

Conference of Management Authorities (CMA)
Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2017 Conference Call

In attendance:	Representative for:
Jody Pellissey, Chairperson	Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board
Isabelle Duclos	Environment and Climate Change Canada
Dawn Andrews	Environment and Climate Change Canada
Joanna Wilson	Environment and Natural Resources
Patricia Lacroix	Environment and Natural Resources (note taker)
Kaytlin Cooper	Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
Tracy Davison	Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
Eugene Pascal	Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (called in at 1:54pm)
Tammy Steinwand-Deschambeault	Tłı̨chǫ Government
Allison Thompson	Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)
Rob Gau	Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)
Larry Carpenter	Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)

Regrets: Sahtú Renewable Resources Board (submitted position on consensus agreement respecting implementation of the *Recovery Strategy for the Boreal Caribou in the NWT* in writing prior to the meeting; these were read into the meeting by the Chairperson).

[Meeting called to order: 1:31 pm]

1. Introductions – *led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson*
2. Agenda - *led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson*
Review of draft agenda
Decision #D2017101901: Decision to approve agenda.
3. Minutes from last meeting – *led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson*
Review of draft minutes from June 2017.
Decision #D2017101902: Decision to approve June 2017 minutes with no changes.
4. Review of action items - *led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson*
Review of outstanding action items from past meetings and action items from previous meetings.

Action Item #A2017050204 is being brought forward (“Report preparer to work on consequential revisions to guidelines for management plans and recovery strategies”).

5. CMA letters sent and received since last meeting - *led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson*
Review of letters sent and received since June 2017.
6. Implementation agreements – boreal caribou and amphibians - *led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson*
Finalize and approve consensus agreements on implementation for boreal caribou and amphibians.

Consensus Agreement Respecting Implementation of *Recovery Strategy for the Boreal Caribou in the NWT*

WMAC (NWT), GRRB, SRRB, Tłı̨chǫ Government, and WRRB all indicated that they approved the wording of the consensus agreement respecting implementation of the *Recovery Strategy for the Boreal Caribou in the NWT* and were prepared to sign the agreement. The GNWT indicated that the consensus agreement was still with Cabinet at the time of this meeting (October 19) and that they therefore would not be able to provide official approval of the consensus agreement until after Cabinet results are provided.

WMAC (NWT) noted that the GNWT changed the approach in the Consensus Agreement and the layout of its ‘GNWT Statements’. There was some concern regarding the possible implications for future consensus agreements and requirements for other Management Authorities to follow the same approach.

Decision #D2017101903: Decision to move forward with signing the consensus agreement on boreal caribou implementation, pending GNWT Cabinet results.

The Secretariat will coordinate signing of the consensus agreement. Signing will start with the Tłı̨chǫ Government.

Consensus Agreement Respecting Implementation of the *Management Plan for Amphibians in the NWT*

The GNWT is the only Management Authority signing the consensus agreement respecting implementation of the *Management Plan for Amphibians in the NWT*. This reflects the fact that only western toad and northern leopard frog are considered species at risk under the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*. However, the SRRB, GRRB and

WRRB have all indicated intent to implement some actions in the agreement and indicated their approval of the consensus agreement.

As with boreal caribou, the GNWT will not be able to provide official approval of the consensus agreement until after Cabinet results are provided.

Decision #D2017101904: Decision to move forward with signing the consensus agreement on amphibian implementation, pending GNWT Cabinet results.

Action Item #A2017062302 is now considered closed ("Management Authorities to come to October 19, 2017 conference call prepared to approve the consensus agreements on boreal caribou and amphibian implementation").

7. Consensus agreements on listing barren-ground caribou, grizzly bears, little brown myotis, and northern myotis – *led by Jody Pellissey, Chairperson*
Touch base on consultation and engagement progress for proposed listing barren-ground caribou, grizzly bear, little brown myotis, and northern myotis.

Consensus agreements must be signed by April 12, 2018.

WMAC (NWT) has completed 5 of 6 community engagement meetings, with the final meeting scheduled for tonight (October 19) in Paulatuk. The Council will discuss the results of these engagement meetings at the next regular Council meeting in December 2017. Regarding the proposed listing of grizzly bear as Special Concern, the Council is anticipating an interesting discussion as the initial feedback from all communities has been similar in that they do not support listing. In response to a question from the GNWT, the Council noted that the feedback on the possible listing of barren-ground caribou is not clear at this time but no strong opposition to listing has been heard so far. Consultations with ISR communities should conclude soon.

The Tł'cho Government will be starting consultations in the next few weeks. They anticipate that the majority of discussions will focus on barren-ground caribou. They are hoping to have their positions on listing ready for the February 2018 CMA meeting.

The same is true for the WRRB. Joint consultation will be starting next week and will continue over the next three weeks until November 10th. Will review community meeting results at their December board meeting and will prepare their positions on listing for the February 2018 CMA meeting.

(Government of Canada – fire alarm in their building and left call; Tł'cho Government left call at 2:02 pm)

The GRRB completed consultation on the proposed listings of grizzly bear and barren-ground caribou with all communities in September 2017. They will be ready to proceed at the February 2018 CMA meeting. Similar concerns have been expressed in their region with respect to grizzly bears as have been expressed during the engagement undertaken by WMAC (NWT). Minimal consultation for the proposed listing of little brown bat and northern myotis has been completed. Indication is that there is not a lot of bat presence in the GRRB.

The GNWT held a public comment period on the proposed listing of barren-ground caribou, grizzly bear, little brown myotis, and northern myotis in summer 2017. Section 35 consultation letters were sent out in early fall 2017. The GNWT and ECCC also sent out a barren-ground caribou joint letter to engage on the territorial and federal listings of barren-ground caribou at the same time. The comment periods are now closed and the response deadline for letters has passed; however, a couple follow-up meetings have been scheduled with organizations who have requested it. Feedback from these organizations will follow the scheduled meetings. Receiving mixed feedback on all listings – for and against. Some follow-up on comments still has to be completed.

The SRRB has initiated engagement on barren-ground caribou. No confirmed presence of bats in their region. One of the recorders may have picked up a bat recording but this still needs to be confirmed. They have not yet initiated engagement on the proposed listing of grizzly bears. In their written submission for this meeting, they've requested a briefing note from the Secretariat on the proposed listing of grizzly bear. They also indicated that they are also still waiting for results of the correspondence from CMA and SARC on the earlier request for clarification. It was noted that the SRRB may be thinking of the request for clarification on the assessment of grizzly bear. If so, this was completed in June 2017 and was circulated to all Management Authorities at that time.

Action Item #A2017101901: Secretariat to follow-up with SRRB regarding their request for a grizzly bear briefing note and their point regarding the grizzly bear request for clarification.

8. Next meeting – *led by Jody Pelissey, Chairperson*
Review of upcoming meetings.

- **December 7, 2017 conference call** – this was originally scheduled for December 4th, but has been moved to December 7th. Focus will be the progress of consultation and engagement on the proposed listing of barren-ground caribou, grizzly bear, little brown myotis, and northern myotis. The consensus agreement regarding approval and adoption of the joint *Management Plan for Dolphin and Union Caribou* will also be on the agenda (due by December 31, 2017), as will the development and completion of a consensus agreement respecting implementation of the *ISR Joint Management Plan for Polar Bears* and *Framework for Action* (due by March 31, 2018).
- **February 20-22, 2018 in Inuvik** – agenda TBD but will include discussion of Management Authority positions on the proposed listings of barren-ground caribou, grizzly bear, little brown myotis, and northern myotis