

**YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE  
MANAGEMENT BOARD**



Box 31104, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 5P7  
Phone: (867) 667-3754 Fax: (867) 393-6947 officemanager@yfwmb.ca

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June 16, 2020

Honorable Pauline Frost  
Minister of Environment  
Government of Yukon  
Box 2703  
Whitehorse, Yukon  
Y1A 2C6

Dear Minister Frost,

**Re: Elk Agriculture Working Group**

The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board met on June 10, 2020, and discussed the recent meetings held with the Yukon Elk Agriculture Working Group. We understand that concerns arose from those meetings, which resulted in a "way forward" being proposed that includes options discussed for exclusion fencing, possible habitat modification, exclusion zone realignment, translocation of elk/reduction, and modifications to the conflict hunt.

The Board was made aware of the phased approach that is proposed, which would include the following measures:

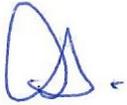
- Identifying hot spots for elk activity which would be prioritized for fencing.;
- A proposed reduction of 40% of the elk over the next two years by issuing permits through the approved PHA, First Nation permits, Elk/Agriculture Conflict Permits (if required at hotspots), and Emergency Nuisance Wildlife Permits based on criteria to be established;
- EMR will provide a map for circulation to hunters showing where landowners have provided permission to hunt;
- A bilateral working group between EMR and Environment will be developed, and;
- The government will initiate consultations to identify an elk management area around all farmlands in the eastern buffer zone, including Settlement Lands.

The Board discussed this matter at length during our member's time, and we recognize that this "way forward" is being driven by several competing factors, many of which have little to do with Yukon Fish and Wildlife management, or Conservation.

Therefore, after much deliberation, we agreed to abstain from providing any formal recommendation on this proposed management action. We are aware that this is not a standard response for the Board; however, this is the position we currently hold.

Please contact the Board's Executive Director, Graham Van Tighem if you have any questions or require clarification [executivedirector@yfwmb.ca](mailto:executivedirector@yfwmb.ca) or (867)-667-5835.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'CS', with a small arrow pointing to the right.

Carl Sidney, Chair  
Cc: Ryan Hennings