

Virtual
Date: Monday, April 24th, 2023
Time: 1:00-4:30 pm Pacific

NOTES

Revelstoke Complex and Central Selkirks

Caribou Technical Working Group
Members and Invitees

Genevieve Lachance (moderator)	Christine Friedrichsmeier (notes)	**Guests:** Mateen Hessami Carlie Quinn Kathi Zimmerman	**Guests:** Cory Legebokow Jake Bradshaw	
Richard Martin	Deb MacKillop	Hunter Lampreau		Jenn Meilleur
Rieva McCuaig	Robin Steenweg	Robyn Laubman	Brent Davidson	Colin Bergeron
Aaron Reid	Aubrey Cartier	Brent Davidson	Marc Steynen	Leah Phillips
Ceryne Staples	Miles Howard	Rhiannon Kirton	Cailyn Glasser	Nikki Heim
Corey Bird	Allison Pagett	Darcy Peel	Leah Phillips	Haleigh Parker
Tina Donald	Chris Joseph		Steve Murphy	Amanda Celesta
Caroline Feischl	John Krebs	Bevan Ernst	Jean Polfus	Zach Parker

The purpose of this meeting – Caribou program update, summary document for leadership, and other updates.

Highlighted in Blue is what came out of discussion with Darcy regarding the engagement Letter.

1	13:00	Welcome – **Genevieve**

2	13:10	Update from First Nations sub-committee – Mateen
		• Spent 2 days last week in Revelstoke
		• Spent 1 day on the land, with ceremony, wall tents and fires, with wild game dinner
		• Day 2 was strategic planning – 3 pillars to follow/carry forward
		  ○ #1 Prioritize ceremony – next one is fall 2023 for harvest celebration
		  ○ Stewardship Declaration or Treaty for caribou
		  ○ #2 sectoral – address population decline by stopping habitat loss
		  ○ #3 structural – emulate West Moberly, Saulteau stewardship society
		• Group discussed the positives of the event and how to embed this in the ToR and governance. It was suggested that the Columbia River Salmon group has similarities that could be borrowed.
		• ACTION: Mateen to compile some information for Kathi (BC) and the group that describes who's on the Indigenous subcommittee, and more detail on the 3 Pillars

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3	13:30	Update from the Caribou program- **Darcy Peel**
		• Darcy recounted a short history on "how we got here" with caribou
		• BC acknowledges FN admonition to protect the whole ecosystem, not just select habitats
		• Working towards protecting, and/or setting targets for, habitat and habitat types
		• Group discussed how this group's recommendation would fit in to DU9 recovery, and how BC can help support. Urgency to protect more habitat via upcoming GAR order. Will be using current tools we have, as well as looking to develop more innovative ones as the Nations and BC work together.
		• Looking to Partnership Agreement (PA) for examples, and includes potential compensation
		• Group discussed how the Nations could be involved in BC internal process and share messaging, to communicate the urgency of habitat protection – together.
		• Indigenous-led conservation is the way forward, and this group is well ahead of others.
		• Darcy – different communities have different issues, different levels of importance of caribou etc. BC leadership demands that we keep caribou in the landscape in most places in DU9. Many FN communities have already stepped up & inquired.
		• Engagement letters on the DU9 GAR package coming out next week.
		• The caribou herds of focus for this package are: Hart Ranges, Wells Grey North & South, Barkerville, North Cariboo, Central Selkirks, Groundhog, Columbia North
		• Group also wondered about Tweedsmuir and Itcha-Ilgachuz-. These herds are DU7 not DU9
		• ACTION: Darcy - Set up a meeting for mid-May to explore how we move toward shared- messaging, briefing jointly, and co-management of the outcome.
		  ○ Good recent example with Columbia South cow translocation – can learn from it.
		  ○ Lessons to be learned from PA, Chilcotin, Williams Lake area, and restoration work.
		• Group expressed concern re: getting out in front of the upcoming engagement to inform leadership. Let Darcy know how BC can help – "we do recognize it's out of step, it's not perfect, but we do have the imperative to work for caribou ASAP (biological imperative, not political)"
		• ACTION: BC will provide bullet points to bring to FN Leadership on the upcoming engagement letter.
		• The letter is based on western science, plus ECCC recovery strategy, etc. The missing piece is FN info. A great deal of it has come from the recommendations of, and builds on the work of, the Nations at this table. This is a letter to outline an approach not a consultation on a complete GAR package. The letter is a complementary effort to what's going on with this group – not a new engagement.
		• Darcy mentioned the phone call to Leadership, but a separate covering letter for the Nations at the table here can be crafted, working on the messaging together.
		• Several members wondered about data and linework being included with the letter, but a map will be included.
		• Bevan mentioned that this table is further ahead than anyone else in the province because BC has shared the linework (which has been shared nowhere

		else). ACTION: Bevan suggested that if the subgroup would send an email to Bevan and Darcy on needing the linework – it could help clear the path to get this info out to other FN • Will take the ONE package developed by the group. What has been developed is similar to what BC thinks is the way forward as well. BC might be seeking more protection than what's being considered in the packages.
	14:45	Break
4	15:00	TOR/Process update- **Hunter Lampreau** • Met once to review the draft TOR, but Hunter hasn't had the time yet to get to the revisions • ToR will change based on what was discussed at the caribou summit, as well as what was discussed today with the GAR
5	15:05	Facilitator-where are we at? **Genevieve/sub-group** • Genevieve: Will book new meeting May 4th or 5th • Genevieve met with Darcy, Jake, Jenn • *Together for Wildlife* has a list of facilitators working with FN – Genevieve will bring this list to this meeting; also open to looking outside of the list if that's more acceptable to the group
6	15:07	Tiers/package – **Mateen/Genevieve** • Added disturbance, objective, carbon information, but still early. Subgroup is meeting in a week. • May be challenging to discuss the tiers to FN leadership with Darcy's announcement of the letter • 3 options – the FN proposed linework based on the selected tier will potentially go to Cabinet in 8 months • Rhiannon asked if there will be ONE tier selected for ALL herds, or one tier PER herd. Darcy replied that there will be one MAP, and as long as the proposal recovers caribou, then it works. • Bevan said that with this package, BC is not sending out a defined spatial footprint, just getting to the 90% protection – and that BC is asking FN where the protection should be. There is some linework, but it's not done. This package is not based on a defined outcome - that's what this group will be doing for the next 6 months. This was then reiterated by Darcy. • It would be helpful if FN collected all their info and have it ready to go • ACTION: Next step, Genevieve to set up a meeting before the next larger group meeting to discuss packages
7	16:15	Round Table- All • Amanda – Simpcw FN – came to learn • Jake – appreciated feedback, excited to work with you • Cailyn – lots of questions about process, expectations, communications & consent. Could be a ToR item. Looking forward to habitat protection measure conversation • Chris – wants to see Tier 3 removed, will discuss #1, #2. Their Nation's forestry standards document have been handed out to licensees, which include caribou measures. Won't make May 29th meeting but Nikki Heim will attend and some other meetings. • Nikki Heim – eco bio

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		• Colin – this week will use messaging for caribou translocation for other stakeholders, and some photos from the shepherds. Ceremony at the mat pen. Email on after action review for decision process for col south cow – and how better to do this – will get to Genevieve. Kootenay Connect developing a web app with spatial data – anything that can be shared by BC? (agenda item?) • John – acknowledge forest landscape planning for Kootenay-Boundary – discussing with FN where to start one – Revy is on the list • Marc – any linkages to Fed recovery strategy amendment? • Jean - Fed recovery strategy amendment – still on scheduled timeline. 1:1 meetings with FN to participate in how they'd like to – categories of critical habitat and what that looks like. Also, language. Then regional F2F in the fall, 3x 3 days long. Caribou (2 days) and other SAR (1 day). Another group working on other terrestrial species like badger. • Robin – re: linkages – BC imperative. Linework – did focus on Central Group, BC wanted to include DU9 protection work so as not to overwhelm FN. Auditor General's report on ECCC's effectiveness on SAR – need to do better. Auditor General's report: Report 3—Discretionary Powers to Protect Species at Risk (oag-bvg.gc.ca) Conclusion: "ECCC did not have a timely and evidence-based approach to informing the use of safety net and emergency order provisions to protect terrestrial wildlife species on non-federal lands" Strong Focus on SMC and Boreal Caribou. BC's bilateral agreement expires in 2 years – will consider PA and effectiveness for caribou, plus the use of Section 80 emergency order. Section 11 agreements are not the best, according to the report. • Carlie – restoration workshop in March, got what we heard report – will send the edited version shortly. Still talking about funding an on-the-ground restoration workshop. Meeting this Friday with Steve re: road prioritization. Got approved for all 3 seed grants. Field ground-checking work funded, all Nation-led. • Steve – working on roadwork for meeting [see Carlie] • Aaron – mat pen – caribou had hiccups, talked with vet – all good! All 9 cows from Central Selkirks are pregnant, not Columbia South translocated cow (no bulls; she was alone). Yearling (born in pen last year) is back and pregnant (not usually seen in the wild at that age – good sign) • Caroline – HCTF grants – road rehab, supplemental feeding, another for community grant (also for suppl. feeding), road referrals, Simpcw caribou day, working through federal recovery strategy amendments review • Rhiannon - working on securing funding, went to caribou workshop, going to North America Caribou Workshop (NACW) in Alaska • Zack – finishing with Splatsin, then off to work with Ulkatcho

8	16:25	next steps, meeting- Face to Face May 29th? **Genevieve/All**
		• Date confirmed with group
		  ○ Deep dive into tier packages and recommendation before May 29th meeting
		• Potential agenda items:
		  ○ Marianne – socio-ec baseline info
		  ○ ToR
		  ○ Rhiannon would like to see more on integrated population model by Rob Serrouya
		• ACTION: ALL: send email to Genevieve if you'd like to see other agenda items

9	16:30	**Adjourn**

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ACTIONS/DECISION SUMMARY

New items

- **Mateen** to compile some information for Kathi (BC) that describes who's on the Indigenous subcommittee, and more detail on the 3 Pillars
- **Darcy** - set up a meeting for mid-May to inform how we move toward briefing jointly, co-developing messaging for DU9.
- **BC** will provide bullet points to bring to FN Leadership on the upcoming engagement letter
- **Indigenous Subgroup** to send an email to Bevan and Darcy on needing the linework – will help clear the path to get this info out to other FN
- Next step, **Genevieve** to set up a meeting before the next larger group meeting to discuss packages
- **ALL**: send email to Genevieve if you'd like to see other agenda items

older items-

- ACTION: Mateen to connect with Brent regarding: a cap on elders/community members for the visit. Done
- ACTION: Aaron/Genevieve are to Send material relating to the pen to Rhiannon. Lots of considerations were considered with the location of the pen.
- Decision: it is ok to have the smaller sub-group work on selecting a facilitator.
- ACTION: Mateen/ Genevieve to work with Deb to get carbon info into the package.Done
- ACTION: Colin is to send Genevieve an email with an outline of what he needs for Parks' requested debrief on the translocation decision-making process.
- ACTION - ALL: what would help you to take this package to your respective leadership? What info would they like to make a decision? What concerns do Nations have? Email Genevieve to compile, so Deb can get what's needed for you to present the info.
- **Mateen** will get back to the group on percentage of UD is on top of current protections. We have the data, will create a slide- info on the website app developed by Bevan
- **Deb and Genevieve** to bring this question (Can we work with Meike to push a pilot case through right now to test it to advance compensation under the 2 funds mentioned?) to the economists- Mieke has left
- **Mateen** will look at suggestions to explore making Core and Matrix slides, clearer, the current state, and Pros/cons for caribou for each option. Risks/costs for each option. federal process/threshold. Cumulative Effects - More to come in Jan mtg- Done
- **Genevieve** seeking Policy/Legislation people to come to speak to this at a next meeting
- Robyn L.: Hwy 23 - concerns for caribou - to discuss later meeting?
- **Hunter** to write a paragraph on vision towards decision making? for Genevieve to include in the summary doc. Not completed

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