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Nunavunmi Anngutighatigut Aulapkaijiktut Katimajiat
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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Tammaqtailinahuarniriit anngutighat atuqhugit Inuit qaujijimajatuqangillu ilihimaniillu ilitquhiannin
Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujijimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

October 10th 2013

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| Honourable James Arreak
Minister of Environment
Government of Nunavut | Cathy Towtongie
President of Nunavut Tunngavik
Incorporated | Ross Tatty
Chairperson of the Kivalliq
Wildlife Board |
| James Qillaq
Chairperson of the
Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board | Noah Kadlak
Chairperson of the Coral
Harbour Hunters and Trappers
Organization | Quvanaqtuliaq Tapaungai
Chairperson of the Aiviq Hunters
and Trappers Organization |
| Michel Akkuardjuk
Chairperson of the Arviq
Hunters and Trappers
Organization | | |

Dear Colleagues:

Re: December 10th and 11th 2013 in-person public hearing of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board concerning the level of total allowable harvest and two non-quota limitations for Southampton Island caribou

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) has scheduled a public hearing concerning the level of total allowable harvest for Southampton Island caribou. The Government of Nunavut Department of Environment has submitted a request for NWMB decision on decreasing the total allowable harvest for Southampton Island caribou from 1000 animals to 800 animals and to maintain the current non-quota limitations which state that no one shall harvest mature bulls or cows with calves.

Background

In April 2012, the NWMB was asked by the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment to make a decision on a total allowable harvest of 1000 caribou for the 2012/2013 harvest year (effective July 1st 2012) and non-quota limitations to restrict the harvest of mature bulls and cow/calf pairs.

In a May 30th 2012 letter to the Minister of Environment, the Board stated that it would be unable to make a procedurally fair decision in time for the July 1st deadline and suggested that the Minister make an interim decision. Following receipt of this letter the Minister of Environment made an interim decision to restrict the harvest of South Hampton Island caribou to 1000 animals as requested and to restrict the harvest of mature bulls and cow/calf pairs, effective July 1st 2012 to June 30th, 2013. In May 2013, the decision was made to extend this interim order until June 30th, 2014.

The Government of Nunavut has conducted many aerial surveys of the herd, most recently 2013, and carried out community consultations following each survey. In August of 2013, the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment recommended to the NWMB that a total allowable harvest of 800 animals be set for the Southampton Island caribou and to maintain the current non-quota limitations which state that no one shall harvest mature bulls or cows with calves.

After due consideration, the Board decided to hold a public hearing to determine whether a total allowable harvest of 800 animals is justified under the terms of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* (NLCA).

In –person public hearing details

The hearing will take place on December 10th and 11th 2013, in Iqaluit, Nunavut. The hearing will be conducted from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. The NWMB may also hold evening sessions from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Board is prepared to pay travel and accommodation costs for attendance by up to eight (8) delegates. This includes: two (2) delegates from the Coral Harbour Hunters and Trappers Organization, two (2) Qaujimaniliit from Coral Harbour, one (1) delegate from Repulse Bay, one (1) delegate from Cape Dorset, One (1) delegate from the Kivalliq Wildlife Board and one (1) delegate from the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board. Selection of those representatives will be decided by the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board and the Kivalliq Wildlife Board. If other representatives of Inuit harvesters wish to attend, the NWMB has no further funding available, but will – if requested, and to the extent reasonably possible – make arrangements for electronic attendance at the hearing.

The hearing rules and a number of 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
P.O. Box 1379, Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0
Phone: (867) 975-7300
Fax: (888) 421-9832
E-Mail: receptionist@nwmb.com

Invitation and instruction to provide written submissions

Through this letter, the NWMB is extending an invitation to your department or organization to provide written submissions and supporting documentation concerning the Government of Nunavut proposal to lower the total allowable harvest of Southampton Island caribou from 1000 to 800, and maintain the two current non-quota limitations that no one shall harvest mature bulls or cows with calves. With a decision on a total allowable harvest, the NWMB will also be required to strike a basic needs level as per Section 5.6.19 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, and the Board also invites submissions on the establishment of a basic needs level for this population.

Written submissions and supporting documentation must be filed with the NWMB, in English and Inuktitut, by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Iqaluit time) on November 18th 2013.

Subject to relevant confidentiality or privacy concerns, all submissions will be placed on the NWMB's website, and will be available for download, within one business day after the submission deadline.

Please take careful note that, unless persuasive written and translated reasons are provided to the NWMB for late filing, the Board will not consider materials for this hearing that are not filed on time.

Written submissions and their supporting documentation 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 Southampton Island Caribou*. 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 - prior to the filing deadline - 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.

Please keep in mind that the more thorough, reliable and persuasive submissions and supporting documentation 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,



Peter Kusugak,
Acting Chairperson of the
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

- c.c. Gabriel Nirlungayuk, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.;
Bert Dean, Senior Policy Advisor, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated;
Drikus Gissing, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Department of Environment;
Lynda Orman, Manager of Research, Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment;
Janet Dionne, Acting Executive Director, Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat;
Leah Muchpah, Kivalliq Regional Liaison, Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat
Jackie Price, South Baffin Regional Liaison, Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat
Jason Mikki, North Baffin Regional Liaison, Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat