

SOUTHERN LAKES WILDLIFE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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BRIEFING NOTE

The SLWCC held their regular meeting in Whitehorse, Yukon December 5, 2008. The following is a summary of meeting highlights. Detailed meeting minutes are available from the committee.

- Norm Mclean has been appointed executive secretariat to the committee. Michelle Sicotte, the Fish and Wildlife Planner for Yukon Government, will provide administrative support.
- The committee discussed the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Co-Management website (www.yfwcm.ca), and the need to re-engage organizations to use the calendar planning tool.
- The committee heard an update on the possibility of using total allowable harvest as a caribou moose management tool in the Southern Lakes area. If the tool can be used in areas with overlapping traditional territories it may be useful for the SLWCC.
- The committee agrees that involvement of First Nations and Renewable Resources Councils in the Southern Lakes area is critical to the success of their work.
- The executive secretariat will meet with the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board to provide them with the opportunity to give feedback on the desired outcomes of the SLWCC.
- Members expressed concern regarding the lack of public understanding of the mandate of the committee. The committee was established as a provision in the Carcross/Tagish First and Kwanlin Dun First Nations Final Agreements. Additional work on communications.
- The recommendations put forward to the governments by the committee on Southern Lakes caribou will be sent in December 2008.
- The committee is hosting community meetings on moose management in Carcross/Tagish, Teslin and Whitehorse. Champagne and Aishihik and Taku River Tlingit have declined meetings due to other work on moose related issues in their traditional territories.
- Members reiterated the need to have strong local participation at community meetings from outfitters, First Nations staff, game guardians, Renewable Resource Councils, the public etc.
- Representatives from the committee will be requesting meetings with Chief and Councils, Executive Councils, First Nations lands and resources staff, Renewable Resources Councils, Land Use Teams etc. in addition to public meetings. These meetings will be held in January and February 2009.
- The moose workshop will be held in early April 2009 in Whitehorse.
- The committee set the following dates for meetings in Whitehorse: January 30, February 19, and March 27. Beginning in May meetings will be set for the first Friday of each month.

More information about the Southern Lakes Wildlife Coordinating Committee can be found online, by phone, or directly from the representative in your community.