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Nunavunmi Anngutighatigut Aulapkaajitkut Katimajiat
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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Tammaqtailinahuarniriit anngutighat atuqhugit Inuit qaujimajatuqangillu ilihimaniillu ilitquhiannin
Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

April 7th 2014

James Qillaq
Chairperson of the
Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board

Ross Tatty
Chairperson of the Kivalliq
Wildlife Board

Noah Kadlak
Chairperson of the Coral Harbour
Hunters and Trappers
Organization

Michel Akkuardjuk
Chairperson of the Arviq Hunters
and Trappers Organization

Barney Aggark
Chairperson of Aqigiq Hunters
and Trappers Organization

Paul Kanayok
Chairperson of Kangiqliniq
Hunters and Trappers
Organization

Quvanaqtuliaq Tapaungai
Chairperson of the Aiviq Hunters
and Trappers Organization

Dear colleagues,

Through this email, the NWMB is inviting you to participate in a conference call concerning next steps in the NWMB's public hearing concerning the total allowable harvest, basic needs level and non-quota limitations for Southampton Island (SHI) caribou. The conference call is scheduled for 2:15 pm (Iqaluit time) on Thursday, April 10th 2014. The NWMB expects the call to last between 60 and 90 minutes.

You will recall that on December 10th and 11th 2013, the NWMB held phase 1 of an in-person public hearing regarding SHI caribou. The NWMB then wrote to all of the hearing parties on February 18th 2014, inviting two sets of additional written submissions - the first set due on March 31st, and the second on May 2nd. Several parties did file additional submissions on or before March 31st, and these are publicly available on the NWMB's hearing website (<http://www.nwmb.com/en/public-hearings-a-meetings/public-hearings-1/2014/public-hearing-concerning-the-government-of-nunavuts-proposal-to-lower-the-total-allowable-harvest-of-southampton-island-caribou-from-1000-to-800-caribou-and-to-consider-non-quota-limitations>). While still awaiting the May 2nd reply submissions, the NWMB would now like to schedule phase 2 of the in-person public hearing.

However, before notifying the parties and the public of the date, time and location of phase 2 of the hearing, the NWMB would like to discuss the following issues with the parties at the scheduled conference call:

- (a) Has the Aiviit HTA lowered the limit on the number of SHI caribou that can be harvested by community members (from 1,000 to 800), and is that limit currently being respected?
- (b) Has the Government of Nunavut (GN) - as set out in its March 31st 2014 submission - decided to withdraw its offer made during phase 1 of the hearing to remove the proposed prohibition on the harvest of mature bulls?
- (c) Do any of the hearing parties have a concern with the NWMB's plan to reconvene the hearing on either May 27th and 28th or June 3rd and 4th in Iqaluit?

(d) Any other relevant issue that a hearing party wishes to raise.

With respect to (a), the Aiviit HTA announced the following at the December hearing: “...we decided to decrease the TAH to 800 because of conservation practice, as a conservation practice from our community...” [Transcript, p. 182, lines 12-14]. Meanwhile, in its March 31st submission, the GN indicated that the NWMB needs to take “immediate management actions... to conserve the population”, warning that the Mayor reports over 17,000 pounds of meat have been exported to mostly Baffin communities in the last 2 months, and is concerned that, if the practice continues, it “...will significantly decrease the caribou population.”

With respect to (b), on the first day of phase 1 of the hearing (December 10th), the GN announced “...we're certainly comfortable with dropping that NQL [prohibition on harvesting mature bulls] if it creates a problem. We would suggest that recommendations be put out to the membership of the Coral Harbour HTO, to their membership, that they try and avoid mature bulls for now... we're totally willing to drop that NQL if the HTO is in support of that.” [Transcript, p. 77, lines 1-9] However, in its March 31st submission, the GN is requesting that the NWMB prohibit the harvest of any and all mature bulls [GN March 31st 2014 submission, pages 4 and 12].

With respect to (c), the NWMB would prefer to reconvene the hearing prior to July and August, when people are generally less available to attend meetings and hearings because of summer weather, vacations, etc. The NWMB is already committed to a full quarterly meeting in Cambridge Bay in mid-June. Accordingly, it would prefer to schedule phase 2 of the in-person SHI caribou hearing in late-May or early-June.

Please reply in writing to the NWMB (by email (receptionist@nwmb.com), fax ((888) 421-9832) or phone ((867) 975-7300)) by no later than Wednesday, April 9th at 4:45 pm, indicating whether or not you or a suitable representative of your department/organization is able to attend the conference call. Thanks very much.

Yours sincerely,



Jim Noble,
NWMB Executive Director

C.c. Drikus Gissing, Director of Wildlife, Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment; and Gabriel Nirlungayuk, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.