

Conference of Management Authorities (CMA)
Meeting Minutes
June 23, 2017 Conference Call

In attendance:	Representative for:
Jody Pellissey, Chairperson	Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board
Leslie Wakelyn	Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board
Brett Elkin	Environment and Natural Resources
Norman Snowshoe	Environment and Natural Resources
Amy Amos	Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
Eugene Pascal	Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
Peter Redvers	Kátl'odeeche First Nation
Shin Shiga	North Slave Métis Alliance
Don Aubrey	Parks Canada Agency
Allison Thompson	Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)
Jodie Maring	Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)
Rob Gau	Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)
Lisa Worthington	Management Plan/Recovery Strategy Preparer
Claire Singer	Species at Risk Secretariat

[Meeting called to order: 1:35 pm]

1. Introductions – led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson

2. Agenda - led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson

Review of draft agenda

Decision #D2017062301: Decision to approve agenda.

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

Review of draft minutes from May 2017.

Decision #D2017062302: Decision to approve May 2017 minutes with submitted changes.

4. Review of action items - led by Claire Singer, Species at Risk Secretariat

Review of outstanding action items from past meetings and action items from previous meetings.

Action Item #A2016051206 is now considered closed. This action item pertained to the issue of road salts as wood bison attractants. Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) has discussed the matter with the Department of Transportation (DOT). A type of

calcium salt is currently used on NWT roads to improve safety for people. At the moment, there are no alternative solutions. Carrying this action item forward is therefore no longer necessary.

5. CMA letters sent and received since last meeting - led by Claire Singer, Species at Risk Secretariat

Review of letters sent and received since May 2017.

6. 2018-2022 Species Assessment Schedule – led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson

Approval of one of the proposed 2018-2022 Species Assessment Schedules.

In April 2017, the Species at Risk Committee (SARC) submitted a proposed 2018-2022 Species Assessment Schedule in accordance with the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*.

Management Authorities reviewed the proposed schedule at the May 2017 CMA meeting and discussed directing SARC to change the assessment schedule. Two alternate schedules were put forward by the CMA (one not including northern mountain caribou and one including northern mountain caribou). The revisions reflect a desire to keep efforts under the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* focused on species whose needs are not being met by existing wildlife management mechanisms and also reflects resource and capacity constraints among Management Authorities. Management Authorities were to review the two alternate proposals and come to this meeting prepared to approve one or the other.

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (WMAC) (NWT) and ENR both supported proposal #2 (including northern mountain caribou). This reflected a desire to support the position of the Sahtú Renewable Resources Board (SRRB), who put forward proposal #2 for consideration in May 2017 because of strong regional concerns with respect to northern mountain caribou. The Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) was not supportive of either proposal. They indicated support for SARC's original proposed assessment schedule, feeling that detailed review of these species would be beneficial even if they are not subsequently listed. The Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB) indicated a willingness to support either alternate proposal, but had a preference for proposal #1 (not including northern mountain caribou).

Given these positions, it was determined that consensus approval was not possible. A simple majority decision was therefore pursued in accordance with the CMA's Rules of Conduct. With WMAC (NWT) and ENR supporting proposal #2 and the GRRB willing to support proposal #2 despite it not being their preference, the majority decision was to support proposal #2.

Decision #D2017062303: Decision to approve revised 2018-2022 Species Assessment Schedule, in accordance with paragraph 29(2)(c) of the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*.

The approved revised 2018-2022 Species Assessment Schedule is as follows:

- 2018: No assessments/re-assessments
- 2019: Yellow-banded bumble bee, western bumble bee, gypsy cuckoo bumble bee
- 2020: Northern mountain caribou
- 2021: Hairy braya and polar bear (re-assessments)
- 2022: Boreal caribou and Peary caribou (re-assessments)

7. Implementation commitments – boreal caribou and amphibians – led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson

Finalization of Management Authority implementation commitments for amphibians and boreal caribou.

Management Authorities were to have reviewed commitments in the draft boreal caribou and amphibian implementation agreements before this meeting. A number of agencies indicated that there are a number of changes they would like to make to the implementation commitments now that they've had a chance to review them with their boards. ENR is also suggesting grouping the actions together so that broader implementation commitments can be applied to the groupings. Proposed groupings are: 1 – range planning actions, 2 – actions that are already being undertaken, 3 – high priority actions, and 4 – low priority actions.

It was agreed that all changes to the implementation agreements must be submitted to the Secretariat by no later than July 14th. Approval of the consensus agreements on implementation would then be scheduled for the October 19, 2017 CMA conference call.

Action #A2017062301: Management Authorities to submit final edits to draft consensus agreements on boreal caribou and amphibian implementation by no later than July 14, 2017.

Action #A2017062302: Management Authorities to come to October 19, 2017 conference call prepared to approve the consensus agreements on boreal caribou and amphibian implementation.

8. Actions to prepare for consensus agreements – led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson

Submission of actions to prepare for the following consensus agreements: amphibian implementation, boreal caribou implementation, listing of little brown myotis, northern

myotis, grizzly bear, and barren-ground caribou, Dolphin and Union caribou management plan, and polar bear implementation.

Most Management Authorities have completed and submitted their actions to prepare for the above-noted consensus agreements. Only the Tłı̨chǫ Government and SRRB's actions to prepare are outstanding. These need to be submitted to the Secretariat by June 30, 2017.

Action #A2017062303: Tłı̨chǫ Government and SRRB to submit 'actions to prepare' for amphibian/boreal caribou implementation and the 2018 listings, as appropriate, by June 30, 2017

9. NWT Wood Bison Recovery Strategy – led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson
Deadline for review of the existing NWT Wood Bison Management Strategy and submission of initial comments on how this document should be altered to serve as a recovery document.

The WRRB and ENR indicated that they have no comments at this time (further to those that had already been raised at the May 2017 CMA meeting) and are supportive of this approach to develop a recovery strategy for wood bison. No comments have been received from the Tłı̨chǫ Government to date or from any other members of the CMA. The Secretariat will follow-up with the Tłı̨chǫ Government to ensure that they have no comments at this time and are comfortable with the approach.

Parks Canada Agency indicated as a partner in the management of diseases, they anticipate providing comments on this item later this summer. The recovery strategy preparer indicated that this was fine. Today's deadline was for initial, broad comments on the existing NWT Wood Bison Recovery Strategy. More detailed comments will be accepted over the summer and into the fall.

10. Next meeting – led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson

Review of upcoming meetings.

- **October 3-5, 2017 in Yellowknife** – joint SARC/CMA workshop. CMA members will only be required on day 2 of the workshop (October 4th).
- **October 19, 2017 conference call** – CMA will be approving consensus agreements for boreal caribou and amphibian implementation and will also touch-base on the progress of consultation and engagement for the current proposed listings (barren-ground caribou, grizzly bear, little brown myotis, northern myotis).

- **December 7, 2017 conference call** – this was originally scheduled for December 4th, but has been moved to December 7th.
- **February 20-22, 2018 in Inuvik** – agenda TBD.