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 $\dot{\Delta}$ <> 8, 2021

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April 08, 2021

The Honourable Bernadette Jordan
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard
15th Floor, Centennial Towers
200 Kent Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0E6

Dear Minister Jordan:

Re: Access Fees Charged to the Nunavut Fishing Industry by DFO for Shrimp in the WAZ and EAZ

NWMB Decision

At the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's (NWMB or Board) Regular Meeting on March 10, 2021 (RM001-2021), the Nunavut Fisheries Association (NFA) presented a submission to the Board, requesting the following decisions/recommendations:

In the Western Assessment Zone

To suspend the access fees within the Nunavut Settlement Area.

In the Eastern Assessment Zone

 To have the access fees in Davis Strait-East be payable in 50-tonne increments as utilized by allocation holders.

At the NWMB's In-Camera Meeting on March 11, 2021 (IC001-2021), the Board considered the NFA's proposal and support letters from the Government of Nunavut and Qikiqtani Inuit Association. The Board made the following decisions:

RESOLVED that, the matter of access fees for the Northern shrimp fishery in the Eastern and Western Assessment Zones is deferred until the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's June 2021 regular meeting.

RESOLVED that, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board requests Fisheries and Oceans Canada to provide their position and comments on the Nunavut Fisheries Association's submission before May 7, 2021.



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After carefully reviewing the information provided by the NFA and support letters from the Government of Nunavut and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, the Board determined that it needs more information to decide. Specifically, the perspectives of your department, which is responsible for the management of commercial fisheries licences. The Board, therefore, requests that you provide your position and comments on the Nunavut Fisheries Association's submission on access fees in the Eastern and Western Assessment Zones to the NWMB in-time for its next Regular Meeting by the May 7, 2021 deadline.

The NWMB looks forward to continued collaboration with co-management partners in the management of Nunavut's commercial fisheries. 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

David Shahul

Chairperson

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

c.c. Kevin Bill, Director of Northern Operations, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Courtney D'Aoust, Fisheries and Aquaculture Management Officer, Fisheriesand Oceans Canada;

Gabriel Nirlungayuk, Regional Director General, Arctic Region, Fisheries and Oceans Canada:

Brian Burke, Execuative Director, Nunavut Fisheries Association.



Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pêches et Océans Canada

Director General

Directeur général

Mr. Daniel Shewchuk Chairperson Nunavut Wildlife Management Board Box 1379 Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Dear Mr. Shewchuk,

Thank you for your correspondence of April 8, 2021, in which you request the position and comments of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) as it relates to matters within the Nunavut Fisheries Association's (NFA's) submission presented at the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's (NWMB or Board) Regular Meeting on March 10, 2021 (RM001-2021).

Upon review of the NFA's submission, DFO does not see that the matters raised, or the requested decisions and recommendation, fall within any of the Board's decision-making or advisory authorities established within the *Nunavut Agreement*. We note that in the "Authority" section of its submission, the NFA referred the Board to s. 5.2.34(d), and quoted this portion "[approve plans for] (i) management, classification, protection, restocking or propagation, cultivation or husbandry of particular wildlife..." However, the determination of commercial fishing licence fees does not fall within the functions referred to in s.5.3.34(d), or elsewhere in Article 5.

Given these circumstances, DFO is not in a position to determine what information or submissions would be appropriate to provide in response. If the Board were to proceed further on these matters, DFO would request that the Board first identify any specific authorities it considers to be engaged and on what basis, so that DFO could respond appropriately.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Adam Burns Director General Fisheries Resource Management

