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June 30th 2010

Honourable Jim Prentice Minister of the Environment Government of Canada

Honourable Daniel Shewchuk Minister of Environment Government of Nunavut

Paul Kaludjak
President of Nunavut
Tunngavik Incorporated

Ross Tatty Chairperson of the Kivallig Wildlife Board

Chairpersons of the following Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs):

Arviat HTO
Chesterfield Inlet HTO

Whale Cove HTO Baker Lake HTO

Rankin Inlet HTO

Re:

Written hearing of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board to consider the listing of Horned Grebe (Western population) as a species of special concern under the federal Species at Risk Act

Dear Colleagues:

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) has scheduled a written hearing to consider the proposed legal listing of Horned Grebe (Western population) as a species of special concern under the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA). If a wildlife species is listed as special concern, it means that the wildlife species may become a threatened or an endangered species because of a combination of biological characteristics and identified threats.

A written hearing is one in which all submissions are filed in writing, and the hearing does not have an oral component. If you have an objection in this case to the NWMB holding a written hearing only, please respond in writing to this letter by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) on **July 14**th **2010**, providing the reason or reasons for your position.

Attached to this letter is a copy of the Government of Canada's Department of Environment (EC) *Proposal for NWMB Decision* (EC Proposal) as to whether or not to list Horned Grebe (Western population) as a species of special concern under the federal SARA. Also attached are the *Rules for the NWMB's Written Hearing to consider the legal listing of Horned Grebe (Western population) as a species of special concern.* The EC Proposal, the hearing rules, and a number of additional documents comprising the best available information to date are available for download from the NWMB's website (www.nwmb.com), or by contacting the NWMB at the following coordinates:

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD Parnaivik Building P.O. Box 1379, Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0 Phone: (867) 975-7300 Fax: (867) 975-7320 E-Mail: receptionist@nwmb.com

Through this letter, the NWMB is extending an invitation to your department or organization to provide written submissions and supporting documentation in response to the EC Proposal, or otherwise regarding concerns with the proposed legal listing of Horned Grebe (Western population) as a species of special concern. All written materials must be filed with the NWMB – in English and Inuktitut – by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) on August 20th 2010. Unless persuasive written and translated reasons are provided to the Board for late filing, the NWMB will not consider materials for this hearing that are not filed on time.

Materials may be filed with the Board in person, by courier or by mail. They should be clearly marked as pertaining to the NWMB Hearing for Horned Grebe (Western population). Delivery of the materials may also be made through fax or electronic transmission, but only if your department or organization confirms by phone with the NWMB – by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) on **August 20th 2010** – that a complete and legible copy of the transmission has been received by the Board. Materials are deemed to have been filed on the actual day of receipt by the NWMB.

Shortly after the deadline for delivery of the written submissions, the NWMB will consider all of the relevant evidence and arguments filed, and will make a decision.

Please keep in mind that the more thorough, reliable and persuasive supporting evidence and justifications are, the more weight they will be given by the NWMB in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* decision-making process.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to visit the NWMB website or to contact the Board directly.

Yours sincerely,

Willie Nakoolak,

Acting Chairperson of the

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Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Attachments (2)

 c.c. Richard Connelly, Executive Director of the Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat, for distribution to the Chairpersons of Nunavut's other Hunters and Trappers Organizations;

Gabriel Nirlungayuk, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.; Virginia Poter, Director General, Environment Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service; Eric Kan, Area Director-Eastern Arctic Region, Department of Fisheries and Oceans NEW – The NWMB will be conducting a Written Hearing to consider the proposed legal listing, under the federal *Species at Risk Act*, of Horned Grebe (Western Population) as a species of special concern. Hearing submissions must be filed by August 20th 2010. <u>Learn more...</u>

RULES FOR THE NWMB'S WRITTEN HEARING TO CONSIDER THE LEGAL LISTING OF HORNED GREBE (WESTERN POPULATION) AS A SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN UNDER THE FEDERAL SPECIES AT RISK ACT

June 30th, 2010

THE PURPOSE of this NWMB written hearing is to consider the proposed legal listing, pursuant to the federal *Species at Risk Act*, of Horned Grebe (Western population) as a species of special concern.

The Government of Canada's Department of the Environment (EC) has filed – in Inuktitut and English - a *Proposal for NWMB Decision* (EC Proposal) with the NWMB, seeking a decision as to whether or not to list Horned Grebe (Western population) as a species of special concern. The EC Proposal, along with other documents comprising the best available information to date, is available for review or download from the NWMB's website (www.nwmb.com).

RULES:

- 1. The NWMB shall provide notice to the public at least 30 days prior to the deadline for filing hearing submissions.
- 2. Any interested person or body may file with the NWMB a written submission in response to the EC Proposal, or otherwise regarding concerns with the proposed listing Horned Grebe (Western population) as a species of special concern duly translated into Inuktitut or English as the case may be by no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 20th 2010.
- 3. Unless persuasive written and translated reasons are provided to the NWMB for late filing, the NWMB will not consider materials for this hearing that are not filed on time.
- 4. The requirement for translation of submissions filed with the NWMB does not apply to individual members of the public.
- The NWMB shall ensure that all materials filed with it or produced by it are made publicly available, subject to relevant confidentiality or privacy concerns.
- Any representative or agent of the Government of Canada or Government of Nunavut, any Hunters and Trappers Organization or Regional Wildlife Organization and any Inuk shall be accorded the status of party for the hearing.
- Any other person or body wishing to be named as a party by the NWMB shall make an appropriate request in writing to the NWMB.



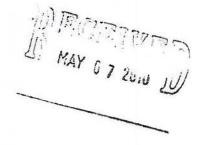
Environment Canada Environnement Canada

Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3

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Mr. Willie Nakoolak Acting Chairperson Nunavut Wildlife Management Board P.O. Box 1379 Iqaluit, NU XOA 0H0

Dear Mr. Nakoolak.



I am writing to advise you of what the Minister is considering with respect to his recommendation to the Governor in Council regarding a listing decision for the Horned Grebe (Western population) on Schedule I of the Species at Risk Act, and to request the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's approval decision. This request is being made in accordance with subsection 3.9 of the Memorandum of Understanding to Harmonize the Designation of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement and the Listing of Wildlife Species at Risk under the Species at Risk Act (MOU).

In April 2009, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada assessed the Horned Grebe (Western population) as Special Concern. In accordance with this assessment, the Minister is considering recommending to the Governor in Council that Horned Grebe (Western population) be added to Schedule 1 of the Act as a species of Special Concern.

In December 2009, my staff briefed the Board on the COSEWIC assessment of the Horned Grebe (Western population) and on results of community consultations in Nunavut. No more responses have been received from communities since then; however, please let me know if you would like my staff to re-brief the Board.

I am requesting that you provide the Minister with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's decision regarding this proposed listing recommendation by October 15, 2010 in accordance with the timeline in the MOU, with a copy to me. This response would correspond with subsection 3.14 of the MOU.

Please notify me by May 31, 2010 regarding whether you are able to agree to the deadline above.

In accordance with the MOU, my staff has also provided the NWMB in writing with the best available information in English and Inuktitut.

I appreciate the Board's ongoing participation in the species at risk listing process.

Sinceroly,

Virginia Poter

Director General

Canadian Wildlife Service

Canada

www.ec.gc.ca