

1.1 Quota and Total Allowable Take Decisions

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 5.6.4 of the Nunavut Agreement, the NWMB approve the following shrimp quota levels in the Nunavut West and Nunavut East Management Units for the 2018/2019 fishing season:

- 1. For *Pandalus montagui* (Striped shrimp):*
 - a. A quota of 3,069 tonnes in the Nunavut West Management Unit within the Nunavut Settlement Area; and*
 - b. A quota of 301 tonnes in the Nunavut East Management Unit within the Nunavut Settlement Area; and*
- 2. For *Pandalus borealis* (Northern shrimp):*
 - a. A quota of 1,040 tonnes in the Nunavut West Management Unit within the Nunavut Settlement Area; and*
 - b. A by-catch quota of 174 tonnes in the Nunavut East Management Unit within the Nunavut Settlement Area.*

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 5.2.3 of the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement, the NMRWB approve the following Total Allowable Take for shrimp in the Nunavik West and Nunavik East Management Units for the 2018/2019 fishing season:

- 1. For *Pandalus montagui* (Striped shrimp):*
 - a. A Total Allowable Take of 3,069 tonnes in the Nunavik West Management Unit within the Nunavik Marine Region; and*
 - b. A Total Allowable Take of 129 tonnes in the Nunavik East Management Unit within the Nunavik Marine Region; and*
- 2. For *Pandalus borealis* (Northern shrimp):*
 - a. A Total Allowable Take of 1,040 tonnes in the Nunavik West Management Unit within the Nunavik Marine Region; and*
 - b. A by-catch Total Allowable Take of 43 tonnes in the Nunavik East Management Unit within the Nunavik Marine Region.*

1.2 Total Allowable Catch Recommendations

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 15.3.4 and 15.3.7 of the Nunavut Agreement and Section 5.4.4 of the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement, the NWMB and the NMRWB recommend the following Total Allowable Catch levels in the Western Assessment Zone and Eastern Assessment Zone for the 2018/2019 fishing season:

- 1. For *Pandalus montagui* (Striped shrimp):*
 - a. A Total Allowable Catch of 6,138 tonnes in the Western Assessment Zone; and*
 - b. A Total Allowable Catch of 840 tonnes in the Eastern Assessment Zone; and*
- 2. For *Pandalus borealis* (Northern shrimp):*
 - a. A Total Allowable Catch of 2,080 tonnes in the Western Assessment Zone; and*
 - b. A total Allowable Catch of 7,840 tonnes in the Eastern Assessment Zone.*

2. HEARING SUBMISSIONS

The Boards received two submissions, one from the Nunavut and Nunavik shrimp fishing industry (jointly submitted by Baffin Fisheries, Qikiqtaaluk Corporation and Makivik Corporation) and one from Cumberland Sound Fisheries/Pangnirtung Fisheries Partnership. The submission from the Nunavut and Nunavik shrimp fishing industry supported maintaining all Total Allowable Catches in the Eastern and Western Assessment Zones for 2018/2019, with the exception of northern shrimp in the Eastern Assessment Zone, where a decrease of quota is recommended, with an exploitation rate of 20%. The submission from Cumberland Sound Fisheries/Pangnirtung Fisheries Partnership supported establishing an exploitation rate at 15.9% in the Western Assessment Zone, and to reduce Total Allowable Catch by 15% in the Eastern Assessment Zone.

3. NWMB AND NMRWB CONSIDERATIONS

In reaching the above decisions and recommendations, the Boards carefully considered the submission the Nunavut and Nunavik shrimp fishing industry, Cumberland Sound Fisheries/Pangnirtung Fisheries Partnership, as well as Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Proposal and input from the Northern Shrimp Advisory Committee.

The Boards consider that maintaining all Total Allowable Catches in the Eastern and Western Assessment Zones for 2018/2019 fishing season, with the exception of northern shrimp in the Eastern Assessment Zone is reasonable. In this case, a decrease of Total Allowable Catch is recommended, to an exploitation rate of 20% addresses recommendations provided by hearing parties through the Boards' written hearing process, as well as recommendations provided by your Department in its Proposal. A major consideration for the Boards in deciding to decrease the TAC of northern shrimp in the Eastern Assessment Zone was to ensure that this fishery's Marine Stewardship Council certification is not put at risk.

The decisions and recommendations made by the Boards ensure sustainable harvest of Northern and Striped shrimp in the Eastern and Western Assessment Zones, through the Precautionary Approach framework and by making use of the most recent scientific information on the stocks, while incorporating input from industry stakeholders.

4. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE BOARDS' DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Boards' decisions and recommendations:

1. Are justified pursuant to Section 5.3.3(a) of the *Nunavut Agreement* and Section 5.5.3(a) of the *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement* – the restrictions limit Inuit harvesting of shrimp in the Nunavut Settlement Area and the Nunavik

Marine Region only to the extent necessary to effect the valid conservation purposes of:

- a. Maintaining vital healthy shrimp populations capable of sustaining harvesting needs as defined in *Nunavut Agreement* Article 5 (Section 5.1.5(c)) and *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement* Article 5 (Section 5.1.5(b)); and
 - b. Maintaining the natural balance of ecological systems within the Nunavut Settlement Area and the Nunavik Marine Region (*Nunavut Agreement* and *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement* Section 5.1.5(a));
2. Satisfy the requirements of *Nunavut Agreement* Section 5.3.4 and *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement* Section 5.5.4.1 for (i) the NWMB and the Minister to take account of shrimp harvested outside the Nunavut Settlement Area, and (ii) the NMRWB and the Minister to take account of shrimp harvested outside the Nunavik Marine Region, by persons resident elsewhere;
 3. Ensure that shrimp harvesting inside both the Nunavut Settlement Area and the Nunavik Marine Region remains within sustainable catch levels, does not raise conservation concerns, and is consistent with the precautionary fisheries management approach for these fisheries.

5. CONCLUSION

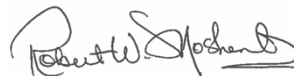
Mister Minister, the Boards hereby forward their decisions and recommendations to you, for your consideration pursuant to the relevant terms of the *Nunavut Agreement* and the *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. Please be assured that the NWMB and the NMRWB will continue to work collaboratively with the Department and other co-management partners in ensuring that the management of shrimp in the Nunavut Settlement Area and the Nunavik Marine Region fully aligns with the terms of the *Nunavut Agreement* Article 5 and *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement* Article 5.

If you or your officials have any questions with respect to the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB and the NMRWB at your convenience.

Sincerely,



David Kritterdlik
A/Chairperson of the
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board



Robert Moshenko
Vice Chairperson of the
Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board

c.c. Leigh Edgar, Senior Fisheries and Aquaculture Management Officer, Resource Management, Fisheries and Oceans Canada.



AUG 17 2018

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0E6

Mr. Daniel Shewchuk
Chairperson
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Mr. Robert Moshenko
Vice Chairperson
Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board

Dear Mr. Shewchuk and Mr. Moshenko:

I am writing in response to your correspondence of June 20, 2018, addressed to my predecessor, the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, regarding the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) and Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board (NMRWB) decisions and recommendations on *Pandalus borealis* and *Pandalus montagui* shrimp in the Eastern and Western Assessment Zones. I have addressed each of the decisions and recommendations separately by assessment zone herein for simplicity.

Western Assessment Zone

I agree with the NWMB and NMRWB recommendations to maintain the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 6,138t for *P. montagui* and 2,080t for the *P. borealis* in the Western Assessment Zone.

I accept the Total Allowable Take levels within the Nunavut Settlement Area for *P. montagui* (3,069t) and *P. borealis* (1,040t) shrimp in the Nunavut West management unit.

I also accept the Total Allowable Take levels within the Nunavik Marine Region for *P. montagui* (3,069t) and *P. borealis* (1,040t) shrimp in the Nunavik West management unit.

Eastern Assessment Zone

I agree with the Boards' recommendation to maintain the TAC of 840t for *P. montagui*, and to reduce the TAC for *P. borealis* (7,840t) in the Eastern Assessment Zone.

I accept reducing the bycatch Total Allowable Take level within the Nunavut Settlement Area for *P. borealis* (174t) in the Nunavut East management unit.

I accept reducing the bycatch Total Allowable Take level within the Nunavik Marine Region for *P. borealis* (43t) in the Nunavik East management unit.

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Further, in response to the 40.2% decline of *P. borealis* fishable biomass, my decision includes reducing quotas in Davis Strait East. This approach minimizes the economic impact on harvesters, while increasing both Nunavut and Nunavik's percent share of the Eastern Assessment Zone fishery.

The appended table illustrates the overall quotas for each management unit based on my decisions herein.

I appreciate the Boards' collaboration and cooperation in the sustainable management of the shared shrimp resource in the north.

I look forward to continued collaboration with the Boards in the management of this important resource.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Johnathan Wilkinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Johnathan" and the last name "Wilkinson" clearly distinguishable.

Johnathan Wilkinson, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

Cc: Mr. David Kritterdlik, Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Appendix 1

Eastern Assessment Zone	<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>TAC</u> <u>P. montagui 840t</u>	<u>TAC</u> <u>P. borealis 7,840t</u>
	<u>Davis Strait West -Offshore</u>	410t	4,013
	<u>Davis Strait East -Offshore</u>		802
	<u>Davis Strait West -Nunavik</u>	-	120
	<u>Davis Strait West -Nunavut</u>	-	1,084
	<u>Davis Strait East - Nunavut</u>	-	1,604
	<u>Nunavut East</u>	301t	174
	<u>Nunavik East</u>	129t	43
Western Assessment Zone	<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>TAC</u> <u>P. montagui 6,138t</u>	<u>TAC</u> <u>P. borealis 2,080t</u>
	<u>Nunavut West</u>	3,069t	1,040t
	<u>Nunavik West</u>	3,069t	1,040t