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January 2, 2019

The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard Government of Canada

Dear Minister Jonathan Wilkinson:

RE: Fisheries and Oceans Canada's request for advice on the proposed plan to advance protection for the High Arctic Multi-Year Pack Ice Ecologically and Biologically Significant Area

On December 5, 2018, at the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's (NWMB or Board) Regular Meeting (RM004-2018), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) provided an oral presentation and a briefing note requesting the NWMB's advice on the first phase of a three-phased plan to advance protection for the High Arctic Multi-Year Pack Ice Ecologically and Biologically Significant Area — known as the "Last Ice Area" — in Zone 1 waters adjacent the Nunavut Settlement Area.

The Board took into consideration the DFO's presentation, briefing note, and the reasons provided by your department for this request for advice. The Board also considered written submissions from co-management partners and the comments made by co-management partners at the NWMB's Regular Meeting, and made the following recommendation during its December 6, 2018, In-Camera Meeting (IC004-2018):

RESOLVED that - pursuant to Section 15.3.4 of the Nunavut Agreement - the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) advise Fisheries and Oceans Canada to further engage and consult with relevant co-management partners before obtaining final NWMB advice regarding the establishment of Phase 1 (interim protection) of a proposed three-phased plan to advance protection measures for the high arctic multiyear pack ice Ecologically and Biologically Significant Area (High Arctic Basin).

Mr. Minister, the NWMB is hereby forwarding its advice to you, for your consideration pursuant to the terms of the *Nunavut Agreement*. If you or your officials have any questions with respect to the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB at your convenience.

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Sincerely,

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Daniel Shewchuk Chairperson Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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