

October 7th 2015

The Honourable Gail Shea
Minister of Fisheries and Oceans
15th Floor, Centennial Towers
200 Kent Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0E6

Dear Minister Shea:

Re: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board recommendation on the 2016 Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization Scientific Council total allowable catch recommendations for Divisions 0A and 1AB and 0B+1C-F Greenland halibut

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) appreciated the opportunity to provide advice on the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization Scientific Council (Council) total allowable catch recommendations for Greenland halibut in Divisions 0A+1AB and 0B+1C-F for the 2016 fishing season.

At its In-Camera Meeting (IC005-2015) on September 24th 2015, the NWMB considered the Council's recommendations and made the following recommendations regarding Greenland halibut total allowable catch levels for 2016:

***RESOLVED** that the NWMB agree with the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization Scientific Council's recommendation that the Total Allowable Catch levels for Greenland halibut (turbot) in combined divisions 0A and 1A-B, and combined divisions 0B and 1C-F, remain unchanged at 16,000t for divisions 0A and 1AB, and 14,000t for divisions 0B and 1C-F.*

The NWMB supports the Council's assessment that the stock health indicators and biomass trends suggest a stable, healthy stock and that maintaining total allowable catch levels at 16,000 tonnes in Division 0A+1AB and 14,000 tonnes in Division 0B+1C-F poses little risk to the stock.

The NWMB looks forward to continued work with Fisheries and Oceans Canada to ensure that Nunavut's marine resources are developed and managed in a sustainable and fair manner for the equitable benefit of all Nunavummiut.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BK', written over a horizontal line.

Ben Kovic
Chairperson
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

c.c. **Scott Gilbert, Regional Director of Fisheries Management, Fisheries and Oceans
Canada**
Larry Dow, Director of Northern Operations, Fisheries and Oceans Canada