



MAY 16 2014

Mr. Josepi Padlayat
Chairperson
Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board
P.O. Box 433
Inukjuak, QC
J0M 1M0

Dear Mr. Padlayat,

Thank you for your letter dated March 19th, 2014 conveying the Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board's decisions to establish a Total Allowable Take of two bowhead whales per year from the Eastern Canada – West Greenland bowhead whale population, and to establish the corresponding non-quota limitations required for bowhead hunts within the Nunavik Marine Region.

Pursuant to the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement, I accept the decision of the Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board to establish a Total Allowable Take of two bowhead whales per year within the Nunavik Marine Region. Once the appropriate Local Nunavimmi Umajulivijiit Katujiqatigininga (LNUK) has approved the Bowhead Hunt Plan, additional information will be required to complete the DFO Marine Mammal Fishing Licence. As in previous years, each DFO Licence will authorize the hunting and killing of one or the striking of two bowhead whales, whichever comes first. Before the hunt commences, an attending DFO Fishery Officer must issue the licence to the Bowhead Hunt Captain.

Pursuant to the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement, I also accept the 12 non-quota limitations described in your letter, with the understanding that they will all apply to future bowhead whale harvests within the Nunavik Marine Region. These quota and non-quota limitations shall be in effect within the Nunavik Marine Region until such time as circumstances require them to be modified according to the process established in the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement.

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DFO Fishery Officers will support the hunt captain and his crew as they did in 2008 and 2009. They will ensure training on the Marine Mammal Regulations, methods pertinent to the harvest of bowhead whales and will review the hunt plan and perform equipment inspections. Fishery Officers will also be on site during hunting activities and will provide additional security and safety.

Your letter has been forwarded to the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Regional Office in Quebec City for processing. I look forward to continued close collaboration among the Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board, the LNUK and Fisheries and Oceans Canada officials.

Please extend my best wishes to the community of Quaqtq for a safe and successful bowhead hunt in 2014.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Shea". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Gail Shea, P.C., M.P.