



# Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
Kitikmeot Nunaliit Avikhimaniyani Angutikhaligiyyit Katimayit

Kitikmeot  
ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
Kitikmeot  
Cambridge Bay  
ᑕᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
Ikalukutiak  
Gjoa Haven  
ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
Uqhuqtuuq  
Kugaaruk  
ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
Kugaaruk  
Kugluktuk  
ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
Kugluktuk  
Taloyoak  
ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ  
Taloyoak

October 29, 2015

Mr. Ben Kovic, Chairperson  
of the Nunavut Wildlife  
Management Board

**Re: Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board's Response on the Nunavut Polar Bear  
Co-Management Plan**

Thank you for allowing us the time to provide a written submission on the Government of Nunavut's Polar Bear Management Plan. Since the June 2015 request for input from the HTO's and RWOs in the Kitikmeot, there has not been a lot of concerns risen. This however does not reflect the KRWB's views on the new (draft) management system.

To-date, we still point out a number of concerns that is written below. We'd like to acknowledge our appreciation in that the Government of Nunavut has included us RWO's in the development of this new management plan.

A tour was conducted in late 2013 and early 2014 with the communities in Kitikmeot. At these community tours, hunters often showed their frustrations with having to adhere to the management system that does not reflect the values of hunting polar bears (traditionally). It has been brought to attention numerous times that polar bear population has increased dramatically over decades. It has also been brought to attention that sex-selective harvesting is cumbersome to amend.

Here is a brief outline of the Spence Bay Hunters & Trappers Associations Submission (5 point)

- 1) Amalgamate the subpopulations Gulf of Boothia and M'Clintock Channel quota tags as the bears migrate from one side to the other;
- 2) Polar Bears killed in defense situations or nuisance, should be handled by Wildlife Officers entirely from giving away meat to cleaning and drying of the hides. This should not be taken off the community quota as hunters were not originally out on the sea ice looking for them.
- 3) Sex-selective harvesting be removed. If too many males are taken from the population, reproduction may take longer; example, if there are 25 tags, 13 of them should be assigned to males and 12 for females,
- 4) The Government of Nunavut should honour the co-management of polar bears in the Territory as Inuit have for decades.





# Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board

ᑭᑦᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ ᓄᓚᑦᑎᑦᑦᑦ ᑏᑦᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ ᑎᑎᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ  
Kitikmeot Nunaliit Avikhimaniani Angutikhaligiit Katimayit

- Kitikmeot  
ᑭᑦᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ  
Kitikmeot
- Cambridge Bay  
ᑕᑦᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ  
Ikalukutiak
- Gjoa Haven  
ᑭᑦᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ  
Uqhuqtuuq
- Kugaaruk  
ᑎᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ  
Kugaaruk
- Kugluktuk  
ᑎᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ  
Kugluktuk
- Taloyoak  
ᑕᑦᑎᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ  
Taloyoak

We anticipate further working together to build a strong and viable management plan. This will be the main structure both economically and culturally for Inuit for future generations. This plan should also represent the cultural and traditional values of Inuit when it comes to polar bear management in the Territory.

Yours truly,

**Simon Qingnaqtuq**  
Chairperson