**Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee Minutes  
6:00pm April 13th, 2022 – Microsoft Teams Meeting**

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| MEMBER | PRESENT | REGRETS |
| Allan Gordon, Greenstone Metis Council |  | X |
| Bernie Baillargeon, Bear Management & Baitfish |  | X |
| Brian Desrochers, Trapping | X |  |
| Bob Baycroft, Fishing/Hunting Interest | X |  |
| Deanna Hoffman, Forest Management | X |  |
| Ed Hoffman, Forest Industry | X |  |
| Evan Armstrong, General Public | X |  |
| James McPherson, Municipality of Greenstone | X |  |
| Jason Booth, Remote Tourism |  | X |
| John Espinola, Road Accessed Tourism |  | X |
| Ken House, Cottaging |  | X |
| Ken Stevens, Crown Land Recreation | X |  |
| Rob Haslam, Naturalist | x |  |
| VACANT, Chamber of Commerce |  |  |
| Yvette Metansinine, Aboriginals |  | x |
| Eileen Johnson, Local Business | X |  |
| Blair Binnendyk, Forest Industry Ogoki | X |  |
| VACANT, Mining |  |  |
| ALTERNATES |  |  |
| Brent Henley, Remote Tourism | X |  |
| VACANT, Local Business |  |  |
| Kellie Chippett, Forest Industry | X |  |
| Taylor Hall, Forest Management | X |  |
| Sean Antonson, Trapping |  | X |
| Steve Thuerig, Naturalist | X |  |
| Clark Brown, Fishing/Hunting Interests |  | X |
| Tanya Couture, Crown Land Recreation |  | X |
| VACANT, Aboriginals |  |  |
| VACANT, General Public |  |  |
| Vaughn Arsenault, Cottaging | X |  |
| VACANT, Road Accessed Tourism |  |  |
| MNRF |  |  |
| Amie Nephin, MNRF LCC Liaison |  | X |
| Nicole Gross, MNRF LCC Logistics | x |  |
| Charlotte Bourdignon, MNRF Forester, Kenogami | X |  |
| Leal Strain, A/District Supervisor |  | x |
| Philip Wilson, MNRF Biologist |  | X |
| Charles Brooks, Conservation Officer |  | X |
| Tara Rooney, MNRF Forester, Ogoki | X |  |
| **GUESTS** |  |  |
| Daniel Martin | X |  |
| Isabel Gannon | X |  |
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**1. Call to Order & Introductions**

* Evan explained to the group how he keeps track of attendees.

**2. Kenogami Forest Stewardship Council(FSC) Forest Management Certification (Isabel Gannon, Daniel Martin) – Deanna presenting**



* Field Portion of the Audit will take place May 4th-5th
* Have a preliminary list of non-conformances from last year. 7 have been addressed and 1 has been upgraded.
* Charlotte stated that some maps looked like Nedaak considered Room to Grow, and some did not. Will this be considered?
* Deanna is not sure, but those candidate parks are not [harvested] in the FMP.
* Charlotte asked whether adding new conservations areas would affect the LTMD.
* Deanna said that it could, and a plan rewrite would have to happen. Ogwiid would have to be consulted. They will bring it to the LCC to see if any change to the LTMD is required. If it is yes, then there is public consultation and a cost incurred.
* Jamie feels that most GANRAC membership doesn’t have the technical knowledge to deal with this and that at the May 4th Meeting all options should be presented.
* Discussion around the challenges the Quebec government is having around the Caribou Habitat guidelines.
* Evan asked whether to form a sub committee for this meeting. Rob expressed interest in participating in a sub committee, however, is not available for the May 4th Meeting.
* It was decided that it would be a group meeting on May 4th and from there a sub-committee would be formed including Rob Haslam and Bob Baycroft.
* It was noted by Isabel that there is a 90 day timeline to complete any major conformances and a longer period for minor ones.

**3. Review of Agenda**

* All ok with the addition by Deanna of 8(1)(c) Amendment 06 & 07
* Moved by Evan Seconded by Steve

**4. Approval of Previous Minutes (February 9th Mtg)**

* Deferred. Members will be sent clean version.

**5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

* N/A
* Evan commented that no one got back to him with comments on the website. He asked the group to look at it and follow up with him.

**6. Correspondence**

* None received

**7. Budget – Evan**

* Motion to accept – Evan, Seconded Brian

**8. New Business**

**1. a) Kenogami Update – Charlotte**

* Nothing further to add

**b) Kenogami amendment 005-2021 ORB (Deanna)**

* Minor amendment 1 stakeholder wants a discussion about one location (to take place April 14th) and also needed additional rationale from AV

**c) Amendment 006/007**

* **006 -**Trap Cabin AOC – 200 metre AOC to be cut, trapper requested due to potential of Fire. They offered to plant but it is NOT part of his request. The water quality reserve will remain. Nedaak and AV are meeting with the trapper on site to confirm what he wants left standing. This will require a new AOC.
* Minor or Administrative Amendment? – Deanna confirmed they are talking directly to the trapper and First Nations have no concerns.
* Evan recommended Administrative Amendment. Rob Motioned; Steve Seconded for this to be Administrative Amendment.
* **007-** New Access Restriction signage similar to that at Relief and Poverty roads on the north side of the Drowning River system. *Unauthorized use of this road to access Relief and Poverty Lakes is prohibited May 1 to Oct 31*. Rob supports this.
* Minor or Administrative Amendment? Evan clarified that they will be putting a new sign and that the BMA/Trapper/BHA holders will be contacted. They have not yet been but will, Charlotte also said that the Remote Tourism Outfitters should also be included.
* Recommended for Administrative Amendment – Ken Stevens, Seconded Rob Haslam
* Rob asked if Nakina people use this. Charlotte confirmed from the North side.
* Rob asked if they know where they are going to harvest this year. Charlotte explained that now there is three years worth of area Licenced so public (and MNR) doesn’t know from the AWS which areas will actually be harvested. Kellie indicated that they will be able to answer the questions soon as they are working on their harvesting plan for this year.
* Rob wants to make sure he gets a look at his portages before harvest begins. He had concerns about Kowkash Bridge/Joseph Gagnon block (which is Columbia’s licenced area).
* Deanna said some blocks are only in the AWS for road development for next year’s harvest. The Operations committee may also provide some information. The LCC wants to see 3 year best guess and what Deanna has proposed. Deanna advised if it is one of Columbia’s blocks, she will have Ed advise the committee

**2. Ogoki Operations Update – Tara**

* New FRL and [Forestry Agreement] FA issued April 1st. 5yrs ADLP
* Operations on the Box Lake and Wanda Lake Blocks
* Blair stated that the steel decking on the bridge in Kap West has been completed and some progress has been made in the Falcon Lake Block.

**3. Nedaak Operations Update – Deanna**

* Taylor new addition to their team as Silviculture/Planning Forester. Will be working on the amendments and revisions to start. Angie Megan is the new Office Administrator.
* Tree plant planned for late May start
* Looking to hire Silviculture Intern through the High School.
* FSC field audit May 4th – 5th
* Fire Season begins April 1st.
* Evan asked if there were jobs on the forest as there is funding being provided for new private companies i.e. B.P.Logging (Charlotte clarified that was for Brian Pelletier Logging for a new processor). Kellie stated there is work to be had.

**4. AV Terrace Bay Operations Update – Kellie**

* North Kenogami: Currently in Woodcock area and working the intersection of Twin Lakes/Blueberry/Waba
* South Kenogami: Duffus Lake (km 70 Catlonite)
* Wigs Lake area off Goldfield
* Haul: Old Selwyn
* Longlac Stockpile
* Catlonite Road closed to heavy traffic for spring breakup
* Overview of plan for this year (subject to change): Maun road upgrade and harvest
* Maun road extension project
* Late summer into fall will be along the Mcleod Road area, Star Lake
* Winter plan north of railbed (Watusee and Prairie lake)

**5. Columbia Forest Products Operations Update – Ed**

**(by Deanna)**

* Cutting at Kowkash Bridge. Hauling later.

**9. Open discussion**

* Brian expressed that he likes the virtual format for meetings. He finds it makes it easier for him to attend meetings.
* Evan presented sample of updated Geraldton Area Fish Brochure. They received approval from the town and Charlotte has requested funding.
* Ken, Rob and Bob, all indicated it was important to go ahead with providing public with this brochure.



* Snow Stations



* Heavy snow year. Eileen asked about the impact of potential flooding. Evan explained that it could affect fish spawning as well as the fire season. It is all dependant on how fast the melt happens. If the streams open it is a good sign.
* Concern regarding tapeworm in Wawong Lake stocked fish.
* Pictures were provided from a concerned citizen noting tapeworm in fish in Wawong Lake. It is stocked by MNDMNRF with splake. It also has natural Cisco, Whitefish and Pike. The splake are infected with parasites but is ok to eat if well cooked. There is a possibility that infected snails are eaten by the splake. Larval tapeworm go into the fish flesh in the Splake which are then eaten by a predator (such as a pike) which then poops out the parasite and then the cycle begins again.. Long Lake has the same problem with whitefish.
* The public’s concern was that perhaps MNRF should be stocking other lakes rather than Wawong if this is an issue. Stocking is for “put” and “take” if not working why do it. The group discussed who uses the lake, a number of people from Nakina are aware of the problem. It is easily accessed and does get a lot of use (Possibly due to the parasite issue) but the extent of Aroland’s use (as the lake is right next door) was unknown.
* Recommendation after discussion was to send email to the Biologist requesting a review of the issue and suggested holding off stocking until the issue can be looked into.. The group was hoping to have Philip come to the next meeting and give them an update. Charlotte to draft email.
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**10. Next Meeting:**

May 4th – FSC Review

June 8th – LCC

**11. Adjournment – 8pm – Motion Ed; Seconded Brian**