SUBMISSION TO THE

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

FOR

Information: **Decision: X**

Issue: Recommendation to maintain previous limits on sport hunts on the Dolphin and Union Caribou herd

Background:

- The Dolphin and Union Caribou herd is a relatively small herd and was estimated to be around 30,000 animals in 1997. Since then the herd has shown signs of decline with an estimate of about 28,000 caribou in 2007 and 18,000 caribou in 2015.
- Due to infrequent monitoring and gaps in research, we do not know whether this is part of a slow steady, cyclical and natural decline or the result of a more precipitous decline in the last few years only.
- Cambridge Bay, Kugluktuk, Bay Chimo and Bathurst Inlet, in Nunavut, and Paulatuk and Ulukhaktok in the NWT harvest from this herd.
- The total harvest of Dolphin and Union caribou in Nunavut is unknown but is likely between 1000 and 1500 animals annually (based on harvest study data and more recent crude estimates). This represents a harvest rate between 6 and 8% based on the 2015 herd estimate.
- Before the regulation change in 2015, the previous Big Game regulations set a limit of 35 Barren-Ground Caribou sport hunting tags in BC03 which covers Victoria Island and the Kent Peninsula on the mainland (R-118-98 Dated 14 August, 1998). These tags were shared by Kugluktuk and Cambridge Bay.
- Ekaluktutiak HTO is the main outfitter for Caribou sport hunts out of Cambridge Bay.
- In 2006-2007, the HTO requested an increase in sport hunting tags in BC03 (see letter attached) but the request was denied by the NWMB and GN and the status quo of 35 tags for BC03 was maintained (see attached documents).
- Kugluktuk HTO passed a motion in September 2010 to stop caribou sport hunts in their community (see attached letter) and has requested for several years to put a halt to all caribou sport-hunting in the Kitikmeot (latest letter attached).
- The Government of Northwest Territories has stopped sport hunts on barren-ground caribou for a few years now and has more recently taken further actions to restrict caribou harvest for all harvesters, including aboriginals.
- The Dolphin and Union Caribou herd is currently listed as Special Concern under the Federal Species at Risk Act and the NWT Species at Risk Act.

Current Status

- At this time, the GN does not recommend the establishment of a TAH on this herd but is concerned that the new regulations do not currently include a yearly limit to the commercial harvest on this herd (e.g. sport hunts).
- The only current limits on barren-ground caribou sport hunts set in the regulations are that non-resident hunters (sport hunters) can harvest up to 2 caribou per person and per year through an outfitter.
- The GN recommends that the number of sport hunts in BC03 be limited to 35 as in the past until information is available to confirm that the herd can sustain further economic ventures.
- The main outfitter for caribou sport hunts on the Dolphin and Union caribou is currently the Ekaluktutiak HTO.
- A joint management plan for the Dolphin and Union Caribou herd is being developed by Environment Canada, the GNWT and the Government of Nunavut. The management plan will be submitted for review through each appropriate jurisdictional channel.

Consultations:

- The issue of sport hunts have been discussed on numerous occasions at the KRWB annual meetings.
- Kugluktuk HTO has expressed for several years their opposition to the maintenance of sport hunts on caribou in the region.
- Recent discussions during the Dolphin and Union Caribou Management Plan meeting in Cambridge Bay (Jan 11-13, 2016) also identified, as a recommendation, the need to stop commercial and sport hunts when the herd is in decline.

Recommendation

It is recommended to establish a limit on sport hunting in BC03 based on previous allocation (35) until the herd has recovered or until new management actions on this herd are established by the NWMB.

Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization

P.O. Box 1270 Cambridge Bay, Nunavut X0B 0C0
Telephone #: (867) 983-2426 Facsimile #: (867) 983-2427
Email: ehtocb@qiniq.com

February 14, 2007

By fax only Fax: (867) 975-7320
Jim Noble
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
P.O. Box 1379
Iqaluit, Nunavut
X0A 0H0

Dear Mr. Noble:

RE: REQUEST FOR ISLAND CARIBOU INCREASE

We recently requested a supporting letter from the Kitikmeot Hunters & Trappers Association (KHTA) toward an increase of Island Caribou from 35 tags per year to 50 tags per year for Sport Hunting. Attached is the supporting letter that we received following their last meeting.

We are submitting the following documents to your office:

- EHTO letter requesting support for increase of Island Caribou from 35 tags per year to 50 tags per year for Sport Hunting dated December 15, 2006
- KHTA letter supporting the an increase tag for Island Caribou from 35 to 50 tags per year for Sport Hunting dated February 13, 2007

We are submitting these documents and hope that we can receive a favorable response from your Organization in the near future. If you require any additional information/document or have any question, do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely

George Angohiatok
Vice-Chairman

KITIKMEOT HUNTERS & TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 219 Rankin Inlet, NU X0C-0G0
Tel. (867) 645-4860 Fax. (867) 645-4861

Ekaluktutiak Hunters' & Trappers' Organization
P.O Box 1270
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0
(867) 983 – 2426

February 13th, 2007

Dear: Attima and EHTO Board of Directors

Re: Letter of Support for Island Caribou Increase

At the recent meeting of the Kitikmeot Hunters & Trappers' Association held in Kugluktuk NU on February 7th, 2007, the board reviewed your letter requesting an increase in Island Caribou tags from your current quota of 35 to 50.

We have passed the motion during our face to face meeting which was moved by: Enuk Pauloosie and second by Jack Himiak motion number 17/AGM06/07.

Please except this letter of support when submitting your request to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board.

If you have any additional question please feel free to contact myself or the Executive Director Richard Connelly at (867) 645-4860.

Sincerely,

Jack Himiak
KHTA Vice President

Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization

P.O. Box 1270 Cambridge Bay, Nunavut X0B 0C0
Telephone #: (867) 983-2426 Facsimile #: (867) 983-2427
Email: ehtocb@qiniq.com

December 15, 2006

By fax only

Phillip Kadlun
President
Kitikmeot Hunters & Trappers Association
P.O. Box 384
Kugluktuk Nunavut
X0B 0E0

RE: REQUEST FOR ISLAND CARIBOU INCREASE

We would like to receive your support for an increase of Island Caribou for Sport Hunting, at this time we have a quota of 35 Caribou tags. We would like to increase our quota to 50 caribou tags for sport hunting.

It was our understanding that with the new Wildlife regulation the HTO's would have additional control in the assignment of tags, but since these Wildlife regulation are taking more time than expected be to approved, we cannot wait any longer.

If you require additional information or have any question, do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely

Attima Hadlari
Chairman

Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association
Hunters' and Trappers' Organization
P.O. Box 309
Kugluktuk, Nunavut X0B 0E0
Ph. (867) 982 – 4908
Fx. (867) 982 – 5912
kugluktukhto@qiniq.com'

January 5, 2011

Webb Outfitting (Nunavut) Ltd.
Southern Booking Office
P.O. Box 313
Pritchard, BC V0E 2P0

Dear Fred, Martin and George;

On behalf of the Kugluktuk Hunters & Trappers Organization (KHTO), I have to inform you that it was decided that the KHTO no longer supports the sports hunting of caribou in the Kugluktuk area and the Kitikmeot Region. And therefore, does not support the issuance of sports hunting tags for all caribou.

A motion M/C # 057/10 was passed by the Kugluktuk Hunters & Trappers Organization Board of Directors on September 9, 2010 as follows:

> "**Whereas the Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association would like to stop the practice of issuing sports hunting caribou tags for the following caribou; Bathurst, Bluenose East and West, Dolphin and Union herds, as a first step to assist the herds from further decline. This motion was approved and carried. This will take into effect September 9th, 2010.**
> **M/C # 057/10 David Klengenberg/Peter Taktogon Carried"**

We ask for understanding of the importance to assist in preserving all caribou herds and look for your support on this matter. At this time, this is only a notice of the KHTO motion and will follow-up with you on all updates to the motion made. I have attached copies of (3) other documents pertaining to the Kugluktuk Hunters & Trappers decision.

We would like to continue the relationship with Webb Outfitting Ltd., and to continue to work together! Please feel free to contact us at anytime by phone, fax, mail or email.

Sincerely,

Barbara Adjun
Manager

c.c. Allan Niptanatiak, Conservation Officer, DOE, Kugluktuk
Department of Environment (HQ), Kugluktuk

Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association • Hunters' and Trappers' Organization
P.O. Box 309, Kugluktuk, Nunavut X0B 0E0 • Phone: (867) 982-4908 • Fax: (867) 982-5912
E-mail: kugluktukhto@qiniq.com

September 14, 2015

Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board	krwb@niws.ca
Ekaluktutiak Hunters & Trappers Association	ehtocb@qiniq.com
Bathurst Inlet Hunters & Trappers Association	ckapolak@kitikmeot.edu.nu.ca
Bay Chimo Hunters & Trappers Association	ckapolak@kitikmeot.edu.nu.ca
Kurairojuark Hunters & Trappers Association	kugaarukhto@netkaster.ca
Taloyoak Hunters & Trappers Association	hunter@qiniq.com
Department of Environment, Regional Office	MDumond@GOV.NU.CA
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board – Iqaluit	pkydd@nwmb.com
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. – Wildlife & Environment	pirngaut@tunngavik.com

RE: Sports Hunting of Caribou in the Kitikmeot Region & Tags

This has become an ongoing and urgent issue for the Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association, Hunters & Trappers Organization (HTO), since 2009, when the HTO Board of Directors decided to take action by announcing in a statement that they will no longer support sports hunts on caribou.

In the past, the Kugluktuk HTO created priorities on what actions to take when caribou are in decline. The first priority being to stop all issuance of sports hunting tags on caribou for Kugluktuk. This was requested and sent for support from the other Kitikmeot Region communities. This statement was sent on December 7th, 2009. To date, this issue has not been addressed by the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board or the other communities in the region.

A letter was sent to the outfitter that worked out of Kugluktuk, and it was Fred Webb's sports hunting outfitter stating that we are asking that all sports hunts be stopped on caribou until further notice, who sent a letter back to the Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association (HTO), stating that he fully supported the Kugluktuk Hunters & Trappers decision and would no longer conduct sports hunts on caribou. He also stated that he would still like to continue to conduct sports hunts on other animals, and continue to work side by side with the Kugluktuk HTO. The Kugluktuk HTO support the outfitter and continues to work closely with the outfitter and continues to receive reports.

What the Kugluktuk HTO cannot understand is how sports hunting is still being conducted on caribou while the caribou are in decline? How the caribou sports hunting tags are being issued in Nunavut and being hunted in the NWT, when NWT has a decision to stop sports hunting on caribou. Where is the logic? How does this assist our Inuit when Inuit are fighting to have caribou on our tables, and the sports hunters are allowed to hunt them for the big dollar, and in the pocket of the few Inuit, while the larger Inuit population struggle.

The Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association is requesting support from the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board on the decision to stop issuing sports hunting tags on ALL caribou herds. It has become such a dire issue, the caribou are in further decline and still there are communities in the region who continue to conduct sports hunts, all for the big dollar.

The outfitters are supporting the sports hunters and their game of hunting, while Inuit are struggling to harvest caribou for subsistence, to put food on their table. Each community has a right to stop sports hunts on caribou, or can seek to work together with outfitters.

There is a bigger incentive that needs to be addressed, and that is to save our caribou to help our Inuit and to see that our younger generation will have caribou. Right now, our community members are not getting any caribou because the caribou are scarce, and the caribou have been too far away.

The caribou that our community harvests are the Bluenose East Caribou herd, the Dolphin and Union Caribou herd and sometimes the Bathurst Caribou herd. All the herds are presently showing major signs of decline. This has to be a major concern as a large picture. We need to address it as a Kitikmeot community, so larger issues do not come about. Which can be a moratorium like what happened in Iqaluit. And that is something we cannot allow.

We are asking each Kitikmeot community to support the Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association to stop the issuance of sports hunting tags on ALL caribou, and those are the Bluenose East Caribou, Dolphin and Union Caribou and the Bathurst Inlet Caribou. The Kitikmeot Region can fight together to save our livelihood, which is so important, to save the caribou for the younger generations to come. Do you want your grandchildren and great grandchildren to continue to have caribou while they grow up? Then there is action to be taken. We need to think of them now.

There are ways to educate our hunters to harvest other animals to help each community sustain them with country food. It can be done. Instead of conducting large community harvests on caribou, provide other country food instead, there is muskox, fish, rabbits, ptarmigan, seals, whale. We can teach and educate our communities that there are other country food and not caribou only.

The Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association, Hunters & Trappers Organization (HTO) is now requesting and seeking support to stop all sports hunts in the Kitikmeot Region. We need to do this until our caribou are in healthy populations again. We need to do this for our Inuit.

Regards,

David Nivingalok
Chairperson

ba/dn

c.c.	NWMB	jakeagok@nwmb.com
	NTI	bdean@tunngavik.com
	DOE – Lisa Leclerc	lleclerc@gov.nu.ca
	MLA – Peter Taptuna	premier.taptuna@gov.nu.ca
	DOE – Minister	jmike@gov.nu.ca

Dolphin and Union Caribou Joint Management Plan Workshop
January 11 -13, 2016, Cambridge Bay
MINUTES

The workshop was to begin on January 10th, but most of the participants arrival was delayed by weather. Kugluktuk delegates were able to call in on January 11th and join in person on January 12th. The phone lines in the meeting room would not accommodate the teleconference equipment supplied by CWS, however a normal phone with speaker capabilities was available. This was adequate but challenging at times, due to all participants' inability to hear, this was the same for people in the room and on the phone. Where necessary the discussion was repeated for the benefit of those who could not hear. Due to the changes in timing the agenda (Appendix 1) was been rearranged to accommodate participants arrival and presenters availability.

January 11, 14:45 Co-Chairs open meeting, opening prayer, go around the table with introductions (Agenda items 1-4)

Participant List

Name	Community	Organization
Simon Qingnaqtug	Kugaaruk	Kitikmeot Region Wildlife Board
Ema Qaqqutaq	Kugaaruk	Kitikmeot Region Wildlife Board
Jimmy Haniliak	Cambridge Bay	Cambridge Bay Hunters & Trappers Organization
John Lucas Jr.	Tuktoyaktuk	Wildlife Advisory Management Council (NWT)
Joe Ilisiak	Paulatuk	Inuvialuit Game Council/ Paulatuk HTC
Joshua Oliktoak	Ulukhaktuk	Inuvialuit Game Council/ Ulukhaktuk HTC
Larry Adjun	Kugluktuk	Kugluktuk Hunters & Trappers Organization
Joanna Wilson Co-Chair	Yellowknife	Government of Northwest Territories (GNWT)
Lisa Worthington	Yellowknife	Government of Northwest Territories (GNWT)
Tracy Davison	Inuvik	Government of Northwest Territories (GNWT)
Sam Kapolak	Bay Chimo	Bay Chimo Hunters & Trappers Organization
Bert Dean	Rankin Inlet	Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI)
Lisa-Marie Leclerc	Kugluktuk	Government of Nunavut (GN)
Drikus Gissing	Iqaluit	Government of Nunavut (GN)
Mathieu Dumond Co-Chair	Kugluktuk	Government of Nunavut (GN)
Amy Ganton	Yellowknife	Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS)

Joanna Purpose of the meeting is to continue work on the DU management plan (MP) (Agenda item 5)

Reasons for the plan 1) Because DU caribou are special concern under SARA and plan is required by March 2017 2) NWT Species at Risk Act also needs a plan done by March 2017, 3) Although Nunavut does not have DU caribou as a species at risk they still need to have a management plan. There has already been one workshop to help inform the development of the draft MP in March 2015 in Kugluktuk. This workshop will continue the process specifically in regard to harvest management as well as input on what has been drafted so far.

Joshua Ulukhaktuk would like to have information on DU movements, spring and fall and any collar information.

Lisa - Marie This will be presented on Wednesday.

John What is the timeline for the plan roll out?

Amy The draft MP completed with consultations for posting on the SARA Registry by March 2017.

Joshua Is there any research on caribou diet, what they feed on, availability, regeneration time for forage?

Joanna This is not a priority but could be mentioned as a knowledge gap.

Joshua Flights are bothering caribou on the calving grounds.

Joanna This will come up in our threats discussion

Lisa-Marie DU caribou have a more dispersed calving strategy so normal protection measure do not work.

Jimmy Some information on migration, it occurs from late September to early November, depending on ice conditions. If they come from the west they come right through Cambridge Bay and a lot drown. I am surprised that caribou are still moving past now (Jan 11) they are usually gone by now, maybe global warming. They migrate back from April to May and are very thin then, no fat. My Father and grandfather warned that if you live long enough there will be a time with no caribou, and that time is starting now.

John How much historical data on population to base today's numbers on?

Joanna That information will be in a presentation tomorrow.

Lisa Worthington, **Presentation on a review of the outcomes from the March 2015 workshop.** (Agenda Item 6)

Lisa The March 2015 workshop led to the development of some draft goals. Reviewed threats to the herd. We developed a framework, of which we will spend more time on Tuesday. We held a teleconference in October 2015 to discuss harvest management models, for options to take to the respective wildlife boards. Some sections of the MP have been drafted and these sections need feedback from this meeting to further develop them. Timelines for the process of moving the MP though stages of development and consultation will be determined before the end of this meeting.

Questions from presentation:

Joshua - How much TEK has been gathered to use in the MP?

Lisa Some has been done at the meetings and there is more ongoing, there are presentations to come from Tracy and Matilde.

Joshua How many wolves are there? As a threat there are important.

Lisa- Yes, they are a threat but there is no consensus on how to manage wolves. there will be more discussion on threats later.

Joshua How many sport hunts are there for DU caribou?.

Mathieu There are 35 tags available for specific areas in zone BC-3. That is the area of Victoria Island and the Kent peninsula.

Jimmy Guiding is the only means of employment for some people.

Simon At the March 2015 meeting was there a discussion on protection of calving grounds? (did not participate)

Lisa-Marie GN has protection measure s for caribou calving areas but DU caribou have a more dispersed calving area. We had to fly 3/4 of the Island and could not find a core calving area, which is what we need to apply protection measures, they are too dispersed.

Tracy Davison **Presentation on Traditional Knowledge Update - GNWT (**Agenda #7.4)

Questions from presentation:

Joshua Threats such as low flying aircraft were discussed at our HTC AGM. There was an incident of non-permitted research that occurred from CHARS, researchers flew into NWT. There is also more marine traffic, what restrictions are there for them (cruise ships) that take tourists onto the land.

John Threats, to Peary caribou in particular, is insect harassment which will change with increasing temperatures, there will be more mosquitoes.

Sam There are concerns about ice breaking and the increase in drowning because the caribou think the ice is solid but then hit open channel or newly formed ice.

Jimmy The coast guard came through in November and hunters were on the mainland, they could not return and they were expecting solid ice, the coast guard should consult with communities.

Drikus What is the mechanism for stopping shipping? It is complex and federally governed.

Lisa-Marie Sabina has made a commitment to limit shipping to the open water season.

Kugluktuk HTO Grizzly population is high, we want to increase grizzly bear TAH and increase sport hunts.

Drikus- Can also use the NPC land use process to identify critical areas , also the federal government want to create more marine protected areas.

Amy Will look into how to work with the coast guard and transport Canada to determine jurisdiction and process.

Joshua Shipping was to support mines.

Bert If the coast guard was the one to go through in November can we not find out more? There is more development on the way with TMA, IZOK and this will impact DU.

Mathieu Will follow up with the Conservation Officer and see if there was more determined about the ship that came through in November.

Break

Lisa Worthington, **Review of the draft Management Plan Outline** (Agenda #8.1)

A run through of the current draft outline

Questions from presentation:

Joshua Are there minutes from the March 2015 meeting to measure progress?

John How long is the review period of the MP?

Joanna for EC it is 5 years, for NWT it is 5 years and Nunavut has no specific requirement.

Kugluktuk HTO What are the numbers for DU caribou?

5:10 End of Day 1

January 12 08:50 **Joanna** Update on today's process to accommodate the revised agenda and reintroductions for those joining on the phone.

Lisa Worthington **Presentation on Threats** (Agenda # 9.1)

Questions from presentation:

Joshua A comment on climate change, more research needs to be done on insect harassment, diet, new insects

John- Green up is occurring at a different time, Parks Canada is doing vegetation research on Banks Island.

Joshua The marine cruise ships can introduce new parasites and disease. Who has jurisdiction for wildlife viewing? Are there regulations for that?

Joshua There are more over flights and exploration is the big disturbance. Communities can help to regulate, HTO's and HTC's, less traffic in June is good, this is done in Ulukhaktuk.

Drikus Declines are part of a natural process with other factors can still continue decline even with controls. We need to be clear that it is natural.

Jimmy Need to improve education to younger hunters to not wound and waste meat..

Joshua Education needs to be in the schools and by families.

Simon- Decline is coming, as a harvester we need to get into a quota system but this is hard for hunters. Baffin Island had a ban on harvesting, we need to slow the decline, so they do not drop too fast, we need a quota. Elders said they had to go a long way to catch caribou, now they are right in the community (Taloyoak). If the numbers go really low it will take 30 years to get the population back, need a quota system to help slow the decline.

John Younger hunters need to be taught to sight in rifles. We have a program with prizes were we sight rifles and make a competition of it. Another is take a kid hunting, funding is available,

(both are NWT programs). Having a Wildlife Officer present helps reduce wounding and wastage.

Joshua What needs to be the level, threatened or endangered, for TAH to kick in?

Drikus There is no automatic TAH, only if needed and would go through the boards.

Jimmy Wants to stay away from harvest limitations. Would prefer that it be regulated through the local HTO.

Amy Ganton and Justina Ray **Presentation on the COSEWIC Threats Calculator** (Agenda #9.2)

Justina The threats calculator is to enumerate and quantify threats, to rank what threats are a big issue and what may only be a potential threat. The focus is on direct threats that cause decline, such as mortality, removal of habitat, or affects reproduction. Threats are scored and tracked so they do not get double counted.

Questions from presentation:

Joshua There is no mention of marine traffic and later freeze up?

Justina We will go through the table, they will show up lower down.

Justina There are 2 categories Scope and Severity, both have a 10 year window, there is some guesswork but ranges allow for variation

Example shipping; looked at why scope is 30-100%,due to the fact that all population does not cross the ice at the same time but the severity is high if it happens.

Discussion to hold a conference call due to tight timeline, to run through the calculator in full at a later date.

10:30 Break

Matilde Tomaselli **Presentation on Local Knowledge in the Cambridge Bay Area** (agenda # 7.3)

Matilde was calling in from Italy and although her presentation was on the screen the phone was not adequate, Joanna needed to summarize what Matilde said for the group to adequately hear.

Questions from presentation:

Joshua Did you hear that musk ox populations were increasing? Hunters have noted that fewer caribou and wonder if there is competition from musk ox.

Matilde It was not a specific question in the interviews but it did come up..

Joshua Is there any historical data to compare to what is happening now? to Bruno How closely is ice road monitored?

Matilde Not sure, this is the first study of its type in this area.

Joshua Is new disease related to increasing temperature or more insects or do you have an idea?

Matilde Some is disease and some are parasites, Sue Kutz will have more in her presentation.

Ema What is the long hoof growth, a disease?

Matilde This was a very low occurrence (1%).

Ema May be due to no water (very dry) when ground froze so it is very easy digging for food, so they have longer hooves?

Matilde - They think it is associated with poor nutritional status.

Susan Kutz presentation **Summary report of the results of the health analyses for caribou collared in the Kitikmeot, April 2015.** (Agenda # 7.5)

25 collared caribou in spring 2015, feces examined for parasites, mostly normal. Lungworm was found, not normal on Victoria Island

Questions from presentation:

Joshua Does lugworm pose a threat to people?.

Sue There is no threat to people.

John The musk ox die off on Banks Island, the highest concentration was seen where snow geese are found.

Sue 600 Snow goose samples were tested for the bacteria, also are testing rodents, and there is some evidence that it (bacteria) is present there.

Joshua Do the observed diseases occur in other southern caribou (mainland)?.

Sue Yes, the bacteria is present now and in the past, but seems to be higher in prevalence now.

Joshua Is it moving north with climate change?

Sue Lungworm yes, others we cannot say yet, it needs more research.

Kugluktuk HTO In Baffin taking from other herds (i.e. SHI) helps to make up lost harvest but here we cannot do that as other herds are also low.

Mary Gamberg presentation **Contaminants in Arctic Caribou** (Agenda # 7.6)

Questions from presentation:

Joshua Are increasing migratory birds affecting this?.

Mary Probably not.

John Do you correlate Environment Canada rain data with contaminants levels?

Mary yes, I am looking into it right now but have no results yet.

Mary Chernobyl radioactivity rendered Scandinavian caribou inedible; Fukishima did not affect Canadian caribou, likely do to rain over the pacific.

John Is it possible to get data on Peary caribou as it is similar to DU?

Mary Nick Larter, NWT biologist, does have some data on Peary caribou.

Joshua I would also like data on Peary caribou contaminants. Are contaminants in plants and water, and in store bought food like meat and chicken?

Mary Yes in water ,but caribou get it mostly from plants. Some contaminants are in store food, but at lower amounts and there are regulations to control it.

Joshua Is country food still healthier than store bought food?

Mary Yes, absolutely because does not have the growth hormones and antibiotics. Some marine mammals have higher contaminants though.

Jimmy People cannot eat some mushrooms, if caribou eat these mushrooms that are bad for humans is the meat still edible?

Mary As long as it is the meat and no rumen contents.

Lunch Break

14:15 resume, joined in person by Lisa-Marie, Mathieu, and Larry.

Lisa-Marie Leclerc Presentation **GN Knowledge Update** (Agenda # 7.1)

Questions from presentation:

Joshua Did you fly the area with the lone collar ?

Lisa-Marie Yes we did, and we tried to get Ulukhaktuk HTO to participate but the short day and long ferry time to the location, along with poor weather conditions- did not allow for it.

Drikus Is the 2015 survey comparable in method to the 2007 survey? And how many of the collars put on in April stayed on the mainland?

Lisa-Marie Yes, exactly the same method and 8 collars stayed but few had mortality. There is a 3 year lifespan for the collars so we may see them move back to Victoria Island.

Lisa-Marie Presentation **Review of Section 3 and 4 of the Draft Management Plan** (Agenda # 8.2)

Questions from presentation:

General discussion on harvest numbers and harvest reporting precision. The Nunavut Harvest Study did not differentiate between herds, BNE/DU/Bathurst, just grouped as caribou. In Kugluktuk the harvest was 90% Bathurst and 10% DU, now it has switched and gone the other way with majority of harvest from DU (no number given). A question on accuracy of Nunavut harvest study numbers being accurate, a quick round table indicated that community harvest

seemed accurate in the harvest study with some modification on caribou herd allocation from one year to the other.

Jimmy Commercial harvest ended in the early 70's and was over 200 caribou (in Bay Chimo/Bathurst Inlet area? during the springtime. After that the Cambridge Bay harvest was probably around 300. Harvest study may be high in that case. In addition these were barren-ground caribou, not Dolphin and Union.

Joshua When Ulukhaktuk halted Peary caribou harvest the take of Dolphin and Union increased.

Drikus NWMB has the role of developing the harvest study (next phase), we need the co-management partners to work together to provide them better direction so we have a useable product.

Bert Section 5.7.43 of the NLCA defines Provision of Information. Harvester have a role in providing information.

Larry HTO in Kugluktuk is developing a harvest monitoring program through the HTO.

Resume presentation Agenda # 8.2 con't

Break

Questions from presentation:

Joshua - HTO wants 1) less aircraft flying during calving season, 2) more research on caribou diet, 3) more information on how industry affects wildlife.

Larry We need user agreements between industry and HTOs. no fly zones etc.

John In NWT you need a permit thru the Aurora Research Centre, and they must consult with communities.

Lisa Worthington Presentation **Dolphin and Union Caribou Management Framework** (Agenda # 10.1)

Questions from presentation:

Lisa Lisa passes out paper copies of the 4 draft management goals and asks participants to review and think about them overnight to prepare for discussions tomorrow.

Mathieu We need to strengthen language that we are currently working with industry (Sabina, TMAC) as part of a bigger picture for monitoring not just industry doing their own monitoring at the local (project) scale.

Joanna We need to look at mechanisms on how to move shipping concerns forward, the NPC process, Marine protected areas, and jurisdictional control for shipping from yesterday, need to add this to draft.

Drikus There is a new Wildlife Viewing Permit under new regulations in Nunavut, also need to be added.

Discussion on how to address contaminants at the local level; work with communities and education. Gather evidence to lobby higher levels of government.

Joshua Elders have seen a rise and decline in caribou, and change of migration routes. Perhaps this knowledge could help the management plan.

Joanna Remonder to look at goals overnight, think about objectives and actions, resume tomorrow at 8:45.

End of Day 2

January 13 09:00

Lisa Worthington **Review and Discussion of Management Plan Goals**

Discussion:

Drikus Prefers goals #2

Mathieu Either short and general or open up to other uses in addition to harvesting, either 1 or 3

Lisa-Marie Needs to include range, movement between island and mainland

Lisa is recording ideas and edits on word document on screen for participants.

Jimmy Wolves are booming, wants to see predator control

John Provide new option with some of the ideas discussed?

Lisa will work on the ideas discussed and put in revised draft for review.

Joanna Presents a timeline discussed by government reps the previous evening for moving the plan forward.

2016-2018 Timelines for Dolphin and Union caribou management plan

As presented at joint management planning meeting, Cambridge Bay, January 13, 2016

- Finish drafting plan using input from this Cambridge Bay meeting (GN, GNWT & EC technical staff & managers)
- Teleconference organized by EC to work on COSEWIC threat assessment table (end of January)
- Draft plan and accompanying presentation to be provided to WMAC(NWT) for March 13-15, 2016 meeting - this would be the version to go out for community consultations
- April 2016
    - Consultation meetings held in individual communities, with HTC/HTOs
    - Review of draft by GNWT, GN, PC, WMAC (NWT), KRWB, NTI, KIA, IGC ("first jurisdictional review") and by EC headquarters ("first compliance review")
- GN, GNWT & EC technical staff & managers to edit the plan based on all those comments – edits to be done jointly
- September 2016

    - Revised draft plan reviewed by GNWT, GN, PC, WMAC (NWT), KRWB, NTI, KIA, IGC ("second jurisdictional review", asking for support to post on SARA registry)
- GN, GNWT & EC technical staff to edit the plan based on all those comments – edits to be done jointly
- By mid-January 2017, EC to send proposed draft plan for translation into French – proposed draft ready for posting on SARA registry
- March 31, 2017 (hard deadline)
    - Draft plan posted as 'proposed' on the SARA public registry for 60 day public review
    - Draft plan posted by GNWT for public review
    - All partners including HTO/HTCs to be notified of opportunity to comment
    - If posted on March 31, comment period would end May 30
- GN, GNWT & EC technical staff & managers to edit the plan based on all those comments – edits to be done jointly
- Final management plan completed by August 2017
- Package submitted to NWMB by mid-August 2017 (may be joint submission by GN & EC)
- NWMB to consider the management plan at September 2017 meeting, followed by their hearings if needed
- Plan submitted to WMAC (NWT) for approval at their September 2017 meeting
- GN, GNWT & EC to seek Minister approval of the plan
- Response from NWMB by December 2017 – whether or not they approve the plan
- NWT Conference of Management Authorities consensus agreement by December 2017
- Management plan completed, approved and made public by March 31, 2018

Discussion:

Some discussion on role and concern about lack of participation of the NWMB

Amy NWMB direction was to bring the final draft to the NWMB for approval, they do not want to participate. Therefore all jurisdictional and SARA consultations will be completed by the time they see it. Environment Canada will adopt all or part of the provincial /territorial plan to become the SARA plan (may not include harvest management portion) Final approved plan by March 31, 2018.

Lisa-Marie Leclerc and Tracy Davison Presentation on **Harvest Management Options** (Agenda # 11)

Lisa-Marie and Tracy present the Bluenose Management Plan Model, the Porcupine Management Plan Model and the Southampton Island Caribou Model,. Discussion follows to consider the options and see if there are other options.

Questions and Discussion:

Mathieu How do people see the future cycle and when the population is high is there enough caribou and when it is low is there to few for use?

Jimmy Predation is causing the decline, we need the herd. "I have feelings for my elders, I have feeling for my children, I have feelings for my grandchildren, I want to have caribou for them".

Wolves are the number one killer, not Grizzly bears.

John Peary caribou example- 80's approximately 12,000 in the 90's 500 on Bank Island. We implemented a TAH of 1 caribou per household to start and then increased it to 2 as the herd increased, have had that for the last 15 years. Also had an incentive to harvest wolves, now Peary caribou have increased by 2000 over the last 4 years on Banks Island.

Sam My grandmother recalls no caribou at one time and then they returned. Always comes back to wolves, cannot do a whole lot to fix climate change but we can do something about predators.

John When caribou decrease Musk ox increase, now that caribou are increasing we have seen musk ox decline.

Simon Hunters have to do their part to help biologists and decision makers, we need to report the harvest. We also need to protect calving areas. We all need to work together to keep the herd healthy.

Larry Education is important 1) take only what you need, 2) educate youth, 3) use other species such as moose and musk ox to reduce pressure on the caribou.

Jimmy I want to stay away from harvest limitations but with decline we should include a quota for Cambridge Bay.

Joshua At what point do HTO's stop sport hunting?

Larry The process is sport hunts first, then resident hunters, then Inuit in terms of restrictions.

John Having current data is important.

Joshua Education needs to start now before the decline goes to low. We need to limit aircraft flying over. Should have a selective harvest for bulls. There are more grizzlies on the island, increasing predation

Larry We need sample collection incentives to support collection and harvest of wolves.

John Of the three models any will work..

Mathieu How could the Bluenose/Bathurst model work as an example? (use this as most people here are familiar with it)

Jimmy Before there are harvest limitations there needs to be adequate monitoring to determine trend.

Break

Resume with discussions and flip charts to describe what levels should be for triggers of actions and what actions should be depending on the part of the cycle (Tracy has photos of these charts for reference)

First scenario is the peak/green level

Sam Education of youth

Joshua Education when high, don't wait for the population to decline, teach to hunt other species.

Drikus No Harvest restrictions on beneficiaries.

Mathieu Harvest reporting

Joshua Need to support reporting at the HTO/HTC level, community based monitoring.

Larry Consider removing commercial harvesting?

Bert Community based monitoring, better support for communities, data can inform other processes, such as the Nunavut Land Use Plan.

Tracy Thoughts on other harvest, sport, resident?

Joshua With Peary caribou it was phased in, this is important.

Bert Land claim states that commercial and resident get cut first, but Inuit have right to assignment and right to sell the hunt (tag). HTO's can make their own non-quota limitations however.

Jimmy It should be up to the community to determine if action should be taken.

Mathieu Clarification on the role of TAH having an impact on whether the HTO can make decisions for other than its members. If there is no TAH the only thing HTO can determine is harvesting of their members. If there is a TAH they can HTO decides on sport hunts as well.

Bert Commercial harvest may be a tool to bring down an over population, ie SHI carbou, may not want to remove this option.

Larry Can you clarify commercial harvest, as a community harvest that does not go to a meat plant is not commercial.

Mathieu Commercial goes to a meat plant, community harvest is a group that harvests for community use, and private sale is individuals.

John Does the Nunavut Wildlife Act cover sales?

Bert No because the NLCA is clear that beneficiaries can sell

Jimmy Cam Bay HTO stopped commercial harvest of musk ox, musk ox was declining so stopped but still did a community hunt. Communities should make independent decisions..

Jimmy It should be up to the community to determine if action should be taken.

Bert Cal lit it community based management, varies by community but it needs support. i.e. DFO and Narwhal, needs monitoring and enforcement. Social media has increased inter-community trade.

Jimmy We need predator control, to encourage harvest of predators pay for samples.

Mathieu How would this work? How many wolves need to be taken to have an impact?.

John In the ISR any support financially ill encourage harvest of more wolves, if more wolves are hunted the caribou benefit. Hunters are opportunists, ever dollar helps..

Mathieu Need education on how to hunt wolves.

Lunch Break

13:06 Resume discussions

Declining herd scenario

group ideas;

- Increased monitoring and sharing of information
- Harvest Management
- sample kits (help ID decline)
- stop commercial/sport hunts
- Restrict industry activities on land
- NQL-bull only
- Education ; alternate wildlife, use elders
- increase communications between stakeholders
- create a working group of stakeholders or commission
- periodic review of the state of knowledge

Population at low scenario

what is low?

group ideas;

- increase monitoring, more frequent surveys
- Setting TAH
- Actions to allow recovery
- harvest from other caribou herds (if appropriate)
- Education; tell people to stop harvest or why there are restrictions
- Harvest seasons
- is below 5000 caribou too low?

Joshua How low to wait before we take actions? How low does it have to goes?

Tracy An example of numbers for the herd with various population numbers as triggers

24,000 to 40,000 is high, 8,000 to 24,000 is medium, and below 8,000 is low, within these ranges the population can be increasing, decreasing or stable.

Increasing Population scenario

Group ideas;

- Easing of industry restrictions

- easing of harvest restrictions
- education
- return to baseline monitoring
- easing of NQLs

Break

Drikus When dealing with language for actions use open language such as "may" "consider" "recommend" as the NWMB has to make the decisions and the plan cannot prejudge what those decision will be.

Tracy Conducts a review of the lists of actions for completeness and accuracy.

Are there other indicators, other than population numbers, that can help define when to take action?

group ideas;

- Recruitment rates (cow:calf ratio)
- health/disease
- change in distribution
- trends in other species such as wolves and musk ox
- change in migration pattern

Joshua Will the translation of the plan be on the final draft only or will it occur throughout consultations?

Next Steps (Agenda # 12)

Joanna finish drafting with input and direction from this meeting

- conduct a teleconference to finish the threat assessment
- Mid-march have first draft for community consultations
- then conduct coordinated consultations (so EC will join with territories)

Lisa-Marie We will produce a meeting report, a 5 page summary of the meeting, along with the minutes to be sent out to all participants for review and clarification as needed.

Jimmy We need funding so all stakeholders can participate in meetings.

Closing Remarks (Agenda # 13)

All participants expressed thanks and appreciation for the collaborative effort and positive working attitudes of those involved, additional specific comments follow.

Tracy A lot was accomplished, very constructive.

Lisa good that threats were recorded as presented in March, will work toward addressing more in the actions section from discussion.

Amy Thank you, I look forward to the next step.

Jimmy Glad to be part of HTO. Rely on my father's and grandfather's knowledge, and hope that the management plan will help maintain DU caribou.

Sam this is the right direction, good start

Larry It is important to have a voice and say into what goes on

Joshua Have to do what we can to sustain caribou for future generations

John The meeting was very informative

Joe We need to continue working together

Bert NTI is committed to the process and supporting HTO's RWO's

Simon It is our food, very good to work together

Ema I learned lot and hope to keep involved in the process

Drikus A productive ,meeting, very refreshing change from PB meetings

Lisa-Marie The March meeting was a success and this meeting has kept that going

Joanna Learned a lot about DY caribou

Mathieu We are on the right path and made good progress

15:30 **Meeting Adjourned**

Appendix1

Dolphin and Union Caribou Joint Management Plan Workshop

Cambridge Bay, Nunavut
January 10 – 13th, 2016

Meeting Information

Goals of the Meeting:

- Integrate community perspectives (IQ/TEK) with scientific knowledge throughout the meeting
- Review and discuss the first draft of the Dolphin and Union Caribou Management Plan
- Review and collect feedback on key sections of management plan: species needs, threats, management objectives and approaches, including inclusion of IQ/TEK information.
- Discuss options for harvest management model and corresponding actions
- Review new knowledge and current research

Schedule:

- Arrival in Cambridge Bay: Sunday, January 10th in the afternoon. Grocery store may be closed by 5:00 so get groceries (if needed) before coming to the meeting room.
- Meeting:
    - Sunday – lunch served in meeting room (catered), meeting 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm
    - Monday & Tuesday - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm with health breaks and lunch (catered)
    - Wednesday – 9:00 to 4:00 pm with health breaks and lunch (catered)
- Breakfast and dinners will be on your own. Green Row is open for dinner 5:00-7:00 p.m. and Arctic Islands Lodge is open for dinner from 5:00-6:45 p.m. Breakfast is available at the Green Row.
- Departure from Cambridge Bay: Wednesday, January 13th in the evening (6:00 pm flight)

Meeting Location: Arctic Islands Lodge, medium boardroom

Accommodation: Green Row Executive Suites (transportation will be provided to and from the airport)

Dolphin and Union Caribou Joint Management Plan Workshop

Cambridge Bay, Nunavut
January 10 – 13th, 2016

Agenda

Sunday January 10th, 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

1. Welcome	Co-chairs – Joanna Wilson and Mathieu Dumond
2. Opening Prayer	
3. Opening Remarks	Co-chairs
4. Introductions	All participants
5. Outcomes/Expectations for meeting	All participants
6. Review of Outcomes from March 2015 meeting in Kugluktuk	Lisa Worthington

Monday January 11th, 8:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

7. Knowledge and Research Update	
7.1. GN update	Lisa-Marie Leclerc
7.2. GNWT update	Tracy Davison Matilde Tomaselli
7.3. Traditional Knowledge Research	Tracy Davison
7.4. NWT Traditional Knowledge Study (tentative)	Susan Kutz
7.5. Health and Disease	Mary Gamberg

Monday January 11th, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

8. Review of Draft Management Plan - Background Information on Dolphin and Union caribou	All participants (lead presenter below)
8.1 Overview of draft table of contents	Lisa Worthington
8.2 Background & Species Information - Historical & social perspectives - Use of the herd - Population and Distribution	Lisa-Marie Leclerc
9. Review of Draft Management Plan – Threats to Dolphin and Union caribou	All participants (lead presenter below)
9.1. Threats in draft management plan	Lisa Worthington (with technical support from Lisa-Marie Leclerc and Tracy Davison)

Tuesday January 12th, 8:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

9. Review of Draft Management Plan – Threats to Dolphin and Union caribou (*continued*) 9.2. Threat assessment by COSEWIC	All participants (lead presenter below) Amy Ganton / Justina Ray
10. Review of Draft Management Plan – Management Framework 10.1. How the framework links to management plan 10.2. Management goal/vision & objectives	All participants (lead presenter below) Lisa Worthington Lisa Worthington

Tuesday January 12th, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

10. Review of Draft Management Plan – Management Framework (*continued*) 10.3. Recommended management approaches & actions to achieve objectives	All participants (lead presenter below) Lisa Worthington

Wednesday January 13th, 8:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (all day)

11. Options for Consideration of Harvest Management 11.1. Decision on harvest management models 11.2. Management recommendations	All participants (led by Lisa-Marie Leclerc)
12. Next Steps	Co-chairs
13. Closing Remarks	All participants
14. Closing Prayer	

Dolphin and Union Caribou Joint Management Plan Workshop
January 11 -13, 2016, Cambridge Bay
MINUTES

Summary of the full document relevant to "BN NWMB DU Caribou_SportHunts 0516"

The Dolphin and Union Caribou Joint Management Plan Workshop was held in Cambridge Bay in January 2016 and had representatives from Environment Canada (Canadian Wildlife Service), GN-DOE, GNWT-ENR and wildlife co-management partners in NWT (Inuvialuit Game Council/ Paulatok and Ulukhaktuk HTC, NWT Wildlife Advisory Management Council) and Nunavut (NTI, KRWB, Bay Chimo/Bathurst Inlet, Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk HTOs). The working group is developing a common management plan for the Dolphin and Union Caribou herd as required under the Species at Risk Act (Federal) and to fulfill each jurisdiction requirements or needs.

As part of the process, harvest impacts and management frameworks were discussed leading to the following suggestions when the herd is declining:

Declining herd scenario

group ideas;

- Increased monitoring and sharing of information
- Harvest Management
- sample kits (help ID decline)
- **stop commercial/sport hunts**
- Restrict industry activities on land
- NQL-bull only
- Education ; alternate wildlife, use elders
- increase communications between stakeholders
- create a working group of stakeholders or commission
- periodic review of the state of knowledge

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)

20 December 2011

Attima Hadari
Chairperson
Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board
P.O. Box 219
Rankin Inlet, NU
Phone: (867) 645-4860
Email: ahadlari@netkaster.ca

Re: Dolphin-Union Caribou Harvest Levels

Dear Attima:

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (Northwest Territories) (WMAC (NWT) or the Council) at their September 6-7, 2011, Regular Meeting in Whitehorse discussed the current level of harvest of Dolphin-Union Caribou. The Council decided to follow-up directly with the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board regarding our July 27, 2011, letter (attached for reference) to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board.

The Council's understanding of the best available information is that Dolphin-Union Caribou (also locally called Island Caribou) is that there may be a deterioration of the health in the herd and an increase of predators on the herd's summer range. Additionally, the Nunavut subsistence harvest on this herd is currently estimated to be between 2000 to 3000 animals annually representing a level of harvest between 7 and 11% of the 2007 herd estimate. The Council has noted that harvest rates between 7-11% may be sustainable for increasing caribou populations, but it would certainly not be sustainable over the long term, and there is no evidence that the Dolphin-Union population of Caribou is increasing.

Inuvialuit and Inuit share co-management responsibilities for Dolphin-Union Caribou as they are a shared resource between the communities of Kugluktuk, Cambridge Bay, Bathurst Inlet, and Umingmaktok in Nunavut, and Ulukhaktok and Paulatuk in the NWT.

The WMAC (NWT) would like to start a discussion with the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board regarding possible management or conservation actions that could be implemented collaboratively.

Yours truly

Larry Carpenter
Chair, WMAC (NWT)

CC Frank Pokiak, Chair – Inuvialuit Game Council, igs-js@jointsec.nt.ca
Drikus Gissing, Wildlife Director – DoE, GN DGissing@GOV.NU.CA
Richard Conally, Nunavut Wildlife Secretariat,lydia@qiniq.com
Lynda Yonge, Wildlife Director, ENR, GNWT, Lynda_Yonge@gov.nt.ca
Stephen Charlie – Regional Superintendent, Inuvik Region, ENR, GNWT, Stephen_Charlie@gov.nt.ca
Paulatuk HTC, phtc@live.com
Ulukhaktok HTC. Ohtc2010@hotmail.com
Kugluktuk HTO, kugluktukhto@qiniq.com
Cambridge Bay HTO, ehtocb@qiniq.com
Bathurst Inlet HTO, ehtocb@qiniq.com
Umingmaktok HTO, ehtocb@qiniq.com