

Northwest Species at Risk Committee: Minutes

**Town of High Level Office
High Level, AB**

Wednesday, August 1, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Crystal McAteer Vice Chair, Mayor, Town of High Level
Eric Jorgensen Councillor, Mackenzie County
Terry Ungarian Reeve, County of Northern Lights (via
teleconference)
Linda Halabisky Councillor, County of Northern Lights
Miron Croy Councillor, Clear Hills County
Jacquie Bateman Councillor, Mackenzie County
Jessica Juneau Councillor, Town of Rainbow Lake
Sunni-Jeanne Walker Councillor, Town of Manning
Amber Bean Councillor, Clear Hills County

REGRETS: Lisa Wardley Chair, Deputy Reeve, Mackenzie County
Mike Morgan Councillor, Town of High Level
Michelle Farris Mayor, Town of Rainbow Lake
Chris Mitchell Councillor, Town of Rainbow Lake

ADMINISTRATION: Byron Peters Deputy CAO, Mackenzie County
Hayley Gavin Regional Land Use and Environmental Project
Manager/ Recording Secretary, Town of High
Level

ALSO PRESENT: Diana McQueen DMC Consulting (via teleconference)
Brendan Powell Councillor, M.D. of Opportunity (via
teleconference)
Chelsea Doi Municipal Intern, Mackenzie County
Lesley Koopman Planner, Mackenzie County

MOTION **1. Call to Order**

Crystal McAteer called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

18-08-001 **MOVED** by Miron Croy

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

Linda Halabisky joined the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

3. Adoption of the Minutes

Questions about the previous minutes from the group:

Is 100 caribou per herd, the number that defines a stable population? – Although the number of 100 has come up several times, we don't think there actually is a stated population number to achieve; it is more that the population trend must be going in a positive direction, over several years.

Did we ask why the government is concentrating their resources and funds on West-Central and Northeast caribou herds? – Yes, the government are concentrating on recovering herds in areas which are more lucrative and have the most economic activity. The northwest was suggested for conservation by the government and others as a passive management strategy – it appears the northwest candidate conservation areas are about meeting the government's 17% lands protection target, where there is the least amount of resource activity, and a win on the caribou file. The caribou herds which have active/threatened legal action appear to be forcing the government to use their resources and funds in these areas in response to the legal action.

It seems if we were partners with the forestry companies that we need to involve the First Nations in our pilot projects? – It was clear from a Tolko perspective, that there was a huge emphasis put on involving the local First Nations in our ground-truthing activities.

18-08-002

MOVED by Sunni-Jeanne Walker

That the minutes from the June 21, 2018 NWSAR Committee meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Northern Alberta Elected Leaders (NAEL) Presentation

18-08-003

MOVED by Sunni-Jeanne Walker

That administration review Section 11 of the Species at Risk Act and provide a proposed amendment, for NWSAR review at the next meeting.

CARRIED

5. Rural Municipalities of Alberta NWSAR Resolution

Eric Jorgensen joined the meeting at 11:34 a.m.

18-08-004

MOVED by Eric Jorgensen

That NWSAR contact Minister Sohi and Ryan Adam asking for support in addressing the issues NWSAR has identified related to the 17% terrestrial lands targets made federally, with a similar follow up provincially with the appropriate ministerial staff.

CARRIED

Jacque Bateman joined the meeting at 11:43 a.m.

6. NWSAR Pilot Project

a. Admin steps, research questions and project goals

NWSAR administration provided an overview of administrative actions on the pilot project development since the last meeting.

Crystal McAteer called a meeting recess at 12:31 p.m.

b. ABMI comments and questions for NWSAR RE project goals

Crystal McAteer reconvened the meeting at 1:03 p.m.

Administration provided an overview of draft research questions, goals and methods to complete the NW pilot project – for discussion with the group.

Terry Ungarian joined the meeting via teleconference at 1:28 p.m.

Eric Jorgensen left the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

Eric Jorgensen returned to the meeting at 2:01 p.m.

Miron Croy left the meeting at 2:17 p.m.

Jacque Bateman left the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

18-08-005

MOVED by Amber Bean

That administration review what type of software license is required to complete tasks for the NW pilot project and ACP grant deliverable and provide the estimated costs at the next meeting, for NWSAR review.

CARRIED

Jacque Bateman and Miron Croy returned to the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

Eric Jorgensen left the meeting at 2:48 p.m.

Eric Jorgensen returned to the meeting at 2:56 p.m.

7. 17th North American Caribou Workshop

18-08-006

MOVED by Jacque Bateman

That NWSAR sends a letter to each NWSAR municipal member describing the importance of attending this conference, providing the estimated costs, and requesting that at least one actively involved committee member be able to attend.

CARRIED

8. Committee Member Updates

The Calgary Zoo has confirmed our meeting on August 17th in Calgary.

Terry Ungarian left the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

9. Terms of Reference

Received for information purposes.

10. Next Meeting Date(s)

18-08-007

MOVED by Crystal McAteer

That the next NWSAR meeting date will be:

- ❖ Tuesday September 18, 2018 @ 11:00 a.m. at Town of High Level

CARRIED

11. Adjournment

18-08-008

MOVED by Jessica Juneau

That Northwest Species at Risk Committee meeting be adjourned at 3.42 p.m.

CARRIED

These minutes were adopted this ____ day of _____ 2018

Lisa Wardley, Chair

Approved