

Public Advisory Committee Meeting May 31, 2013

Present:

Nick Baccante
Rick Mayor
Carl Girtscheff
Leif Olsen
Ray Jackson
Steve Hewitt (morning)
Chris Addison
Lynn Avis (morning)
Dave Van Dolah
Mel Wilson (morning)
James Wellstead (morning)
Alicia Goddard
Mark Phinney (morning)

- Staff introductions
- Overview of projects and proposed regulations from biologists.
- Carl suggested additional burn sites in 7-19, Alicia will look at the sites while doing the goat survey. Mark also mentioned the Pine-Murray has been a long standing candidate for burning.
- Chris discussed the wolf cull that West Moberly and Salteaux were involved in.
- Leif asked about the ecosystem restoration plan in Ft Nelson. Alicia provided some information on this. We have concerns that the plan may impact negatively ungulates, plus it ignores the LRMP's, and BC Parks was not consulted. Everyone expressed concerns over lack of consultation on this project.
- Chris updated the group on FN consultation and mentioned the new stakeholder specialist position. Discussed agreements with Treaty 8. Carl and everyone else is frustrated with the way the agreements, through the permitting process, are impacting businesses and livelihoods.
- Increased GB authorizations this year, we had the lowest harvest rate in the Province. It was done within the parameters of the GB procedure.
- Steve talked about the salting program for bison.
- Questions about a thornhorn meeting/workshop in Richmond. Also questions about a sheep project in Skeena, Alicia will check on it.
- Discussed our commitment to produce management plans.
- Chris mentioned the commitment for e-licensing for hunting
- Leif asked about wood bison and elk LEH.
- Carl has a concern that trappers are limited on the harvest of black bears, and shouldn't be because there's no conservation concern.
- General conversation on how do we utilize this group (ie meeting frequency, etc), Carl suggested twice a year at a minimum. Leif suggested a call once a month to have a

conversation on a specific species (focused discussion). Nick suggested getting written input first followed up by a call. **ACTION: Nick will email committee members prompting feedback from their groups on wildlife management priorities and issues.**

- General discussion on bison, talked about habitat management (burning), seeding non desirable plant species, special hunting permits etc.
- General discussion about moose and habitat management. Carl feels that fire prevention in the South Peace has negatively impacted moose populations. Road mortalities are also a concern. Concerns over the number of moose shot and left
- Community pastures are also a concern, should be open to hunting.
- Concern over CI accuracy for goats in Ft Nelson.
- Age estimation of sheep in the field is a concern
- Chris updated the group on cumulative effects study