

Cumberland Sound Fisheries Ltd.

Quota Increase Proposal

November 2018

Cumberland Sound Fisheries Ltd.

P.O. Box 185
Pangnirtung, NU
X0A 0R0

Mr. Daniel Shewchuk
A/Chairperson
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
P.O. Box 1379
Iqaluit, NU
X0A 0H0

November 1, 2018

Dear Mr. Shewchuk,

Attached please find our request to increase the **Cumberland Sound Inshore Turbot Quota**.

The full inshore quota (500 MT) was harvested in the 2018 winter fishery plus 10 MT from the summer fishery (2017). Therefore we are requesting that the **Cumberland Sound Inshore Turbot** quota be increased to accommodate the developing summer fishery.

This will benefit the inshore fisherman in Cumberland Sound, specifically Pangnirtung. Indirectly this would benefit the plant workers in Pangnirtung and the inshore fisherman in Pangnirtung and Cumberland sound. As you may be aware, harvesting and processing of turbot has been growing steadily in the last few years.

To support our commitment, CSFL has purchased a 40' inshore fishing vessel, the f/v Pijjuja II with plans to purchase additional vessels to work within this developing fishery. It is anticipated that additional vessels will also be part of this developing fishery.

The FV "Pijjuja II" was commissioned by The Department of Fisheries and Oceans to conduct a scientific assessment of turbot stocks in Cumberland Sound, Nunavut this past summer. Results showed that the stock in Cumberland Sound has grown to a level where an increase is warranted that remains within sustainable quota levels which protects the overall health of the stock in the long term. Hook and line gear fished in various grids in the sound yielded good catch rates mainly in depths between 475 and 600 fathoms. The overall range of small to larger fish was positive given the size of hooks used in the long line gear. By-catch levels were minimal.

To ensure the successful development of the summer fishery and the continued development of the winter fishery, there is a need to increase the TAH in Cumberland Sound. We are proposing that the quota be increased to a least 800 MT from the current level of 500 MT.

Sincerely,


Joopa Sowdloapik
Chairman
Cumberland Sound Fisheries Lt