



Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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 Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

LΔ 2, 2012

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May 2nd, 2012

The Honourable Keith Ashfield
Minister of Fisheries and Oceans

Re: NWMB decision on non-quota limitation on the use of bows or crossbows by sport hunters harvesting walrus in the Nunavut Settlement Area

Dear Minister Ashfield,

At the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's (NWMB or Board) Regular Meeting No. 001-2012, held on March 13th 2012 in Iqaluit, the NWMB considered a request from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) to restrict the use of bows or crossbows in walrus sport hunts. After careful review and consideration, the NWMB made the following decision:

“MOVED that the NWMB prohibit the use of bows or crossbows by sport hunters in the harvesting of walrus, as per S. 5.6.48 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement”

In making its decision, the NWMB found the following arguments pertaining to the use of bows or crossbows during walrus sport hunts, to be particularly reliable and persuasive:

- The use of this method would probably be less quick in killing the animal than a bullet; and
- There is the possibility for increased struck and lost rates as walrus can switch to anaerobic respiration for a short time period, giving the walrus an opportunity to flee and enter the water where it is more likely to drown and less likely to be retrieved.

Should you accept this decision of the NWMB, the NWMB anticipates that implementation of this decision by your department will include appropriate notification to walrus sport hunters. Should you have any questions or concerns with respect to this decision, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB.

Sincerely,

Thobbs

Jim Noble
Chief Operating Officer
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board



Ottawa, Canada K1A 0E6

JUN 11 2012

Mr. Jim Noble
Chief Operating Officer
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
P.O. Box 1379
Iqaluit, Nunavut
X0A 0H0

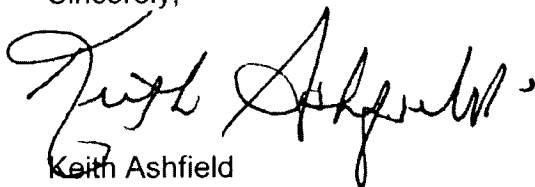
Dear Mr. Noble:

Thank you for your letter dated May 2, 2012 conveying the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's decision regarding the non-quota limitation on the use of bows or crossbows by sport hunters harvesting walrus in the Nunavut Settlement Area as per section 5.6.48 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

This letter confirms that I accept the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's decision to prohibit the use of bows or crossbows by sport hunters in the harvesting of walrus. Staff from the Eastern Arctic Area Office will notify outfitters of this decision.

I look forward to continued collaboration with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and its technical staff on walrus co-management issues.

Sincerely,



Keith Ashfield