# YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING June 7 to 9, 2022 MINUTES

## Bedrock Hotel, Mayo

#### DAY 1: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 – Regular Meeting

**PRESENT:** Carl Sidney (Chair), Cheyenne Bradley, John Burdek, Danny Cresswell,

Michelle Dawson-Beattie, Dennis Dickson, Sebastian Jones, Dawn Kisoun,

Franklin Patterson Jr., Ken Taylor, Randy Taylor,

**ZOOM:** Blanche Warrington

**STAFF:** Graham Van Tighem, Diane Sheldon, Steve Hossack

**SUPPORT:** Colleen Henry (Minute Taker via recording)

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Simon Mervyn Sr. (NNDFN), Steve Buyck (NNDFN), Marc Cattet

(Director, Environment), Robert Perry (Species Manager, Environment), Kirk Price (Director, EMR), Janice Sibbeston (Manager, YFWET), Shaun

Wassel (Yukon Outfitters Association),

#### **WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER**

Carl Sidney welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chief Simon Mervyn Sr. said the opening prayer and provided opening comments. He discussed the need to re-engage association with the Yukon River Watershed Council at the grassroots level, challenges in central Yukon, impacts to food security, food sustainability, impacts to animals due to global warming, depletion of moose, agricultural options, and education.

#### **ADMIN AND FINANCES (TAB 01)**

#### A. AGENDA REVIEW— C. Sidney

Carl Sidney reviewed the agenda. There were no additions or deletions.

Motion – 2022-010: That the Board accept the June 7 to 9, 2022 agenda as

presented.

Moved by: Cheyenne Bradley Seconded by: Ken Taylor Passed by: Consensus

#### B. EXECUTIVE REPORT (TAB 02) – G. Van Tighem, C. Sidney

Graham Van Tighem reviewed the Executive report and action items list provided in the meeting kit.

- Snowmobiles packing down trails Graham said the impacts of snowmobiles packing down trails creating easier access for wolves on moose and caribou was a major discussion at the last Bison Technical Team meeting. First Nations are making that point and this is becoming a real problem. Bison hunters have expanded so much in the range, and they are becoming aware of more moose hunting areas. Trappers are unable to manage wolves. This must be considered in the moose ungulate working group. This has been raised numerous times and it has not been dealt with. This must be addressed. First Nations are not giving permission for bison hunters to hunt on their land.
  - Q) This issue was raised at the May Gathering. They are trying to find ways to emphasize the importance of their concerns. YG is the regulator. CYFN has no authority unless mandated by the chiefs. How do we emphasize the political authority of NTTC for dealing with these issues of three First Nations in central Yukon? There are a lot of issues to be more authoritative. A) The number 1 issue is regarding conformity to give RRCs power to make regulations. In the past, recommendations always went to government and never First Nation governments.
  - Hopefully, First Nations will view the Board as a constitutionally protected UFA Board to bring issues to the Board. We need to increase political pressure.
- To NND, the agricultural issue, global issues, and alcohol and drug related issues are huge. We need to concentrate on the little ones in school to teach them to say no to drugs. They deal with political issues like the Children's Act, Jordan's Principle, et cetera, which are powerful. Where is the authority? Where are we going with this? How and when are we going to deal with it? Time goes on. Are we going to sit here and tell war stories forever?
  - Graham Van Tighem provided an overview of how the Board makes recommendations to territorial and federal ministers and departments. The Board has never given a recommendation to First Nations. It's time to start expanding that. He also provided an overview of annual Board meetings and past meetings.
  - The Board needs partners with RRCs and First Nations to carry issues forward.
     Writing letters to the ministers can be frustrating.
- May Gathering Carl Sidney provided an update. The main concerns elders emphasized
  included: the need for people to quit playing with animals and fish; protection of mineral
  licks; changing the term "sport fishery" to "food fishery"; and out-of-territory licences or
  special licences. These concerns will be taken to the Northern Tutchone Tribal Council.
  - O Graham Van Tighem reviewed comments from elders. There was a lot of support to bring the Wildlife Act into conformity with final agreements. It was recommended that the Board have more elders as members or to have honorary elders attend Board meetings to provide long-term thinking on issues. The Board needs to meet as often as possible with First Nation Leadership to discuss priorities and issue. Elders want more protection for Yukon fish and wildlife as well as local areas such as mineral licks. Elders were offended by hunting and other TV shows. They are also worried about drones. They were relieved with the drone regulations. Traditional knowledge came up quite a bit. They suggested more

funding for communities to have their own fish and wildlife managers to deal with salmon and to do their own fisheries. There were concerns about outfitters and meat, as well as meat distribution in communities. The highlights of the meetings are translated into Northern Tutchone.

- CYFN GA The Board would like to be on the agenda to discuss the *Wildlife Act* conformity and to provide an update on the Ungulates Enhancement Working Group. The General Assembly dates were changed to June 28 to 30.
- Regulation Change Process Graham provided an update on discussions regarding the
  review process which will take place this fiscal year. Graham suggested that the Board
  needs to have a conversation regarding the broad scheme of the strategic objectives. Ken
  Taylor suggested the Board talk to YG about regulations in 2023-24. Graham will get
  objectives and direction from the working group following the meeting in the summer.
  Steve Hossack has revised the regulation change process infographic; and it will be
  updated again when the process is revised.

## C. FINANCIAL UPDATE (TAB 03) - D. Sheldon

Diane Sheldon reviewed the financial update to May 31, 2022, provided in the meeting kits.

**Motion – 2022-11:** That the Board accept the financial variance report to May 31, 2022, as presented.

Moved by: Randy Taylor Seconded by: Dawn Kisoun Passed by: Consensus

#### D. APRIL MINUTES (TAB 04) — D. Sheldon

Carl Sidney and Sebastian Jones provided comments and corrections to Diane Sheldon. There were no additional comments.

**Motion – 2022-12:** That the Board accept the minutes for April 26 to 28, 2022, as amended.

Moved by: Sebastian Jones

Seconded by: ??
Passed by: Consensus

## CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW (TAB 05) — G. Van Tighem

Graham Van Tighem reviewed correspondence in Tab 05.

## **Comments/Questions:**

 Letter #3 — Chapter 16 Porcupine River Drainage Nomination to the Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee — Members discussed YFWMB, YSSC, and RRC appointments requiring Cabinet approval. Carl Sidney suggested drafting a letter to remind parties of their obligation under the UFA. The Board will review the previous correspondence to the minister, which included signatures from RRCs, and send a formal follow-up response. Additional questions are as follows:

- Does the Board want to flag the issue of nominations of First Nations who are not members of CYFN?
- Should we get a legal opinion from Dave Joe who understands the binding agreements? Are there other avenues we can pursue? How many other people would be interested to know that the territorial and federal governments are undercutting the treaty?
- Carl Sidney will also raise this issue at the CYFN meeting.

**Action Item 2022-5:** Request input from Dave Joe regarding appointments to UFA Boards and Committees and RRCs and draft a response to government.

Action Item 2022-6: Executive Director will follow up with the DDRRC regarding letter #7, Trapline Concession Allocation Proportions, to clarify the DDRRC's request to the Board. The Board is more interested in underutilization of traplines.

## ELK MANAGEMENT HUNT — G. Van Tighem, K. Price, R. Perry

Robert Perry and Kirk Price reviewed a PowerPoint presentation provided in meeting kits. The presentation reviewed the following: background of two-year pilot project, the new group formed, and the next two- to three-year pilot project; key principles; six key areas for principal tools to be developed (coordinator, elk management, collar program, fencing strategy, human dimensions, mitigations, and steering group); and next steps.

Graham provided an overview of the agriculture working group. The outcome is the seven recommendations presented to the Board. This update includes a request from the Board to provide a letter of support to the Deputy Minister to indicate support for the direction of the working group.

#### **Comments/Questions:**

- Elk conflict (Q)What is the status of elk being designated as a subsistence species? That discussion needs to take place at a different table. However, several elk tags have been portioned out to First Nations for draws and that was well received.
- Management plan At one point, the management plan was to be reviewed and/or rewritten. That has been put on hold. A review may be included in the next steps. Right now, the current plan is in place and government wants to maintain that.
- Public engagement The Board is looking at the plan and public and First Nation issues.
   The Board needs to do public engagement before it can make recommendation on the plan or a portion of the plan to move forward.
- Board recommendations on elk There was a discussion about whether recommendations on this transplanted species were within the Board's purview. Robert Perry said the species has been in the Yukon for 40 or 50 years and that the Board has a role to play as this issue affects several communities in the Yukon and the public at large. Graham Van Tighem reviewed the UFA section 16.7.12.2 which indicates that the Board

may make recommendations to the minister regarding transplanted populations. The goal right now is conflict mitigation and trying to resolve issues over the next couple of years. It was suggested that further discussion on the elk management plan review, which is on hold, could take place at the next Board meeting.

- Winter ticks Will ticks be considered in the future? They are mostly in Ibex and Braeburn areas. Robert is certain that winter ticks exist throughout our ungulate populations. He doesn't know the severity. He doesn't think there will be a lot of encounters. They may become a huge problem for farmers with the expansion. Robert will find out more information and provide clarity to the Board.
- Conflict hunt Increasing the conflict hunt will be a discussion between the biologists and the managers to determine whether it is possible.

## STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE (TAB 07) — C. Sidney, G. Van Tighem

Carl Sidney introduced the strategic planning discussion.

• Ungulate Enhancement Working Group — Update

Graham Van Tighem provided an overview of the strategic plan, including: the planning session and goals; communications; presentation to CYFN Leadership and Yukon government; ungulate enhancement working group and meetings; draft contractor contract for 2022; and the Strategic Goals 2021 to 2026 document.

The following documents were included in meeting kits: ungulate meeting minutes and action items for May 3 and May 25; contractor contract for 2022; draft goal strategies YFWMB June 16, 2021; and *Wildlife Act* Conformity CYFN notes.

## **Comments/Questions:**

- Strategic plan topics The topics of the strategic plan are very broad. The Board's power
  is to influence. We must learn to make haste slowly. The goal is to inch toward achieving
  the goals. We will develop partnerships with RRCs to translate this to on-the-ground
  activities.
- NND has written a letter to YG regarding the following: conformity of the Wildlife Act; moose conservation problems in the NND area; outfitter negotiations and NND's involvement; five-year fish and wildlife management plan for the NND area.
- Ungulate Enhancement Working Group Contract Details

Graham Van Tighem provided an overview of the draft contract with Lars Jessup. The Board can sole source contracts. The intent is not to put this contract out to tender given the timelines. The working group is recommending that the Board contracts with Lars Jessup under the draft contract presented. The working group is seeking a motion from the Board.

- The contract doesn't specify an hourly rate.
- Provide the draft contract to Lars and ask him to provide a dollar figure to each task we are asking him to do.

- The estimate is 10 weeks at 40 hours per week to a maximum of \$50,000. Some members suggested capping the contract at \$40,000 instead of \$50,000 with potential to access the additional \$10,000 upon approval by the Board.
- The contractor reports to the Ungulate Working Group and takes direction from the Chair. The co-chairs will have a discussion with Graham Van Tighem and Lars.

Further discussion and a motion regarding the contract will be addressed on Day 3.

Graham provided an update on the remaining items including the Moose Management Plan, Habitat Protection Strategy, *Wildlife Act* conformity initiative, and the Yukon *Wildlife Act* Regulation Change Process Review.

- Habitat Protection Strategy We need to find areas that we can fit discussions into processes. For example, the May Gathering discussions on the protecting salt licks. We need to bring that into one of the processes. We need to be proactive on those issues that fall outside the box.
- Wildlife Act Conformity Board members discussed the constitutional requirement of government to bring Yukon acts into conformity. Regarding bringing the Wildlife Act into conformity, the minister said that if the Board could get letters from First Nations, he would bring this issue to the forefront. Graham confirmed he has received six letters so far. Leadership indicated they would present this to Yukon Forum in July.

#### DAY 2: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 - Regular Meeting

**PRESENT:** Carl Sidney (Chair), Cheyenne Bradley, John Burdek, Danny Cresswell,

Michelle Dawson-Beattie, Dennis Dickson, Sebastian Jones, Dawn Kisoun,

Franklin Patterson Jr., Ken Taylor, Randy Taylor,

**ZOOM:** Blanche Warrington

**STAFF:** Graham Van Tighem, Diane Sheldon, Steve Hossack

**SUPPORT:** Colleen Henry (Minute Taker via recording)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Steve Buyck (NNDFN), Marc Cattet (Director, Environment), Larry Joe,

Janice Sibbeston (Manager, YFWET), Shaun Wassel (Yukon Outfitters Association), Barb Shannon, Ed Johnson (Mayo RRC), Mark O'Donoghue

(Regional Biologist)

#### FISH AND WILDLIFE UPDATE (TAB 08) — M. Cattet

Marc Cattet provided an update on current activities including the following: new staff member James MacDonald; wetland policy; cumulative effects assessment requests for White River, Nahanni Range/Three Aces, North Canol, and Aishihik Lake; elk-agriculture conflict; polar bear survey; caribou radio collar deployment for the Clear Creek herd; and avian influenza confirmed deaths. A copy of his presentation was provided in meeting kits.

- Avian Influenza —Two confirmed deaths trumpeter swan in Whitehorse and Canada goose was in the Southern Lakes. There is no active monitoring. YG staff and federal government staff working on the North Slope have been alerted to occurrences of avian influenza and they will be looking for carcasses to send out for diagnosis. If there is a die off, it will be detected. Eagle samples have been sent south. Results take three to four weeks. Domestic birds are prioritized over wild birds. The influenza virus can mutate into various forms quickly. There is no periodicity. Over time, new mutations arise and become fatal causing virus which can be carried and cause a mass epidemic of die offs. The virus disappears and at some later time we get a new variant that is also pathogenic. There is no regular cycle. The last major outbreak in North America was in the early 2000s. Deceased animals can transmit the virus but within a matter of days it would no longer pose a threat. The most common route for infection is ingestion. Cooked waterfowl is safe to eat. When it transmits across species, it usually doesn't go beyond one or two species. When outbreaks occur, the territorial or provincial labs start sampling a broad suite of animals to determine the extent of transmission across species. Currently, the only confirmation outside of birds has been in red foxes and possibly skunks. It has not been detected in domestic dogs and cats.
- Polar bear surveys This is a joint effort with Northwest Territories, Alaska, and Yukon.
   It covers the north and south Beaufort Sea. It is a DNA survey using biopsy darts.
- Grizzly bear study in Coffee Gold area The survey activity is on the Klondike Plateau. It is a remote camera detection study.

- Cumulative effects study The Fish and Wildlife branch is looking for direction from Yukon government on how they want to address cumulative effects. The branch does not have capacity or expertise to address cumulative effects in the broadest sense as it relates to cultural socio economic, cultural, and spiritual values. They would like more support for cumulative effects for fish and wildlife values. They are in the early stages of negotiating a funding agreement with the Government of Canada to increase capacity to look at cumulative effects with fish and wildlife. Prioritizing projects is in the early stages.
- Wildlife data management and access Data has been collected on different surveys and
  has been stored in multiple databases in multiple forms. The first part of this project has
  been harmonizing the data so that it is accessible in a common form and in a common
  database. The second part is having the survey data and harvest data accessible to the
  public. Staff are working on dashboards for users, and they are being tested now. They
  should be available to the public by the end of the year. Marc suggested having a
  demonstration at a future Board meeting.

## YUKON PUBLIC LANDS ACT SUBMISSION REVIEW (TAB 09) — S. Hossack, G. Van Tighem

Graham Van Tighem provided brief overview of YFWMB comments on the discussion paper for the Yukon *Public Lands Act*. Steve Hossack provided an in-depth overview of the Board's comments addressing background; future of land use planning; proposed timeline; effect on subsistence harvest rights; significance and relevance to other land use planning policies, regulations, processes, and legislation; historic land dispositions; and concluding remarks. A copy of the discussion paper and the YFWMB comments to Yukon government were included in meeting kits.

- Effect on subsistence harvest rights We should consider how the legislation will
  operate within the current UFA processes. It seems like they're setting up a process that
  isn't within the UFA. We should be directing them that this must be within the
  constitutionally protected agreements governing the Yukon. Steve and John Burdek will
  have a further discussion.
- Updating the successor resource legislation and the *Territorial Lands (Yukon) Act* need to be included under a separate section. That work needs to be done before all the other revisions. Steve and Blanche Warrington will have a further discussion.
- The level of planning is miniscule given that this is the most important piece of legislation in 42 years. This affects everything and everyone and it's being fast tracked. It is proposed to do this alongside self-government agreements and the UFA. The whole concept is backward.
- Why aren't they doing land use planning instead of jumping ahead and doing all this other stuff? It seems like they're making it easier for people to access lands. Outfitters think they own the concession, and they keep people out from flying into hunting areas that were there long before they were outfitters. There is so much that needs to be dealt with before they do this work, especially with land use planning.
- They want to change the definition of "occupied dwelling" in the current lands act to be just a dwelling. When someone builds a house on a highway, we lose our rights and can't

hunt on both sides. With the current definition proposed, they don't have to live there. "Occupied dwelling" means that people must live there one year before it can be restricted. As First Nation citizens, we have to let them know and we must ask for permission to hunt within one kilometre. This has a huge impact. NNDFN's lawyers are looking at that.

- Half the Carcross/Tagish traditional territory is in BC. People are applying for land right across from category A settlement land and people can't hunt on that land without permission. They want to start land use planning where it is nice and simple and learn something simple. In the Southern Lakes, they want to do some economic development planning, forestry planning, SMAs. The First Nation wants to do a whole land use plan. If you can tackle the Southern Lakes and pull it off, everything else will be easy. They are developing land use plans in the Southern Lakes one piece at a time.
- Most First Nations have not finished their land use planning for their communities, let alone wetlands policy. This act needs to step back and acknowledge the work done in the UFA agreements. All First Nations need to complete these important planning processes.
- This will permanently change the landscape of the Yukon. To do that in two years seems unreasonable, to put it lightly. This will change the way we are able to interact with each other, with the land partaking in meaningful activities. This is a clear example of something that should have led with an educational campaign before jumping into the nuts and bolts of drafting. We've seen this before with adaptive management. This is another example of something that needs public work before any kind of drafting can move forward. It isn't right that Yukoners are unaware of what is going on.
- Is this something that we can jump in front of and engage the public with a press release or survey or radio interview to express the concerns the Board has and to educate the public at the same time. We need to try to generate discussion.
- In comment #3, we should explicitly tell YG that it needs to prioritize the Wildlife Act over the Yukon Public Lands Act. The Board could recommend or suggest that the act only apply in areas that have completed chapter 11 regional land use plans. It enables the successor and resource legislation to proceed. It takes away the urgency and circumvents the real impetus which is that there are wealthy people in Whitehorse who want cottage lots and can't get them. It also incentivizes the Yukon government to start promoting the land use plans.
- Public engagement This is a public lands act. There must be a very strong fish and wildlife angle for the Board to engage. Habitat and subsistence harvest rights are two areas in which the Board can engage while sticking to its mandate. The Board could look at public education around certain elements and could also focus more on slowing it down. The public may not understand the subtleties.
- With respect to successor legislation work, a lot of work was done and EMR appears to be ignoring some of that work. There is a body of work that we need to look into and highlight the necessity for EMR to do more work before they start rolling out this work. The deadline for the submission has passed. We need to find a way to incorporate these comments into the submission. Graham suggested the Board invite Mike Draper to the next meeting to discuss the Board's concerns with the submission. It fits into the realm of our strategic goals and objectives. Steve suggested a broader public education campaign about the UFA using the presentation the Board has developed.

- Press releases and press conferences Board members discussed the need for a press
  conference. Steve suggested that one effective way is to have a press release notifying
  the press about a press conference with the possibility of having multiple parties at the
  table including UFA partners, the Land Use Planning Council, First Nations, CYFN, EMR and
  have a broader discussion about the spirit and intent of the agreements, where it is
  directed and headed, and how wide the gap is growing.
- What does CYFN's submission look like? There are other people who could submit this. There has to be meaningful discussion and engagement. The Board told Mike that this was very ambitious and there was no adequate response.
- Another way to characterize this issue is that, rather than following the guidelines outlined, to write a letter and copy Matt Ball and others and send it directly to the Minister of EMR. The official recommendation would speak to these issues. This would fall under 16.7.12 and 16.8.0 would apply which amps this up to the appropriate level. The general discussion paper may not have been a suitable approach for this depth of legislation. The Board can touch base with CYFN and Land Use Planning Council.
- One commenter said he would like to see a broader UFA discussion. It's needed to address
  the *Public Lands Act* and to encompass the UFA agreements that are established. More
  time is needed to safely address all concerns.
- The Board will have further discussion during Members Time on Day 3.

Action Item 2022-7: Carl Sidney and/or Graham Van Tighem will contact CYFN and have more deliberation before submitting this response to the Yukon government discussion paper. They will also reach out to partners, boards, committees, and RRCs regarding a press release or conference.

## YUKON OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION (TAB 10) — S. Wassel

Shaun Wassel reviewed a presentation and addressed questions that arose at previous meetings around caribou palatability, average age of harvest, and harvest level sustainability. He briefly reviewed documents provided in the meeting kits on caribou meat palatability in the rut and caribou harvest distribution.

- This presentation is good to think about in the context of the proposed antler configuration regulation change. The proposal was for 55 inch and bigger for the 2019 adaptive moose management regulation change proposal from YG. It is potentially asking people to take moose in the best body condition.
- For remote areas, there is no recent data. It is just best guess based on expert knowledge and community information.
- What is the best solution to having a sustainable harvest? The biggest consideration is trying to distribute the harvest to access moose that would, in high likelihood, be deep in the back country and not be accessible to harvesters. Outfitters have access to aircraft and pack strings to get to the back country. Clients can spend more than a weekend and get deep into the back country. They come to see the grandeur of the Yukon wilderness.

• Graham Van Tighem shared his experience working for an outfitter with Alex Van Bibber, whose primary responsibility was dealing with the meat that came in. Graham would like to continue this conversation. He would also like to talk about the potential conversation around access to outfitter areas for resident and First Nation hunters. He also relayed comments from elders in Burwash that he heard years ago. In the old days, people would share their moose with the whole community. Now people have huge freezers where they store their meat and lock it up. We need to facilitate the distribution across communities and focus on getting that meat to elders.

## YUKON SALMON SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE — M. Krieger

Monica Krieger provided an update on the following: preseason outlook for salmon; Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative (PSSI) and funding; salmon projects for summer 2022; salmon video on the YFWMB page; Stream of Dreams and training program for Yukon; Kwanlin Dün fry release at Wolf Creek; Dawson meeting and trip to Old Crow in July or August; summer salmon gathering follow up to the February salmon ceremony; Fish Days on June 21 in Teslin; attending First Nation general assemblies with a YSSC booth; City of Whitehorse summer day camp activities; and salmon-themed hikes with YCS. The outlook for chinook and chum is bleak. Chum runs have been horrible the last few years. People suspect it has to do with something in the oceans, but the cause is unknown.

This years' annual recommendations to the minister are similar to 2021.

## **Comments/Discussions:**

- DFO issued a release stating there will be no fishing for chinook and chum salmon on Yukon River.
- Stream of Dreams We should be targeting getting kids more education because it carries a lot of weight, and they take the information home to their parents. More things with kids are beneficial.

## NORTHERN TUTCHONE REGIONAL BIOLOGIST — M. O'Donoghue

Mark O'Donoghue provided an update on the following: main wildlife and wildlife habitat issues and community concerns in the region; effects of industrial development; the Mayo fish and wildlife plan; YESAB assessments; quartz and placer claims and exploration; local knowledge surveys; threshold hunts; community meetings; the adaptive moose management regulation proposal; increased hunting due to new mining access; salmon; and land use plans. A copy of his presentation was not provided for meeting kits.

#### **Comments/Questions:**

NNDFN is hoping to get the Mayo Lake/Granite Creek area designated as a special area of
consideration and is working with YG and DFO. They have also partnered with Carleton
University on climate change studies.

- Protection of Klaza herd winter range Q) There was a recommendation to protect the
  winter range, but nothing ever came of those recommendations from the Fish and
  Wildlife branch. Have there ever been recommendations from the Board or the RRCs for
  protection of those areas? A) Not specifically. In the absence of a land use plan, we could
  recommend certain areas as habitat protection areas. The Board could do that to arrest
  the devastation that is taking place.
- Impacts to salmon There is not a lot of hard evidence that placer is affecting salmon.
   There are real worries in the McQuesten River. In the last 10 years there have been a huge number of placer claims all along the lower McQuesten and there are concerns about the flood plains.

#### NA-CHO NYAK DUN FIRST NATION PRESENTATION — S. Buyck

Steven Buyck is the acting fish and wildlife officer and he provided an update on the following: NND traditional territory and overlap areas; land claims negotiations in NWT; Mayo moose management unit and sustainable harvest; non-Yukon residents higher harvest; loss of culture; moose management tools; Beaver River land use planning; ATAC road; moose migration and moose monitoring; draft road access management plan; draft wildlife monitoring and adaptive management plan; Mayo Lake special area of consideration; mining projects and impacts to wildlife; staking; partnership with Carleton University and studies; two-month salmon sonar project; capacity and housing issues; climate change and permafrost studies; the MOU with Yukon government for three traplines purchased; and the new land use planner hired to review traditional knowledge.

## **Comments/Discussion:**

- Q) Has NND ever asked outfitters to take youth out on the land? A) Over 25 years ago, they worked with outfitters on the outfitter guide training program. They also approached outfitters regarding dry meat camp. They waited too long, and people had to go out hunting for themselves.
- PSSI There is funding for salmon enhancement. The request for proposals came out in early June. The deadline is October 1. There were millions of dollars in 2021 in the restoration and enhancement fund that went unspent.

#### PRESENTATION MAYO DISTRICT RENEWABLE RESOURCES COUNCIL

Ed Johnson, Co-Chair from Mayo District RRC provided an update on the following: membership challenges; 2017 moose survey; board meetings and meetings with outfitters; and the importance of being involved with the YSSC. The RRC would like to be more involved with the YSSC and would like to participate in meetings. The Board discussed the ongoing difficulties with Cabinet appointments.

Monica discussed the mandate of RRCs to work on salmon issues and make recommendations to the YSSC. She has heard from all RRCs that they want to be more involved, and it is another avenue to get information back out to communities.

## DAY 3: Thursday, June 9, 2022 - Regular Meeting

**PRESENT:** Carl Sidney (Chair), Cheyenne Bradley, John Burdek, Danny Cresswell,

Michelle Dawson-Beattie, Dennis Dickson, Sebastian Jones, Dawn Kisoun,

Franklin Patterson Jr., Ken Taylor, Randy Taylor,

**ZOOM:** Blanche Warrington

**STAFF:** Graham Van Tighem, Diane Sheldon, Steve Hossack

**SUPPORT:** Colleen Henry (Minute Taker via recording)

IN ATTENDANCE: Steve Buyck (NNDFN), Marc Cattet (Director, Environment), Janice

Sibbeston (Manager, YFWET),

YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT TRUST (TAB 15) — K. Taylor, J. Sibbeston Refer to the Enhancement Trust minutes.

#### YFWMB WEBSITE — S. Hossack

Steve Hossack provided a detailed overview of the main website pages and subpages. Steve encouraged Board members to provide feedback on website content and functionality.

- UFA Board Interviews Steve recommended adding interviews of Board members to provide more information about the UFA.
- Board recommendations tab It was suggested that the Board Documents page include a tab with all the Board recommendations listed.
- Archival work Q) Is it possible to obtain funding for a student to do these types of archival jobs? A) There are not a lot of students who have the skill set to do that. It might be best to have a researcher. The work is onerous and time consuming and would take the better part of a year. It might be best to allocate funding and contract a specialist.
- Regulation change tracker Regulation change proposal proponents can be territorial,
  First Nation, or both. That information could be included in the regulation ID. Steve will
  further discuss this with John Burdek and he will examine the technical aspects to
  determine whether that information can be included in the database.
- Capacity As the website grows, it will require a lot of work and strategizing at the staff level to keep the website current and active.
- Meeting schedule Steve will make the meeting schedule more visible on the home page.

#### **MEMBERS TIME — IN CAMERA**

The following items were identified for discussion: email from Marc, contract for Lars, McIntyre Creek discussion, lands act submission, and elk.

Motion - 2022-13: That the Board move in camera.

Moved by: Ken Taylor Seconded by: Dawn Kisoun Passed by: Consensus

No additional minutes were recorded.

## Motions and Action Items arising from discussion:

**Action Item 2022-08:** A letter will be sent to City of Whitehorse in support of CPAWS recommendation regarding not putting road through the McIntyre Creek area.

**Action Item 2022-09:** A letter will be sent to Minister of Environment regarding the responsibilities of the Director of Fish & Wildlife as per Chapter 16 of the UFA.

**Motion 2002-14:** The Board supports the Ungulate Working Groups recommendation to award the contract to Lars Jessup with the following amendment "that remuneration be set at \$125/hr to a maximum of \$40,000.

Moved by: Cheyenne Bradley Seconded by: Danny Cresswell

Passed by: Concensus