



Ottawa, Canada K1A 0E6

DEC 7 - 2011

Mr. Mikidjuk Akavak  
Chairperson  
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board  
Box 1379  
Iqaluit, Nunavut  
X0A 0H0

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Dear Mr. Akavak:

Thank you for your correspondence of November 4, 2011, in which you requested that Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) communicate with relevant industry, community and Inuit organizations with respect to a possible abridged listing process for the Northern Bottlenose Whale (Davis Strait-Labrador Sea population).

I would like to thank the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board for its continuing cooperation and consideration of DFO's request for an abridged listing process. The Department is currently in the process of contacting the fishing industry and the Hunter and Trapper Organizations near the area of occurrence of these species to determine their views on an abridged listing process. The feedback received from these organizations will be available at the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's March 2012 meeting, at which time the Board can further consider the possibility of an abridged listing process.

Once again, thank you for your prompt attention to our request.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Ashfield