

# Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)

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#### **MINUTES**

#### WMAC(NS) QUARTERLY MEETING

# Dalton Trail Lodge Haines Junction, Yukon

May 29-31, 1999

## May 29, 1999

**Present:** Lindsay Staples - Chair

Joan Eamer - Canadian Wildlife Service - Member- Government of

Canada

Danny C. Gordon - Member -Inuvialuit Game Council Billy Archie - Alternate -Inuvialuit Game Council

Brian Pelchat - Chief, Regional Management - Member - Yukon Territorial

Government

Alan Fehr - Parks Canada- Alternate - Government of Canada

Aileen Horler - WMAC(NS) Secretariat

**Guests:** Hillarie Greening – District Planner, Parks Canada, Inuvik

Sandra Koep- Chief Park Ranger, Herschel Island Territorial Park

#### A. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM. Sandra Koep, Chief Ranger of Herschel Island Territorial Park and Hillarie Greening, District Planner for Parks Canada in the Western Arctic were both welcomed to the meeting.

#### B. Review and Approval of Agenda

The Chair reviewed the agenda. Among the items that need to be covered during the meeting are a review of the various plans relevant to the North Slope. Members need to review the financial statements including the Engagement Review by Kim Tanner and the Council's proposed budget for 1999-2000. Old business includes the muskox plan, the grizzly bear quota and research updates. An item on the Sustainability of Arctic Communities project was added to the agenda.

#### Motion

to adopt the agenda.

Moved: Joan Eamer

Seconded: Danny C. Gordon

Motion carried

# C. Review and Approval of Minutes of December 8-9, 1998 meeting

Members reviewed the minutes of the December 8-9, 1998 meeting. The following changes were suggested:

page 3 - Alan Fehr requested a clarification on the treatment of the materials buried at Komakuk. Any tier 2 material will be removed from the site.

page 9 - Change spelling of the name 'Larsen' and, in reference to Parks Canada's contribution to muskox collars, add 'for the Yukon North Slope muskox'

page 11 - Change the spelling of 'lynx'

page 13 - In reference to the level of disturbance at Shingle Point, add 'by aircraft'.

Alan Fehr suggested that it might be possible to contact flight services to get some idea of how many flights are in the area of Shingle Point and use that as an index. Joan added that it is also important to know the perceptions of the people on the ground.

page 23 – add 'Hartling', add 'proposal' to the reference to the Northern Climate Exchange and change the sentence refering to the Northern Contaminants Program to read 'has been renewed' instead of 'is now getting going again'.

#### Motion

To accept the minutes of December 8-9, 1998 meeting, with changes as recorded.

Moved: Billy Archie Seconded: Brian Pelchat

Motion carried

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A discussion was held regarding the removal of material from Komakuk. Billy Archie informed members of the concerns which have been expressed by the Aklavik HTC with regards to material being removed from Komakuk and buried at Shingle Point. The HTC did not support DND's proposal when it went before the EISC. When DND came to the community and talked about removing the material there was no mention of it being buried at Shingle. People are concerned about the water being contaminated by buried materials. DND says it will be monitoring the burial sites but the community isn't comfortable with that. There is to be another community meeting with DND in June to talk about it. The IRC is currently dealing with DND on this issue.

Alan Fehr reported that all tier 2 materials will be shipped out of the ISR. Only tier 1 materials, from Komakuk and the Shingle site will be buried at Shingle. DND has an indefinite responsibility over the site and must maintain its monitoring program.

The Chair noted that WMAC received the DND proposal too late to provide the EISC with an in depth response. A letter was written to the EISC outlining the Council's position and expressing regrets that the Council would not be able to provide more information with respect to WMAC(NS)'s views on this project in time.

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The Chair asked about the status of the 10 years' worth of data that has been collected on Herschel. Sandy Koep reported that Liz Gordon has been entering some of it when she has time. Sandy added that she would like to get someone to do it under contract. Joan Eamer suggested that a student from Aurora College may be able to do the work as an independent study. Brian Pelchat added that there are people in the Whitehorse office who could assist with the data entry. Members agreed that the data should go to Whitehorse to be entered and that Sandy should approach Aurora College to see if it would be possible for a student to do the analysis of it as a independent study.

Parks Canada has a form that they use for reporting bird observations. Alan Fehr and Sandy agreed to work together in establishing a new reporting system and will look at combining data.

**Action 99-05-01:** With respect to the data that has been collected on Herschel Island over the last ten years, Sandy Koep will send it to Whitehorse to be entered and will approach Aurora College to see if it a student is available to do the analysis of it as a independent study.

# D. Review and Approval of Minutes of February 19, 1999 teleconference

Members reviewed the minutes of the February 19, 1999 teleconference. The following changes were suggested:

page 4 – spelling error in the word 'recommended'

page 5 – spelling error in the word 'Aklavik'

#### Motion

To accept the minutes of the February 19, 1999 teleconference.

Moved: Brian Pelchat Seconded: Billy Archie

Motion carried

# E. Review of Action Items of December 8-9, 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.

**Retire.** A proposal for the preparation of a video on the Muskox Management Plan will be considered again once the plan is completed.

**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.

**Retire.** Consultations on the Muskox Management Plan will be considered again once the plan is completed.

Action 98-05-07: As directed by the 1998-99 WMAC(NS) Work Plan Actions in the Grizzly Bear Management Plan for the ISR, the Council will review with IGC and WMAC(NWT), the GNWT, YTG and Parks Canada recommendations on where vegetation studies should be done to produce a vegetation map for the ISR; recommend where studies should be done, and plan for those studies in the Treasury Board submission for ongoing funding.

**Retire.** Members agreed to look at this item again when reviewing the plan.

**Action 98-05-18:** Brian Pelchat will pursue the possibilities of meeting with the Alaskans in order to discuss the management of the common North Slope muskox population.

**Retire.** Members agreed to deal with this item later in the meeting when discussing the next steps to be taken regarding muskox management, given the difficulties encountered in arranging a meeting.

**Action 98-09-05:** Joan Eamer and Mike Gill will conduct an information session at the Aklavik school to demonstrate the taiga.net web site, and discuss the Long Term Research Plan and ecological monitoring, when the Council meets there in December.

**Completed.** Joan Eamer and Billy Archie met with the principal of the school who was very enthusiastic about the possibilities of becoming involved in ecological monitoring. The school will be on-line in the fall. Joan reported that she will be doing more follow-up to the visit.

**Action 98-09-06:** Billy Archie will forward a copy of the Aklavik HTC's review of the Community Conservation Plan to WMAC(NS).

# Completed.

**Action 98-09-08:** WMAC(NS) will write to the IGC encouraging them to proceed with developing a process and work plan for the translation of the COPE tapes.

**Revise**. The letter is outstanding and its contents need to be revised. Danny C. Gordon reported that the topic of translation is often discussed at the IGC meetings. There is still a lot of work to be done and it needs to be done as soon as possible. Alan Fehr reported that Parks Canada contributed funds towards the translations last year but won't contribute again until a workplan has been developed that shows how the funds are being spent. WMAC has not yet made a contribution. Members agreed that an overall workplan is needed so that all agencies can see how the money they contribute is being used.

**Action 99-05-02:** WMAC will write to Duane Smith and Nellie Cournoyea suggesting a workplan for the translation of the COPE tapes be developed as soon as possible. The letter will convey the Council's commitment to contribute financially to the project once it is know how the funds will be used.

**Action 98-09-09:** The Secretariat will arrange a meeting to discuss the garbage situation at Shingle Point. The meeting is to be scheduled for December, in Aklavik and include all relevant stakeholders.

**Retire.** Although a meeting was scheduled for December it had to be cancelled. Since then, the Aklavik HTC has been pursuing this issue with various agencies. Billy Archie reported that the HTC has received funding from the Northern Contaminants Program (DIAND) to hire someone for two weeks this summer to

work on the clean-up of garbage at Shingle Point. The funding is to be used primarily for education. People at Shingle are being encouraged to gather up their garbage so that it can be picked up and transported to a central place. This garbage will then be barged out of the community.

Members agreed that there is a need for a garbage management plan for the community so that all the options for garbage management, such as electric fencing, a dump or incinerators, are considered. The various options require different levels of upkeep that need to be recognised before proceeding with any of them. Billy suggested that that by-laws could be developed which could be used to keep the place clean. Individuals should be responsible for removing their own garbage.

Joan Eamer suggested that it would be useful to have someone ask the residents at Shingle about their current practices regarding garbage disposal. It would be very useful to determine what are the barriers for proper disposal and to document what the people feel are the issues. Joan agreed to assist Billy in developing a survey to be conducted this summer. The survey will also be an opportunity to educate the residents about the issue.

Members agreed that the garbage problem and management does not fall within the Council's mandate. It is a municipal issue which the community itself should be dealing with. Danny C. Gordon agreed to inform the Inuvialuit Game Council about the WMAC(NS)'s discussions regarding the Shingle garbage issue.

**Action 99-05-03 :** WMAC(NS) will write to the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee to encourage them to continue to work with the Yukon Government to develop a garbage management plan for Shingle Point, in order to determine the most effective way to deal with current and future problems. The letter is also to convey the Council's recognition that the issue of garbage management at Shingle Point is a community issue and not one that falls within the Council's mandate. A copy of the letter is to be sent to the Inuvialuit Game Council.

**Action 98-09-14:** WMAC(NS) will pursue becoming involved in the habitat protection process currently underway in the YTG Renewable Resources Department.

**Completed.** Members agreed to pursue the question of the Council's involvement in YTG's habitat protection process with Bob Kuiper, from the Yukon Protected Areas Secretariat, when he attends the meeting on May 31. He is coming to discuss the range of mechanisms that can be used to protect habitat. It will be a good opportunity to consider the candidate areas that have been identified on the North Slope and decide if and how to protect them. The YPAS also needs to focus some of their attention on marine areas. It will be useful to discuss important coastal sites, the level of protection that may be required and the coastal zone as a whole.

**Action 98-10-02:** Dorothy Cooley will provide the Council with an update regarding the muskox- caribou interaction studies being conducted at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, at the December 1998 meeting.

**Retire.** These studies were not undertaken at the University of Alaska, so there is nothing to report. Billy Archie commented that there is still a lot of concern in Aklavik regarding how the muskox effect the caribou. He said he would like to see Parks Canada monitoring the muskox in Ivvavik. Alan Fehr agreed to ask Ron Larsen, the Ivvavik's Chief Park Warden, if the patrol persons can do some muskox monitoring.

#### **Current Items**

**Action 98-12-01:** Dorothy Cooley will send a copy of her summary of Danny C. Gordon's trip to the Secretariat for circulation to the members.

**Completed**. A copy of the report was included in the meeting binder.

The Chair commented that the original intention of the report was for it to be a record of Danny's survey, for future reference. Brian Pelchat added that the report only considers the effectiveness of the ground versus the aerial surveying methods, and concludes that the aerial method provided a more accurate assessment of the population. It only accesses the scientific usefulness of the method used in Danny's survey. Members commented that the report needs to be expanded to include other aspects of the ground survey method such as comments regarding the community and Council's perspectives. Brian agreed to ask Dorothy to expand on the report to include these items.

**Action 98-05-04:** Dorothy Cooley will expand the report she wrote on Danny C. Gordon's survey to include other aspects of the ground survey method, such as the aspects of community-based involvement and interest, as well as the Council's perspectives.

**Action 98-12-02:** The Secretariat will forward a copy of the Aulavik Market Analysis to Sandy Koep.

#### Completed.

**Action 98-12- 03:** WMAC(NS) will write to Jim McIntyre, Director, YTG Parks Branch, to notify him of the candidate areas that have been identified for protection in the Yukon North Slope Wildlife and Conservation Management Plan.

**Retire.** The letter was not written but this topic will be part of the discussion to be held with Bob Kuiper on May 31.

**Action 98-12- 04:** At its meeting scheduled for May 1999, the Council will discuss the mechanisms available for the protection of specified areas. WMAC(NS) will invite representatives from YTG Parks Branch to attend the discussion.

## Completed.

**Action 98-12-05:** The Secretariat will prepare a financial projection to the end of the 1998-99 fiscal year for members to review in January.

# Completed.

**Action 98-12-06:** The Secretariat will add the preparation and presentation of a year-end financial projection as a task for December in the Council's timelines.

#### Completed.

**Action 98-12- 07:** Alan Fehr will send the visitor statistics for Ivvavik Park to Joan Eamer.

#### Completed.

**Action 98-12- 08:** WMAC(NS) will write to the EISC to convey the Council's support for 1999-2000 projects plus 1998 Muskox work.

#### Completed.

**Action 98-12-09:** Dorothy Cooley will prepare a summary of the actions and funding required to produce a final version of the muskox school unit. Dorothy is to send the summary to Alan Fehr for his review.

**Outstanding.** Alan suggested that it would be very useful if someone was able to attend a school staff meeting in order to explain the unit to the teachers.

**Action 99-05-05:** Alan Fehr will pursue how to best inform the appropriate schools about the muskox school unit and suggest ways to integrate the unit into to current curriculum.

**Action 98-12-10:** WMAC(NS) will write to Jim McIntyre in regards to the need for establishing terms of reference for the Herschel Island Territorial Park Technical Committee. In addition, the letter will strongly suggest that Sandra Koep be included as a member of the Technical Committee, in recognition of the valuable contribution she can make based on her local knowledge of the park's operation.

**Completed.** It was not necessary to write a letter as the issue was dealt with through a series of meetings. The Chair referred to a letter in the meeting binder

to the Council from Jim McIntyre which proposes that WMAC(NS) take a lead role in the review and become the forum for the review process. There will no longer be a Herschel Island Technical Committee. The Council's Inuvialuit members will now have the responsibility for reporting on the review process to the IGC. Reference was also made to additional letters regarding the process in the binder from the IGC to the Yukon Minister of Renewable Resources and the response from the Minister to the IGC. The Chair noted that it is important that the Minister's letter includes the recognition that there be an ongoing opportunity to comment on the management of Herschel Park.

A discussion was held regarding the process that needs to be established between YTG and WMAC(NS) for reporting and discussing matters related to Herschel Island. Sandy Koep commented that it is important for issues to be raised before the season begins and early enough to be addressed in the upcoming year. There should also be an opportunity to provide input to the budget. Sandy reported that there is a debriefing with the rangers in the fall that includes determining recommendations for the next year. This meeting is followed by the preparation of the operations report for the season.

Members recognised the importance of establishing a yearly cycle. It was agreed that Sandy should give the Council a report on the summer's activities at the WMAC(NS) meeting each September. Sandy would also report to the Aklavik HTC in the fall. The yearly planning session could then be held at the December meeting. It would be good to have a representative from the Heritage Branch attend the fall WMAC(NS) meeting as well.

**Action 98-12-11:** Brian Pelchat will request that Kelly Olson develop a standard format that can be used by all agencies to report on the IFA implementation activities they have undertaken each year. Kelly will be responsible for the distribution of the proposed reporting format.

**Completed.** Brian distributed a draft of the proposed format developed by Kelly to be used by YTG in recording and reporting on activities in the ISR. It will include a description of any work carried out in the ISR, not just IFA funded activities. A final version will be presented to the IGC at their September meeting. Other interested agencies could use the same format for their reporting.

The Chair commented that this will be a useful method of documenting all IFA related activities of each agency. It will be valuable as a communications tool and can be used to report to the federal government as well. Brian asked Council members to provide him with any comments they have on the format or contents of the proposed document.

**Action 98-12-12:** WMAC(NS) will write to the Minister of Renewable Resources to acknowledge the efforts made by his department in amending the Wildlife Act.

**Completed.** An acknowledgment of the Renewable Resources department's role was included in the Term Report.

**Action 98-12-13:** Council members will review the proposed changes and additions to the Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan and provide their comments to the Secretariat.

#### Completed.

**Action 98-12-14:** The Secretariat will send a copy of the goals and objectives of the Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan, which was prepared for the 1997 Yukon North Slope Conference, to Danny C. Gordon and Sandra Koep.

#### Completed.

**Action 98-12-15 :** Council members will provide their comments on the 1997-98 Annual Activity Report to the Secretariat by the end of December.

# Completed.

# F. Correspondence

Council members reviewed the correspondence in the meeting binder, as follows-

- A letter written by WMAC(NS) to Jane Stewart, Minister of DIAND, Dec 23, 1998, regarding the need to amend section 19-3 of the Yukon Act. No response has been received to this letter. The Chair noted that this issue has been raised by the Implementation Committee.
  - **Action 99-05-06:** WMAC(NS) will write an further letter to Jane Stewart, Minister of DIAND, Dec 23, 1998, regarding the need to amend section 19-3 of the Yukon Act. The letter of Dec 23, 1998 is to be attached. A copy of the letter is to be sent to the IRC or Chair of the Implementation Committee, as appropriate.
- A letter from Jim McIntyre, thanking the Council for its comments on the draft Yukon Protected Areas Strategy.
- A letter from Trevor Harding, the Yukon Minister for the Public Service Commission, regarding the government's Yukon Hire Policy and preferential hiring of Inuvialuit, in accordance with the IFA.
- A letter to the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee, February 17, 1999, from Ken Knutson, regarding electric fencing for Shingle Point.
- Registration information on the Beaufort Sea Conference. A discussion was held regarding what issues the members would like to see addressed during the

conference. It was agreed that the conference could provide a good opportunity to hold a workshop on planning for the Yukon North Slope coastal zone.

**Action 99-05-07 :** WMAC(NS) will contact the organizers of the Beaufort Sea Conference to convey the Council's ideas for a Yukon North Slope coastal zone planning workshop and to determine if such a workshop could be held as part of the conference.

**Action 99-05-08:** The Secretariat will submit an abstract for posters on the Council and the Yukon North Slope Long Term Research Plan to the organizers of the Beaufort Sea Conference.

**Action 99-05-09:** The Secretariat will provide Council members with information on the Beaufort Sea Conference as it becomes available.

- A letter from the Secretary of State (Parks) regarding the grizzly bear quota for Ivvavik National Park.
- Letters from both the EISC and the EIRB regarding the use of traditional knowledge in the screening and review process.
- A letter from the IGC to WMAC(NS) regarding the late submission of a incident report to the Aklavik HTC from Herschel Island Territorial Park.
- A letter from the Polar Commission on behalf of its new Board of Directors.
- A copy of the letters sent by WMAC(NS), the IGC and the EIRB to the Development Assessment Process Directorate regarding the Development Assessment Act. The Chair reported that the draft legislation is currently being revised.
- Two letters regarding the submission to the EISC from Defense Construction Canada for the clean-up of Komakuk Beach.

#### **G. Financial Report**

#### a) 1998-99 Fiscal Year End Statement

The Secretariat briefed the members regarding the 1998-99 year end statement, contained in the meeting binder, and explained the expenditures in a number of different categories. The Council is able to carry money over into the next year for the Environmental Youth Corp interns. Over- budget projects include Bylaws, Regulations and Legislation as well as the satellite poster. Under-budget categories included Secretariat fees, newsletter and regular meetings. The 1997-98 year-end deficit of \$3861.95 will be paid for out of the \$4114.48 year-end surplus of 1998-99. The Council will actually end the 1998-99 year with a surplus of \$252.53.

#### b) Review Engagement Report

The Secretariat briefed the members regarding the 1998-99 Review Engagement Report prepared by Kim Tanner.

#### Motion

**To accept the 1998-99 year-end statement and the** Review Engagement Report prepared by Kim Tanner.

Moved: Joan Eamer Seconded: Billy Archie Motion carried

# H. Members' Report

Sandy Koep commented that she would give the Council a full report on Herschel Island Territorial Park the following day, as scheduled in the agenda.

Billy Archie reported on the issues currently begin dealt by the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee. These include looking at the overlap agreement with the Gwich'in, ways in which to tighten up the Inuvialuit Harvest Study's data collection reliability, the Komakuk clean-up, and working with Marsha Branigan regarding the next count of grizzly bears. The HTC needs to go through all the plans that have been developed for the ISR to determine the HTC's responsibilities under each of them. However, time and resources are limited right now. Joan Eamer commented that would be possible for one of her summer students to spend some time doing this work. Billy and Joan agreed to work together to have a student going through each of the plans and to prepare a summary report of the HTC's responsibilities.

Joan Eamer reported that Jim Hawkings is doing a wetlands project on the Old Crow Flats. Part of the project is to determine its applicability to others areas. The Council could consider using it for the North Slope coastal zone. The Geological Survey of Canada is developing a poster on climate change in the Beaufort Sea/ Mackenzie Delta area. CWS will be developing parts of this poster. The proposal for a Northern Climate Exchange (submitted by Yukon College and the Yukon Government) to Environment Canada and Natural Resources Canada's Climate Change Action Fund, is going through the final stages of approval. A gap analysis is to be done. WMAC(NS) will be asked to participate. Joan will be preparing a summary of what is known about contaminants in the region covered by the Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-operative.

Brian Pelchat reported that the Yukon Government is in the process of providing the Porcupine Caribou Management Board with funds to be used toward the 1002 lobbying effort. With the current political situation in the United States, there is a good opportunity over the next year to work hard to gain full protection for the calving grounds. Members agreed that a briefing on the current situation would be of interest.

**Action 99-05-10:** The Secretariat will arrange for the Council to receive a briefing at its September meeting regarding ANWR and the 1002 lobbying effort.

Brian also reported that the Yukon Land Use Planning Council is now operational. It may be useful in the future to have that group make a presentation to WMAC(NS) members on its roles and responsibilities. The Vuntut Gwitchin RRC, also known as the Old Crow RRC, has changed its name to the North Yukon RRC. The RRC has a new Chair and new members.

Alan Fehr commented that most of what he needs to report to the Council will be covered in his Parks Canada/ Ivvavik report, later in the meeting. He did, however, suggest that the Council consider other sites for the May meeting, locations that would see the meeting being held in the ISR in alternate years. There are several potential sites in the Delta. Such a meeting in the ISR would provide good local economic benefits and would be a good opportunity for the people to meet the Council members. It is important for the Council to spend time on the land.

Danny C. Gordon raised the issue of payment for the elders that go to Herschel and provide interpretive services for the park. The elders are currently not being paid for the services they are providing. Sandy Koep replied that elders have participated in the training of the Junior Park Rangers. The various options to increase Inuvialuit participation in interpretive opportunities on the island need to be looked at further. The Chair added that these are issues that can be considered further during the management plan review as well as during the Council's planning session.

## I. Chair's Report

The Chair noted that all the items that he wishes to cover in his report are included in the agenda so a separate report is not needed.

#### J. Old Business

#### 1. Wildlife Act Amendments

The Chair commented that there is some follow-up work to be done in relation to the amendments. The Working Group, representing Aklavik, the Inuvialuit Game Council, WMAC(NS) and the Yukon Government, needs to be re-established. There is a need to look at specific sections that require specific regulations, such as those regarding Inuvialuit harvesting on the North Slope. The Working Group needs to go through the amendments and determine where regulations are required and what can be done through administrative procedure. The Chair added that he plans to raise the issue of re-establishing the Working Group at the next IGC meeting.

**Action 99-05-11:** WMAC(NS) will write a letter to the Inuvialuit Game Council suggesting that the Wildlife Act Amendments Working Group be re-established in order to initiate the follow-up work that needs to be done in relation to the amendments.

# 2. Inuvialuit Harvest Study

The Chair reported that there has been one meeting of the IHS Management Committee since December. The 1998 report will be going to the IGC next month for sign-off. Statistics Canada's evaluation of ten years' worth of data has been completed. It is an internal document for now which will provide information to the Management Committee. Caution has been identified with respect to how to best use the data.

The IHS software has been redesigned. It is now in ACCESS and is working well generally. An "Access to Information Protocol" has been sent to sponsoring agencies. The intention is for each agency to sign off on a protocol. WMAC needs to go through and discuss the proposed protocol. The Chair reported that the Yukon Government has some concerns regarding the proposed protocol. Brian Pelchat commented that he has seen the protocol which offers several different levels of protection

Sheila has done her community tour to get input on redesign of IHS. Her report will be available soon. There will likely be a workshop in September to discuss IHS design options with community representatives. It is hoped that the 'new' IHS will be running by January 2000.

## 3. Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Society

Joan Eamer reported that the Fourth Annual Gathering was held in Inuvik that same month. Aurora Research Institute was contracted to do the proceedings but they haven't been completed yet.

The Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Society was officially incorporated in March 1999. The Society has a Board of Directors. Robert Charlie, Kias Peter and Joan Eamer make up the executive. The Council is represented on the Board through Joan. A Science Horizons Intern will be hired to act as the Program Co-ordinator between October 1999 and March 2000.

The community-based monitoring program will get underway in September, in conjunction with the Sustainability of Arctic Communities Project. The links are growing between the Sustain project and the Society. The Society has been included in the project's renewed proposal to the National Science Foundation.

Joan requested that the Council again allocate \$2500 from its budget to be used to cover some of the Society's administrative costs.

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## May 30, 1999

**Present:** Lindsay Staples - Chair

Joan Eamer - Canadian Wildlife Service - Member- Government of

Canada

Danny C. Gordon - Member -Inuvialuit Game Council Billy Archie - Alternate -Inuvialuit Game Council

Brian Pelchat - Chief, Regional Management - Member - Yukon Territorial

Government

Alan Fehr - Parks Canada- Alternate - Government of Canada

Aileen Horler - WMAC(NS) Secretariat

**Guests:** Hillarie Greening – District Planner, Parks Canada, Inuvik

Sandra Koep- Chief Park Ranger, Herschel Island Territorial Park

Alice Hartling –Environmental Youth Corp Intern Andrea Hoyt – Environmental Youth Corp Intern

Dave Ladret- Special Projects Officer, Yukon Government, Parks and

**Outdoor Recreation Office** 

Doug Olynyk – Historic Sites Co-ordinator, Yukon Government, Heritage

Branch

#### 4. Herschel Island Territorial Park

Sandy Koep reported on the 1999 Herschel Island Territorial Park season. Four Park Rangers were hired in the spring. During the first two weeks in April they received training which included enforcement, legislation and bear safety. Over the summer the Rangers will receive wilderness first aid training and Ricky Joe will participate in a white water rescue course.

The Inuvik office was relocated in the spring. The park opened the third week of April. Dorothy Cooley, Catherine Kennedy and a number of others will be coming to the park in July to do vegetation work, permafrost monitoring and to put in the ITEX plots. They will be providing the Rangers with training in monitoring, mapping and sampling while they are there. Plans for heritage related activities include general maintenance and the repainting buildings of some buildings. They are hoping to improve weather reporting this year. The park will shut down after September long weekend. It is hoped that all the Rangers will be able to attend Beaufort Sea Conference.

There is an opportunity to remove a lot of the garbage from the island on the barge being used to clean up Komakuk. There is a real need to get people to comply with rules for garbage removal. There are repeated problems with garbage clean-up. The camp needs to be kept clean to ensure that no bears are attracted to the area. There was a problem this

year with a caribou being shot and parts left by the cabin. A hunter has been charged with wasting meat.

Sandy commented that she would like to see the elderhost and junior ranger programs renewed. There is a need to establish a process for the selection of participants.

Sandy plans to meet with HTC early in September to give them a report on the summer's activities and to get their ideas for the following year. Meetings will also be scheduled with WMAC(NS) in September and December regarding the Management Plan. There are plans to redo the operations manual and regulations after the Management Plan is completed.

Billy Archie inquired about permits for campers. Sandy replied that all campers require a permit and that they are free of charge.

Questions were raised about hunting on the island. Billy reported that a ranger told one hunter not to hunt within 5 miles of Pauline Cove. This makes it very difficult to hunt. Sandy responded that no hunting should done near the camp due to tourist safety. It is also nice to have animals near the camp so that the tourists can see them. Members agreed that this is an issue that needs to be addressed in the Management Plan.

In reference to the trapper's cabin, Billy commented that it is owned by the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee. He suggested that an MOU should be prepared between the park and the HTC which sets out the conditions for the use of the cabin. Sandy added that it is important to ensure that any private cabin is kept clean so as to not attract bears.

Billy added that there is a need to get the Inuvialuit gravesites restored. Sandy agreed that this is a key issue to be dealt with but there is still some uncertainty as to who wants what done. The Inuvialuit didn't want anything touched when the park was first established. Billy agreed that this is an issue that the community needs to look into further.

## 5. Ivvavik National Park

Alan Fehr reported on activities related to Ivvavik National Park. Ron Larsen was hired as the Chief Park Warden. Steve Travis is now the Senior Park Warden. Edwin Knox is the Park Warden and there are two seasonal patrolmen. Within the Ecosystem Secretariat, two summer students plus a GIS student have been hired. Martin Raillard has left his position. Parks hopes to fill it soon.

**Action 99-05-12:** Alan Fehr will send a copy of Parks Canada's organizational chart for the Western Arctic to Brian Pelchat and the WMAC(NS).

**Action 99-05-13:** Brian Pelchat will send a copy of the Yukon Government's organizational chart for the renewable Resource Department to Alan Fehr.

Projects in Ivvavik this summer include one film crew which will be filming caribou and grizzly bears. Karvonon is applying to do more filming as well. It is hoped that the shoreline clean-up will be completed this year. The drums will be removed by barge. Parks is developing a river guide for the Firth. There is a pamphlet now but the new guide will provide more detail.

There is a Parks Canada 24-hour emergency number now operating in Inuvik from June 1 to August 30. The number is 777-4893.

In reference to the clean-up of Komakuk, two people from Aklavik will be hired to monitor the clean-up. There will be a big clean-up crew on the site for several weeks. Bids for the work will close June 4.

Hillarie Greening reported that Parks has initiated a review of the Ivvavik National Park Management Plan. It is also the intention to rewrite the Park's Ecosystem Conservation Plan. Hillarie will report further on these initiatives later in the meeting.

The Amendments to the National Parks Act have been tabled. Ian Brown is working on regulations development. The legal analysis has been completed.

#### 6. Yukon North Slope Atlas

Alice Hartling, WMAC(NS)'s Environmental Youth Corp intern, gave members an update on the Yukon North Slope Atlas. The atlas will include a total of 49 maps. About half of them have been obtained and laminated for inclusion. A reference section will be include in each atlas.

Alice has identified the gaps in the maps available or included and will prepare a report listing what is missing. Additional maps that will soon be available include a Herschel Island vegetation map, the Firth river and maps related to climate change. These can be incorporated into the atlas when they become available. Her report will also include a listing of other atlases that have been identified. The final cost of the project has been estimated and will be reviewed again on completion. Some agencies, such as DFO and the Yukon Archives have purchased their copies.

The GSC is currently working on permafrost maps that will hopefully be completed by the fall and has requested funds to be used toward the development of these maps. Members asked Alice to notify the GSC that a proposal should be submitted to the Council before any allocation of funds can be considered.

Alice will continue to work part time, as required over the summer, to assemble the atlas. The finished products will be ready for presentation at the September IGC meeting.

#### 7. Coastal Zone Planning

Andrea Hoyt, the FJMC's Environmental Youth Corp intern, gave members an update on the work she has been doing in relation to the possibilities and opportunities for Yukon North Slope coastal zone planning. Andrea distributed copies of the draft report she had prepared which summarizes her research and presents the results of a questionnaire that Andrea conducted with interested individuals. It also includes a review of coastal zone plans from a number of other regions.

Alan Fehr commented that there are a number of different ways that a coastal zone plan could be developed for the North Slope. WMAC(NS) could do it alone or in conjunction with the FJMC. At a later date it could be expanded to include the entire ISR. Or a coastal zone plan could be incorporated into one of the existing plans.

**Action 99-05-14:** Council members will send their comments to Andrea Hoyt on her draft Yukon North Slope coastal zone planning report, by the end of June, 1999.

#### 8. Herschel Island Territorial Park Management Plan

The Chair welcomed Dave Ladret, Special Projects Officer with the Yukon Government's Parks and Outdoor Recreation Office and Doug Olynyk, Historic Sites Coordinator with the Heritage Branch.

Dave began with an overview of the process that will be followed in the review of the Herschel Island Territorial Park Management Plan. As a first step, letters will be sent out to interest groups asking them to identify the issues. A newsletter will be prepared and sent to the communities. Meetings will be held with the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee, the Inuvialuit Game Council and WMAC(NS). A public meeting will be held in Aklavik. After these consultations are completed, a draft plan will be prepared in the fall. The government will then go back to all of those originally consulted for further comments. This second round of consultations will be with a broader group and will include public meetings in Dawson and Whitehorse. The consultations will include management and operational issues. A schedule and communications plan is being prepared.

Some of the issues that have already been identified include aircraft landing on the beach, the impact of cruise ships, the number of visitors allowed on the island, food storage, garbage disposal, Inuvialuit hunting in the park, the management of gravesites, the removal of artifacts, reporting mechanisms, changes to regulations, and the effects of the Yukon's new Wilderness Tourism Act. There is also a need to identify an implementation process.

The management plan now is quite general. There is also an interpretive plan and a heritage management plan for the park.

Alan Fehr reported that Parks Canada will also be identifying issues this summer. The two Park agencies should get together to determine their common interests. Interjurisdictional cooperation should be built into the plan.

The Chair commented that the Council needs to do a thorough review of the wildlife section in the current plan. Members considered ways in which the Herschel plan could be integrated in the Yukon North Slope Wildlife and Conservation Management Plan.

Danny C. Gordon commented that there are many people who would now like to see the gravesites tidied up. Doug Olynyk replied that the Heritage Branch has been waiting to receive some direction on this issue from the community as to what to do. Alan added that the maintenance of gravesites is a problem all across the North Slope. Danny suggested that some decisions could be made at a meeting of elders in Aklavik.

A question was raised regarding cost recovery mechanisms on the island, such as cruise ship landing fees. Money received could be reinvested in the park.

Dave also reported that the Yukon Parks Act will soon be released for comments. A copy will be sent to WMAC(NS) and the Inuvialuit Game Council. Council members asked Dave to provide a briefing at the September meeting on this act and on the new Wilderness Tourism Act.

**Action 99-05-15:** The Secretariat will inform Dave Ladret of the dates of the Council's September meeting in Whitehorse.

#### 9. Review of Ivvavik National Park Management Plan

Hillarie Greening reported on the review of Ivvavik National Park Management Plan. The first step is to prepare a scoping document which will identify the major issues. An initial letter has been sent out to stakeholders to ask them to identify their interests and concerns. The public consultations will start in the fall. The timeline for completion of the review is one year.

The issues that have been identified to date include tourism development, community concerns regarding the muskox, the potential for day use in the park, aircraft use, the protection of gravesites and regulation development. Council members will have an opportunity were asked to provide comments on the revised management plan. There will be further opportunity to comment in the fall.

**Action 99-05-16:** Council members send their initial comments on the review of Ivvavik National Park Management Plan to the Secretariat by June 1, 1999. The Secretariat will forward the comments to Hillarie Greening.

#### 10. Ivvavik National Park Ecosystem Conservation Plan

Hillarie Greening reported that this plan will be more specific than the Park Management Plan. The Ecosystem Conservation Plan will include actions for Parks Canada to undertake over the next 5 years.

The proposal is to twin this plan with the Council's Yukon North Slope Conservation and Wildlife Management Plan as there are many areas of overlap and duplication. The WMAC(NS) Chair, Hillarie and Alan Fehr met in March to discuss how this could be done. The idea is the Park's Ecosystem Conservation Plan would be fully integrated into the Conservation and Wildlife Management Plan. The Conservation and Wildlife Management Plan, in effect, only covers the area to the east of the Babbage River. The integration of the two plans will provide a much broader coverage.

Hillarie has reviewed the draft of the Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan. She distributed a document which outlines additional actions and issues, many of which were taken from the Park's Ecosystem Conservation Plan, which could be added to the Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan. Work will continue on this over the summer.

Alan Fehr added that Parks Canada hopes to include a section on coastal zone planning to the Ivvavik Plan. The Chair commented that the Yukon North Slope Conservation and Wildlife Management Plan will also be expanded to include a section on the coastal zone.

**Action 99-05-17:** The Secretariat will send an updated version of the action items from the draft Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan to Hillarie Greening.

**Action 99-05-18:** The Secretariat will send Sandy Koep a copy of the draft Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan.

# 11. Yukon North Slope Long Term Research Plan

The Chair commented on a list that had been prepared by Mike Gill outlining a number of proposed changes and additions to the current web version of the plan. Members agreed to those changes suggested by Mike as well as the inclusion of the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee's list of research priorities. Mike has completed the Research Guide but it needs to be reviewed before it is added to the web site.

The pamphlet announcing the plan is at the printers and will be mailed out as soon as possible. This mail-out will be the official notification of the plan's completion.

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## May 31, 1999

**Present:** Lindsay Staples - Chair

Joan Eamer - Canadian Wildlife Service - Member- Government of

Canada

Danny C. Gordon - Member -Inuvialuit Game Council Billy Archie - Alternate -Inuvialuit Game Council

Brian Pelchat - Chief, Regional Management - Member - Yukon Territorial

Government

Alan Fehr - Parks Canada- Alternate - Government of Canada

Aileen Horler - WMAC(NS) Secretariat

**Guests:** Hillarie Greening – District Planner, Parks Canada, Inuvik

Bob Kuiper – Senior Planner, Protected Areas Secretariat, Yukon

Government

# 12. 1998/99 Wildlife Management and Research updates

Brian Pelchat distributed project summaries on the Muskox ecology studies, the Implementation of the ISR Grizzly Bear Management Plan and the wolf sample analyses which had been prepared by Dorothy Cooley.

#### a) Muskox ecology studies

Brian reported that there were some delays in putting on the collars. Work scheduled for March could not be carried out until April. Funds that would otherwise have been surplused in 1998-99 were used to purchase and locate fuel to be used later on in the study. Brian referred to the map showing the locations of the muskox from April 4 to May 24, 1999, as determined by the satellite collars.

#### b) Implementation of the ISR Grizzly Bear Management Plan

Of the \$3700 allocated to this project in 1998-99, \$1745 was spent on the implementation of YTG's action items in the ISR Grizzly Bear Management Plan. Projects included Dorothy's involvement in the drafting of a pamphlet on hunting rights and regulations and the annual report. \$900 was contributed to the documentation of Inuvialuit traditional and cultural knowledge of grizzly bears.

#### c) Wolf sample analyses

Of the \$2430 allocated to this project in 1998-99, \$30 was spent. Samples were sent to Fairbanks for trichinosis testing but the DNA testing still needs to be contracted and completed.

#### d) Satellite Image and Poster

The Secretariat reported that the satellite images were purchased in March. Jim Hawkings has been working with them in order to get them in a format so that they can be used on the poster. Laurel Jenkins was hired to write the text. There are currently 11 'text boxes' which will be accompanied by photographs. Work is continuing on the selection of the appropriate photographs. The Chair proposed that Harry Parson be contracted to do an editorial review of the poster and to comment on the proposed layout. Harry had been contracted by the Council to work on Volume 1 of the Conservation and Wildlife Management Plan and has a very good understanding of the area. Members agreed to this proposal.

#### 13. Term Report

The Chair asked members to comment on the contents of the draft Term Report. It was suggested that funding agencies and implementation partners be added to the information on wildlife programs to provide clarification on who was involved in each one. Biographical information needs to be updated for several members. It was agreed that a section should be added reflecting the Council's involvement with the Aklavik HTC. This section should include Aklavik's research priority items, topics raised at public meetings and their involvement in various projects.

**Action 99-05-19 :** Member will provide the Secretariat with their comments on the draft Term Report by June 14.

## 14. Muskox Management

The Chair commented that the biggest outstanding problem now in relation to muskox management is trying to determine how to manage a transboundary population. The muskox ecology studies will provide a lot of good information over the next few years with respect to the movement of Yukon muskox, but in the meantime it is necessary to try to resolve this issue. There can be no recommendation on a quota without discussions regarding harvest quotas and allocations with the Alaskans.

Brian Pelchat added that, last summer, his department took on the responsibility for coordinating a meeting with the Alaskans. In spite of a number of efforts it has not been possible to schedule such a meeting at a time convenient for all interested parties. The Alaskans have developed a harvest plan and now want to do a population plan. They are interested in developing a joint population plan and allocation of the harvest.

A discussion was held as to how best to move this issue along. Once the harvest quota and allocation issue is settled it will then be possible to move on to management issues. Members agreed that the Inupiat and Inuvialuit should get together to decide on a harvest allocation for the Inuvialuit, based on a percentage of the total allowable harvest for the entire population. Once this allocation is determined, WMAC(NS) can recommend a

quota for the Yukon North Slope consistent with the Alaskan quota that consider the entire population of Alaska and Yukon North Slope muskox.

**Action 99-05-20 :** WMAC(NS) will write to the Inuvialuit Game Council to suggest that the IGC arrange a meeting with the Inupiat to consider a harvest allocation of muskoxen for the Inuvialuit, based on a percentage of the total allowable harvest for the entire North Slope population (Yukon and Alaska). The meeting should include representatives from the Yukon Government, WMAC(NS), Parks Canada and Alaskan biologists.

A lot of good information has already been put together about the muskox in the draft management plan. It is time to update the plan to include all the latest survey information and new studies. Members agreed to look at the plan during the September meeting and consider how it should be updated and what it should contain so that it can be released.

**Action 99-05-21 :** The draft Yukon North Slope Muskox Management Plan will be reviewed by the Council during its September meeting.

Billy Archie and Danny C. Gordon both commented that there is a lot of frustration in Aklavik over the harvest and with regard to the muskox and caribou issue. It is very important that community members feel that something is being done about both these issues.

# 15. Yukon Protected Areas Strategy

The Chair welcomed Bob Kuiper from the Yukon Protected Areas Secretariat.

The Chair opened the session by commenting that there are several areas on the Yukon North Slope that have been identified (in both the Aklavik Community Conservation Plan and the Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan) as candidate areas for special attention or protection. Protection doesn't always mean a park. There are other ways to protect areas, different levels of protection as well as seasonal protection. The areas identified need further study. The Council wants to bring these areas to the attention of the Yukon Protected Areas Secretariat.

Bob Kuiper circulated the final document of the Yukon Protected Areas Strategy. Another document was distributed which outlines the different types of protected areas identified in the strategy. Areas can be protected under one of two goals. The process for goal 2 areas can vary. These areas are more flexible in term of activities that can be carried out there, whereas goal 1 areas have full protection. Some of the candidate areas identified on the Yukon North Slope could be designated as Habitat Protection Areas, which full under goal 2. This would be done as part of the management plan. If WMAC(NS) wishes to see any North Slope considered then a specific request should be sent to the Yukon Protected Areas Secretariat.

Yukon Protected Areas Secretariat will be providing a co-ordinating function. It will not be the lead agency. Areas must be nominated for protection. WMAC(NS) can initiate a nomination

Members agreed that the Council should ask the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee if they are interested in looking at the areas identified as special on the North Slope in order to determine what should be done about them. It may be determined that some protection is necessary. The Council is not prepared to continue with any further action at this time unless the HTC is in support.

**Action 99-05-22 :** WMAC(NS) will write to the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee to determine if there is any interest in considering the land management options for the special areas on the Yukon North Slope which are identified in the Aklavik Community Conservation Plan.

#### 16. The Sustainability of Arctic Communities Project

Joan Eamer reported that there was a meeting in Whitehorse in April of community representatives and researchers involved in the Sustainability of Arctic Communities project. Kaktovik has recently become one of the communities involved. A numbers of reports are now available such as the caribou availability report. The report can be viewed on the internet at www.taiga.net.sustain, following to link to the library.

The project is submitting a renewal proposal to the National Science Foundation, for a further three years' funding. Joan commented that the Sustain project and the Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-operative are building on each other's work more and more. The Sustain project's proposal for renewed funding includes the Co-op as a full partner. If the proposal is renewed the Co-op will receive \$176,000, over the three years, to fund the community consultations and educational products. The renewal proposal also contains an added marine and environment focus. The project has been expanded to include the central arctic and the Bathurst caribou herds.

**Action 99-05-23 :** WMAC(NS) will write a letter to the organizers of the Sustainability of Arctic Communities Project to express the Council's support for the renewal proposal that the project is submitting to the National Science Foundation.

#### G. Financial

#### c) Proposed budget for 1999-2000

The Secretariat reviewed the proposed budget for 1999-2000. An explanation was given as to the various sources of revenue that are currently expected.

It was proposed that the expenditures for honorarium, meetings and secretariat administration remain the same as in the previous year. Proposed expenses for the Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan are to cover the work that will be done with Parks Canada. The costs for the Term Report are the expenses for its layout and printing.

With reference to the expenditures on projects, the following amounts were proposed-

•	Bylaws, Regulations and Legislation (for follow-up work on the amendments to the Yukon Wildlife Act)	5000
•	Ecosystem Monitoring (contribution to the Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-operative)	2500
•	Long Term Research Plan (\$1000 for distribution of the pamphlet and \$5000 for an implementation workshop)	6000
•	North Slope Atlas (for Secretariat time on this project)	500
•	Satellite Image Poster (for Secretariat time on this project and an editorial review by Harry Parsons)	3000
•	Coastal Zone Planning Workshop (for costs related to the workshop)	5000
•	Environmental Youth Corp (for Secretariat time on this project)	750
•	1999-2000 Intern (as yet unidentified but funding to be set aside should an opportunity arise)	8000

The members agreed to accept the budget for 1999-2000, as proposed.

#### Motion

to accept the proposed WMAC(NS) budget for 1999-2000.

Moved: Brian Pelchat

Seconded: Danny C. Gordon

Motion carried

#### J. Old Business (continued)

## 17. Grizzly Bear Management

The Chair reminded members that the Council had met with Marsha Branigan in December and that she had recommended the quota numbers and distribution remain the same. Members reviewed the grizzly bear resolution, passed by the Council in March

1997, and noted that the word draft needs to be removed in the reference to the ISR Grizzly Bear Management Plan. The Council needs to recognise that there is an interest among Yukon resident hunters to hunt grizzly bears on the North Slope, and this needs to now be recognised in the resolution. Members agreed to hold a further discussion on changes to the resolution during the September meeting.

It would be useful to have the President of the Yukon Fish and Game Association attend the next Council meeting in order for him to brief members on the interests of Yukon resident hunters to hunt grizzly bears on the North Slope. Duane Smith should be invited to attend the briefing.

**Action 99-05-24:** The Secretariat will contact the President of the Yukon Fish and Game Association to see if he can attend the next Council meeting in order to brief members on the interests of Yukon resident hunters to hunt grizzly bears on the North Slope.

#### Motion

to move the grizzly bear resolution, with amendments as discussed.

Moved: Danny C. Gordon Seconded: Brian Pelchat

Motion carried

Members reviewed a draft of a pamphlet prepared by DRWED titled 'Co-management of Grizzly Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region'. A number of suggestions were made to the text of the pamphlet in order to improve its accuracy.

**Action 99-05-25:** The Secretariat will write to Marsha Branigan to convey the Council's suggestions for changes to the draft pamphlet titled 'Co-management of Grizzly Bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region'.

John Nagy has requested that WMAC(NS) contribute to the costs of a grizzly bear workshop, to be held in the fall, which is needed to determine the method for the next population count. WMAC(NWT) has also been asked to contribute as well. GNWT's DRWED will be organizing the workshop. The Secretariat will inform members once it is known how much funding is needed.

#### 18. Aklavik Community Conservation Plan

The Chair reported that Brian Johnson is doing the revisions of each of the communities' plans based on the workshop that was held in March. The revised plans will guide the HTC's in terms of research priorities and clarify what each HTC should be doing. Billy Archie commented that it will not be possible to deal with some issues until the outstanding concerns in the overlap agreement with the Gwich'in are settled.

#### 19. 1999/2000 Wildlife Management and Research Proposals

There were no new proposals brought forward for the Council to review. A revised budget for expenses related to the Yukon North Slope Atlas project was included in the binder. Members agreed to review the expenditures again once the project is completed.

The Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee's 1998 priority list was handed-out for the members to review and keep in mind when projects are next considered.

Brian Pelchat noted that the allocation of the funds available in the Wildlife Management Programs budget had been changed, but the total remains the same. Approximately \$95,000 remains in the budget for 1999-2000, but this will be reduced by the cost of the muskox ecology study work that was carried out in April.

The Herschel Island Vegetation Studies are scheduled to be carried out in July. The relocation of bears collared as part of the NWT's Richardson Mountain Grizzly Bear Studies will be conducted in early June. Dorothy Cooley will take part in this work. Work will continue on the Muskox Ecology Studies, as planned.

Chair commented that all of CWS's funds have been allocated. Parks Canada is to bring forward proposals at the September meeting for its unallocated funding.

# K. Next meeting

Members agreed to hold the next meeting, in Whitehorse, in September, prior to that of the Inuvialuit Game Council. However the IGC has not yet setting its meeting dates. The Secretariat will inform Council members as soon as the dates are confirmed.

# L. Adjournment

Motion		
to adjourn.		
Moved: Brian Pelchat Seconded: Danny C. Gordon Motion carried		
WMAC(NS) Chair	Date	
WMAC(NS) Secretariat	Date	_