



**Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)**

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**MINUTES**

WMAC(NS) Quarterly Meeting

Aklavik, NWT

March 26-27, 1998

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**Thursday March 26, 1998**

**Present:** Lindsay Staples - Chair  
Nelson Green - Member - Inuvialuit Game Council  
Joan Eamer - Canadian Wildlife Service - Member- Government of  
Canada  
Billy Archie - Member -Inuvialuit Game Council  
Brian Pelchat - Chief, Regional Management - Member -Yukon Territorial  
Government  
Mike Gill - WMAC(NS) / Canadian Wildlife Service  
Aileen Horler - WMAC(NS) Secretariat

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**A. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9AM. Brian Pelchat was welcomed as the newly appointed member for YTG. Mike Gill, who has been working for the Council on the Long Term Research Plan, under the Science Horizon Intern Program, was also welcomed.

**B. Review and Approval of Agenda**

The Chair noted that the agenda for the meeting included many information items. In addition to the review of the action items and correspondence, there will be a number of updates such as the status of the research projects, the budget, the Yukon Wildlife Act

amendments and the Inuvialuit Harvest Study. The process for recommendations and approval of wildlife research studies needs clarification.

It was agreed that the Council should hold a longer meeting in the spring which could be a planning session, as well as an opportunity to work through a number of the more detailed or demanding issues, in a retreat setting. Members decided that May 29 to June 1, 1998 would be a suitable time to hold such a working session. The Secretariat will inquire about locations in the Kluane Park region.

Members agreed to defer discussion of the operating procedures and the regional management teams until the May meeting.

***Motion***  
***to adopt the agenda.***

Moved: Brian Pelchat  
Seconded: Nelson Green  
Motion carried

### **C. Review and Approval of Minutes of the January 6-8, 1998 meeting**

The following changes to the minutes were requested:

- p. 23. - in reference to action item 98-01-21 - 'Parks Canada' should be added to the names of those who will co-sponsor the consultations on the Muskox Management Plan.
- p. 26 - Joan Eamer requested that the sentence 'A snow monitoring project has been initiated at the Aklavik school' be changed to 'A snow monitoring project is being planned at the Aklavik school'.

***Motion***  
***to adopt the minutes of the January 6-8, 1998 meeting.***

Moved: Joan Eamer  
Seconded: Billy Archie  
Motion carried

### **D. Correspondence**

The Chair referred to the letter from Jim Connell, Director, Policy and Planning Branch, YTG, regarding the funding for the Wildlife Act Amendments. During its December teleconference, the Council had discussed the need for YTG to be cautious should they be considering using wildlife research monies for any activity other than research.

Connell's letter addresses the Council's concerns and clarifies the source of the funds. The only expenses to be covered will be for the lawyers. All other agencies will cover the costs of their own participation. Funding for the North Slope Conference will be used as, in non-conference years, this money is to be applied to the implementation of the Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan, which includes the amendments to the Wildlife Act.

The letter from the Chair to the IGC, regarding DIAND's proposed amendments to the IFA, expresses the Council's view that it is important for government appointees to IFA boards and councils to be government employees.

In reference to the letter written to Carol Arey, President, Aklavik HTC regarding the Porcupine Caribou census, the Secretariat reported that Fran Mauer, U.S. Fish and Game, has been in touch with Carol, and that plans are going ahead to include someone from Aklavik on the census.

In reference to the letter written to Carol Arey, President, Aklavik HTC regarding the muskox survey, Dorothy Cooley reported that the HTC will be sending someone to participate in the survey at the beginning of April.

In reference to the letter written by Ricky Joe, Vice-President, Aklavik HTC regarding public safety issues related to the muskox hunt, members suggested that a letter should be written to the HTC to clarify that the concerns for public safety in no way place any restrictions on hunting.

**Action 98-03-01:** WMAC(NS) will write to the Aklavik HTC to clarify that the concerns regarding public safety, noted in the WMAC(NS) muskox harvest resolution, in no way restrict the right of Inuvialuit to hunt.

The Chair referred to the letter giving an update on the process to be followed regarding CESP. The Chair noted that there has never been a response to the objections and presentations given last year during the consultations, other than a delay in the legislation. There are general concerns that little has changed. WMAC(NWT) has been keeping track of the process.

**Action 98-03-02:** The Secretariat will contact WMAC(NWT) to request that any updated information received on CESP, be forwarded to WMAC(NS).

**Action 98-03-03:** Joan Eamer will provide Council members with updated materials regarding CESP, at the WMAC(NS) meeting, to be held in May.

When Billy Archie inquired as to membership on Canadian Endangered Species Conservation Council, the Chair replied that the Council does not yet exist as it is to be set up under the legislation. The Chair wasn't aware of the Council's proposed membership.

The Chair drew members attention to the 'Devolution Update Newsletter'. The Council is on the mailing list for the newsletter, which, it is hoped will provide information on the devolution process. The issue of the transferability of liabilities remains a big one. Joan Eamer reported that contaminant and waste clean-up will remain a federal responsibility. Billy Archie added that the clean-up of Komakuk is scheduled for 1999.

In reference to the letter written by Dorothy Cooley regarding the Porcupine Caribou field work, Dorothy added that the project has been reviewed by the EISC. This work is a follow-up to the work that was not able to be conducted last year. Billy Archie commented that it would be good if anyone involved in projects in the area would make an effort to stop at Shingle Point and advise the people there of the planned activities.

The Chair and Secretariat distributed a number of additional letters for the members' consideration.

The first of these letters discussed was the one from Brian Pelchat to Duane Smith, Chair, IGC, in reference to the proposed muskox population and composition count. Another letter written by Dorothy Cooley on the same subject was also noted. The Chair commented that he had spent a considerable amount of time over the past week trying to address IGC concerns regarding this survey. The Chair reported that during discussions, he had stressed the importance of the survey results. In addition to the biological data, the information will be considered during the public consultation and when issuing the tags. It is also an opportunity for someone from Aklavik to learn about the muskox. Using someone from Banks Island on the survey would not benefit the community of Aklavik.

There seem to be problems with communication and organization. Members expressed disappointment that neither the Chair nor Nelson Green were contacted directly and immediately while they were in Inuvik, regarding the IGC's concerns. There is a need for the HTC representative on the IGC to present a strong voice and a clear rationale regarding projects the HTC and the WMAC support. It is unfortunate that such an important and sensitive issue that has co-management and community support would be rejected by the IGC without the benefit of a full hearing on the issue by those directly involved and affected.

Members recognised a need to clarify all lines of communication regarding research projects to ensure that the recent situation regarding muskox is not repeated. It is important for people to get on the phone when information is needed in order to deal with matters right away. The process of recommending projects needs to be clarified so that WMAC(NS), YTG, Parks Canada, the IGC, the Aklavik HTC and the sponsoring agencies are all aware of how a project is reviewed and supported. This is something that can be discussed further at the May meeting and should be considered in a larger forum with all parties present, possibly in September.

Brian Pelchat commented that, in reference to the public consultations, there is a need for good current information about the muskox population, to answer why they can be hunted and who gets to hunt them. The circumstances regarding Inuvialuit preferential

rights will need to be understood. Other issues which may need to be addressed are the rights of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation to hunt muskox, and the allocation of the quota to non-First Nations hunters outside of the ISR.

Billy Archie commented that this is another example of how a research assistant in Aklavik could provide support to the community regarding projects. The HTC already has many responsibilities. There needs to be someone on staff who can work on implementing plans and can carry out research. There needs to be consistent contact with the community and an improvement in communications.

The Chair questioned how to go about building consistency in an organization- in understanding, in representation, and in research. Brian Pelchat commented that it is difficult to find one person who can do it all. In the past, the research assistance opportunities have been based on the occurrence of a project. If there were few projects, there was little work. There needs to be more stability in employment. The qualifications of a person to represent the community on the IGC is different than those of someone who would do field work. Billy Archie added that he still feels that it would be worthwhile for the Council and the HTC to try to develop a proposal for a permanent research assistant in Aklavik, as the existing HTC funds won't cover such a position.

In reference to the letter written to WMAC(NS) by Duane Smith, March 18, 1998, the Chair reported that he had had an opportunity to address some of the stated concerns verbally with Duane. In addition to concerns regarding the muskox survey, the Chair was able to address the Aklavik HTC's question about the hiring of Val Walker to undertake the traditional knowledge project, as well as questions concerning the community monitoring project.

**Action 98-03-04:** The Chair will write to Duane Smith, Chair, Inuvialuit Game Council, to address the IGC's concerns, as expressed in their letter dated March 18, 1998.

**Action 98-03-05:** Joan Eamer will provide information on the Community Monitoring Project to the Inuvialuit Game Council.

The letter regarding Inuvialuit hunting rights in Alberta was provided to members as an information item.

The letter from Eric Fairclough, YTG Minister of Renewable Resources to Nellie Cournoyea, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, regarding caribou hunting along the Dempster Highway, was provided to members as an information item.

The Chair noted that the letter from Jim McIntyre, regarding Herschel Island, and letter from Parks Canada regarding the Driftwood Salvage Proposal are to be discussed later in the meeting.

## **E. Financial Statement**

The March 3, 1998 financial statement was reviewed. The Secretariat reported that all the Council's budget will be spent by year end. Members agreed to purchase the videos on Herschel Island and Ivvavik Parks from Good Earth Productions.

In reviewing the proposed budget for 1998-99, the Chair noted that for clarification the projects category has been broken out into WMAC financed and those projects financed by other sources.

The Chair commented that the budget will be reviewed in more detail at the Council meeting in May. Funding for such items as the implementation of the Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan need to be considered in more detail once the Council has considered the incorporation of the long term research plan and the recommendations from the North Slope Conference.

In reference to funding for the Science Horizon Intern position, the Chair reported that he had written a letter to Environment Canada regarding the second year of funding. Not all of the projects which were funded last year were funded again, but fortunately WMAC was able to secure \$12,000 to keep Mike Gill employed. Mike will spend his time finalizing and implementing the Long Term Research Plan, as well as working on the North Yukon Database. Joan Eamer presented the proposed budget to the members and requested that the Council contribute \$8000 toward the project in 1998-99. This is \$2000 more than the Council contributed last year. It is proposed that a further \$4000 would come from CWS implementation funds, bringing the total project funding to \$24,000. Members agreed to allocate \$8000 to the Science Horizons Intern project from the WMAC(NS) budget.

Billy Archie asked where the money will come from to pay for the translation of the C.O.P.E. tapes. The Chair replied that there are many people, agencies and institutions with interests in traditional knowledge. There is a potential to combine funding from a number of sources. It will be expensive and the costs should be spread out. This would be a good topic for discussion in a larger forum, possibly during the meetings in Whitehorse in September. Billy added that there are concerns about determining what traditional knowledge is, and what is fair recognition and payment or compensation for sharing this knowledge. The Chair commented that the HTC should be fully involved in answering these questions, as it needs to be resolved within the community. The HTC should consider holding a workshop to work through this issue with community members. It is hoped that the long term research plan will be able to answer some of these questions as well.

### ***Motion***

***to adopt the 1998-99 budget as tabled, including an allocation of \$8000 to the Science Horizons Intern project..***

Moved: Brian Pelchat

Seconded: Nelson Green  
Motion carried

In reference to the 1998-99 budget, the Chair noted that the proposed allocation of funds has been based on previous years. The allocation to projects and a further review of individual items will be considered further in May.

Joan Eamer requested clarification of the process regarding the allocation of the Canadian Wildlife Service's IFA implementation funds. The CWS budget is about \$15,000. Joan expressed a wish to allocate \$4000 of this to the Science Horizons Intern project and the remaining \$11,000 to the Ecosystem Knowledge Co-operative, which has received most of these IFA funds in the past.

The Chair proposed that all proposals for IFA implementation funding be presented as a package at the same time each year. It will then be possible to do a full presentation to the IGC of all projects that the Council has recommended.

In reference to the funding for the Ecosystem Knowledge Co-operative, Billy Archie asked how Joan proposes to get the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation and the Tet'lit Gwich'in to commit funds to this project. The IGC will want to know what other groups are contributing. Joan commented that the GNWT and CWS will be putting \$5,000 to \$10,000 into the Co-op from their A-based funding.

Due to the need to get the work underway in April, members agreed to recommend the allocation of \$4000 from the Canadian Wildlife Service's IFA Implementation Funds, to the second year of the Science Horizons Intern project. This funding will enable the work on the Yukon North Slope Long Term Research Plan to be completed. The funding for the Ecosystem Knowledge Co-operative should be brought to the table at the May meeting, along with the other projects. At that time more detail can be provided on other sources of funding for the Co-op.

***Motion***

***to recommend the allocation of \$4000 from the Canadian Wildlife Service's IFA implementation funds, to the second year of the Science Horizons Intern project, to enable the work on the Yukon North Slope Long Term Research Plan to be completed.***

Moved: Billy Archie  
Seconded: Brian Pelchat  
Motion carried

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Ricky Joe, Vice-President, Aklavik HTC and Mary Ruth Meeyok, Resource Person, Aklavik HTC, joined the meeting for part of the afternoon.

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## **F. Old Business**

### **1. 1995/96 Wildlife Management Projects Updates**

#### **a) North Slope Wolverine Study**

Dorothy Cooley reported that the results of this study have been developed into a poster. The written report, which will be an internal report only, has not yet been completed. It was suggested that a copy of the poster be sent to the Aklavik HTC. It would be useful for them to have it in time for their AGM, which is currently scheduled for April 16. It was also suggested that the information from the study could be added to the taiga.net WEB site. Joan Eamer proposed that Debbie van der Wetering, at CWS, could show Dorothy how to do this. It was also suggested that the results of this study would make a good item for the newsletter.

**Action 98-03-06:** Dorothy Cooley will send a copy of the wolverine poster to the Aklavik HTC in time for their 1998 AGM.

### **2. 1997/98 Wildlife Management funding updates**

#### **a) Muskox Management Plan Consultations**

These consultations will begin once the Plan is completed. The Chair reported that, in the most recent draft, he has tried to incorporate a better understanding of the IFA. The consultations need to concentrate on Yukon communities and will present both the Plan and the proposed harvest information. Brian Pelchat commented that it will take some time to get prepared to do the consultations.

Sundry permits will be used to license the harvest until the amendments to the Yukon Wildlife Act are completed. When Billy Archie inquired as to when to expect the tags to be allocated, the Chair replied that it was hoped they would be available by the time the people move out to Shingle Point in the summer.

#### **b) Muskox School Unit**

Dorothy Cooley reported that the Aklavik HTC has been given the contract to administer this project. Sandra Elanik has been contracted by the HTC to develop the school unit. Sandra is a teacher at the school in Aklavik and has experience in curriculum development. Dorothy has met with Sandra to explain what information is to be included in the unit.

#### **c) Muskox Population Survey and Composition Count**

See earlier discussion.

#### **d) Wolf Head Submissions**



Dorothy Cooley reported that the Aklavik HTC was given the contract to administer this project. There have been 14 submissions to date, with about \$350 spent on the project in total. Further funding will be needed next year to do the required analysis.

**e) Yukon North Slope Long Term Research Plan**

An update on the development of the Plan is given below.

**f) Porcupine Caribou Adopt-a-Collar**

Dorothy Cooley reported that this project is going well. The WEB site is active and gives weekly reports of the location of the collared caribou. A number of schools are monitoring the WEB site. About \$6000 will be spent on this project this year.

**g) Count of Muskox and Moose on Yukon North Slope**

Danny C. and Annie Gordon left Aklavik March 21 on their 12 day survey of the Yukon North Slope. Snow sampling will be conducted at previously determined sights, in addition to the counting and observing of all animals they encounter. The Gordons are being accompanied by Lawrence Rogers from the Inuvialuit Communication Society who will be making a video of the entire trip for TVNC. Lawrence's time on the land is being funded by WMAC(NS). The ICS will be covering the pre- and post-production costs. Brian Pelchat suggested that the Council should have a chance to review the show before it is finalized to ensure that all those involved are properly recognized.

**h) Community Monitoring**

A full report of this project is given below.

**i) Status of Traditional Knowledge on the Yukon North Slope**

An interim report on this project is included in the meeting binder. The Chair reported that he met with Val Walker, who is doing the work through the Aurora Research Institute, when he was in Inuvik the previous week. Although the research has been thorough, Val has been able to find few references to existing documented traditional knowledge. Most of the C.O.P.E. tapes are not in English and must therefore be translated before they can be assessed.

Dorothy noted that the project to report muskox sightings was not included on the agenda. Maps to record muskox sightings are being distributed to 12 relevant offices , such as the RRCs and HTCs. The total cost for the maps is about \$160.

**3. Yukon North Slope Long Term Research Plan**

Mike Gill provided an update on the development of the Yukon North Slope Long Term Research Plan. He began work on the Plan in August 1997. Information was incorporated from community consultations, the North Slope Conference, the two North Slope research planning workshops and the Aklavik Community Plan. The range of ideas is very big, but many projects can be carried out in conjunction with others.

Mike plans to work solidly until the end of April to get a full draft completed, so that the Council can consider research priorities at its May meeting. Questions remain as to what material goes into the Plan and as to how the Council sees the Plan being used. Is it to function as just a guideline or should it include priorities?

Mike referred to the draft document distributed to the members and explained the reasoning he used when determining the priority ranking he had given to each action. Members agreed that, for now, it might be preferable to leave out priority rankings, as all of the projects identified during the research process are of importance. Billy Archie commented that, when the time comes, it should be community issues that guide plan priorities. Agencies could also be asked to give their priorities among the tasks identified. Mike added there is still a need to identify partners and consider timelines and frequency for projects.

In a general discussion regarding the format and content of the Plan, the following suggestions were made. A column could be added that identifies who wants to see each action undertaken. For example, is it a community suggestion or one that came from the North Slope Conference. This would identify if an action addresses a sector or management concern. Current funding available could also be added. The Plan could be presented as broad categories and/or concerns. Actions could be linked to issues and then within each action the priorities could be explained. Identify actions within broad categories and get partners to identify themselves. The Plan should go from general topics to specific groupings. This format could still include timelines. Members agreed that the issue of community involvement in research needs to be resolved.

Mike noted the problems and challenges related to the specific data needed for environmental screening. The kind of information needed for screening includes the need to know about situation, the where and what's there, what there should be concerns about and what should be looked out for as possible impact. Really critical information is mappable harvest data.

Members agreed that what may be required is different products for different audiences. Some people will want a summary document, others will want more details, which can be made available on disc. A printed summary should include strongly supported broad categories which identifies problems and challenges and will provide a general understanding of the Plan. A more detailed electronic version can have updated status section. It will be important to be able to track the progress of the identified actions. It should be possible to keep up to date on what's happened, and what is still left to do.

It is proposed that the Plan be presented in two volumes. Volume 1 will identify action items. This is the most important. The Council will look at this further in May. Volume 2 will be a resource document for researchers which explains how to go about the work of obtaining approvals, community consultation, etc.

Mike agreed to contact Geological Survey of Canada and the FJMC to let them know about the research ideas that have been generated. Mike added that he plans to return to Aklavik to explain the development of the Plan, after next step is completed in May.

#### **4. Ecosystem Monitoring Project/ Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-operative**

The Third Annual Gathering of the Co-op was held earlier in the week in Inuvik. Joan Eamer reported that the Co-op's name has been changed to the Arctic Borderlands Co-operative.

#### **5. 1998/99 Wildlife Management funding proposals**

Members agreed that proposals for work to be conducted in 1998-99 should be tabled at the May meeting.

**Action 98-03-07:** The Secretariat will inform Parks Canada of the Council's intent to review all 1998-99 wildlife management proposals at its quarterly meeting in May.

**Action 98-03-08:** The Secretariat will contact the Aklavik HTC to determine their current priorities for wildlife research. This information is to be forwarded to YTG, CWS and Parks Canada to assist them in the development of wildlife management proposals for 1998-99.

#### **6. Wildlife Act Amendments**

The Chair reported that there will be another meeting next week in Inuvik. The Aklavik HTC has indicated it will be sending a representative to participate in upcoming meetings. It is expected that the amendments will be prepared in time to introduce them in the fall legislature. The list of items which have been identified as needing to be addressed are included in the binder. This list is in addition to the one developed by Laurie Henderson.

#### **7. Implementation Review**

##### **a) WMAC(NS) Process**

Members agreed to consider the Council's five-year funding requirements at the May meeting. The Council needs to be prepared for negotiations with the federal government in the fall. The Chair commented that YTG should also be preparing their position.

##### **b) Implementation issues**

Discussions between IGC and YTG on implementation issues has been deferred due to the work being done on the Wildlife Act Amendments. It is hoped that something will get underway by June.

## **8. Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan**

Implementation and objectives of the Plan need to be considered at the May meeting and will include adjustments based on current works such as the long term research plan and the recommendations from the North Slope Conference. Items such as coastal zone planning and management, cross-border co-operation and the interest in ecosystems approach all need to be included.

## **9. Inuvialuit Harvest Study**

The Chair reported that a new co-ordinator has been hired for the IHS and will begin work soon. There are plans to hold a workshop for the field workers. The new database should be running in four to six weeks. The report forms have been revised.

An access to information protocol is being developed. Sponsoring agencies will have access to raw and formatted data on an annual basis. The protocol will cover special data requests.

## **10. Northern Contaminants Program**

Billy Archie commented that there is a need to improved communications throughout the ISR on contaminants issues. A proposal is being put together to address this need. Billy plans to consult further with the Yukon Contaminants Program.

## **11. Environmental Impact Screening Committee/ Review Board**

### **a) The Driftwood Lumber Inc's Driftwood Salvage Project**

The Chair drew the members attention to the proposal submitted to the EISC by the Driftwood Lumber Inc. A letter was written to the EISC on behalf of the Council noting that a portion of the proposed location of the Driftwood Salvage Project is within the boundaries of the Ivvavik National Park and is therefore not possible under the conditions of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement and the Parks Act.

## **12. Ivvavik National Park Report**

As Parks Canada was not represented at the meeting, no report was given on Ivvavik National Park.

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**Friday March 27, 1998**

**Present:** Lindsay Staples - Chair  
Nelson Green - Member - Inuvialuit Game Council  
Joan Eamer - Canadian Wildlife Service - Member- Government of  
Canada  
Billy Archie - Member -Inuvialuit Game Council  
Brian Pelchat - Chief, Regional Management - Member -Yukon Territorial  
Government  
Mike Gill - WMAC(NS) / Canadian Wildlife Service  
Ricky Joe - Vice-president, Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee  
Aileen Horler - WMAC(NS) Secretariat

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### **13. Herschel Island**

The Chair referred to the letter written to Jim McIntyre which outlines the Council's proposal for a process to review the Herschel Island Management Plan. The letter proposes a workshop in Aklavik to scope out the issues, many of which have arisen since the Plan was first developed, as well as meetings in Whitehorse to get input from the broader community. It was suggested that the Herschel Island Technical Committee should play a leading role in the drafting of the revised Plan. Any issues related to implementation should be left to a meeting later in the year which will deal with IFA implementation as a whole.

The letter written by Jim McIntyre, in response, shows a reluctance to hold a workshop in Aklavik, primarily due to concerns that it will be difficult, in an open community forum, to remain focused on the Management Plan alone. There is potential for too many unrelated issues to arise. It was felt that it is the responsibility of the Technical Committee to deal with all the issues that are being raised by the community.

It will be very important to keep everyone focused on the goal and the process. Members recognized that it is difficult to base the plan solely on community consultation when there are so many outside the community that have an interest. There is a large public interest in the management of Herschel Island so a public process needs to be part of the review. The Council's role will be to offer comments on the process at the beginning and later to comment on the draft of the revised Plan. It is the role of the Technical Committee to work closely with Park's officials in developing the detailed revisions to the Plan.

It is difficult to cover all the issues and perspectives at one forum. After some discussion, members agreed that the most thorough and effective way to proceed would be to hold an initial workshop in Aklavik to determine a list of the issues and to establish their background. A follow-up workshop should be held in Whitehorse where Aklavik's concerns and interests can be presented and incorporated with those of others who also have interests in Herschel Island. A final workshop in Aklavik would provide an opportunity to present the results of the Whitehorse meeting and to put the final plan together.

**Action 98-03-09:** The Chair and Brian Pelchat are to meet with Jim McIntyre to discuss the process for the review of the Herschel Island Management Plan.

#### **14. 1997 North Slope Conference**

Conference proceedings are currently being printed and will be mailed out shortly. The conference recommendations are included in the binder. These recommendations have been considered in the development of the long term research plan and will be reviewed at the meeting in May.

#### **15. Muskox Management**

The Muskox Management Plan will be faxed to members next week. It was confirmed that YTG will take the lead in co-ordinating the community consultations with WMAC(NS) and Parks Canada.

#### **16. Grizzly Bear Management**

The Chair reported that the final draft of the Grizzly Bear Management Plan for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region is being printed. There are plans to have it reformatted with efforts being made to reduce some of the repetition. Joan Eamer commented that John Nagy has an interest in putting the Plan on the WEB.

#### **17. Polar Bears**

Nelson Green reported that he had been told by Ian Sterling that there is no problem regarding the protection of polar bears in the off-shore region.

**Action 98-03-10:** The Secretariat will write to Ian Sterling requesting a clarification in regards to the protection of polar bears in the off-shore region. Copies of the letter is to be sent to Ross Leaf and Steve Curtis.

#### **G. Review of Action Items of January 6-8, 1998 meeting**

##### **Outstanding Items**

**Action 96-06-32:** Dorothy Cooley, Billy Archie and the Secretariat will work together to develop a proposal for the preparation of a video on the MuskoX Management Plan.

**Carried forward.**

**Action 96-09-13:** WMAC(NS) will prepare a response to the Canada - Yukon Oil and Gas Accord.

**Retired.**

**Action 97-09-16:** Joan Eamer will prepare a form, to be completed by Val Loewen, Jim Hawkings, Mike Muller and Vicki Sahanatien, which will summarize the information available on GIS.

**Carried Forward.**

**Action 97-06-06:** The Secretariat is to request a copy of Good Earth Productions' TV show on Ivvavik National Park from Vicki Sahanatien.

**Completed.** Copies of the video on Ivvavik and Herschel are being purchased directly from the producers.

**Action 97-06-13:** The Chair will write a letter to DND and Minister of DIAND with respect to the clean-up standards for Komakuk.

**Carried forward.** The Chair reported that he is waiting to receive a copy of Parks Canada's letter from the IRC regarding Komakuk clean-up standards before he writes to DND and Minister of DIAND. (See action 98-01-09)

**Action 97-06-31:** The Secretariat needs to set up annual timelines for recurring action items (ie. quota review every December) as well as bringing forward wildlife research proposals.

**Completed.** These timelines should be reviewed at the May meeting.

**Action 97-06-32:** The Chair will write a letter to Bob Kuiper to suggest areas on the Yukon North Slope as candidates for protected areas status, pursuant to the Yukon North Slope Conservation and Wildlife Management Plan.

**Completed.**

**Action 97-09-08:** Joan Eamer will provide information on Action 21 to Carol Arey at the Aklavik HTC, and encourage the HTC to submit a proposal for clean-up at Shingle Point.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-03-11:** The Secretariat is to follow-up on progress regarding clean-up at Shingle Point.

**Action 97-09-11:** The Chair will write to the Department of Renewable Resources to comment on the Yukon Government's recently published Grizzly Bear Management Guidelines and absence of information from the Grizzly Bear Management Plan for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and from the Inuvialuit Harvest Study.

**Retired.** Brian Pelchat explained that his department is aware of the omissions and errors in citations in the guidelines. This is a draft document only and will be corrected. The Chair commented that the IGC had expressed concerns regarding the guidelines and that they should be informed of the intent to change it.

**Action 98-03-12:** Brian Pelchat will ensure that the YTG Grizzly Bear Management Team writes to the Inuvialuit Game Council to clarify the omissions in the Grizzly Bear Management Guidelines.

**Action 97-09-18:** WMAC(NS) will write to Jim McIntyre outlining the Council's suggestions as to how to proceed with the review of the Herschel Island Management Plan. A draft of the letter will be circulated to the members before it is sent.

**Completed.**

**Action 97-09-19:** The draft Muskox Management Plan will be circulated to the members for comments.

**Carried forward.**

### **Current Items**

**Action 98-01-01:** WMAC(NS) will write to John Nagy, GNWT, Inuvik, to bring to his attention the caribou sample submitted by Billy Archie, in August 1997, and inquire as to the status of the requested analysis.

**Completed.** The results of the analysis should be completed by the end of March.

**Action 98-01-02-:** WMAC(NS) will write to Terry Sewell, Regional Director General, DIAND and John Walsh, YTG Executive Council Office, to request that the Council be kept informed about the devolution process, specifically the schedule for the transfer of land management responsibilities.



**Retired.** WMAC(NS) is on the mailing list of the “Devolution Update” newsletter.

**Action 98-01-03:** WMAC(NS) will contact WMAC(NWT) in order to discuss the polar bear protection issues with them and to determine if they are taking any action.

**Retired.**

**Action 98-01-04:** WMAC(NS) will write a letter to the Chief of Mining Land Use, DIAND, requesting a presentation to update Council members on Bill C-6.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-05:** WMAC(NS) will write to Ian Sterling to request that he prepare a briefing note on the status of polar bear protection off-shore.

**Retired.** See above discussion.

**Action 98-01-06:** The Chair will approach the Inuvialuit Harvest Study Management Committee to see if it is possible to include incidental wildlife sightings into the IHS.

**Completed.** The Chair reported that there is provision to included wildlife sightings in the IHS but there needs to be a decision as to which communities to include and how often sightings need to be reported. There also needs to be a decision about which species are to be reported.

**Action 98-01-07:** WMAC(NS) will write to the Inuvialuit Game Council requesting that an IFA workshop is held for community members in Aklavik.

**Completed.** The Joint Secretariat plans to conduct a workshop before the summer.

**Action 98-01-08:** WMAC(NS) will write to Joe Tetlich, Chair, PCMB, to request a summary of sources contributing to research and management on the Porcupine Caribou Herd.

**Carried forward.** The Chair reported that he believes the IGC is also planning to write to the PCMB on this matter.

**Action 98-01-09:** Steve Travis will forward a copy of Parks Canada’s letter from the IRC re. Komakuk clean-up standards to WMAC(NS).

**Carried forward.**

**Action 98-01-10:** The Secretariat will forward the discussion held at a previous WMAC(NS) meeting regarding leaving a building at Komakuk as an emergency shelter, to Danny C. Gordon.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-11:** The Secretariat will forward the EISC resolution regarding screening projects that have already been reviewed by a co-management body, to Don Toews and Don Russell.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-12:** WMAC(NS) will write to Mark Zrum, Acting Regional Manager, Land Resources, DIAND to request that his department work with the Aklavik HTC to address the garbage problems associated with Shingle Point.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-13:** Danny C. Gordon will raise the issue of the grizzly bear hunting points system at the next HTC meeting in Aklavik and inform the Secretariat of the level of interest in the community in receiving a presentation.

**Completed.** Billy Archie commented that the points system was explained to the HTC a few years ago. There wasn't much interest then and there still does not appear to be much interest. A suggestion was made that Aklavik could consider moving to a multi-year system. For example instead of a quota of 11 bears per year, a multi-year quota would give the community a harvest of 33 bears within three years. To avoid the danger of all these bears being taken in one year, at maximum limit would have to be set for each year but there would still be some flexibility in each year. Ricky Joe agreed to raise this issue at the next HTC meeting.

**Action 98-01-14:** Brian Pelchat will prepare a written explanation of the grizzly bear hunting points system, to assist Danny C. Gordon at the next Aklavik HTC meeting.

**Revised.**

**Action 98-03-13:** Brian Pelchat will prepare an explanation of the options for managing the grizzly bear harvest (ie. points system, 3-year quota, annual quota) for presentation to the Aklavik HTC.

**Action 98-01-15:** The Secretariat will supply Joan Eamer with WMAC(NS) printed materials to take with her to the EMAN meeting.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-16:** The Secretariat is to contact Doug Urquhart to obtain more information on the Traditional Knowledge Workshop.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-17:** The Secretariat is to forward information on the Coastal Zone Conference to Joan Eamer and Brian Pelchat.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-18:** The Secretariat will supply Kelly Olson with a suggested distribution list for the wolf video.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-19:** WMAC(NS) will write to Fran Mauer and Daniel Reid to thank them for their letters regarding the census of the Porcupine Caribou Herd. In addition the letter should indicate that the Council will be presenting a summary of caribou research, which includes the census, at its public meeting in Aklavik, in March.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-20:** WMAC(NS) will forward the letters from Fran Mauer and Daniel Reid to the Aklavik HTC and inquire if the HTC is interested in sending a representative to participate in the caribou survey in June 1998.

**Completed.** The Secretariat reported that the HTC is interested in sending a representative to participate in the caribou survey and they have been in touch with Fran Mauer concerning the arrangements.

**Action 98-01-21:** The Yukon Government will take responsibility for co-ordinating the public consultations on the draft Yukon North Slope Muskox Management Plan. WMAC(NS) and Parks Canada will co-sponsor the consultation.

**Carried forward.**

**Action 98-01-22:** Mike Gill will prepare a draft of the Yukon North Slope Long Term Research Plan to be circulated to members before the WMAC(NS) meeting in March.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-23:** Billy Archie and Danny C. Gordon will approach the IGC to request Aklavik representation on the Wildlife Act Amendments Working Group.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-24:** The Secretariat will ensure that Norm Snow, the IGC and the Aklavik HTC have copies of Laurie Henderson's work on the Wildlife Act amendments.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-25:** The Chair will ask the Inuvialuit Game Council to urge its representatives to review Laurie Henderson's work before the Working Group has its first meeting.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-26:** Steve Travis will send a copy of Ivvavik Nation Park's ecosystem monitoring protocols to Joan Eamer.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-27:** WMAC(NS) will write to Jim McIntyre to comment on a process to review the Herschel Island Management Plan.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-28:** The Secretariat will ensure that the IGC, IRC and the Aklavik HTC have all received information on the Yukon Oil and Gas Accord.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-29:** The Chair will write to the Inuvialuit Game Council to express the Council's concerns regarding the proposed DIAND amendments to the IFA.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-30:** The Secretariat is to contact the IRC to obtain more details about the Inuvialuit Summer Student Job Creation Program and to see if it is still possible to submit a proposal.

**Retired.** The Secretariat reported that it had not been possible to find out any more about this program. Billy Archie added that the person who had been responsible for the program had left her job and was replaced by Delma Peela. It was suggested that the Secretariat contact the FJMC to see what information they have.

**Action 98-01-31:** Brian Pelchat will forward information to Jim McIntyre regarding the Inuvialuit Summer Student Job Creation Program, if it is established that it is still possible to submit proposals.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-32:** The Chair will write to Bob Kuiper, YTG Renewable Resources, to convey the Council's comments regarding the Yukon Protected Areas Strategy Discussion Paper.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-33:** Joan Eamer, Lindsay Staples and Brian Pelchat will meet to determine a contractor to undertake the project on Yukon North Slope traditional knowledge.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-34:** The WMAC(NS) Secretariat will prepare the Terms of Reference for the Yukon North Slope traditional knowledge project.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-35:** The Secretariat will provide the administrative and logistical support for the project titled 'Count of Muskox and Moose on the Yukon North Slope', including the acquisition of the necessary research permits, the purchase of film and maps and the financial administration.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-36:** Dorothy Cooley will provide Danny C. Gordon with information as to where muskox were found during previous surveys.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-37:** In regards to Danny C. Gordon's survey trip, Joan Eamer is to coordinate the reporting requirements for wildlife and other identified environmental indicators with YTG, Parks Canada and Lindsay Staples.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-38:** Brian Pelchat will work with Dorothy Cooley to determine the procedures and requirements for the collection of wildlife data during Danny C. Gordon's survey trip. The necessary recording sheets are to be developed.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-39:** Joan Eamer will obtain the necessary information and equipment to enable Danny C. Gordon to conduct snow sampling during his survey trip.

**Completed.**

**Action 98-01-40:** Dorothy Cooley will travel to Aklavik to assist Danny C. Gordon in the preparation of his trip. This preparation is to include training in proper sampling techniques, recording methods and the use of a GPS.

**Completed.**

## **H. Adjournment**

*Motion  
to adjourn.*

Moved: Nelson Green  
Seconded: Brian Pelchat  
Motion carried

\_\_\_\_\_  
WMAC(NS) Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
WMAC(NS) Secretariat

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date