



The Board again considered the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board's request at its In-Camera Meeting (IC008-2014) on June 15<sup>th</sup> 2014 in Cambridge Bay, and made the following decision:

*RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 5.6.16 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, the NWMB modify the regional level of total allowable harvest of bowhead whales in the Qikiqtaaluk Region from 1 whale to 2 whales.*

As the most recent scientific information from Fisheries and Oceans Canada suggests a sustainable removal of 18 whales, and given that the total annual harvest from the population in recent years did not exceed 6 whales, the NWMB is confident that the addition of one whale to Nunavut's total allowable harvest does not raise a conservation concern. An additional whale for the Qikiqtaaluk Region will also help the Hunters and Trappers Organizations in this region to develop and diversify their experience and organizational capacity with respect to bowhead harvesting.

In coming to this decision, the Board also identified the importance of ensuring a safe and efficient hunt. Although these issues do not fall solely under the jurisdiction of NWMB, the Board recommends that issues such as hunt safety, cost management, and efficient butchering methods to reduce wastage, be incorporated into the forthcoming Integrated Fishery Management Plan for the Eastern Canada-West Greenland Population of Bowhead Whales.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the Board's decision, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB.

Yours Sincerely,



Ben Kovic  
Chairperson of the  
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board