**Geraldton Area Natural Resources Advisory Committee Minutes  
5:30 p.m. January 22, 2020  
Greenstone Fire Management Headquarters** **Attendance**  **Present Regrets**

Charlotte Bourdignon, MNRF Forester Kenogami x  
Robin Kuzyk, MNRF Forester, Ogoki x  
Nicole Gross, MNRF Logistics x  
Amie Nephin, MNRF LCC Liaison x  
Philip Wilson, MNRF Biologist x  
**Members**Allan Gordon, Greenstone Metis Council x  
Bernie Baillargeon, Bear Management & Baitfish x  
Brian Desrochers, Trapping x  
Deanna Hoffman, Forest Management x  
Ed Hoffman, Forest Industry x  
Evan Armstrong, General Public x  
Gary Selinger, Fishing/Hunting Interest 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

Vaughn Arsenault, Chamber of Commerce x  
Yvette Metansinine, Animbiigoo Zaagi’igan Anishinaabek x  
**Alternates:**Bob Baycroft, General Public x  
Brent Henley, Municipality of Greenstone x  
Denny Michano, Aboriginals x  
Eileen Johnson, Local Business x  
Gerald Bolduc, Cottaging x  
Renald Beaulieu, Municipality of Greenstone x

Scott Koski, Forest Management x  
Sean Antonson, Trapping x  
Steve Thuerig, Naturalist x **Guests:**

1. **Call to Order & Introductions**

Meeting began at 5:55

1. **Review of Agenda**

* Accepted

1. **Approval of Previous Minutes (November 27)**
   * Done by email

**4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes (November 27)**

* Removal and re-stencilling of Adopt an Access at the Kenogami River Access trail by Brian. **Complete. Sign has been installed.**
* Amelie to reach out to OPG contact requesting a presentation to GANRAC
* **Complete. Philip Wilson will provide a presentation / update to the group on the Implementation Report on Water Management Plan which is due after December. Update: Phil Wilson is unavailable, will put on agenda when he is back in the office.**
* Eileen to forward thank you letter to Nakina mill with regards to the mill tour.
  + **Complete. Eileen brought letter which was read to the group. Evan will send letterhead to Eileen, Char to provide contacts at NLI. Eileen will sign and mail letter.**
* Action: 7.b. MNRF will provide LCC summary of access restriction.

**MNRF is in discussion with regional staff for presentation that was given to the Ogoki planning team.**

* Action Item 7.d.i) MNRF to follow-up whether ToR or Project plan can be shared publicly at this time. **Complete, shared by email.**

1. **Financial Report**
   * none

**6. Correspondence:**

* None

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
   1. **Kenogami Update**
      1. **Desired Forest & Benefits Summary**

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* + 1. **Long Term Management Direction**

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**Questions/Discussion**

* How are changes in guides addressed? Opening spring bear hunt season again, does that have impacts that need to be addressed/considered for forest management planning? How are they addressed when changes are implemented half way through planning? (Ken H.)
  + - Certain guides will be updated as policy does but the change in the bear hunting is related to population and hunting. In the FMP, bear values are addressed through operational planning. Only bear denning is protected and as dens may move around the prescription is that once one is encountered it is dealt with through avoidance.
    - Why is caribou managed in the FMP then if not all species are?
      * For caribou, we manage habitat at the landscape level at large patch sizes to maintain caribou habitat (old/mature forest).
    - There will be phase-in requirements when changes are made when in active planning. Ie. When changes to the Forest Management Planning Manual occurred, there was direction on what was to be implemented for plans in development.
  + Were there issues / concerns raised at planning team around amount of wood available? This was a large issue with the Ogoki. (Ken H.)
    - Volumes are not quite as high as the targets but overall not bad
    - We will have to make decisions when apportioning the wood commitments
      * Two commitment holders. AVTB and Lecours have an agreement
    1. **FMP Update**
* Issue raised at last planning team meeting regarding caribou management. General Manager of Nedaak addressed the planning team on behalf of member First Nations regarding the implementation of the Caribou Conservation Plan (CCP) at the planning table.
* CCP speaks to integration of Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge (ATK) has not been integrated into FMP properly.
* MNRF will respond to the planning team but our perspective is that caribou habitat is managed in the FMP and our direction comes from the CCP and boreal landscape guides. The direction we follow comes from policy so concerns need to be addressed at a policy level.
* Planning team will be moving forward and will ensure information is given to the planning team as we work through these concerns.
* Looking to go public with LTMD early to mid February.
* Operational planning from the modelling results will commence and continue while the Caribou concern is being addressed.
  1. **Canoe Routes (Rob Haslam)**

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* Rob has been working with the Municipality on trail maintenance of canoe routes and portages
* Rob will send routes to MNRF to ensure that they are captured in LIO (values database system) and ensure the locations are correct.
* Rob has discussed with the Ogoki FMP planning team and has asked for 100m on both sides (200m total) for two specific canoe route/portages.
* In the last Kenogami FMP, prescription was an additional 20m on water quality reserves so ranged from 50m - 120 m.
* Lake Nipigon discussed a tiered approach where frequently used canoe routes were given a higher ranking and protection buffer was enhanced based on priority.
* Ken Stevens discussed the access road to the Drowning River that he has brought to the group before as that road leads to the start of a historic canoe route which is advertised by the Municipality.
* Evan suggested that Rob share the information with the planning team representatives and he can bring it forward at the planning table. If possible, Rob should present to the planning team in order to explain the importance of preserving canoe routes and portages and the impacts encountered.
* Rob offered his assistance in locating canoe values if industry was unsure of where a value was located. He would be happy to come out and verify prior to it being impacted.
  1. **Needak Update**
* AWS submitted to MNRF for comments. Will go public in March
* No amendments or revisions
* Slash piling ongoing – Mineral, Duckling
* Compliance checks ongoing (Lecours, GDC)
  1. **Columbia Update** (Deanna provided update for Ed)
* Finished in Abamasagi, partial harvest in Kowkash Bridge block
* Pulled out of Kenogami Forest and headed to Hearst for winter
  1. **AVTB** (Deanna provided update)
* Harvest - South end - Flicker area, Duckling, Goldfield.
* GDC is in Marron block
* Haul – south end, Duckling, Watini

1. **Open Discussion**
   1. **Snow Station**
2. **Next Meeting: March 4th at GFMH**
3. **Adjourned at 8:30pm**