

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Minutes: Regular Meeting No. RM 002-2012

Iqaluit, June 11, 2012

Members and Staff Participating:

Peter Kusugak	Member, and Acting Chair
Harry Flaherty	Member
Manasie Audlakiak	Member
Peter Qayutinuak Sr.	Member
Raymond Ningeocheak	Member
Winston Fillatre	Member
Jim Noble	Executive Director
Dave Rogers	Director of Finance and Administration
Rebecca Jeppesen	Director of Wildlife Management
Sarah Spencer	Terrestrial Wildlife Management Biologist
Anna Magera	Fisheries Management Biologist
Sheila Pokiak Lumsden	Wildlife Communications / Admin Technician
Michael d'Eça	NWMB Legal Advisor
Evie Amagoalik	Interpreter
Lazarus Arreak	Interpreter

Not Available:

Chair	Vacant
CWS Appointee	Vacant

Other Participants at Various Times:

Keith Pelley	Acting Director – DFO Eastern Arctic Office
Amanda Currie	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
Chris Lewis	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
Charlotte Sharkey	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
Zoya Martin	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
Syola Ikkidluaq	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
Paul Irngaut	Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

1. Call to order

The Acting Chair called the meeting to order.

2. Opening Remarks and Introductions

The Acting Chair invited all participants to introduce themselves.

3. Agenda: Review and Approval

The Board moved to approve the agenda as presented.

The Board decided to adopt the Regular Meeting agenda, No. 002-2012, as presented (**RESOLUTION RM2012-___**).

4. Fisheries and Oceans Canada : Issues/Decisions

Chris Lewis presented a briefing note on behalf of Margaret Treble from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Winnipeg office. This item was in reference to a research study that would begin July 26, 2012 in Halifax and end August 22 in Iqaluit.

Chris Lewis identified that there were some updates provided by Margaret Treble since the briefing note was submitted for inclusion into the meeting binder.

The survey will be completed on the Canadian Coast Guard Ship, the Hudson vessel, where video grab will be deployed to sample the bottom and collect specimens for identification purposes. The survey has been in touch with HTOs in eight communities.

Charlotte Sharkey of Fisheries and Oceans Canada was invited to provide a supplemental to Lewis' presentation. Sharkey provided details that the HTOs in Pangnirtung, Arctic Bay, Pond Inlet, Kimmirut, and Clyde River provided support. Amarok (Iqaluit) and Grise Fiord HTOs had no response. Qikiqtarjuaq was reviewing the issue.

It was noted that this was to be a one-time research survey.

NWMB's Legal Counsel referred to section 5.2.37 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, which outlines the NWMB's role in research.

June 12, 2012 update:

The Fisheries Management Biologist updated the Board on behalf of Fisheries and Oceans Canada regarding questions that were posed to the department on June 11, 2012.

5. NWMB Items: Issues/Decisions

a) Polar Bear Credit Request

The Wildlife Management Biologist presented a briefing note on Grise Fiord's polar bear credit request.

The Aivik HTO in Grise Fiord requested the use of 10 credits from the Lancaster Sound polar bear sub-population toward the 2011-2012 season (end date of June 30, 2012).

The Director of Wildlife Management provided a supplemental comment to the Board explaining that the credits fell under the flexible quota system under the Polar Bear Memorandum of Understanding. The credits included 3 from the previous year.

The decision was deferred to In-Camera Meeting 005-2012.

b) Community Based Monitoring Network (CBMN)

The Wildlife Management Biologist presented a briefing note on the Community Based Monitoring Network activities that took place from February 1, 2012 to April 30, 2012. This was an information item.

The first point of order was to inform the Board that there were some examples of data that was collected to date, and that the Director of Wildlife Management could present this data to the Board.

The Director of Wildlife Management spoke to the inception of the Community Based Monitoring Network and how, back in 2006 to 2008, there was discussion on the type of approach for a second harvest study.

In the summer of 2010 this community-based type of study was looked at and it began in January 2012.

She went on to show the Board a visual presentation of some of the results to date, using the community of Arviat as an example. She explained the red dots were harvests that were recoded, and the green boxes signified any observation of any other wildlife. The data was broken down by month as well as by different species.

There was interest expressed by the Board for the Community Based Monitoring Network to produce an interim report to be delivered sometime in the fall. The only report identified in the budget was the final report to be completed following the end of the data collection period in January 2013.

c) Marine mammal Struck and Loss Workshop

The Fisheries Management Biologist presented a verbal update regarding the possibility of the Board holding a marine mammal struck and lost workshop.

The Board approved funding for a struck and lost workshop to be held at the March 2012 meeting, conditional on:

1. Establishment of a working group comprised of Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and the NWMB;
2. Development of a detailed workshop budget, participant list and agenda
3. Provision of a report to the NWMB that would set out recommendations.

Following the March meeting, a draft workshop proposal was prepared by NWMB staff and circulated to Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Government of Nunavut Department of Environment for comment. The proposal included key areas of focus and a proposed budget. During an April co-management partner conference call to discuss the proposal, there was not agreement on how to proceed with the workshop. Co-management partners wanted more time to review the workshop structure and focus, so an extension for comment was made for May 11, 2012. The NWMB staff did not receive responses by the extended

deadline. Staff continued to follow up with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. Fisheries and Oceans Canada informed the NWMB staff at the meeting that a response was imminent.

d) Pew Arctic Fishing Moratorium Petition

The Fisheries Management Biologist presented an information item regarding the Pew Arctic Fishing Moratorium Petition.

At the beginning of the International Polar Year Conference in Montreal in April 2012, the Pew Environmental Group released a letter signed by over 2000 scientists from 67 countries that called for a moratorium on commercial fishing in the Arctic. The moratorium is being proposed as a precautionary measure until more research is conducted into ecosystems and sustainable fishing levels in areas formerly covered by the polar ice cap. New waters are opening up in the Arctic (including in the “high seas,” or over 200 nautical miles offshore) which could lead to changes in fish distribution, boat access, and fishing patterns. Following this announcement, Senator Dennis Patterson contacted the NWMB. He later issued a statement that spoke to the fact that fishing opportunities are important for Inuit, and the NWMB had not been consulted. NWMB does not have record of consultation on the petition, but did receive a briefing from Fisheries and Oceans Canada in 2010 on potential future changes to regulation of high seas fisheries. At that time, Fisheries and Oceans Canada indicated that Canada does not support moratoria.

e) Allocation Policy

The Fisheries Management Biologist used a briefing note and a power point presentation to inform the Board on this decision item.

As presented previously at the March 2012 meeting, a working group was struck that consisted of NWMB staff and two Fisheries Advisory Committee (FAC) members. This working group has completed the proposed revisions to the *NWMB Allocation Policy on Commercial Marine Fisheries* (Allocation Policy). Consultations with co-management partners and industry have also been completed between 2010 and 2012.

Notable changes to the revised and proposed new Allocation Policy include:

- Substantial effort to reduce redundancies throughout the document and update content to better reflect the current context of Nunavut's commercial marine fisheries;
- Development of essential confidentiality safeguards and commitments with respect to the Fisheries Advisory Committee. These additions comprehensively address the legal duties of the Fisheries Advisory Committee members to maintain strict confidentiality with respect to confidential materials and information, both during the members' terms and after those terms have ended (See part 3, as well as Part 6 and Schedules I and II of Appendix A).
- Proposed annual verification reports – prepared by the department of Fisheries and Oceans and Transport Canada – that primarily focus on the *“Mandatory Requirements for Responsible Stewardship.”* These verification reports will be considered by the Fisheries Advisory Committee and the NWMB in their review of both allocation applications and annual reports (See Parts 6, 9 and 14, as well as Annexes 2 and 3).
- Revisions to the *“Mandatory Requirements for Responsible Stewardship”* (Part 6) based on feedback from Fisheries and Oceans Canada and industry.
- A revised *“Evaluation Form for the Allocation Guidelines,”* which sets out the maximum number of scoring points provided for each subsection of the Allocation Guidelines (see Part 7 and Appendix D). The division of points between major subsections did not change. The scoring system was revised to bring greater balance amongst scoring elements, and reduce subjectivity and duplication. Changes included down-weighting vessel capacity, recognizing processing operations, weighting items by level of importance, removing reference to the Exploratory Fisheries Fund (a voluntary fund), adding points for collaboration amongst industry, and emphasizing business planning. Consideration of numbers of workers as well as dollars spend was also added to the evaluation.

- The former section on “*Small Boat Fisheries Development*” has been entirely deleted, pending appropriate infrastructure development within Nunavut.
- A section on the “*Transfer of Nunavut Allocations*” was added (Part 9). Permanent transfers of allocation are prohibited. Temporary external (outside of Nunavut) and temporary internal (within Nunavut) requirements are outlined.
- A section was added on “*New Allocations for Commercial Fisheries Allocations*” (Part 10) which highlights the best opportunities for new applicants to receive allocations.
- A new “*Multi-Year Allocations*” section has been added, which sets out proposed five year allocation terms, and also addresses the challenges of allocation increases and decreases during a five-year term (see Part 12 and Annex 2). Five-year multi-year allocations are favourable to industry for stability in business planning, as well as to Fisheries and Oceans Canada under their new fisheries modernization initiatives.
- Another new section, “*Allocation Reconciliation*,” proposes the adoption of a formal process to reconcile allocation overruns (Part 13).
- The working group also aimed to add a carry-forward provision based on industry at the February 2012 workshop, but this was removed based on opposition by Fisheries and Oceans Canada.
- The “*Allocation Application*” procedure and the development and delivery of “*Annual Reports*” are both addressed in the Allocation Policy and in accompanying flow charts (See Part 14 and Annexes 1, 2 and 3).

The NWMB staff also recommended that the Board approve four additional recommendations outlined in the revised version of the Allocation Policy.

The decision on the approval of the revised proposed and new Allocation Policy was deferred to In-Camera session 005-2012.

6. Date and Location of Next Meeting – September 2012

Other upcoming important dates were raised. The Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for the Narwhal Public Hearing was set for July 24-26, 2012 in Iqaluit.

The Basic Needs Level (BNL) for beluga, narwhal and walrus Public Hearing was scheduled for September 11-12, 2012 in Iqaluit.

It was proposed that the next Regular Meeting take place adjacent to the Basic Needs Level Hearing dates in September.

The Board voted to accept September 8, 10, and 13 2012 as the dates for the next Regular Meeting (**RESOLUTION RM2012-___**)

7. Adjournment and Closing Prayer

The Board voted to carry the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Regular Meeting No. 002-2012 RESOLUTIONS

Resolution RM2012_____: RESOLVED that the Board accept the agenda.

Moved by: Manasie Audlakiak Seconded by: Raymond Ningeocheak
Carried Date June 11, 2012

Resolution RM2012_____: RESOLVED that the Board identified the next Regular Meeting would be held in Iqaluit in the second week of September.

Moved by: Raymond Ningeocheak Seconded by: Manasie Audlakiak
Carried Date June 11, 2012

Resolution RM2012_____: RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned.

Moved by: Manasie Audlakiak Seconded by: Harry Flaherty
Carried Date June 11, 2012