

From: Michael Ferguson <wildlifeadvisor@niws.ca>

Sent: Mar. 1, 2019 5:23 p.m.

To: Denis Ndeloh <DNdeloh@nwmb.com>

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Subject: Questions & Suggestions re: NWMB RM-001 2019; TAB 2 Adjusting Polar Bear TAH to 1-1 Male-Female Sex-Ratio Harvest with simpler credit calculation system

Denis,

The QWB has reviewed the GN's Request for Decision under TAB 2 for NWMB RM-001 2019. We would appreciate some clarification of the proposal and have some re-wording to suggest for proposal to be incorporated before the NWMB makes a decision on this matter.

The attached document explains these requested clarifications and suggested wording changes.

If you or the Board have any questions about the attachment, please do not hesitate to contact me. FYI... we expect to send an Inuktitut translation to you early next week.

Sincerely,

Mike

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Nunavut during 2018-19, even for those for which “updated subpopulation information” is not available at this time?

3. Recommendations:

- i. Part 1 of the GN Submission would allow a community to harvest up to 50% females in a given year. As well, part 2.b appears to allow the same community to harvest more than 50% of their allocation as males.

Assuming that is correct, minor over-harvests of females may occur inadvertently at the end of a season. If, for example, a community has a tag allocation of 40, a harvest of 21 females and 19 males in year 1 could easily occur. Since the community did not surpass their total allocation, it should be acceptable that in year 2 the community could be allowed to take 19 females and 21 males. Over the two years, the 50% female harvest would be maintained.

We suggest the following revised wording for 2.a.:

- a. An overharvest of one female, more than 50% of the tag allocation in one year, would reduce a community’s maximum allocation of female tags by one in the subsequent year, while the community could harvest an additional male bear without changing the community’s total allocation in year 2.
- ii. Part 2.b. of the GN Submission could be clarified with the following wording, assuming that is the intent:
 - b. The maximum number of males that may be harvested will be up to the limit of a community’s total tag allocation less the number of females harvested in the same year. An overharvest of the community’s total tag allocation would result in a reduction of the same amount of tags in the following year, unless the community has credits available to apply to the overharvest.

Explanatory Note: Since the maximum number of males would be determined after subtracting the number of harvested females, then a community would have surpassed its total tag allocation if it overharvested males.