

From: [Sarah Elsasser](#)
To: [Roberta Judas](#)
Cc: [Anneli Jokela](#)
Subject: FW: Information Request to GNWT-INF from the WLWB re: TASR WMMP, Version 3.3
Date: July 31, 2019 8:35:01 AM

From: Sarah Elsasser
Sent: July 26, 2019 9:21 AM
To: Joyce Gourlay <Joyce_Gourlay@gov.nt.ca>
Cc: Ryan Fequet <rfequet@wlwb.ca>; Anneli Jokela <ajokela@wlwb.ca>
Subject: Information Request to GNWT-INF from the WLWB re: TASR WMMP, Version 3.3

Good morning Joyce,

In the WLWB's [Reasons for Decision for the TASR Licence/Permit](#), the Board required GNWT-INF to update their Wildlife Monitoring and Management Plan (WMMP) with revisions outlined in Table 2.

1. In regard to ECCC comment 13 of Table 2 ("ECCC recommends that this section be revised by removing "proposed" from the Wood Bison Recovery Strategy. ECCC recommends that the Proponent ensure that measures in the WMMP are consistent with all existing recovery strategies for species listed on the Species At Risk Act found in the project area"), GNWT-INF noted in the [WMMP Version 3.3 submission](#) that "Table 2 text was updated to address ECCC [sic] recommendation. Note: the relevant detail regarding bison and vehicle collisions did not change in the final version of the Recovery Strategy (Table 5 page 31)".

It is unclear from the GNWT-INF response whether the second part of the recommendation (that the GNWT-INF will ensure that measures in the WMMP are consistent with all existing recovery strategies for species listed on the *Species at Risk Act* and found in the project area) has been addressed.

The WLWB requests that: GNWT-INF confirm that measures in the WMMP are consistent with all existing recovery strategies for species listed on the *Species at Risk Act* and found in the project area.

2. In regard to ECCC comment 17 ("ECCC recommends that the Proponent: - consolidate information on pre-clearing bird surveys and develop survey protocols in a new section of the WMMP... for appropriate considerations when establishing buffer zones. - include the survey results in the annual report"), GNWT-INF responded that "...As clearing during the nesting season is not planned, the required information available to prepare a plan for contingency."

Furthermore, in Section 5.1.4, it is stated: "Clearing of vegetation is scheduled to occur outside of migratory bird breeding season. However, there may be instances where vegetation removal is required during this period due to schedule changes or unforeseen circumstances. In these cases, non-intrusive preclearing surveys are required".

The WLWB requests that GNWT-INF:

- a. **Clarify whether the nesting season referred to in the response to ECCC comment 17 is for all bird species at risk and migratory birds, or solely migratory birds.**
- b. **What is/are the date range(s) currently planned for vegetation clearing for the project?**
- c. **Elaborate on the potential reasons for “schedule changes or unforeseen circumstances” to the above which may result in vegetation removal occurring during the nesting period.**

The Board requests a response (email response will suffice) as soon as possible to the questions above, and preferably no later than end of day on Tuesday, July 30th. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Board staff.

Regards,

Sarah Elsasser, Ph.D., PMP

Senior Regulatory Policy Advisor

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