

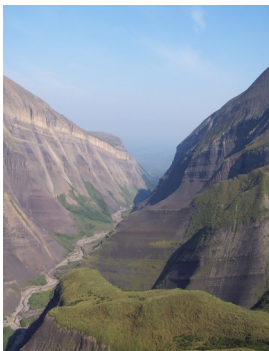


GWICH'IN RENEWABLE RESOURCE BOARD

ACTION PLAN

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GOAL 1: ESTABLISH & MAINTAIN STRONG, POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PARTNERS

Objectives	Action-Plan	Time-Frame	Reporting
1. GRRB is taking guidance for its decisions from information and advice provided by the communities within the GSA, and is providing assistance where needed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inform communities and the public on GRRB's role and activities through visits to schools, regular newsletters, bulletins, web-updates and other broad-cast media using plain language and visual representation. 2. Establish an accessible means of informing communities of special issues, decisions or plans for research, to manage or regulate wildlife. 	<p>On-going</p> <p>2008</p>	<p>Annual summary to the Board on community outreach</p> <p>Maintain tracking system for notices, circulars, etc.</p>
2. GRRB, GTC and related Gwich'in institutions (GSCI) are working together efficiently on all relevant levels.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a protocol with the GTC and other Gwich'in institutions to clarify roles, responsibilities and consultation/communication procedures, including in relation to First Nation decisions affecting wildlife matters. 2. Maintain regular dialogue between the Chair and Executive Director of the Board with the GTC and GSCI Executive. 	<p>2008/2009</p> <p>Quarterly</p>	<p>Board approval for Protocol</p> <p>Board reports</p>
3. GRRB is consulting and assisting the RRCs according to its mandate, and RRCs are providing expertise and advice to the GRRB on management, harvesting and research priorities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meet regularly with communities to identify RRC and community needs/concerns. 2. Communicate regularly with RRC Coordinator and Chairs. 3. Circulate proposals/draft plans well in advance of in-person meetings. 4. Attend Regional RRC meetings 	<p>Min 4 x /yr</p> <p>Monthly</p> <p>As required</p> <p>Annually</p>	<p>Summaries to RRC & Board</p> <p>ED reports to Chair</p> <p>Summaries to Board</p> <p>Staff reporting to ED</p>
4. GRRB is working closely with the Gwich'in Land Use Planning and Land and Water Boards to integrate management planning that affects wildlife and wildlife habitat.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify areas of parallel activities to avoid duplication of effort, identify potential sharing of resources, research or liaison opportunities. Clarify roles and responsibilities of the three Boards to manage overlap or intersecting interests or management activities 2. Assign responsibilities to maintain ongoing communications with both Boards about forward planning and activities. 	<p>Start in 2008</p> <p>On-going</p>	<p>Report to Board on</p> <p>Staff reporting to ED</p>
5. GRRB and GNWT (ENR) have a strong and positive relationship on management and harvest planning.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a protocol for the coordination of operational and financial planning, and for the evaluation of management and harvest plans. 2. Set out information, staff and research cooperation and sharing expectations; and update regularly. 	<p>2008/2009</p> <p>Semi annually</p>	<p>Board approval</p> <p>Report to Board</p>
6. GRRB and federal departments have a strong and positive relationship on management and harvest planning.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a general memorandum of understanding with Canada and the three main departments involved to increase coordination and clarify lines of communication and consultation. 2. Establish Department-specific agreements on cooperation. 3. Assign ongoing liaison duties with each agency. 	<p>2008/2009</p> <p>2008 – 2010</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Board approval</p> <p>Board approval</p> <p>Staff reporting to ED</p>

GOAL 2: MAINTAIN & UPDATE THE HARVEST STUDY AND SET GWICH'IN MINIMUM NEEDS LEVELS

Objectives	Action-Plan	Time-Frame	Accountabilities
1. The Settlement Area Harvest Study is completed and regularly updated.	1. Completion of Gwich'in Settlement Area Harvest Study.	Pending	Board decision
	2. Study Renewal Plan developed in conjunction with RRCs and GTC in consultation with Government.	2009/10	Report to Board on plan
	3. Study Renewal Plan implemented.	2010 – On-going	Annual updates to Board
2. Gwich'in Minimum Needs Levels are determined in accordance with the GCLCA.	1. Gwich'in Minimum Needs Levels calculated in draft form and RRC-GRRB meetings held to validate data.	2008/09	To be approved by Board
	2. Revised Gwich'in Minimum Needs Levels (GMNL) provided to Government for review and comment.	2008/09	Chair/ED reports
	3. Final GMNL provided to signatories and published.	2009/10	Board Decision
	4. Gwich'in Minimum Need Levels applied to Harvest Plans.	2009/10	Board Reports
3. Supplementary Harvest Studies keep harvesting allocations in tune with current Gwich'in needs.	1. Priorities for “gap-closing” harvest studies identified with RRCs and GTC.	2009/10	Staff reporting to ED and Chair.
	2. Priorities discussed with Federal and GNWT agencies.	2010	ED/Chair reports.
	3. Harvest Study priority research proposals assessed and funded.	2011/2012	Board decision.
4. The Gwich'in right to trade edible products of wildlife for personal consumption among themselves and with other Aboriginal users in the GSA is respected.	1. Draft proposed regulation(s) on Gwich'in trade to ensure it is non-commercial.	2009/10	Staff to Management
	2. Consult with RCCs and GTC on draft regulations.	2009/10	Consultation Report
	3. Consult with relevant government agencies on draft regulations.	2009/10	Liaison Report on responses.
	4. Propose regulations to relevant Minister(s).	2010/11	Follows regulatory plan (Annex 1).

GOAL 3: ESTABLISH OR AMEND TOTAL ALLOWABLE HARVEST LEVELS AND ALLOCATE THE HARVEST

Objectives	Action-Plan	Time-Frame	Reporting
1. Protect the Gwich'in right to gather, hunt, trap and fish throughout the settlement area at all seasons of the year.	1. Establish protocols with the RRCs and GTC on setting Gwich'in Needs Levels (beyond Minimum Needs Levels set by statute).	2008/09	Board Approval
	2. Implement consultations where the total allowable harvest and Gwich'in Needs Levels are to be set.	2009/10 Ongoing	Formal Reporting on Website and in Registry
	3. Set Gwich'in Needs Levels for the concerned species or population	2009/10 Ongoing	Board Approval and publication
2. Ensure that traditional harvesting by non-Gwich'in Aboriginal peoples who have harvested in the GSA can be accommodated.	1. Establish a protocol for consulting with non-Gwich'in Aboriginal peoples who have harvested in the GSA.	2009/10	Board Approval
	2. Implement consultations with the concerned Aboriginal peoples when harvesting allocations are being proposed.	2010/11	Formal Reporting on Website and in Registry
3. Deal fairly and equitably with persons who hunt, trap, fish or conduct commercial wildlife activities in the settlement area who are not participants.	1. Draft Rules and Procedures for formal Board Hearings on the setting of Total Allowable Harvest levels and the allocation of the harvest beyond Gwich'in Needs.	2008/09	Preliminary Board approval for release.
	2. Consult with other co-management boards, Government and the Gwich'in on the proposed Rules and Procedures.	2008/09	Chair/ED reports to Board.
	3. Approve and publish the Hearing Rules and Procedures.	2009	Board Approval.
	4. Hold public hearings.	As required	Board Meeting
	5. Implement regulatory approval process (see Annex 1).	As required	Board Meeting(s)

GOAL 4: DEVELOP WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLANS AND APPROVE GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS

Objectives	Action-Plan	Time-Frame	Reporting
1. GRRB has an integrated management planning approach within the GSA that is understood and supported by the Gwich'in.	1. Determine management planning priorities with the RRCs in all areas (fisheries; large mammals; furbearers; waterfowl; forestry and habitat).	Annually (Spring)	Report on priorities to Board
	2. Seek validation of consultation results with communities.	Annually (Fall)	Staff reporting
	3. Publish annual Gwich'in priority assessments of management and/or harvesting plan requirements.	Annually (Winter)	Publication
2. GRRB has a strong relationship with DFO in managing fisheries priorities in the GSA.	1. Establish a protocol or MOU with DFO on fisheries management planning in the GSA, including adaptation of integrated fisheries management planning for the GSA and the assessment of impacts of the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project.	2008/09	Board approval
	2. Identify management priorities with DFO (e.g., Dhik'ii, Łuk zheii (Broad Whitefish), sruh (Inconnu).	Annually (Spring/Summer)	Report on priorities to Board
	3. Set Fisheries management priorities.	Fall meeting	Board approval
	4. Establish research priorities	Annually	Board approval
3. GRRB has a strong relationship with ENR in managing wildlife priorities in the GSA.	1. Establish a protocol or MOU with ENR on priority management planning in the GSA;	2008/09	Board approval
	2. Identify management priorities with ENR (e.g., Vadzaih (caribou); dinjik (moose); shih (grizzly).	Annually	Report on priorities to Board
	3. Set relevant management priorities.	Annually	Board approval
	4. Establish research priorities	Annually	Board approval
4. GRRB has a strong relationship with Canadian Wildlife Service and Environment Canada in managing wildlife priorities in the GSA.	1. Establish a protocol or MOU with EC/CWS on priority management planning in the GSA;	2009/10	Board approval
	2. Identify management priorities with EC/CWS (e.g., migratory birds; current GRRB base-line bird decline research etc.).	Annually	Report on priorities to Board
	3. Set relevant management priorities.	Annually	Board approval
5. GRRB has the capacity to respond effectively to government proposals for management plans, regulations and/or designations of parks or endangered species.	1. Develop an Advice Request Protocol for all relevant Government agencies (GNWT and Federal) to better manage and track/report on advice sought and Board responses. Seek input of all relevant government agencies and inform all RRCs and GTC of procedures being proposed.	2008/09	Chair/ED reporting as required
	2. Adopt and publish Advice Request Protocol.	2009	Board approval
	3. Implementation in response to governmental requests.	As required	Quarterly reporting to Board

GOAL 5: STRENGTHEN THE GWICH'IN ROLE IN RENEWABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Objectives	Action-Plan	Time-Frame	Reporting
1. GRRB provides training opportunities in research and management for Gwich'in people.	1. Hire Gwich'in trainees with co-funding from territorial, federal and Gwich'in sources.	On-going	
	2. Hire Gwich'in summer students studying in renewable resource related fields.	On-going	
	3. Under <i>Youth Work Experience Program</i> – Hire Youth	On-going	
	4. Hire Gwich'in field assistants	On-going	
2. GRRB supports Gwich'in education in renewable resources and related issues.	1. Provide learning materials and visit schools to spark student interest in renewable resource management and on-the-land activities.	Annual update	Staff/ED reports
	2. Assist in youth/elder on-the-land programs and link activities to wildlife and habitat monitoring.	Each summer	Annual program report
	3. Participate in Gwich'in community events, career-fairs, and similar events.	On-going	Quarterly reporting
	4. Provide GRRB Scholarship program	On-going	
	5. Develop a Scholarship program with partners for Gwich'in students.	2009/10	For Board consideration
3. GRRB supports Gwich'in employment in renewable resource management and research where possible.	1. Hire Gwich'in participants, if available, when filling existing positions on the Board's staff.	On-going	ED/Chair reports to Board
	2. Where new positions become available, create a preferred hiring policy for Gwich'in.	On-going	
	3. Establish a hiring Protocol with RRCs when hiring field assistants	2008	
4. GRRB integrates TK and local knowledge in its research and decision-making, and with third parties active in the GSA.	1. Develop a protocol for the receipt and retention of TK from individuals and communities to be used for research or management purposes. (GSCI TK Policy)	2008/09	Board/RCC approval
	2. Work with the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute on appropriate TK guidelines for research and to guide land-based activities by government and industry.	On-going	Staff/ED reporting
	3. Support TK research through GRRB funds and third-party funded research within the GSA.	Annually	Board funding decisions

GOAL 6: PROVIDE RESPONSIVE ADVICE TO GOVERNMENT ON WILDLIFE & WILDLIFE HABITAT

Objectives	Action-Plan	Time-Frame	Reporting
1. Establish Protocols on Forward Planning for Legislative, policy and planning change with relevant Government Agencies and with the Gwich'in Tribal Council	1. Develop a consultation/advisory protocol that reflects government obligations under s.12.8.32 ("Advisory Powers") of the GCLCA.	2008/09	Board Approval
	2. Invite government agencies implicated by s.12.8.32 to adhere to the proposed protocols.	2008/09	Staff/ED/Chair reporting
	3. Implement consultation/advisory protocols.	On-going	Board Reporting
2. Respond to Government initiatives with advice.	1. Continue participation in the NWT <i>Species at Risk Act</i> and seek an implementation agreement to accommodate impacts on GRRB and RRC resources and capacities;	On-going	ED Reporting to Board
	2. Make representations concerning renewal of the Federal <i>Fisheries Act</i> (C-30) to the House of Commons and/or Senate;	Spring/'08	Submission to Parliament
	3. Seek an agreement between DFO and GRRB (and possibly GNWT) regarding coordination in relation to the implementation of C-30.	Summer/'08	ED/Chair Reporting to Board on discussions



GOAL 7: PROVIDE QUALITY PUBLIC SERVICES IN WILDLIFE & WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT

Objectives	Action-Plan	Time-Frame	Reporting
<p>1. GRRB has a permanent, motivated and trained staff to provide the Board, the Gwich'in and the public with quality advice and services in renewable resources management.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish staff recruitment criteria and policies for GRRB; and review criteria and policy against Board-determined priorities for research, regulatory and management services. 2. Provide professional development and staff training opportunities based on available resources. 3. Provide competitive salary and benefits. 4. Standardize staff evaluations. 5. Promote Gwich'in employment. 6. Work with Aurora College and Aurora Research Institute for course development and delivery. 	<p>In place</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>In process</p> <p>In process</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>In process</p>	<p>ED reporting to Chair and Board</p>



