

Saskatchewan River Sturgeon Management Board Meeting

Prince Albert, Saskatchewan

February 23, 2011

Attendees:

Raymond Lathlin	OCN Elder
Marcy Bast	SaskPower
Mary Head	OCN Resource Council
Ron Hlasny	Saskatchewan Environment
Robert McAuley	Village of Cumberland House
Lennard Morin	Cumberland House Fishermen's Coop
Ron Campbell	Manitoba Water Stewardship
Shelley Matkowski	Manitoba Hydro
Rob Wallace	Saskatchewan Environment (science advisor)

1. Opening Prayer
  - Raymond Lathlin
2. Ron H. was elected to be the new co-chair (for Murray K.)
3. A. Minutes from February 23, 2010
  - All questions answered at 2010 October meeting
  - ACTION: Rob W. will revise the draft notes and will email**
- B. Minutes from October 26, 2010
  - R. Hlasny asked a question from minutes (p. 2, paragraph 1): is the trend overall or younger? R. Campbell to confirm
  - L. Morin asked about the status of Pehonan; M. Bast and R. Hlasny reported that the project was still in the very early stages
  - L. Morin asked if there was any way to tell the difference between hatchery raised and naturally recruited lake sturgeon; R. Wallace and others will check
  - ACTION: R. Wallace and others will check if there is a way to tell the difference between hatchery raised and naturally recruited lake sturgeon**
4. Agenda
  - agenda approved
5. Membership update
  - S. Matkowski noted that records from February 2009 shows a list, but it needs updating
  - R. Wallace: Saskatchewan Northern Affairs asked to be out of the membership, but L. Morin and R. McAuley think they should be members; M. Head and R. Hlasny will discuss and send letter of invite
  - ACTION: M. Head and R. Hlasny will discuss and send letter of invite**
  - it was also suggested that we consider having a rep from MMF; R. Campbell was not in favor due to the lack of funds to cover participation

6. Plans

-R. Hlasny: the budget was completed in March but are expecting 4 FTEs out of Fisheries & Wildlife. Fisheries & Wildlife funding is unknown, but hope to put into Cumberland Fishermen's Coop. Saskatchewan Environment plans on same funding as in 2010.

-M. Bast: SaskPower will be providing \$11K for index fishing and \$7K for other (gear, posters, etc) as well as funding for travel for 3 reps to 2 meetings, and wondered what the future priorities for the board would be

-S. Matkowski suggested that the Ten year Management Plan be updated

-R. Wallace noted that SARA, and CH new issues should be a priority

-M. Bast wants to use DFO funding for special projects, not for index fishing

**-ACTION: M. Bast will check on Ten Year Management Plan costs and consultants**

-M. Head was talking with MB Fisheries about a Joint Management Agreement with potential for a Cree Study by OCN but uncertain so far. ATK 'Namao Study' will be finishing in about a month. M. Head noted that DFO funding was applied for in November, and approved in May, but no money will be received until November after the field season.

-R. Campbell: in the handout from 2010, the graph of juvenile sturgeon stock probably included all sizes but will confirm. Sturgeon recaptured in Saskatchewan will be included in MB analysis (by Chelsea Lumb). Special Conservation Fund funding was not available so used Manitoba Hydro funding; account balance is now -\$4900.

-R. Campbell applied for \$24K from Habitat Stewardship Program (DFO) in 2011 to 1. monitor populations (index fishing) and sustainable domestic harvest 2. Fish stocking and education (community meetings) 3. Assessment of habitat suitability. Will need matching funding for half of the requested \$24 K. S. Matkowski may be able to fund \$12 K if there is no Special Conservation funding available.

-S. Matkowski: may be able to provide funding to MWS to match half of the requested \$24 K, or for index fishing in Manitoba, or for development of new ten year management plan

7. SARA

-Discussion on the SARA process, recovery targets, threats to recovery, expected timelines.

8. Next meeting

-Next meeting will be October 19, 2011 in The Pas

9. Closing Prayer

-Raymond Lathlin

10. Adjourned

-meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.