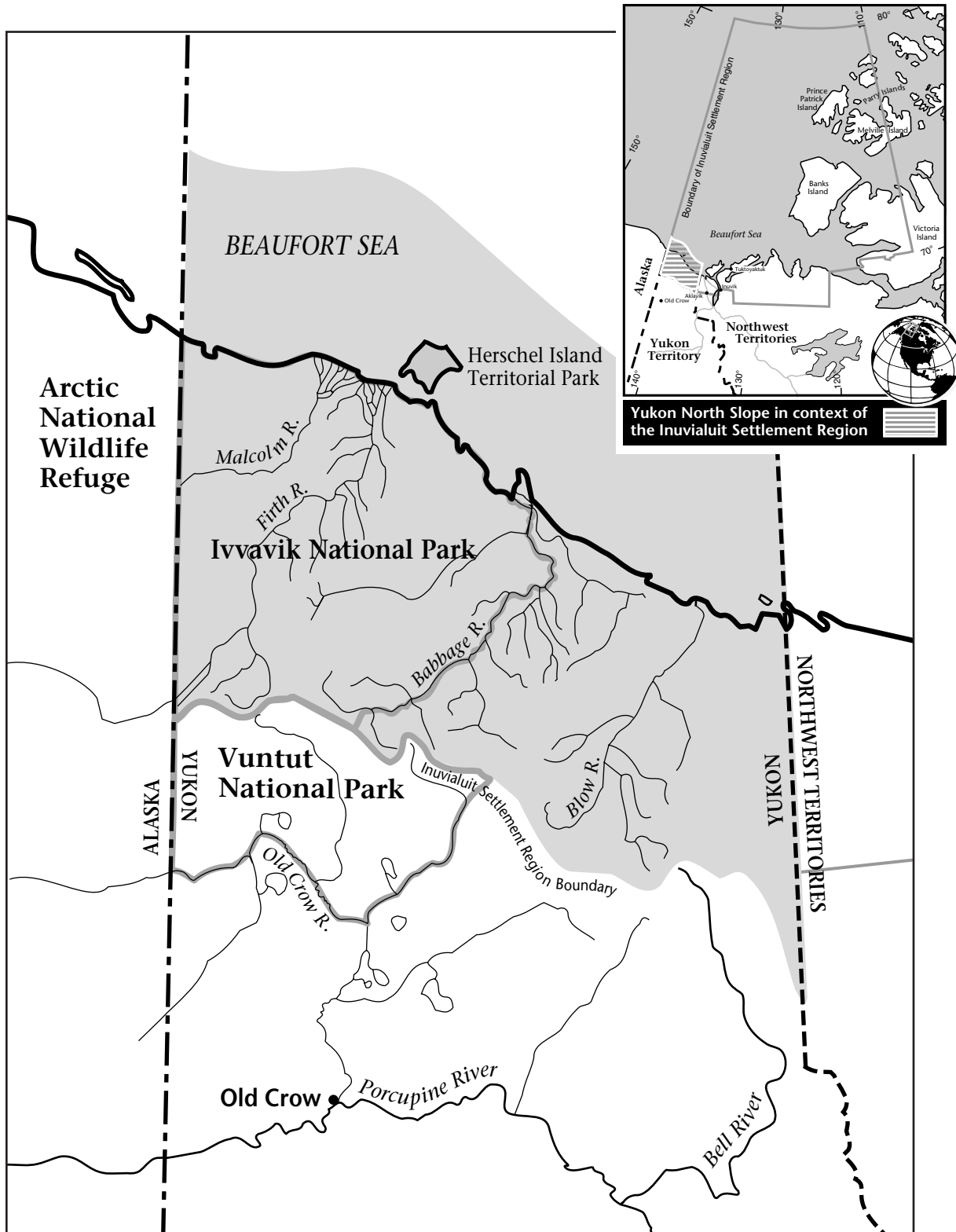


Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)



TERM REPORT April 1, 1993 – March 31, 1995

YUKON NORTH SLOPE



MESSAGE
FROM THE CHAIR
October 1995

It is with pleasure that I forward the 1993-1995 term report of the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope).

For the past two years, the Council has been active in concluding several multi-year initiatives and in launching a number of new ones which either affect the application of Inuvialuit harvesting rights on the Yukon North Slope or derive from some of the recommendations of the draft Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan.

The Plan, long in preparation, has been subject to further consultations with government agencies, industry, various wildlife conservation organizations and Inuvialuit bodies. Both volume one of the plan - a comprehensive overview of the human history and ecological significance of the Yukon North Slope - and volume two - a set of technical recommendations for the conservation and management of the area - are near completion and have benefited substantially from the extra time and attention which have been given to them. The greatest evidence of this stems from the 3 day Yukon North Slope Conference in Dawson in September 1994 where over one hundred participants from the Yukon, Northwest Territories, other parts of Canada, and Alaska met to review all of the Plan's recommendations and to establish priorities for their implementation.

One of these was the implementation of an ecosystem monitoring regime for the Yukon North Slope. In the last year, the Council has facilitated joint efforts between federal and territorial agencies, and various community and wildlife organizations to begin the design of such a regime. The Northern Yukon has been accepted now as a site which is a part of a national Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network.

In addition, the Council has reviewed and recommended a management plan for Ivvavik National Park, and continued to support efforts which designate the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) as wilderness for the full protection of calving grounds of the Porcupine Caribou herd and habitat critical to other species of wildlife.

The Council has also given extensive attention to the development of regulations and by-laws affecting the harvesting of grizzly bears on the Yukon North Slope. The Council has been guided by the objective of establishing a "seamless" regulatory regime for harvesters across the Yukon North Slope, notwithstanding the complexity of the management context. The existence of a territorial border bi-secting the hunting territory of the Inuvialuit of Aklavik, a national park boundary bi-secting half of the Yukon North Slope, and differences in Inuvialuit harvesting rights established in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement which apply in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories have made this a challenging task. None the less progress has been made towards harmonizing approaches between government agencies and Inuvialuit organizations. This is largely a result of the cooperation and good will upon which many organizations, like the Council, depend to be effective. This cooperation reflects the generosity and commitment of Council members toward the conservation of wildlife, habitat and traditional native use on the Yukon North Slope. I offer my appreciation, once again, for their efforts.



Lindsay Staples
Chairperson

TABLE OF CONTENTS



This report outlines the activities and projects undertaken by the council during the two-year term from April 1, 1993 to March 31, 1995.

Message from the Chair 1

Introduction 3

Council Meetings and Conference Calls 3

Other Meetings 4

Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan 5

North Slope Conference 5

Environmental Screening and Review 6

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge 7

IFA-Funded Wildlife Research 7

Ecological Monitoring 8

Ivvavik National Park 8

Ivvavik National Park Management Plan 9

Grizzly Bear Conservation 10

Muskoxen Conservation 10

Herschel Island Territorial Park 11

Beaufort Sea Beluga Management Plan 11

Canadian Biodiversity Strategy 11

Communications 11

Council Membership 12

Financial Statements - March 31, 1994 and March 31, 1995 14

Appendix 1 19

Appendix 2 21

INTRODUCTION

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope), or WMAC(NS), was established in 1988 as a result of the Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Settlement Act, which arose out of the 1984 Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA).

Since its beginnings, the council has been an active and effective supporter of cooperative management on the Yukon's North Slope.

The council consists of four members and an independent chairperson. Two members are appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council, while the governments of Canada and the Yukon appoint one member each.

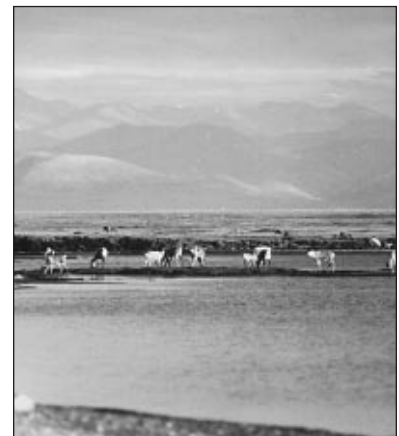
Responsibilities of the council are defined in section 12(56) of the IFA, which states:

The Council shall provide advice to the appropriate minister on all matters relating to wildlife policy and the management, regulation, and administration of wildlife, habitat and harvesting for the Yukon North Slope and without restricting the generality of the foregoing the Council shall:

- a) provide advice on issues pertaining to the Yukon North Slope to the Porcupine Caribou Management Board, the Yukon Land Use Planning Commission, the Review Board and other appropriate groups;
- b) prepare a wildlife conservation and management plan for the Yukon North Slope for recommendation to the appropriate authorities as a means for achieving and maintaining the principles of conservation set out in subsections (2) and (3);
- c) determine and recommend appropriate quotas for Inuvialuit harvesting of game in the Yukon North Slope; and
- d) advise on measures required to protect habitat that is critical for wildlife or harvesting including those referred to in subsection 14(3).

During the two-years ending March 31, 1995, the council held meetings in Aklavik, Tuktoyaktuk, Dawson, and Whitehorse. Eight teleconference calls were also conducted.

April 6, 1993	Teleconference Call
April 30, 1993	Teleconference Call
June 14 & 15, 1993	Quarterly Meeting – Whitehorse, YT
October 17, 1993	Community Meeting – Aklavik, NWT
October 18 & 19, 1993	Quarterly Meeting – Aklavik, NWT
October 19, 1993	Meeting continued with WMAC(NWT) – Tuktoyaktuk, NWT
November 30, 1993	Teleconference Call
December 13 & 14, 1993	Teleconference Call
January 11, 1994	Teleconference Call
January 14, 1994	Teleconference Call
February 23 & 24, 1994	Quarterly Meeting – Whitehorse, YT
March 31, 1994	Teleconference Call
June 28 & 29, 1994	Quarterly Meeting – Whitehorse, YT
September 12 & 13, 1994	Quarterly Meeting – Dawson, YT
October 20, 1994	Teleconference Call
December 5 & 6, 1994	Quarterly Meeting – Aklavik, NWT

COUNCIL MEETINGS
AND CONFERENCE CALLS

OTHER MEETINGS



March 1993	Inuvialuit Game Council Meeting Lindsay Staples, chair
August 1993	Future Funding Meeting – Vancouver Lindsay Staples
October 1993	“Northern Protected Areas and Wilderness Forum” – Whitehorse Secretariat and Danny A. Gordon, alternate member
November 1993	“People, Science and Caribou” – Arctic Village Donald Aviugana, member
November 1993	Inuvialuit Harvest Study Funding Meeting – Calgary Lindsay Staples
December 1993	Inuvialuit Game Council Meeting – Inuvik Lindsay Staples
February 1994	Inuvialuit Game Council Meeting Lindsay Staples
April, 1994	Presentation to the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs – Ottawa RE: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Lindsay Staples
June, 1994	Ecosystem Monitoring Workshop – Dawson Lindsay Staples and Secretariat
September, 1994	Yukon North Slope Conference – Dawson Chair, Council members and Secretariat
September, 1994	Ecosystem Monitoring Mtg. – Dawson Lindsay Staples and Secretariat
September, 1994	Coastal Zone Canada '94 Conference: Cooperation in the Coastal Zone – Halifax Nelson Green, member
November, 1994	Alaska Polar Bear Habitat Conservation Strategy – Anchorage Nelson Green and Lindsay Staples
November, 1994	Consultation with petroleum industry interests and Chair of EISC – Calgary RE: Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation & Management Plan Nelson Green and Lindsay Staples
November, 1994	Consultation with Yukon Economic Development – Whitehorse RE: Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation & Management Plan Nelson Green, Lindsay Staples and Secretariat
November, 1994	Consultation with DIAND Whitehorse office – Whitehorse RE: Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation & Management Plan Nelson Green, Lindsay Staples and Secretariat

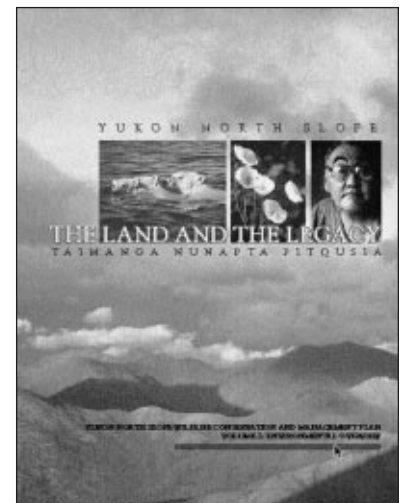
November, 1994	Yukon hunting regulations and wildlife act review, ad hoc committee – Whitehorse Nelson Green, Lindsay Staples and Secretariat
December, 1994	Community Conservation Plans Workshop – Inuvik Secretariat
February, 1995	Inuvialuit Game Council meeting – Inuvik Lindsay Staples
February, 1995	Inuvialuit Harvest Study Working Group – Inuvik Lindsay Staples

Work on the Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan has consumed much of the Council's time and energy over the two-year term. In 1993-94, after soliciting public and government comments on the draft plan, WMAC(NS) set about creating a revised version of the Plan. Volume 1 was reworked to make it more readable, with the goal of creating a book of general interest about the history of the people and the land. Colour photographs complement the text. Volume 2 also underwent substantive changes including the addition of species status reports, which address management goals and objectives for individual species.

The revised Plan was released for further review in mid-1994. A summary version of Volume II was produced for use at the North Slope Conference in Dawson City in September 1994, where participants discussed priorities for implementing the plan. As well, Nelson Green and Lindsay Staples participated in a series a meetings to consult with reviewers. Consultations were conducted in Whitehorse with the Yukon Department of Economic Development and with Department of Indian and Northern Affairs (DIAND). In Calgary, meetings were held with the Chair of the Environmental Impact Screening Committee, and with petroleum industry interests. As of March 31, 1995, some review comments had not yet been received and consultations in Ottawa were incomplete. Review consultations were completed in April 1995 with meetings in Ottawa with DIAND (Ottawa office), the Canadian Nature Federation, Wildlife Habitat Canada, and Environmental Protection Canada.

Final versions of both volumes of the Plan and the Summary document are due to go to print by winter 1995/96.

THE YUKON NORTH SLOPE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN



The Fourth Yukon North Slope Conference, held in Dawson City September 14-16, 1994, centred around the theme, "Co-management on the North Slope – Implementing Our Plans." Almost 150 participants spent two days discussing and setting priorities for the implementation of the Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan.

Two sets of five workshops were set up with facilitators and rapporteurs, each workshop representing one of the five management goals within the Plan. Participants were asked to determine priorities for implementing the actions of each goal. WMAC(NS) has found the comments derived from the workshops and the priorities recommended by the participants extremely valuable in its effort to complete the Plan.

NORTH SLOPE CONFERENCE





The keynote address was presented by conference chair Dr. John Naysmith, chief negotiator for Canada from 1976 to 1978 in the IFA negotiations and now Head of the Forestry Department at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Dr. Naysmith praised the Plan for its vision in laying out the groundwork for preserving the Yukon North Slope for future generations. He emphasized that the human component must not be ignored if a resource management plan is to succeed. “I would like to suggest that a properly constituted and effectively implemented conservation strategy is the highest order of resource management practice,” Dr. Naysmith told conference participants. “Further, a properly constituted and effectively implemented human resource development strategy is the only way the three principles of the IFA will be realized. If that human resource development doesn’t take place, it isn’t going to matter how good the conservation strategy is. It is not going to work.”

ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING AND REVIEW

The council has always maintained a strong interest in its ties with the Environmental Impact Screening Committee and the Environmental Impact Review Board as it looks to these two boards to assist in implementing the Special Conservation Regime for the northern Yukon east of the Babbage River. A major issue which involved the Council with the EISC and EIRB was the Driftwood Lumber Co. application.



Driftwood Lumber Application

Early in 1994, WMAC(NS) provided the Department of Indian and Northern Development (DIAND) with comments on an application requesting a land use permit to gather driftwood and establish a sawmill and campsite at Shingle Point. When the applicant was granted the permit in February 1994, WMAC(NS) made a further submission to DIAND, again raising its concerns. (WMAC(NS) had concerns regarding numerous wildlife habitat issues, data gaps, and lack of information on possible environmental impacts.) The Council also pointed out that the applicant was granted a land use permit without the required referral and response from the Environmental Impact Screening Committee. The permit was eventually suspended and the Environmental Impact Screening Committee referred the proposal to the Environmental Impact Review Board.

In the fall of 1994, the EIRB set up a formal review of the proposal by Driftwood Lumber for a logging operation at King Point (shifted from Shingle Point because of environmental concerns about the original location). WMAC(NS) discussed the company’s environmental impact study extensively and sent a detailed written submission to the review panel. After a lengthy review period and a number of public meetings with the applicant, in February 1995, the Environmental Impact Review Board recommended that the Minister approve issuance of a land use permit to Driftwood Lumber, subject to a number of conditions designed to protect the environment, wildlife and Inuvialuit rights in the region. To date, no activity has taken place under the granted permit.

In March 1994, WMAC(NS) passed a resolution endorsing the wilderness designation of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and supporting efforts to twin the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) with Ivvavik National Park and Vuntut National Park. As all three protected areas are part of the same ecosystem and adjacent to each other, twinning would allow for cooperative management of the ecosystem. In April 1994, WMAC(NS) joined the Inuvialuit Game Council and many other groups before the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs to urge Canada to encourage the United States to protect ANWR.

The move to twin the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge with the two national parks in Canada lost impetus late in 1994 due to concern over the issue in Alaska and the election of a new United States Congress. Those lobbying the United States government to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge have had to turn their attention toward educating the large number of new members in Congress about the importance of ANWR to the Porcupine Caribou Herd and those who depend on the herd. WMAC(NS) continues to support this effort.

ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



WMAC(NS) receives proposals for IFA-funded research projects related to wildlife management, discusses them, and makes recommendations based on those discussions. WMAC(NS) also tries to ensure that all field researchers inform the community of Aklavik about their work and findings.

The 1993-95 term was a transitional time for IFA-funded wildlife research. In 1994, the Inuvialuit Game Council requested a ten-year review of IFA-funded wildlife research conducted by the federal and territorial governments, as well as proposals for project funding for the next five years. WMAC(NS) decided that wildlife proposals for the upcoming five years would be guided by the long-term research plan proposed in the Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan.

In 1993-94, WMAC(NS) recommended four IFA-funded wildlife research projects.

Those conducted by the Yukon Territorial Government included:

- a continuation of habitat mapping in the northern Richardson Mountains;
- wolf tracking through radio and satellite telemetry; and
- a wolverine population census.

As well, Parks Canada conducted the first season of a three year study of grizzly bear habitat in Ivvavik National Park.

In 1994-95, WMAC(NS) recommended four IFA-funded wildlife research projects.

Those conducted by the Yukon Government included:

- a wolverine carcass study;
- continuation of the habitat mapping project;
- continuation of monitoring of wolf movements; and
- a population census and composition count of muskoxen in the northern Yukon.

WMAC (NS) also recommended a proposal from the Whitehorse office of the Canadian Wildlife Service to initiate an ecological monitoring study using the Porcupine Caribou herd as an indicator species to the Inuvialuit Game Council. The project was supported in principle, though no funding was available at the time.

IFA-FUNDED WILDLIFE RESEARCH



ECOLOGICAL MONITORING



WMAC(NS)'s Yukon North Slope Wildlife Management and Conservation Plan recognizes ecological monitoring as an important element in conservation on the North Slope. A step beyond species management, ecological monitoring entails a long term view and assessment of the whole system. The Plan calls for initiation of ecological monitoring programs as part of its long-term research plan.

When the Canadian Wildlife Service, Whitehorse presented a proposal to initiate an ecosystem monitoring program on the North Slope, as part of a national Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network, the proposal was endorsed by WMAC(NS), the Inuvialuit Game Council, and the Yukon Government. At the national level, Environment Canada is working to develop sites representing the full range of eco-zones across the country. Parks Canada has the same mandate within national parks.

The Northern Yukon component of the Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network was introduced June 1994 at a two-day workshop in Dawson City, organized by Environment Canada and WMAC(NS). The overall objective of the project is to create and maintain a system for collaboratively monitoring and assessing northern Yukon's ecological health, and to approach that effort with a holistic and long-term perspective. The program will co-ordinate and use existing monitoring programs and information as well as encourage new sources of information. Community involvement and traditional knowledge will be a strong component of the assessment. The project has the potential of complementing the mandates and initiatives of several of the region's agencies and organizations. It is assumed that this program and network would operate within existing budgets of participating groups and agencies. In attendance at the Dawson Workshop were representatives from Yukon Government, Canadian Wildlife Service, Joint Secretariat, Parks Canada, Fisheries Joint Management Committee, Porcupine Caribou Management Board, Wildlife Management Advisory Council (Northwest Territories), members of renewable resource boards and councils and community users.

By the end of March 1995, a prospectus for communities outlining the proposal and community involvement had been prepared for the Canadian Wildlife Service and WMAC(NS). Plans are underway for another workshop in the winter of 1995/96 to present progress to date, review the selection of issues, and identify information gaps.

IVVAVIK NATIONAL PARK



In 1993, construction at the Department of National Defense (DND) Short Range Radar Site at Stokes Point (Bar B) was completed. Throughout the construction period, Parks Canada had an Environmental Assessment Officer present to monitor the work to ensure environmental standards were adhered to. Later that year, the Stokes Point (Bar B) Standards for Operations and Maintenance were developed by DND, Parks Canada and the Inuvialuit Game Council. These standards are to be followed by all contractors working at this unstaffed site. In 1994, the final construction debris was removed.

Private and commercial rafting trips on the Firth River continued to be managed using the reservation system: a single departure from Margaret Lake every other day, and a maximum group size of 15. In 1994, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Parks Canada, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, and the Aklavik Community Corporation for allocation of the commercial rafting departure dates. It was agreed that 50% of the 20 commercial departure dates would be allocated to Inuvialuit economic development.

Parks Canada staff continued to monitor camping sites for vegetation and wildlife impacts resulting from human use of the Firth River valley. In 1994, three sites were closed to camping because of significant changes in plant species composition and

abundance. These sites will continue to be monitored for recovery.

Clean-up of garbage (e.g. fuel drums, camping equipment, metals) left in Ivvavik by researchers, prospectors, oil industry workers and others continued. This garbage was moved by helicopter to caches on the coastline for later transportation to appropriate disposal facilities. This work will continue for some time.

In 1994, a Regulations Officer position for Ivvavik was funded by the federal Green Plan. The role of this position was to begin the process of developing land use regulations to be included in the National Parks Act and Regulations to facilitate Inuvialuit traditional use in the park. A thorough issues analysis was completed by the Regulations Officer in early 1995 and preliminary discussions with the WMAC (NS) in regards to the consultation process occurred. This work will continue for several years.

The major effort of Parks Canada wildlife research for the period of 1993-94 and 1994-95 was the Grizzly Bear Habitat Study of the Firth River valley. The primary purpose of the research was to obtain enough information on grizzly bear habitat, seasonal use, and movements to be able to manage human activities so they have minimal impact on bears. Eight (3 male and 5 female) grizzly bears were fitted with radio-tracking collars during June 1993. Throughout June, July and August of 1993 and 1994 each bear was periodically located by helicopter. Its habitat use and behaviour were noted. A habitat map was prepared for the valley at a scale of 1:20,000. 24-hour behaviour watches were also conducted. Progress reports with preliminary analysis and interpretation of data were completed for the 1993 and 1994 field seasons. 1995 will be the final field season for the study.

External researchers were active in Ivvavik during 1993 and 1994. The following research was completed: Muskox distribution and habitat use (Yukon Government); Nesting bird – habitat relationships on the coastal plains (Canadian Wildlife Service); Caribou calf habitat use – weight gain (U S Fish & Wildlife); Hydrogeology of aufeis (University of Ottawa); Structural and stratigraphic analysis of the Beaufort Sea margin (Geology Survey of Canada); and Climate-vegetation relationships in the British Mountains (University of Ottawa).



Ivvavik National Park is managed under two pieces of legislation: the National Parks Act and the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. The two differ in their emphasis but are compatible. Ivvavik's objective under the IFA is the protection of "the wilderness characteristics of the area, maintaining its present undeveloped state to the greatest extent possible..." and the protection and management of "wildlife populations and wildlife habitat within the area" (Section 12(6)).

The Ivvavik National Park Management Plan details the application of the IFA, the National Parks Act, and Parks Canada's policy to the management of Ivvavik National Park. Protection of the wilderness qualities of Ivvavik is central to managing visitor and outfitting activities. WMAC(NS) was involved with the review of the plan in its various drafts.

The management plan outlines an ecosystem-based regime for the management and protection of both the ecological and cultural resources of Ivvavik. The plan incorporates the IFA provisions and gives full and explicit recognition to Inuvialuit rights in the use and conservation of the park resources. It also recognizes the need for a broader, regional and international view for management on the North Slope.

In January 1994, WMAC(NS) recommended the Ivvavik National Park Management Plan to Minister of Canadian Heritage Michel Dupuy. The management plan was approved and is to be tabled in parliament in 1995.

IVVAVIK NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN



GRIZZLY BEAR CONSERVATION



WMAC(NS) passed a resolution recommending a harvestable quota of five grizzly bears from the north Yukon populations for the 1993/94 hunting season. WMAC(NS), assisted by Inuvialuit Game Council, sponsored and organized a meeting of the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee in late April 1994 to pass resolutions for managing the grizzly bear harvest on the North Slope. By-laws were passed by the HTC, endorsed by IGC, and tags were made available by YTG under a Sundry Permit, enabling a spring bear hunt outside the boundaries of Ivvavik National Park. In December, 1994, WMAC (NS) again passed a resolution recommending the same harvestable quota of grizzly bears within the northern Yukon for the 1995/96 hunting season.

The arrangements made for the 1994 and 1995 hunts are temporary and many outstanding issues of regulation and enforcement remain unresolved. The jurisdictional complexity of the North Slope, differences in the Yukon and NWT with regard to Inuvialuit harvesting rights, how to deal with overlapping rights of the Inuvialuit and Tetlit Gwich'in, and the application of Hunters and Trappers Committee by-laws have required extensive review. WMAC(NS) continues to work with Parks Canada and the Yukon government to develop regulations to manage grizzly bear harvest across the Yukon North Slope. It is evident that new regulations under the National Parks Act and amendments to the Yukon Wildlife Act will be required to reflect Inuvialuit harvesting rights on the Yukon North Slope. WMAC(NS) is working towards resolving these issues.

Development of a grizzly bear management plan for the entire Inuvialuit Settlement Region continues. The Government of Northwest Territories' Department of Renewable Resources assumed the lead in preparing a plan, with the support of the Hunters and Trapper Committees, Inuvialuit Game Council, Yukon Renewable Resources, Parks Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service, and the WMACs for the Yukon North Slope and NWT.

In Ivvavik National Park, grizzly bear management was identified in 1989 as the second highest priority conservation issue facing park managers. In 1993, a three-year grizzly bear research program was initiated.

MUSKOXEN CONSERVATION



At the community level, concern has been raised about the expanding range of muskoxen and the fear that caribou will avoid them and change their migration or range use. Don Russell of the Canadian Wildlife Service prepared a background paper for the Council, comparing the interaction of muskoxen and caribou on the mainland with arctic island populations. His work suggested that mainland caribou and muskoxen can exist side by side and that the situation of island populations is considerably different from the circumstances of caribou and muskoxen on the mainland. However, muskoxen on the Yukon North Slope presents a new situation for hunters and managers. More studies and discussions will be required in the future.

Aklavik residents have expressed a desire to harvest muskoxen in the Yukon. WMAC(NS) is committed to recommending a harvest quota within conservation limits. However, before such a recommendation can be made, WMAC (NS) indicated the need for current data on the muskoxen population and for a Yukon North Slope muskoxen management plan. This process is underway with Parks Canada and Yukon Renewable Resources assuming the lead in the preparation of a plan. Funding was allocated to conduct a March population census and composition count, representing the second Yukon census of the population expanding from Alaska.

An Elderhost program was sponsored by the Herschel Island Territorial Park in the 1993 season in order to give elders a chance to relive old memories by visiting the island and to use their stories in developing the park's interpretive plan. It was a great success for the Aklavik Elders, park staff, and park visitors. A modified program was offered in the 1994 season.

Two interpretive programs were completed in 1994: a sealskin umiak was built by Alex Aviugana, and a traveling interpretive display of the park was created for use in schools and at the Inuvik Visitor Reception Centre.

During the 1993 season, there were 300 visitors to the park. Many enter the park as rafters on the Firth River, others come off Northwest Passage cruise ships (about 100 visitors per ship stop) or come via air charter from Inuvik. Ninety per cent of the visitors to Herschel Island come within a three-week period.

HERSCHEL ISLAND TERRITORIAL PARK



A requirement of the Beaufort Sea Beluga Management Plan is for a review of the plan by all parties within three years of its coming into effect to determine whether all of its component parts were still appropriate. WMAC (NS) participated in this review and submitted its comments to the Fisheries Joint Management Committee.

BEAUFORT SEA BELUGA MANAGEMENT PLAN

Now that the federal government has initiated the process to establish a national strategy for maintaining the integrity of Canada's biodiversity, the Council anticipates having a more immediate role in realizing this objective. The objectives of the Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan concur with the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy goals. WMAC (NS) participated in the early discussions on effecting the strategy and will be attending the upcoming meetings on the proposed endangered species legislation in 1995/96.

CANADIAN BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

WMAC (NS) Newsletter *Wildlife Watch* lets Inuvialuit communities and Yukon people with an interest in the Yukon North Slope know what the Council is doing and provides information on wildlife research and management issues of interest. Publications over the two year period highlighted: Management Plan for Grizzly Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and gave an update on the Ivavik National Park Management Plan; activities in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge; Caribou and Muskox Living Together; Elder host Program on Herschel Island; and Fourth Yukon North Slope Conference.

WMAC(NS) contributed funding to assist Parks Canada in the production of a video on Northern Protected Areas. The Council's interest was to see information presented about the various kinds of protected areas (national parks, territorial parks, bird sanctuaries, etc.) used in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, specifically in the Yukon North Slope, and an explanation of Inuvialuit and non-beneficiaries harvesting rights in these areas. By the end of March 1995, the video was nearing completion.

COMMUNICATIONS



COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Chair:

Lindsay Staples lives in Whitehorse and works as a private consultant in the fields of land use planning, resource management, public policy and socio-economic impact assessment. Mr. Staples has a long-standing interest in Yukon North Slope issues.

Members for the Inuvialuit Game Council:

Donald Aviugana lives in Aklavik where he is a trapper and hunter and works as a handyman in the community. During the period which this Term Report spans, Mr. Aviugana was a member of the Aklavik Elders Committee, a director with the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee, a member of the Inuvialuit Game Council, and a member of the Porcupine Caribou Management Board.

Renie Arey (member until May 1994) lives in Aklavik. During her term on the WMAC (NS) Mrs. Arey was President of the Hunters and Trappers Committee, and a board member of the Aklavik Community Corporation, the Inuvialuit Communication Society, and the Inuvialuit Community Economic Development Organization. Mrs. Arey also works as an Inuvialuktun language instructor at Moose Kerr School in Aklavik.

Nelson Green (member since June 1994) lives in Paulatuk where he was born and raised. Mr. Green was a negotiator with C.O.P.E. He currently sits on the Environmental Impact Review Board, is a director with the Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Committee and is a member of the Paulatuk Park Planning Committee.

Member for the Government of Yukon:

Hugh Monaghan has spent most of his professional career in northern Canada working in the field of wildlife management. He has been Director of the Fish and Wildlife Branch with the Yukon Department of Renewable Resources since 1984.

Member for the Government of Canada:

Don Russell is Chief of the Northern Conservation Division of the Canadian Wildlife Service in Whitehorse. He has conducted research on the Porcupine Caribou Herd since 1976. Mr. Russell is a member of the Porcupine Caribou Management Board.

Alternates:

Danny A. Gordon (representing the Inuvialuit Game Council) resides in Aklavik. He was captain of the 1991 Bowhead Whale hunt and is an active hunter and trapper. During the period which this Term Report spans, he was a director of the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee.

Danny C. Gordon (representing the Inuvialuit Game Council) resides in Aklavik. He is an active hunter and trapper. During the period which this Term Report spans Mr. Gordon was a director of the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee.

Brian Pelchat (representing the Government of Yukon until June 1994) has worked since 1982 for the Yukon Department of Renewable Resources as Supervisor of Big Game. Mr. Pelchat is a member of the Porcupine Caribou Management Board.

John Russell (representing the Government of Yukon since June 1994) has worked since 1979 for the Yukon Department of Renewable Resources. Mr. Russell has spent 12 years serving as a Conservation Officer in the communities of Whitehorse, Dawson City and Watson Lake, returning to Dawson City in 1991 where he has

spent the past four and a half years as Northern Regional Manager for the Department's Field Services Branch.

Bill Smith (representing the Government of Canada until May 1994) has been with Parks Canada for 17 years, seven of which have been served in the North where his responsibilities included being Chief Park Warden of Ivvavik National Park and Chief of Ecosystem Management of Parks Canada's Western Arctic District.

Vicki Sahanatien (representing the Government of Canada since May 1994) is Chief Park Warden of Ivvavik National Park. Ms Sahanatien has been with Parks Canada for 11 years, six of which have been in national parks committed to co-management with aboriginal people: in Ontario—Pukaskwa National Park; in the Northwest Territories—Wood Buffalo National Park; and in Yukon—Ivvavik National Park.

Co-opted Member:

Dorothy Cooley works in Dawson City as Regional Biologist for Yukon Renewable Resources. Her position is partially funded through IFA implementation funding.

Secretariat:

The WMAC (NS) office is located at Suite 3, Horwood's Mall, Whitehorse.

Catherine McEwen has provided administrative services to WMAC (NS) since November 1992. Ms. McEwen has worked as a biologist in the North since 1979 and operates a private consulting firm in Whitehorse. Other personnel in the WMAC (NS) secretariat have included **Maureen Garritty**, **Pam Boyde** and **Lucy van Oldenbarneveld**.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 1994 AND MARCH 31, 1995

**REVIEW ENGAGEMENT
REPORT, MARCH 31, 1995**

J. Kim Tanner, C.A., Ltd.

Chartered Accountant

I have reviewed the balance sheet of the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope), as at March 31, 1995 and the statements of income and changes in financial position for the year then ended. My review was made in accordance with generally accepted standards for review engagements and accordingly consisted primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to me by the council.

A review does not constitute an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that these financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.



Chartered Accountant

Whitehorse, Yukon

June 12, 1995

**AUDITOR'S REPORT
MARCH 31, 1994**

J. Kim Tanner, C.A., Ltd.


Chartered Accountant

I have audited the balance sheet of the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope), as at March 31, 1994 and the statements of income and changes in financial position for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Council's management. My responsibility is to express an audit opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Chartered Accountant



Whitehorse, Yukon

August 16, 1994

Balance Sheet

	(unaudited)	(audited)	(unaudited)
	1995	1994	1993 (restated)
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash	10,133	44,334	19,947
Accounts receivable	1,238	1,669	300
GST receivable	556	1,698	5,627
	11,927	47,701	25,874
Capital Assets			
At cost (note 1)	10,619	10,619	8,953
	22,546	58,320	34,827
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Bank Overdraft	9,539	—	—
Accounts payable	1,794	4,238	7,688
Government contributions repayable	—	13,463	—
Deferred revenue (notes 1 and 2)	594	30,000	18,186
	11,927	47,701	25,874
Council Equity			
Investment in Capital Assets (note 1)	10,619	10,619	8,953
	22,546	58,320	34,827

Statement of Income

	(unaudited)	(audited)	(unaudited)
	1995	1994	1993 (restated)
Revenue			
Government of Yukon	137,851	143,168	201,093
Parks Canada	30,000	—	—
Environment Canada	1,238	—	—
Interest Income	995	984	816
	170,084	144,152	201,909
Expenses			
Administration			
Bank charges and interest	32	119	76
Bookkeeping	1,180	1,205	—
Contracts	900	—	2,079
Newsletter	1,704	1,006	—
Honoraria	28,574	26,918	31,190
Office and telephone	10,505	11,897	10,748
Professional fees	589	2,800	1,200
Purchase of equipment	—	1,666	204
Rent	4,347	4,347	—
Secretariat fees	32,807	32,142	22,309
Term report	415	7,199	—
Travel and meetings	12,925	11,686	18,804
	93,978	100,985	86,610
IFA Implementation Projects Cost			
Inuvialuit Participation Project	—	—	800
Bylaws and regulations and legislation	6,860	—	—
North Slope Conference	7,378	—	—
Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan	44,489	21,845	114,499
Grizzly Bear Project	—	21,322	—
Ecosystem monitoring	9,379	—	—
Arctic National Wildlife Refuge	3,000	—	—
Protected Areas Video	5,000	—	—
	76,106	43,167	115,299
Total Expenses	170,084	144,152	201,909
Excess of revenue over expenses			

Statement of Changes in Financial Position

	(unaudited)	(audited)	(unaudited)
	1995	1994	1993 (restated)
Operating Activities			
Cash provided by (used for) operations	(43,740)	24,387	14,554
Cash provided by (used for) investments	—	—	—
Increase (decrease) during year	(43,740)	24,387	14,554
Funds - beginning of year	44,334	19,947	5,393
Funds (deficiency) - end of year	594	44,334	19,947
Funds (deficiency) comprised of :			
Cash	10,133	44,334	19,947
Bank Overdraft	(9,539)	—	—
	594	44,334	19,947

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Significant Accounting Policies

a) Capital Assets

Capital assets are expensed in the year in which they were purchased and are also capitalized on the balance sheet at cost. The investment in capital assets reflects the historical cost of all capital assets owned by the Council.

b) Deferred Revenue

Deferred revenue represents funds received under a contribution agreement or for a specific project but not yet expended.

2. Deferred Revenue

	1995	1994	1993
a) <u>Government of Yukon</u>			
Deferred revenue, previous year	—	18,186	26,529
Monies received for current year	138,445	138,445	192,750
Monies available for use in current year	138,445	156,631	219,279
Amount used in current year	137,851	143,168	201,093
	594	13,463	18,186
Amounts payable to Government of Yukon at year end	—	(13,463)	—
Deferred revenue at end of year	594	—	18,186
b) Parks Canada	—	30,000	—
	594	30,000	18,186

3. Nature of the Financial Statements

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) was created pursuant to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement to advise federal and territorial governments on matters pertaining to Yukon North Slope wildlife and habitat issues.

The Council is funded through a contribution agreement with the Government of the Yukon.

4. Comparative Figures

The 1993 comparative figures have been reviewed and not audited. The auditor does not express an opinion on the financial statements for the preceding year.

Extracted from *Western Arctic Claim (The Inuvialuit Final Agreement) Settlement Act (1984)*

Yukon North Slope

12. (1) For the purposes of this section , “Yukon North Slope” means all those lands between the boundaries of Alaska and the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories, north of the height of land dividing the watersheds of the Porcupine River and the Beaufort Sea, and including adjacent nearshore and offshore waters and islands.

Principles

12. (2) The Yukon North slope shall fall under a special conservation regime whose dominant purpose is the conservation of wildlife, habitat and traditional native use.
12. (3) Subject to subsections (5) to (15)*:
- (a) all development proposals relating to the Yukon North Slope shall be screened to determine whether they could have a significant negative impact on the wildlife, habitat or ability of the natives to harvest wildlife;
- (b) other uses within the Yukon North Slope shall be considered and may be permitted if it is shown that there would be no significant impact on wildlife, habitat or native harvesting;
- (c) other uses within the Yukon North Slope that may have a significant negative impact on wildlife, habitat or native harvesting shall be permitted if it is decided that public convenience and necessity outweigh conservation or native harvesting interests in the area; and
- (d) development proposals relating to the Yukon North Slope that may have a significant negative impact shall be subject to a public environment impact assessment and review process.

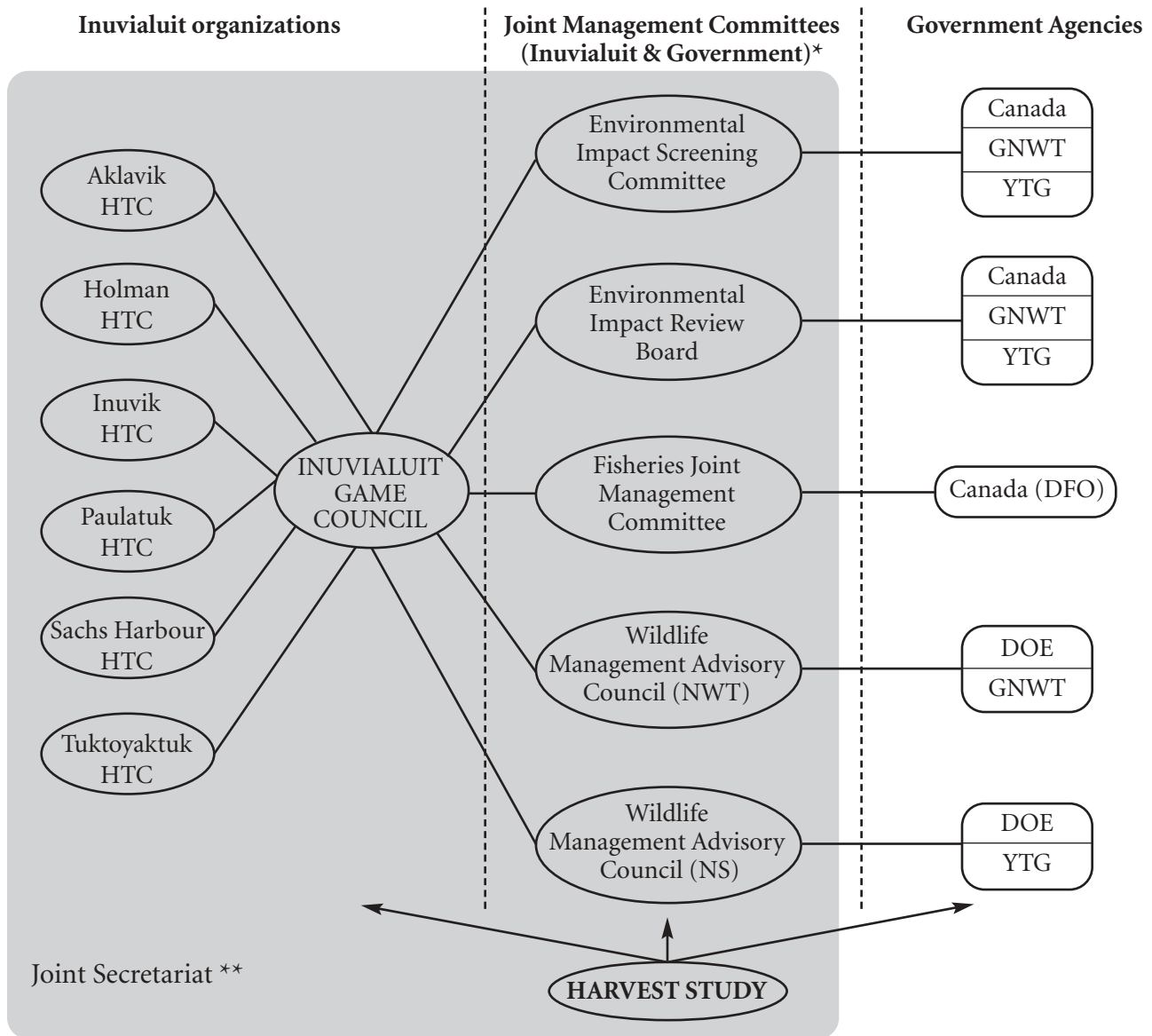
Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)

12. (46) In order to provide for joint planning by the native people and the governments in the North Slope with respect to the principles set out in subsection (2) and (3), a Wildlife Management Advisory Council shall be established as soon after the execution of this Agreement as is practicable.
12. (47) The Council shall have as permanent members a Chairman and an equal number of native and government members.
12. (48) The permanent members of the Council shall include at least one person designated by the Government of the Yukon Territory and one person designated by the Minister of the Environment of Canada.
12. (49) In addition to the permanent members of the Council representing government, temporary members may be co-opted from government departments as they may be required from time to time.
12. (50) The permanent members of the Council appointed to represent the native interests shall include persons designated by the Inuvialuit, and, subject to agreements, by other native groups that have acquired harvesting rights in the Yukon North Slope under their land claims settlements.
12. (51) The Chairman of the Council shall be appointed by the Government of the Yukon Territory, with the consent of the native members and Canada.
12. (52) The permanent members of the Council shall have one (1) vote. The Chairman shall have a vote only in case of a deadlock. Temporary members shall not have a vote.

12. (53) The Council may establish rules and adopt by-laws regulating its procedures.
12. (54) The Government of the Yukon Territory agrees to provide a secretariat to assist in meeting the administrative needs of the Council.
12. (55) Each party shall pay the remuneration and expenses of the members of the Council that it appoints or designates.
12. (56) The council shall provide advice to the appropriate ministers on all matters relating to wildlife policy and management, regulation and administration of wildlife, habitat and harvesting for the Yukon North Slope and, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the Council shall:
 - (a) provide advice on issues pertaining to the Yukon North Slope to the Porcupine Caribou Management Board, the Yukon Land Use Planning Commission, The Review Board and other appropriate groups;
 - (b) prepare a wildlife conservation and management plan for the Yukon North Slope for recommendation to the appropriate authorities as a means for achieving and maintaining the principles of conservation set out in the subsections (2) and (3);
 - (c) determine and recommend appropriate quotas for Inuvialuit harvesting of game in the Yukon North Slope; and
 - (d) advise on measures required to protect habitat that is critical for wildlife or harvesting in the Yukon North Slope including those referred to in subsection 14(3)*.

*Refer to act for complete references.

Organization of environmental and wildlife management bodies pursuant to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement



* Participation is 50% Inuvialuit and 50% Government

** Provides administrative, technical, and logistical support to the organizations and committees.

GNWT–Government of the Northwest Territories; YTG–Yukon Territorial Government;

DFO– Department of Fisheries & Oceans; DOE– Department of the Environment

HTC – Hunters and Trappers Committee

CREDITS

Photo Credits: Government of the Yukon, James S. Hawkings, Stefan Himmer, C.A.McEwen, Tessa Macintosh (Government of the NWT), Don Russell

Design: Aasman Design, Whitehorse

Printing: Integraphics, Whitehorse



Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)

P.O. Box 5928, Whitehorse, Y.T. Y1A 5L6

Phone: (403) 633-5476 Fax: (403) 633-6900