



Teleconference Minutes

January 18, 2012

Lindsay Staples, Chair • Ernest Pokiak, IGC • Danny C Gordon, IGC • Rob Florkiewicz, YG
• Christian Bucher, Canada • Christine Cleghorn, Secretariat

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:33am

1) Polar Bear TK Protocol

The Chair reviewed the context for the development of the protocol, led by ITK (John Cheechoo). This stems from the Inuvik ATK workshop that was held in the fall 2011. ITK wishes to start organizing the Boards and Aboriginal authorities to participate in the development of a national protocol for the collection and use of polar bear TK. Environment Canada will organize the participation of the wildlife management boards and ITK the Aboriginal authorities. John’s correspondence canvasses the various Boards and Councils to confirm support for an initiative like this. This work would be completed over the course of the next year – a few meetings would be required. There would be a small working group responsible for an initial draft (4-6 people) and then a draft would be circulated to appropriate parties for comment and revision. The final protocol would provide guidance to any parties involved in the design of TK studies for polar bear and in the treatment of TK in polar bear management.

Ernest was supportive, and noted that it is great for WMACNS to be involved in the working group. Danny also supported this initiative, and was very comfortable with Lindsay participating on the working group.

Lindsay will respond to John and convey our support for this initiative and flag that we will withhold judgment about who will sign this off.

2) Set March Meeting Date

The next meeting for the WMAC(NS) will be during the week of March 26. Travel Monday, meet Tuesday - Thursday, travel Friday.

3) YG IFA Research Funds Allocation

Rob noted that the potential rollover of Yukon’s wildlife programs 2011-12 funding was around \$68,900. He reviewed the projects in the attached table and described the assumptions around the projects. He has created the attached table to illustrate the effect of carrying-over the polar bear TK project funding into next year; he also provided a summary of the activities for other research projects.

IFA wildlife research

PC	EC	YG
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proposals FY 12/13
 WMAC(NS)
 recommendations 7 Dec 2011

35,000	0	135,400

REGULAR BUDGET AMOUNTS

Project	Total project cost	RECOMMENDED			
		PC	EC	YG	
Ecological Integrity Monitoring in the Forest and Tundra Ecosystem of Ivvavik NP	75,000	10,000			
Monitoring the Coastal Zone Ecosystem in Ivvavik NP	51,500	14,000			
ABEK	123,500	5,000	10,000		
Porcupine Caribou Satellite Collar Project	9,000	6,000		3,000	
Baseline Data and Monitoring Shorebirds (multi-year)	14,900		9,000		
Coastal vulnerability? (Year 2 of 3)	25,000		0		
Herschel Island Monitoring	8,000			5,000	
Grizzly Bear - communications	10,000			10,000	could need more
Grizzly Bear - priority 1 (diet isotopes)	26,500			0	Covered in 11/12
Grizzly Bear - priorities 2 to 4 (contaminants)	74,600			0	
Porcupine Caribou Rut Composition Count	35,000			15,000	
Richardson Mountain Moose Survey	60,000			20,000	YG Abase 20.0K, need 20K
Richardson Mountain Muskox Survey (no proposal)	60,000?			0	
Aklavik PCH Harvest Monitoring (no proposal)	3000?			5,000	Dorothy suggest up to 10K
Porcupine Caribou Satellite Collar Recovery	32,000			32,000	Submitted in previous years
Community based monitoring?	?			0	
Polar Bear TK	100,000			20,000	
TOTAL		35,000	19,000	110,000	
		0	19,000	25,400	Unallocated

Including 10.4K rollover (11/12) FY

Items in yellow will be revisited at our March meeting. Items with no colour were recommended at the Dec WMACNS meeting

Motion 01-12-26

That the \$22,000 unallocated in the Yukon's wildlife programs budget be reallocated to the Herschel Cabin improvement project. We would hope that the resulting 10k surplus would be rolled over into wildlife programs again next year.

Moved by Danny C. Gordon
Seconded by Rob Florkiewicz
Motion carried.

4) Goal A.

The Council discussed the objectives in Goal A of the plan, their continued relevance, appropriateness, and whether the emphases in the objectives of Goal A continue to be our priorities. It is clear that including polar bears in the next iteration will be important.

Christian noted the current reliance on ABEK to provide a significant amount of information to the WMACNS, as outlined in the plan. This needs to be revisited, and the new directions for the community based monitoring in the ISR incorporated. He further noted the need for an emphasis on coastal work.

The current draft identifies candidate areas for protection. New information from the grizzly bear project and coastal zone work should be integrated here, and if this provides new information about priorities for investigating protection, we need to identify that. There is also an argument for greater work on habitat assessments.

Rob focused his comments on the objectives, and noted that with a bit of tweaking, the existing objectives are probably fine. He noted that it is the actions and activities arising from those objectives that should be focused on. He noted that Goal C speaks to trans-jurisdictional and trans-boundary cooperation, and we may decide to focus significant revisions in this area, as this area of our work requires significant effort.

Ernest noted that the goals in the plan to protect Inuvialuit traditional use and their sources of food are close to his heart.

The Council will discuss the Goal A actions at the March meeting.

5) Other business

Danny indicated interest in attending ABEK gathering in Inuvik in March, pending the availability of funds.

The Chair flagged the IPY conference in Montreal in April as possibly meriting participation.

Motion 02-12-26 to adjourn
Moved by Ernest Pokiak
Seconded by Christian Bucher
Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 10:47am.