



SUBMISSION TO THE

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

FOR

Information:

Decision: X

Issue: Update on the community-based Monitoring Network (CBMN) Pilot Study

Background: Section 5.1 of the Terms of Reference for the CBMN Pilot Study Steering Committee requires the Terrestrial Wildlife Management Biologist to provide the Board with an overview and analysis of the progress of the project at each Regular Board Meeting. The following briefing note fulfills this requirement for the period of February 1st to April 30th, 2012.

Summary of Tasks Completed:

Project Management – Invoices and progress reports have been provided to the NWMB for review by wildlife section staff on a monthly basis.

Data Clerks and Harvesters – The data clerks have been uploading data successfully in each of the three participating Communities. Basic office supplies have been delivered and locking file cabinets were provided to allow for the secure storage of confidential harvester data, laptop computers, and hand held data entry devices.

A total of 36 harvesters and 5 data clerks are employed as part- time employees with IMG- Golder.

Communications - The administration of the project is complex and there is a need to build the relationship between the CBMN pilot study, the data clerks, the harvesters and the HTOs. To this end the Project Team has requested 10 minutes at each regular HTO meeting in participating communities to provide a project update (via telephone or written submission). Wildlife staff have also asked IMG-Golder to have the community team encourage the data clerks to communicate as often as needed with the team lead and the liaison.

Technology – The IMG-Golder technical team is maintaining the web application, the server, and the database regularly. As is often the case with new technology, users have suggested a number of ways in which to improve the system, and the technology will be updated to reflect this at the June mid-point community meetings.

Data Collection, Use, and Management – Harvesters were guided in data collection by the local Data Clerks who received continuous support from the Data Management Team and the Community Team

Leads, through email and a 1-800 toll free support line. Data Clerks uploaded and returned data to the database.

Status of the Project Schedule:

The Pilot Study is progressing on schedule, and is expected to be completed by January, 2013.

Schedule and Description of Upcoming Specific Targets for the Study:

Midterm Community Meeting: These meetings will be held in June 2012 with the purpose of getting feedback from communities concerning how the study is going, including determining what is working well, and which aspects could be improved upon . The team has developed an evaluation form which will be distributed to harvesters during the June meetings. Questions include: How do participants feel about the study so far? Is the equipment user friendly? Have there been any equipment and/or software problems? Is the CBMN project team providing adequate support? How is the relationship between harvesters and data clerks, community team leads? Harvesters will also be asked what improvements should be considered and if they would continue with the project if it was extended.

Memorandum of Agreement (MOU): Not all data collected will be accessible to everyone. Different levels of access will be established and passcode protected. Property rights, regulations and protocols will be strictly adhered to. A MOU will be developed on data ownership, use and distribution between NWMB and the communities. In February, 2012 discussions regarding the sharing of data were held with each of the communities, and will be continued during the June meetings.

Summary: Overall, the project is progressing well. The point of a pilot study is to identify challenges and find solutions. There are currently effective data clerks in each community and over 35 harvesters who are all actively engaged and have shown commitment to the study.

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