



Mittimatalik Hunters & Trappers Organization
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To Board of
Nunavut Wildlife Management Review Board
Iqaluit, Nu

February 21, 2018

RE: Recommendation for Polar Bear Harvest Management in Baffin Bay

During February 3, 2018. Mittimatalik HTO Board of Directors brief face to face meeting with members from Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Wildlife Management Board Management Board, Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board and Nunavut Tungavik Incorporation update consultation on Government of Nunavut Total Allowable Harvest plan to increase from 65 to 80 to which will be divided between Pond Inlet, Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuar. Pond Inlet Hunters & Trappers Organization Board of Directors are in supportive to Total Allowable Harvest Plan to increase from 65 to 80 and to the 1 to 1 ration for female and male Polar Bears Harvest plan. Number of factors were being raised had some concerns for the Harvest Management Plan to which were raised on our brief meeting.

1. Mittimatalik HTO would like to see hunters getting compensated for following reasons

Polar Bears population have been increasing. It's becoming a concern within our Wildlife and Environment, and increasing of Polar Bears has been causing so much disturbance within the food harvested; the caches of meats that are stored for later use by hunters are just getting eaten by Polar Bears. Not just the food we eat is being disturbed. Polar Bears are also being seen in communities and close to the Communities that can cause danger to the community and public. Also, cabins get destroyed by Polar Bears, hunter's work very hard to hunt and to harvest good food but the caches of meats are just getting eaten by Polar Bears therefore we want hunters to be compensated if the cache of meats gets eaten by Polar Bear or If cabin were destroyed by Polar Bear; Reasons: Gas, food supplies and Bullets are very expensive to buy, a lot of hunters are unemployed and work hard to harvest food for the community

February 22, 2018

According to Inuit tradition hunters share any food being harvested for free and helps to contribute to people who has no access to go hunting it benefits to the whole community and the people

2. Emergency Kills

Polar Bear quotas had been getting eliminated due to emergency kills more frequently. And most of the Polar Bear Quota had to be used due to emergency kills. Polar Bear Quota's should not be affective if any emergency occurs or Polar Bear had to be killed due to emergency.

3. Baffin Bay Polar Bear quota is being shared by 3 communities.

We feel that each community should have separate and reasonable Quotas in place. (Reason Polar Bear) Reason Polar Bear quotas becomes too low when it's shared by 3 communities and there has to be face to face meeting with Pond Inlet, Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuar to further discuss on the old Memorandum of Agreement was in place and was expected in the past. The new Memorandum of Agreement plan has to be dealt with, with more in depth consultation and IQ has to be in place for this plan prior to the new Memorandum of Agreement Plan. We strongly in supportive to have face to face meeting with 3 communities; Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuar

If you have any concerns or would require any further information regarding to our concerns and recommendations please don't feel hesitant to contact us at address above

Sincerely,



Billy Merkosak

Vice Chair

Mittimatalik Hunters & Trappers Organization Board of Director

Cc: Government of Nunavut, Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board, Nunavut Tungavik Incorporation