Revelstoke Centre

Date: Monday, March 6, 2023

Time: 11:00- 16:30 Pacific

Agenda

Revelstoke Complex and Central Selkirks

Caribou Technical Working Group
Members and invitees

Genevieve Lachance (moderator)	Carlie Quinn (notes)	**Guests:** Mateen Hessami Bruno Delesalle	**Guests:** Rob Serrouya Kathi Zimmerman	
Richard Martin	Deb MacKillop	Hunter Lampreau	Cory Legebokow	Zach Parker
Rieva McCuaig	Robin Steenweg	Robyn Laubman	Leah Phillips	Steve Murphy
Aaron Reid	Aubrey Cartier	Leo DeGroot	Marc Steynen	Lorne Shovar
Ceryne Staples	Miles Howard	Rhiannon Kirton	Cailyn Glasser	Colin Bergeron
Corey Bird	Allison Pagett	Darcy Peel	Brent Davidson	
Tina Donald-	Chris Joseph	Dave Nordquist	Haleigh Parker	
Caroline Feischl	John Krebs	Bevan Ernst	Jean Polfus	

The purpose of this meeting is to first concentrate on the Columbia South translocation options to make a decision, and then go through updates relating to TIERS, carbon, AAC impact, and finally learn about the Great Bear Rainforest Model.

1	11:00	Welcome- **Genevieve** • Introduced the day with the thought and wisdom of the lone caribou in ensuring we all work collaboratively towards a common solution.
2	11:10	Translocation of Columbia South discussion- **All** **Aaron** - Biologically important to do it soon in case the cow is pregnant. **Colin** - Because of planning required to organize logistics, contracting and the associated funding, as well as PCA's engagement to support ceremony and nations participation, Parks Canada will need to know the decision by March 8th if the recommendation is to go to Columbia North. **Tina** wants to support the bands, making sure the cultural practices are being honored. Would like to identify which band will be responsible. **Cailyn** would like to hear from experts. **Aaron**: unknowns with both options, data won't give us the 'right' answer. • This cow would positively influence the pen. • Easiest to bring to pen – acknowledge there's a risk, but there's risk everywhere. • Columbia north would be most feasible as far as which herd, population + habitat is doing better. • She's an important animal but we are here to manage the population - not individuals.

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		Hunter: Could we leverage her translocation into additional actions for a herd? *Which additional steps can we take so we're not just leaving her and moving on **Aaron**: the public will be interested regardless so there could be opportunities to do additional actions. **Rob Serrouya**: Agrees with Aaron and thinks she could do well in a pen. • Parks should make sure the message is "this herd was functionally extirpated." **Hunter**: which entity makes sense to add additional actions to this **Kathi**: TWG in action - This is the challenge - We talked about priorities for Caribou, and current statuses, we have this opportunity around this significant event to increase actions. • We have immediate needs we could tackle by leveraging. • We have a platform giving us more reach. **Corey**: It's going to be business as usual unless we can push this forward. • Splatsin is clear about what they would like. • Concerned over the lack of habitat protections and are aware of the ongoing impacts on the landscape and caribou. **Robin**: we're getting away from science and towards symbolism and perceptions around this • Do we want to talk about the past where/when we have successfully translocated caribou? • Previous active extirpations • If we're comparing CS and CN, we could use previous examples. • How can we learn from those previous outcomes in terms of perceptions around those translocations? **Aaron**: • The last translocation of the South Selkirks was very reactionary and had little room for discussion. No time to talk about perceptions and leveraging. • We put some info forward regarding the translocated animals. • We shouldn't make the mistake of not thinking about perceptions and in this case, we could come up with a strategy. **Colin:** • From Park's Point of view, many discussions around the 2 options are sort of loose and loose because of official herd extirpation but we think we can turn them into wins. • Maybe the short-term well-being in the pen may be the best choice. • But for regional conservation, translocating into a larger healthy increasing population would result in a better chance for the preservation of genetics lineage of Columbia South. • Leveraging - Engaged in corridor mapping for caribou movement - Jasper conservation breeding is linked. How these caribou were historically spatially and genetically connected • Still going to support conservation and recovery actions of the Revelstoke-Shuswap population unit. **Caroline:** • If her fertility is in question, shouldn't we have her moved to the mat pen? **Colin:** • Columbia north is increasing and larger so it's the best chance for the caribou & population. **Chris**: • So you're just giving up on CS? **Rhiannon:** • If she's not going to improve the population. **Corey**: • Mat pen is short-term thinking. **Steve:** • What would the process be? • If people already know how they'll vote we should vote **Caroline:** • In terms of hard releases: what have the results been and have we ever done just 1 animal? **Aaron:**

- We had a vet do a lit review - 20-30, usually groups not sure if there were individuals. Likely hasn't been worth it to do individuals.
- There have been lots of successes and misses.
- Predations after release, disease issues (associated with deer??)
- Mat penning only 3 in Canada, also mixed results.
- Data is not very good on either side.
- Mortality rates are higher in translocated animals than in the wild… probably.

Jean:

- Caribou have learned behaviors from how they survive and reproduce.
- It does seem like most caribou get pregnant but there are 'super-females' that end up having a larger population influence. Some cows might never have a successful calf.
- We just don't know about these dynamics and maybe this lone female is a super-female.

Deb:

- Maybe some people don't want to vote, and we should identify that.

Aaron:

- If this comes to a vote then voters should know they won't need to wear this decision

Genevieve:

- Hunter's point about perceptions etc is where we need to focus too.

Cailyn:

- Have we heard everything we need to hear from experts?

Aaron:

- I've nothing more to add except maybe the age of the cow might not be accurate - we know she's a mature cow.

Bruno:

- Movement between Columbia south and north and jasper herds, growing resilience, if its symbolic or fundamental… it should be a part of our collective thinking.

Rhiannon:

- Vet paper?
- ACTION: Aaron will supply "Amelie's paper"

Future Agenda Items to discuss? Out of scope for the translocation decision:

Chris:

- Ktunaxa was not consulted with BCTS and need to be further consulted. (in relation to LP and BCTS logging old growth deferrals area)

Miles:

- FRPA changes: The decision maker will have discretion when it comes to cutting permits.

Genevieve:

- Note: One per band

Tina:

- The discussion should continue pass the vote to make sure we can all back the decision and make movements.
- Protections wise, the movement of this animal shouldn't mean any area gets downgraded

Rob:

- 8-10 females is a low number but that doesn't mean we deprioritize land use decisions

Chris

- Ktunaxa is managing the shepherds for the Central Selkirks Maternity pen

Colin:

- are there spiritual values coming from the nation that we haven't brought up yet that we could consider

Tina: whichever way the vote goes the nation that's involved should get involved and guide the cultural and spiritual values

Brent: Our band will be available to offer the cultural values once the decision is made

	12:00	Lunch Provided
3	13:00	Update from First Nations sub-committee – none provided atm
4	13:15	Translocation discussion continued **Genevieve**: Should BC, Federal (park, ECCC) Government have a vote? **Corey**: yes, less onus on FN **Richard**: No - FN only **Tina**: No Bands only **Chris**: Ktunaxa needs more time…. Likely doable in the month window **Genevieve**: will keep it just to FN. **Hunter:** Communications around this - with agreeable timelines should be developed and noted that the government is not inserting their choice into the vote - **Genevieve**: messaging will be we support the FN vote. **Brent**: If there are FNs not ready to vote let's set a hard deadline to bring the vote back **Genevieve**: Chris can you bring your vote by the 8th? **Chris:** yes. **Deb**: what happens if a vote is not completed by March 20th-24th **Bruno**: funding of operation is tied to fiscal year end which is March 31, 2023. Depending on the decision, we need a decision by March 8th to allow for planning logistics and contracts, etc. **Chris**: Old growth deferral required all Nations to be in agreement and we shouldn't change to a vote • Ktunaxa feels like Simpcw in that the people on the land should be making the decision • Ktunaxa feels that it is their decision and they will listen to others Working group organization and re-consideration discussion **-Hunter Lampreau** **Hunter**: TOR update to include decision-making amongst multi-governments • When decisions are coming to the TWG, members shouldn't be asked to stick their neck out and say • We're reacting to a dehumanized approach to the landscape and making it all about industry • We need to appreciate our growth as a group. • Caribou should have a claim too. • Frustration > Lack of participation • Until we're well structured to engage public etc we're going to maintain the stutter start of this • Multiple crown gov • Current structure doesn't allow us to do what we're tasked to do • TOR needs to spell out about decision making • Participation in the group does not hold your community to standards of decision making • This TWG is meant to collaboratively make objectives to enhance caribou survival on the landscape • Body of strategic thinkers. • 3rd party facilitator • What does this look like **Chris**: leadership should be making the decision on how decisions are made **Hunte**r: If consultation is needed - lets give Ktunaxa the time they need Missing information - **Bruno:** confirmed that we can extend the date to March 15, for Columbia North Translocation. **Brent**: - as an archeologist, "here's what we found, yes there are overlapping claims, etc, this is what needs to be protected etc etc" the technical stamp gets stamped on it, we're not making a decision based on title and rights decisions…. It's not setting a precedent. **Steve**: we already have that

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		Rhiannon: It sounds like K&C needs to talk about the process of decision-making, not the decision around the Cow Caribou **Cailyn**: In the interest of time and resources this doesn't set a precedent - we've come with a recommendation, and we're here as trusted technical people to bring info and take info. If we're not able to have a consensus on how we make decisions I don't know how we can move forward. • The commitment to make it caribou first should keep us moving forward with a decision. **Rhiannon:** what happens if we do leave her **Bruno**: should we do a round table to hear various perspectives. This is very important. **Hunter**: What is consensus? Do we talk about consent? **Deb**: consensus is about acceptance of the decision - not everyone happy • Professional facilitator could help **Lorne**: Parks should get all their permits, people, etc lined up to get this work lined up regardless K&C feels parks and gov already made a decision**Colin:** When could Ktunaxa realistically provide a recommendation? **Lorne:** March 15th would be realistic. **Bruno:** PCA could accommodate that timeline. **Bruno**: Parks Canada has not made a decision and we agreed to honor this process and the decision made at this working group table **Hunter**: looking for volunteers how we can organize the strategic sub group to reconsider TOR and how we're going to make decisions/make recommendations **Genevieve** will follow up with this to each nation individually **Zach**: Happy to see everyone caring about Caribou :)
5	13:45	Caribou Recovery Program Update- **Kathi Zimmerman/ Darcy Peel** Update on DU9 package that got a go-ahead to do engagement from senior government staff for additional habitat protection.
6	14:00	There is an APP for that! Habitat map layers and data; tiers, protection, and disturbance. **Bevan Ernst** Link for dashboard: https://bc-crp-apps.shinyapps.io/RCCSCTWG_Dashboard Will work with user and password left blank • We heard that the data communication hasn't been great, and we need more than just static maps • Currently no login credentials but it's coming. • We've had a real hurdle in communicating out spatial information as the caribou herd linework is still not publicly available. • Background in the description on how we came to visualize like this • On initial startup it's just going to start with CORE vs Matrix. "Where is the habitat and what kind of habitat is it" • Takes some time to bring in layers. • Click on polygons for information on polygons. • Will tell you % of habitat type protected. • Hoping this can be used by everyone to get all the information they're interested in • Disturbance takes a long time to load - don't start clicking! **Aaron**: this is what we've been looking for. All the information in one place without being a GIS wizard **Rhiannon**: • Does this include proximity to recreation? - no, but we can add in- Bevan to do
7	14:30	The AAC resultant from the Tiers- **Kyle Lochhead**

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		See presentation Q&A **CJ**: Partial cutting vs clear cuts? Are partial cuts included in the model? If we could do more partial cutting we wouldn't have old growth/caribou problems **Bevan**: well partial cutting could lead to 2x the habitat being affected to reach volume targets If nations can limit volume minimums…
	15:00	Break
8	15:15	The Great Bear Rainforest – **Ben Morton** See presentation **Deb**: $$$$ using GBR as a model, if we work on governance, we can get $$$$$$
		Translocation discussion continued **Cailyn (ONA)**: Columbia North preference, not digging heals in though, then pen **Corey (Splatsin)**: same **Brent (Adams Lake)**: supports Splatsin **Aubrey (Little Shuswap)**: Columbia North **Rhiannon (Shuswap)**: Supports her going to Pen> want something, not nothing **Caroline (Simpcw)**: supports Shuswap's position **Chris (Ktunaxa)**: Support moving her to the pen until we can decide - prefer Central Selkirks **Central Selkirk decided on** by default consensus**.** The group discussion resulted in a consensus among all First Nations/Organisations that relocating the lone female caribou to the Central Selkirks Maternity pen was acceptable (all "could live with this option"). **Jean**: suggest that Hunter leads the messaging. **Hunter** is happy to lead the messaging of what this activity is - Nations Perspective. And there will be BC(Genevieve), ECCC(Jean), Parks Canada (External Relations Manager)) to support the co-development of the messaging. ASAP
9	15:45	Update on carbon **-Deb Mackillop-** postpone to next meeting
10	16:10	Other updates and next steps: Timeline/process**, Genevieve/All-** postpone to next meeting
12	16:30	**Adjourn**

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