

**Conference of Management Authorities (CMA)**  
Meeting Minutes – January 13-15, 2015  
Nunasi Building, Genesis Boardroom, Yellowknife, NT

In attendance:	Representative for:
Jody Pellissey	Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board, Chairperson
Amy Amos	Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board, Alternate Chairperson
Eugene Pascal	Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
Ron Allen	Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
Kaytlin Cooper	Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board - resource person
Stephen Charlie	Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT
Jack Bird	Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT – Day 1 only
Lynda Yonge	Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT - Day 2 and 3 only
Joanna Wilson	Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT – resource person
Lisa Worthington	Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT – recovery strategy/management plan preparer – Day 1 and 3 only
Ron D. Antoine	Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT – Day 2 only
Marjorie Matheson-Maund	Tlicho Government
Sean Richardson	Tlicho Government
Deborah Simmons	Sahtú Renewable Resources Board
Leon Andrew	Sahtú Renewable Resources Board
Rob Gau	Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)
Larry Carpenter	Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)
Robert Kent	Parks Canada
Ron Schaefer	Salt River First Nation
Ray Tourangeau	Salt River First Nation
Misty Ireland	Dehcho First Nations
Arnold Enge	North Slave Métis Alliance
Claire Singer	Species at Risk Secretariat
Michelle Ramsay	Species at Risk Secretariat – Day 3 only
Janet Winbourne	Facilitator – Day 2 only

**DAY 1 – MORNING**

**8:30 am – In-Camera Session** (representatives from Management Authorities only)

- #D2015011301: Consensus to continue using alternates for Species at Risk Committee members (status quo).
- #D2015011302: Consensus to conduct review and approval of proposed SARC members and alternates via email.
- #D2015011303: Secretariat to keep written record of in-camera proceedings, to facilitate future discussions that refer back to in-camera sessions. This record will not be circulated beyond the Secretariat.

**9:00 am – Meeting Call to Order**

Opening prayer - *led by Leon Andrew, Sahtú Renewable Resources Board*

1. Introductions - *led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson*

Secretariat will ensure that a number of hard meeting material binders will be brought to all future meetings for those without computers.

2. Agenda – *led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson*

*Review of draft agenda.*

**#D2015011304: Consensus to approve agenda without any changes.**

3. Minutes from last CMA meeting – *led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson*

*Review of draft minutes from June 10-11, 2014 meeting in Hay River and November 14, 2014 teleconference between the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (WMAC (NWT)).*

**#D2015011305: Consensus to approve June 10-11, 2014 and November 14, 2014 minutes with integration of tracked changes.**

4. Review of action items – *led by Claire Singer, Secretariat*

*Review of outstanding action items from past meetings and actions items from previous meeting.*

Action Items from the June 2014 meeting:

- #A2014061103: Secretariat to check flight times for Fort Simpson meeting and if necessary, reschedule to make travel for members easier.
  - This was completed for flights out of Yellowknife (assuming everyone has to fly out of Yellowknife). CMA members requested that this be looked at further from all relevant starting points in the NWT to ensure that no more travel than necessary is taking place.
- #A2014061112: Regarding information gaps table, Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB) to follow up about what Gwich'in traditional knowledge (TK) information is available on the peregrine falcon.
  - There is some existing TK information from the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute (GSCI), but likely not enough for a full report (in the nature of the Gwich'in TK of Wolverine report from last year). The information could be gathered into a smaller report though. GSCI is suggesting writing a short report on peregrine falcon TK if they have enough money and time. If not enough money under existing contributions, then may request funding next year from the GNWT, GRRB or under the Stewardship Program to complete this work.
- #A2014061204: WMAC (NWT) to explore getting the approach and details of the polar bear management plan on the Inupiat-Inuvialuit meeting agenda.
  - Bring forward. Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 2015 in Alaska. Can ask to have this added to that agenda.

Action items from November 2014 conference call:

- #A2014111402: ENR Species at Risk Biologist to research consultation requirements in other jurisdictions to clarify the expectations for consultation by GNWT when consultation has already occurred by the Crown.
  - Still underway. Bring forward.
- #A2014111403: ENR to organize a teleconference to begin discussing recovery actions for northern leopard frog. ENR to ensure NWTMN is fully involved in all stages of the process.
  - Teleconference hasn't happened yet; currently identifying group representatives. Underway. Bring forward.

5. Decisions made since last meeting – *led by Claire Singer, Secretariat*

*Read out all decisions made since last meeting.*

- **#D2015011306: Consensus to add Dolphin and Union caribou to the NWT List of Species at Risk as a species of 'special concern'.**
- **#D2015011307: Consensus to add northern leopard frog to the NWT List of Species at Risk as a 'threatened' species.**
  - These consensus agreements were provided to the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) on December 19, 2014. The Minister of ENR will formally add these species to the NWT List of Species at Risk by March 19, 2015.
- **#D2015011308: Consensus to approve requested amendment to 2014-2020 Species Assessment Schedule (shifting barren-ground caribou to 2016 from 2015).**

6. Letters sent and received – *led by Claire Singer, Secretariat*

*Reviewed all letters sent and received since June 2014.*

- Regarding the letter from the Acho Dene Koe First Nation (ADKFN): Legislated management authority would give the ADKFN the right to build laws in their territory respecting wildlife. This is similar in nature to the settlement negotiated by the Salt River First Nation (SRFN).
- Regarding the letter from the CMA to SARC respecting implications of not assessing species occurring only on federal lands, the letter indicates remaining uncertainty regarding federal paramountcy.
  - Some of the letter content comes from legal advice; however, detail was lacking with respect to where the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* applies, so this reflects a desire to achieve more certainty on this matter.
  - Suggestion to have GNWT and Canada Departments of Justice work directly with one another to resolve the question, rather than moving the issue through operational staff.

7. Member updates – *led by Jody Pelissey, Chairperson*

*Roundtable of status updates from Management Authorities, participants and standing observers*

GNWT:

- Minister received consensus agreements for listing Dolphin and Union caribou and northern leopard frog. Government will follow the same process as before to formally list these species (Gazette).
- Recovery strategies are underway for all year 1 species (boreal caribou, polar bear, Peary caribou, hairy braya). Also developing a range plan for boreal caribou in accordance with federal *Species at Risk Act*.
- Barren-ground caribou management ongoing.
- Representative attended national species at risk roundtable hosted by federal Minister of Environment. Emphasis on better federal/provincial/territorial cooperation.

Canada:

- Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserve has been finalized.

Tłı̨chǫ Government: no updates

WMAC (NWT):

- Held last regular meeting in December 2014. Discussed SARC member nomination and lesser known species.
- Haven't reinitiated discussion with Nunavut regarding Dolphin and Union caribou.
- Struggling quite a bit with capacity. Finding it hard to meet obligations under both federal and territorial species at risk legislation. Haven't been successful in getting new implementation

funding. Expect capacity issues to continue. Strategic decisions must therefore be made at times regarding use of staff, time and money.

- Meeting with United States representatives regarding polar bear data and interpretation. United States Geological Service (USGS) released a new subpopulation estimate for southern Beaufort Sea polar bears. These new numbers show a significant drop in the population, with a bit of a rebound in 2009/10. Estimate that it stabilized at around 907 polar bears (down from 1,500). Concerns about accuracy or bias in these USGS figures. Also appears as though the USGS used the data provided to them in a manner that wasn't permitted in the data sharing agreement.
- Almost done work on a polar bear TK report. Will be seeking approval and then looking at ways to distribute it.

#A2015011301: WMAC (NWT) to circulate polar bear TK report to CMA members once it's complete.

GRRB:

- Last met in September 2014. Discussed lesser known species.
- Regarding boreal caribou recovery strategy, the GRRB has a policy that states pre-consultation is necessary whenever possible. This was done and their species at risk biologist attended some meetings in Gwich'in communities to discuss this. No concerns were raised. They will be following up to see if any of the communities want formal meetings on the matter, which would take place later this month.
- Gwich'y'a Gwich'in got Stewardship Program funding to complete a Bank swallow study.
- New species at risk page in their annual GRRB calendar.
- Received AFSAR (Aboriginal Funds for Species at Risk) funding for muskrat study. This isn't a species at risk, but is a species of concern in their region because numbers are relatively unknown.
- Wildlife Studies Fund contribution to GSCI for Bluenose-West caribou and northern mountain caribou study. The GSCI is now working on that report. If time and money permits, they will do an additional small report on peregrine falcons.
- Kaytlin is taking over Natalka's position.
- Concern from board and staff that SARC grizzly bear TKCK contractor doesn't have a complete understanding about how traditional knowledge reports are put together. The contractor was requesting actual transcripts; a request that was denied. Data (transcripts) shouldn't be necessary when a verified report is available.
- Concerns raised about the content of the SARC Status Report on Wolverine in the NWT. Need to be more careful about how these reports are put together.

Sahtú Renewable Resources Board (SRRB):

- Species at risk book launched.
- Continuing work regarding identification (presence/absence) of bats in the Sahtú region. Hoping to complete some school education work about bats.
- Doing some work on wolverine TK. Received funding from AFSAR to do a small project before the end of March.
- Michael Neyelle (Board Chairperson) is taking some personal leave. Leon Andrew will be acting in his place.

Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board (WRRB):

- New Executive Director (Jody) who's returning from leave.

- Last met in October 2014 but didn't have a chance to discuss lesser known species. This topic has been added to their next meeting agenda (next week).
- Have been reviewing iterations of the NWT boreal caribou recovery strategy.

Dehcho First Nations: no updates

SRFN:

- Chief and Council met on Sunday night. They are concerned with some items arising under species at risk, particularly wood bison and wolverine. Protecting their treaty and traditional areas in the South Slave region and Wood Buffalo National Park is of paramount importance.
- Contact person will be Chief Martselos.
- Wanted to emphasize duty to consult for all actions proposed in their treaty land/traditional territory. Want a more active role on the CMA since they are also a wildlife management authority under their claim agreement.
  - Possibly beneficial for the SRFN to have either the Secretariat or the GNWT sit down with them and discuss processes under the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*.

#A2015011302: GNWT or Secretariat to set up meeting with the SRFN to provide primer on the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* and its processes.

NSMA: Thanks the CMA for granting observer status. Will be pursuing funding that will allow them to participate equitably.

8. CMA work plan – *led by Claire Singer, Secretariat*

*Review of updated CMA work plan plus proposed revisions to the annual meeting schedule.*

Need a two point approval – (1) is the CMA okay with the revised work plan for 2015 and (2) which annual schedule option is preferable?

- No concerns expressed with 2015 work plan and meeting dates. Meeting dates for 2015 are approved as follows:
  - July 24, 2015 – conference call
  - September 3, 2015 – conference call
  - October 14-15, 2015 – face-to-face meeting in Fort Simpson
- Interest in fall consultation (proposed schedule #2) expressed, but concerned about implications for other board meetings and when decisions would need to be made.

#A2015011303: Management Authorities to send Secretariat annual board meeting dates.  
Secretariat will build these into an expanded version of proposed schedule #2 so relationships between meetings can be made clearer.

**#D2015011309: Consensus to approve work plan and meeting dates for 2015.**

9. CMA Rules of Conduct – *led by Claire Singer, Secretariat*

*Review of amendments to CMA Rules of Conduct*

- Edits to page 7 of 52 of the Rules of Conduct read as though any one of those preparers could come of their own accord. Add wording to examples in brackets, "Secretariat- or Management Authority-invited people...".

**#D2015011310: Consensus to approve discussed amendments to the Rules of Conduct, with WMAC (NWT)'s suggested wording changes.**

10. Lesser known species – *led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson*

Recognizing that many organizations have capacity issues and that there are sometimes issues with getting community buy-in for species that aren't harvested, Management Authorities were generally unwilling to state unilaterally that some species are more important than others. Owing to capacity restraints and lack of interest in species that aren't harvested or well-known however, WMAC (NWT) will be stepping back from processes surrounding non-harvested species. The GNWT will take the lead on these species from this point forward. Also concerns about consultation burn-out in communities throughout the NWT.

Perhaps recognition of the purpose of the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* is necessary. It is meant to be a last step, not a first step. Shifting resources to management before a species becomes at risk is a more efficient use of resources and is more in line with the intent of the Act. There should be strong rationale to support assessing species. Recommendation put forward for the CMA to work with SARC to reconsider how species are prioritized. Need to more carefully consider the immediacy and severity of threats. Could have a two-tiered assessment schedule – species to assess now, species to assess in the future. Can also limit the number of species assessed per year to manage capacity concerns.

There was general agreement that understanding the rationale for adding a species to the assessment schedule is important. The Secretariat noted that each year, SARC submits the prioritization scores and information sheets for the species that were prioritized and indicated that if this information was in a format that was not useable for Management Authorities, suggestions for moving this information into a more user-friendly format would be welcome.

#A2015011304: WRRB and Tlicho Government will submit lesser known species comments/positions to the Secretariat. The Secretariat will then develop a briefing note and options for moving forward on the matter. This material will be circulated to Management Authorities and added to the next CMA meeting agenda so that a path forward can be identified.

11. Media tracking report – *led by Claire Singer, Secretariat*  
*Media tracking tables and all media transcripts circulated.*

12. Species at Risk Stewardship Program Update – *led by Amy Amos, Stewardship sub-committee member*

Overview of the approved 2013/14 projects and schedule for consideration of 2014/15 applications. Applications for the 2014/15 program can be submitted between January 15 and March 1. CMA members were asked to circulate the call for applications to anyone who may be interested in applying.

13. Roles and Responsibilities – *bring forward to next meeting*

14. Wolverine assessment– *led by Suzanne Carrière, SARC Alternate Chairperson*  
*Presentation from SARC on wolverine assessment.*

- Questions raised by CMA members:

- Why isn't Quebec part of the historical distribution? Technically, the historical distribution shading underlies the 'unconfirmed observations' shading, so Quebec is considered part of the historical distribution.
- Was hair snagging data from diamond mining companies taken into account? Yes, this informed the determination that wolverine are declining in the central barrens.
- How are the traditional species names arrived at? Names are originally derived from literature, but then Management Authorities are expected to comment on this during the 6-month review period.
- Does SARC have any comment on the apparent differences between traditional and scientific knowledge? There is no concern with the differences between traditional and scientific knowledge. Each form of knowledge is considered on its own merit during assessment.
- SARC member explained the rationale behind SARC's assessment of Not at Risk. Ultimately, the population numbers were seen to be stable to increasing over the large majority of their range, and the declines in the central barrens were seen to be possibly related to movements of wolverines away from this area, rather than a strict decline. SARC also felt that while there were indeed some information gaps, there was nonetheless sufficient information for an assessment.

15. Wolverine requests for clarification – *led by Jody Pélissey, Chairperson*

Deadline for requests for clarification on the wolverine assessment or status report is February 10, 2015. GRRB expressed some interest in pursuing this option. Any request for clarification would need to be submitted to the Secretariat by the deadline. SARC then has one month in which to respond to the questions.

16. Boreal Caribou Recovery Strategy – *led by Joanna Wilson and Lisa Worthington, GNWT*

*Review of most recent draft recovery strategy, schedule to completion, and actions to prepare for a consensus agreement.*

Detailed input from Management Authorities is required for the completion of Recommended Specific Actions (Appendix 2 of the draft Boreal Caribou Recovery Strategy).

- Recommendation to place this table in a separate document (i.e., the implementation plan). General support from the CMA for this approach.
- Discussion around the wording of the conservation and recovery goal. Difficulty with phrase, "...that provides harvesting opportunities for all." Report preparer to revise the conservation and recovery goal and provide options for the CMA to consider either by email or in the next version of the recovery strategy.
- Concerns raised about how information collected for Approaches and Actions will be managed and where it will be stored.
- Addition of a new approach (4.3) to recovery strategy by the GNWT. This approach was accepted by the CMA.
- Suggestion to reconsider wording of title for section 4.4, "Effects on the Environment". Report preparer will revise title and provide options for consideration in the next version of the recovery strategy.
- Examination of IUCN threat assessment process. Concerns raised regarding the utility of the threat calculator. In lieu of the calculator, threats will be included in recovery strategies/management plans based on the threats detailed in the status report.

#A2015011305: Lisa to circulate Recommended Specific Actions (Appendix 2 of the draft Boreal Caribou Recovery Strategy) to Management Authorities for completion, along with a submission deadline.

Discussed timelines and actions needed to prepare for consensus agreement. Report preparer had originally been anticipating having the proposed recovery strategy ready mid-February 2015. However, the GNWT is currently conducting consultation on the framework for the recovery strategy. This consultation will be complete by the end of February and they would like to ensure that feedback received during this consultation period is incorporated into the recovery strategy. As such, deadline for circulating the proposed recovery strategy to Management Authorities is now mid- to late-March 2015.

Report preparer will also be responsible for developing a consultation package for use by Management Authorities (PowerPoint presentation, fact sheet, etc.). Deadline for providing consultation materials package to Management Authorities is mid-April.

#A2015011306: Secretariat to circulate Word version of actions to prepare for a consensus agreement on the NWT Boreal Caribou Recovery Strategy. By March 31, 2015, Management Authorities to confirm that actions and timelines are correct.

17. Next steps and action items – *led by Claire Singer, Secretariat*  
*Review of next steps and action items*

**DAY 2**

**9:00 am – Meeting Call to Order**

18. Workshop – Improved accommodation of traditional knowledge in species at risk processes – *led by Deb Simmons and Janet Winbourne, facilitators*

Workshop summary contained within workshop report, to be submitted by Janet Winbourne in February 2015. The CMA will have an opportunity to review and comment on a draft version of the workshop report.

Further discussion necessary to identify a path forward. Participants agreed to review the workshop report prior to the next face-to-face meeting. An agenda item will be added to that meeting to review the workshop report collectively and identify a path, or paths, forward. In the interim, the Secretariat will proceed with the issuance of a small contract to Janet Winbourne and Kristi Benson for the development of an annotated traditional knowledge bibliography. Management Authorities also committed to review SARC's information gaps document prior to the July CMA teleconference and provide any suggestions for improvement to the Secretariat.

#A2015011401: CMA to review workshop report prior to October 2015 face-to-face meeting, and come prepared to discuss and identify a path, or paths, forward to implement the recommendations.

#A2015011402: Secretariat to let small contract to Janet Winbourne and Kristi Benson for the development of an annotated traditional knowledge bibliography.

#A2015011403: Management Authorities to review revised SARC information gaps document prior to July 2015 teleconference and submit any suggested improvements to the Secretariat.

**DAY 3 - MORNING**

**9:00 am – Meeting Call to Order**

Only representatives from WMAC (NWT) and GNWT in attendance, as Management Authorities for polar bear, Peary caribou, hairy braya, and Dolphin and Union caribou.

**19. Polar Bear Management Plan – *led by Rob Gau, Ad-hoc Chairperson***

*Review of progress to date on NWT polar bear management plan, schedule to completion, and actions to prepare for a consensus agreement.*

The NWT polar bear management plan will become part of the larger national management plan for polar bears. Completed most recent threats assessment in September 2014; major changes to threats section of management plan completed as a result. Opted to remove the threats calculator from the appendix of the management plan. Although the completion of the threats calculator was collaborative, it was felt that its content and purpose wasn't entirely or consistently understood. It would be difficult to explain the threats calculator during consultation. Without the calculator, the threats section of the management plan is informed by the descriptions of threats used by SARC in the Species Status Report for Polar Bear in the NWT.

Circulated update and request for input on the management plan in December 2014. Also asking Management Authorities for input on the Recommended Specific Actions table (Appendix 2). To date, responses have been received from WMAC (NWT) and the Yukon Government.

GNWT is currently conducting consultation on the framework (containing the goals, approaches, and objectives) and would like responses from that consultation work included in the proposed polar bear management plan. WMAC (NWT) will be hosting a joint meeting (with WMAC (North Slope)) in March 2015. As such, the next draft of the management plan will be provided to the GNWT and WMAC (NWT) in mid-February. Comments would then be due from both Management Authorities in late-March, for incorporation into the proposed polar bear management plan. This proposed management plan will then be taken out for consultation in summer 2015. Consultation materials package needs to be complete and provided to the Management Authorities before June 2015.

Consultation procedures and review should also consider the implementation plan (included in the draft management plan). Although not required at this stage of the process, integrating and conducting consultation on the implementation plan at this stage will help avoid a subsequent round of consultation following the signing of the consensus agreement.

#A2015011501: Secretariat to circulate Word version of actions to prepare for a consensus agreement on the NWT Polar Bear Management Plan. By March 31, 2015, Management Authorities to confirm that actions and timelines are correct.

**20. Peary Caribou Recovery Strategy – *led by Rob Gau, Ad-hoc Chairperson***

*Review of progress to date and schedule to completion.*

Development of a federal recovery strategy for Peary caribou is ongoing. NWT Management Authorities are participating actively in the federal process and anticipating being able to adopt their recovery strategy upon its completion. However, the federal recovery strategy schedule anticipates a completion date in 2016. The deadline for completion of a CMA consensus agreement accepting a

Peary caribou recovery strategy is in November 2015. As such, an extension to the NWT recovery strategy schedule will likely be necessary. Specific extension request will take place after a federal all-chairs meeting in February 2015, which will include a detailed discussion on the schedule to completion.

#A2015011502: Following the federal all-chairs meeting in February 2015, Secretariat will draft CMA extension notification, including anticipated completion date and reasons for extension, for review by Management Authorities and subsequent posting to the website.

21. Hairy Braya Recovery Strategy – *led by Rob Gau, Ad-hoc Chairperson*  
*Review of progress to date, schedule to completion, and actions to prepare for consensus agreement.*

Draft recovery strategy circulated to Management Authorities, as well as the Inuvialuit Land Administration, in December 2014. To date, response received from WMAC (NWT). Comments will be due on January 30, 2015, allowing for a one-week extension requested by the GNWT. GNWT taking lead on completing table of Recommended Specific Actions (Appendix 2).

GNWT currently conducting consultation on framework for recovery strategy. This is scheduled to be completed in late February 2015. Would like to integrate input received during this consultation into the proposed recovery strategy. Circulation of the proposed recovery strategy will therefore be postponed to March 2015.

#A2015011503: Secretariat to circulate Word version of actions to prepare for a consensus agreement on the NWT Hairy Braya Recovery Strategy. By March 31, 2015, Management Authorities to confirm that actions and timelines are correct.

22. Dolphin and Union Caribou – *led by Rob Gau, Ad-hoc Chairperson*  
*Review of progress to date, if any, on development of management plan for Dolphin and Union caribou.*

The NWT, Nunavut and Environment Canada are all currently in the process of developing management plans for Dolphin and Union caribou. It would be beneficial to work collaboratively with these agencies; allowing the development of a single management plan, rather than three. Interest expressed in organizing a teleconference with all three agencies, plus WMAC (NWT) as a Management Authority for Dolphin and Union caribou, to discuss each agency's requirements, schedule, and determine a path forward.

#A2015011504: GNWT to arrange teleconference with Environment Canada, Nunavut, and WMAC (NWT) to discuss the development of management plan(s) for Dolphin and Union caribou.

*Only GNWT representatives in attendance from this point forward. The GNWT is the sole Management Authority for western toad and northern leopard frog.*

23. Presentation of Western Toad Assessment – *led by Suzanne Carrière, SARC*  
*Presentation of status report overview and assessment results.*

Suzanne Carrière of SARC presented a short overview of the western toad status report and assessment results and answered questions from the Management Authority. The Management

Authority (GNWT) was interested in differences between the calling and non-calling populations, rescue effect, and isolation from southern populations. SARC felt that rescue effect from toads in the Yukon is unlikely because they are probably the same population and would be subject to the same threats as NWT toads. Interest in understanding whether the toads were threatened or just rare. SARC indicated that if there were no threats, then the species would simply be considered rare. However, their naturally restricted range, coupled with the threats, qualifies them for a designation of threatened.

24. Conservation measures for western toad – *led by Lynda Yonge, Ad-hoc Chairperson*  
*Discussion of whether immediate conservation measures are required for western toad*

Management Authority felt there was no need for immediate conservation measures. However, the GNWT is currently working to develop species-specific advice for resource development activities. As a pre-listed species, it would make sense to include western toad in this work.

25. Actions to prepare for a decision on listing western toad - *led by Lynda Yonge, Ad-hoc Chairperson*  
*Discussion of action needed to prepare for consensus agreement on listing western toad.*

#A2015011505: Secretariat to circulate Word version of actions to prepare for a consensus agreement on listing western toad. By March 31, 2015, Management Authority to confirm that actions and timelines are correct.

26. Materials needed for western toad - *led by Lynda Yonge, Ad-hoc Chairperson*  
*Discussion of what materials are needed for consultation on listing western toad.*

Management Authority felt that consultation materials package used in past years was sufficient for consultation work to be conducted for the listing of western toad. COSEWIC has a North American distribution map that shows the delineation between calling and non-calling populations that can be used if preferred.

#A2015011506: Secretariat to draft consultation material for potential listing of western toad by April 2015.

27. Requests for clarification on western toad - *led by Lynda Yonge, Ad-hoc Chairperson*  
*Discussion regarding whether a request for clarification is needed for the assessment of western toad.*

Deadline for requests for clarification is February 10, 2015. Management Authority will determine, in consultation with its staff, whether a request for clarification on the assessment of western toad is necessary.

28. Northern Leopard Frog Recovery Strategy - *led by Lynda Yonge, Ad-hoc Chairperson*  
*Review of progress to date, if any, on recovery strategy for northern leopard frog.*

Agencies interested in participating in the development of the recovery strategy have been identified as the GNWT, the NWT Métis Nation, the Akaitcho Territory Government, the Salt River First Nation, and Environment Canada/Parks Canada. A conference call is being organized among these agencies to initiate the recovery strategy planning process. Given that three amphibian species have been or will be assessed by SARC and potentially listed, it is possible to consider a multi-species or

*Approved July 24, 2015*

ecosystem approach to this recovery strategy. This will be discussed in more detail at a later date among those developing the recovery strategy.

MEETING CLOSED