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Nunavummi Anngutighatigut Aulapkajitkut Katimajiat  
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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Tammaqtailinahuarnirriit anngutighat atuqhugit Inuit qaujimajatuqangillu ilihimaniillu ilitquhiannin  
Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018

The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc  
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard  
15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Centennial Towers  
200 Kent Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0E6

Dear Minister LeBlanc:

**Re: Interim shrimp quotas in the Western and Eastern Assessment Zone**

On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 Fisheries and Oceans Canada (the Department), submitted a proposal for decision to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) for the total allowable catch levels of Northern (*Pandalus borealis*) and Striped (*P. montagui*) shrimp in the West Assessment Zone (WAZ) and Eastern Assessment Zone (EAZ), as well as the sharing arrangements for shrimp between management units in the Nunavut Settlement Area and Nunavik Marine Region, and recommendations on distribution of offshore Davis Strait management units. Due to the timing of consultative and co-management processes and the availability of new science information, not all the information to inform decision-making was provided to the NWMB prior to the NWMB's quarterly March meetings. The Department informed the NWMB that science updates should be available mid-February and that consultation with industry will occur at the Northern Shrimp Advisory Committee meeting in Montreal, March 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The NWMB accepted this submission in order to initiate its decision-making process and to ensure that the start of the 2018 fishery will not be delayed.

To further mitigate delays in the fishery the Department submitted, on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018, a request to the NWMB for the approval of the release of interim quotas for Northern and Striped shrimp in WAZ and EAZ. The NWMB recognizes the need for interim measures to ensure a successful shrimp fishing season while fulfilling the decision-making process set out in the *Nunavut Agreement* and the NWMB's requirements for procedural fairness.

During the In-Camera meeting (IC001-2018) on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the NWMB passed the following resolution:



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*RESOLVED that the NWMB approves the release of interim quotas of Northern and Striped shrimp in the Western Assessment Zone and Eastern Assessment Zone at 50% of 2017/2018 fishing season levels, which will be replaced by the 2018/2019 fishing season quotas agreed upon by the NWMB, Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board, and Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard after the conclusion of the Nunavut Agreement and Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement decision-making processes.*

The NWMB looks forward to continued collaboration with co-management partners in the management of the shrimp stocks that Nunavut fishes. Should you or your officials have any questions or concerns regarding the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB.

Sincerely,

Daniel Shewchuk  
A/Chairperson of the  
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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