



Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)

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Minutes

WMAC(NS) Teleconference

Friday February 2, 2001

Present: Lindsay Staples – Chair
Danny C. Gordon- Member – Inuvialuit Game Council
Herbert Felix- Member – Inuvialuit Game Council
Joan Eamer – Canadian Wildlife Service - Member - Government of
Canada
Dorothy Cooley – Alternate – Yukon Government
Aileen Horler – WMAC(NS) Secretariat

1. Review of 2000-2001 Secretariat budget

The Secretariat gave a summary of the 2000-2001 WMAC(NS) budget by reviewing a table that indicated the allocated budget, the actual spent as of January 15, 2001, the projected expenditure until the end of the fiscal year and the balance for each item. Explanations were given as to how the projected figures were determined as well as the reasons for any over or under-budget items. The greatest over expenditure was on the North Slope Conference. The Council spent over \$18,000 of its annual budget on activities related to the conference, which was \$12,000 over budget. This large expenditure has had an effect on what funds are available for other projects and some funds will have to be reallocated. The Secretariat proposed the following amounts be reallocated to the North Slope Conference budget- \$3000 from Bylaws, \$1500 from Herschel Island Management Planning, \$1000 from web page development, \$3000 from Long-term research plan and \$5000 from Coastal Zone workshop. It is anticipated that no further expenditures are required in these area before fiscal year end. The recommended reallocation of funds will address the over-expenditure in the North Slope Conference budget line item. The Chair added that the budget for Secretariat fees might require more funds before the end of the year as well. Members agreed to allocate the unassigned

amount of \$261 to Secretariat fees. Additional funds may be available from other items if spending is not as great as projected.

Motion

to reallocate funds in the 2000-2001 WMAC(NS) Secretariat budget, as per discussion.

Moved: Joan Eamer

Seconded: Danny C. Gordon

Motion carried

The Chair commented that a summary of WMAC's activities related to the 2000 North Slope Conference is being prepared. Members agreed that it is important to document the actual amount of work that went into organizing the conference, especially for reference in future IFA implementation funding discussions.

2. Update on 2000-01 Wildlife Programs

Dorothy Cooley reported that she had had a discussion with Richard Gordon at the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee regarding the body conditioning monitoring. This project will now be delayed to allow time for the concerns of the HTC to be addressed. This delay will create a surplus in the YTG wildlife programs budget of \$3493. Dorothy added that \$650 of this is needed to cover an outstanding interest payment. The body conditioning work will be going ahead in Fort McPherson using a different funding source. Danny C. Gordon commented that he has always supported the body conditioning monitoring in Aklavik but that the HTC won't give its support until its concerns are addressed.

The Chair reported that the Aklavik HTC is interested in travelling to Kaktovik in February in order to discuss and exchange local knowledge about muskox with the residents of that community. The HTC feels such an exchange would better prepare its members to comment on the draft Yukon North Slope Muskox Management Plan. The Chair added that the objectives of this trip are different from those planned for a larger workshop on muskox and caribou interactions proposed to be held in the spring.

Council members commented on the need to ensure that such a trip is properly documented. It was suggested that support for the trip be contingent on the production of a report and the development of specific recommendations related to the Muskox Management Plan. It is important that the information gained on such a trip be put to wider use.

A discussion was held as to the potential for funding such a trip. The Chair noted that there is still no indication as to whether or not any funds will be spent in this fiscal year on the Tundra Swans Traditional Knowledge Study. Members agreed to recommend to both Parks Canada and the Yukon Government that any funds unspent on either the

Porcupine Caribou Body Condition Monitoring or the Tundra Swans Traditional Knowledge Study be used to support the HTC's proposed trip.

Motion

to recommend to the Yukon Government and Parks Canada that any funds unspent in their 2000-2001 wildlife research budgets from either the Porcupine Caribou Body Condition Monitoring or the Tundra Swans Traditional Knowledge Study be used to support the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee's proposed trip to Kaktovik. Recognising that the objective of this trip is for the HTC to have an opportunity to discuss and exchange traditional knowledge about muskox on the North Slope, the Council further recommends that the funding be contingent on the production of a report and specific recommendations related to the development of the Yukon North Slope Muskox Management Plan.

Moved: Joan Eamer

Seconded: Herbert Felix

Motion carried

3. Review of Draft Porcupine Caribou Management Plan

Members were reminded that the Council has been asked to comment on the draft of the Porcupine Caribou Management Plan. The Secretariat mailed copies to all members in mid-January. Members agreed to forward their comments on the draft to the Secretariat by February 7, 2001.

4. Council participation at upcoming meetings

a) North Yukon Fish and Wildlife and Old Crow Flats Special Management Area Management Plans- Information workshop, Old Crow, March 5-7 and planning workshop, Old Crow, April 2-5.

Danny C. Gordon expressed an interest in attending the planning workshop in April if he is available. The Secretariat will follow-up with Danny at a later date.

b) Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-op Gathering, Aklavik, March 1-3

The Chair, the Secretariat, Joan Eamer and Dorothy Cooley all reported that they would be attending the Gathering. Danny C. Gordon also expressed an interest in attending. Herbert Felix will know by mid-February if he will be able to attend.

5. Next meeting

The Chair proposed that the next WMAC(NS) meeting be held in Whitehorse, Tuesday March 13, 2001, which is the day before the Game Council is scheduled to meet in Whitehorse. Agenda items would include the review of 2001-02 wildlife research proposals and a review of the comments received on the Wildlife and Conservation Management Plan.

WMAC(NS) Chair

Date

WMAC(NS) Secretariat

Date