

NORTHWEST SPECIES AT RISK COMMITTEE

Town of High Level Office
High Level, AB

Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Adoption of the Minutes Page 3
4. Terms of Reference Page 9
5. Committee Member Updates: (Short) Round Table Discussion
6. Response to Provincial Draft Range Plans
7. Communications Strategy
- 8.
- 9.
10. Next Meeting Date(s)
11. Adjournment

CARRIED

3. Adoption of the Minutes

17-12-002

MOVED by Miron Croy

That the minutes from the August 29, 2017 NWSAR Committee meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Terms of Reference

17-12-003

MOVED by Terry Ungarian

That the Terms of Reference be adopted as amended.

Associate member shall pay a \$1000 **annual** Associate Membership fee.

CARRIED

Eric Jorgensen joined the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

5. Committee Member Update: Round Table Discussion

- AAMD&C revealed two resolutions. They first wanted to promote land use framing then address inter-municipal cross boundaries.
- Province likely to make an announcement soon. Will probably be released sometime before December 25, 2017.
- Lisa Wardley gave a report on the hospitality suite. They handed out caribrew, carifood, and caripoo. Throughout the evening, there were about 165 people that came. There was a lot of good conversation during the time they were there. After the hospitality suite, they packed everything up and handed out the leftovers at the AUMA trade show.

- AUMA had a meeting with Paramount, CAPP, CNLR, Husky, Strategic, and Obsidian Energy. CNLR has worked with the first nations groups on the British Columbia side. They had a calving pen and are saying that it was a success. Predator movement found a major drop in wolf peeks when vegetation was at or above 50cm.

Mike Morgan joined the meeting at 4:39 p.m.

6. Response to Draft Range Plans

Likely to be released next week from what the committee has been told. Expected to have one range plan with separate appendixes.

General discussion on the expectations of what the committee will need to do going forward.

Committee discussed and agreed that open houses locally would benefit and contribute to the awareness in their own towns and municipalities. Future dates were set:

- January 8, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. – Rainbow Lake, Town of Rainbow Lake
- January 9, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. – La Crete, Mackenzie County
- January 10, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. – High Level, Town of High Level
- January 11, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. – Manning, Town of Manning
- January 12, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. – Eureka River, Clear Hills County

Lisa Wardley called a recess at 5:10 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 5:46 p.m.

7. Continued Lobbying Strategy

Continuing to give QP questions for both the provincial and federal government.

Eric Jorgensen gave a general report on what happened at the last Saskatchewan meeting. He is also planning on attending Northern Herds on December 12, 2017.

8. Inter-jurisdictional Strategy

General conversation on how to approach inter-jurisdictional strategy.

9. Communication Strategy

There is more activity on our Facebook Page than our Twitter account. In order for it to work, it would be a good idea to share and invite others into the group. This would be something to build our audience before having open houses.

QP questions are in the house this week.

For the video, there will be a public release for the Draft Range Plans.

Discussion on possible candidates and the qualities necessary to be a part of the video. Also discussed were different locations that would catch the audiences' attention.

10. Budget Update

General discussion regarding the budget.

11. Job Description

Dan Fletcher gave an update on the Employment Ad. There were more than 30 responses to the ad.

17-12-004

MOVED by Linda Halabisky

That the committee go into camera.

CARRIED

Each member went through the applications. Decided on interviewing Caribou 13 and Caribou 30.

17-12-005

MOVED by Jacquie Bateman

That the committee go out of camera.

CARRIED

12. Next Meeting Dates

- ❖ December 20, 2017 @ 1:00 p.m.
- ❖ Open Houses
 - January 8, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. – Rainbow Lake, Town of Rainbow Lake
 - January 9, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. – La Crete, Mackenzie County
 - January 10, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. – High Level, Town of High Level
 - January 11, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. – Manning, Town of Manning
 - January 12, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. – Eureka River, Clear Hills County

13. Adjournment

17-12-006

MOVED by Jacquie Bateman

That the Northwest Species at Risk Committee meeting be adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

CARRIED

These minutes were adopted this _____

Lisa Wardley, Chair

TERMS OF REFERENCE

NORTHWEST SPECIES AT RISK COMMITTEE

Background:

The northwest region of Alberta encompasses high economic development value in a variety of natural resource sectors. Notwithstanding this, the region is requested to carry the highest burden of environmental protection of any other region within Alberta.

Current and proposed Provincial policy and strategies requires the Lower Peace Region to subsidize economic activity in other regions; to allow, both, the Federal and Provincial governments to achieve conservation targets for the natural environment. Cumulatively, multiple conservation initiatives and species at risk recovery strategies have the ability to negatively impact the rural communities of northwest Alberta.

We, the local tenants of this region have collaborated; in an attempt to secure smart economic growth, a sustained quality of life, and well-balanced environmental protection for our future generations. Through the use of optimal adaptive management, transparent stakeholder engagement, and effective environmental stewardship; we endeavour to achieve this purpose.

Purpose:

To collectively provide and share information, ideas and resources; relating to the continued and future prosperity of northwest Alberta. Instill effective regional adaptive management and transparency which allows all stakeholders to play a vital role in shaping our collective future. Develop tangible solutions founded upon an evidence-based approach, to ensure a balance of smart economic growth, a sustained quality of life, and an enhanced natural environment; for all of our businesses, communities and wildlife.

Responsibilities:

To ensure that any impending species recovery or conservation initiative, that has the ability to affect the smart growth of northwest Alberta; is prefaced with a thorough regional socio-economic impact analysis.

To proactively work with all other levels of government, including the First Nations; to create well-balanced working groups; with all key stakeholders relevant to impending conservation areas and species recovery.

Emphasizing that, northwest Alberta currently encompasses a vast amount of protected lands. Impending species recovery and conservation initiatives should aim to enhance the value of these areas for species at risk recovery and biodiversity, rather than seeking to protect unjustifiable additional areas of land.

Structure:

Two councillors and an alternate appointed by each of the founding municipalities.

Alternates may attend all meetings.

Founding municipalities consist of:

- County of Northern Lights
- Mackenzie County
- Town of High Level
- Town of Rainbow Lake
- Clearhills County
- Town of Manning

Associate membership is available to other municipalities. Associate members shall not have voting rights.

Mackenzie County is the administrative lead for the committee, with administrative support from each of the founding municipalities.

The administrative lead will prepare and provide the agenda for all meetings.

Meetings are open to the public as per Section 197 and Section 198 of the Municipal Government Act.

Meetings may, in part, be closed to the public if matters to be addressed are recognized under; Section 197(2) of the Municipal Government Act, and/or Division 2 – Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

The committee shall pursue grant opportunities to fund any larger projects, with Mackenzie County as the grant sponsor and/or lead.

Quorum and Costs:

Decisions shall be reached by consensus, consisting of two appointed members from each of the founding municipalities. Alternates shall not be considered for consensus unless standing in for an appointed member.

Meetings shall be hosted by the Town of High Level, at the Town of High Level Office, and meeting costs will be shared by the founding municipalities.

Each Municipality and other delegates are expected to cover the costs of their members. Additional costs, such as those derived from committee motions, will be subject to additional discussion and approval from each of the founding municipalities.

All decisions reached by consensus; which are within the scope of the Terms of Reference, are binding upon all municipalities.

Associate members shall pay a \$1000 Associate Membership fee.

Communication:

An electronic data sharing forum will be created and maintained, with access for all of the committee members, and meetings will be scheduled quarterly, or as required by the Chair.