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Avatiligiyiit

Department of Environment

Ministère de l'Environnement

Mr. Ben Kovic  
Chairperson  
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board  
P.O. Box 1379, Iqaluit, NU  
X0A 0H0

Dear Mr. Kovic;

RE: Northern (*Pandalus borealis*) and Striped (*Pandalus montagui*) shrimp Total Allowable Catch levels for the 2014-15 season

Further to the NWMB's request for input from stakeholders on the upcoming Western Assessment Zone (WAZ) and Eastern Assessment Zone (EAZ) shrimp decision and the DFO recommendations, below please find the comments from Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment on these issues:

- Analysis for shrimp should be based on the new agreed upon PA Framework approach, which included participation from NU stakeholders. If this approach is to be applied elsewhere, it should be applied equally in Nunavut. We believe that the following recommendations are in keeping with this PA Framework;
- For the Western Assessment Zone (WAZ), based on the two year average and maintaining the 10% ER, the quotas should increase to 5,860 t for *P. montagui* and 2,080 t for *P. borealis* (860 t and 580t increases respectively for NU/NK, 50% to NU) - DFO's Option 1.
  - At 10% the ER is still very low (at the level the PA Framework sets as the maximum for when in the critical zone, whereas it is currently well within the healthy zone). DFO's recommendation is not in keeping with the PA Framework for the WAZ;
- For the Eastern Assessment Zone (EAZ), the *P. borealis* TAC should remain unchanged as is in the healthy zone and less than the 20% ER maximum. We agree that *P. montagui* will have to be reduced (DFO's Option 1) in keeping with the PA Framework. Quota would drop from 1,150 t for NU/NK to 429 t (NU would drop from 805 t to 300 t);
- The net impact of these changes for 2014-15 would be an increase for Nunavut of 420 t taking into account both species;
- In addition, based on the PA Framework rules, an NSAC meeting should be called to discuss the *P. montagui* in EAZ. Considerations for this meeting should include:

