







June 25<sup>th</sup> 2013

Honourable Keith Ashfield  
Minister of Fisheries and Oceans  
15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Centennial Towers  
200 Kent Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E6

Dear Minister Ashfield:

**Re: NWMB approval of the Iviq (Grise Fiord) Hunters and Trappers  
Organization’s 2013 Exploratory Fishing Plan for turbot in Jones Sound**

**1. The NWMB Resolution**

At its June 2013 meeting in Rankin Inlet, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) made the following resolution:

*“RESOLVED that as per Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Section 5.2.34(d)(i), the NWMB approve the summer 2013 Exploratory Fishing Plan for turbot in Jones Sound proposed by Iviq (Grise Fiord) Hunters and Trappers Organization.”*

**2. Reasons for the Plan Approval**

The NWMB found Iviq Hunters and Trappers Organization’s (HTO) summer 2013 Exploratory Fishing Plan for turbot in Jones Sound to be satisfactory. The Plan follows a similar precedent set in a number of fishing plans approved by the NWMB under Section 5.2.34(d)(i) of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. Given the lack of commercial fishing and survey information for the Jones Sound area, the proposed exploratory fishery should help to collect information on turbot resources near Grise Fiord, as well as the feasibility of fisheries development near the community. The proposed fishing gear complies with non-quota limitations on fishing gear within the Nunavut Settlement Area. Based on the CSAS Science Response 2008/01, an effort-based allocation is reasonable.

To implement the aforementioned fishing plan, it is also advisable that:

- a) Iviq HTO should work with Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and Arctic Fishery Alliance (as needed) to design the test fishery and collect

the fishery data deemed necessary by DFO, including turbot lengths, catch-per-unit effort (CPUE), dates, fishing locations, gear descriptions, and bycatch of all other fish (including sharks and rays), invertebrates (e.g. coral and snails) and marine mammals (including those caught on hooks or entangled in lines) (as outlined in CSAS Science Response 2008/01);

- b) The fishing vessel that conducts the fishery should carry a DFO-approved fisheries observer; and
- c) Iviq HTO should provide a report on the results of the 2013 exploratory fishery to NWMB, DFO and other co-management partners.

If you or your officials require further information, or have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB.

Yours sincerely,



Manasie Audlakiak  
Acting Chairperson of the  
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Enclosures (2)