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Daniel Shewchuk, Chair
Nunavunmi Anngutighatigut Aulapkaijitkut Katimajiat
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Delivered via email

February 10, 2020

RE: Information Requests: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board In-person Public Hearing to Consider the Government of Nunavut's Proposal to Modify the Total Allowable Harvest of Bluenose East Caribou From 340 to 107 and to Establish a Male-Only Harvest Non-Quota Limitation (NWMB Bluenose East Hearing)

Dear Mr. Shewchuk:

The ʔehdzo Got'ɲe Gots'ɛ Nákedi (Sahtú Renewable Resources Board – SRRB) is thankful for the opportunity to contribute to – and learn from – the NWMB's Bluenose East Hearing on March 2-3, 2020. I will be attending on behalf of the SRRB. The SRRB would like to request some additional information as we prepare our written submission for the February 14 deadline, as follows:

1. Submissions are required in Inuktitut language (and we understand if they're more than 10 pages, a summary only is required). We'd be grateful for some additional details to help us appropriately address this requirement:
 - Can you clarify whether the dialect should be Innuinaqtun since we understand this to be the dialect of the primary concerned community, Kugluktuk?
 - Must the translation be provided by the February 14 deadline for submissions? We are concerned about timing, since our Board will be meeting to discuss our submission immediately prior to the deadline (February 11-13). This does not leave much time for writing the submission, let alone translation.
 - Do you have a contact list or a recommendation for an individual who would be able to provide the required translation?

2. We have reviewed the Public Registries for the Bluenose East and Bathurst Hearings. With respect to the Bluenose East Hearing, is evidence provided for the Bathurst Hearing by the February 14 deadline also considered as part of the Bluenose East Hearing Record? We are interested in this because we note that five recognized Parties (the Government of Nunavut, the Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated) share jurisdiction with respect to both herds, and thus perspectives with respect to one herd may be relevant to the other.
3. The NWMB's letter of October 7, 2016 regarding decisions concerning Bluenose East caribou harvest management includes two decisions that appear to provide relevant context for the 2020 NWMB Bluenose East Public Hearing, namely:

3) Recommend that the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment and affected Hunters and Trappers Organizations, with assistance - as deemed necessary or advisable - from other qualified organizations and/or relevant Qaujimaniliit, complete the development of the draft Bluenose East Caribou Management Plan - including careful consideration of a potential predator control program - by no later than the end of September 2017; and

4) Upon submission of the completed draft Bluenose East Caribou Management Plan for approval by the NWMB pursuant to the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Sections 5.2.34(d)(i) and 5.3.3, promptly hold a public hearing in the Kitikmeot Region - ideally in the community of Kugluktuk - in order to make a decision or decisions concerning the ongoing harvest management regime for the Bluenose East caribou herd in the Nunavut Settlement Area.

These two decisions are reflected in other evidence currently on the registry, namely the presentation of a plan by the Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Association (Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association) in the 2016 Hearing Transcript, and a reference to a planning process in the Government of Nunavut's (GN's) proposal to and accepted by the NWMB. Would it be possible for the full 2016 decision document to be available as part of the 2020 Bluenose East Hearing public record as context for submissions by the Parties?

4. The Government of Nunavut's (GN's) submission to the NWMB, provided with the December 13, 2019 letter of invitation to the NWMB Bluenose East Hearing, makes reference to the community-based management plan for the Bluenose-East herd developed by the Kugluktuk Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO) and being finalized in collaboration with GN, with the intention of submitting a revised version by December. That document also summarizes key messages from the GN's community engagements (also documented in the HTO Consultations Report Bluenose East Caribou Management Recommendations, February-October 2019), to the effect that "some community members feel that there should not be any harvest restrictions for Kugluktuk harvesters of the BNE herd, and that the harvest could be managed through a community based management plan." The SRRB requests additional

details about how the GN's recommendation for harvest management (reduction of the TAH to 107) accommodates the input provided in community engagement and the collaborative planning process with Kugluktuk HTO.

Thank you for considering these information requests. We look forward to your response. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the requests.

Máhsı cho,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DS', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Deborah Simmons
Executive Director