

Richard Dwyer

Subject: RE: Southampton Island Caribou Harvest project

From: Pinksen, Steve [mailto:SPinksen@gov.nu.ca]

Sent: Friday, February 16, 2007 2:13 PM

To: Spencer Dewar; kbuck@nirb.nunavut.ca; abernethyd@inca-ainc.gc.ca; licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org; rogersji@inac-ainc.gc.ca

Cc: Atkinson, Mike

Subject: Southampton Island Caribou Harvest project

Importance: High

Hello INAC, NIRB, and NWB personnel,

As I have described to most or all of you on the phone this past day or so, we are the regulatory agency for wildlife, and commercial wildlife harvests require a "Commercial Wildlife Licence" from our department in order to proceed.

We have been reviewing the proposal for this above named project, and obtained copies of the comments, conditions, and authorizations from your agencies. In reviewing the conditions your organizations attached to this project, it seemed to me that some or all of the reviewers may have misread or misunderstood the project with regard to waste disposal (waste in this case referring to hides, bones, entrails, and condemned carcasses.)

In the "Operational Plan" (Dated January 23, 2007) that the proponent submitted to our department, Section 7.0 "Non-Edibles and Local Use Only" (located on page 7 of 19) says the following"

"All non-edible condemned portions of the caribou, including viscera, heads (antlers removed) and hides will be transported to a designated area (minimum ½ mile from camp).

Any condemned animals, or parts of animals shall be disposed of on a sled or other enclosure and held for further transport back to the community dump site when the hunt as finished. This is a practice recommendation from the biologist, and should help in eliminating the spread of Krabei or tapeworms to the fox population."

Reading the comments on the water Licence, the NIRB conditions, the INAC comments on the water licence, and the INAC land use permit, it seems to me that the proposal was understood to be saying that all the waste was going to be brought back to the community dump. We are familiar with this project from previous years and knew that they project normally leaves much of the waste in a pile out on the land. Yesterday we contacted the proponent and asked about this. Today he responded with this:

"We plan to haul the hides, necks & skulls back to the local dump so that would be in the order of about 3850 of each waste product. We will leave the viscera spread out about a 1/2 Kilometer from the lake where the camp is situated." (email from Leonard Netser, February 16, 2007)

To clarify this (with the other contents of the proposal) this is the proposed method for disposing of the various types of waste:

- 1) If hunters shoot any animals that they observe to be obviously infected with brucellosis, then the hunters will leave those entire carcasses where they drop.
- 2) Carcasses or parts of carcasses that are rejected/condemned by the inspector as being diseased and unfit for human consumption will be hauled back to the community dump.
- 3) Hides, heads, and necks will be hauled back to the community dump.
- 4) Viscera will be hauled 1/2 KM from the camp and dumped.

The harvest will take about 3850 caribou. That will mean the guts of 3850 caribou will be left on the land in a big pile, and the heads/neck/hides from 3850 caribou will be put in the community dump. I estimate that it is close to 100 pounds of waste per carcass – so in total their will be somewhere around 385,000 pounds of waste shared

between the community dump and the pile out on the land.

The pile out on the land is a concern for us. Southampton Island caribou have a high incidence of Krabei tapeworms, and according to our biologists, leaving that kind of pile of guts will contribute to a hyper concentration of krabbei tapeworm in the area – they will re-enter the ecosystem. The leaving of whole carcasses of brucella affected caribou is also a problem. We will be insisting that these be disposed of by burying.

We are also aware that there were quite a few complaints from the community of Coral harbour about the pile of viscera left out on the land in previous years. They generally do not seem to find it acceptable.

I am also wondering if there are any concerns with leaching from the pile of guts on the land.

In any case, we are in a position to issue this permit, and are wondering two things:

- 1) Given this clarification on exactly what the proponent plans to do with the waste, are there any additional concerns you may have, and any additional conditions you would want to see applied?
- 2) Would you have any concerns if we were to apply a condition that no waste be left out on the land, and that all of it be brought back to the dump and buried?

Many thanks for your time, and please reply ASAP – we are trying not to hold this project up any more than is necessary.

Regards,

Steve

Steve Pinksen
Director, Policy Planning and Legislation
Department of Environment
Government of Nunavut
P.O. Box 1000 Station 1320
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
Phone: 867.975.7718
Fax: 867.975.7740

ᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐱᐱᐱᐱ
ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ, ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ
ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ
ᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ
ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ 1000 ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ 1320
ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ, ᐱᐱᐱᐱ X0A 0H0
ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ: 867.975. 7718
ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ: 867.975.7740

Steve Pinksen
Directeur, Politique planification et législation
Ministère de l'Environnement
Gouvernement du Nunavut
Case postale 1000, succursale 1320
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0
Téléphone: 867.975. 7718
Télécopieur: 867.975.7740

Steve Pinksen
Aulapkaiyi, Maligaghani Ihumaliuqniqni Maligaqnilu
Avatiligiyikkut
Nunavut Kavamangat
Qiuqutaa 1000 Nayugaa 1320
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0
Hivayautait: 867.975. 7718
Kayumiktukut: 867.975.7740