



Tammaqtailinahuariit annutighat atuqhugit Inuit qaujimajatuqangillu ilihmaniillu ilitquhiannin  
Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

ᐃᓂᓴᐱᓂ 3, 2013

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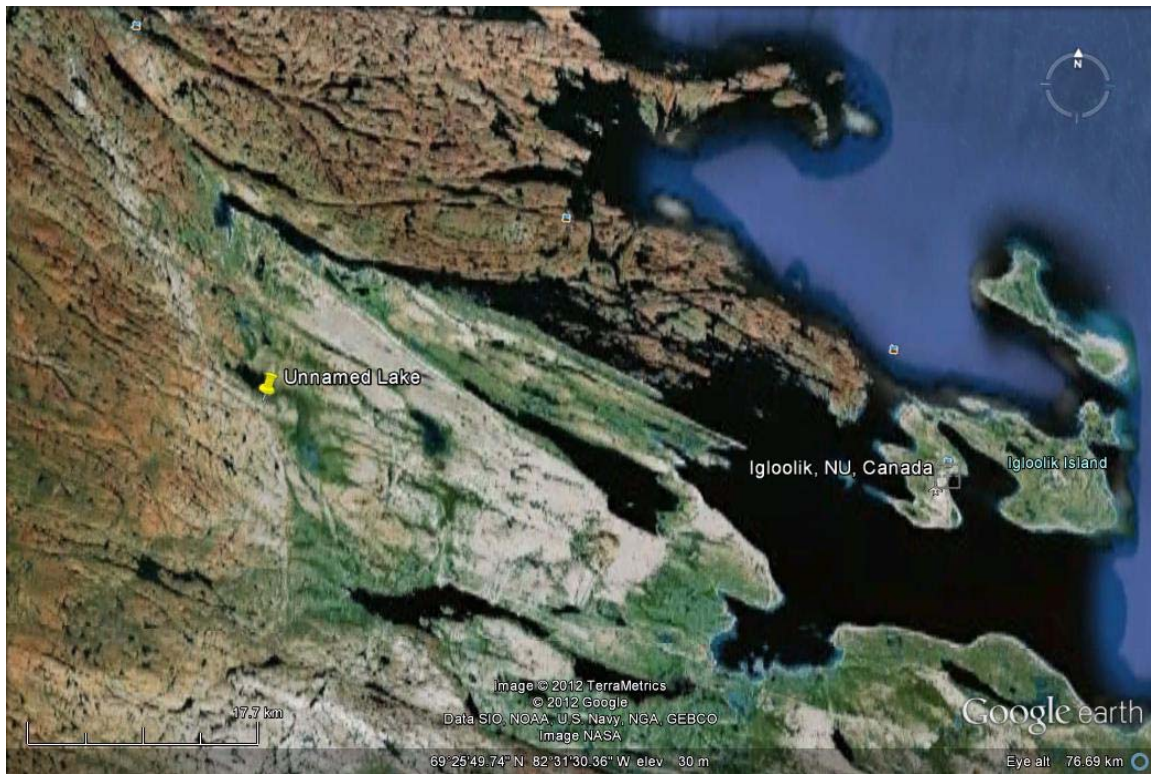
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Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

ᄃᄂᄃᄂ 6, 2013

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Your file    Votre référence

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2013-001-02610

በኢሉ 20, 2013

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< [tsataa@nwmb.com](mailto:tsataa@nwmb.com) >

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Honourable Gail Shea  
House of Commons  
Minister of Fisheries and Oceans  
Parliament Buildings, Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

**Re: NWMB approval of the Unnamed Lake (Igloodik Area) Emerging Char Fishery Plan**

*RESOLVED that, pursuant to S.5.2.34 (d)(i) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), the NWMB approves the Unnamed Lake (Igloodlik Area) Emerging Char Fishery Plan.*

## Reasons for the Fishing Plan Approval

**Community Support:** According to the briefing note presented to the Board, the Igloolik Hunters and Trappers Organization has consulted with their membership and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and has a strong interest in the potential of a commercial fishery in the aforementioned lakes.

Significant progress by the Canada-Nunavut Cooperation Committee parties in determining what harvests are included in a basic needs level: In a letter dated June 7<sup>th</sup> 2012 to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, the NWMB indicated that approval of emerging fishing plans will be dependent upon achievement of significant progress by July 2013 by the Canada-Nunavut Fisheries and Marine Mammal Cooperation Committee (Committee) in determining which harvests are included in the calculation of a basic needs level. During the NWMB's September meeting the Board considered whether significant progress had been achieved by the Committee and sent written correspondence to the Minister on November 6<sup>th</sup> 2013 indicating that although progress is being made by the Committee, it does not constitute significant progress (Appendix B). As per the NWMB November 6<sup>th</sup> letter NWMB has requested that the Committee submit a timeline and plan that includes steps for the establishment of both interim and permanent Arctic char fishery management measures, resolution of what types of harvest are to be included in a basic needs level, and resolution of the outstanding Kingnait Fiord Arctic char decision-making process by February 1<sup>st</sup> 2014. The NWMB has decided to approve the Igloodik Fishing Plan before the Committee has achieved significant progress with the hope that by February 1<sup>st</sup> the Committee will have a plan and timeline in place to address these outstanding issues.

If you have any questions or concerns with respect to the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Kovic', with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Ben Kovic  
Chairperson of the  
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Enclosures (2)

ATTACHMENT:

UNNAMED LAKE (IGLOOLIK AREA) EMERGING CHAR FISHERY PLAN

LICENCE APPLICANT:

Igloolik Hunters' and Trappers' Organization (HTO), Igloolik, NU

PURPOSE:

To develop a sustainable commercial char fishery and promote economic opportunities for Inuit in Igloolik.

LOCATION & HARVEST LEVEL:

<b>Waterbody</b>	<b>Coordinates</b>	<b>Exploratory Harvest Level</b>
Unnamed Lake	69°25'N 83°09'W	1000 kg

METHODS:

Fishing will take place during the winter months. The HTO will be the licence holder and as such will coordinate community members to fish the exploratory harvest level. The exploratory char fisheries five-year approach for collecting biological and catch-effort data will be followed. A minimum gillnet mesh-size of 5.5 inches will be employed. Any harvested Arctic Char that is exported across Nunavut's territorial borders will follow the prescribed direction by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency as directed by the "Fish Inspection Act" and "Fish Inspection Regulations."

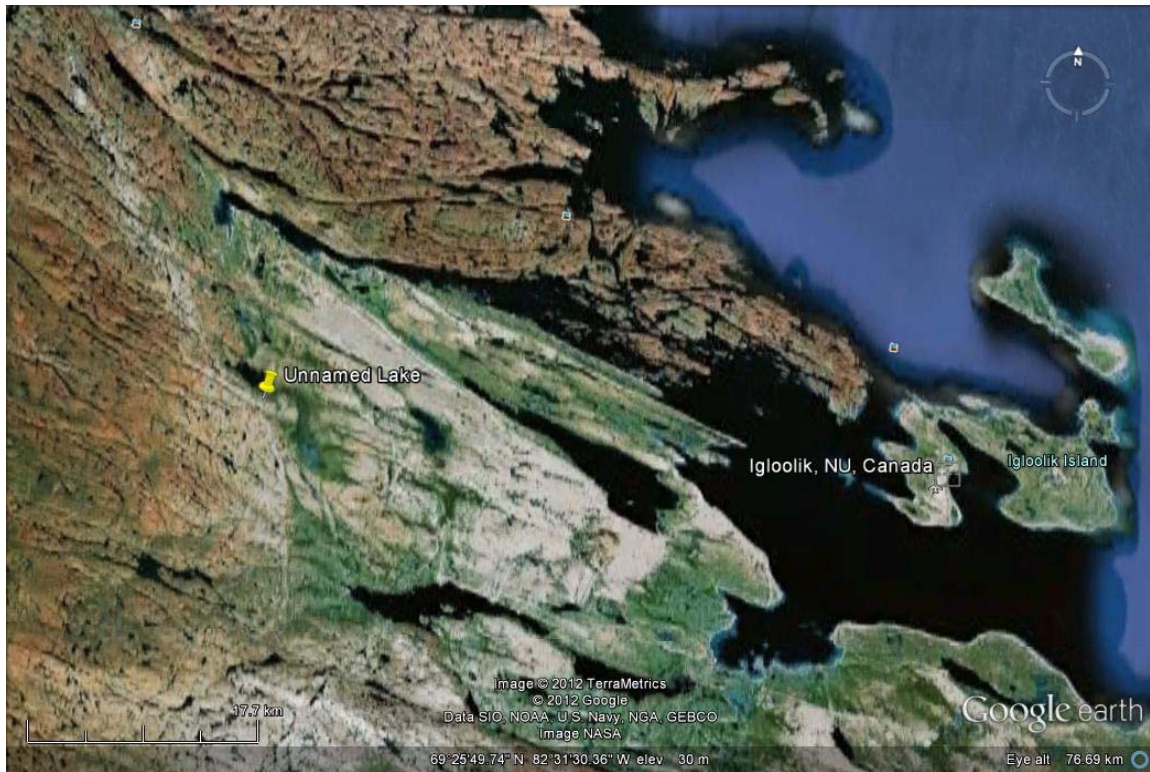


Figure 1. Location of Unnamed Lake, Nunavut.



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Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

November 6<sup>th</sup> 2013

David Burden  
A/Regional Director General  
Central and Arctic Region  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Dear Mr. Burden:

**RE: Significant progress by the Canada-Nunavut Cooperation Committee on issues related to basic needs levels**

## Overview

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) received your letter and the attachment dated July 25<sup>th</sup> 2013 that addressed the NWMB's request that the Canada-Nunavut Fisheries and Marine Mammal Cooperation Committee (Committee) demonstrate significant progress on what types of harvest are included in a basic needs level and the development of appropriate accompanying management measures by July 2013. The Board reviewed the letter from Fisheries and Oceans Canada and has concluded that although progress is being made by the Committee, it does not constitute significant progress. Progress is being made by the parties that make up the Committee, and the Board would like to support and monitor this progress. However, further tangible outcomes must be demonstrated in order to show significant progress and to achieve resolution amongst parties on what types of harvests are included in a basic needs level, the outstanding Kingnait Fiord Arctic Char decision-making process, and the development of associated fishery management measures for Nunavut.

## Background

The Board stated its request for a demonstration of significant progress by the Committee in its June 7<sup>th</sup> 2012 letter to Fisheries and Oceans Canada, which also outlined the reasons for the NWMB's request, the urgency of settling the matter of what harvests are included in a basic needs level, and concerns regarding the progress of the Committee to date. In January 2013, in a meeting between the NWMB and Committee members, there was agreement that significant progress should be demonstrated by July 2013. When the Committee met in Iqaluit on June 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 2013, a commitment to demonstrating significant progress to the Board by July 2013 was reaffirmed as Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. and Fisheries and Oceans Canada agreed to submit a joint letter regarding significant progress to the NWMB. Although the Board had expected a joint letter from both Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. on significant progress, including a clear description of proposed interim and final stages for addressing the key outstanding issues before the Committee, the letter was only submitted by Fisheries and Oceans. It indicated that Fisheries and Oceans' position is that Aboriginal Communal Fishing Licenses should be used as an interim measure while the Nunavut Fishery Regulations are being developed to support a long-term solution. The NWMB did not receive official responses from Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. or the Government of Nunavut regarding Fisheries and Oceans' July 25<sup>th</sup> 2013 letter. In addition, no concrete plans, timelines, agreements, or other such

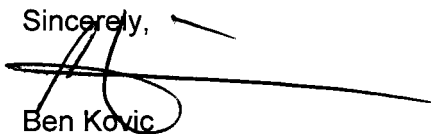
documents were provided at the time to convince the NWMB that significant progress had been achieved by the Committee.

The NWMB, however, is encouraged by the efforts made by Committee members, especially since June 2013, and would like to support the continued development of these efforts to resolve the outstanding basic needs level issues. The NWMB acknowledges Fisheries and Oceans Canada's work in developing the Aboriginal Communal Fishing Licences and associated Fishing Plans as an interim solution to management of total allowable harvest/basic needs level fisheries in Nunavut. Fisheries and Oceans Canada also made efforts to answer questions from other Committee members about the proposed licences and plans. The NWMB also recognizes the efforts put forth by Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. in developing the Nunavut Fishery Regulations as a long-term solution to establishing and implementing a fisheries management regime that is in-line with the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement and addresses the outstanding basic needs level issues. The NWMB would like to support and continue to monitor this promising progress.

### **Next Steps**

In order to ensure that progress continues and tangible products and solutions are realized from the Committee's work, the Board resolved at its September 2013 quarterly meeting that it would request that the Cooperation Committee submit a timeline and a plan - that are agreed upon by Committee members - that include steps for the establishment of both interim and permanent Arctic char fishery management measures, resolution of what types of harvest are to be included in a basic needs level, and resolution of the outstanding Kingnait Fiord Arctic char decision-making process. The Board requests that this timeline and plan be submitted to the NWMB by the Committee by February 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 so that the issue can be considered by the Board at its March 2014 quarterly meeting. It is the Board's hope that the timeline and plan will help all co-management partners to find consensus and continue to work collaboratively to ensure that Nunavut's fisheries are managed effectively and in compliance with the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. If you have any questions with regards to this NWMB request, please do not hesitate to contact the Board at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Ben Kovic  
Chairperson of the  
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

cc.

Wayne Lynch, Director of Fisheries and Sealing, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment

Gabriel Nirlungayuk, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

Glenn Williams, Wildlife Advisor, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

Scott Gilbert, A/Regional Director Fisheries Management, Central and Arctic Region, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Larry Dow, Director of Northern Operations, Fisheries and Oceans Canada



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

Pêches et Océans  
Canada

630 Qamutiq Building  
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0

Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence  
2013-001-02610

December 20, 2013

Mr. Ben Kovic  
Chairperson  
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board  
< [tsataa@nwmb.com](mailto:tsataa@nwmb.com) >

Dear Mr. Kovic:

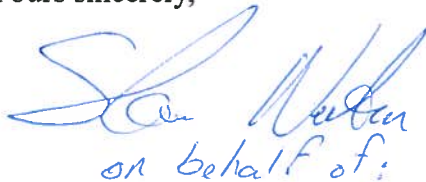
This is in response to your correspondence of December 3, 2013, addressed to the Honourable Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, regarding the Emerging Arctic Char Fishery Plan for an unnamed lake in the Igloolik area. I have been asked to respond on the Minister's behalf.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) appreciates the effort that the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board has put forth in working with DFO to advance the development of Arctic char fisheries and to improve the potential economic opportunities for Inuit in Nunavut. The Department looks forward to continuing our positive working relationship and to advancing these initiatives further.

Regarding your correspondence of November 6, 2013, addressed to Mr. David Burden, Regional Director General, the Department is presently drafting a letter that will respond to your comments about the progress of the Canada-Nunavut Cooperation Committee on issues related to basic needs levels.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,



on behalf of:

Larry Dow  
Director of Northern Operations  
Central and Arctic Region  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Canada