me -- but we do implement the Taking Care of Caribou week.
25 And to coincide with that, we do not try to harvest heavily

1 on the caribou at the moment. We get our funding from ED&T
2 to hunt other species; muskox. That works well within the
3 community. Not only with that funding. Like I stated
4 yesterday, we pay the hunters to go out and harvest the
5 animal, they come back. We quarter it and then give it out
6 to the community members.

7 We do not try to harvest heavily, nor do we use
8 caribou as part of this program. As stated earlier, in
9 2007 since the decline, the HTO wrote a bylaw that they
10 will not support and they have stopped commercial caribou
11 harvest and sports hunts outright. I believe I stated that
12 two days ago.

13 So I hope that answers your question, sir.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

15 Michael. Taima.

16 Okay. No more questions from the Board or
17 staff. We'll move on to the Government of Nunavut. Go
18 ahead.

19 GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

20 MR. GISSING: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

21 Yes, we do have a few questions and possibly a
22 comment or two. I'll hand it over to Mathieu to start with
23 it, and I think Lisa has got a few as well, and I might
24 have some comments.

25 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Mathieu.

2 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

4 First of all, I wanted to complement the HTO on
5 their plan, and I think there's a lot of value in what you
6 have put together, and I think based on the plan you
7 submitted to this hearing even acknowledging that it's not
8 maybe a final document, I think we are not far apart at
9 all. Like, I think we're actually pretty close, and I just
10 have a few question and maybe a comment.

11 Just, as an HTO, do you feel you have the
12 capacity to implement that plan, including the monitoring
13 aspect and the compliance aspect?

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

15 Larry.

16 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, the HTO feels we have the
17 capacity to do it, but as stated early this week, we've had
18 a high turnover for secretary managers; and in the past,
19 the reporting part have always come in from the hunters, so
20 all the information is either given at the HTO level or at
21 their wildlife area office level. But, currently, we just
22 appointed a new secretary-treasurer again. So like I
23 stated, this being an election year and a high turnover
24 rate with the HTO, I'm sure we're not the only HTO that has
25 a turnover rate in Nunavut. Quana.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

2 Mathieu.

3 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

5 Also, it might be a little bit early for you to
6 answer that, but have you thought about how you would
7 really implement the allocation over the year to let the
8 harvesters know what's available for harvest for the herd
9 over the year? Like, maybe depending on the communication
10 level, in the first year you could expect that there could
11 be a little bit more harvest at the beginning of the year,
12 and then you get caught with getting close to your limit or
13 at your limit early in the year. How do you think about
14 managing that aspect? Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

16 Larry.

17 MR. L. ADJUN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 Thank you, Mathieu.

19 Getting near the end of the quotas, we would
20 need a general or a sort of like imposed tag system, as we
21 do with the muskox and your regional office, based on a
22 first-come, first-served basis. If not, our BNE or BNL
23 requirement for the Kugluktuk is about a thousand, so
24 giving out 340 tags on a first-come, first-served basis
25 will be hard. We'd have to iron that out some more, be it

1 an application process reviewed by the HTO. Like I stated,
2 this is not the final document yet.

3 Hope that answers the question.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

5 Mathieu.

6 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 Mathieu Dumond, Government of Nunavut.

8 That leads, actually, to my third question.

9 What role do you see the GN or what role do you expect from
10 the GN in the implementation of your plan? Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

12 Larry.

13 MR. L. ADJUN: As stated earlier, most of the
14 hunters do report their kills, and it's usually at the
15 wildlife office. And since the decline in 2007, it's
16 always been imposed by the HTO to report their kills at the
17 wildlife office. So on that part, we'd have to get a
18 higher capacity for administrative support. For the GN
19 support, probably more money or technical advice or
20 information given and taken.

21 But, like I said previously, Kugluktuk HTO have
22 always worked hand in hand with the GN department in
23 Kugluktuk. We've always been very proactive with each
24 other.

25 But for the first year it's going to be tough,

1 so any information -- we have our ungulate biologist
2 there -- yourself being an ex-carnivore biologist -- any
3 information from the regional office will be greatly
4 appreciated.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

6 Mathieu.

7 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Larry.

8 And on that, I mean, you mentioned the long
9 collaboration between our organizations over the years, in
10 particular, on this caribou issue over the past ten years.
11 But because the GN was not involved or asked to be involved
12 in that latest plan, and the recommendation in your plan
13 for the harvest level is similar to the GN TAH proposal,
14 can we consider that we do agree on that recommendation for
15 sustainable harvest and the sharing proportion with NWT?
16 Like, we seem to be at same page from two independent
17 proposal. Thank you.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

19 Larry.

20 MR. L. ADJUN: Could you redefine that question
21 again? It seemed like a comment to me. Sorry.

22 THE CHAIR: Mathieu.

23 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 The question is: I mean, you propose in your
25 management plan the same harvest level that the GN TAH

1 proposal. So I'm just asking if we can consider that that
2 means we're in agreement in the recommendation for the
3 sustainable harvest on that herd and the share in Nunavut,
4 in the sharing with NWT harvesters.

5 Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

7 Larry.

8 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, I do agree.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

10 Mathieu.

11 MR. DUMOND: And, finally, like, I'm not sure
12 if you'll be able to answer, and it may have to go to the
13 NWMB counsel to answer, but the HTO planned harvest limit
14 would not account or affect nonbeneficiary harvest, the
15 current or potential future harvest.

16 You know, that's one of the difference. The GN
17 TAH proposal would address all harvest, and, of course, the
18 TAH proposal being below the BNL, all control over the
19 allocation of that harvest would go through the HTO.

20 But in the case of a decision that does not
21 include that TAH and move forward towards your plan, your
22 community plan, how would the nonbeneficiary harvest be
23 addressed? Because I can see some issue. Even if it was
24 mentioned that that harvest is fairly limited at this time,
25 nonbeneficiaries would not have to obey to your nonhunting

1 zone, would not have to obey to the quota you establish for
2 your members. They would still have free access to the
3 tags allocated to resident and nonresident, with the help
4 of an outfitter.

5 So I'm just wondering -- and that might be more
6 of a question for legal counsel of the NWMB -- how can this
7 be addressed within our framework and within the Land Claim
8 to first allow the regulation of nonbeneficiary harvest as
9 not only a bag limit, but a total limit per year? And how
10 would the HTO have the freedom to assign some of their
11 allocation to nonbeneficiary in the absence of a TAH?
12 Like, those are two important legal matter to resolve,
13 because it will influence, actually, the control of the HTO
14 over who can harvest. And if the HTO was to wish to
15 allocate some of those 340 caribou tags or to
16 nonbeneficiaries, for whatever reason they may have, it is
17 difficult at this time to know how they would be able to do
18 that without a TAH established on that population.

19 And I'm not sure, Larry, you'll be able to
20 answer that, and it might be more relevant for NWMB counsel
21 to inform us about how they see that happening.

22 Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

24 Larry, would you like to comment?

25 MR. L. ADJUN: Is this, again, in relation to

1 assignment of rights?

2 THE CHAIR: Mathieu. I don't think so, but
3 Mathieu.

4 MR. DUMOND: Well, the first -- the first part
5 of the question is about how to regulate nonbeneficiary
6 harvest in the absence of a TAH, and this might be a simple
7 answer, I'm not sure.

8 And the second question is: If an HTO has the
9 right to assign part, any part of their allocation of a TAH
10 to nonbeneficiaries -- and that's how the muskox harvest,
11 for example, works and things like that. So I'm just
12 wondering on the legal aspect for species like caribou, how
13 would it work in the absence of a TAH? Would the HTO be
14 able to allocate some tags for nonbeneficiary if they wish
15 to, or would they be tied up to either having a TAH to be
16 able to do it or not be able to do it in the absence of a
17 TAH, not have that option?

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

19 Larry, comment.

20 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, some of the information
21 you're given us should be led to NWMB.

22 But on Kugluktuk side, or from our information,
23 these tags would be assigned or given out to beneficiaries
24 first, and then next in line, though it might not be upon
25 possible, would be assignment of rights assignees, and then

1 residents, nonresidents. Sports hunts, like I stated, it's
2 out of our question. We've stopped that years ago, along
3 with the commercial harvest hunts. But it's going to be
4 beneficiary first, like I just stated.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

6 I have a question for the GN in regards to this,
7 too. Is it not true that regulation of sport hunting and
8 nonresident sport hunting falls under the Wildlife Act?
9 And if that is the case, would not the tools be in place
10 under legislation for the Government of Nunavut to regulate
11 that? That's just a question. Maybe you can answer.

12 MR. GISSING: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13 I think -- I don't know if Larry wanted to defer
14 that question to your legal counsel. That was initially
15 our interpretation.

16 But as we mentioned earlier this week, in
17 discussions between NTI and NWMB, the legal impression is
18 that we cannot, that it has to go through your
19 decision-making process. But I think Michael might be able
20 to answer Mathieu's question. I think it's a bit unfair
21 putting that on Larry. I think it's really an issue -- as
22 you know, there's no clarity yet on that, and we would like
23 to go back and get some legal opinion further on this, but
24 it's our understanding that it's really up to the Board to
25 set those limitations.

1 MR. L. ADJUN: Thank you, Drikus. I'll defer
2 that to our legal counsel.

3 THE CHAIR: Larry, is that okay with you?

4 MR. L. ADJUN: Accepted.

5 THE CHAIR: Go ahead, Michael.

6 MR. D'ÉÇA: Thanks, Mr. Chairman.

7 You know, whenever we get into assignment,
8 that's deep waters. I'm sure John's had some experience
9 with that, as well -- although the law is, to me, fairly
10 straightforward. I can get into it all with you, if you
11 want.

12 Let me, though, just say this: Any harvesting
13 limitations that are state-enforced must go through the
14 NWMB, whether it's on Inuit or non-Inuit; so sport hunting,
15 etcetera. If you're putting a limitation on, let's say,
16 other residents or nonresidents, there has to be an NWMB
17 decision either deemed to have been established or
18 established or modified and so on.

19 Assignment, in my view, relies upon -- well, if
20 you're signing your right, you can sign to another Inuk or
21 spouse of an Inuk or person cohabiting with an Inuk. But,
22 otherwise, you would have to assign your share of the total
23 allowable harvest or, under 5.7.3 and 5.7.6, the basic
24 needs level, which is tied to the total allowable harvest.

25 What I want to say is: These are practical

1 matters that have a legal component, and so at some point
2 in the development of this plan there has to be a
3 discussion. And I think the NWMB would be quite open to,
4 you know, its counsel being part of that discussion, but
5 you have access to NTI and its legal department, and I
6 think KIA has offered legal help, but you do need to
7 wrestle with those challenges.

8 There is a solution to them, but Mathieu has
9 correctly pointed out that those are, you know, potentially
10 issues that -- those are issues that need to be addressed
11 as we move closer to consideration and approval of a regime
12 such as is set out in your management plan. Taima.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank, Michael.

14 Mathieu.

15 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 Just quickly. Just I think, first, that it's
17 not on the HTO, up to the HTO. I just wanted mainly to
18 inform of the fact that their plan would not account for
19 nonbeneficiaries harvest or would not control or regulate
20 nonbeneficiary harvest. And I think that's a question that
21 not the HTO has to resolve, but it has to be clear between
22 NTI, NWMB, and the Government of Nunavut how this is
23 managed, because that's one of the potential barrier to
24 really move forward with community plans or HTO- or RWO-led
25 community plans. And this is a really important question

1 that has to be resolved, I think.

2 Just to finish again, just a quick comment
3 before I hand the microphone back to the Chair who will
4 decide. But, again, compliment in your plan. I think
5 we're extremely close. I think it shows that the work
6 we've done together that we're actually pretty much on the
7 same page, with just slight different wording here and
8 there. And, again, I compliment the HTO on their efforts,
9 and I hope we can sort out the process and legal aspect to
10 find the best way to make it work. Thanks.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu. Lisa, you
12 want to make some comments?

13 Oh, Larry, did you have a comment to make to
14 that first? Sorry.

15 MR. L. ADJUN: Quana, itsivautaaq.

16 Yes, as Mathieu stated, we do have the support,
17 technical support on our behalf with KIA, as stated in the
18 Bathurst hearings. We are trying to work on the Bathurst
19 implementation plan also.

20 But, yes, Kugluktuk has the KIA staff within our
21 community, so we have all the support there. And with KIA
22 being our regional RIA, we do have a good voice within the
23 hamlet of Kugluktuk. We have a strong political voice, as
24 stated by previous agencies around this panel the last few
25 days. Quana.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

2 Lisa.

3 MS. LECLERC: Lisa here, Government of Nunavut.

4 I just want to mention that, I kind of have to
5 disagree about the fact that we did consult you February
6 2015, March, we actually tried to, with the HTO, to culture
7 with the public. We did our due diligence at that time,
8 but there were no participation from the public, so -- but
9 we tried.

10 In January, we had a specific discussion, and
11 I'm kind of pleased to see that the number is the same.

12 And I just want to mention also that I think
13 that the January 20 meeting for the allocation in
14 Yellowknife was another user discussion. Like, the GN was
15 observer at that point, but it was another discussion based
16 on what could be the total harvest and what the HTO share
17 could be. So I think it was an ongoing discussion there
18 with the HTO.

19 I'm really pleased, and I want to congratulate
20 you for your effort. That's actually the first time that I
21 see it, but yeah, good job on it. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Lisa. I
23 think more comments than anything there, Larry, but if
24 you'd like to respond.

25 MR. L. ADJUN: Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.

1 Thanks for the kind words from GN. I know the
2 dialogue has been harsh the last few days. That's why I
3 didn't want to go through it and state for the record
4 dialogue that has already been gone through be recorded for
5 this process. Qujannamiik.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

7 Drikus.

8 MR. GISSING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 Again, mine will just be more comments and just
10 to reiterate mostly what's already been said.

11 Again, from the Government of Nunavut, we are
12 very pleased to see this plan. We look forward to working
13 with the HTO on this plan. A bit disappointing, as
14 mentioned, that, you know, there's been a long history of
15 good collaboration between the HTO and the Nunavut
16 government in that community. We've done a lot of
17 consultations, work with the communities, and at no stage
18 was there any indication that this is where the HTO was
19 thinking of going.

20 But, that said, we're willing to work with the
21 HTO. We see this plan as a type of plan that could be used
22 to implement the total allowable harvest, and we are not,
23 as KIA identified previously, that we're taking power away
24 from the HTO. But I think a total allowable harvest as a
25 backup would be beneficial to the HTO.

1 The HTO already identified that they're battling
2 with capacity issues, and as I mentioned earlier this week,
3 it's been our experience in other situations similar to
4 this that community plans failed because of capacity issues
5 and having not a backup. So the intent here is not to have
6 a legal mechanism where we're just going to go in and
7 charge people. It's contrary to that. People who have
8 been actively involved with the government in implementing
9 even total allowable harvests will know that, before we
10 take any legal action, we always consult with the HTO to
11 see if they are not willing to take action in a community.

12 So, that said, and since where the limitation
13 identified with the HTO is similar to what the GN is
14 bringing forward, I think there's a lot of opportunity for
15 us to work together. I think that, depending on the
16 decision the Board makes, we as a government would be
17 willing to fully support and help the HTO in implementing a
18 plan of this nature, providing financial resources --
19 including providing financial resources.

20 But, again, I just want to reiterate that we
21 encourage the HTO to work with the staff and the people in
22 your community, the DoE staff, the wildlife officers, the
23 biologists, and the regional manager. And you're very
24 fortunate in that you have those resources right there and
25 people right there to work with them.

1 Again, compliment on the plan, very good plan,
2 and we're looking forward to working with you on either
3 implementing it as is or under a total allowable harvest if
4 the Board decide to go that way.

5 Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Drikus.

7 I think, again, more comments than anything
8 else, Larry, if you'd like to comment.

9 MR. L. ADJUN: No, I'll just defer the comment
10 and give GN our hats off for our work done in collaboration
11 with the regional office there. And coming from GN, those
12 are nice words for our plan. Qujannamiik.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

14 Okay. Just before we move on, we're going to
15 take a 15-minute coffee break. Thank you.

16 (ADJOURNMENT)

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, everyone, for coming
18 back.

19 Just before we move on, Larry, I just want to
20 say that NWMB has prepared all the presentations that have
21 been given and documented for both hearings, on a little
22 chip memory stick card, and everyone around the table will
23 be getting one of these very shortly, so you'll have
24 everything on here.

25 Okay. To carry on, Larry, go ahead.

1 MR. L. ADJUN: For argument's sake and for legal
2 support, I'll defer the last questions to KIA legal rep
3 from GN.

4 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you, Larry.
5 John.

6 MR. DONIHUE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 It's John Donihee in support of KHTO.

8 There were questions, I think, related to how
9 nonbeneficiary harvesting might be handled by the HTO, and
10 I have to say, on behalf of myself and KIA, as well, that I
11 understand as of -- because of some of the exchanges
12 yesterday and things that have been said by Board counsel,
13 that there seems to be -- I'm not sure if it's totally
14 settled, but there's a live issue from a legal standpoint
15 with respect to the question of whether it's necessary to
16 have a TAH declared or established by the Board before
17 nonbeneficiary harvesting can be regulated.

18 And I'm not prepared and simply don't have the
19 background to say anything more about that, but I do want
20 to offer one observation to both GN and to the Board
21 itself, and that is: What we have here is an effort by the
22 Kugluktuk HTO to manage what they consider to be, and what
23 are their resources locally using their own powers.

24 The evidence they've put in front of the Board
25 is that they don't want to have a TAH established, so their

1 view is that they can do it on their own without the need
2 for a TAH. And that plays into this broader legal issue.
3 And I guess the observation I offer to the Board, GN, and
4 to NTI, as well, is that it would seem to me rather
5 unfortunate if the interpretation made of the NLCA in
6 respect of what it takes to regulate or manage the
7 harvesting of nonbeneficiaries is a step that, in effect,
8 acts against or acts adversely to, you know, the interests
9 of the local community to manage things on their own.

10 So, if the only way to manage a very small
11 nonbeneficiary harvest in Kugluktuk is to establish a TAH
12 that the Kitikmeot HTO doesn't want in the first place,
13 we've kind of got ourselves into a spot that doesn't seem
14 to be really solving the problem, and I won't say more than
15 that. It's a difficult issue, and it's obviously one that
16 legal departments in the government, NTI, and the Board
17 will eventually have to try to wrestle with, perhaps even
18 as part of this decision.

19 So that's all I would say about that
20 nonbeneficiary harvesting question. Sometimes very simple
21 questions actually disguise very deep waters, and I think
22 this is one of these cases.

23 With your indulgence, though, Mr. Chairman, I do
24 want to make a submission to you about the last questions
25 that were raised by -- they actually weren't questions;

1 they were comments made by GN. And while KIA is here in
2 support of the HTO -- and we certainly appreciate and
3 welcome GN's support -- and they've certainly been here a
4 long time before we were. We're not pretending that KIA
5 has a long history of involvement on the wildlife side. So
6 KIA is open to trying to assist in that collaboration
7 between government and the HTO.

8 But from a procedural standpoint, I just want to
9 point out that the expression of support from the GN came
10 along with some other comments that were critical of the
11 evidence that the HTO has put in front of the Board, in
12 particular, in relation to questions about consultation and
13 that sort of thing.

14 That's argument; it's not a question. And, you
15 know, I think, really, GN is probably -- next to GNWT, who
16 are only here as visitors, you know, it's GN's application
17 that's in front of the Board. They're the largest, most
18 sophisticated and best resourced party here. And I just
19 suggest that it's not appropriate, you know, to wrap up a
20 criticism in a statement and then walk away from the table
21 because there's no way for the HTO to come back on that.
22 So it does raise some questions about procedure, I suppose.

23 And I would simply submit to the Chair that
24 there can be some pitfalls, you know, that emerge when you
25 get argument wrapped up in a statement that, really, is

1 being advanced during the question period. And so, for
2 what it's worth, I would say, from KIA's perspective, some
3 of those comments were not fair, and that's all I have to
4 say about it, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, John.

6 Michael, comments.

7 MR. D'ÉÇA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 Just one comment. I'm not sure if there has
9 been a misunderstanding with respect to that issue, John,
10 that you first raised that, I think, comes from the
11 preamble to the consultation report from the Government of
12 Nunavut, something along the lines that a total allowable
13 harvest has to be established before a nonbeneficiary can
14 be regulated. And I don't know if you took it that I am
15 agreeing with that, because I think it's clear.

16 You know, there's lots of different issues --
17 assignment and so on -- but as a bald statement, no, you
18 don't have to, in every case, certainly, establish a total
19 allowable harvest to regulate nonbeneficiaries. The Land
20 Claim, you know, provides for various ways to regulate
21 nonbeneficiaries. So I just want to make sure that you
22 didn't think that I was somehow on the record of taking
23 that position. Taima.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

25 And, John, you'll have the last word on this.

1 Thank you.

2 MR. DONIHÉE: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

3 And thanks, Michael. That helps quite a bit.

4 You're right; I was -- I'm new to that particular issue,
5 and I appreciate the clarification.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, gentlemen.

7 Okay. We'll move on. Next up for questions to
8 Kugluktuk is the Government of Northwest Territories.

9 GOVERNMENT OF NORTHWEST TERRITORIES QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

10 MS. YONGE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 Lynda Yonge for the GNWT.

12 And we would also like to commend the Kugluktuk
13 HTO on their plan. It's very exciting to see a plan come
14 forward like this that not only seems very
15 well-thought-out, but also fits in well with the overall
16 plan that the ACCWM has provided to us, and also fits in
17 well with what we're doing in the NWT and what we've
18 discussed at some of the joint meetings where Nunavut
19 representatives have been there.

20 What it looks like to me is that we are in
21 agreement with what is happening with the Bluenose East
22 herd, and we're in agreement of what should be done about
23 it, and then it's a question of: So how do we get there?
24 And there's a lot of different ways that that can be done.
25 I'd be very interested to follow this. As we've spoken

1 earlier, we are working with the community of Deliné, who
2 has a similar plan, and working through the details and
3 fleshing it out is when a lot of these discussions and
4 these issues that are being raised do have to get worked
5 out.

6 What we have found in the NWT, for what it's
7 worth, is there are a lot of different tools for us, our
8 Wildlife Act is one of those tools that can be drawn on in
9 a community plan where it can be of assistance, and so we
10 use a combination of things.

11 I do have just a couple of questions, and I
12 believe Jan Adamczewski also has one.

13 So the plan as presented is a draft plan. It's
14 early in the stages. I'm wondering what the next steps are
15 for completing that plan and taking it to the community and
16 getting full community buy-in.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lynda.

18 Larry.

19 MR. L. ADJUN: Thanks for the questions from GN,
20 and thanks for the compliments on the plan.

21 For the next part of the defined plan, I
22 believe, if I may, I'll push it over to the KIA to fill in
23 more. As stated, it is a draft plan. And also, for the
24 record, the statement I made yesterday, could I put it to
25 the board now as your transcribers have it now for the

1 Hamlet council letter of support, just for everyone's sake,
2 if I may?

3 THE CHAIR: Did you want to read that out?

4 It's on record. I think we do have it. Thank you.

5 Deferring to KIA, Larry?

6 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, I am.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

8 Okay. Geoff.

9 MR. CLARK: Hi. Geoff Clark here from KIA.

10 Thanks for deferring that.

11 We have assisted the Kugluktuk HTO in the
12 development of the integrated community caribou management
13 plan for the Bluenose East caribou, and we spent a lot of
14 time and focus on developing the skeleton of the plan, and
15 there was discussion with the board of, you know, what
16 would the next steps be, and how would we get there? And
17 the Kugluktuk HTO board knows that there are important
18 pieces of information to be answered, you know,
19 specifically around matters of the reporting, enforcement,
20 and implementation of the many different tools of the plan.

21 The next steps would be to access the resources
22 to get the capacity to assist the Kugluktuk HTO in fleshing
23 out the plan further and to investigate those areas of
24 implementation that will be an important part of,
25 obviously, the plan, because a plan is only as good as the

1 implementation.

2 In the conversations that the KIA has had with
3 the board, we designed something that we thought had a very
4 good chance to be implementable, but those steps will need
5 to be taken, and the resources will be needed to do that;
6 and it's anticipated that that will happen in the near
7 future, if the board decides that they're interested in
8 using Article 5.7.3 to allow the HTO to manage the Bluenose
9 East caribou herd. Quana.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

11 Lynda.

12 MS. YONGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13 And thank you for that answer.

14 We recognize that the plan is very early, so it
15 might not be fair to ask this yet, but one of the issues
16 that we find difficult, regardless of how wildlife is being
17 managed, is the monitoring both of the level of harvest and
18 what's going on out there. And so I appreciate the section
19 on the monitoring.

20 And I'm wondering whether or not the Kugluktuk
21 HTO would be willing to consider sharing the information on
22 harvest that they gain. It is a shared herd, and that
23 harvest piece is always a bit difficult for us, so I'm
24 wondering if that's been considered or would be considered
25 sharing with the other traditional users and managers.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Lynda.

2 Larry.

3 MR. L. ADJUN: We have our doors open, as stated.

4 We work in close collaboration with the DoE department in
5 Kugluktuk. Our political ties, friendship ties are very
6 close, like I stated, and we're both politically proactive,
7 as stated previously. So we do collaborate extensively
8 with DoE in Kugluktuk, and I would assume they would give
9 you the information also.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

11 Lynda.

12 MS. YONGE Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 I believe Jan Adamczewski has a question.

14 THE CHAIR: Jan.

15 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you.

16 Jan Adamczewski, Government of Northwest
17 Territories.

18 One question to Kugluktuk HTO about the draft
19 plan. It seems fairly clear the number is the 340, and
20 what I'm wondering about is what your thoughts are about
21 cow and bull harvest. There's been a fair discussion the
22 last few days about that, the importance of the big
23 breeding bulls, the importance of the cows because they're
24 the ones with the calves; and I wonder if you could maybe
25 clarify what your thinking is in terms of cow and bull

1 harvest, in terms of the plan that you've proposed.

2 Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

4 Larry.

5 MR. L. ADJUN: That's a highly sensitive topic
6 that's going to be imposed on the Kugluktumiut.

7 As stated by one of our directors, Jorgen Bolt,
8 and Peter Taktogon, there are seasons when we harvest
9 bulls, and there are seasons when we do harvest cows. I
10 believe we had a program in the past -- like I stated, I'm
11 new in the political ring this year -- 80-20 harvest rate.
12 I believe that was talked of in the past. I don't know if
13 you can clarify that for me.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

15 Jan.

16 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski with Government of
17 Northwest Territories.

18 I'm not entirely sure what Larry is asking
19 there. Certainly in the Northwest Territories, with other
20 caribou herds management actions, an 80-20 bull-to-cow
21 ratio has been used as a target. An example of that would
22 be Bathurst herd 2010 recommendation from the Wek'èezhìi
23 board was for 300 Bathurst caribou, 80-20 split.

24 So if I could direct it back to Larry. Is that
25 kind of what you had in mind? Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

2 Larry.

3 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, that also been discussed, and
4 as stated, it is a draft plan, but there are a lot of
5 Kugluktumiut that don't agree with the 80-20 system, 80
6 bulls or 80 percent bulls, 20 percent cows. So those
7 discussions will be ongoing.

8 As stated already, we have seasonal hunts for
9 the gender, and those are going to come into play also with
10 our plan. And I don't recall if we had a season on my plan
11 here. It's been a long day. But those are part of the
12 plans. They're still ongoing. As stated, it is a draft
13 plan. But as stated, it's hard to implement this decision
14 on Kugluktumiut of having only bull-only. As stated, we
15 hunt different seasons for different gender.

16 Hope that answers the question.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

18 Jan.

19 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski, Government of
20 Northwest Territories.

21 Yes, thank you, Larry. That answers my
22 question. And for what it's worth, the issue is a
23 challenging one on our side of the border as well.

24 We have no further questions. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, NWT.

1 Next on the questions to Kugluktuk are the
2 Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, Simon.

3 KITIKMEOT REGIONAL WILDLIFE BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

4 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 Simon Qingnaqtuq, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
6 Board chair.

7 I'd like to thank Kugluktuk for their
8 presentation and, also, the draft plan that they have.
9 It's going to help the community of Kugluktuk.

10 Having said that, just for the record, I'd like
11 to ask Kugluktuk HTO; that Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
12 Board and the Kugluktuk HTO are not in support with the
13 total allowable harvest. But having said that, Kugluktuk
14 has already made a management plan, but it's not at the
15 final stage. The reason why they make the management plan
16 is to prepare for NWMB if it was going to go ahead to have
17 a public hearing on the Bluenose herd in Kugluktuk. That's
18 to my understanding.

19 Can you clarify to the public that information
20 is correct, the question that I have asked you? Thank you.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simon.

22 Larry.

23 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

25 Simon, any further questions?

1 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 Simon Qingnaqtuq, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
3 Boarding. I have no further questions.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

5 Next on the questioning is Bathurst Inlet HTO.
6 Sam.

7 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8 Thanks for your presentation, Larry, and we
9 don't have any questions, but we'd like to give our support
10 for your draft plan there. It's a good plan. Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sam.

12 Bay Chimo, Peter?

13 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
14 questions, but we'd also like to commend you on your plan,
15 thank you -- or support.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Peter.

17 Cambridge Bay HTO, Bobby.

18 CAMBRIDGE BAY HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

19 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20 Just regarding the caribou harvest, like, first
21 I want to commend Kugluktuk and Kugluktumiut on their draft
22 plan here. Just a question regarding resident hunters.
23 You stated a sequence on how you're thinking of
24 distributing the tags. As a resident hunter
25 nonbeneficiary, and they was a resident of Kugluktuk,

1 they're allowed up to five tags. I'm just wondering --
2 this is probably going back to GN's questions, but I'm just
3 trying to figure out how you guys are going to try and
4 distribute the number of tags without having a TAH.

5 Do you understand my question? I think I
6 hopefully I asked it good. Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bobby.

8 Larry.

9 MR. L. ADJUN: Thanks for the kind letter of
10 support or verbal letter of support from the Kingaut,
11 Umingmaktok, and Cambridge Bay.

12 Usually, it's the residents or beneficiaries
13 first, and then -- I know this is getting back to the other
14 one again -- assignees, and then next would be residents
15 and nonresidents. But those are way down the line. Given
16 we have 340 tags, those are going to be given out to the
17 beneficiaries first, but that's still got to be ironed out
18 whether or not we're going to have a residents' -- because
19 this is new information they're giving me regarding the
20 five-tag system.

21 I'd have to check into Kugluktuk old bylaws, but
22 I know the assignment-of-rights issue has been brought up
23 when I was a chairman about ten years ago, and it is still
24 quite contentious. But under the assignment-of-rights
25 talks back then, we regulated what they could be -- what's

1 the word? -- what they could harvest. Polar bears were
2 taken off of it. Grizzly bears, no question. We have too
3 many of them, so they have full right if they want to.

4 But it's been an ongoing issue with the
5 assignment of rights, but now we have the process down to a
6 pack at the wildlife office in Kugluktuk. I believe that's
7 in Allan's office, I believe, if not the regional office.

8 So it would be beneficiary first, but the
9 information you just give me is new to us, so I'd have to
10 check in the old bylaws for the HTO.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

12 Bobby.

13 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14 Thank you for the answer.

15 I could be wrong on the five tags, but I'm
16 pretty sure for around here that's five tags for
17 nonresident for Dolphin and Union. It could be different
18 for Bluenose East. I highly doubt it, but I could be
19 wrong. So that's just something that you may or may not
20 know. And I'm not 100 percent sure on the Bluenose. I'm
21 pretty sure it's probably the same. You can defer the
22 question, maybe.

23 But it's a very difficult situation here. Now I
24 might be just stating a comment. As a beneficiary in the
25 Land Claims Agreement, as an HTO, we really can't put

1 restrictions on our beneficiaries, and even with assignment
2 rights, that person that gets assignment rights handed over
3 from their spouse, him or her, they're entitled to the same
4 beneficiaries as we are.

5 But the question was is just for, basically, the
6 resident nonhunters because you already put a stop to
7 nonresident, the sports hunts on all caribou, which I
8 really commend you on doing that.

9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Bobby. I
11 think that was more of a comment than a question.

12 Larry, go ahead.

13 MR. L. ADJUN: I'm going to direct this to my
14 secretary-treasurer, Kevin Klengenberg.

15 MR. KLENGENBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

16 The way we've been doing for our nonresidents,
17 they fill out an application, and when they do, we as a
18 Board, screen the application, and we know if it's going to
19 be an active hunter, or we know he will be active hunter.
20 That's how we work with the nonresidents. They fill out an
21 application to hunt in our area, and the HTO goes through
22 the process, and we discuss and know that person. We know
23 he will be an active hunter, and we approve it or not.
24 Before they go out hunting, they got to fill out that
25 application and bring it to us; and if we approve it, he

1 can go hunting. If we don't, he cannot. That's my
2 comment. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Kevin.
4 Larry.

5 MR. L. ADJUN: Just to clarify more.
6 The reason Kevin came up with that explanation,
7 we have a rotating system for the HTO board. I'm sure most
8 boards do. We have continuity with the board. He's been
9 on for the last three sessions, I believe, or three
10 seatings as a secretary-treasurer, along with some of the
11 directors here. So that, in a count, keeps our board
12 politically strong.

13 Just a statement.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.
15 Cambridge Bay, Bobby. George.

16 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
17 I don't have anymore. George is, so I'll hand
18 it over.

19 THE CHAIR: Go ahead, George.

20 MR. G. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

21 George Angohiatok from the HTO.

22 I, too, would like to congratulate and commend
23 Kugluktuk on their very direct and very impressive
24 submission. Taking a lead in that is a big step, of
25 course, for all of our Nunavut HTOs.

1 I just want to step a little further and say
2 that reason that our organizations go to the extent when we
3 try and avoid the TAH, we all had our Elder yesterday. My
4 father mentioned that when the total allowable harvest is
5 put in place, there's room for the entities, the GN and
6 GNWT to enforce, you know, when somebody makes a mistake or
7 harvests something out of mistake.

8 He stated that he wants to see that avoided
9 because it brings the harvesters, you know, in trouble with
10 harvesting, and he stated that he wanted to see that
11 avoided at all cost. And when we're elected into these
12 positions, we take on a role to look after our harvesters
13 and what we're harvesting. And that total allowable
14 harvest, in our eyes, it can be avoided, and Kugluktuk has
15 shown that organizations can take a lead role in this.

16 So when we can avoid this, it shows the other
17 governments and everybody else that we can look after our
18 own, our harvesters and whatever we harvest in our land,
19 and feel very strongly that, in our eyes, in our members'
20 eyes, that the best way is to look after ourselves, and
21 Kugluktuk's taken that lead in that.

22 And just so that the governments understand it,
23 when we try and avoid these, you know, although we want to
24 work together, it's a form of our organizations taking
25 charge and showing that we do care about what we're

1 harvesting and ensuring that our harvesting animals stay at
2 a rate that will not deplete the animals.

3 And that's just the point that I wanted to make
4 is that you're doing a job on the legal.

5 Quana, Mr. Chair.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, George.

7 Again, more of a comment and support.

8 Any comments, Larry?

9 MR. L. ADJUN: Just appreciation for the kind
10 comments made by Cambridge Bay. Qujannamiik.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

12 Okay. Next up we have Elder and any
13 representation of Elders for questions to the Kugluktuk
14 HTO. If there is none, we'll carry on.

15 NTI. Paul.

16 NUNAVUT TUNNGAVIK INCORPORATED QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

17 MR. IRNGAUT: Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.

18 And qujannamiik, Kugluktumiut. Very good
19 presentation yesterday, and we applaud your efforts to have
20 the management plan. I know this issue of assignment and
21 allocations will always be very contentious, especially
22 when the species are very low in numbers. It's happened in
23 Baffin Island; it's going to happen everywhere. Having
24 said that -- and Michael can correct me if I'm wrong -- but
25 under the Claim, the HTOs have the authority to assign when

1 there's a TAH.

2 More of a comment, I guess. I've had this many
3 times from Kugluktuk: The BNL will be much higher than the
4 340 that's being discussed here, but have you -- well, I
5 guess it's a question, and I think I've already asked them.
6 Have you thought about having all the TAH go to Inuit if
7 it's established? Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

9 Larry.

10 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, it will be given to
11 beneficiaries first, as I've stated before, and then
12 assignees, and then after that, resident, nonresidents.

13 As stated, we stopped sport hunts, commercial
14 caribou harvest hunts, so it falls into play that, we use
15 beneficiaries first under the Land Claims Agreement, and
16 then assignees, and then nonresidents.

17 Nonresidents we don't have to worry about
18 because we don't have any sport hunts going on for caribou
19 anyway. Qujannamiik.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

21 Paul, Bert.

22 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 And thanks, Larry and the rest of your
24 delegation, for your presentation and the work you've done
25 with KIA on developing this first step, I guess, in terms

1 of the management plan. And, I think, based on a lot of
2 the questions and the comments around, you're going to have
3 a huge task on your hands.

4 I say this because, even government, NWMB -- I
5 don't think NTI -- regardless -- have been able to
6 successfully monitor the harvest and produce reports that
7 people have confidence in. And it's not a question so much
8 as it's a comment. And part of the reason why we were
9 supportive of having the hearing in Kugluktuk was it's
10 going to be whether your board believes there's a
11 conservation concern and whether your harvesters or your
12 community support it.

13 And the analogy I use is the ATV bylaw to wear a
14 helmet, and how many people do you see in your community
15 wearing their helmets and following the rules? A lot of
16 times, unless there's that monitoring and that enforcement,
17 and you see some communities where they actually follow the
18 rules or follow the bylaws rules and it's being enforced
19 and others where, if nobody's watching or nobody's
20 monitoring, it doesn't always get reported.

21 And so there's going to be a huge challenge for
22 you as an HTO, and there's going to probably be a lot of
23 people that, if you fail or you don't succeed, are going to
24 say: See, we'll have to do it this way. And it's
25 frustrating because we can look at something as -- we can

1 find out how to make it work and put the energy -- doesn't
2 necessarily have to be money; there's a lot of funding
3 agencies around. The Nunavut General Monitoring Plan, I
4 don't even know if they'll allocate all of their money.
5 They've been looking for proposals. And one of their
6 priority species is caribou.

7 So there is funding, but as you mentioned with
8 the wildlife secretariat, a lot of the challenges the HTOs
9 face is the administration, whether it's keeping the staff,
10 trained staff that can administer a project and the funding
11 and produce a report, or having a project manager that can
12 help you with this.

13 So what you and, to a certain extent, KIA, I
14 guess, -- in terms of KIA helping the HTO, along with
15 NTI -- because we will provide our support. I know
16 speaking to our biologist, he regrets not being able to be
17 here. He's not available this week for this hearing. But
18 there will be that support to help -- to help put together
19 this plan.

20 And I'll just stop there and just wish you luck
21 in implementing it. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert, for your
23 comments.

24 Larry, would you like to make a comment?

25 MR. L. ADJUN: No comment. Just commend him on

1 the compliment we were getting from NTI.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

3 Okay. We'll move on, then, to Kitikmeot Inuit
4 Association. Geoff.

5 KITIKMEOT INUIT ASSOCIATION QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

6 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association.

8 Just one question. Did the Kugluktuk HTO know
9 of its 5.7.3 rights to develop a plan just like the plan
10 that the board approved? Did you know that you had a right
11 to develop that plan during the phase of, I guess, the last
12 two or three years of consultation with the government, or
13 did you not know?

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

15 Larry.

16 MR. L. ADJUN: In speaking with my board, it has
17 been a long time ago, so I would have to say no.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

19 Geoff. Paul.

20 MR. EMINGAK: Paul Emingak, executive director
21 for the KIA.

22 I guess my question would also relate to what I
23 asked, I guess, a few days ago in regards to when we dealt
24 about the Bathurst herd.

25 As you know, KIA represents Kitikmeot Inuit in

1 the social, economic, and wellbeing. My question before, I
2 just want to take it a little bit further. As we heard
3 yesterday in regards to the presentations made by GN and
4 GNWT -- well, I guess mainly in regards to GNWT -- we had
5 GNWT indicate that the residents there or, I would say, the
6 whole take more of the Bluenose East herd than Nunavummiut,
7 in this case, Kugluktuk.

8 Do you agree with the proposed 340 allocations
9 out of the whole allocation between GNWT and GN? That's my
10 first question.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

12 Larry.

13 MR. L. ADJUN: Quana, Mr. Executive Director, for
14 the questions.

15 No, we're not in agreement with the 340. As
16 stated earlier, our basic needs level is around a thousand,
17 give or take a hundred here or there. But it does range
18 from 100 to 1,000 for a basic needs level for Kugluktumiut,
19 and we do not feel this is right.

20 There is been a letter sent to, I believe, NWMB
21 a few years ago when it was imposed on us to have a quota
22 from GNWT and GN for the Bluenose East herd. As stated,
23 our basic needs level is around 1,000, so we do not agree
24 to the TAH of 340. And as I pointed out before, 17 wolves
25 could take out that 340 in one year. Quana.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

2 Paul.

3 MR. EMINGAK: Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.

4 Thank you for the answer, Larry.

5 My other question, again, having that sort of
6 impact on the community of Kugluktuk, whether it be a TAH
7 or total allowable harvest or a proposed management plan
8 for your community, you know, how you would distribute the
9 tags and that, I would imagine that would have a huge
10 impact in regards to your beneficiaries, our Inuit, that do
11 harvest the Bluenose East caribou. Would you think that it
12 would have a huge impact on the residents if they're not
13 able to harvest, you know, the thousand caribou, as you
14 mentioned? Would that have a social impact, economic
15 impact on the community of Kugluktuk?

16 The reason why I ask that question is, you know,
17 I would think that Inuit would more depend on the
18 Government of Nunavut to subsistence for groceries,
19 whatnot. So that's my question.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

21 Larry.

22 MR. L. ADJUN: Quana, KIA.

23 Yes, it would have a huge impact on the Bluenose
24 East herd if we are to only have the 340 imposed on us,
25 because then we'd get the scenario that NWT has where they

1 shifted harvesting from Bathurst to the Bluenose. Now
2 we're getting into more trouble again because you're still
3 depleting two herds, but Kugluktuk is going to be affected
4 by the Bathurst TAH, this Bluenose East TAH.

5 But on the flip side, Kugluktumiut have a
6 healthy population of three herds we have to deal with. We
7 have the Dolphin Union, Bluenose East, and Bathurst. Now,
8 as I stated before, it's a hit-and-miss when they do come
9 around our region, as stated by the Elders and some of the
10 interveners, if I can call them that.

11 Herds do migrate different areas. We have seen
12 that in Kugluktuk in the past. And, as I stated, on the
13 flip side, we have to deal with those three herds to
14 subsist; pick off from here, here, and here. But we do it
15 at different times of the seasons.

16 And on top of that, we have the offset of
17 harvesting muskox, also, a higher quota to subsist off, and
18 we have the luxury of having moose, and we also have the
19 luxury of having the wolves and grizzly bears in our
20 background. They do walk into our community, for those
21 that don't know.

22 But, yes, it will have a huge impact. As I
23 stated, it will affect the harvest of other herds, as I've
24 stated, sort of like the scenario that NWT where they
25 Bathurst harvest and then push and harvest more on the

1 Bluenose East. But, yes, it will have a huge impact on
2 Kugluktumiut. Qujannamiik.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

4 Paul.

5 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 Thank you for your answer, Larry.

7 My last question concerning Kugluktuk has 95
8 percent of Inuit living there and based on, you know, KIA's
9 records; is the caribou, regardless of which herd it's
10 from -- is the caribou the main diet of Kugluktumiut?

11 Thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

13 Larry.

14 MR. L. ADJUN: Qujannamiik for the questions.

15 Yes, it is. It's a main staple of our diet,
16 but, on occasions, we have to offset it with muskox, moose,
17 seals, waterfowl, and what have you, but it is the main
18 staple diet for Kugluktumiut.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

20 Paul.

21 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you, itsivautaaq.

22 That's all the questions we have from KIA.

23 Thank you very much.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, gentleman.

25 Okay. We'll move on next to the North Slave

1 Métis Alliance. Shin.

2 NORTH SLAVE MÉTIS ALLIANCE QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

3 MR. SHIGA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4 Like everyone else, I'd like to share my
5 excitement with the plan that KHTO developed, and I'd like
6 to thank KHTO and KIA, as well, for helping draft plan, and
7 I have no questions. Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Shin.

9 Okay, we'll carry on, then. Next up on the
10 agenda, does anybody from the public have any questions for
11 Kugluktuk HTO? James. James, just state your name.
12 James, and go ahead.

13 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

14 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 James Panioyak, community member for
16 Cambridge Bay. I apologize to Kugluktuk for not being here
17 last night. I had it was very exciting to hear about your
18 submission. And having said that, I want to, as a
19 community member of Cambridge Bay, fully support you and
20 your board to have the diligence to help your people look
21 after your caribou and their needs.

22 Mr. Chairman, if I may just go back to the Land
23 Claims Agreement, the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement which,
24 for all Inuit people who are beneficiaries, we go to Part 7
25 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, which is under

1 special features for Inuit harvesting. 5.7.1, 5.7.2, and
2 5.7.3, if I may, Mr. Chairman, just read from it: (as read)

3 "In addition to the functions given to the
4 NWMB, the exercise of harvesting by Inuit
5 shall be overseen."

6 Again, that quote "overseen" by HTOs and RWOs.

7 5.7.2; each community and each outpost camp
8 that prefers a separate organization shall have an HTO.
9 Membership of each HTO shall be open to all Inuit resident
10 in the community. Each HTO may, by law, provide for
11 classes of nonvoting membership and privileges that flow
12 therefrom and may distinguish between persons who are Inuit
13 by descent or custom, but who are not enrolled under
14 Article 35, and other persons, existing community hunters
15 and trappers organizations may, subject to their adoption
16 to the provisions of this Article, act as HTOs. Two or
17 more HTOs may join together for the purpose of discharging
18 their functions over any or all species of wildlife on a
19 joint basis.

20 5.7.3: The powers and functions of HTOs
21 shall include the following: (a) the regulation of
22 harvesting practices and techniques among members,
23 including the use of non-quota limitations; (b) the
24 allocation and enforcement of community basic needs levels
25 and adjusted basic needs levels amongst members; (c) the

1 assignment of nonmembers with or without valuable
2 consideration and conditions of any portion of community
3 basic needs levels and adjusted basic needs levels; and (d)
4 generally, the management of harvesting among members."

5 Mr. Chairman, having said that, just getting
6 back to the assignment of rights; back in the day when I
7 was sitting on HTOs with my friend Bobby, we always had
8 this discussion with GN, the wildlife department, about
9 assignment rights. And we get a lot of confusion over
10 that -- and, as well, arguments over assignment rights,
11 because from what we were told by GN or the wildlife
12 department, assignment rights are made final by the Nunavut
13 government under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, and we
14 always stated that, as Inuit, we have the right to hunt and
15 a right to manage our own wildlife.

16 So I guess I wanted a clarification for the
17 record, who has the authority over the assignment rights?
18 If I may, Larry, under your permission, if you can defer
19 that question. Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

21 Larry.

22 MR. L. ADJUN: Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.

23 Yes, this could be deferred, as it is on the
24 table.

25 THE CHAIR: Who would you like to defer it to?

1 MR. L. ADJUN: Who would you like to defer this
2 question to, sir?

3 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Larry.

4 And, Mr. Chairman, with your permission, we can
5 ask the GN, Nunavut government, as well. The GNWT, if they
6 want to add to that, that would be okay.

7 Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Okay. The question is deferred
9 through Kugluktuk to the Government of Nunavut.

10 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 I'll try to -- I'm not a counsel, but I'll try
12 to explain the best I can, and maybe your counsel can
13 correct me or compliment, if needed, but I think there's
14 confusion mainly on two things: There's an assignment of
15 right that is an individual right of beneficiaries under
16 the Land Claim to assign their right to harvest or part of
17 their harvest to a spouse or another Inuk, and this is a
18 fundamental right under the Land Claim, of each individual
19 beneficiary, and the government is only administering,
20 basically, the paperwork to attest that this assignment was
21 done legally under the Land Claim.

22 And then there's an assignment of the BNL or the
23 portion of the TAH that an HTO has, and this is a different
24 type of assignment with different rules. It's not an
25 assignment of rights; it's an assignment of a share of a

1 TAH. So it's two different things.

2 And just to clarify, maybe, a little bit, the
3 assignment of right of an individual to a spouse, or
4 another Inuk to an individual beneficiary to a spouse or
5 another Inuk, is a fundamental right that an HTO has no
6 power over controlling. The only thing that is under the
7 control of the HTO is that the assignee has to obey to
8 exactly the same hunting rule that the HTO impose on their
9 members, as part. So the assignee has to obey the same
10 rule you would impose on the rest of your members. But
11 there's no role of the HTO of interfering with that
12 individual right, but the HTO has a right to assign their
13 share of the TAH or BNL under certain circumstances -- this
14 is a tough one for a French guy -- and that's the
15 difference.

16 And maybe Michael or somebody else can
17 compliment my explanation.

18 Thank you. I hope it clarifies. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

20 And just clarification, Michael, if you have
21 anything to add.

22 MR. D'EÇA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 First of all, I'm pretty sure -- maybe Drikus
24 can confirm this -- that in the new Wildlife Regulations
25 that were put out last July, there are assignment

1 regulations which, I think, lay everything out to try to
2 explain it to people.

3 It has been the subject of a lot of legal debate
4 among the lawyers involved in the Land Claim. I think I
5 think that Mathieu has done a good job of covering it. It
6 is really only, you know, section 5.7.3(c) that James read
7 out, then there's a parallel one for the RWOs, 5.7.6(c),
8 and then there's a one that's a little trickier, 5.7.34.
9 And I just want to point out to Mathieu and to everyone
10 that 5.7.34 does not only apply to an Inuk; it applies to
11 an RWO or an HTO as well.

12 And what that says, essentially, is you can
13 assign the right to harvest to another Inuk or the spouse
14 or person cohabiting as a spouse of another Inuk -- so
15 that's your right. Very big deal -- or you can assign your
16 share of the total allowable harvest to a person qualified
17 under the general laws to harvest. So let's say you wanted
18 to assign your share of a total allowable harvest for
19 whales. So you have to have a total allowable harvest.
20 Now you've got a share. You can assign it, but that
21 person, that non-Inuk that you want to assign it to has to
22 have a license or some kind of authority to be able to
23 harvest the whales.

24 So it's a little complicated, but that's more or
25 less it. So I'm pretty well agreeing with what Mathieu had

1 to say. Taima.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

3 James.

4 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 I wonder if our legal counsel for the
6 beneficiaries from KIA would have another interpretation
7 for that.

8 Larry, thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Larry, go ahead.

10 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, you have my permission to
11 defer it to legal staff KIA.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

13 John.

14 MR. DONIHEE: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

15 It's John Donihee.

16 I'm generally familiar with these provisions,
17 but with respect to the interpretation, my understanding is
18 pretty much as it has been laid out by Mr. Dumond and Board
19 counsel, so I don't really have anything further to add.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, John.

21 James.

22 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 And thank both legal counsels for those very
24 important answers to my question.

25 Just one more quick question in terms of the

1 assignment, a question of a couple who have the assignment
2 rights, whether it's an Inuk beneficiary given the
3 assignment to a nonbeneficiary or vice versa would the
4 couple have to be together for a minimum of three months,
5 or what's the process to have that assignment?

6 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

8 "Legal Larry" there. Larry, the question is to
9 you.

10 MR. L. ADJUN: I'm not sure whether to give a
11 statement or defer that, but I'm not sure if it's six
12 months, but hang on here.

13 Yes, yes, as Kevin just brought up, for our
14 version of this, we have a screening process for the
15 nonresident to hunt in our HTO, as Kevin brought up early.
16 I hope that might answer your question. Qujannamiik.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

18 James.

19 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Larry, for that
20 clarification.

21 That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

22 And I want to, again, commend the Kugluktuk HTO
23 for their submission, and I'm sure, like everyone else, you
24 have my full support on your submission and to take back
25 your "taking care of the caribou" initiative.

1 And to the Board, I would hope that you would
2 take the Kugluktuk HTO's consideration to take the hearing
3 back to Kugluktuk. As we all know, there was a lot of
4 Inuit who would like to have their say in the community as
5 well. And I want to thank the Nunavut Wildlife Management
6 Board and its members and its staff for coming to Cambridge
7 Bay to host the caribou hearings. Taima. Quana.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, James.
9 Appreciate it.

10 Okay. That wraps up Kugluktuk HTO session.

11 So we will quickly move on to Bathurst Inlet HTO
12 for their presentation, if you have, Sam.

13 BATHURST INLET HTO SUBMISSION

14 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 Sam Kapolak from Burnside HTO.

16 I have been talking with our chairperson on this
17 matter, on the issue of Bluenose East caribou herd. We
18 understand that this is a very important issue, but we feel
19 that we are not directly affected with this Bluenose
20 caribou herd, and we are not direct users. And by saying
21 that, for that reason we haven't come up with a submission
22 or verbal presentation, but we do, again, give our support
23 to Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Organization 100 percent
24 sure. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, very much, Sam.

1 So, with that, it might be a little quick around
2 this time, but I still have to go around the table. I'll
3 open up for questions to Bathurst Inlet HTO from the Board
4 Members, if there's any. Looks there is none. Staff and
5 legal, none.

6 Government of Nunavut any questions?

7 MR. GISSING: No questions. Thank you,
8 Mr. Chair.

9 THE CHAIR: Government of Northwest
10 Territories?

11 MS. YONGE: No questions, Mr. Chair.

12 THE CHAIR: Kugluktuk HTO?

13 MR. L. ADJUN: Just to say thanks for the kind
14 words from HTO. Qujannamiik.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

16 Bay Chimo HTO, Peter.

17 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No
18 questions.

19 THE CHAIR: Cambridge Bay HTO. Bobby.

20 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
21 questions.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

23 Any questions at all from Elders in the room?

24 If not, NTI, any questions for Bathurst?

25 MR. IRNGAUT: No questions.

1 THE CHAIR: KIA, any questions?

2 MR. CLARK: No questions.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

4 North Slave Métis Alliance. Any questions,
5 Shin?

6 MR. SHIGA: No questions, Mr. Chair.

7 THE CHAIR: And is there any questions from
8 the general public? If not, thank you very much, Sam.

9 Quickly, I think we can move on again to
10 Bay Chimo HTO. Peter, do you have any presentation at all
11 in regards to Bluenose East herd?

12 BAY CHIMO HTO SUBMISSION

13 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14 Just a statement. We're in the same table as
15 Bathurst.

16 Umingmaktok HTO will not support the
17 establishment of the TAH with Bluenose East caribou herd at
18 this time. And Umingmaktok HTO and the residents of
19 Umingmaktok do not harvest the herd from Bluenose East
20 caribou herd also. And Umingmaktok HTO will support KHTO
21 totally with their submission and all their endeavours
22 towards the herd of Bluenose East and will work with the
23 KHTO in the future.

24 And, for the record, we'd also like to support
25 KRWB's concern to have the hearing in Kugluktuk regarding

1 the Bluenose East caribou herd. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Peter, for
3 your presentation.

4 Again, I'll open it up to Board Members for any
5 questions or concerns to Bay Chimo. Charlie.

6 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

7 MR. INUARAK: I just have a question to

8 Kugluktuk: How far away are you from Kugluktuk? I don't
9 know. Are they near you, or are they far away? The
10 community of Kugluktuk, is that fair away from Umingmaktok?

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

12 Peter.

13 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Yes, it's about 250 miles east of
14 the Kugluktuk.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter. Taima.

16 Okay. No further questions. Staff and legal,
17 no questions?

18 Government of Nunavut.

19 MR. GISSING: No questions, Mr. Chair.

20 THE CHAIR: Government of Northwest
21 Territories?

22 MS. YONGE: No questions.

23 THE CHAIR: Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board.

24 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: No questions.

25 THE CHAIR: Kugluktuk HTO.

1 KUGLUKTUK HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

2 MR. L. ADJUN: Just a quick statement. Thanks
3 for the kind words again on our proposal. And, yes, there
4 are family and relatives living in Kugluktuk from Bay Chimo
5 and Bathurst, just so you know.

6 THE CHAIR: Okay. Bathurst Inlet HTO, Sam.

7 MR. S. KAPOLAK: No questions.

8 THE CHAIR: Cambridge Bay HTO. George?

9 CAMBRIDGE BAY HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

10 MR. G. ANGOHIATOK: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.

11 George Angohiatok, HTO.

12 I just have a comment towards this. The fact
13 that the distance from our area is very great, as Peter
14 mentioned, but we do have family members originally from
15 Bay Chimo that did move over to Kugluktuk, so we fully
16 support 100 percent Kugluktuk.

17 Quana, Mr. Chair.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, George.

19 Any questions from Elders or representatives to
20 Bay Chimo? Looks like none.

21 NTI, any questions for period of time? Bert.

22 NUNAVUT TUNNGAVIK INCORPORATED QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

23 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 And it was going to be a question, but I think
25 Larry and George both brought it up, and so maybe it will

1 just be a comment -- it's partly a question, is that: If
2 the Bathurst herd continues to decline and if there was a
3 moratorium on hunting Bathurst caribou and, similarly, if
4 there was conservation concerns with the Dolphin Union
5 caribou and you weren't able to hunt them, would your
6 members travel to hunt Bluenose East caribou if that was
7 the only herd available to you?

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

9 Peter.

10 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11 That's at all possible if we had no choice.

12 Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

14 Bert.

15 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 And, again it's just a comment, I guess, because
17 that's the situation that's being faced in the Northwest
18 Territories, and so there's hunters travelling from as far
19 as away as Yellowknife and further south that will go all
20 the way up to the Bluenose herd, and they're getting an
21 allocation to be able to harvest. At the moment, we're
22 fortunate -- at least with Dolphin Union caribou -- the
23 members are able to hunt or harvest that herd and rely on
24 them, but I'd just like to make that point.

25 Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Bert. I
2 think more of a comment, then, at that point. Thank you.

3 KIA, any questions?

4 MR. CLARK: KIA has no questions. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

6 North Slave Métis Alliance, Shin.

7 MR. SHIGA: I have no questions.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Shin.

9 Are there any questions from the public in
10 regards to Bay Chimo HTO?

11 If not, thank you very much, Peter, for your
12 presentation.

13 Okay. I think in the light of time, we will be
14 breaking for lunch here. But, quickly -- and I think our
15 staff has talked to Shin -- the North Slave Métis Alliance,
16 I don't think you're going to be here this afternoon, Shin.
17 You're leaving. Is that right?

18 NORTH SLAVE MÉTIS ALLIANCE SUBMISSION

19 MR. SHIGA: I will have to leave around 1:00;
20 right. So I'm not going to be here in the afternoon, yes.

21 THE CHAIR: Yeah, that takes it there.

22 So, anywhere, Shin has agreed, for the record of
23 NWMB, that the written submission be accepted, and then
24 we'll do that, and just to state that their submission
25 supports the TAH of 340 set by the Government of Nunavut,

1 so everybody knows that.

2 But we will take your presentation for the
3 record as you submitted it. Okay?

4 MR. SHIGA: Mr. Chairman, I thought I was able
5 to submit my speaking notes, which is a little bit
6 different from my written submission, because this is more
7 supportive of what KHTO proposed.

8 THE CHAIR: I apologize. It will be your
9 submission that's reported to us.

10 MR. SHIGA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11 THE CHAIR: Okay. And I'll just give you --
12 since you're leaving -- a little moment if you want to say
13 something before you leave. And safe travels back, Shin.

14 MR. SHIGA: Thank you. If everyone doesn't
15 mind, my speaking notes is actually less than a page. With
16 your permission, may I speak, make my presentation?

17 THE CHAIR: Shin, go ahead quickly, then, yes.

18 MR. SHIGA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

19 Shin Shiga, North Slave Métis Alliance.

20 I'd like to thank everyone for bearing with me
21 and waiting for lunch break. On behalf of the indigenous
22 Métis people of the Great Slave Lake area, I'd like to
23 express their appreciation for all of your commitment to
24 aboriginal way of life and the wellbeing of the future
25 generations.

1 And I would reiterate our thanks to Kugluktuk
2 HTO and others who prepared the draft ICCMP for the
3 recovery of Bluenose East caribou. At this time, NSMA is
4 prepared to support the proposal put forward by the HTO
5 which includes mandatory harvest reporting and harvest
6 limitation of 340 Bluenose East caribou.

7 I would like to add the following suggestions
8 for considerations by the Inuit people.

9 Firstly, NSMA would like to continue and expand
10 our collaborative working relationship on the management of
11 barren ground caribou herds that we share. So this
12 includes Bluenose East herd, but also include Bathurst herd
13 and Beverly and Ahiak herds. And I think that we need not
14 limit ourselves to range planning or long-term advisory.
15 Like you have demonstrated, I think it is much more
16 preferable if aboriginal people work together to take care
17 of the caribou on their own, on their own terms without the
18 last resort intervention of the territorial governments.

19 Secondly, NSMA would like you to consider mostly
20 bull harvest. I understand that it is a very difficult
21 thing to do, but given the urgent conservation situation
22 and the possibility that, if the trend continues, the
23 governments will step in, which we don't want but happened
24 in the NWT. And I think it is in our best interests to
25 maximize the chance of recovery for the Bluenose East

1 caribou in a way that also minimizes adverse impacts on the
2 aboriginal way of life.

3 And, lastly, as a neighbour and user of the
4 herd, I would like to warn you that there will be a time,
5 very likely, when we may need to reduce the harvest even
6 further. In fact, a TAH where we live is already reduced
7 to 750 herd-wide harvest; 950 was proposed only half a year
8 ago.

9 We are not going to ask you to follow that
10 today. We haven't had the time to review the reasons
11 behind that. But I would like to suggest that we really
12 work together closely in the future on this very important
13 and sensitive issue so that we can figure out ways that are
14 right and fair to all the traditional users of this herd.

15 Thank you. That is my presentation.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Shin, very
17 much appreciated. And I think, in light of your
18 information and your new presentation you provided us, we
19 will go around the table for anybody with questions.

20 So I'll open it up to Board Members if there's
21 any questions at all. Charlie.

22 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

23 MR. INUARAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 I'm very glad you were able to attend this
25 public hearing, and we can actually see face to face the

1 people that --

2 Let us wait for the siren to finish. You're
3 asking us to order lunch. Maybe caribou meat.

4 Thank you very much, and, of course, according
5 to our traditional knowledge from our Elders, quite a few
6 times, on Baffin Island the population of caribou came to a
7 very low population and took a while to come back, and the
8 same thing can happen on the mainland caribou populations.

9 And, also, if we don't come to consensus, this
10 issue might be taken to a higher power like the courts.
11 But I really appreciate your support of Nunavummiut.

12 Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

14 Shin you want to comment or record?

15 MR. SHIGA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No, I do
16 need to respond.

17 Thank you for the comment.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Government of Nunavut.
19 Staff.

20 Oh, Peter.

21 MR. KYDD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22 Just a quick kind of clarification or
23 confirmation. First off, thank you for the submission,
24 Shin.

25 So, to just to be clear, your verbal submission

1 you would like to be on the record as superseding or
2 replacing the written submission, since they're different?
3 Can you just confirm that? Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

5 MR. SHIGA: Thank you for the question. Yes,
6 I do confirm that I'd like to have my verbal submission
7 replace my written submission.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Shin.

9 Peter, good?

10 Government of Nunavut, any questions?

11 MR. GISSING: No questions, Mr. Chair.

12 THE CHAIR: Government of Northwest
13 Territories? Jan.

14 GOVERNMENT OF NORTHWEST TERRITORIES QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

15 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski, Government of
16 Northwest Territories.

17 Just a very brief comment. As far as I know, in
18 the office that Shin works in, he's basically it, and he
19 was here at the Sabina hearing in April, and he comes to
20 every caribou meeting we have, very faithfully. And, you
21 know, we don't have huge numbers of staff, but I think we
22 really appreciate the fact that, you know, an office with a
23 very, very small staff -- it's quite a time commitment from
24 Shin to keep coming to these meetings.

25 So thank you very much for doing that.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

2 Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board. Simon, any
3 questions?

4 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
5 questions.

6 THE CHAIR: Kugluktuk HTO? Larry.

7 KUGLUKTUK HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

8 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, just one comment from our
9 director.

10 THE CHAIR: Peter.

11 MR. TAKTOGON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

12 And thank you very much for coming to this
13 hearing. It's really important, and I know we've been
14 having meetings with you quite a few times in Yellowknife.
15 I'll probably see you again next week.

16 I thank you so much for this hearing. It's
17 really important for us. We have to work together in the
18 future and try not to lose track of everything we're doing
19 in the future. It's really important for our people and
20 your native people. So thank you so much for coming, and
21 have a good trip home. Quana.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

23 Baffin Island, Sam.

24 MR. S. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No
25 questions.

1 THE CHAIR: Bay Chimo, Peter.

2 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
3 questions.

4 THE CHAIR: Cambridge Bay.

5 CAMBRIDGE BAY HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

6 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I got one
7 question.

8 You stated there was a TAH of 750 tags in your
9 area. Well, it will be a couple questions into one, here,
10 but how many communities share that -- number of
11 communities -- and are all tags used up out of that 750?
12 Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bobby.

14 Shin.

15 MR. SHIGA: Thank you for the question.

16 Shin Shiga with North Slave Métis Alliance.

17 How many communities? I think there are -- I
18 think I should defer that question to, maybe, GNWT or Jody,
19 because it will take a while for me to actually count
20 communities.

21 And in terms of the tags, also 750 is a new TAH.
22 It's for the next harvesting seen, so I cannot say, yeah,
23 how it's going to be used. Thank you.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Shin.

25 Bobby.

1 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Shin.

2 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 Oh -- so before the 750, it was 950 for your
4 region? Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bobby.

6 Shin.

7 MR. SHIGA: Thank you for the question.

8 Shin Shiga, North Slave Métis Alliance.

9 950 was the proposal from ENR, GNWT, and the
10 Tlicho Government. That was discussed, and the decision
11 from one of the management boards was that it should be
12 actually 750, and I only got that less than a week ago, and
13 I haven't read the actual reasoning. Thank you.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Shin.

15 Bobby.

16 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17 Thank you, Shin. No more questions for me.

18 George has.

19 THE CHAIR: Okay, George. Go ahead.

20 MR. G. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

21 George Angohiatok, HTO.

22 Just going to be brief with this. And just want
23 to thank you for your submission, and also to include one
24 of our Elders -- we don't like to leave them out -- is that
25 his comment is he's very glad to see a very diverse,

1 different group of people coming to work taught and looking
2 for the same exact same goal, and that's to conserve our
3 caribou. So that's my comment.

4 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, George.

6 And I was going ask next for Elders comments and
7 concerns, but I think you just stated the comments that the
8 Elders would feel to say.

9 I'll carry on. NTI, any questions? Bert.

10 MR. DEAN: No questions. Just thanks, Shin,
11 for making it up to the hearing, and safe travels home.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

13 KIA.

14 MR. CLARK: Thank you. KIA has no questions.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

16 Thank you, Shin, again, and I think it was
17 worthwhile for you to make your verbal statement here.

18 Is there anybody from the public at all that
19 would like to have words for the North Slave Métis
20 Alliance? I don't think so.

21 Okay. So safe travels home. You get out of
22 here.

23 Paul, are you on the same airplane?

24 MR. IRNGAUT: Yeah, and I'll see you guys next
25 week, as you guys will be stuck here for a while.

1 THE CHAIR: Shin.

2 MR. IRNGAUT: I've been trying to for the last
3 two days.

4 THE CHAIR: Shin, we'll see you later this
5 after afternoon.

6 Okay. We'll break, and if we can be back here
7 for 1:15, that would be great. Thank you very much.

8 (Proceedings ended at 12:05 p.m.)

9

10 (Proceedings to recommence at 1:15 p.m.)

11

12 THE CHAIR: Welcome back, everybody. Thank
13 you for coming on time again. I hope everybody had a good
14 lunch. So we'll carry on. We're doing good, I think, now.
15 We'll carry on.

16 The next presenter is Cambridge Bay HTO. I'll
17 turn it over to you, Bobby.

18 CAMBRIDGE BAY HTO SUBMISSION

19 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20 We don't have a submission; it's more of a
21 comment, I guess.

22 We all know how important the caribou is to
23 everybody, and we do support Kugluktuk in their matter that
24 we're discussing the last couple of days. But, like I said
25 earlier, caribou is very important to everybody here, and

1 we're basically in the same situation with the number of
2 herds around us. We don't specifically hunt any from the
3 Bluenose East. We have the Dolphin Union around us, and we
4 also have the Beverly herd east of us, which we do hunt
5 from. And in the past, like George stated, from the
6 Bathurst herd, we did catch some in the past from there
7 also.

8 So with saying that, when one herd is affected,
9 it's a chain reaction, it affects all other herds nearby;
10 and when one is declining, the other ones start to tend to
11 decline also, depending on how far they are. But it's just
12 a matter of having respect for that herd and the other
13 herds around, and what we've been discussing this week, I
14 hope it is resolved right away just to preserve those
15 herds.

16 And, just for myself, it's been a very
17 interesting learning week for myself. So I don't know if
18 George has any comments, but that's just a comment from
19 myself. Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Bobby.

21 George.

22 MR. G. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 George Angohiatok, HTO.

24 I really don't have too much to add other than
25 the fact that, as a working group together, you know, we're

1 showing our respective communities that we do care about
2 what we harvest, and we're trying to show that we can
3 conserve them and that we can control the rate of catch so
4 that we can have our animals in the future to hunt for
5 ourselves personally and, of course, our children; and
6 showing our children how Connie mentioned is very important
7 as to how we process our food and the time of year that we
8 harvest different kinds of fur on the animals.

9 I don't really have anything to add to it, but,
10 as a working group, I'm very proud and honoured to be a
11 part of it and sharing information and finding ways to
12 further protect our animals.

13 Quana, Mr. Chair.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much,
15 Cambridge Bay. Thank you very much for your input.

16 As with other previous interveners, we'll go
17 around the table now. Is there any other questions to
18 Cambridge Bay HTO from the Board? Caleb.

19 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

20 MR. SANGOYA: I don't have any questions, but I
21 have -- according to what we've heard from our Elders, the
22 caribou do migrate. There were lots of caribou in our
23 area. My father-in-law did say that, when he saw the
24 stomach contents, he stated that they were going to be
25 moving soon. When they're about to migrate elsewhere, they

1 tend to eat up pebbles before they move to another area.
2 That is traditional knowledge. I'm not sure, in our area,
3 how do they know that we don't know? Because we're
4 learning from other communities because I'm still learning.

5 So my question is: Do you know when they are
6 going to start moving away? We've been told that the
7 stomach contents, by the stomach contents, the Elders can
8 tell that they're going to be moving away soon. They're
9 not dying off. They're just moving to another area.

10 Perhaps that is the case, too, here. Dolphin Union and
11 (Inuktitut spoken) Bathurst. Are they the same?

12 THE CHAIR: Bobby, is there a response?

13 MR. G. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14 George from the HTO. I don't think I fully
15 understood the question, if there was one in there.

16 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17 THE CHAIR: Caleb, please clarify.

18 MR. SANGOYA: My question was that, according to
19 the Inuit traditional knowledge, when the caribou are about
20 to move away, do the Elders know? How do you know when
21 they are going to start moving away using Inuit
22 qaujimagatuqangit? What was the indicators?

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

24 George.

25 MR. G. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1 George from the HTO.

2 Yes, definitely in the past when our fathers and
3 grandfathers had concerns about the lack of animals that we
4 are harvesting -- not only caribou, but anything that they
5 notice -- they certainly voice their opinions. And I know
6 my grandparents usually talk about times when there was
7 many animals -- like, in just the recent past -- and they
8 would mention that, in the past, there used to be as many
9 as there are today.

10 So their concern was in feeding our families to
11 survive, and if we didn't eat, of course, we couldn't
12 survive. So it was very important to our fathers and
13 grandfathers and the Elders in those days to understand and
14 be knowledgeable as to the condition and what's going on
15 with our animals that directly affect us. And, yes, of
16 course, it was always something that was mentioned when
17 there was a concern for any of our harvesting animals.

18 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

19 I hope that answers the question.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, George.

21 Any other questions from the Board? David?

22 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Thank you. David Kritterdlik,
23 Board Member.

24 I have been involved with the wildlife groups,
25 NWMB, from almost right from the start way back when

1 Nunavut was NWT. As well, I was involved with caribou
2 management board.

3 The Elders always have -- no matter where I go,
4 where we go in Nunavut or even in First Nations area --
5 that the wildlife that we know that we grew up with never
6 really totally deplete or they've totally gone -- in this
7 area, anyway. And that's why Inuit always say that they
8 have a cycle. There's a cycle. Every animal has a cycle,
9 and lot of times with all that technology and that, we get
10 to get message from non-Inuit that our caribou are going,
11 they're going to be gone.

12 But I believe that -- I don't know of any
13 caribou herd that was totally wiped out from the area where
14 I grew up, even in this area. In fact, in all of Nunavut.
15 And I'm sure that we'll be coming to some of their life
16 sometime in their future, but the good thing about that is
17 that -- I mentioned it before; I'll mention it again --
18 that working together within our government, our technical
19 scientists and our Board Members and other groups that
20 we're sharing the wildlife with, that that could work out.
21 It has worked out; it will work out again. But we've got
22 to work together closely.

23 Like, right now, even in Kivalliq, there is also
24 talk about the Qamanirjuaq herd is declining. We're going
25 to have to be working with that again with the Kivalliq

1 Wildlife Board.

2 But it has been a very good experience for me to
3 further and continually -- I think that we learn
4 continually from other people and find out that no matter
5 where we live, living off the land and wildlife, it's
6 always similar.

7 I just wanted to bring that up, because working
8 together is the main thing, that it's always harder to do
9 something alone; but when we have other people working with
10 us, we get that job done easier and sooner.

11 Taima. Thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David, for those
13 comments. Any other questions or comments from the Board?
14 Charlie.

15 MR. INUARAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 I have a question: According to the written
17 notes, when we are given written submissions, when wildlife
18 people are saying that they're declining, even regarding
19 polar bears, we have to hold hearings.

20 Yeah, we started getting correspondence. It was
21 mentioned by the HTOs that the Bathurst caribou and
22 Bluenose East caribou; that has been mentioned regularly,
23 saying that they were declining. But we had from the
24 Elders: Yeah, are they declining? Are the caribou around
25 here declining in numbers?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

2 George.

3 MR. G. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4 George from the HTO.

5 Yes, sir. Numbers of caribou that we are
6 harvesting on the island now seem to have gone down quite a
7 bit, and in our meeting in January, some discussions at
8 length were whether they were dying off or moving off, and
9 there is some proof that our caribou are moving off onto
10 other islands, and our neighbouring community to the east
11 have harvested some of the animals that we rely on.

12 So I'm not really positive that they are our
13 caribou, but I did mention. But last year, having gone out
14 with a couple of the harvesters, we did notice that there
15 was quite a large number on the east side of the island
16 that are moving eastward and not southward like they
17 normally do. So certainly numbers are going down, but not
18 really certain of the exact cause. I did mention that we
19 believe that it could be the animals moving on.

20 Nobody's ever really found numbers great numbers
21 of dead caribou. They're pretty healthy, pretty healthy
22 animals that we're harvesting, and it's preferable to our
23 community that we do harvest the Dolphin and Union because
24 of the flavour that we're used to. Each caribou has a
25 different flavour from their diet that they do eat. So,

1 yes, we do notice numbers going down.

2 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, George.

4 Charlie.

5 MR. INUARAK: Another question. Now, we are
6 here to hold hearings, our staff and GN: We hear from GN
7 and also from GNWT and also wildlife managers and the HTOs.
8 We're to hold this hearing.

9 And I know that what we're hearing are
10 different, and there are lots. Because of this hearing, is
11 that benefitting you, or was it okay if we didn't come here
12 and hold the hearings? Is it benefitting you as HTOs or
13 RWOs?

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

15 Bobby.

16 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

17 Most definitely, it has benefitted us. It gives
18 us a different perspective on everything. It also helps
19 myself, and probably George, to help bring recommendations
20 to our HTO on what we should start doing before matters do
21 get worse with our herd.

22 Like I said the other day there, we have our
23 plans for starting already, but, you know, it's too bad for
24 myself to say this to learn a lot of stuff, like all this
25 knowledge on herds that are hurting already or declining or

1 whatnot, but it sure opened my eyes and gives us a better
2 view on what we should start doing.

3 Thank you. I hope that answered your question.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bobby.

5 Charlie.

6 MR. INUARAK: Yes, you responded correctly.

7 Thank you.

8 I have a supplementary question. On
9 Baffin Island, when we held a hearing regarding the
10 Baffin Island caribou, the local HTOs and Elders with the
11 knowledge, they all said that they wanted to conserve the
12 harvest; and they wanted to manage them properly, the HTOs
13 and Elders. And I'm hearing it's the same thing here, from
14 your Elders and also from the HTOs. I think you're all
15 saying that we have to manage our caribou herds properly
16 because we don't want them extirpated from this area. And
17 we hear from the Kitikmeot Region we have to conserve them
18 and manage them properly. This is what I'm hearing from
19 you. Would that be true?

20 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

22 Bobby.

23 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

24 That's correct. It is right; we should start
25 managing them a lot better. Like, we do manage, I think,

1 very well, but, you know, getting better at everything is
2 always is good for the herd.

3 And for Dolphin and Union, working with GN --
4 and Kugluktuk also shares this herd with us, so, you know,
5 with three groups working on one herd, it should make a big
6 difference. I think we work very well with everybody.

7 So thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bobby. Taima.

9 Simeonie.

10 MR. KEENAINAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 I have a question, and also I want to make a
12 comment, as I always do. I'm Simeonie from NWMB.

13 We are dealing with the caribou, what is
14 happening to them, by the GN and also GNWT and also from
15 you guys that live around here. Nobody seems to know why
16 the caribou herds are declining. We don't seem to be able
17 to get a proper answer as to why they are declining.

18 And we've had from the Elders, from our parents
19 and from our grandparents and our great grandparents, when
20 they mismanage the wildlife, they tend to go into
21 starvation, and when they were following the ones that were
22 prohibited, behind everybody's back, that was also the
23 result of starvation because the wildlife were no longer
24 available.

25 And my question is: Even though we don't really

1 believe these, is that still the case today that if we
2 mismanage the wildlife, does that still affect the
3 wildlife? That hasn't been able to answered by anybody.

4 I have a question, and I want to ask. It seems
5 like in all the communities -- especially Baffin Island,
6 Kivalliq, and around here -- they always mention that the
7 caribou are being overhunted, and they've seen, and I know
8 it's the case, too, in the First Nations land that they
9 just leave the carcass of the caribou. Even though we try
10 not to do that, but we keep hearing these abundant caribou
11 carcasses, and that puts us in a situation, even though we
12 try to listen -- and the younger generation tends not to
13 follow what others want them to follow, so we cannot assist
14 in that area, the NWMB Board. We have to, I guess, deal
15 with those people that don't listen, and we cannot do
16 anything to stop the mismanagement of wildlife.

17 We have to work with GN and GNWT. We have to
18 work together to try and solve this problem. And I know
19 it's not nice to hear. Has that been the case where some
20 hunters just leave the caribou meat behind? Has that
21 happened in this area that you know of in Kitikmeot?

22 Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simeonie.

24 George.

25 MR. G. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 George from EHTO.

2 Thank you for your question. Certainly, I
3 guess, like every other community where the education is
4 lacking towards our younger generation, and that's evident
5 of course, I think, in every region is when the young
6 people aren't educated as to how to process their animals.
7 And we've witnessed -- I have witnessed a few of these
8 carcasses over the last few years. You know, not to point
9 any fingers, but to me, it shows that whoever harvested
10 these animals are uncertain how to skin, how to process.
11 And we do find a few -- not a whole lot -- but a few
12 animals that are processed where they only take the
13 quarters, the meaty parts; the heads are left behind.

14 Definitely a lack of education towards the
15 younger people; and I may be wrong when I say this, but it
16 could be other people. We have no idea who does this, but,
17 in everybody eyes that harvest these caribou, you know, we
18 know to take the whole animal of what we do harvest. And
19 what we do see in our region is that some of the harvesters
20 aren't educated in the way that we were taught, in the
21 sense that they leave the rib cage and just take only the
22 meaty parts, the quarters and the straps.

23 Certainly when you find something like that, it
24 hurts, you know. You witness it, and you know that they're
25 not educated in how to properly dress and how to properly

1 look after the animal; and it's very evident when you come
2 over these -- not a lot, but enough to make you feel that
3 you need to educate your younger people and share with the
4 community, in the form of photographs that you take and
5 bring back to the community and to enter, like, in Facebook
6 or in the community and tell them that is wrong. You know,
7 it's not right to be taking only little pieces of what you
8 think you're going to need.

9 You know, having said that, I just want to add a
10 little bit. From our Elders, their way of showing us and
11 teaching us, in our lifetime, in my life as a child growing
12 up, we only had what little we had because we weren't in
13 civilization; we lived remotely with just our immediate
14 family members, and I know there were times when we were
15 very hungry because of the lack of caribou, the big game in
16 the winter; but we always had our fathers and grandparents
17 who looked after us, and their main goal was to ensure that
18 we survived any way they could.

19 So at times in the past, I'm sure this went on
20 in other communities, that you chewed on skin just to, you
21 know, swallow maybe some sealskin or caribou skin that was
22 hairless just to put something in the belly to take away
23 the pain of hunger. And, you know, having said that, for
24 our ancestors to carry on with the knowledge of how to
25 survive, you know -- without their knowledge and skill,

1 none of us would be here.

2 But for our tradition to continue, our
3 present-day people have to share the knowledge of how to
4 properly dress and how to properly look after; and you
5 can't state that enough, but that it's very important to
6 share your knowledge of how to process the animals, what
7 part to take. And if you're not going to use it, you know,
8 there's people in the community that will certainly enjoy
9 the diet of a head, is what is, to me, the best part of the
10 animal. It's like they're unaware. You know, even the
11 feet; we eat the feet, too, as a child growing up. Every
12 part of the animal, the intestines, even the guts, the gut
13 lining. The whole caribou was eaten. It's better than
14 chewing on just skin with very little protein.

15 I hope that answers. Quana.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, George.

17 Okay. Any other questions from the Board? If
18 not, we'll move on. Staff, NWMB staff? Legal? No?

19 Government of Nunavut, any questions of
20 Cambridge Bay?

21 MR. DUMOND: No questions, Mr. Chairman.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

23 NWT, Jan?

24 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: No questions. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board,

1 Simon?

2 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: No questions.

3 THE CHAIR: Kugluktuk HTO, Larry.

4 KUGLUKTUK HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

5 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, we're always full of them.

6 Kugluktuk HTO is going to submit a letter to
7 KRWB next week. -- I'm going to put this to the Board
8 anyway -- to put a stop to resident and nonresident hunters
9 on the Bluenose East herd. I will forward this off, if it
10 does get approved, to KRWB, and then they will submit it to
11 your Board.

12 That's just a comment.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry. Okay. Noted.

14 Questions to Cambridge HTO, Jorgen.

15 CAMBRIDGE BAY HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

16 MR. BOLT: Not really a question, I guess.

17 Just more or less a comment. There was talk about these
18 caribou here. Like I said yesterday, what's more important
19 here; money or caribou? And money always seems to be an
20 issue or a barrier. And, I mean, you can make money every
21 day, millions of dollars every day, you know, and it will
22 never run out. But with this issue with caribou declining,
23 I believe that we should put all our arsenal out there to
24 help this caribou. Whatever we can get, however we can get
25 it, I believe that we should try and get everything out

1 there that we can.

2 Like I was asking about the satellite collars,
3 for instance, the other day. Other than, like, the
4 location and movement, I think we could get more
5 information from a collared caribou other than just
6 movement and location. And like I said, I just believe
7 that money shouldn't be an issue at this time.

8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you for those comments,
10 Jorgen. Any other questions to Cambridge?

11 If not, carry on to Bathurst Inlet. Sam, any
12 questions?

13 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No
14 questions.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

16 Bay Chimo, Peter.

17 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
18 questions.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

20 Is there any questions from Elders or Elder
21 representatives to Cambridge Bay?

22 ELDERS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

23 MR. S. ANGOHIATOK: Listening to the conversations
24 around the table, thank you. They're assisting each other.

25 Thinking of issues and helping each other,

1 that's good to see; conversations, the issues being talked
2 about. As what was talked about by my son, I've seen, and
3 my first wife who used to accompany me, she often -- she
4 said, "Why were some of the carcasses left -- why was this
5 carcass left on the tundra?" Heads are a delicacy. Even
6 some of the intestines during this time of the year,
7 spring. There's the juice, the soup we'd eat from the
8 intestines is tasty. That's how we were.

9 I thank the speakers around the table. I've
10 seen cases like this. You're using your thoughts and
11 helping each other. Complications arise. To help each
12 other is the way to go.

13 I don't often -- I don't go out on the land now,
14 as much as I used to. I've thought of wildlife out there,
15 such as caribou, seals, but I don't go out there anymore.

16 To see you all, it's good to hear your thoughts.
17 I see a lot of help amongst the groups. Good to see. As
18 non-aboriginal, as Inuit helping each other, thank you for
19 doing that, because if we don't assist each other, if
20 there's too much conflict between us, nothing will go
21 ahead. It will -- it's useless. So strength comes from
22 helping each other. Thank you.

23 I've often had wildlife will deplete. I want to
24 speak a little bit about my father. We never seen
25 anything, transportation that travelled as fast as what we

1 have today. He often told me, "You'll see things that are
2 very fast," and today we do: Snowmobiles, ATVs, airplanes.
3 My father felt those things coming on, and he spoke of
4 them. It's here today.

5 Thank you for helping each other. I can see
6 that, our thoughts, and those thoughts trigger other
7 thoughts, and it's good to see all that good conversation
8 come out. We had things will change. If it's going to get
9 tough, it will get tough, but we need to try. We waiting
10 for the outcome, but it will take a bit of the time.

11 Thank you for giving me the opportunity to give
12 my thoughts. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sam.

14 Any other Elders that would like to speak to
15 Cambridge Bay HTO? If not, we will carry on, then --
16 George, go ahead.

17 MR. G. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18 George from HTO. Just to supplement this.

19 One thing I did forget to mention, and it's been
20 a big topic over the last couple of days, which I'm sure
21 happened in Kugluktuk and Bathurst caribou herd also. Over
22 my lifetime of harvesting caribou on the island, this is
23 the very first year that I found it extremely hard to
24 approach any caribou on the mainland. I travel a lot over
25 the winter, and when I leave, I don't leave with the

1 intention of harvesting; but when I do, a lot of the time I
2 just love to observe and watch and see what the animals are
3 doing.

4 But this winter I went out a lot of times with
5 the intention of bringing home a caribou, and over the
6 years that I've harvested it has never been difficult as it
7 was this past winter. The caribou that I did find, see
8 from a distance, 99 percent of them, maybe if there's two,
9 six caribou, eight caribou, it didn't matter how many; at
10 the first sign of me, they would run. And it's the very
11 first time that I witnessed this over my lifetime as a
12 harvester of the caribou in the area.

13 And when I do see the caribou running, I like to
14 read the signs. I'll backtrack them, and I find the
15 evidence, and the evidence is that they are harassed by the
16 wolves. There are so many wolves that just harass our
17 caribou on the mainland, our island caribou. And it's
18 amazing. I was really amazed this winter to see that. I
19 found it impossible to get close, and I don't like to chase
20 the animals so when I do spot them and they run away, I
21 don't pursue. And lot of the harvesters that I know in the
22 community have the same problem; they cannot get close
23 enough to fire a shot, and it's because of the predators
24 harassing them to an extent that they are afraid of
25 anything that moves out there.

1 So thank you for the chance to include this.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, George, for that
3 information.

4 Okay. NTI, any questions for Cambridge Bay?

5 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bert
6 Dean with NTI. We don't have any questions. Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

8 KIA, any questions? Geoff.

9 MR. CLARK: We have no questions. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

11 Are there any questions from the public at all
12 for the HTO of Cambridge Bay? Doesn't appear to be any.

13 Thank you very much, gentlemen, for your
14 presentation and answering the questions.

15 Okay. Next up for presentation we have the
16 Elders and the representatives of the Elders, which I think
17 for Kugluktuk is Peter and Jorgen, and if there's any
18 Elders in the public in the room that would like to speak
19 at any time about this Bluenose East caribou situation,
20 you're free to now.

21 ELDERS SUBMISSION

22 THE CHAIR: Peter.

23 MR. TAKTOGON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

24 Peter from HTO Kugluktuk.

25 In my growing time of life living out off the

1 land in Contwoyto Lake, and observing weather and
2 everything, when I talk about the climate change around
3 this table; it's affecting the caribou. The climate
4 nowadays we have surrounding around south of Kugluktuk and
5 everything. In the past, it's been happening quite a bit
6 we get hard snow crust and everything, plus we get rain,
7 once in a while, in December.

8 I witnessed one time 130 miles south of
9 Kugluktuk. I travel lots up to Contwoyto Lake and back,
10 and everywhere. One winter I noticed this; we ran into
11 some caribou, and we got a couple of them anyway. Their
12 stomach was just dry, really empty, and those caribou were
13 starving. That must be three and a half years ago now.
14 That's when the caribou start not getting close to
15 Kugluktuk. And a lot of times, and one time, in around
16 surrounding Grace Bay just across from Cambridge Bay, we
17 were starting to get, the ocean is not freezing fast.

18 I witnessed this two winters in a row. Dolphin
19 Union caribou and everything where the current where it
20 freezes less and everything, caribou was crossing from
21 Victoria Island, must have been over 200 caribou frozen
22 right where the current was and iced in. And I witnessed
23 quite a bit of caribou by Grace Bay full of ice on them.
24 That's one that's got out of the ice.

25 I know the weather is a factor for the caribou

1 and everything. On the tundra surrounding Kugluktuk a lot
2 of permafrost been melting for the last five years. It's
3 affecting the caribou, the vegetations and everything, and
4 the rivers surrounding in Kugluktuk area, for the last five
5 years, we're hardly getting any snow, we're hardly getting
6 any rain. The weather is changed. And I think it's
7 affecting the caribou, and I think it's making them
8 decline, making the caribou harder to get around and
9 everything.

10 For the last five years, the rivers surrounding
11 our areas and the lakes, they've been drying out. I
12 witnessed that. I travel anywhere on my holidays and went
13 on Hondas and everything, surrounding Kugluktuk. And the
14 ice is breaking faster, earlier. Just few minutes ago --
15 we just came here from Sunday. We really, really have an
16 ice breakup. It's different. The weather is different.
17 It's a big factor for the caribou and all that. I just saw
18 a picture; the river just took off last week. Now it
19 reached the islets already.

20 Winter; it's not like in the past. We used to
21 get minus 40s, 50s, and every time you go out to go fishing
22 the lakes south of Kugluktuk, we used to get about six,
23 seven feet of ice, but now you're even hardly getting any
24 snow on top of the ice. Sometimes the thickness on top in
25 the lakes, it's only two, three feet. I seen a lot of

1 change due to the climate change, you know; and for that
2 reason, I kind of believe that's why grizzlies and
3 whatever, it's the population is going north, moving north.

4 Same thing for the arctic char around Kugluktuk;
5 the water's getting a lot warmer. We have more trouble
6 getting fish for the last few years. The water's getting
7 warmer and all that, plus the ocean seems to be dropping
8 little bit, too.

9 When we moved to Kugluktuk, we never used to
10 get, you know, like, tides go down. I seen that, how far
11 the tides could go in Iqaluit and Rankin, but Kugluktuk, it
12 never used to be like that. During summer, tides start
13 going three or four feet some places. Just want to bring
14 that up for the comment.

15 Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter. It's very
17 interesting information. Anyone else, any Elders would
18 like to speak at all to the Board with their thoughts or
19 their input into the Bathurst caribou herd? Attima.

20 MR. HADLARI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 When I was a young lad, I grew up with my
22 grandfather. My grandfather was born 1889. He didn't know
23 what month and day he was born, but the year was 1889. And
24 he used to tell me stories about caribou, that they would
25 decline, and sometimes there was no caribou around, and it

1 was impossible to find any caribou, and ever since he told
2 me that, I have been observing on the land about our
3 caribou.

4 There's a 70-to-75-year cycle where there's a
5 peak point and low point where, in the 1940s, within his
6 lifetime when he was a young lad, there was a lot of
7 caribou, and 1940s, there was an all-time low of the
8 caribou herd, and this is traditional knowledge of the
9 Inuit.

10 I just wanted to point out that 70-to-75-year
11 cycle. Thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Attima.

13 Is there any other presentations by Elders? If
14 not, we'll go around the table again.

15 Is there any questions to Elders from Board
16 Members at all? Charlie.

17 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

18 MR. INUARAK: To Kugluktuk residents, my name is
19 Charlie from NWMB. Thank you very much for your very
20 interesting, informative comments, and it makes you think
21 about things. And I really welcome your comments, and it's
22 something to ground us.

23 And you mentioned that in, we see it all
24 (Inuktitut spoken). When there's rain and sleet during the
25 wintertime and it ices over on the land, we call it

1 (Inuktitut spoken). And land freezes up from rain and
2 sleet during the winter, which is an unusual event during
3 that time, and the caribou have to survive off their food,
4 but once they can't get into their lichen or their food
5 because of ice, they go hungry.

6 And because of the changing climate, do you
7 think that there's a decrease in the caribou population
8 because of this unusual weather event like rain and sleet
9 during the wintertime and it freezes over?

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

11 Peter.

12 MR. TAKTOGON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13 Yeah, I seen it's been happening, and maybe
14 that's the reason why the caribou weren't moving south or
15 where there's no hard snow crust and everything.

16 Another thing I forgot to mention; wolf
17 population. I was at wolf bait twice in my life, you know,
18 witnessed a lot of wolves killing caribou. A few years
19 back just not far from Kugluktuk, halfway to Contwoyto
20 Lake, used to see Bathurst caribou not so many miles apart.
21 That must be eight years ago, or nine. You know, like, the
22 Elder always teach us these things and that.

23 It's the same thing with the wolves. I learned
24 they teach their cubs to kill, how to do it. And another
25 factor you have to look at into that, too. You know,

1 sometimes the wolves they just can't eat the meat; they
2 kill them for fun. That's how they learn. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

4 Any other questions?

5 If not, staff? No questions. Legal, no
6 questions?

7 Government of Nunavut, any questions? Mathieu.

8 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 Government of Nunavut has no question at this time.

10 Thanks.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

12 Jan, NWT.

13 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you. No questions.

14 THE CHAIR: Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board,
15 Simon.

16 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: No questions.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

18 Kugluktuk HTO, Larry, any questions?

19 MR. L. ADJUN: No, I have no questions against my
20 board of directors.

21 THE CHAIR: You can talk at home amongst
22 yourselves.

23 Bathurst Inlet, Sam.

24 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you. I have no questions.

25 THE CHAIR: Bay Chimo, Peter.

1 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
2 questions.

3 THE CHAIR: Cambridge Bay HTO, Bobby?

4 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
5 questions.

6 THE CHAIR: NTI, Bert.

7 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No
8 questions. Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: KIA, Geoff.

10 MR. CLARK: Thank you. We have a question.

11 THE CHAIR: Okay. Go ahead, Paul.

12 KITIKMEOT INUIT ASSOCIATION QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

13 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 My question is to Taktogon, Peter. You talked
15 about the climate change, and I'm just curious. You know,
16 like any other person around here, I'm just wanting to
17 learn, you know, as much as possible about caribou and
18 other wildlife. You talked about climate change, global
19 warming, whatnot. I just want to know whether, if you
20 know, in the fall time when the bulls are rutting and
21 mating with the climate change and warming and that; I'm
22 just wondering if you know if the warm weather is having an
23 affect on, you know, the breeding bulls. Because, for lack
24 of a better word, they might get sterile. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

1 Peter.

2 MR. TAKTOGON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

3 Yeah, I witnessed some caribou. Caribou
4 nowadays in the fall time, they used to be really nice and
5 fat in Kugluktuk area and south of it. It's all different
6 now because of the weather, I think. The weather and the
7 lichens, some lichens are not really growing in surrounding
8 areas due to the weather, dry weather some years we used to
9 have. In the past, caribou used to have fat -- must have
10 been two, three inches. It's right from the neck to the
11 bum. But nowadays you only get less than an inch.

12 Yeah, it is affecting the caribou.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

14 Paul.

15 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you, Peter.

16 Yeah, I'm just wondering if it's the same for
17 the female caribou, you know, because we had about low
18 pregnancy rates from GN, GNWT. I'm just wondering, you
19 know, if the global warming, for lack of a better word,
20 climate change is having an effect on all caribou.

21 Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

23 Peter.

24 MR. TAKTOGON: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25 Yeah, nowadays Bathurst and Bluenose herd, I

1 witnessed that herd lot of times in the spring, summer.
2 Nowadays, you're only seeing females. Where are the bulls?
3 You know, we try hunt bulls during fall time. There's
4 rarely any bulls nowadays surrounding those two herds.
5 That's how come in my comment I said I never will never be
6 shooting off bulls. You're going to be killing more
7 caribou. I think that's what's happening. In my
8 experience and observing caribou, we're not killing that
9 many bulls when we see caribou herds, even during summer.
10 Not like in the past.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

12 Paul.

13 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 For your comments. That's all I have. Thank
15 you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Paul.

17 Okay. Last on the list is any questions from
18 the public. If not, we'll move on to our next presenter,
19 which is -- oh, James. I'm sorry about that, James.

20 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

21 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 James Panioyak from the community of
23 Cambridge Bay.

24 Thank you, Peter, for your observations in
25 regards to the caribou. I just wanted to raise a question

1 about wolves in general because us hunters here on the
2 island here as well, we do have a problem with predators,
3 as I stated earlier in the week, on Bathurst caribou herd
4 as well. The Dolphin and Union caribou herd is, as we
5 know, on a decline, as well, because we know as hunters
6 predator is a big factor on the conditions and the
7 population of the caribou.

8 Peter, what's your observations on the caribou
9 around your area in Kugluktuk? Have the hunters witnessed
10 more wolf packs over the years hunting the caribou in your
11 area?

12 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

14 Peter.

15 MR. TAKTOGON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.

16 Every time the caribou come around, even when
17 we're in the Napaktalik close to Contwoyto Lake. March and
18 April, I was there twice. Depends where the caribou is.
19 You see a lot of predators. You see lot of wolves, grizzly
20 bears; same thing for wolverines.

21 I witnessed wolverines, in my past, killing off
22 the big Bathurst caribou, you know, where the big Bathurst
23 caribou is. Some wolverines are really fast where they can
24 run like wolf. All the wolverines are not the same. I
25 witnessed that in my life. You know, some people always

1 say -- even white people always say they are so slow
2 runners, but there are certain wolverines, too, that
3 survived on caribous, too. I witnessed that lots in my
4 life.

5 Like, it happened to me when I first started
6 tracking wolverines; two hours, just about four hours just
7 tracking wolverine down. That was before I started
8 witnessing wolverines killing caribou. That's how come,
9 one winter when I was trapping, there was no wolf tracks
10 anywhere. I witnessed this there must be six bull
11 carcasses. That's the time that caribou start rutting.
12 That's how I come I said in my statement yesterday or a
13 couple days ago, I said when caribou are mating it's so
14 easy for the wolverines and the grizzly bears to kill them
15 often. That's how come I'm always against why the
16 Government of Northwest Territories and wherever putting
17 out TAH. You're going to be killing off more caribou.
18 Grizzly bears, wolverines; they're doing that part already.

19 Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

21 James.

22 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 And thank you, Peter, for that answer.

24 So a question, I guess: Do you think now that
25 there's more predators on the land preying on caribou where

1 there's Bluenose caribou, Bathurst caribou or, in our case,
2 Dolphin Union caribou? Predators now become such a big
3 pack, like the wolf packs, more grizzlies.

4 What's your observations on how they're preying
5 on the caribou? Are they killing the caribou for food, or
6 is it now just for, like Elders would say, (Inuktitut
7 spoken) where they play to kill now? Is that the right
8 observation?

9 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

11 Peter.

12 MR. TAKTOGON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13 Yeah, it is. The grizzly bears, for the last
14 seven years, I've been witnessing it. Like, during
15 spring, we go duck hunting and everything surrounding
16 Kugluktuk. That's on mainland. Seeing lot of grizzly
17 bears migrating north on the ocean. It was unbelievable.
18 Must be three springs in a row. That's why I started
19 hearing grizzly bears getting into Cambridge Bay area,
20 Holman Island, and in Holman Island now they're mating with
21 the polar bears; it was half grizzly and polar bear. They
22 call it grillar or whatever.

23 Yeah, it is happening. And once the caribou
24 come to whatever -- like, last spring, that Bluenose herd
25 came close to Kugluktuk. There was a pack of wolves

1 hanging around, and plus they had pups; and the fall time
2 came, the caribou migrated south in Kugluktuk. Right close
3 to where the docking area and that, they killed three dogs
4 tied up. The wolves were hungry. You know, wolves -- the
5 same thing with -- the grizzly bears go right into town.
6 Last year they killed two dogs tied up and ate them up.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

8 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 Just one question, I guess. Peter, what is your
10 observation when there's surveys going on in any caribou
11 herd around your area? Is there enough consultation from
12 the GN? Are they doing enough to culture the communities
13 in regards to the caribou herds, and is there enough Inuit
14 traditional knowledge being used as a part of the survey?

15 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

17 Peter.

18 MR. TAKTOGON: Yeah, thank you. You know, I
19 always don't kind of believe in the biologists. To be a
20 good biologist, it would be nicer if they followed the
21 caribou; I could believe them. Like myself, follow the
22 caribou. You observe, you learn, and, you know, it's
23 pretty hard to -- I know it is -- I'm on search and rescue.
24 And I think it's pretty hard to find someone, you know.

25 It's pretty hard to say that part, but it would

1 be nice if they would collar not in one area; in certain
2 areas before the herd split up. That way, they would find
3 better knowledge of where the caribou are moving.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

5 James.

6 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 Just wanted an answer in regards to if there was
8 enough traditional knowledge being used during the
9 government's survey on the caribou. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

11 Peter.

12 MR. TAKTOGON: Yeah, it would be nice. Like,
13 Inuit knowledge is more accurate than the biologists'
14 predictions. And, you know, nowadays, public meetings,
15 they're mostly leaving out traditional knowledge. Most of
16 the time, it's right, it's closest to the science.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

18 James.

19 MR. PANIOYAK: That's all I have. Thank you,
20 Mr. Chairman.

21 Thank you, Peter, for your answers. Quana.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

23 Peter, go ahead.

24 MR. TAKTOGON: Yeah, just last week we had a
25 grizzly bear running right in town. We have that problem

1 every fall and spring.

2 And another thing, too, we have a lot of problem
3 bears breaking into cabins. That's how come nowadays you
4 have to board up your cabins. I got three cabins. In the
5 past, the bears and the wolf -- through my observation,
6 it's different now, too. In the past -- I forgot to tell
7 you -- when you walk on the tundra, even though there's no
8 snow, if a grizzly bear's walking by, if it hit your
9 footprints, it smell it, they will take off. Same thing
10 with the wolf. But, nowadays, grizzly bears and wolves,
11 they're not scared of anything.

12 The same thing is happening to the seagulls on
13 the coast. You know, you might dry meat out on the land.
14 Seagulls on the coast never used to bother your dry meat.
15 Nowadays they go right outside your house and picking on
16 garbage. When they see a piece of meat on your steps, they
17 go there. The animals factor on predators it's changed;
18 not like in the past.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Peter.

20 Okay. I think that's it from the public, then,
21 unless there's anybody else.

22 If not, we'll move on before coffee. We'll move
23 on to NTI, Bert, for your presentation to the Board on the
24 Bluenose East. Thank you.

25 NUNAVUT TUNNGAVIK INCORPORATED QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

1 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 Bert Dean with NTI's Wildlife and Environment
3 Department. I'll keep it quite short.

4 Similar to the presentation for the Bathurst
5 herd, two letters were sent by NTI to the Board. The first
6 one was dated April 8th, 2016, and in that letter the first
7 point -- there was two points in the letter, the first
8 point being, that if there was to be a TAH established,
9 that the entire TAH should be given to Inuit pending the
10 NWMB establishing a basic needs level.

11 The second point in that April 8th letter again
12 was the concern about the location of the public hearings
13 and the concern that we felt it was important if, for the
14 first time a TAH was going to be established on caribou for
15 the community of Kugluktuk, that the hearing should be
16 located there.

17 So there was a response to that letter from the
18 GN, in terms of their opinion, or whatever, in terms of the
19 TAH. And I won't go into the all legal details at this
20 time, unless people want to or want to get into the
21 questioning; but needless to say, it has been a challenge,
22 I guess, especially in regards to Southampton Island and
23 the Baffin Island caribou.

24 The May 12th letter: Again, it was, I think,
25 around this time that KIA took a more active role in

1 assisting the Kugluktuk HTO, and NTI took more of a
2 backseat role to let the Kitikmeot Inuit Association
3 provide that support or actively work with the Kugluktuk
4 HTO. And in that letter NTI expressed its support of the
5 work KIA was doing, and, again, in there KIA had requested
6 a postponement of the hearing to give the community and the
7 KIA more time to work on the management plan that was being
8 developed and, again, mention of the basic needs level.

9 The meetings that have occurred in the Northwest
10 Territories over the years, NTI, has whenever possible,
11 tried to attend or participate or be there if community of
12 Kugluktuk or Cambridge or the Kitikmeot Wildlife Board was
13 there, to be there in a support role. But it was always
14 quite intimidating, as I'm sure it is for some of the NWT
15 folks to come here to a meeting that the majority are Inuit
16 or a majority of Nunavut organizations. But, because they
17 are interjurisdictional species and the caribou don't know
18 the political boundaries, we felt there was value in
19 participating in those meetings and also presenting that
20 Nunavut has a land claim agreement. And there is a process
21 within Nunavut that will happen. And so that Inuit should
22 feel confident that if any kind of changes to harvest or
23 any kind of management actions were going to take place,
24 there's a process within Nunavut as per the Land Claim.
25 And what we've been doing the last four days is exactly

1 that, is participating in that hearing and having the
2 opportunity to get the information to the Board to help in
3 making a decision on the Bluenose East caribou.

4 So I'm going to keep it short, and then if there
5 are questions on a bunch of other areas, I can elaborate
6 further at that time.

7 Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Bert.

9 Okay. In regards to what Bert has just
10 outlined, is there any questions from the Board Members to
11 NTI? If not, staff? Legal counsel? Michael.

12 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

13 MR. D'EÇA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14 I've got a couple of questions, Bert.

15 First of all, a couple of times during the
16 meeting Geoff talked about the HTO being aware of its
17 rights, it's rights, its 5.7.3 rights, to develop a plan.
18 And he specifically asked the Government of Nunavut -- and
19 I'm paraphrasing; I may have it wrong -- but did you think
20 that the HTOs were aware of their rights? And the GN, I
21 think, said, "Yeah, yeah, we certainly assumed that they
22 were aware of their rights." And 22, 23 years into the
23 implementation of the Claim, that seems to be a reasonable
24 assumption. Then today Geoff put it right to the HTO
25 itself, "Were you aware of your rights?" And Larry was,

1 you know, succinct, "No, we weren't."

2 And it's clearly a concerning issue. It's one
3 that I think, actually, a number of organizations who are
4 prominent within the Claim share, but it is something that
5 I think we need to turn our minds to and to try to address.
6 So I don't take the NWMB out of that group of prominent
7 organizations.

8 And it's interesting that I can put it to you as
9 the NTI representative, because Bert has been so involved
10 for probably these 22 or 23 years, particularly with HTOs
11 and RWOs, in supporting and educating and promoting the
12 rights of Inuit and of hunters and trappers organizations
13 and regional wildlife organizations.

14 So just to get your take on this, you know:
15 What do you think needs to be done? And, also, if you can
16 take somewhat of an objective position, you know, of your
17 own organization, the designated Inuit organization, the
18 organization that protects and promotes and ensures the
19 implementation of Inuit rights. You know, how can we turn
20 that around?

21 I do have another question, Mr. Chair, after
22 that. Taima.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

24 Bert.

25 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 Thank you, Michael, for the question.

2 The easiest way I can put it is it's all about
3 power and control. As long as the HTO feels in control of
4 their own community, their own destiny, or they're
5 regulating their members, or they have that sense of
6 control. I think there's a comfort level, and I think the
7 Land Claim tries to do that, tries to create a system where
8 that management can happen at the community level. The
9 challenge I think we all face -- not just at the community;
10 we face it at the regional level and NTI, and I'm sure the
11 Board and government faces it too -- is capacity.

12 And it could be because of turnover, could be
13 because of just having that experience or technical
14 support, but where I've seen it the most successful is
15 where people are working together. Where you've got a
16 level of trust established, people don't feel that they're
17 being backed into a corner and told what to do. The
18 knowledge, the experience from the communities from the
19 hunters is not just, you know, given lip service or just
20 spoken about, but, you know, it's acknowledged. It's real.

21 And at the same time, the community members are
22 working with biologists or staff or other technical people
23 from the different organizations, government departments,
24 etcetera, to work together.

25 And so that's what I'm hoping we'll be able to

1 get from this is that the Kugluktuk HTO has had to react to
2 the situation, but I think, with the support from KIA,
3 we've got a framework there to look for a management plan,
4 but it's going to be a lot of work, and it's going to need
5 a lot of support. And it's not just Kugluktuk; it's other
6 communities. I mean, we've had a lot of references to
7 Baffin Island caribou; Southampton Island, there's a lot of
8 challenges there, as well, and with other species, too, not
9 just caribou.

10 And I think Larry had referred or the HTO had
11 talked about some different experiences they had where they
12 put rules or limitation on their members, say, around
13 fishing. And as long as there's support at the community
14 level or respect for following those rules, it works; and
15 maybe there's some people that don't follow it and it makes
16 it tough for the community, but one way or the other, they
17 try and work it out.

18 For something like a TAH on caribou -- and it's
19 going to be complicated in a community where, potentially,
20 you know, how are we going to be able to distinguish
21 between a Bathurst, a Bluenose East, and a Dolphin Union
22 caribou? It's going to be a lot of work to do that system
23 in not just monitoring it, but then how to enforce it; and,
24 again, this is the question that's come up in the media
25 recently. If it's not a bull caribou, if it's a female

1 caribou that's shot, what is the reaction going to be,
2 whether it's from the wildlife officers or conservation
3 officers or from the HTO?

4 So I have no illusions. It's a lot, a lot of
5 work, but I think if there's true commitment from all the
6 organizations, Kugluktuk HTO has a chance to make it work,
7 and I think we've seen other successes in other communities
8 where they have been able to.

9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Michael.

11 Thank you, Bert.

12 MR. D'EÇA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 Yeah, and there is the other, I don't know if
14 "level" is the right word, but of actually getting across
15 to people, you know, what is actually contained within your
16 5.3.7 rights, your 5.7.6 rights? You know, the whole issue
17 of basic needs levels, sort of an educational approach to
18 the Land Claim. I know that different things have been
19 tried, but I don't know that they've been all that
20 successful, and it's been, you know, a couple of decades.
21 But let's leave that for now.

22 The second matter I wanted to ask you about,
23 which I had also put to KRWB and to the Kugluktuk HTO, was
24 that other management plan, Taking Care of Caribou. And,
25 again, you talked about, in your response to my last

1 question, you know, the working together and so on,
2 collaborating. And that appears -- you know, my knowledge
3 of it is mostly kind of a paper knowledge just following
4 the trail. But it appears to have been one of those
5 successful exercises. KRWB is a member of the ACCWM and
6 helped to organize the development of the plan on that
7 working group, developing it -- KRWB people, NTI, Kugluktuk
8 HTO, the Government of Nunavut, the NWMB -- and it was at
9 least five years in the making.

10 We had somewhat of a review of it by the
11 Government of Northwest Territories. It was completed and
12 signed off by KRWB and the other members of the committee
13 about 18 months ago, November 2014. And so I just put it
14 to NTI: First of all, there's the assumption that having,
15 been a working group member and the plan has been approved
16 and the involvement of all your co-management partners,
17 that NTI was satisfied with that plan at the time.

18 Is NTI still satisfied with it? Does it have
19 any interest in that moving forward, in terms of
20 consideration for adoption within the Nunavut Territory?
21 Taima.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

23 Bert.

24 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 And thank you, Michael.

1 I think a lot of -- I'm just going to your first
2 comment with the Land Claim provisions. A lot of times,
3 we're trying to fit that square peg in the round hole or
4 vice versa. I think when the negotiators were working on
5 the Land Claim and a lot of the principles and a lot of the
6 clauses in there were meant to assist Inuit in protecting
7 their rights. And GN -- and, again, this is just from my
8 own experience, but when you talk to hunters or you talk to
9 Elders, especially older people, I don't think a lot of
10 people view hunting caribou as a right traditionally; it's
11 something that's done with a great amount of respect.

12 And that's the fuzzy part is when you're moving
13 from respect to rights, and so you've got different
14 concepts. You know, you've got a legal structure trying to
15 blend with a traditional culture. But that's the only
16 way -- well, not the only way, maybe, but that's the way
17 that Inuit were able to have their voice heard in a western
18 society was to play that game, to play that legal game, to
19 hire legal experts and to go into those negotiations and
20 establish constitutionally protected rights.

21 But I don't think when a hunter is out on the
22 land he's thinking about his constitutionally protected
23 rights so much; he's thinking about the values that he's
24 learned from his father or uncle or extended family and the
25 respect that they'd have not just for the wildlife, but for

1 nature because it's an unforgiving area. And that's the
2 hope is if the HTO is able to blend those two and you have
3 that respect from your community, they'll follow the rules.

4 But it's a tough -- it's a lot of work, and I
5 don't envy those communities, and lot of communities
6 struggle with it because society is changing, and it's
7 tough. And I think people aren't always necessarily
8 deterred that they might get charged. If someone in their
9 family, especially an Elder, says they're hungry and they
10 want you to get food for them, that's going to be more of a
11 priority, and that's what they're going to follow as
12 opposed to a hunting rule or a bylaw or whether they might
13 get charged.

14 So just in terms of that concept of the law or
15 the Land Claim -- and we really struggle. It's been a
16 hard -- or difficult to explain a lot of these rights. And
17 you had questions the last from different members around
18 here, but also from the public about, you know, how does
19 this work, and how does assignment work? And different
20 things like that that are -- it's a new way of sort of
21 managing communities, so people are still figuring it out.

22 Jumping across to your next question about the
23 Taking Care of Caribou document: Again, this was another
24 group established through efforts mostly out of -- well,
25 all out of the Northwest Territories, but bringing together

1 the different co-management boards, again, to talk about
2 caribou that are all in the different areas, because it's
3 not just -- for us it's either Nunavut or Northwest
4 Territories, but within the Northwest Territories there's a
5 number of different Claim areas. And I think it was a
6 positive working group in the sense that it is an
7 overarching document. It's not forcing anyone into
8 something. It's not prescriptive in that you have to do
9 this or that, but it was an attempt to have communication
10 and working together by all the groups and to give the
11 communities or those Claim areas a document that they could
12 work with if they were to develop it further in their
13 community.

14 And I know when I visited the community of
15 Kugluktuk -- and we were there again a month or so ago for
16 the KIA board meeting -- when we went by the HTO office,
17 there's -- I don't know -- a few copies of that document on
18 the bookshelf there in the HTO. So I think the Kugluktuk
19 HTO and the Kitikmeot board has benefitted by having not
20 just the GN biologists and staff working with them, but
21 also, that connection with the Northwest Territories and
22 being so close to Yellowknife.

23 But again, NTI was not a signatory to it. We
24 didn't give any specific advice to the KRWB whether they
25 should or shouldn't sign it; they're their own independent

1 organization. They would have to make that decision if
2 they were comfortable signing onto that. But, again, it
3 was an exercise to help facilitate communication between
4 the different groups, and it's there as -- hopefully, as
5 someone was mentioning -- one of the tools in the toolbox
6 to help if the community were to develop any kind of
7 management plan of their own.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

9 Taima? Peter.

10 MR. KYDD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11 Thanks, Bert, for those explanations. Just a
12 quick one. Most folks around the table have said that
13 they're in support of the management plan that's kind of in
14 the works. A lot of people have also said they're in
15 opposition to the total allowable harvest or the
16 establishment of a total allowable harvest.

17 Is NTI also opposed to the establishment of a
18 total allowable harvest? Thank you. I'll leave it there.
19 Thanks.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

21 Bert.

22 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 Thank you, Peter, for the question.

24 In our documentation, our discussions, we're
25 supportive of the efforts of the Kugluktuk HTO. If they

1 have an alternative approach that they want to try, we'll
2 do our best to assist and be supportive of that.

3 I mean, having said that, you know, there will
4 always be that internal review, and we'd would want to
5 ensure that we're following that spirit and intent of the
6 Land Claim, that we're not, you know, limiting rights in a
7 certain case or whatever it might be.

8 But I think there's a lot more chance of success
9 if it's a community-led initiative.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

11 Peter.

12 MR. KYDD: No, that's great.

13 Thanks, Bert.

14 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.

15 Before we go to GN, we'll break for a 15-minute
16 coffee. Thank you.

17 (ADJOURNMENT)

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, everybody. Welcome
19 back, and we'll carry on.

20 Just to mention, in the interests of time, I
21 hope that we can finish this and not have to come back
22 tonight. But we'll see, and I think there is a few people
23 leaving tonight back home to Kugluktuk, too, but we'll keep
24 that in mind and see how it goes, and we'll carry on.

25 NTI, questions from the Government of Nunavut.

1 Mathieu comments or questions.

2 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No
3 questions. Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

5 Government of Northwest Territories.

6 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you. No questions from us.
7 Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

9 Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, Simon.

10 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
11 questions.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

13 Kugluktuk HTO, Larry.

14 KUGLUKTUK HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

15 MR. L. ADJUN: Yes, we're always full of them.

16 Earlier on, we were talking about the
17 Article 5.7.3. Earlier on, KIA asked the HTO, are we aware
18 of our rights or full rights? I believe the lawyer brought
19 it up. Yes, we are fully aware of our rights because we
20 have to follow our policy and procedures resource manual
21 under 5.7.3, and one of the volumes is a governance manual,
22 management manual, Land Claims manual where it states some
23 of the HTO and RWO obligations under the Nunavut Land
24 Claims Agreement.

25 Do we fully understand our rights? No, we

1 don't. We don't have -- what's the word? -- a DIO officer
2 in our office. But just for the record, we do believe we
3 gave KIA the wrong answer. As you can see from our past
4 presentation, we have a lot of management programs running,
5 such as with Golder & Associates for Bernard harbour
6 (verbatim) offset or fishery offset project, muskox studies
7 that were done in the past, caribou collaring that we give
8 to the DoE. And under one of our businesses is called
9 Angoniatit Nuviak Limited (phonetic). That's part of our
10 business side or our business arm of the Kugluktuk HTO. So
11 I just want to point that out. I believe I gave KIA the
12 wrong answer earlier on.

13 So, yes, we are aware of our rights, as Bert
14 mentioned. But, yes, for the record, I gave the wrong
15 answer for KIA and just give you a little more information.

16 So just for clarity's sake, that's our statement
17 to NTI.

18 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you, Larry. I don't
19 hear a question in there, just a comment, clarification.

20 Bathurst Inlet HTO, Sam, any questions to NTI?

21 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have
22 no questions. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Bay Chimo, Peter.

24 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
25 questions.

1 THE CHAIR: Is there any questions from Elders
2 or Elders representative to NTI? Does not appear to be
3 any.

4 Cambridge Bay HTO. George.

5 CAMBRIDGE BAY HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

6 MR. G. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

7 George, EHTO. Just one quick question for NTI.
8 In the case that we do need to get a hold of you or get in
9 touch with you, who do we address our concerns to or our
10 questions to? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, George.

12 Bert.

13 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 Thank you, George, for the question. Yeah, you
15 can contact our office directly, if you like, and I'll make
16 sure you have our information for the office in
17 Rankin Inlet. As well, Paul Irngaut is located in our
18 Iqaluit office, and David Lee is our biologist that also
19 does a lot of work with HTOs. We're in pretty regular
20 contact with the regional coordinators, so Ema and Eva
21 would have our contact information.

22 Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert. Taima.

24 KIA, any questions for NTI? Paul.

25 KITIKMEOT INUIT ASSOCIATION QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

1 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 Thank you very much. Just a question to Bert.

3 I'm just wondering if, in your work with the HTOs and other
4 wildlife organizations in your past, I guess, 20 years,
5 have they ever come to KIA to conduct or ever request for
6 an NLCA workshop? Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

8 Bert.

9 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10 Thank you, Paul, for the question.

11 Yes, there's been workshops over the years.

12 It's probably been a while since there's been a specific
13 Land Claim workshop going through their roles and
14 responsibilities. We've also held symposiums over the
15 years, and some of different Land Claim responsibilities
16 have come up as part of the agenda for those symposiums.
17 We have direction from our political leadership to work on
18 putting together another symposium in the near future, more
19 specific around polar bear management and the bowhead
20 harvest, things like that. But it's also the opportunity
21 for other agencies, if we all work together, to have
22 different types of workshops or information sessions on
23 those.

24 And then we usually attend the regional AGMs,
25 and, a lot of times, will there be a meeting or workshop

1 component where some of the issues may come up. And at the
2 staff level, the secretariat's been working to do workshops
3 for the HTO managers, and I think Larry was referring to
4 one of the policies and procedures manuals that have been
5 developed over the years, and there's been some different
6 workshops happening with a few HTOs that basically
7 requested them have sort of been out in the front. So it
8 hasn't been anything really structured, but it is something
9 that we continue to do and probably should have more
10 structure and training on as we try and develop that
11 capacity and training, especially at the staff and the HTO
12 board level.

13 Thank you.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

15 Paul.

16 MR. EMINGAK: Yeah, my last question to Bert.

17 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 Over the years that you have worked with NTI
19 under the wildlife portfolio, how vital is it for the HTOs
20 to -- how would I say? -- to make recommendations or
21 implement, you know, wildlife issues to others such as
22 Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, GN, NTI? I know
23 sometimes that, you know, we sort of call them little
24 brothers under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, and I
25 don't think we should label as that. I think they're part

1 of the process because they have their rights.

2 My question is: How vital do you think it is
3 for the HTOs to be part of the process? Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

5 Bert.

6 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 Thanks again, Paul, for the question.

8 Yeah, they're extremely important, and this
9 hearing is a perfect example, because if we want management
10 of wildlife to happen in a meaningful way, it's going to
11 happen at the community level, and the hunters and trappers
12 organizations are our link to the community, and they've
13 been around since before the Claim was signed. They've
14 always been somewhat underfunded, they've always had
15 capacity challenges. Some have done well, but as soon as
16 staff leave or maybe the board changes, it takes a bit of a
17 dip, and then there's a rebuilding period, so it is tough
18 for them.

19 But when they are running well, they can have a
20 very meaningful impact at the community level and
21 provide -- for all of us, as co-management partners, that's
22 the connection we need, whether it's NTI or the government
23 or the Board. So I'm biased because I work in the wildlife
24 field, but I think they're very important.

25 Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Bert.

2 Paul.

3 MR. EMINGAK: Just a last supplementary question
4 to Bert.

5 For those HTOs who are doing well and managing
6 their own organizations, do you think that they're ready to
7 take on other responsibilities in their communities, you
8 know, having a larger role in terms of, you know, hiring
9 their own biologists or so on? So, my question.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

11 Bert.

12 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 And thanks, Paul.

14 Yeah, I mean, they really have a lot of
15 potential. There's quite a few HTOs that own their own
16 buildings, they have business arms, as Kugluktuk was
17 mentioning, they're involved in outfitting and guiding,
18 they bring a lot of employment or whatever for the hunters
19 and into the community; and if things are managed properly,
20 that can just grow and grow. And as soon as they've got
21 that stable management and they get established, yeah,
22 there's also sorts of potential.

23 And, especially, we're in Cambridge Bay.

24 They're building the char facility. There's going to be a
25 number of researchers. More and more are coming up north

1 or especially in this region. I know at the last Kitikmeot
2 Regional Wildlife Board AGM there was a workshop at the end
3 to look at how could the HTOs take advantage or be more
4 involved in some of the environmental work. Like, whether
5 it's with mining companies or researchers or other
6 activities, there's opportunities for HTOs or harvesters to
7 be involved and use the skills that they have and work in
8 these fields and earn some money at the same time.

9 So, again, it really comes down to management,
10 and, hopefully, we can get some systems in place, and
11 that's what the secretariat is trying to do, but it needs
12 to grow and expand where there's more administrative
13 support at the regional level because there's 27 HTOs and 3
14 regional wildlife boards. So there's 30 separate
15 organizations that are administering millions of dollars,
16 and over 50 staff and a couple hundred board members, and
17 that's larger than NTI or other organizations or
18 businesses. So if it can run well, there's all sorts of
19 potential.

20 Thank you.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

22 Paul.

23 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you, itsivautaaq.

24 (No translation).

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul. Any other

1 questions from KIA? None? Thank you very much.

2 Okay. The only one left to ask any questions is
3 the public. If there's any questions from the public for
4 NTI in regards to the Bluenose East caribou public hearing.

5 James.

6 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

7 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good
8 afternoon.

9 Don't get a lot of chances to ask my friend Bert
10 questions. So, anyway, just adding to some of the
11 questions that Paul had in terms of how the HTO was
12 managed. A question, I guess, would be: Whatever happened
13 to the NTI's Closer to the People initiative where, at the
14 time, the designated Inuit organizations had in mind to
15 take control of the HTOs and run it from that perspective?

16 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

18 Bert.

19 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20 And thank you, James, for your question.

21 The Closer to Inuit or Closer to the People
22 initiative was a number of years ago now, but basically for
23 the others, it was a review of NTI and the RIAs and other
24 Inuit organizations and how we operate, and the board
25 structure at NTI and things like that.

1 I guess it's fair to say it's had a mixed level
2 of success, in terms of the implementation, but the goal or
3 the intent of it was that NTI would be an overarching
4 policy support organization working closely with the RIAs
5 and the regional wildlife boards, as well as the hunters
6 and trappers. From that, a wildlife and environment
7 committee was established, which our vice-president James
8 Eetoolook chairs, and each of the RIAs appoint a member to
9 that. Attima Hadlari sits on that committee from the
10 Kitikmeot here in the Kitikmeot, and Simon sits on it from
11 the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board. And then, of
12 course, the other regions are represented, as well, on that
13 committee.

14 And it's an opportunity to bring the three
15 regions, RIAs, RWOs, and NTI together to discuss wildlife
16 and environment issues. Especially with the number of NIRB
17 hearings that have been happening over the last few years,
18 and the restructuring at NTI, it's an attempt to, I guess,
19 sort of improve the communication.

20 So there's still some parts of it that haven't
21 been fully implemented, but overall, I think the intent of
22 it, I think, is hopefully working, and there has been a lot
23 more communication and working relationships between the
24 regional organizations and NTI.

25 Hopefully, that answer your questions.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

2 James.

3 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 Having said that, Bert, what do you see? How
5 would it be beneficial for the local HTOs should NTI or KIA
6 implement that to have HTOs represented by the regional
7 bodies, the Inuit regional bodies?

8 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

10 Bert.

11 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 Thanks, James.

13 Yeah, I mean, our goal has been to create
14 opportunities for the regional bodies to work together, and
15 how it evolves is really up to them at their pace and on
16 the different issues. And I know the Sabina hearing
17 probably provided an opportunity for the two to work
18 together as well as this one, as well, so the other regions
19 are a little bit different, but again, I think there's been
20 improved communications happening all the way around.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

22 James.

23 MR. PANIOYAK: Yeah, one last question,

24 Mr. Chairman.

25 So having said that, then, I guess, should the

1 HTO be represented by an Inuit body, we would obviously
2 have more representation or, in a legal aspect, have more
3 support in terms of public hearings down the road should
4 there be more.

5 I'm just visualizing, Mr. Chairman, that there
6 would be more public hearings in terms of caribou. I know
7 this won't be the last once. So, Bert, how do you see that
8 benefitting the HTOs? Should we be represented by our
9 designated regional Inuit organizations?

10 Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

12 Bert.

13 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 And thanks, James.

15 Yeah, I'd really leave that to the regional
16 wildlife boards and the regional Inuit associations to sort
17 that out, but definitely, it has been helpful having that
18 support of all three working together.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

20 Okay. There's no further questions from any
21 other public, thank you very much, Bert, NTI.

22 We'll move on, then, getting close to our final
23 presentation. Next up is Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and
24 I'll turn it over to you fellows. Geoff.

25 KITIKMEOT INUIT ASSOCIATION SUBMISSION

1 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 Geoff Clark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association.

3 Mr. Chair, our presentation for the Bathurst herd is almost
4 identical to that for the Bluenose East herd. It will be a
5 lost faster just to describe the differences, and, I guess,
6 add a few more comments as a result of the four days of our
7 experience together.

8 So if you don't mind, I'll do that, and I think
9 it will speed up the process.

10 THE CHAIR: No, thank you very much. That
11 process has been all agreed to. So thank you. Paul.

12 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you. Before Geoff starts,
13 I'd just like just to recognize my KIA president, Stan
14 Anablak, who just arrived back from his duty travel.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much. Welcome. Go
16 ahead, Geoff.

17 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So this
18 will be fairly quick.

19 As a review, the KIA board supported the
20 development of the integrated community caribou management
21 plan with the Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Organization.
22 Obviously, KIA worked with the Kugluktuk HTO to support
23 them to develop the plan that they wanted. Also, to get, I
24 guess, some external verification, KIA sent the plan to
25 independent biologists named Dr. Anne Gunn, after it was

1 completed, and asked her opinion of that HTO plan and
2 whether it seemed sound, given the Bluenose East caribou
3 population and management situation, and she provided a
4 written endorsement of the plan which is part of the
5 submissions to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board.

6 KIA's recommendations that are unique to the
7 Bluenose East caribou herd hearing today is that there's a
8 conservation concern with the Bluenose East herd.

9 Just so that people know, I'm not following any
10 slide format. I think there were some KIA slides jumping
11 around there. As I said, I'm just giving a summary.

12 So KIA's recommendation to the Nunavut Wildlife
13 Management Board is that there's a conservation concern
14 with the Bluenose East caribou herd, and, secondly, that
15 the Kugluktuk HTO must be provided adequate time to further
16 develop and test its alternative to a TAH, which is a
17 Nunavut Land Claims Agreement right of the Kugluktuk
18 Hunters and Trappers Organization.

19 We've had a lot of positive feedback to the
20 plan, in terms of general comments around the table, and we
21 believe there are opportunities for the parties to work
22 together to test and give the Kugluktuk HTO a fair chance
23 to develop and implement that plan. And the existing
24 relationships between the GN, the Kugluktuk HTO, NTI, and
25 the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board appears to be very

1 good and very likely capable of handling that.

2 Another comment is it's probably too bad, and
3 it's just by luck of the draw that we didn't have this
4 Bluenose East hearing as the first hearing and the Bathurst
5 caribou herd hearing as the second hearing, because I
6 think, you know, for the Bathurst herd hearing there wasn't
7 enough time for the HTOs to develop a plan to present to
8 the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. Even though there
9 have been preliminary discussions, there's no opportunity
10 to provide something to you for that hearing in the first
11 two days.

12 And the Kugluktuk HTO plan or proposal shows
13 that we are all a lot closer to resolve this issue than
14 maybe we thought we were in the first two days, and so
15 perhaps, in relation to the Bathurst herd, if adequate time
16 was developed or allowed that we may find that we're a lot
17 closer again than maybe what we thought, and I believe that
18 there probably wouldn't have been the level of anxiety and
19 uncertainty in the first two days.

20 I think, on the first day, one of your Board
21 Members, Simeonie, made a comment, and it's really
22 resonated. He said -- and I'm only paraphrasing, but it's
23 almost something along the lines of, this isn't a great
24 forum for resolving these matters and, you know, Inuit
25 traditionally have done this in different ways, and this is

1 a new way now.

2 And in our team, before the hearing started but
3 early in the day on day one, we had that same conversation
4 amongst ourselves; you know, the format tends to make --
5 just the nature of the format, it makes things seem more
6 adversarial because presentations can only be made at one
7 time, questions can only be at another time, there's
8 submission deadlines, there's cross-examination, only
9 allowed to speak at certain times. It's a difficult way to
10 solve problems.

11 And I'm much more optimistic if this process is
12 turned back to a more natural form of working together in
13 conversation that these problems can be worked out more
14 effectively.

15 The last comment is, is that this is a new
16 process for KIA. There hasn't been an in-person hearing to
17 the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board in the Kitikmeot
18 Region I believe in 14 years, so this is our first
19 experience. I know there have been other hearings, written
20 hearings and so on, and we could be wrong, but this is
21 certainly our first intervention.

22 We intervened because we know that caribou is
23 important, and this plan, if it is accepted by the Nunavut
24 Wildlife Management Board, the Kugluktuk HTO plan is an
25 important precedent for Inuit across Nunavut going forward,

1 in terms of its role in managing wildlife.

2 We'd like to thank the Nunavut Wildlife
3 Management Board for coming to the region and for all of
4 the parties that have come here to express their views and
5 to share their information, and we believe that there's a
6 positive way forward for the caribou by working together.

7 Taima. Quana.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Geoff. Thank
9 you.

10 I've got a quick blurb of information, Geoff,
11 just passed to me here, but I think there was an in-person
12 hearing in Cambridge Bay here in 2014 on M'Clintock Channel
13 polar bears, but just for your information.

14 With that, I'll open up the questions to the
15 Board if there's any questions to KIA. Simeonie.

16 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

17 MR. KEENAINAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18 My question for KIA: You mention that in
19 Kugluktuk there was a question earlier about having the HTO
20 having their own biologists. Was that one of the
21 questions? Did I misunderstand?

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simeonie. I think
23 there was a comment to that effect by Paul or by James,
24 maybe.

25 But, anyway, KIA, you can respond.

1 MR. EMINGAK: Thank you, Simeonie.

2 I asked that question for NTI earlier whether
3 biologists can be hired by the HTO to help them with the
4 technical work. For example, Kugluktuk HTO was -- I'll
5 speak in English -- ready to take on certain tasks.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

7 Simeonie.

8 MR. KEENAINAK: Yes, thank you. That's all.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simeonie. Charlie.

10 MR. INUARAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 Charlie, NWMB. I have a couple of questions.
12 First of all, maybe just a comment.

13 The Kugluktuk management plan for the Bluenose
14 East caribou herd management plan, I'm really happy about
15 their proposed management plan because it's a management
16 plan that has information about ways to conserve their
17 wildlife and their Bluenose caribou. And within this
18 management plan they set out very well, including Inuit
19 qaujimaqatuqangit, because the majority of the time any
20 management plan that we have to follow comes from outside
21 the community, and it's prepared and drafted within an
22 office a long way away, with technicians that have
23 technical words. And it's mostly foreign, most of the
24 time, so I'm sure that this precedent from the community
25 that is set out by the community will work for their

1 environment. And when there is a Canadian organization,
2 international organization, COSEWIC, that deals with
3 Species At Risk Act, and a lot of the times we have to deal
4 with these acts pertaining to different species in
5 Nunavut -- even species that are not in Nunavut -- we have
6 to try and visualize them it's a national concern.

7 So I know that we don't want to go towards that
8 area where we are listed as a special concern or under the
9 Species At Risk Act, and I have no idea where we stand with
10 our caribou right now, whether this international
11 organization, through its Canadian counterpart, would
12 impose a listing of our caribou under the Species at Risk
13 Act.

14 So this proposed management plan from your
15 community; how well are you prepared to use that management
16 plan to tell the organizations who are responsible for SARA
17 that you can manage your Bluenose herd?

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

19 Geoff or John.

20 MR. CLARK: Geoff Clark.

21 Thank you for the question. I'm not an expert
22 on the Species at Risk Act, but I can make two responses to
23 Charlie. One is that the whole intention of the plan that
24 the Kugluktuk HTO -- you know, the tools that they had
25 proposed for their plan is to manage the herd so that it

1 doesn't get to that point where we have to think about
2 endangered species or legislation or national concern,
3 those type of thing.

4 And the other response would be is that the plan
5 that the Kugluktuk HTO has put forward -- and we've
6 mentioned it, but it's important to say again -- it will
7 need time. It will need time to develop the details, it
8 will take time for the conversation to happen with the GN
9 to understand how this can all fit together, and with other
10 management partners in the Northwest Territories, and then
11 time to educate the community and to implement this.
12 Taima. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

14 Charlie.

15 MR. INUARAK: Thank you very much for your
16 clarification, and I know, I agree with you that anything
17 to do with wildlife is not resolved overnight.

18 My other question: Within the last four days,
19 we've been sitting here listening to all this information,
20 and we're holding public hearings on Bathurst caribou and
21 Bluenose East caribou, and all these submissions from
22 different parties have content that they think is what is
23 happening to the caribou, and some cumulative effects were
24 that there's roads being built, mining, or other predators.

25 And my other question is: There is another

1 Nunavut wildlife -- and the federal government has also
2 programs in place for Inuit impact benefits agreements;
3 whether there's going to be exploration and environment
4 that through their IIBAs, if a certain species of wildlife,
5 caribou, are being depleted, in order for them to replace
6 that staple with another form of food, whether there's
7 going to be any agreement or something in place to
8 supplement the community if they run out of caribou -- is
9 there any funding to buy or support the community to buy
10 another staple through the agreements?

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

12 Geoff.

13 MR. CLARK: Thank you for the question.

14 Charlie, I understood your first part of your
15 question to be about cumulative effects, and the
16 relationship of development and other effects as possible
17 causes for the decline of caribou, and one answer to that
18 question is, is that it's uncertain how development affects
19 caribou. There is known to be an effect within a certain
20 distance of a project, but in terms of the entire range of
21 caribou, how one or two projects in that area would affect
22 the caribou population is less certain.

23 One thing that is known from history and
24 following the cycle of caribou that Inuit know about is
25 that in the mid-1990s when caribou populations were high

1 and healthy, there was -- it was a period of what was
2 called a staking rush or lots of exploration happening for
3 a period of a couple of years in the area west -- or east
4 and southeast of Kugluktuk down into the Northwest
5 Territories, and the population seemed strong and healthy,
6 and there didn't seem to be any relationship with the
7 development.

8 Today, it's one of the lowest periods for
9 exploration and development in the north and in our region,
10 certainly in the last 14 years; and what the industry says
11 is there's never been a slower time in 30 years for
12 exploration around the world. And we see it in our region
13 with very few applications by exploration companies to
14 access the land, there's hardly any activity except for one
15 place call Back River and another place called Hope Bay.
16 Most of the other sites, there's nothing there, or they're
17 closed and shut and there's no activities happening there;
18 and yet we're seeing there's less caribou.

19 So it's hard to know if that's just a
20 coincidence that the caribou cycle is happening and the
21 exploration cycle might correspond with a low point of
22 exploration and a low period in the caribou, and it might
23 have been a coincidence that there were lots and lots of
24 caribou when there was lots of exploration. There may be
25 no relation at all. It's hard to know.

1 But that's the only, I guess, historic
2 observation that could be provided about cumulative effects
3 that we could provide at this point.

4 In regards to IIBAs with industry about food
5 shortages related to a loss of caribou, KIA does have the
6 right under Article 26 to negotiate Inuit impact and
7 benefit agreements with industry if they propose a major
8 development project on Inuit-owned land in the Kitikmeot
9 Region, and we have negotiated those agreements.

10 And we also are involved in the Nunavut Impact
11 Review Board and the Nunavut Water Board processes to
12 carefully and, with a lot of resources, review these
13 projects. We're very well resourced, and we put a lot of
14 scrutiny on all aspects of these mining or proposals --
15 mining proposals.

16 And so our focus, generally, is on assuring that
17 everything is done so that the activities at the site will
18 minimize impacts on caribou, will minimize disturbance of
19 caribou. As an example, at the recent public hearing on
20 the Back River project, we had required as a condition
21 that, as caribou were specific numbers and a distance from
22 the site, that the site had to sequentially stop activities
23 to stop disturbance; like, movement of trucks or using
24 explosives for blasting. Those activities would have to
25 stop.

1 So we focussed more on trying to assure that, to
2 the extent possible, that the operation, if it ever
3 proceeded, that it would not impact caribou, and we haven't
4 explored -- in the IIBA, we haven't looked at issues about
5 if we thought there was a link or if we could demonstrate
6 there was a link between loss of caribou and a mining
7 development, that the company would subsidize food in some
8 way or provide other type of country food. We've never
9 considered that or explored that, aside from requesting
10 that the proponent provide country food whenever possible
11 or allow for places for Inuit employees to bring to the
12 site country food so that they can store country food there
13 so that they can have some of their traditional diet while
14 they're at work instead of just eating the food at the
15 restaurant or -- what do they call it? -- the cafeteria at
16 the mine site.

17 Sorry for the long answer, but I hope it
18 answered your question. This is the best we could do, I
19 believe.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

21 Charlie.

22 MR. INUARAK: Thank you very much for your
23 answer. You didn't answer the whole thing, but my
24 question: There was some presentations from the group
25 submissions that there was some mining companies and there

1 was naduuk (phonetic) the lead caribou, the crossings, we
2 were talking about caribou crossings. Have they been
3 disturbed?

4 In Pond Inlet when they started doing the mine,
5 we saw a whole bunch of calves that had frozen. I'm sure
6 that if they're disturbing the crossings there's a whole
7 bunch of huge lakes that are there. The caribou crossings,
8 if they're being disturbed, whether that's contributing to
9 the decline of the caribou because they're disturbing the
10 caribou crossings.

11 And thank you very much for your
12 well-thought-out explanations.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

14 Geoff.

15 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

16 Thank you, Charlie.

17 The active mines that are in the range of the
18 Bathurst and Bluenose East herd are in the Northwest
19 Territories. There's the Diavik Diamond Mine, the Ekati
20 Diamond Mine. I'm actually not sure if Snap Lake -- I
21 believe Snap Lake is close, Gahcho Kué is close. So those
22 are the mines in the range of these herds.

23 None of them are -- no active mines are in
24 Nunavut in the range of these herds, but we do know from
25 studies at Diavik and Ekati that it appears that there is

1 some influence on caribou within a distance, about 14
2 kilometres, of those mine sites. Those mine sites
3 generally don't adjust their activities. I know we've had
4 that caribou have the right of way on the roads, but
5 blasting doesn't stop, you know, large sounds don't stop
6 and so on at the site.

7 So to say that there's some influence, you know,
8 that means that there will probably be caribou that do go
9 close to the mine site, but on average, they're seeing some
10 change in caribou behaviour in avoidance from 14 kilometres
11 away.

12 But other than that, Charlie, I'd feel much more
13 comfortable asking our colleagues from the Northwest
14 Territories who are scientists who study these animals full
15 time, and also, the mines are in their territory, and so
16 they're probably more familiar with the science and to
17 answer your question more completely. Taima.

18 THE CHAIR: Charlie, are you satisfied with
19 your answer? Okay. Thank you.

20 Thank you Geoff.

21 Caleb.

22 MR. SANGOYA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 When we first came here I mentioned, and from
24 what we know from our Elders, the government, they want
25 only male caribou to be harvested. I just want to know: I

1 had asked what the Inuit felt. In Quebec, and in Greenland
2 and on Baffin Island, we've had that -- we want to know how
3 you feel. If we're going to harvest bulls only, the
4 females, they cannot stay in one place if there's no bulls
5 around. They start walking everywhere because they are
6 afraid. And the GN and the GNWT, when they are asking that
7 bulls only are harvested, I'm worried about the caribou
8 that they're going to be somewhere else when there are no
9 bulls around to protect them. And if we're going to be
10 allowed to -- I know that they were harvesting bulls, big
11 bulls. And the caribou will start moving, the female
12 caribou will move somewhere else when there are no bulls
13 around to protect them. Perhaps, as biologists, you should
14 know about that, the Inuit of Kitikmeot, according to the
15 Inuit qaujima jatugangit. How much are you trying to
16 protect them?

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

18 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

19 When the integrated community caribou management
20 plan was discussed with the HTO Board, at the start, there
21 were many different options and ideas brainstormed that
22 could be part of the plan.

23 Ultimately, what you see as part of the HTO's
24 plan is what the HTO wanted to have as part of the plan,
25 but I can tell you that, as part of that planning, there

1 was clear feedback from HTO members that, you know, their
2 experience, traditional knowledge is, is that it shouldn't
3 be a bull-only harvest and that it reflects within their
4 plan that knowledge.

5 And so if you were to ask, you know, what is
6 KIA's view on bulls-only harvest versus a mixed-gender
7 harvest, we defer to our traditional knowledge experts of
8 the Bluenose East herd, and they have said that they feel
9 it's important to have a mixed-gender harvest.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

11 MR. CLARK: Thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Any other questions from the
13 Board, Caleb?

14 MR. SANGOYA: Supplementary. The harvesters,
15 the ones that go hunting from the two governments: They
16 seem to be pointing at those harvesters, by the
17 governments. What about the landscape, the environment
18 when there's a drought and that is being affected by the
19 movement of vehicles either on land or on the air by the
20 miners, mining companies? It seems that you're just
21 targeting the harvesters to try and put a limit on their
22 harvest without thinking about the others. And, also,
23 you're not thinking about the predators, wolves and
24 grizzlies. You don't seem to be including them. What
25 about you, as KIA? Have you considered those not having

1 been mentioned? Have you considered that; the environment
2 and the disturbance of the movement of vehicles and
3 aircraft?

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.
5 Geoff.

6 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

7 In terms of the development of the management
8 plan that the Kugluktuk HTO wanted in place, examples of
9 environment-related factors would be consideration of
10 predators and predator management and their contribution to
11 the overall, I guess, harvest or impact on caribou.

12 In regards to matters around development, that
13 is a role that's related more around land management, and
14 KIA has a designated responsibility for that on Inuit-owned
15 land, and we take that role very seriously, and we review
16 projects, especially major development projects, very
17 thoroughly.

18 Generally, we've been able to, especially in the
19 last few years, have more capacity than any other
20 organization, including government, in reviewing projects.
21 We spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on these reviews
22 to reduce impacts on the environment, and that goes beyond
23 caribou; it includes water, fish, and so on.

24 I guess to also clarify in terms of traffic in
25 the region, there are no winter roads; they're all-weather

1 roads in the region where there could be disturbance.
2 There are aircraft that fly in and out of communities, and
3 when there is exploration -- and there's very little
4 happening -- there's been very little happening in the
5 last, I guess, maybe four to five years in the region,
6 that, if it happens on Inuit-owned land, we have licenses
7 that the land user must follow, and there are criteria for
8 their activities on what they're allowed to do and not
9 allowed to do.

10 So, for example, our licenses specify that
11 pregnant caribou and their calves should not be disturbed
12 under any circumstances and that low-level flying over
13 caribou is not allowed. Those are examples. I don't want
14 to give a long, long description.

15 Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

17 Charlie.

18 MR. INUARAK: Qujannamiik. I have another
19 comment.

20 I just want to make it clear that the request,
21 the proposal regarding the Bluenose East caribou,
22 Kugluktumiut, they had a limitation within that one year.
23 And I know that they're going to harvest more than that.

24 But regarding the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement
25 we have to follow that, and they have assisted the most up

1 to now, and they have argued what we have to do. I have a
2 question: The 340 that were mentioned, once they were
3 harvested according to the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement
4 that the Inuit can harvest up to their needs; we cannot use
5 that on Baffin Island, and our legal advisor, I wanted
6 that -- he was trying to assist us. How do you feel about
7 this once you have reached your total allowable harvest,
8 there should be a BNL set within the Nunavut Land Claims
9 Agreement. What do you think about that? Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

11 KIA.

12 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13 Thank you, Charlie.

14 I'm not an expert on the NLCA about basic needs
15 levels and how that relates to harvesting. What I can tell
16 you in relation to the plan that the Kugluktuk HTO
17 developed is one of the earliest conversations that were
18 had with the HTO was to say, you know, there's this
19 proposal of 340 TAH, and the question was: How many
20 Bluenose East caribou have been harvested in the last year,
21 spring, summer, winter, fall, and, you know, the best
22 estimate at, you know, that moment, that time: And it was
23 estimated that in that year they harvested about 190
24 Bluenose East caribou, I guess in the last rough calendar
25 year.

1 And so, you know, the basic needs level may have
2 at one time been estimated to be a lot higher, and it may
3 still be at that high rate, but the reality is, is likely
4 due to the natural cycle of less caribou being around, less
5 caribou close to town, that there's not as much harvesting.
6 And so it appeared that it was quite possible to manage an
7 HTO-controlled limit of 340 caribou in a year in the future
8 if the caribou population stays the same or perhaps I guess
9 it's speculated by biologists that it may be still in a
10 declining phase.

11 So I'm sorry, I can't speak to basic needs
12 levels, but the actual harvest that happened was estimated
13 to be about 190, so if it was estimated to be a thousand, I
14 think it would have been a lot more work by the harvesters
15 to get a thousand BNE caribou this year; but in previous
16 years when the caribou were more plentiful, that number --
17 and in the future when caribou numbers are plentiful --
18 that number could be reached. Taima.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

20 David Igutsuq.

21 MR. IGUTSAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 While we're reading here and we're talking about
23 this, we want to hear all the evidence.

24 I don't think the Inuit are the problem for the
25 declining of the herd, and my idea that if they're going to

1 harvest here, the wolf can harvest, and the mines produce
2 dust and drought, and I feel that that's one of the factors
3 for the declining of the caribou herd because their food
4 source is covered by dust created by the mines and also by
5 the forest fires. And I felt that they wouldn't be able to
6 have any food source because their food source is covered
7 by the dust by the mines. And I know that there might be
8 more mines coming into Nunavut area.

9 And if we see a dollar, we say yes, but that is
10 not the case. That shouldn't be the case. But the Inuit
11 know this, that if we're going to manage the -- even though
12 they're offering money, we shouldn't agree with them right
13 away. If we're going to think about our kids and
14 grandkids, perhaps we shouldn't approve those requests to
15 do exploration or do mining because they create dust from
16 their work. That's what I've been thinking about. Thank
17 you.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

19 Do you care to comment, Geoff?

20 MR. CLARK: Thanks, Mr. Chair.

21 I took that as a comment.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

23 Any other questions? If not, staff, got a
24 question, Peter?

25 MR. KYDD: Thanks, Mr. Chairman.

1 Yeah, I just have a quick little one. It's
2 quite clear that the collaboration has been very effective
3 between KIA and the Kugluktuk HTO, and obviously we commend
4 you on those efforts and the pretty solid first draft of a
5 caribou management plan. I'm just wondering if that
6 collaboration was initiated by the HTO or the KIA. I think
7 you might have touched on this on Wednesday, as well.

8 Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

10 Geoff.

11 MR. CLARK: I guess the genesis -- and it
12 might have been a coincidence -- but many of the members of
13 the HTOs around the table here were at a hearing in
14 Cambridge Bay about four -- six weeks ago, and just through
15 conversation we realized we had a common cause, and we took
16 it from there.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Geoff.

18 Peter.

19 MR. KYDD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20 Thanks, Geoff. Yeah, that answers it. I
21 thought that was the case, but I had forgotten. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Michael. No?

23 Okay. Government of Nunavut, any questions for
24 KIA?

25 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have

1 no questions for KIA.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

3 Government of Northwest Territories?

4 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you. No questions.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

6 Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, Simon.

7 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We don't
8 have any questions.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

10 Kugluktuk HTO?

11 KUGLUKTUK HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

12 MR. L. ADJUN: We always have questions.

13 Regarding a gentleman's comment, Kugluktuk HTO
14 initiated the talk that, in a sense, at the roundtable with
15 Sabina gold mine, Sabina Gold and Silver Limited, and from
16 there during the hearings we had a meeting with Geoff
17 Clark, and then we brainstormed this plan on Bathurst; and
18 also on that, we brainstormed, because of proximity to the
19 HTO and Kugluktuk and lands office in Kugluktuk, we were
20 fortunate enough to put our plan together because we had a
21 board together.

22 Geoff had the task of trying to inform all the
23 four HTOs to get the Bathurst plan in place, but we
24 couldn't because of the lack of time that we didn't get
25 from NWMB for the adjournment.

1 And there was a question earlier about the
2 capacity. Kugluktuk HTO has an agreement with Sabina Gold
3 and Silver Corp. since the 2000s to do a fish restoration
4 projection at Bernard Harbour. I'll just give the brief
5 summary of it, if I may.

6 Bernard Harbour Restoration Project includes a
7 traditional knowledge study -- I believe that was brought
8 up -- involving residents from Kugluktuk and Cambridge Bay.
9 Baseline fuel work and development of a fisheries
10 offsetting plan, fish restoration work -- I'm sorry --
11 stream restoration work for the arctic char to spawn,
12 monitoring and long-term management of restoration
13 activities. The Bernard Harbour Restoration Project is to
14 remain a Kugluktuk HTO-led initiative. Control of
15 ownership of the project will ultimately reside with the
16 Kugluktuk HTO.

17 That's for some of the questions that came up
18 earlier from your Board.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry. And Kugluktuk
20 HTO has no direct questions to KIA, then?

21 MR. L. ADJUN:

22 No, itsivautaaq.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

24 Okay. Bathurst Inlet HTO, Sam.

25 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have

1 no questions. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

3 Bay Chimo HTO, Peter.

4 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
5 questions, that just for information that Sabina Gold and
6 Silver -- the NIRB has denied their request -- thank you --
7 to do caribou disturbance.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

9 Cambridge Bay HTO, George, Bobby?

10 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
11 questions.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

13 Is there any questions from Elder
14 representatives or Elders in the room to KIA? I do not see
15 any.

16 Okay. Thank you.

17 NTI, Bert, any questions?

18 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No
19 questions.

20 THE CHAIR: Is there any questions from the
21 public at all in the gallery for KIA?

22 If not, thank you, gentlemen, very much, for
23 your presentation and information you supplied.

24 We'll move on. We have one more -- or two or
25 more left for presentations. Next is the Wek'èezhìi

1 Renewable Resources Board, and, Jody, I'll pass it on TAH.

2 WEK'ÈEZHÌI RENEWABLE RESOURCES BOARD SUBMISSION

3 MR. D'EÇA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4 We spoke with the Board earlier, and out of
5 interests of time, we're going to cut back on our slides
6 and just talk about a couple of specific slides that are
7 different from what was presented about the Bathurst
8 caribou herd the other day.

9 We'd like to, once again, express our thanks
10 first to the community of Cambridge Bay for hosting this
11 public hearing and to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
12 for granting the WRRB witness status so that we can give
13 some information about our recent Bluenose East proceeding.

14 If you can skip to slide 6. In December 2015,
15 the Tlicho Government and the Government of Northwest
16 Territories submitted a joint proposal to the WRRB, the
17 proposed management actions for the Bluenose East caribou
18 herd for 2016 to 2019. More specifically, they proposed
19 implementing a total allowable harvest of 950 bull caribou
20 and allocation for the Bluenose East caribou herd. The
21 GNWT presented that information yesterday.

22 To meet the terms of the Tlicho agreement the
23 WRRB held a public hearing in Behchokò,
24 Northwest Territories on April 6 to 8, 2016. Next slide,
25 please.

1 As per the Tlicho agreement, the WRRB has sole
2 responsibility for making a final determination with
3 respect to a total allowable harvest for a population of
4 wildlife in Wek'èezhìi. In addition, the Board has sole
5 responsibility of allocating portions of any total
6 allowable harvest levels for Wek'èezhìi to groups. What
7 this means that the Board's decision about a total
8 allowable harvest and its allocation in Wek'èezhìi must be
9 implemented by the GNWT minister.

10 The board's Reason For Decision Report Part A
11 was submitted to the Tlicho Government and the GNWT on
12 June 13th, so Monday, right before I got on the flight to
13 come here. It primarily deals with the government's
14 request for a TAH and its allocation, as well as the
15 recommendation to complete a wolf feasibility assessment by
16 September 2016.

17 This report was not provided to the Nunavut
18 Wildlife Management Board as supporting documentation as it
19 was not available by the deadline for written submissions
20 on May 27th. The report can be found on the WRRB's online
21 public registry.

22 I'm going to get you to skip to slide 9.

23 So you've had quite a bit about the Taking Care
24 of Caribou management plan over the last couple of days.
25 I'm going to speak a little bit more about it, a tiny bit

1 more in-depth. I provide secretariat support for the
2 Advisory Committee For Cooperation on Wildlife Management,
3 or the ACCWM, so I hold a lot of the history for that
4 group.

5 That committee was established to exchange
6 information, develop cooperation, and make recommendations
7 regarding wildlife and wildlife habitat and their issues
8 that cross land claim and treaty boundaries. The committee
9 consists of six wildlife management boards from the NWT in
10 and Nunavut including the Kitikmeot, Inuvialuit, Gwich'in,
11 Sahtu, Tlicho, and the Tuktut Nogait National Park
12 Management Board. The ACCWM decided to develop a plan for
13 the three Bluenose herds: -- Cape Bathurst, Bluenose West,
14 and Bluenose East -- to address caribou management and
15 stewardship over the long term. The Taking Care of Caribou
16 management plan was developed by a working group in
17 consultation with most of the communities that harvest from
18 the three herds. The working group included
19 representatives from each member board and regional
20 representation such as HTOs. Technical expertise was also
21 provided by GNWT, GN, and Parks Canada. Next slide.

22 The management plan is supported by a community
23 and scientific report. The community report documents the
24 information collected during engagement sessions from 2007
25 to 2013. The scientific report documents the state of

1 knowledge of the herd until 2014.

2 The management plan was first submitted to the
3 Tlicho Government, GNWT, and GN in November 2014, less two
4 signatures. At the time, the governments were informed
5 that, while additional review was required by the Kitikmeot
6 Regional Wildlife Board and the Tuktut Nogait National Park
7 Management Board, the ACCWM member boards wanted the
8 Bluenose plan, the Taking Care of Caribou plan, on record
9 before any final decisions about the herd was made. A
10 final f-u-l-l-y signed management plan was forwarded to all
11 governments on May 14th, 2015.

12 The management plan provides a framework for
13 monitoring the herds, making decisions and taking action.
14 Five different categories of management actions are
15 outlined in the plan, including education, habitat, land
16 use activities, predators, and harvest management.

17 It's important to note that ACCWM
18 recommendations do not prohibit individual boards and
19 regional organizations from providing additional
20 recommendations about the herds, nor are individual boards
21 bound by ACCWM recommendations.

22 Decisions about herd status are based on all
23 available community-based monitoring and scientific
24 information. In December 2015, the ACCWM programed the
25 herd status colour zone as orange -- so that the herd is at

1 a low population and declining -- and they recommended
2 orange management actions for the Bluenose East caribou
3 herd. That includes recommending a mandatory limit on
4 subsistence harvest based on a TAH.

5 Based on the ACCWM's recommendation, each member
6 board then must follow its own land claim or regional
7 processes to make specific recommendations about which
8 management actions to implement and how they should be
9 implemented. In the case of the WRRB, a TAH at the herd
10 level was proposed by Tlicho Government and the GNWT. The
11 board held a required public hearing and made a decision.

12 In the case of the Sahtu, the Sahtu Renewable
13 Resources Board, the GNWT proposed the same TAH at the herd
14 level. As well, the community of Delin   proposed a
15 community conservation plan that limits harvest that would
16 fit within the TAH proposed by the GNWT. The Sahtu held a
17 required public hearing to review both of those proposals,
18 and they will make recommendations, and they're expected to
19 be submitted in July; July 18th, 2016.

20 So the Kugluktuk HTO's plan fits within the
21 Taking Care of Caribou management plan. You've taken it
22 upon yourselves, you've shown great leadership, and we
23 commend you for that to take this plan and take it further.
24 Your plan, from what you've presented last night, fits
25 within those five different categories. It talks about

1 education, habitat, land use, predators, and harvest
2 management. So we're very encouraged to see what you're
3 doing, and we'll be following to see how it turns out.

4 The management plan is a working document used
5 in developing specific management tools, and actions are
6 part of that. Action plans are currently being developed
7 by the ACCWM working group. The member boards are
8 scheduled to review those draft action plans on June 28th
9 to 30th in Delin , with the expectation to submit to
10 governments sometime in the summer.

11 And at this time, I'll offer again, since I
12 provide secretariat support for the ACCWM, as a reminder to
13 the KRWB and the Kugluktuk HTO that we're more than
14 willing, if you ever have questions or need assistance,
15 we'll do our best to help out within the auspices of the
16 plan, even coming to your community and presenting about
17 the plan if that's useful to you.

18 So just to wrap up, Mr. Chair, the WRRB has
19 reviewed the information about the Bluenose East caribou
20 herd. The Bluenose herd decline has been compared to the
21 decline observed in the neighbouring Bathurst herd, with
22 the Bluenose East herd declining now at a rate as fast as
23 the Bathurst herd did during its most rapid decline between
24 2006 and 2009, and that the trend is alarmingly similar to
25 that which has been observed in the Bathurst herd. As

1 such, the WRRB believes that all peoples who harvest the
2 herd must do their part to ensure the herd's recovery.

3 On behalf of the WRRB, Jonas and I would like to
4 thank you for allowing us to present, and we're here to
5 answer any questions. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jody, and thank you for
7 your informative presentation and your commitment to
8 supporting Nunavut in its endeavour to manage caribou.

9 I would now open up the questions to them from
10 the Board. Any questions? If not, staff, questions?
11 Michael.

12 NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

13 MR. D'ÉÇA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14 I'm just curious. The makeup, the appointments
15 and the members that sit on your board, is it similar? If
16 you're familiar with how the NWMB is appointed, is it a
17 similar arrangement?

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

19 Jody.

20 MS. PELLISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

21 Are you asking specifically about for the WRRB?
22 Yes, the WRRB is made up of four Tlicho members that are
23 appointed by the Tlicho Government and four government
24 members, two from the Government of Northwest Territories,
25 two from the federal government, Fisheries and Oceans, and

1 Canadian Wildlife Service, and then we have a ninth member
2 as the chair appointed by that membership.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jody. Taima.

4 Any questions from the Government of Nunavut?

5 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 No questions, but thank you for coming and
7 presenting.

8 THE CHAIR: Jan, NWT?

9 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you. No questions.

10 THE CHAIR: Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board,
11 Simon, any questions?

12 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
13 questions.

14 THE CHAIR: Kugluktuk HTO, Peter? Larry?

15 KUGLUKTUK HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

16 MR. L. ADJUN: Thank you, your worship --
17 Mr. Chairman.

18 Thanks for the kind words from our neighbours
19 from NWT. It's pleasing to have other organizations or
20 other governments sit and listen to what we have on our
21 side of the story or the other side of the story,
22 especially when you put faces together, you put two and two
23 together, you come to a good consensus.

24 We have ongoing dialogue with the caribou
25 management committees with NWT, as Peter sits on the

1 Bathurst Advisory Committee, and the HTO does a lot of work
2 with DoE for other caribou talks. And I have to apologize
3 for our HTO organization because we are in a turnover
4 crisis at the moment. Our previous secretary-treasurer was
5 pretty adamant about getting work done with the caribou
6 management advisory committee from NWT. And, like I
7 stated, it's been an election year also; we lost our
8 previous chairman. But on that good note, I have board
9 members that have been on the meetings before, as in
10 Peter's case, Jorgen, myself, and Kevin Klengenberg. And
11 like I said, I have to apologize because of our high
12 turnover rate, but we still have the ongoing dialogue with
13 the NWT.

14 Like I said, due to our turnover rate, we are
15 trying to catch up, and we are trying to get some issues
16 with the financial statements presented to us, and then
17 we're going to have our AGM. Part of the AGM is going to
18 be the caribou talks.

19 So on that note, I'd like to thank them for
20 their kind words on behalf of the HTO's presentation, along
21 with KIA. I keep forgetting to include our good
22 counterparts. So on that note, I'd like to say thank you
23 to the NWT for coming up and seeing our side of the
24 territory.

25 Mussi. Qujannamiik.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

2 I'm sorry, Jody. Sorry.

3 MS. PELLISSEY: I just want to say, no apologies
4 necessary. We go through the same thing in the Territories
5 all the time, so we understand turnover rates and whatnot.
6 That's part of the reason for offering encouragement and
7 offering any help or assistance we can with the plan and
8 with help with any of the NWT caribou initiatives, because
9 there seems a lot of them.

10 We also wanted to commend you for bringing a
11 youth member to the meetings. It's really important, and
12 we're encouraged to see that. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jody.

14 Bathurst Inlet HTO, Sam.

15 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you. No questions.

16 THE CHAIR: Bay Chimo HTO, Peter.

17 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
18 questions.

19 THE CHAIR: Cambridge Bay HTO, Bobby.

20 CAMBRIDGE BAY HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

21 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22 I got one question. This morning, I think it
23 was Tlicho sent hunters and Elders to do some investigation
24 on the Bathurst herd as to why they're declining. I don't
25 know if you can answer this, but do they plan to do that

1 with the Bluenose? And if they are, maybe just a
2 suggestion if they can request somebody from Kugluktuk to
3 do travel along with them.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Thank you, Bobby.
5 Jody.

6 MS. PELLISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
7 Thank you for the question. That initiative
8 that you're speaking of that was in the news this morning,
9 that's specifically a Tlicho Government program. It's
10 through their Traditional Knowledge Research Institute.
11 Right now I believe the idea is specific to Bathurst, but
12 I'll certainly pass along the message to them that if
13 Bluenose East are considered in the future, to be in
14 contact with the Kugluktuk HTO.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jody.
16 Bobby.

17 MR. GREENLEY: Thank you for that answer. No
18 other questions.

19 THE CHAIR: Is there any questions from any of
20 the Elders or Elder representatives to Jody and the
21 Wek'èezhìi Wildlife Board?

22 If not, NTI, Bert Dean.

23 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 Thanks, Jody, for the presentation, and no
25 questions.

1 THE CHAIR: KIA?

2 MR. EMINGAK: No questions. I talked to my
3 staff people yesterday.

4 No, I just want to commend both members that
5 came all the way from your land to Kitikmeot. Welcome to
6 Kitikmeot and especially Cambridge Bay.

7 We understand, in terms of the Land Claims
8 Agreements are agreed to, we're working with the
9 governments, and also we have to work on, you know,
10 respectively on, how you say, cross-boundary issues like
11 caribou and that wildlife environment. And I'm glad that
12 the hard part is over, negotiations are over. You've set
13 your land claims, the governments have agreed to it, and
14 we're in the same boat as you that we have to always try to
15 convince the governments that it's our right.

16 So having said that, I think, you know, the next
17 step is to work together as land claim organizations to
18 complement what we're trying to do in our lands for
19 environment for our people. And I'd just like to thank you
20 for coming up all the way. I know you've been sitting
21 there patiently and listening to our talks and that.

22 Mussi. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

24 Jody, would you like to comment?

25 MS. PELLISEY: Just to say thank you for your

1 kind words, thank you for the welcome, and it's been a big
2 learning experience for us, as well, while we've been here.
3 So every time I think I've figured out little bit, there's
4 something else that gets added, so I'll have to come back.

5 Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

7 So our last intervener of the hearing is the
8 public, and if there's anybody in the public that would
9 like to make any presentations to the Nunavut Wildlife
10 Management Board in regards to the Bluenose East public
11 hearing, you're welcome to now. James.

12 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

13 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 And welcome. I'm just curious as to hearing all
15 like the years I've been involved with local HTO concerns
16 and KRWB concerns in regards to the different caribou
17 herds, and over the years we've had GNWT banning caribou
18 hunting. Just curious to hear from you what type of
19 hardship has this banning of caribou hunts put on the
20 aboriginal people around Yellowknife and the different
21 tribes involved? Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James. I'm sorry I cut
23 you short there before.

24 Jody, go ahead.

25 MS. PELLISSEY: Thank you very much.

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2 There's no doubt that harvest restrictions and,
3 at times, there has been complete moratorium, and there is
4 now an imposed moratorium on the Bathurst caribou herd,
5 that there are hardships for the communities -- not just
6 the Tlicho communities whom we represent, but with
7 Yellowknives Deline and Métis. Shin was here representing
8 the Métis and other regions -- the Sahtu -- there's
9 hardships all across the territory. And one of the biggest
10 things is that loss of connection with the caribou and the
11 loss of connection with the land, not being able to go out
12 and harvest and share the stories with their youth that are
13 specific to caribou. So, of course, caribou is so close to
14 the heart of the aboriginal peoples in the Territory, and
15 having to reduce their harvest is absolutely a hardship.

16 But there also is, at this time, a recognition
17 that the caribou herds are -- there is a conservation
18 concern, there is a decline and that, to make sure there
19 are some caribou in the future for their children and
20 grandchildren, that restrictions are required. And they're
21 looking at other opportunities to get out on the land to
22 continue that connection with the land. Perhaps it's not
23 with caribou but maybe with moose or fish or -- I'm often
24 told that it's all connected. So being out on the land is
25 what's important. But yes, hardships, absolutely.

1 Hope that answers your question.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jody.

3 James.

4 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 So with that hardship with loss of connection to
6 the land, young people don't have that opportunity to go
7 out on the land as much as our generation used to. So what
8 about in terms of the culture, the education; that young
9 people don't have the opportunity to be educated on the
10 land because they don't go out caribou hunting anywhere?
11 So what's the impact from that perspective?

12 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

14 Jody.

15 MS. PELLISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

16 Thank you, James.

17 Well, while the communities are not able to go
18 out with their kids caribou harvesting, they are taking
19 advantage of taking their kids out. The Tlicho are in the
20 Territory are quite well known for their canoe trips that
21 they do and going out to spiritual areas, and so they are
22 getting out on the land. It may not necessarily always
23 involve a harvest or a hunt of caribou, but they're going
24 to spiritual areas that are important to the Tlicho;
25 important areas, water crossings for caribou. So they're

1 still passing along the stories, and just, unfortunately,
2 minus the hunting at the moment. So there still are quite
3 a lot of opportunities for that. The Tlicho Government is
4 very committed to making sure their youth get out on the
5 land as often as possible, and they do that through Tlicho
6 Government programs as well as programs through the school.

7 Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jody.

9 James.

10 MR. PANIOYAK: One last question, Mr. Chairman.

11 So along with the hardship of not caribou
12 hunting and providing for their families, are there any
13 initiatives from the Tlicho Government as to how to
14 compensate for that loss of caribou?

15 Mr. Chairman, thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

17 Jody.

18 MS. PELLISEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

19 Thank you, James.

20 Right now -- again, I'm just passing this
21 information along; I'm not speaking on behalf of the Tlicho
22 Government -- however, we are aware of programs that Tlicho
23 Government does, including a harvesting subsidy program.
24 They also work in conjunction with the Government of
25 Northwest Territories to assist harvesters to get out to

1 areas where they can harvest, whether it's through
2 assistance with fuel and harvesting equipment or with, you
3 know, charters and that sort of thing. And there's also
4 subsidiaries for trapping, and you had about some of those,
5 the increased incentives that they now have for the wolf
6 program, up to \$800, I believe, for a perfectly awesomely
7 done-up wolf pelt. That's very technical language, by the
8 way.

9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jody.

11 James.

12 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 Just out of curiosity, how does one go about
14 getting those incentives to offset the traditional hunts?

15 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

17 Jody.

18 MS. PELLISSEY: The programs with the Tlicho
19 Government are conducted through their community government
20 offices, so it's all taken care of through the lands
21 protection department, the subsidiaries; and that
22 department works in conjunction with the GNWT, the ENR
23 department. When those resources are required, they do
24 their cooperational, whatever they do to make that happen.
25 Again, lots of technical language there. Sorry.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jody.

2 James.

3 MR. PANIOYAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. That's all
4 I have.

5 And I appreciate your responses and, again,
6 welcome to the community. Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, James.

8 Okay. That wraps up the Wek'èezhìi Board
9 presentation.

10 And again I would just say to the public, now is
11 the chance if anybody has anything to say or provide
12 information to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board in
13 regards to the management of the Bluenose East caribou
14 herd, now is the time.

15 If not, Jorgen, go ahead.

16 KUGLUKTUK HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

17 MR. BOLT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18 Just a question to Jody there. Your
19 presentation there, Bluenose East caribou herd management
20 in NWT, since its inception in 2006 that WRRB has been
21 invested in managing barren ground caribou, the board has
22 conducted two proceedings to address the Bluenose East
23 caribou harvesting limitation in 2010 and 2016.

24 From 2006, you have two proceedings in ten
25 years. Why such a big gap?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen.

2 Jody.

3 MS. PELLISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4 Thank you, Jorgen. That question would be: The
5 board conducts proceedings and public hearings when they're
6 required. It's a requirement of the Land Claim to hold
7 public hearings when they're considering harvest
8 limitations, and the board considers harvest limitations
9 when either the Tlicho Government or the GNWT proposes
10 those limitations. So following surveys in 2009, the GNWT
11 and Tlicho Government proposed harvest restrictions, and so
12 then the Board followed its process. And it wasn't again
13 until 2015, following the surveys done in June of 2015,
14 that the Board was once again presented with a proposal
15 that required it to hold a hearing to consider harvest
16 restrictions or further harvest restrictions on the
17 Bluenose East herd -- the Bathurst herd too -- but the
18 Bluenose East herd specifically.

19 Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jody.

21 Okay.

22 MR. BOLT: Just one more.

23 THE CHAIR: Jorgen.

24 MR. BOLT: I guess we're all concerned for
25 the caribou right now, but I just feel that there was such

1 a big gap in their ten years, you know, for something like
2 this to be -- I don't know, how would you say? --
3 addressed, I guess. So I just feel that there was a big
4 gap in there with only two proceedings with such a
5 sensitive issue.

6 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen.

8 Jody, more of a comment, but if you'd like to
9 respond, go ahead.

10 MS. PELLISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11 Thank you Jorgen. The Renewable Resource Board,
12 the WRRB, actually has held three proceedings since 2006;
13 one in 2007 that was specific to the Bathurst herd, and
14 then again in 2010, and now recently in 2016, where we
15 looked at both Bathurst and Bluenose East caribou herds.

16 That's not to say that there weren't caribou
17 management discussions and initiatives happening through
18 that whole time. There is a not a meeting of my board that
19 caribou isn't the top number one topic every time. My
20 board often says: While we're responsible to the public,
21 we're first responsible to the caribou. And that's how
22 they conduct their affairs.

23 So only three proceedings sort of big like this,
24 but managing caribou and monitoring all the time.

25 Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jody.

2 Jorgen.

3 MR. BOLT: No further questions. Thank you,

4 Mr. Chair.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, sir.

6 Okay. That concludes our formal process of the
7 Bluenose East caribou herd public hearings.

8 For information purposes -- and you do have
9 these in your binders, but there's two written submissions,
10 and I'll just quickly review them with you. One is from
11 the Tlicho Government, which supports a TAH of 340 caribou
12 for Nunavut, not specifying sex at all; and the other one
13 is from Inuvialuit Game Council and Wildlife Advisory
14 Council harvest allocation for the Bluenose East herd is
15 inappropriate. That's their position.

16 So you do have those, but that's for your
17 information.

18 So we have come to an end, and as we did at the
19 end of the other hearing, I'm going to give everybody an
20 opportunity to have some final words, if they wish. If
21 not, that's fine, too.

22 We'll start off with the Government of Nunavut.

23 CLOSING REMARKS

24 MR. DUMOND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 I'll be brief, I think. A lot of things have

1 been said, and as the hearing were proceeding, we could see
2 that all the work of many, many years of work together are
3 paying off because, at the end of the day, we are mainly on
4 the same page, it seems, and we have a lot of common
5 concern and common solutions to those concerns. And I feel
6 that, as always or often or nearly always, communication is
7 sometimes the barrier to realize how on the same page we
8 are.

9 But, anyway, I want to thank all of interveners,
10 everybody at the table, people that have travelled from far
11 away to come to this meeting and show their interest and
12 passion about caribou and the people in Nunavut. And I
13 thank you, all the HTOs, for their kind words towards our
14 collaboration and for their efforts to address the
15 situation. And thank you to all the participant and,
16 mainly, thank you for the Board for the opportunity. And I
17 wish everybody safe travel home and, hopefully, this
18 meeting will result in some positive action that we can all
19 implement together.

20 Thank you very much.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Mathieu.

22 Jan, NWT.

23 MR. ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 Jan Adamczewski for Government of Northwest
25 Territories. I was joking with Lynda, who had to leave,

1 that, once she left, then I'm the wildlife director. But,
2 no, I'm just low-level biologist.

3 So I won't add a whole lot here. I think people
4 are tired. I'm tired. Thank you very much for the
5 opportunity to be here. I kind of like coming back to
6 Cambridge Bay because I have some history here 20 years ago
7 working with muskox hunters, and there's still a few
8 familiar faces in town.

9 And I think listening to the proceedings here
10 and then having gone through three hearings in the
11 Northwest Territories on Bathurst and Bluenose East
12 caribou, I think it's going to be especially important,
13 particularly if the declines don't turn around, to keep the
14 level of collaboration and communication across the border
15 as open as possible. I think that's true at the level of
16 the government, Northwest Territories and Nunavut, but also
17 especially between the communities.

18 I think we talked a little bit about the Deliné
19 plan, and it is on the Board's registry. There are some
20 good similarities, a lot of positive things there that are
21 similar to the draft plan from Kugluktuk, and I guess our
22 perspective on it is that the more the communities and the
23 aboriginal groups take ownership of the solutions, the
24 better it's going to work for everyone.

25 So I know some of you will be in Yellowknife

1 next week for another caribou meeting, and so thank you
2 very much for Government of Northwest Territories, to the
3 community, the Elders; and I know we'll be talking further,
4 and we look forward to more collaboration in future.

5 Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jan.

7 Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, Simon.

8 MR. QINGNAQTUQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 Thank you for inviting us to the public hearing,
10 and I would like to thank the government biologists,
11 wildlife officers, and those representing the HTO
12 communities; thank you for coming here to the meeting, and
13 also our surveyors. Although we don't always agree with
14 our government counterparts, biologists or surveyors, but
15 we always go back and forth and talk about things, and
16 eventually we'll be on the same page, hopefully in the
17 future, by way of having these types of meetings.

18 And, also, thank you to Nunavut Wildlife
19 Management Board.

20 I would like to also please thank our Elders.
21 Those of us who are in these leadership roles in any
22 organization and DIOs, especially the government, I'm sure
23 you have learned from our Elders who have submitted their
24 oral presentations, because that's the way the culture is;
25 it's an oral culture based on decisions.

1 And I would also like to hear more or invite
2 more Elder hunters into our meetings. If it wasn't for our
3 ancestors and Elders, we would not be here. Because of the
4 their resilience to survive, they have been able to sustain
5 us, and they have been given a chance to speak to NWMB
6 freely.

7 And, Mr. Chairman, if you don't mind, we are
8 again requesting that we hold a public hearing in Kugluktuk
9 and the Bluenose East caribou herd. I'm asking: Are you
10 going to hold a public hearing in Kugluktuk, or are you
11 not, as per our request?

12 THE CHAIR: Simon, thank you very much for
13 your comments and remarks.

14 And I think the Board has had the concern, and
15 we'll leave it at that. The hearing is closed now, and
16 we're going around now making comments, our closing
17 comments, but we do understand the concern that's been
18 raised. Thank you.

19 Go ahead, Eva.

20 MS. AYAHIK: Thank you. It's been a learning
21 experience for me. I'm new to Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
22 Board. I'm the regional coordinator since February '15.
23 I'm well aware of our traditional harvesting rights and
24 ways of hunting, as my late father was very involved with
25 caribou meetings, and he would share those with us. So I'm

1 very happy now to be part of the caribou meetings.

2 I know a lot about the cultural side, but the
3 political side I'm just learning about, and I want to thank
4 you all for sharing all your information. For quana, and
5 have a safe trip home for those travellers that are from
6 out of town.

7 Quana.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Eva.

9 Kugluktuk HTO. Start off with you, Larry.

10 MR. L. ADJUN: Quana, itsivautaaq.

11 It's been a learning experience for several of
12 our directors here. As being the youngest board of
13 director, he had to replace one of our Elders, but I'm glad
14 that he had the initiative to speak out on a few occasions.

15 And on that note, I'd like to thank our
16 counterpart DoE for being there with us in the corner when
17 we needed them the odd time. If not, our counterpart KIA
18 for our support and our legal staff and doing up our
19 submission to the NWMB Board.

20 I'd like to thank four HTOs. We have tried to
21 do our submission for the Bathurst, but due to the time
22 frame given to us and for their adjournment, be it not so,
23 I guess -- but we're pleased that we had the initiative to
24 implement our plan, given the time given. I hope it
25 entertained and opened up a few eyes for anyone or the

1 interveners around the table.

2 And I hope it opened up a little more the eyes
3 of NWMB that there are HTOs out there that are capable of
4 running initiatives or another initiative under their HTO
5 organization.

6 And on that note, I'm going to close and leave
7 other closing remarks for my directors.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Larry.

9 Peter.

10 MR. TAKTOGON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11 I would like to thank everyone here for
12 listening to our concerns and everything. We have to work
13 together in the future very closely like this so things
14 don't fall apart and get off from what's been happening
15 before this.

16 Just another one, too. We have pretty good
17 technology out there now for biologists, you know, like the
18 armed forces use for looking out for who their enemies are.
19 I think it would be nice to have one for the biologists for
20 the Government of Northwest Territories and Nunavut
21 government. It might be a lot cheaper in the future.
22 That's all I could say on it.

23 Quana.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

25 Any other comments, Jorgen?

1 MR. BOLT: Just a quick comment, I guess.

2 I'd like to thank Ikaluktutiak for their
3 hospitality. It's been great. And I'd like to thank
4 everybody around the table for all their knowledge and
5 information. I have learned quite a bit, and I hope I made
6 a few statements that helped others, too. But, you know,
7 the only way we can continue to have the caribou is to work
8 together. We cannot resolve issues by conflicting or --
9 how would you say? -- fighting amongst ourselves because
10 that's no way to find solutions.

11 I believe that we can all work together, and we
12 all have the same goals here to preserve our caribou and so
13 on for the next generation. And I just want to thank
14 everybody around the table for their great knowledge and
15 hospitality.

16 Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jorgen. Anyone else?

18 MR. L. ADJUN: None, your worship.

19 THE CHAIR: You call me that now.

20 Sam?

21 MR. S. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 Yeah, I myself, too, I'd like to thank everybody
23 here, especially the Wildlife Board for inviting me to the
24 public hearing. This is my first public hearing I've
25 attended regarding caribou to the Wildlife Board, and it's

1 been very informative and educational for me.

2 And I'd like to thank Cambridge Bay, too, for
3 the hospitality, and I'd like to thank our counterparts --
4 KIA, NTI, GN, NWT -- for all their presentations and
5 information shared with everybody.

6 And, also, I'd like to thank the interpreters
7 for all their hard work. I know they must be tired, and
8 thank you very much. Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sam.

10 Peter.

11 MR. P. KAPOLAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

12 Again, I'd like to thank the NWMB for inviting
13 us to this Bluenose East caribou hearing. And I'd like to
14 thank all the interveners for their input and knowledge
15 into this hearing for the last four days. And I hope
16 everyone has a safe trip home hope to their loved ones and
17 family.

18 Again, thank you very much for inviting us to
19 this hearing. I know NWMB has good work ahead of them. I
20 hope they make the best choice in making their decision.

21 And, again, on behalf of Umingmaktok HTO, thank
22 you.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Peter.

24 Cambridge Bay.

25 MR. ANGOHIATOK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 George from the HTO.

2 I, too, would like to certainly thank NWMB
3 their Chair and all its directors and staff for choosing
4 Cambridge Bay to hold their hearings.

5 For a lot of us, it certainly has been a real
6 learning experience in dealing with matters similar to
7 this. I know that this won't be the last time that issues
8 like this are dealt with, and certainly thank you to all of
9 you for picking Cambridge Bay as your local point.

10 And to the rest of the delegates, the DIOs, your
11 input. Before today, before these meetings, we had very
12 little knowledge of the roles that some of the DIOs like
13 NTI -- little bit about KIA's were in this -- but their
14 submissions and sharing why they are here, you know, it
15 makes us realize that they are available for Inuit to
16 approach for assistance. And thank you for that, too.

17 And the other organizations, especially GN and
18 GNWT for their input. Certainly, like was mentioned
19 earlier that we don't always agree, but our main objective,
20 you know, we like to come to a consensus or to agreement.
21 And look forward to future working with you all.

22 One thing that I want to point out, though, is
23 in January when we did our meetings, I was very adamant
24 about having to look at all aspects that are responsible
25 for the numbers going down, and I still feel very strongly

1 about having said that, not only because when you look at
2 only a partial reason why the numbers are going down is not
3 a complete job, in my eyes.

4 So, you know, the proper officials have to come
5 to realize that and look at all aspects, not only for this
6 but, you know, in the future where you can't just blame the
7 human parts for taking down the numbers or for any reason,
8 the human part of it to look at, but also consider what
9 else, what other reasons the numbers are going down. And I
10 can't say that enough. It's very important to include
11 everything.

12 And I know that money is a big factor in it, and
13 a question has been asked, you know: What's more
14 important, a bit of money or the animals? And, certainly,
15 to our people the animals that we live with every day and
16 we consume is very important to all of us. I know that
17 money can find its way. You know, when you look for it,
18 you'll find it. And it's just a matter of finding and
19 working out with each other ways to deal with these
20 matters. And very proud to have been a part of this, and I
21 look forward to further meetings with all parties involved.

22 And quana much again from all of us. My
23 colleague Bobby and the HTO we enjoyed seeing you all here
24 in our community. Quana very much.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, George.

1 NTI.

2 MR. DEAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 Just like to thank the Board for holding the
4 hearing here in the Kitikmeot Region and all the
5 participants for their presentations, and I think some good
6 discussions, and safe travels back home.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Bert.

8 KIA. Attima.

9 MR. HADLARI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10 And I'd like to thank the Board for inviting us
11 to this hearing, that the KIA was involved in this hearing
12 because we represent the Kitikmeot Inuit.

13 And I thank you for the interpreters and the
14 Board. Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

16 Jody or Jonas.

17 MR. LAFFERTY: Okay. I'd just like to say thank
18 you to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board for having the
19 meeting here in Cambridge. Thank you very much for having
20 us over, especially when the Elders were talking, and I
21 just love listening to their language -- although we may
22 not understand them, but through the interpreters. That's
23 how we communicate, especially when they talk about their
24 traditional, it's very important. Don't get me wrong, I
25 did learn quite a lot the last few days, so therefore, I'd

1 like to say thank you to each and every one of you.

2 Thank you very much from the bottom of my heart.

3 Mussi cho.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you Jonas. Go ahead Jody.

5 MS. PELLISSEY: Also on behalf of the WRRB, thank
6 you for allowing us to come and present as a witness.

7 Thank you to everyone for all of your great information.

8 We look forward to continued relationships with you, and
9 thank you.

10 Thank you for the translators and to the
11 community, as well. Mussi cho.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jody.

13 And at this time, I mean, it's been mentioned
14 many, many times and recognized how important the Elders
15 are and the information and knowledge that they provide.
16 And I'd like to give this opportunity right now if there's
17 any Elders in the room that have anything to say, any
18 comments at all. If not, that's fine, too, but they
19 deserve the opportunity.

20 Okay. We'll start off, then, with the Board
21 Members, last call here. Simeonie.

22 MR. KEENAINAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 I'd like to thank you, especially, for welcoming
24 us to Ikaluktutiak, and for feeding us. We've been eating
25 caribou for a few days because we haven't eaten caribou in

1 Baffin Island in the last year, so I'd like to thank people
2 from Ikaluktutiak, especially the ones that are around the
3 table.

4 Thank you very much that you were able to state
5 your concerns regarding the decisions that we will have to
6 make and for voicing your concerns.

7 And also the government, the wildlife staff, I'd
8 like to also thank them for giving us a good presentation
9 of what they know within Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
10 And, yes, we've been working with the Nunavut government
11 since the beginning, so I'd like to thank you. I hope your
12 way home is safe.

13 I know right across from me, my future Elder, he
14 said there's technology coming around, but I want to just
15 tell him: But if they see the track of a caribou, the
16 technology won't be able to tell whether that was a female
17 or a male. They cannot tell us whether that was a female
18 or male track. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simeonie.
20 David Igutsaq.

21 MR. IGUTSAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 My name is David Igutsuq from Taloyoak.

23 I'd like to thank the Elders that have come to
24 the table because it's very nice to hear the Elders when
25 they speak, especially all the ones around the table. I'd

1 like to thank everyone, and the interveners. And at times
2 I know I'm going to forget about yesterday, so we will just
3 get -- thank you very much for welcoming us to
4 Cambridge Bay, and I hope you have a safe trip home to go
5 back to your families. I wish you safe travels.

6 Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

8 Caleb.

9 MR. SANGOYA: Thank you. See, he's speaking in
10 Greenland.

11 Thank you very much. I hope you have a safe
12 travel, and relaxed. Have a good day. Have a safe trip
13 home. Thank you.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb. David
15 Kritterdlik.

16 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Me, too, I'd like to say thank you
17 for everyone around the table.

18 It looks like this Board's going to have to make
19 a decision that's been given to us. The one good thing
20 about it is that the people that you hear on this row, the
21 Board Members, are the ones that are going to be dealing
22 with the matter. And our mandate is to make sure that we
23 are making decisions that are, like, make everything
24 balanced all around, and that's not usually the easiest
25 thing to do, because sometimes we have more than four or

1 five sides, and then you have to make one.

2 Yes, we have taken lot of information, and we're
3 going to be using all of that, and I'm sure there will be
4 more coming in before we come together again to deal with
5 the whole matter. We have had all the local ideas and
6 that, and legal and scientific technology and information.
7 It's not going to be easy, but our mandate is, like I said,
8 that we have to make decisions that are fair to everyone,
9 and I'm sure our Board will be, and our staff will be
10 helping us along with that.

11 And with that, I just wanted to say thank you to
12 Kugluktumiut and Kitikmuit, NTI, KIA, and our government.
13 Thank you.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David. Charlie.

15 MR. INUARAK: Thank you.

16 I've been coming to Ikaluktutiak as -- I'm the
17 mayor of the hamlet right now. We were recently here
18 having a meeting. Yeah, there were lots of mayors that met
19 here.

20 I have relatives here from the Kalmayuk
21 (phonetic) family, and my sister is from this area, so I
22 saw her siblings, and it is very good to see the people.
23 And your presentations were interesting, and it is
24 fortunate that NWMB -- yeah, we ate some caribou. I was
25 wondering whether that was a Bluenose caribou, or was it

1 Bathurst caribou. That's what I was thinking when I was
2 having some caribou.

3 Thank you very much.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

5 I have the last word here, so I just want to say
6 that the work that needs to take place to put on a hearing
7 like this, never mind one hearing, but two hearings like
8 this is incredible, as you can see by the binders you have
9 in front of you. So I would like to, first of all, thank
10 the NWMB staff and legal counsel for your hard work in
11 getting all this organized and put together for everybody.
12 That is not a small challenge at all.

13 Another challenge that's really great is Eric
14 and Eric, our support staff that looked after all of our
15 communication system and our computers every day, it's just
16 amazing. They're working late into the night and early in
17 the morning and worrying about all these little logistic
18 things that need to work to make life easier for all of us.
19 So thank you very much, very, very much.

20 Again, the interpreters. I mean, we've had very
21 long days they must be just so tired of just talking all
22 day. So thank you.

23 Adele, our stenographer, thank you for being
24 here for recording everything, and making sure everything
25 is accurate and we're going to have all that information.

1 And then, again, I would like to thank the Board
2 Members for not only listening very attentively all week,
3 but we are going to have a difficult decision, and thank
4 you for your support and all of us working together. I
5 mean, I am very privileged and proud, as I told you before,
6 to be part of this Board and have the Board that we do
7 have.

8 One thing that's very important to me is to see
9 a young fellow like that across the room on an HTO Board.
10 I think you're setting an example, and I hope that other
11 HTOs and other youth get involved like you are because you
12 are the future, and I see you leading your peer and your
13 friends back home in understanding wildlife and becoming
14 part of an HTO like you are. Congratulations.

15 And, again, it couldn't be emphasized enough
16 that we have had Elders here, and it would be nice to have
17 more Elders. There's no question. But me as a chair, and
18 I think you all know what I'm talking about: When the
19 Elders speak, I feel that passion, I feel that caring and
20 that easiness about them. They make you feel calm and
21 understand. It's very, very unique, and I think everybody
22 feels it.

23 I think one of the best things for me and all of
24 us in this room is, when we collaborate and we talk about
25 wildlife management and we make decisions and we

1 communicate, is meeting one another and putting names to
2 faces, and you understand and you see people. And we're
3 going to cross paths again, and we'll know each other and
4 understand each other, and that's very, very important in
5 these public hearings, too.

6 So with that, thank you very much, Cambridge
7 Bay, for your wonderful hosting, and safe travels to
8 everybody back home, and God bless we can get out tomorrow,
9 maybe. I'm not sure.

10 But with that, I would like David Igutsuq to say
11 a closing prayer. Thank you.

12 (PRAYER)

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14 (Proceedings ended at 5:36 p.m.)

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1 Certificate of Transcript

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3 I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing pages
4 275 to 495 are a complete and accurate transcript of the
5 proceedings taken down by me in shorthand and transcribed
6 from my shorthand notes to the best of my skill and ability.

7

8 Dated at the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta, on the day
9 11th of August, A.D. 2016.

10

11 "Adele Jones"

12 Adele Jones

13 Official Court Reporter, CSR(A)

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