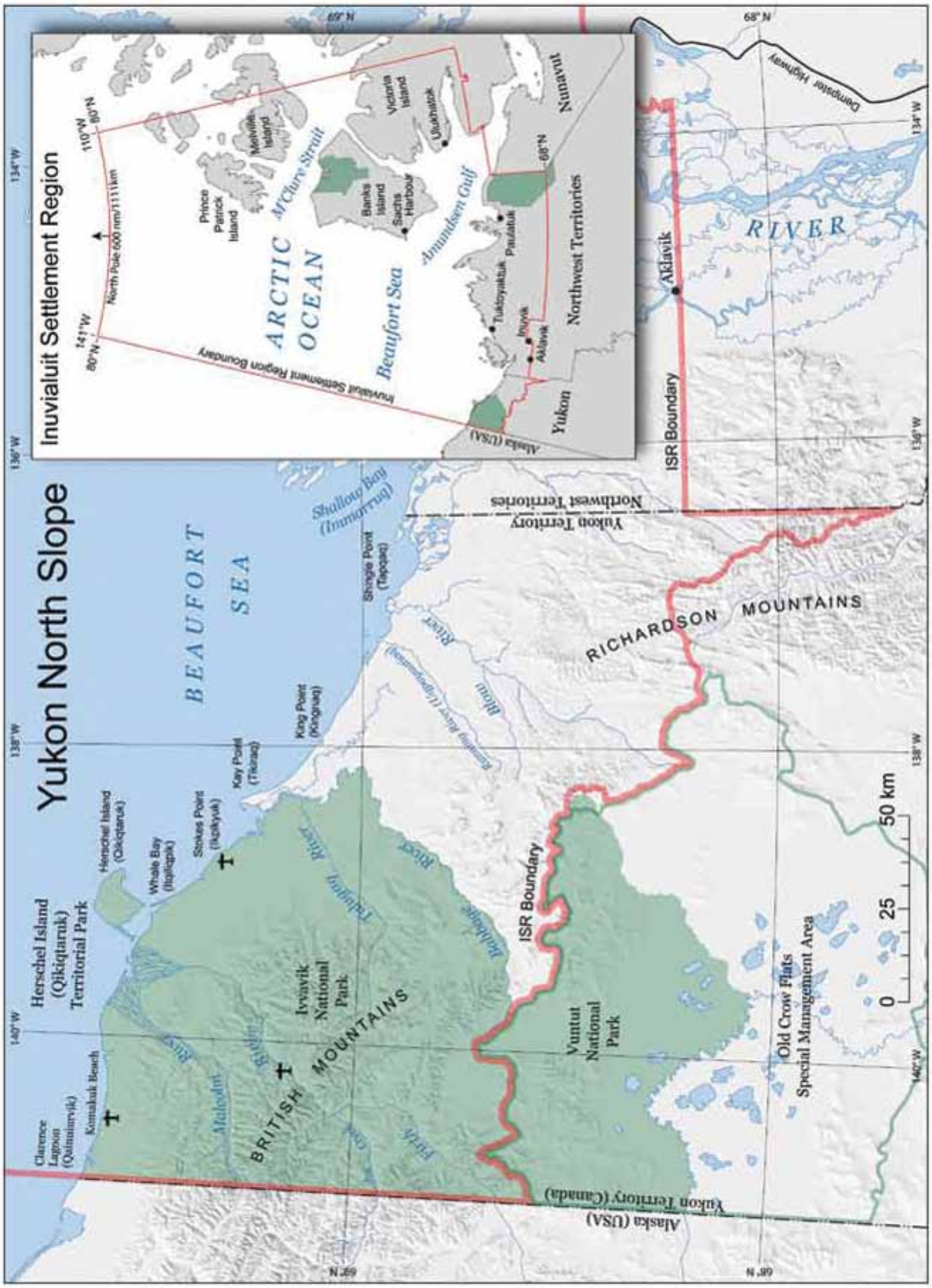
WMAC North Slope

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)

TERM REPORT: April 1, 2011–March 31, 2014

Map of the Yukon North Slope



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Contents

This report outlines the activities and projects undertaken or recommended by the Council during the three-year term from April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2014.

Photo: James Hawkings

Message from the Chair

The Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) recognizes the unique geographic and ecological features of the Yukon North Slope, the abundance and diversity of its wildlife populations, and the importance of the area to the Inuvialuit who have traditionally used it. The agreement established a management regime to achieve the conservation purposes of the area. In order to succeed, this regime requires a high level of cooperation between governments and aboriginal organizations in the Yukon, Northwest Territories (NWT) and Alaska, as well as the federal government in Canada and the United States. The Wildlife Management Advisory Council, or WMAC (North Slope) was one of a few small and early joint committees established in northern Canada to promote collaboration in wildlife management among communities, aboriginal people and government.

Over the three-year period covered by this report, the Council focused on several areas. The Council worked hard to facilitate cooperative transboundary arrangements for the management of Canada's Southern Beaufort polar bear population. Council members worked to more effectively coordinate recommendations with the WMAC (NWT) in order to better integrate the management of wildlife, environmental conservation and Inuvialuit rights in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR). The fact that there are many jurisdictions across the region has the potential to complicate the implementation of such arrangements.

Of special note were the Council's contributions to the preparation of a major study that documents the observations and knowledge of more than 75 polar bear traditional knowledge holders in the six ISR communities. A milestone in the recognition and application of Inuvialuit knowledge in polar bear management, the study will be published in 2014.

International attention on the management of Canada's 13 polar bear populations has resulted in increasing demands on the Inuvialuit Game Council and the WMACs (North Slope and Northwest Territories). The Council participated in extensive discussions of the Polar Bear Technical Committee, Polar Bear Administration Committee and the Inuit Consult Group. These discussions addressed issues that threaten to undermine Inuvialuit harvesting rights and the authority of the management regimes established in the IFA and other northern land claim agreements for the management of polar bears.

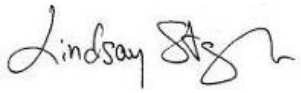
Under the IFA, the Council has an obligation to prepare a wildlife conservation and management plan for the Yukon North Slope. The Council's 2002 plan requires significant revisions to update its management actions, most notably to address impacts related to climate change and to better document the conservation requirements of the eastern North Slope. These requirements may be affected by future development, particularly in the offshore area of the Beaufort Sea. To this end, the Council initiated a multi-year work plan that will pay greater attention to documenting Inuvialuit traditional use of the North Slope and to conducting an ecological land classification of the area between the Babbage River and the Yukon-NWT border. Together, these efforts should assist in defining future conservation management requirements on the Yukon North Slope.

The Council contributed to the development and delivery of the program for the ninth Yukon North Slope conference, "Pathways to Arctic Innovation." From the Western Arctic to Labrador, and elsewhere, modern-day land claim agreements established a range of shared and collaborative arrangements between Inuit and federal, provincial and territorial governments for the management of development and the environment. The conference hosted more than 150 participants from across the North to explore the challenges in these arrangements and the innovations required to make co-management work effectively.

The Council also contributed to the development of a community-based monitoring program for the ISR. The intent of the program is to provide information about the environment collected by the Inuvialuit, so that it can assist in management decisions and support recommendations by the IFA's co-management bodies. The Council's activities continue to benefit greatly from cooperation and support from many quarters: the Yukon Government's Department of Environment, the Canadian Wildlife Service, Parks Canada - Western Arctic Field Unit, the Government of the Northwest Territories' Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Inuvik Region, the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee, the Inuvialuit Game Council, Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) and the Joint Secretariat.

I offer my appreciation for the generous efforts and commitment of Council members to the conservation of wildlife, habitat and the protection of Inuvialuit traditional use on the Yukon North Slope.

Sincerely,



Lindsay Staples, Chair

Photo: Richard Pither

Introduction: The Yukon North Slope

The Yukon North Slope is located in the northern region of Canada's Yukon Territory and encompasses the western portion of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. It is an area of land and sea stretching from Alaska to the Northwest Territories and taking in the portion of the Yukon mainland whose waters drain into the Beaufort Sea, as well as Herschel Island and near and offshore waters.

The Yukon North Slope has international significance as one of Canada's most diverse Arctic environments and is home to a host of important wildlife species. The land includes braided rivers, lagoons, mountain ranges, and coastal plains. The marine environment includes the near and offshore waters of Beaufort Sea. Although the region contains a number of mountain ranges, the Yukon North Slope derives its name from the gently sloping lands that drop down to the shores of the Beaufort Sea. The historic movement of the glaciers on the eastern portions of the North Slope distinguish this area from the western portion.

The North Slope is bordered to the west by the Alaskan Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, to the south by the Old Crow Flats, and to the east by the Mackenzie River Delta. It includes the coastal waters and extends into the deeper waters beyond Herschel Island to the northern boundary of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

The Yukon North Slope region has no roads or towns, and there are few signs of development. The indicators of human presence include several drilling sites and isolated Distant Early Warning radar sites, as well as many seasonal hunting camps used by the Inuvialuit.

The North Slope is an extreme environment. Winter is long, temperatures chilling, and the days short. Winters are followed by very short, dry growing seasons, making this area one of the world's most severe environments for people, wildlife and plants. The unique interactions of landforms, climate and life make it one of the most interesting as well.

The Inuvialuit of the Western Arctic call this place home and have a special connection to the land and resources. They have relied on the region's wildlife for hundreds of years. While most Inuvialuit now live in nearby communities such as Aklavik and Inuvik, many return to the North Slope on an annual basis to hunt, trap and fish. They use traditional gathering places in the mountains and along the coast. These seasonal hunting camps are reminders of an active and enduring human occupancy.

Section 12(2) of the IFA states: "The Yukon North Slope shall fall under a special conservation regime whose dominant purpose is the conservation of wildlife, habitat and traditional native use."

The Inuvialuit of the Western Arctic negotiated a land claim agreement, signed in 1984, in order to ensure conservation and protection of the North Slope and their ongoing use of the area. The Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) was negotiated with the Government of Canada and brought renewed and much-deserved attention to the Yukon North Slope. This agreement also provided opportunities for the Inuvialuit to participate in economic and social development and decisions affecting the Yukon North Slope. Conservation is the paramount goal for the Yukon North Slope.

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council for the North Slope, or WMAC (NS), was established in 1988 under the *Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Claims Settlement Act*, ultimately the result of the 1984 Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA).

The Council is comprised of five members: two appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council, two by Government (one by the federal Minister of Environment, one by the Yukon Territorial Government), and an independent chairperson. Each appointed member has an alternate. The Council has an office and staff in Whitehorse that oversee its business.

The Council has a mandate to carry out several tasks:

- provide advice on wildlife policy, the management, regulation and administration of wildlife, habitat, and harvesting for the Yukon North Slope;
- give guidance to the Porcupine Caribou Management Board (PCMB), Yukon Land Use Planning Commission, Environmental Impact Screening Committee and the Environmental Impact Review Board, among other organizations;
- recommend quotas for Inuvialuit game harvesting on the Yukon North Slope; and
- recommend measures to protect critical habitat for wildlife or harvesting purposes.

Since its inception, the Council has been a catalyst for cooperative management on the Yukon North Slope. The Council continues to work with its many partners in support of this unique and important area.

The Council was established to "...provide advice to the appropriate minister on all matters relating to wildlife policy and the management, regulation and administration of wildlife, habitat and harvesting for the Yukon North Slope..." (Section 12(56), IFA).

Photo: Mike Gill

WMAC (NS) membership

Chair

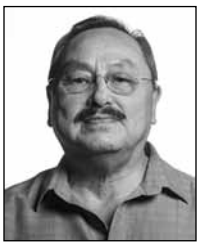
Lindsay Staples

A resident of Whitehorse, Lindsay serves as the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) Chair and also works as a private consultant. His expertise lies in the fields of natural resource management, socio-economic and environmental impact assessment, and land claims and self-government negotiations and implementation. Lindsay has a longstanding interest in the management of the Yukon North Slope and the implementation of the IFA. He possesses extensive experience in negotiation, facilitation, and consensus-based processes involving a broad range of public policy issues.

Members

Danny C. Gordon (Inuvialuit Game Council)

Danny is a resident of Aklavik. Originally from Alaska, he made the long journey to the Mackenzie Delta by foot and dog team as a young boy. Danny worked for the government in Aklavik for many years, but always made time to spend on the land. An active hunter and trapper, Danny is strongly involved in his community. Danny is currently a director of the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee (HTC).



Ernest Pokiak (Inuvialuit Game Council)

Born on Banks Island, 80 kilometres (km) northwest of Sachs Harbour, Ernest was brought up on the land. In previous years, he served as Mayor of Tuktoyaktuk, Chair of the Tuktoyaktuk Education Authority, Governor for Aurora College, and Director for the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation Group. Ernest also worked as a Director of the Community Corporations of Sachs Harbour and Tuktoyaktuk. Ernest has 44 years of combined service with the federal and territorial governments.

Christian Bucher (Government of Canada)

Appointment ended September 2012

Christian has lived in the Northwest Territories for most of his life. He worked as a logger, journeyman carpenter, and commercial pilot before accepting a position with Parks Canada some 16 years ago. He was the first Site Manager for Tuktut Nogait National Park in Paulatuk before moving to Inuvik. There he took on the role of Resource Conservation Manager, as well as natural and cultural resources management and protection responsibilities, for the three national parks of the Western Arctic.

Christopher Hunter (Government of Canada)

Appointment began September 2012

Christopher is the Site Manager for Ivvavik National Park and Pingo Canadian Landmark and has worked with Parks Canada in the Western Arctic since 2008. He was appointed as Canada's member to the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) in 2012. Christopher brings to Council a diverse and global background in natural resource management and conservation through previous experience in planning, ecosystem-based management and community-based conservation. Christopher and his family live in Inuvik.

Rob Florkiewicz (Government of Yukon)

Rob is the Manager of Species Programs in the Fish and Wildlife Branch of Environment Yukon. He began his career in Yukon working on bison and elk and completed his Master's degree on Yukon elk through the University of Alberta. He has worked for the Yukon Government since 1990, when he was a regional biologist working in collaboration with the Kaska Nations in the southeast Yukon. He moved to Whitehorse with his family and continued with the regional program on community-based management programs. In 2008 he accepted a position in management, and he was appointed Yukon representative on WMAC (NS) in January 2011.

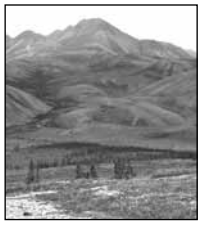
Alternates

Evelyn Storr (Inuvialuit Game Council)

Photo: Richard Pither

Evelyn was born and raised in Aklavik. From 1993 to 2004, she worked for the Aklavik Housing Association, and has also worked for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation in Inuvik. Evelyn served as the President of the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee and is an active member of the Inuvialuit Investment Board.

William Storr (Inuvialuit Game Council)



Appointment ended September 2012

William was born and raised in Aklavik. He is the current President of the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee, as well as Mayor of Aklavik. He has completed the Natural Resources Technology Program in Inuvik with Aurora College. He is also an active member of the Inuvialuit Game Council and the Porcupine Caribou Management Board.

Michelle Gruben (Inuvialuit Game Council)

Appointment began September 2012

Michelle is originally from Tuktoyaktuk, but has called Aklavik home for the past 20 years. Michelle enjoys spending time out on the land and listening to stories from elders in the region. Since 2009 she has worked for the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee as Resource Person, and was recently appointed to the Council. Michelle strongly believes in conservation and that we must all work together for the future.

Wendy Nixon (Government of Canada)

Wendy is Head of Population and Habitat Conservation for the Canadian Wildlife Service/Environment Canada.

Dorothy Cooley (Government of Yukon)

Appointment ended September 2012

Dorothy worked in Dawson City as a Regional Biologist for the department of Environment for more than 20 years. She was responsible for coordinating research and wildlife studies conducted by the Yukon government on the Yukon North Slope. The Regional Biologist position is partially funded through IFA implementation funding.

Mike Suitor (Government of Yukon)

Appointment began 2013

Mike is the Regional Biologist for the North Yukon Region, Fish and Wildlife Branch of Environment Yukon. Mike has worked for a number of provincial and federal government agencies. His experience has focused on large mammal ecology and on managing impacts on wildlife. He is an alternate for the Yukon and also provides technical expertise to the Council on fish and wildlife matters. He sits on several other boards and committees, including the Porcupine Caribou Technical Committee and the technical working group for the Inuvialuit Community-Based Monitoring Program. Mike and his family live in Dawson City, Yukon.

Staff

Jennifer Smith

Jennifer shares this position with Christine Cleghorn. She has been working with the Council in various ways since 2008 and more permanently since 2010. She holds a diploma in Renewable Resource Management and has completed complementary course work from Okanagan University College. Originally from the Yukon, she has worked in various conservation, forestry and wildlife management positions.

Christine Cleghorn

Christine began her work for the Council in 2010. She has worked throughout the North on issues of resource management, land claims implementation and program evaluation. She holds a master's degree in rural planning and development, and lives in Whitehorse with her family. Christine took a leave from August 2012 to July 2013.

Photo: Richard Pither

Rosa Brown (August 2012 – July 2013)

Rosa worked for the Council for during Christine's leave. The Council benefitted from Rosa's long history with resource management and land claims implementation, and appreciated her insights and breadth of experience.

Photo: WMAC (NS) quarterly meeting, March 2012.

Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan

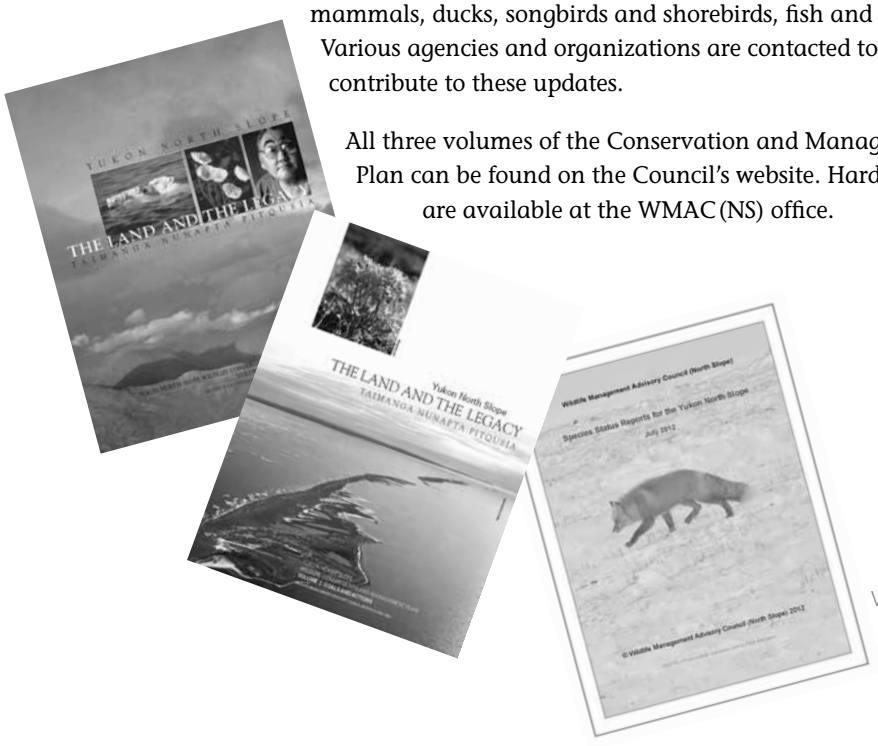
The Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan (WCMP) was created in 1994. The plan offers management guidance and information for the entire Yukon North Slope to government, co-management organizations, environmental assessment bodies, Inuvialuit and other aboriginal organizations.

The three-part plan provides a comprehensive look at the unique North Slope environment, highlighting the important relationship between the Inuvialuit and their land. It serves as an important reference for anyone interested in the North Slope.

The three volumes of the plan combine to contribute to the management of the North Slope:

- *Volume 1– Environmental Overview* introduces the Yukon North Slope. It describes the region, its natural history, and the cultural adaptations of its inhabitants. It also looks at some of the ways that the wilderness is being protected today.
- *Volume 2 – Goals and Actions* contains recommended management directions for all those interested in management, conservation and resource use in the area. It is a frame of reference against which the Council, governments, the Inuvialuit and other aboriginal, public and private interests can assess efforts and activities on the Yukon North Slope in order to uphold IFA principles and objectives.
- *Volume 3 – Species Status Reports* accompanies the first two volumes of the plan and is updated every three years to provide the status of species that occupy the Yukon North Slope. The document provides information on current research, habitat, population distribution, size and trend, Inuvialuit use and more. These reports provide information on more than 35 species, including mammals, ducks, songbirds and shorebirds, fish and insects. Various agencies and organizations are contacted to contribute to these updates.

All three volumes of the Conservation and Management Plan can be found on the Council's website. Hard copies are available at the WMAC (NS) office.



Volume 3 updated in 2012

The Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) was the first comprehensive land claim agreement north of 60. With its signing, certain requirements and responsibilities were assigned to the WMAC (NS). Included in these responsibilities was the preparation of a wildlife conservation and management plan for the Yukon North Slope consistent with the special conservation regime that had been identified under the agreement.

Volume I of the plan was produced in 1996, and Volume II in 2003. The Council is currently updating these materials to more accurately reflect the situation on the Yukon's North Slope.

The Yukon North Slope is made up of three distinct management areas: Ivvavik National Park, Herschel Island Territorial Park, and the area east of the Babbage River. All three areas are managed under the IFA and the applicable federal and territorial legislation. Ivvavik National Park and Herschel Island Territorial Park take direction from their respective park management plans and the eastern portion of the North Slope is managed under a withdrawal order.

The Council initiated an exercise to compile biophysical and traditional-use data across the Yukon North Slope and specific to the eastern portion of the North Slope. The intent is to better document the conservation requirements of the area related to wildlife, habitat and traditional use.

A contractor compiled existing information and identified information gaps. The Council also initiated planning for a traditional-use study to document the use of the North Slope by Inuvialuit.

Work coming out of this initiative will be used to update the 2003 WCMP.

Yukon North Slope Long-Term Research and Monitoring Plan

The Yukon North Slope Long-Term Research and Monitoring Plan was developed by the Council to direct and support planning and research activities for resource managers and researchers, and to address the needs of those who live in the region and rely on its resources. The plan is an important tool to promote cooperative initiatives among government agencies, communities and universities, and to facilitate projects across land claim boundaries and state and territorial borders in Alaska, Yukon and the Northwest Territories. The plan includes information about issues and actions related to research and identification of information gaps, as well as a guide for conducting research on the Yukon North Slope.

Photo: Herschel Island Rangers

The research guide component was produced in response to the changing research context. As a result of the IFA and the increasing responsibilities devolved to territorial governments, the expectations of both researchers and communities regarding the conduct of research have changed over the last two decades. More permits, licences and review processes are now required for conducting research on the Yukon North Slope. The guide outlines ways in which researchers can work effectively with these processes and in the communities. The guide encourages research that is relevant to Inuvialuit communities, respectful of their interests, and that produces collaborative and well-received products. It was most recently updated in 2008.

The Long-Term Research and Monitoring Plan was prepared by WMAC (NS) in consultation with the Inuvialuit Game Council and other co-management bodies established under the IFA, as well as federal, territorial and Alaskan government agencies, Canadian and Alaskan universities, non-governmental organizations, and interested residents of Aklavik, Inuvik and Old Crow. The plan is available on the Council's website.

The Long-Term Research and Monitoring Plan is designed to work in tandem with the Council's other conservation and management initiatives, including the Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan. This type of long-term, comprehensive planning is consistent with the Council's mandate to contribute to the ongoing effective management of the Yukon North Slope.
The Long-Term Research and Monitoring Plan will be revised in conjunction with the updating of the WCMP.

Species management

Grizzly bear research and management

Yukon North Slope Grizzly Bear Research Project

WMAC (NS) continued its active interest in the management of grizzly bears on the North Slope. Government of Yukon, Parks Canada, the Aklavik HTC and WMAC (NS) have worked together on a six-year study to learn more about North Slope grizzly bears. Research was partially funded through the IFA. The study looked at grizzly bear population size, birth rate, death rate, locations where bears can be found at different times of the year, and their movements. In order to obtain this information, the project employed various techniques, including a DNA mark-recapture study, GPS and radio collars, Inuvialuit observations, and formal interviews about traditional knowledge.

A preliminary population analysis was completed in March 2010. The Council recommended that the grizzly bear quota be adjusted upwards by two bears, pending review of the final report and analysis.

A draft report of the study was made available to Council in 2013; a final report is expected in fall 2014. A follow-up workshop on the study is anticipated shortly after the release of the final report. The workshop will provide an opportunity for co-management agencies to integrate the study findings into the management regime.

Polar bear research and management

During this term, the Council was engaged with polar bear management largely at the national and international level. The Council maintained its seat on the Polar Bear Technical Committee (PBTC) and the Polar Bear Administrative Committee (PBAC), and attended meetings of the Inuvialuit-Inupiat Commission, the Ranges States, and Inuit planning forums related to the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

Discussions of the Polar Bear Technical Committee and the Polar Bear Administrative Committee

Each year, the two committees meet separately to discuss population status and past and current research and to provide advice on polar bear management. WMAC (NS) is a member of both committees. During this term it attended the annual meetings of the committees. Presence on the PBTC enables the Council to participate in the development of the annual polar bear population status table and to ensure that status assessment is informed by the most accurate science and traditional knowledge. On the PBAC, the Council contributes its policy-related views to inform management of Canada's 13 polar bear populations.

CITES COP 16

The Council was involved through the Inuit Consult group in planning for the CITES Conference of the Parties (COP) 16. Preparations leading up to CITES were intensive for the Council, as it was helping to coordinate efforts across the Inuit consult group, including production of communications materials. Ernest Pokiak attended COP 16, held March 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand, to participate in education efforts describing Canada's management system for polar bear. An uplisting from CITES Appendix Two to Appendix One was proposed and defeated. Such an uplisting would have been detrimental to the Inuit and Inuvialuit way of life in Canada. Harvesting polar bears is a part of Inuit culture and livelihoods. Canada has a successful and carefully managed system for the polar bear harvest.

Ranges states

The polar bear ranges states meet every other year. This meeting is an opportunity for countries with polar bear populations to discuss population and management issues. Canada hosted the ranges states in 2011 in Iqaluit. The Canadian location provided an opportunity for ranges states to be exposed to Inuit culture and provided some context for Canada's complex management system. The Chair and staff participated in this meeting.

Review of the national conservation strategy for polar bears

Environment Canada has taken the lead in drafting a national strategy for the conservation of polar bears. WMAC (NS) participated in discussions, drafting and reviewing this document in the three years of this term. A draft strategy created in 2011 is under review.

Inuvialuit-Inupiat meetings

WMAC (NS) began attending the annual meetings of the Inuvialuit and Inupiat (I-I) in 2010 and have attended each year since. The meetings are convened to discuss the management of polar bears across the South Beaufort subpopulation pursuant to the 1988 Inuvialuit-Inupiat Agreement. The Alaskan and Canadian commissioners hear reports from researchers and then provide a set of recommendations to the affected management parties.

Inuit Consult Group

Inuit governments and co-managers hold regular calls coordinated by Environment Canada to discuss international management efforts for polar bear. The Council participated in these calls.

The polar bear traditional knowledge project

The two WMACs have jointly conducted a polar bear traditional knowledge project across the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. Available management information about polar bears has often excluded the knowledge of Inuvialuit. This project sought to remedy the situation by compiling traditional knowledge from six Inuvialuit communities through structured interviews. The project began in 2010 and is nearing completion. A final report was drafted and will be finalized in 2014/15. The project has been managed out of the WMAC (NS) office and the final report will be available on its website.

Porcupine Caribou Research and Management

The Porcupine caribou herd is an internationally significant migratory herd harvested by aboriginal and resident hunters. In 2010, the Porcupine Caribou Harvest Management Plan (HMP) was signed by all participating parties, including WMAC (NS). The signing of this document was a milestone in cooperative management.

The plan includes a colour-coded chart based on herd size, which prescribes a harvest approach. There are four management regimes to be enacted depending on herd size.

A herd photo-census was successfully conducted in 2013 and biologists estimated a count of 197,000 animals. This indicates a Green Zone with respect to harvest under the HMP.

In 2011–14, research funds provided through the IFA were used to administer a satellite collar program (deployment costs, collar purchase, satellite system fees and data retrieval), conduct a rut count, and retrieve dead and shed collars.

Muskox research and management

The North Slope muskox population has been of interest to managers and local people since the animals were reintroduced to Alaska in 1969 and 1970 and spread to the Yukon in the 1980s. The North Slope population ranges across the entire North Slope, from Alaska to the Mackenzie Delta. The population in the Alaskan Arctic Refuge declined and almost disappeared between 1998 and 2002.

Since 2002, muskox numbers west of the Arctic Refuge have been stable or slowly declining. East of the Arctic Refuge, in the Yukon and NWT, the trend is unknown since regular surveys have not been carried out. A muskox population estimate was undertaken in 2011. The population is believed to be approximately 100 individuals in the Yukon, with another group west of the Arctic Refuge. The population in the refuge itself increased rapidly after introduction, stabilized at around 350 individuals, and is now declining. Low calf production in recent years is one suspected factor in this decline, although other causes could be related to climate and weather.

Yukon muskox are studied and monitored in several ways. Aerial surveys, composition counts, satellite tracking, samples from captured muskox, and community observations all contribute to what is known about these animals.

Moose management and research

Richardson Mountain Moose Survey

With funding provided through the IFA, approximately 610 square km of habitable moose range in the Richardson Mountains was surveyed in 2012. This area was previously surveyed in 1989 and in 2000, when the highest moose density per available habitat in the Yukon was observed. The purpose of the survey was to determine the minimum number of moose available for harvest in the Richardson Mountains, and to document late winter habitat use and the long-term value of these ranges. This information can then be used to identify important moose habitats across the Yukon North Slope.

Park management

Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park

The *Parks and Land Certainty Act* requires each territorial park to have a management plan, prepared in consultation with the public, that reflects not only Yukon Government policies and legislation, but also the provisions laid out in the land claims agreements.

Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park was the first territorial park created by the Yukon Government. The island is the largest on the Yukon North Slope and lies five km offshore, almost directly opposite the mouth of the Firth River.

Common eider. Photo: Cameron Eckert

After five years of consultation and input from numerous organizations, including the Aklavik HTC, the Aklavik Community Corporation, the Inuvialuit Game Council, and WMAC (NS), the original Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Management Plan was revised and finalized in September 2006.

The plan was first completed in 1991 and detailed a number of management issues and concerns that had arisen since the park's inception in 1987. The plan is available at the Yukon Department of Environment, the Council's website, and from the WMAC (NS) office.

Since then, many changes have occurred, such as increased visitor numbers, increasing oil and gas interests in the offshore, increased interest from the cruise ship industry, and increasing environmental impacts on historic resources.

The Council met regularly with the Chief Park Ranger at Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park to discuss current and planned park activities. The Council also received briefings prior to the beginning of the field season on park priorities in terms of the season's visitors, research and monitoring programs, heritage site maintenance and other activities. WMAC (NS) continued to support the research and monitoring projects being conducted on Herschel Island, including the Herschel Island Ecological Monitoring Project and monitoring of the Black guillemot population.

WMAC (NS) works with Yukon Government, Parks Branch on wildlife research, management and ecological monitoring in Hershel Island Territorial Park.

In 2012, ten years of wildlife, ecological, geophysical, weather and visitor data collected through the Herschel Island monitoring program were compiled and presented in *Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Inventory, Monitoring, and Research Program: Key Findings and Recommendations* (Dorothy Cooley, Cameron D. Eckert and Richard R. Gordon).

Ivvavik National Park

The WMAC (NS) continued to work in partnership with Parks Canada (Western Arctic Field Unit) on issues related to wildlife research, management and ecological monitoring in Ivvavik National Park. A representative from Parks Canada sat on the Council as the member for the Government of Canada over the past term.

Over the past 50 years, the Stokes Point area in the Park has seen a variety of industrial activities, including a short-lived Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line station, an airstrip in support of Beaufort Sea hydrocarbon exploration, and a Department of National Defense short-range radar facility. The community of Aklavik and the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation have raised concerns about possible pollution left behind at Stokes Point from these activities.

Every ten years the park produces a State of the Park Report (SOPR), which is in effect a report card on implementation of the management plan. The Council was involved in reviewing and contributing to the SOPR in 2012.

Parks Canada has been working to update its wild animal regulations. Consultations on the new regulations finished in 2011. Interim guidelines

Located on the western portion of the Yukon North Slope, Ivvavik National Park boasts 10,168 square km of unspoiled beauty. It is the first Canadian national park created by a land claim. Parameters for Ivvavik National Park were set out in the IFA, and made official through the *National Parks Act*.

implemented for northern parks allow for individuals to carry firearms for protection in specific circumstances.

The Western Arctic Field Unit of Parks Canada continued to focus on developing the monitoring program for Ivvavik. Monitoring efforts are focused largely around the Sheep Creek site and have recently expanded to include the coastal region.

Photo: Wayne Lynch

Wildlife research funded through the IFA

Each year WMAC (NS) reviews proposals for research projects related to wildlife management and ecological monitoring on the Yukon North Slope to ensure they are consistent with the goals of the IFA, wildlife conservation and management goals for the North Slope and the interests and rights of Inuvialuit. The Council makes recommendations, as appropriate, to support projects. In some cases, it will also recommend that projects proposed by Parks Canada, the Yukon Government, and the Canadian Wildlife Service receive support from IFA implementation funding.

Recommendations are based on research priorities identified in or by several sources:

- the Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan;
- the Yukon North Slope Long-term Research Plan;
- the Porcupine Caribou Management Plan;
- the Inuvialuit Settlement Region Grizzly Bear Management Plan;
- priorities identified by the Aklavik HTC and the community of Aklavik; and
- emerging management issues identified by Council members.

The Council monitors the progress of all recommended projects by requesting presentations and final reports from all agencies that receive IFA implementation funding.

Photo: Herschel Island Rangers

IFA funding recommended by the Council in 2011–12

Total recommended funds, 2011–12

Parks Canada (PC)	$ 35,000
Yukon government (YG)	$125,000
Environment Canada (EC)	$ 19,000
Total	$179,000

Agency	Amount	Project
YG PC	$59,800 $6,000	Yukon North Slope Grizzly Bear Population Study • Grizzly Bear Population and Movement on the Yukon North Slope (lab analysis) • Grizzly Bear Population and Movement on the Yukon North Slope (den survey)
YG	$30,500	North Slope Polar Bear Project (distribution flights)
YG	$10,000	Harvest Data Collection — Model development (Aklavik)
YG	$5,300	Herschel Island Ecological Monitoring Program
YG	$5,000	Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Study
YG	$3,000	Herschel Island book
YG PC	$3,000 $6,000	Porcupine Caribou Herd Satellite Collar Project
YG PC	$8,400 $8,000	Ivvavik National Park Muskox Survey
PC	$10,000	Monitoring Environmental Impacts on Insect and Bird Biodiversity in Ivvavik National Park
PC	$5,000	Identifying the next steps toward better integrating ecological integrity (EI) data and local knowledge, administered by Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-op
EC	$9,000	Aklavik Community-based monitoring: Arctic borderlands ecological knowledge co-op data verification, archiving, analysis, and evaluation
EC	$10,000	Coastal Ecological Vulnerability and Risk Assessment/ Management Tool

Yukon North Slope grizzly bear research project

Yukon Government, Parks Canada, the Aklavik HTC and WMAC (NS) worked together to study grizzly bears on the Yukon North Slope. The study focused on grizzly bears between the Firth and Blow rivers. It looked at grizzly bear population sizes, birth rates, death rates, where bears are found at certain times of the year, and how much they move around.

In order to obtain this information, the project used various techniques, including a DNA mark-recapture study, GPS and radio collars, Inuvialuit observations and formal interviews on traditional knowledge. Gathering and integrating local expert and traditional knowledge into the scientific management framework was a

goal of the project, as was the development of a long-term population monitoring program for grizzly bears on the Yukon North Slope.

The information collected through this study will help governments, community organizations and co-management boards and committees make management decisions regarding the harvest quota for grizzly bears. The information will also be used to establish baseline population monitoring.

All collars were removed in 2010, and researchers completed field work in 2011. In the 2011 field season researchers flew a den survey, collecting prey samples (caribou, ground squirrel, fish) through the Aklavik HTC. Lab work such as analyzing diet information and health indicators was completed in 2012. The project team then analyzed data and writing reports. The final demographic and population analysis was expected in 2012. A final report that combines scientific and traditional knowledge will be completed soon afterwards.

Herschel Island ecological monitoring program

Ecological monitoring is identified as a priority in the Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park Management Plan. Since 1999, Herschel Island Rangers have worked closely with researchers to measure and record the impacts of human activity and the rapid ecological change observed on the island. The program is guided by a comprehensive instruction manual that describes standardized methods of data collection and data management.

The program relies on the involvement of the rangers to ensure standardized data collection and data management, and to expand the program to include projects related to ecological change and wildlife use of the park. The program now consists of 12 related projects.

In the 2011 field season the following monitoring activities took place:

- orientation and training on new protocols was provided to the rangers;
- Canadian Tundra Experiment vegetation monitoring was carried out;
- daily weather conditions were recorded;
- wildlife observations were recorded;
- permafrost and snow depth were monitored;
- annual breeding bird surveys were carried out in early and late June;
- the annual survey of birds of prey was carried out in mid-June and mid-July;
- Black guillemot populations and nests were monitored through the summer;
- impact monitoring for cruise ship visits was carried out;
- harvest data and visitor-use statistics were gathered; and
- slump monitoring for rates of erosion was carried out.

Photo: Michelle Sicotte

Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-op

The Co-op was founded in 1994 when representatives from several community groups, agencies, and governments began a collaborative ecological monitoring program. The initial focus was on climate change, contaminants and regional development within the range of the Porcupine Caribou herd. Co-op activities include the tracking of science-based and community-based indicators, and annual community interviews targeting environmental change.

The goals of the Co-op include monitoring and assessing ecosystem changes in the range of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and adjacent coastal and marine areas; encouraging the use of both science-based studies and studies based on local and traditional knowledge in ecological monitoring and ecosystem management; improving communications and understanding among governments, aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities and scientists with regard to ecosystem knowledge and management; and fostering capacity-building and training opportunities in northern communities in the context of these goals.

In 2011 the Co-op focused on a review of a new survey questionnaire and reporting structure for community monitors that allows the data to be entered, retrieved and analyzed more quickly. There has been a positive response from monitors and interviewees about the new survey and data input.

Photo: Parks Canada

Porcupine Caribou Herd Satellite Collar Program

The Porcupine Caribou Herd Satellite Collar program is a multi-year initiative administered by Yukon Government in close association with several partner organizations: Parks Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Porcupine Caribou Management Board, WMAC (North Slope), Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board, and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Directed by the Porcupine Caribou Management Plan, radio and satellite collars are used to locate the herd for various surveys (calf birth and survival, overwinter calf survival and full composition counts) and to identify particular individuals in the herd to act as a sampling focus.

Caribou are fitted with their satellite collars during the annual March capture and composition count field work. During the reporting period there were about 12 satellite collars in the program.

Location data was managed by Government of Yukon and shared with partner agencies. A web site with maps and other relevant information was maintained (www.taiga.net/satellite/index.html).

Porcupine Caribou Harvest Data Collection — Model Development

With the signing of the Harvest Management Plan for the Porcupine Caribou Herd in Canada, the Parties agreed to collect caribou harvest data. The objective of this project is to assist in the development and testing of a comprehensive harvest monitoring program that will be effective in gathering and making available information on community harvest activities.

The PCMB hosted a workshop in June 2011 in Inuvik that brought together operational-level administrators of community harvest data collection projects. General information was provided on past harvest studies, current requirements under the Harvest Management Plan and Implementation Plan and problems encountered with past data submissions.

There were extensive discussions about how communities collect and store data and how they will transform their reported harvest numbers into an estimated harvest. It was decided that each user group would submit their summarized data to the PCMB. CWS (or the Porcupine Caribou Technical Committee) will sum the estimates from all user groups to calculate a total estimated caribou harvest.

An instruction manual for program administrators will be created that includes detailed overall instructions and database information and clarifies the questions that arose during the 2009 data submissions.

Beaufort Sea Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Study

The WMACs (North Slope and Northwest Territories) are carrying out a joint multi-year polar bear traditional knowledge (PBTK) project that will collect Inuvialuit knowledge across the ISR for use in management actions. This project complements existing and proposed efforts (population survey, harvest monitoring, coastal bear survey and denning survey) to understand how climate change may be affecting polar bear habitat and populations. National committees are interested in acquiring more local and traditional knowledge on this species, so that the information can be incorporated into reports and assist with management decisions.

Interviews have been conducted over two years in the communities of Aklavik, Inuvik, Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, Tuktoyaktuk and Ulukhaktok. The interviews have been transcribed and verified and are currently being coded by a contractor. Spatial information associated with the interviews has been digitized and will be incorporated into the analysis and final report. In the fall of 2012 a community verification tour is scheduled and a report should be ready by April 2013.

The information from this study will be used to determine the status of polar bears and develop management guidelines for harvest.

Yukon North Slope muskox survey

A multi-agency census took place in April 2011 to determine the current size and status of the muskox population across northern Yukon and Alaska. North-south transects at five-km intervals were flown, from the Babbage River in northwestern Yukon to west of the Colville River in northern Alaska.

Census takers observed 101 muskox in the Yukon between the Babbage River and the Alaska border. Cooperating agencies found 190 muskox west of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, but observed no muskox in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, suggesting that the total population is at least 291 animals. In 2006, 296 muskox were counted during a census of the same region.

IFA funding recommended by the Council in 2012–13

Total recommended funds, 2012–13

Parks Canada (PC)	$ 35,000
Yukon government (YG)	$128,000
Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS)	$ 19,000
Total	$182,000

Agency	Amount	Project
PC	$10,000	Ecological Integrity Monitoring in the Forest and Tundra Ecosystem of Ivvavik National Park
PC	$14,000	Monitoring the Coastal Zone Ecosystem in Ivvavik NP
PC CWS	$5,000 $10,000	Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-op
PC YG	$6,000 $3,000	Porcupine Caribou Satellite Collar Project
CWS	$9,000	Baseline Data and Monitoring Shorebirds (multi-year)
YG	$20,000	Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Study
YG	$5,000	Herschel Island Ecological Monitoring Program
YG	$28,000	North Slope Grizzly Bear Project - contaminents
YG	$15,000	Porcupine Caribou Rut Composition Count
YG	$20,000	Richardson Mountain Moose Survey
YG	$5,000	Aklavik PCH Harvest Monitoring
YG	$32,000	Porcupine Caribou Satellite Collar Recovery

Herschel Island Ecological Monitoring Program

There are four main components to the monitoring program: wildlife, vegetation, abiotic (permafrost), and human use. Program activities undertaken in 2012–13 included a review of Herschel Island Ranger orientation, training and programs; incidental wildlife observations, including wildlife found dead in the field; Arctic char monitoring; annual surveys of breeding birds and birds of prey; monitoring of Black guillemot populations and nests; Canadian Tundra Experiment vegetation monitoring; daily weather records; permafrost and snow-depth measurements; and slump monitoring for rates of erosion. They also included monitoring of beach landing strips; impact monitoring of cruise ship visits; and collection of harvest data and visitor use statistics.

In 2012, ten years of wildlife, ecological, geophysical, weather and visitor data collected through the Herschel Island monitoring program were compiled in *Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Inventory, Monitoring, and Research Program: Key Findings and Recommendations* (Dorothy Cooley, Cameron D. Eckert, and Richard R. Gordon).

Yukon North Slope Grizzly Bear Research Project

The study uses GPS and VHF collars, and a DNA mark-recapture study to estimate the birth rate, death rate, and rate and direction of population change. The study also looks how harvesting affects the grizzly bear population.

Analysis of diet information and health indicators was completed in 2012–13, and a final demographic and population estimate was established. Researchers worked on preparing a final report, and planned to present information to the communities in 2013.

Retrieved satellite and radio collars.

Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-op

Objectives of the 2012–13 program included: 1) monitoring ecological change following the revised monitoring survey and data standards relevant to the North Slope communities; 2) validating and reporting on trends and changes as a result of the monitoring program; and 3) completing analysis and reports based on a new survey questionnaire (with continued emphasis on developing analysis of older and recent data).

Porcupine Caribou Herd radio and satellite collar program

Approximately 100 collars are maintained on adult females, and 15 on adult bulls. A full census and surveys to estimate calf birth and survival rates were attempted in 2012, but unfortunately were hampered by poor weather conditions and by herd movement.In 2012–13, research funds were used to administer the satellite collar program (deployment costs, collar purchase, satellite system fees and data retrieval), conduct a rut count, and retrieve dead and shed collars.

Satellite collar program

During the reporting period there were 12 active satellite collars on the herd. The collars document the general distribution of the herd, routes and migration timing and are cost-effective because aircraft is not required to obtain the data. Location data is managed by Yukon Government and shared with its partners.

Rut count

In years when a photo census of the herd is conducted, a composition count is also done during rut to document the bull: cow ratio. The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a bull-only harvest is having a detrimental affect on breeding, and to provide sex and age composition data to assist in the development of population estimates when census data are collected.

Retrieval of dead and shed collars

Approximately 70 dead and shed collars were transmitting throughout the Yukon portion of the range, making it difficult to find available frequencies for new collars. Researchers recovered 36 collars (5 satellite collars and 31 radio collars) and searched for 32, but they were deemed to be off the air. Retrieving defunct collars allows for more efficient programming and the deployment of new collars, which are critical to the ongoing monitoring of the Porcupine Caribou Herd.

Photo: Herschel Island Rangers

Beaufort Sea Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Study

In the fall of 2012, project researcher Peter Armitage travelled to each of the six ISR communities to verify information collected during the interviews. In January 2013 he returned to Inuvik for a three-day workshop in which TK "experts" interpreted the information concerning changes, if any, in polar bear numbers, distribution and health. The final report for the Beaufort Sea Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Study was expected in 2014.

Ecological integrity monitoring in the forest and tundra ecosystems of Ivvavik National Park

This monitoring project, a partnership with Trent University, focused on number and diversity of animal pollinators, variation in environmental factors and biological responses to them in the short term. It also assessed the consequences of climate change in the long term by quantifying changes from earlier baseline data. The three components of the project were abundance and species richness of breeding birds in Ivvavik National Park; breeding success and demography of American robins; and the pollination of dioecious plants in northern Yukon. This project directly assisted the long-term monitoring program for Ivvavik National Park through the establishment of vegetation plots in the forest and tundra of the Sheep Creek region, and completion of a protocol for a breeding bird survey.

Monitoring the coastal zone ecosystem in Ivvavik National Park

The objective of this project is to develop a sustainable and effective long-term monitoring program for the Coastal Ecological Integrity (EI) indicator for Ivvavik Narional Park. (The coastal plain has been identified as a sensitive environment that is ecologically and culturally important.) When completed the Coastal EI Indicator will be monitored and evaluated by an index of inter-related measures, some ground-based (for example, ground validation of rates of bank retreat) and some using satellite imagery (for example, overall estimates of shoreline retreat and deposition).

The project partners are Parks Canada, Geological Survey of Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service, Canadian High Arctic Research Station, Yukon Government, Alfred Wegener Institute and McGill University. During the summer of 2012, activities were undertaken to monitor, map and assess the vulnerability of coastal ecosystems. In December, the partners met to discuss work priorities and create a monitoring work plan. A workshop held in Aklavik in March 2013 provided input on the key attributes possibly at risk.

Polar Bear traditional knowledge workshop, Inuvik, January 2013. Back row, l–r: Bill Wilkie, Lennie Emaghok, Boogie Pokiak, Hans Lennie, Wilson Malagana, Danny C. Gordon. Front row, l–r: Lena Wolkie, Frank Pokiak, David Kuptana, John Alikamik, Steve Illasiak; missing from photo: Roger Kuptana, Larry Carpenter.

Richardson Mountains moose survey

Approximately 610 square km of habitable moose range in the Richardson Mountains was surveyed in 2012. The purpose of the survey was to determine the minimum number of moose available for harvest in the Richardson Mountains, and to document late-winter habitat use and the long-term value of these ranges, which can then be used to identify important moose habitats across the North Slope. Moose were also classified as adult or young of year and sexed to provide demographic data for the population. The current survey replicates this approach.

Porcupine Caribou Harvest Data Collection — Model Development

Environment Canada previously contracted the development of a Microsoft Access database to house the harvest data collected in the communities. In 2012, the contractor who developed the database travelled to Inuvik to work with the Government of the Northwest Territories and Yukon Government staff on harvest data from Aklavik and the Gwitchin Renewable Resources Board. Future plans included a working meeting in Aklavik to further review and test the database and install it on the Aklavik HTC computer. AHTC could then use the database to house, analyze and report on their harvest data.

IFA funding recommended by the Council in 2013–14

Total recommended funds, 2013–14

Parks Canada (PC)	$ 35,000
Yukon government (YG)	$132,000
Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS)	$ 19,000
Total	$186,000

Agency	Amount	Project
PC CWS	5,000 10,000	Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-op
PC CWS	16,000 6,000	Implementing Coastal Ecological Integrity Monitoring in Ivvavik National Park
PC	8,000	Wildlife Monitoring with Remote Cameras in Ivvavik National Park
PC CWS	6,000 3,000	Porcupine Caribou Herd Satellite Collar Project
YG	20,000	Porcupine Caribou Rut Composition Count
YG	55,000	Porcupine Caribou Herd Detailed Movement and Habitat Use on the Yukon North Slope
YG	7,000	Fuel Cache Establishment
YG	20,000	Yukon Arctic Vegetation Classification
YG	2,000	Finalize Draft Report: *Ecology and Management of Wolves on the Porcupine Caribou Herd Range, Canada* (1997)
YG	15,000	Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Project
YG	10,000	Communications: North Slope Grizzly Bear Population Study/Richardson Mountain Moose Survey Follow-Up

Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-op

The 2013–14 fiscal year built on the successful survey redeployment, analysis and communication products of the previous few years. There were three objectives: to monitor ecological change following the revised monitoring survey and data standards relevant to the North Slope communities; to validate and report on trends and changes as a result of the monitoring program (the gathering and annual trend and result updates); and to continue to link to the archived survey responses and make them accessible to communities.

The Co-op planned to provide four products in the fiscal year:

- plain language documents and audio-visual presentations for the communities via the web and DVD — a detailed report of findings and synthesized outputs to be provided to WMAC (NS) and the Aklavik HTC;
- a CD of appropriate images for publication to be provided to WMAC (NS);
- access to online data summaries; and
- annual program results and data validation summaries from ABEK Co-op annual gatherings.

Implementing Coastal Ecological Integrity Monitoring in Ivvavik NP

Government departments and academic researchers attended a coastal monitoring workshop in Aklavik in spring 2013. The workshop informed communities, organizations and individuals of recent and proposed work on the coast of Ivvavik/Yukon North Slope region. Participants gathered community input on areas of particular interest or issues of concern for monitoring ecological and/or habitat change along the coast. This input would be used to select relevant monitoring sites for field work in 2013. One session focused on the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Project.

Data collection and site visits in 2012 contributed to the development of a transect monitoring protocol to detect changes in sensitive coastal areas.

Work planned for 2013 included piloting the transect protocol in a minimum of two locations along the Ivvavik coast in areas predicted to be at risk for habitat change, such as river estuaries, based on community input and 2012 field work.

Transects will be piloted as long-term sites for measuring six factors:

- subtle vegetation change (in height and cover);
- estuary saltwater encroachment;
- boundary shifts in vegetation communities;
- surficial expressions on permafrost change;
- subtle change in elevation due to erosion/sedimentation; and
- establishment of a ground control point to support remote sensing.

Work completed in 2012 on caribou habitat investigated subtle land-cover change, particularly shrub encroachment on areas of the coastal plain that are key caribou foraging areas. A preliminary analysis was due to be completed by spring 2013. Additional data on vegetation types may be collected to verify the preliminary data.

Wildlife monitoring with remote cameras in Ivvavik National Park

The program has several long-term objectives:

- understand current habitat use, distribution and relative abundance of carnivore species in the Firth River corridor;
- monitor changes over time in habitat use, distribution and relative abundance that may be related to climate-driven changes in habitat conditions, and report on these trends as a measure of ecological integrity for State of the Park assessments.
- capture candid photographs of wildlife in the park for use in videos or other media for visitor experience and external relations programs. An example is the YouTube video of caribou at a salt lick from the Engigstciak remote camera images (www.youtube.com/watch?v=pIsgqj6aWZM).

Field work in 2013 involved several initiatives:

- A time-lapse camera was deployed at the Firth River/Sheep Creek confluence on May 11 to capture the Firth River break-up. The camera was removed on June 13 and a time-lapse video of the footage was assembled.
- Six cameras that were mounted in the park during the 2012 field season were left there over the winter. The cameras were assessed at the beginning of the 2013 season and the images were analyzed. Based on the quality of the images, it was decided that two of the six cameras should be redeployed elsewhere.
- Two cameras were deployed at Wolf Tor near Sheep Creek Station. They will be left in the park over the winter.
- In June, 12 cameras were deployed in the Firth River corridor, 11 of which will be left in the park over the winter.
- All cameras were checked in August, and one camera was deployed at the First River/Joe Creek confluence; it was also left in place over the winter.

Photo: Parks Canada

Porcupine Caribou Herd satellite collar project

The project continued in 2013. Up to 24 active satellite collars were on the herd after spring capture, all of which remained fully functional through the year. Five caribou mortalities occurred through the spring–summer period, leaving 19 active collars by fall. The location database continues to be updated weekly. Satellite collars, along with conventional VHF collars, were used in 2013 to estimate calf birth rates, provide a census, and monitor movements prior to the proposed rut survey. Monitoring satellite collars provided an assessment of herd overlap in multiple locations, including overlap with the Central Arctic Herd. This led to the cancellation of the rut survey *(see below)*, with a minimum cost associated with confirming locations of the herd as a whole. The collars have also been important through the years in monitoring overlap with the Hart River herd. In 2013, for the first time, monitoring noted overlap with a significant portion of the recovering Fortymile Caribou Herd.

Porcupine Caribou Herd rut composition count

The Harvest Management Plan for the Porcupine Caribou Herd (PCH) in Canada provides for bull-only harvest regimes to be implemented for various user groups if the herd drops below a certain size. If the herd size is between 115,000 and 80,000 caribou (yellow zone), all parties will strive to achieve a harvest of 100% bulls. If the herd size drops below 80,000 caribou (orange zone), a Total Allowable Harvest will be implemented, along with a mandatory bull-only harvest for all users.

Leading up to the estimated survey date (October 10–22) the PCH and adjacent herds were monitored. Based on satellite collar location at that time, the PCH had divided into two primary groups: one in the southwestern corner of the herd's range in Alaska; and the other distributed from Old Crow to the Ogilvie River in Yukon. Telemetry flights and monitoring of satellite collar locations revealed that both groups had the potential to overlap with other barren-ground caribou herds. In Yukon, the PCH came close to overlapping with the Fortymile Caribou Herd but did not fully overlap. In Alaska, however, most of the PCH there overlapped with the Central Arctic Herd, making it impossible to conduct the survey without a heavily biased result. As a consequence, the rut survey was cancelled.

PCH detailed movement and habitat use on the Yukon North Slope

This project provides quantitative data describing use of the Yukon North Slope (YNS) by the Porcupine Caribou Herd (PCH) through two means: increasing the number of GPS satellite collars deployed; and detailed aerial mapping of relative abundance on the YNS during calving. In March 2013 field crews began a multi-year process of replacing traditional VHF collars with satellite collars. Data from the collars will be augmented during the calving period though the use of aerial mapping of relative abundance of the herd to help assess data derived from GPS satellite collars.

In 2013 a successful aerial survey was completed around the peak of calving and up to 23 active GPS satellite collars were active. Large data-sets were collected that demonstrate significant use of the YNS from the pre-calving period though to fall migration. In March 2014 collars purchased through funding recommended by

WMAC (NS) will replace collars that are expected to expire shortly or collars on caribou that died through the 2013 season. More importantly, these collars will augment the total number of satellite collars deployed on the herd to provide sufficient sample sizes for documenting and modeling PCH use on the YNS. The location database continues to be updated weekly with new locations.

Establishment of a fuel cache

Multiple surveys of the PCH occur throughout the year (e.g., calving, post-calving and late winter) to assess their status. Many of these surveys occur in remote locations along the Yukon North Slope. This makes logistics challenging and expensive, especially during periods of poor weather. Surveys often require long periods in specific locations to complete counts, forcing survey crews to return to faraway points to refuel. This adds time and cost to surveys, and compromises their efficiency and quality.

Aviation fuel was purchased and cached at Komakuk airstrip in July 2013. Fuel is being cached in secondary containment maintained by Parks Canada. A second fuel cache of Jet A fuel was purchased from the Yukon Geological Survey at the conclusion of their field program and is currently in place at the Blow River airstrip.

Yukon arctic vegetation classification

This project finalized the draft arctic vegetation associations that occur on the North Slope. The area of interest includes the North Slope of the Yukon and adjacent areas to the west in Alaska and to the east in the NWT as far the Mackenzie River. It also includes the eastern portion of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and sheep range in the Richardson Mountains.

The finalization of North Slope arctic vegetation associations was achieved through a peer reviewed process that has been used in jurisdictions all across Canada to meet a national standard and nomenclature. Currently, 58 arctic vegetation associations are proposed for the non-treed regions of the arctic.

Photo: Parks Canada

The finalized classification will be used to generate new and revised fact sheets for each vegetation association.

Finalized draft report on wolves

The draft version of *Ecology and Management of Wolves on the Porcupine Caribou Herd Range, Canada* (1997) was expanded and finalized in the fiscal year.

Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Project

The joint WMAC polar bear traditional knowledge project (PBTK) neared completion. In 2013–14 analysis and report writing was finalized, and report layout was underway. A communications plan for study results was developed. The final report to inform management actions and decisions will be circulated in 2014–15.

North Richardson Mountains late winter moose survey

The survey confirmed very high densities of moose populations in specific valleys throughout the North Richardson Mountains as well as the presence of moose in extremely limited pockets of habitat on the North Slope during winter. The presence of a large proportion of the population in the Bell River area during winter indicates the importance of this particular valley. The valley — and the passes that lead to it — are critical for this moose population, particularly given the consistent use of winter ranges and movement corridors noted in similar nearby moose populations.

Special projects

A portion of the WMAC (NS) budget is allocated to special projects, including wildlife management, community participation, traditional knowledge, outreach and education.

Website

WMAC (NS) continues to use its website (www.wmacns.ca) as a communication and education tool. The site is a source of information about the IFA, the Council, the physical and cultural landscape of the North Slope, and management regimes and priorities.

Newsletters

The newsletter produced by WMAC (NS), *Wildlife Watch,* continues to inform communities and organizations about the Council's activities.

Podcasting

"The Living North," produced by WMAC (NS), is an ongoing series that highlights various aspects of Yukon North Slope history, Inuvialuit cultural life and conservation management. It also draws on relevant case studies from other parts of the Canadian North. In 2012–13, five new podcasts were broadcast:

- Getting to Best: Traditional Knowledge and Science (Peter Armitage);
- Work It: Best Practices for Wildlife Co-Management Challenges (Gregor Gilbert);
- Land Claims, the Law and Co-Management: an interview with Nigel Banks;
- Taqulik Hepa on the value of subsistence hunting;
- Nunatsiavut: Building on Co-Management (Aaron Dale);
- Weights and Measures: What is balanced development for Canada's North? (Pete Ewans); and
- How It Looks From Here: Ernest Pokiak from Tuktoyaktuk.

Launch of *Herschel Island Qikiqtaryuk: A Natural and Cultural History of Yukon's Arctic Island,* May 9, 2012.

Herschel Island Book Launch

Herschel Island Qikiqtaryuk: A Natural and Cultural History of Yukon's Arctic Island was published by the Council in 2012. Dr. Chris Burn led, compiled and edited the 242-page publication, which was co-authored by more than 40 people with specialized knowledge or understanding of Herschel Island. In 2013, the Council nominated Dr. Burn for a Royal Canadian Geographical Society Gold Medal for his contribution to this valuable publication. WMAC (NS) is the publisher of the book.

The Yukon North Slope Conservation Award ceremony, 2012.

The Yukon North Slope Conservation Award

The Yukon North Slope Conservation Award was created by the Council in 2012 to recognize outstanding contributions to the conservation of wildlife, habitat and traditional use on Yukon's North Slope. The award was presented at the Yukon North Slope Conference, and the 2012 recipients were Richard Gordon, Dorothy Cooley, Mervin Joe and Chris Burn.

North Slope mapping-scoping exercise

The Council contracted a mapping specialist to provide a range of options for storing and retrieving digital mapped information. This spatial information will assist the Council with its planning and management responsibilities.

Digital archiving

The Council continued its efforts to digitize its audio files and paper records. This initiative is ongoing and aids the council in long-term preservation of records.

Other activities

Species at risk

Through the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), Canada plays a central role in assessing species that may be at risk in the country. WMAC (NS) continued to provide input to COSEWIC and to species specialist committees that conduct and review species status assessments.

Monitoring offshore drilling/oil and gas extraction

The mandate of WMAC (NS) extends into the offshore Beaufort Sea, where there is renewed interest in oil and gas extraction.

In 2011, the National Energy Board (NEB) initiated the Arctic Offshore Drilling Review in response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. The Council was involved in the review process and made a submission to the NEB.

In March 2013, Council heard presentations from representatives of Imperial Oil, who explained the process by which the NEB reviews applications for offshore drilling in the arctic. A summary of this presentation and proposed follow-up actions can be found in the Council's meeting minutes from March 2013 (www.wmacns.ca/wmac/meetings). A decision on Imperial Oil's application for a licence is expected in 2015.

ISR community-based monitoring program

This is a pilot project established across the ISR to develop a community-based monitoring program (CBMP), including structure, governance, data management and training programs. The Chair of the Council is on the steering committee for the CBMP. A coordinator has been hired to develop the structure of the program and has been working out of the Joint Secretariat office in Inuvik since 2012. A written program guide was expected to be developed by March 2014.

The CBMP is a partnership that includes the ISR's six Hunters and Trappers Committees and wildlife co-management boards and the Inuvialuit Game Council. A regionally coordinated approach to monitoring, the program also builds on and collaborates with existing monitoring projects and partnerships in the ISR and encourages researchers, industry and other organizations who conduct community-based monitoring to work in collaboration with the ISR CBMP. More about the program is available at www.jointsecretariat.ca/ISR-CBMP.

Implementation funding

The Council receives its annual budget from Canada, through a contribution agreement with the Yukon Government. In 2013, Council prepared a detailed projection of funding requirement for the years 2014–15 to 2018–19. Council noted that it had not received an increase in funding since 2004, and that current funding levels were inadequate in a number of areas. The proposal included past expenditures as well as a detailed reporting of Council's responsibilities under the IFA. The Council has not yet confirmed a new funding agreement.

Photo: Herschel Island Park Rangers

Supplemental funding

In 2013, Council applied for and received $30,000 in supplemental funding through Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada for work on revising the Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan. These additional funds were directed towards a workshop with representatives from Aklavik and various technical experts. Its purpose was to assess available biophysical and cultural information for the North Slope and preliminary scoping of a new planning exercise.

Ongoing activities

The Council dedicates much of its time to reviewing and providing advice on research, management plans, policies and legislation that affect conservation and development on the Yukon North Slope. These include the following initiatives:

- Yukon North Slope Muskox Co-management Plan;
- National Polar Bear Conservation strategy;
- Polar bear quota recommendations and boundary change for South and North Beaufort Sea populations;
- Inuvialuit and Inupiat Agreement review and research action plan;
- Polar bear listing in the *Species at Risk Act*;
- Polar Bear Circumpolar Monitoring Plan;
- development of a community-based monitoring program for the ISR;
- National Energy Board's arctic review;
- review of the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan;
- review of the Caribou Designatable Units;
- planning for CITES COP 16;
- review of the Grizzly Bear Non-Detriment Finding;
- review of the Porcupine Caribou Herd implementation plan;
- Beaufort Regional Environmental Assessment program;
- COSEWIC draft status report on grizzly bear;
- Polar Bear Technical Committee Terms of Reference review;
- Parks Canada's proposed interim guidelines regarding the use of firearms for protection in northern national parks and national park reserves and proposed amendments to the national parks wildlife regulations;
- Ivvavik State of the Park Report (SOPR);
- assisting with and managing the Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge study;
- strategic framework for Porcupine Caribou;
- species at risk report for polar bear in NWT;
- Parks Canada wild animal regulations;
- review of Hershel Island monitoring program;
- review of Imperial Oil's preliminary information package; and
- IFA implementation funding renewal.

Photo: Parks Canada

Yukon North Slope Conference

Under the IFA, the Yukon Government Council (in partnership with the Council) is mandated to hold conferences related to the Yukon North Slope. In October 2012, the partners prepared and hosted the eighth Yukon North Slope Conference in Whitehorse, "Pathways to Arctic Innovation–Arctic Wildlife Conservation and Co-Management Lessons Learned and Future Challenges." The conference theme was co-management; 158 people — from Alaska to Labrador — participated.

2012 Yukon North Slope Conference

Co-management of wildlife was introduced more than 35 years ago with the signing of the first modern-day land claim in Arctic Canada. Building on collective experiences over this time, conference organizers structured a dialogue between aboriginal organizations and authorities, wildlife management and environmental impact review boards, and governments from across the North to explore major challenges, lessons learned and future innovations in wildlife co-management.

Conference sessions included a range of topics:

- Applied Co-Management — explored the challenges, lessons learned and the innovations required to make co-management effective for aboriginal, federal, territorial, provincial and state authorities.
- The Practice of Implementation — provided a legal perspective on harvesting rights and the management of wildlife and the environment since the signing of land claim agreements. The session reviewed areas of legal uncertainty, and explored new approaches that could contribute to resolving these issues.
- Integrating Science, Traditional Knowledge and Communities in Research and Resource Management — explored best practices in the treatment and application of traditional knowledge, and the involvement of communities in research.
- Managing the Extremes: innovation in areas requiring special management — explored challenges and innovations in managing areas with high conservation and cultural values.

A PDF of the complete conference proceedings and an eight-part podcast created at the conference is available at www.wmacns.ca/resources/yukon_north_slope_conference.

WMAC (NS) Council Meetings

2011	July 23–28	Herschel Island, YT
	September 6–7	Whitehorse, YT
	December 6–7	Inuvik, NWT
2012	March 27–29	Whitehorse, YT
	July 16–19	Ivvavik National Park, YT
	October 5	Whitehorse, YT
	November 7	teleconference
	December 7–10	Inuvik/Aklavik, NWT
2013	March 19–12	Whitehorse, YT
	June 10–12	Aklavik, NWT
	September 24–26	Whitehorse, YT
	December 2–4	Inuvik/Aklavik, NWT
2014	February 27	Whitehorse, YT
	March 18–19	Whitehorse, YT

Other meetings, workshops, and conferences

The WMAC (NS) Chair, members, representatives and secretariat attended numerous meetings, workshops and conferences relevant to the Council and the YNS.

2011		
Joint WMAC meeting	September 8	Whitehorse, YT
Joint WMAC meeting	December 6	Inuvik, NWT
Inuvialuit Game Council meeting	December 7	Inuvik, NWT
Inuvialuit Game Council meeting	September 19	Whitehorse, YT
Beaufort Regional Environmental Assessment (BREA) day	December 5	Inuvik, NWT
2012		
Polar Bear Technical Committee	January 30–February 1	Edmonton
National Energy Board round table	September 10–16	Inuvik, NWT
Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee meeting	September 11	Inuvik, NWT
Joint Secretariat board meeting	September 22	Whitehorse, YT
Community-Based Monitoring (CBM)	September 22	Whitehorse, YT
Polar Bear Range States Meeting	October 24–26	Iqaluit, NT
Aboriginal TK meeting	October 1–3	Inuvik, NWT
CITES planning meeting	November 8–9	Edmonton, AB

2013		
Polar Bear TK workshop	January 29–31	Inuvik, NWT
Polar Bear Technical Committee Meeting	February 5–7	Iqaluit, NT
PCMB Annual Harvest Meeting	February 12–14	Inuvik, NWT
Wildlife collaring/handling workshop	February 17–18	Inuvik, NWT
BREA results workshop	February 19–21	Inuvik, NWT
Coastal monitoring workshop	March 27	Aklavik, NWT
CITES COP 16	March 3–15	Bangkok, Thailand
CBM meeting, Inuvik gathering	April 11–15	Inuvik, NWT
Arctic Net IRIS	April 11–15	Inuvik, NWT
Inuvialuit-Inupiat Joint Commission	August 2–3	Anchorage, Alaska
Arctic Ungulates Conference	August 22–26	Yellowknife, NWT

The Council also participated in a number of ongoing meetings, including the Polar Bear Technical Committee, Polar Bear Administrative Committee, and teleconferences for COSEWIC and for CITES COP 16 preparation.

Partnerships

WMAC (NS) continues to work with its partners toward the conservation of wildlife, habitat and traditional Inuvialuit use on the Yukon North Slope.

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (Northwest Territories)

Like WMAC (NS), WMAC (NWT) was established under the IFA. It has a mandate "to conserve and protect wildlife, habitat and traditional Inuvialuit use" in the

Photo: Cameron Eckert

NWT portion of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. Over the past term, the Councils have made particular efforts to increase their communication and collaboration on matters related to transboundary species such as polar bear, grizzly bear and caribou. Maintaining a close relationship helps the two councils make effective and informed management decisions.

Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee

The Council works with the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee to develop and promote wildlife management on the North Slope. Concerns, including harvesting needs of the Aklavik Inuvialuit, are addressed through regular joint meetings. The Aklavik HTC helps to inform research priorities on the Yukon North Slope. WMAC (NS) worked with the Aklavik HTC on a number of issues this term, including the draft Muskox Management Plan, the North Slope Grizzly Bear Project and revisions to the Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan.

Inuvialuit Game Council

The Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC) represents the collective Inuvialuit interest in matters concerning wildlife management and habitat in the ISR. The IGC appoints Inuvialuit members to all co-management bodies under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. The IGC assists WMAC (NS) and all other co-management bodies when requested, advising on any issue that concerns the ISR. The IGC appoints two Inuvialuit members to WMAC (NS). The WMAC (NS) Chair attends and presents at IGC meetings on a regular basis, which provides a chance to report on Council activities and to hear issues and concerns raised by the IGC.

Porcupine Caribou Management Board

The Porcupine Caribou Management Board (PCMB) is a joint management body established under the Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement in 1985. WMAC (NS) works with the PCMB to develop strategies and recommendations to conserve and protect the Porcupine Caribou Herd on the Yukon North Slope. The Council continues to support the PCMB's collar program.

Other partnerships

WMAC (NS) also works with a number of other partners, such as the Arctic Research Institute, the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board, the Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-op, state, federal and Inupiat organizations in Alaska, the Government of Northwest Territories, as well as other councils, boards and committees throughout the Yukon and Canada.

Financial Statements: April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012

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

Chartered Accountant

REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Board of Directors of the Wildlife Management
Advisory Council (North Slope):

I have reviewed the statement of financial position of Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) as at March 31, 2012, and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. My review was made in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements and accordingly consisted primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to me by the Council.

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

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that these financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. In addition, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that operations in the year are not, in all material respects, in accordance with the terms of the contribution agreements entered into with Government of Yukon during the year.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

Whitehorse, Yukon
July 19, 2012

505 Jarvis Street, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2H7
PH: (867) 667-4700 FAX: (867) 667-4439

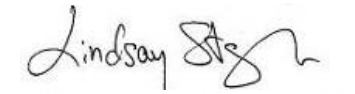
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

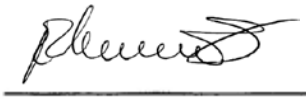
AS AT MARCH 31, 2012
(unaudited)

	2012	2011
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	$ 27,696	$ 84,515
Accounts receivable	1,598	19,000
Prepaid expenses	1,935	-
GST receivable	4,725	2,931
	35,954	106,446
EQUIPMENT (notes 2, 3)		
Cost	25,185	37,940
Less accumulated amortization	16,161	34,515
	9,024	3,425
	$ 44,978	$ 109,871
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	$ 2,361	$ 27,773
Wages and employee benefits payable	6,390	2,777
Deferred revenue (notes 2, 4)	26,726	75,420
	35,477	105,970
NET ASSETS		
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	476	476
INVESTMENT IN EQUIPMENT (note 2)	9,025	3,425
	9,501	3,901
	$ 44,978	$ 109,871

APPROVED BY:



Councillor



Councillor

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2012
(unaudited)

	2012	2011
REVENUES		
Government of Yukon - contribution	$ 281,194	$ 192,917
Government of Yukon - Polar Bear Research	3,000	-
Environment Canada - Arctic Borderlands	-	19,000
	284,194	211,917
EXPENDITURES		
ADMINISTRATION		
Honoraria - chair	47,285	44,043
Honoraria - council members	1,519	875
Interest and bank charges	26	99
Newsletter	1,230	526
Office and telephone	11,426	11,427
Professional fees and bookkeeping	8,318	7,500
Rent	5,525	5,390
Subcontracts	762	17,291
Term report	7,520	-
Council and other meetings and travel	45,182	27,170
Wages and employee benefits	86,413	65,103
	215,206	179,424
PROJECT COSTS		
Bylaws, Regulations, Legislation	4,305	-
Community Based Monitoring	6,152	-
Digital Archiving	1,961	-
Environment Canada - Arctic Borderlands	-	17,100
Management information and communications	7,513	-
Herschel Book	4,028	1,952
Jurisdictional Review	-	4,288
Maps	970	-
Muskox Plan	683	-
National Energy Board - Arctic Offshore Drilling	6,533	-
North Slope Conference	683	-
North Slope Wildlife Atlas	568	2,928
Polar Bear Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge Protocol	2,511	-
Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Report	-	1,750
Polar Bear Consultation Tour	3,606	-
Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Project	3,693	-
Species Status Reports	4,100	-
Website	512	815
Wildlfe Conservation Management Plan Update	4,559	987
Workshops, Conferences and Studies	7,051	2,673
	59,428	32,493
	274,634	211,917
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR	$ 9,560	$ -

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2012
(unaudited)

	2012			2011
	INVESTMENT IN EQUIPMENT	UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	TOTAL	TOTAL
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	$ 3,425	$ 476	$ 3,901	$ 5,033
Excess (shortage) of revenues over expenditures	-	9,560	9,560	-
Purchase of equipment	9,560	(9,560)	-	-
Disposal of obsolete equipment	(808)	-	(808)	-
Amortization of equipment	(3,152)	-	(3,152)	(1,132)
	5,600	-	5,600	(1,132)
BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	$ 9,025	$ 476	$ 9,501	$ 3,901

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2012
(unaudited)

	2012	2011
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash received from Government of Yukon	$ 235,500	$ 233,160
Cash received from Government of Canada	19,000	4,000
Cash received from other sources	-	-
Cash paid for administration costs	(224,231)	(181,066)
Cash paid for IFA implementation project costs	(77,528)	(42,814)
	(47,259)	13,280
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of equipment	(9,560)	-
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FOR THE YEAR	(56,819)	13,280
CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	84,515	71,235
CASH AT END OF YEAR	$ 27,696	$ 84,515

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2012
(unaudited)

1. NATURE OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) was incorporated under the Societies Ordinance of the Yukon as a non-profit entity. It was created pursuant to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement to advise federal and territorial governments on all matters pertaining to and affecting the management of Yukon North Slope wildlife, habitat, and traditional use.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) uses Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations as the basis of its accounting and financial statement presentation. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies used by management in the preparation of these financial statements.

a) Revenue Recognition

The Council follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

b) Equipment

Equipment is recorded in the statement of financial position at cost. Amortization is provided at rates sufficient to amortize the cost over the estimated useful lives of the equipment. Equipment is amortized using the declining balance method at rates set out in note 3.

The investment in equipment reflects the total net amortized cost of all equipment owned by the Council.

c) Deferred Revenue

Deferred revenue represents funds received under a contribution agreement or a specific project which are available to cover expenses in the next fiscal year as described in note 4.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2012
(unaudited)

3. EQUIPMENT

		2012			2011
	Rate	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net	Net
Computer equipment	55-100%	$ 12,522	$ 5,591	$ 6,931	$ 808
Office equipment	20%	12,663	10,570	2,093	2,617
		$ 25,185	$ 16,161	$ 9,024	$ 3,425

4. DEFERRED REVENUE

	2012	2011
Government of Yukon	$ 26,726	$ 75,420

5. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Council's financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and deferred revenue. Unless otherwise noted, it is the Council's opinion that the Council is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments approximate their carrying values, unless otherwise noted.

6. MEASUREMENT UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make assumptions and estimates that have an effect on the reported amount of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the period. Actual results could be different from those estimates.

7. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The Council is economically dependent upon the Government of Yukon, which provides funding for administration and the implementation of those matters assigned to the Council in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement.

Financial Statements: April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013

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

Chartered Accountant

REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Board of Directors of the Wildlife Management
Advisory Council (North Slope):

I have reviewed the statement of financial position of Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) as at March 31, 2013, and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. My review was made in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements and accordingly consisted primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to me by the Council.

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

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that these financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. In addition, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that operations in the year are not, in all material respects, in accordance with the terms of the contribution agreements entered into with Government of Yukon during the year.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

Whitehorse, Yukon
June 6, 2013

505 Jarvis Street, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2H7
PH: (867) 667-4700 FAX: (867) 667-4439

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT MARCH 31, 2013
(unaudited)

	2013	2012
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	$ 14,317	$ 27,696
Accounts receivable	6,500	1,598
Prepaid expenses	639	1,935
GST receivable	3,757	4,725
	25,213	35,954
EQUIPMENT (notes 2b, 4)		
Cost	27,482	25,185
Less accumulated amortization	21,023	16,161
	6,459	9,024
	$ 31,672	$ 44,978
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	$ 3,546	$ 2,361
Employee benefits payable	1,088	6,390
Wages payable	2,359	-
Deferred revenue (notes 2c, 5)	16,793	26,726
	23,786	35,477
NET ASSETS		
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	1,427	476
INVESTMENT IN EQUIPMENT (note 2b)	6,459	9,025
	7,886	9,501
	$ 31,672	$ 44,978

APPROVED BY:

Lindsay Stagg
Councillor

Councillor

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013
(unaudited)

	2013	2012
REVENUES		
Government of Yukon - contribution	$ 246,933	$ 281,194
Government of Yukon - Herschel Book	-	3,000
Government of Yukon - North Slope Conference	23,754	-
Herschel Book Revenues	950	-
	271,637	284,194
EXPENDITURES		
ADMINISTRATION		
Honoraria - chair	45,386	47,285
Honoraria - council members	3,511	1,519
Interest and bank charges	53	26
Newsletter	316	1,230
Office and telephone	10,653	11,426
Professional fees and bookkeeping	7,529	8,318
Rent	5,627	5,525
Subcontracts	-	762
Term report	-	7,520
Council and other meetings and travel	42,449	45,182
Wages and employee benefits	100,107	86,413
	215,631	215,206
PROJECT COSTS		
Bylaws, Regulations, Legislation	-	4,305
Community Based Monitoring	538	6,152
Digital Archiving	-	1,961
Management information and communications	5,422	7,513
Herschel Book	2,654	4,028
Maps	-	970
Muskox Plan	-	683
National Energy Board - Arctic Offshore Drilling	-	6,533
North Slope Conference	27,286	683
North Slope Wildlife Atlas	75	568
Polar Bear Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge Protocol	-	2,511
Polar Bear Consultation Tour	-	3,606
Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Project	5,476	3,693
Species Status Reports	1,538	4,100
Website	815	512
Wildlife Conservation Management Plan Update	6,454	4,559
Workshops, Conferences and Studies	2,500	7,051
	52,758	59,428
	268,389	274,634
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR	$ 3,248	$ 9,560

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013
(unaudited)

	2013			2012
	INVESTMENT IN EQUIPMENT	UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	TOTAL	TOTAL
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	$ 9,025	$ 476	$ 9,501	$ 3,901
Excess (shortage) of revenues over expenditures	-	3,248	3,248	9,560
Purchase of equipment	2,297	(2,297)	-	-
Disposal of obsolete equipment	-	-	-	(808)
Amortization of equipment	(4,863)	-	(4,863)	(3,152)
	(2,566)	951	(1,615)	5,600
BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	$ 6,459	$ 1,427	$ 7,886	$ 9,501

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013
(unaudited)

	2013	2012
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash received from Government of Yukon	$ 260,754	$ 235,500
Cash received from Government of Canada	-	19,000
Cash received from other sources	950	-
Cash paid for administration costs	(214,528)	(224,231)
Cash paid for IFA implementation project costs	(58,258)	(77,528)
	(11,082)	(47,259)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of equipment	(2,297)	(9,560)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FOR THE YEAR	(13,379)	(56,819)
CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	27,696	84,515
CASH AT END OF YEAR	$ 14,317	$ 27,696

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013
(unaudited)

1. NATURE OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) was incorporated under the Societies Ordinance of the Yukon as a non-profit entity. It was created pursuant to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement to advise federal and territorial governments on all matters pertaining to and affecting the management of Yukon North Slope wildlife, habitat and traditional use.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) uses Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations as the basis of its accounting and financial statement presentation. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies used by management in the preparation of these financial statements.

a) Revenue Recognition

The Council follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

b) Equipment

Equipment is recorded in the statement of financial position at cost. Amortization is provided at rates sufficient to amortize the cost over the estimated useful lives of the equipment. Equipment is amortized using the declining balance method at rates set out in note 3.

The investment in equipment reflects the total net amortized cost of all equipment owned by the Council.

c) Deferred Revenue

Deferred revenue represents funds received under a contribution agreement or a specific project which are available to cover expenses in the next fiscal year as described in note 4.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013
(unaudited)

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES,continued

d) Measurement Uncertainty - the Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make assumptions and estimates that have an effect on the reported amount of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the period. Actual results could be different from those estimates.

e) Financial Instruments

Measurement of financial instruments

The Council initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. It subsequently measures all it financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivable. Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable, wages and employee deductions payable, and deferred revenues.

Impairment

Financial assets measured at cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of impairment. The amount of any write-down is recognized in the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures. Previously recognized impairment losses may be reversed to the extent of an improvement, provided it is no greater than the amount that would have been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures.

3. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

The Council's capital consists of unrestricted net assets, which is the accumulated surplus of revenues over expenses. Management manages the capital to ensure adequate funds are on hand to meet current and future committments of the Council.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013
(unaudited)

4. EQUIPMENT

		2013			2012
	Rate	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net	Net
Computer equipment	55-100%	$ 14,819	$ 10,035	$ 4,784	$ 6,931
Office equipment	20%	12,663	10,988	1,675	2,093
		$ 27,482	$ 21,023	$ 6,459	$ 9,024

5. DEFERRED REVENUE

	2013	2012
Government of Yukon	$ 16,793	$ 26,726

6. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS RISK MANAGEMENT

The Council's financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and deferred revenue. Unless otherwise noted, it is the Council's opinion that the Council is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

7. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The Council is economically dependent upon the Government of Yukon, which provides funding for administration and the implementation of those matters assigned to the Council in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement.

Financial Statements: April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014

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

Chartered Accountant

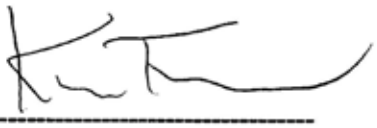
REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Board of Directors of the Wildlife Management
Advisory Council (North Slope):

I have reviewed the statement of financial position of Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) as at March 31, 2014, and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. My review was made in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements and accordingly consisted primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to me by the Council.

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

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that these financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. In addition, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that operations in the year are not, in all material respects, in accordance with the terms of the contribution agreements entered into with Government of Yukon during the year.



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

Whitehorse, Yukon
June 20, 2014

505 Jarvis Street, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2H7
PH: (867) 667-4700 FAX: (867) 667-4439

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT MARCH 31, 2014
(unaudited)

	2014	2013
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	$ 9,841	$ 14,317
Accounts receivable	-	6,500
Prepaid expenses	5,820	639
GST receivable	3,889	3,757
	19,550	25,213
EQUIPMENT (notes 2b, 4)		
Cost	30,677	27,482
Less accumulated amortization	24,405	21,023
	6,272	6,459
	$ 25,822	$ 31,672
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	$ 6,530	$ 3,546
Employee benefits payable	3,097	1,088
Wages payable	1,931	2,359
Deferred revenue (notes 2c, 5)	2,578	16,793
	14,136	23,786
NET ASSETS		
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	5,414	1,427
INVESTMENT IN EQUIPMENT (note 2b)	6,272	6,459
	11,686	7,886
	$ 25,822	$ 31,672

APPROVED BY:

Lindsay Stagg
Councillor

Councillor

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2014
(unaudited)

	2014	2013
REVENUES		
Government of Yukon - contribution	$ 286,215	$ 246,933
Government of Yukon - North Slope Conference	120	23,754
Interest income	54	-
Herschel Book Revenues	3,935	950
	290,324	271,637
EXPENDITURES		
ADMINISTRATION		
Honoraria - chair	44,664	45,386
Honoraria - external organizations	2,200	3,512
Interest and bank charges	117	52
Newsletter	1,800	316
Office and telephone	9,775	10,653
Professional fees and bookkeeping	8,734	7,529
Rent	5,692	5,627
Council and other meetings and travel	47,122	42,449
Wages and employee benefits	103,261	100,107
	223,365	215,631
PROJECT COSTS		
Collaring Workshop	1,538	-
Community Based Monitoring	5,278	538
Digital Archiving and Information Management	3,834	-
Management information and communications	1,743	5,422
Herschel Book	-	2,654
North Slope Conference	-	27,286
North Slope Wildlife Atlas	-	75
Polar Bear Traditional Knowledge Project	10,508	5,476
Portraits	1,025	-
Species Status Reports	670	1,538
Website	1,971	815
Wildlife Conservation Management Plan Update	27,481	6,454
Workshops, Conferences and Studies	5,729	2,500
	59,777	52,758
	283,142	268,389
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR	$ 7,182	$ 3,248

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2014
(unaudited)

	2014			2013
	INVESTMENT IN EQUIPMENT	UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	TOTAL	TOTAL
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	$ 6,459	$ 1,427	$ 7,886	$ 9,501
Excess (shortage) of revenues over expenditures	-	7,182	7,182	3,248
Purchase of equipment	3,195	(3,195)	-	-
Disposal of obsolete equipment	-	-	-	-
Amortization of equipment	(3,382)	-	(3,382)	(4,863)
	(187)	3,987	3,800	(1,615)
BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	$ 6,272	$ 5,414	$ 11,686	$ 7,886

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2014
(unaudited)

	2014	2013
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash received from Government of Yukon	$ 272,120	$ 260,754
Cash received from Government of Canada	-	-
Cash received from other sources	3,989	950
Cash paid for administration costs	(223,222)	(214,528)
Cash paid for IFA implementation project costs	(54,169)	(58,258)
	(1,282)	(11,082)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of equipment	(3,194)	(2,297)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FOR THE YEAR	(4,476)	(13,379)
CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	14,317	27,696
CASH AT END OF YEAR	$ 9,841	$ 14,317

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2014
(unaudited)

1. NATURE OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) was incorporated under the Societies Ordinance of the Yukon as a non-profit entity. It was created pursuant to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement to advise federal and territorial governments on all matters pertaining to and affecting the management of Yukon North Slope wildlife, habitat and traditional use.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) uses Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations as the basis of its accounting and financial statement presentation. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies used by management in the preparation of these financial statements.

a) Revenue Recognition

The Council follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

b) Equipment

Equipment is recorded in the statement of financial position at cost. Amortization is provided at rates sufficient to amortize the cost over the estimated useful lives of the equipment. Equipment is amortized using the declining balance method at rates set out in note 4.

The investment in equipment reflects the total net amortized cost of all equipment owned by the Council.

c) Deferred Revenue

Deferred revenue represents funds received under a contribution agreement or a specific project which are available to cover expenses in the next fiscal year as described in note 5.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2014
(unaudited)

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES,continued

d) Measurement Uncertainty - the Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make assumptions and estimates that have an effect on the reported amount of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the period. Actual results could be different from those estimates.

e) Financial Instruments

Measurement of financial instruments

The Council initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. It subsequently measures all it financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivable. Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable, wages and employee deductions payable, and deferred revenues.

Impairment

Financial assets measured at cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of impairment. The amount of any write-down is recognized in the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures. Previously recognized impairment losses may be reversed to the extent of an improvement, provided it is no greater than the amount that would have been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures.

3. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

The Council's capital consists of unrestricted net assets, which is the accumulated surplus of revenues over expenses. Management manages the capital to ensure adequate funds are on hand to meet current and future committments of the Council.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2014
(unaudited)

4. EQUIPMENT

		2014			2013
	Rate	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net	Net
Computer equipment	55-100%	$ 15,368	$ 12,817	$ 2,551	$ 4,784
Office equipment	20%	15,309	11,588	3,721	1,675
		$ 30,677	$ 24,405	$ 6,272	$ 6,459

5. DEFERRED REVENUE

	2014	2013
Government of Yukon	$ 2,578	$ 16,793

6. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The Council's financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and deferred revenue. Unless otherwise noted, it is the Council's opinion that the Council is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

7. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The Council is economically dependent upon the Government of Yukon, which provides funding for administration and the implementation of those matters assigned to the Council in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement.

Appendix 1

Extracted from *Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Claims Settlement Act* (1984)

YUKON NORTH SLOPE

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

PRINCIPLES

12.(2) The Yukon North Slope shall fall under a special conservation regime whose dominant purpose is the conservation of wildlife, habitat and traditional native use.

12.(3) Subject to subsections (5) to (15):

(a) all development proposals relating to the Yukon North Slope shall be screened to determine whether they could have a significant negative impact on the wildlife, habitat or ability of the natives to harvest wildlife;

(b) other uses within the Yukon North Slope shall be considered and may be permitted if it is shown that there would be no significant negative impact on wildlife, habitat or native harvesting;

(c) other uses within the Yukon North Slope that may have a significant negative impact on wildlife, habitat or native harvesting shall be permitted if it is decided that public convenience and necessity outweigh conservation or native harvesting interests in the area; and

As amended January 15, 1987

(d) development proposals relating to the Yukon North Slope that may have a significant negative impact shall be subject to a public environmental impact assessment and review process.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (NORTH SLOPE)

12.(46) In order to provide for joint planning by the native people and the governments in the Yukon North Slope with respect to the principles set out in subsections (2) and (3), a Wildlife Management Advisory Council shall be established as soon after the execution of this Agreement as is practicable.

12.(47) The Council shall have as permanent members a Chairman and an equal number of native and government members.

12.(48) The permanent members of the Council shall include at least one person designated by the Government of the Yukon Territory and one person designated by the Minister of the Environment of Canada.

12.(49) In addition to permanent members of the Council representing government, temporary members may be co-opted from government departments as they may be required from time to time.

12.(50) The permanent members of the Council appointed to represent the native interests shall include persons designated by the Inuvialuit, and, subject to agreements, by other native groups that have acquired harvesting rights in the Yukon North Slope under their land claims settlements.

12.(51) The Chairman of the Council shall be appointed by the Government of the Yukon Territory, with the consent of the native members and Canada.

12.(52) The permanent members of the Council shall each have one (1) vote. The Chairman shall have a vote only in case of a deadlock. Temporary members shall not have a vote.

12.(53) The Council may establish rules and adopt by-laws regulating its procedures.

12.(54) The Government of the Yukon Territory agrees to provide a secretariat to assist in meeting the administrative needs of the Council.

12.(55) Each party shall pay the remuneration and expenses of the members of the Council that it appoints or designates.

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

(a) provide advice on issues pertaining to the Yukon North Slope to the Porcupine Caribou Management Board, the Yukon Land Use Planning Commission, the Review Board and other appropriate groups;

(b) prepare a wildlife conservation and management plan for the Yukon North Slope for recommendation to the appropriate authorities as a means for achieving and maintaining the principles of conservation set out in subsections (2) and (3);

(c) determine and recommend appropriate quotas for Inuvialuit harvesting of game in the Yukon North Slope; and

(d) advise on measures required to protect habitat that is critical for wildlife or harvesting including those referred to in subsection 14(3).

As amended January 15, 1987.

***Refer** to act for complete references.

Appendix 2

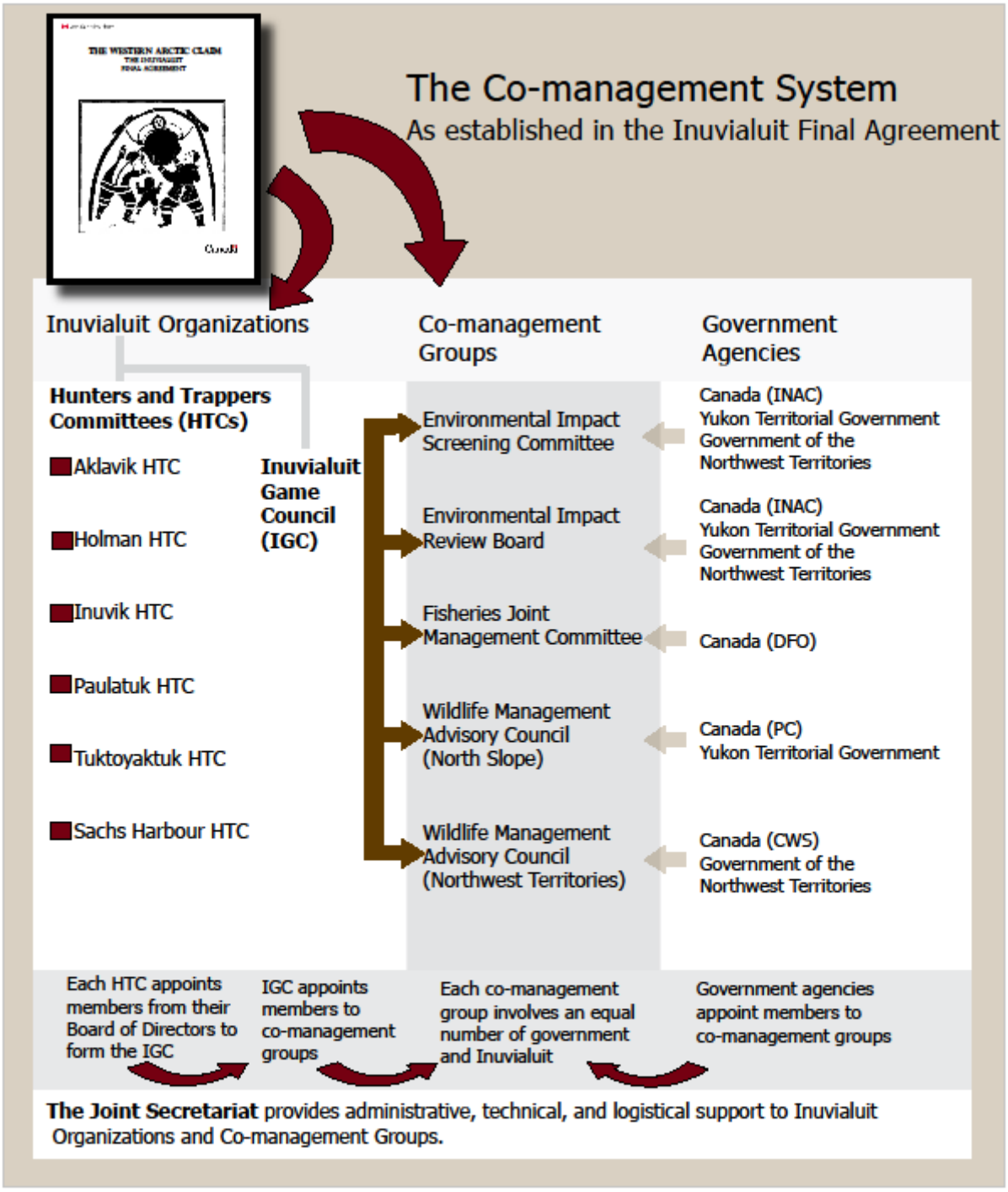

The Co-management System
As established in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement
Inuvialuit Organizations
Co-management Groups
Government Agencies
Hunters and Trappers Committees (HTCs)
Aklavik HTC
Holman HTC
Inuvik HTC
Paulatuk HTC
Tuktoyaktuk HTC
Sachs Harbour HTC
Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC)
Environmental Impact Screening Committee
Canada (INAC)
Yukon Territorial Government
Government of the Northwest Territories
Environmental Impact Review Board
Canada (INAC)
Yukon Territorial Government
Government of the Northwest Territories
Fisheries Joint Management Committee
Canada (DFO)
Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)
Canada (PC)
Yukon Territorial Government
Wildlife Management Advisory Council (Northwest Territories)
Canada (CWS)
Government of the Northwest Territories
Each HTC appoints members from their Board of Directors to form the IGC
IGC appoints members to co-management groups
Each co-management group involves an equal number of government and Inuvialuit
Government agencies appoint members to co-management groups
The Joint Secretariat provides administrative, technical, and logistical support to Inuvialuit Organizations and Co-management Groups.

Photo: Ian McDonald, Parks Canada

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)
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