

SOUTHERN LAKES WILDLIFE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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BRIEFING NOTE

The SLWCC regular meeting was held in Whitehorse, Yukon on June 10, 2009. The following is a summary of meeting highlights. Detailed minutes are available from the committee.

1. The committee is working on developing recommendations on moose recovery and management for the parties and has hired Doug Clark to facilitate this work.
2. Community meetings were held in Carcross (May 25) and Whitehorse (May 26) to obtain feedback on issues and potential solutions for moose management and recovery. Notes from these meetings are available from the committee.
3. Input from community meetings was reviewed and the committee will develop a “what we heard” document for review at the next meeting.
4. The committee will invite Renewable Resources Councils and the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board to an upcoming meeting to obtain additional input on the development of moose recommendations.
5. The committee will draft a letter to the parties requesting their critical outcomes and constraints for the development of the regional moose assessment. This activity will help identify issues early in the process and prior to the development of recommendations.
6. The committee is considering how to involve other groups in the development of moose recommendations, such as the Yukon Fish and Game Association.
7. The committee agreed on the following next steps for the moose work: Develop “what we heard” document, meet to review document and develop alternatives, circulate alternatives document widely, and use feedback to develop recommendations.
8. The committee has received responses on the caribou recommendations from the following parties: Teslin Tlingit Council, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Canada and BC. The committee is awaiting comments from the following parties: Yukon government, Kwanlin Dun First Nation, Ta’an Kwachan Council and Taku River Tlingit First Nation. The deadline for comments on the recommendations was January 30, 2009. The responses are six months past due. When the responses are submitted the committee will hold a one day meeting to review responses and revise recommendations.
9. The committee reviewed their work plan and prioritized the following next tasks for upcoming issues to be addressed: Assemble information on access and off-road vehicle (ORV) management, review ORV legislation in other jurisdictions, complete and circulate the policy review, and additional communications on the moose work.

10. The committee has identified that additional time will be required to complete their work and as such will advise their parties as appropriate.
11. The committee has submitted information on moose to First Nations newsletters.
12. Environment Yukon is conducting a review of the *Policy Framework of Resource Based Activities* for the Southern Lakes area for the committee.
13. Environment Yukon has developed a technical assessment for moose in the Southern Lakes.
14. The committee will develop a format for the regional moose assessment at the next meeting.
15. The committee is exploring the development of a DVD documenting caribou recovery.
16. The committee has sent a letter to the parties requesting information on the use of Total Allowable Harvest in the Southern Lakes area.
17. The next committee meetings are scheduled for June 26 and September 10 – 11.