



Manasie Audlakiak
A/Chairperson Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
Box 1379
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

April 29, 2013

Dear Mr. Audlakiak,

Thank you for your letter of April 12th in which you acknowledge the request by DFO for the NWMB to consider an abridged listing process for the Roughhead Grenadier, Roundhead Grenadier, Acadian Redfish, Deepwater Redfish and the Northern Bottlenose Whale.

Your letter had two requests for DFO which were to provide additional information on;

- 1) Further consultations planned with industry on the two redfish and two grenadier species, and,
 - 2) Consultation plans under DFO's proposed abridged listing process.
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- 1) Our plan is to meet with Nunavut commercial fishery interests that indicated they wished to be consulted or indicated possible concern about listing of these species when information was first presented to them in December 2011. We will meet with area industry representatives in Iqaluit, Pangnirtung and Qikiqtarjuaq if requested to provide information on the species under consideration and the possible implications of listing. These consultations will be held in parallel with any public consultations requested by communities in the area.
 - 2) Under a proposed abridged listing process there will be an active consultation period with notices placed in newspapers and species information sent to communities and HTOs. Face to face consultation will take place if there is a demand. However, as you may recall from previous briefing notes, our attempts to gauge public interest to date has suggested that there is little to none for these species, suggesting that there may not need to be public meetings. We will consult with the Nunavut commercial fishery interests as indicated above (in 1).

What we are suggesting is that because we will be conducting thorough consultations commensurate to the level of interest in the species that the Board consider a written hearing, rather than a public hearing, as per Clause 3.10 of the *Memorandum of Understanding to Harmonize the Designation of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species Under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement and the Listing of Wildlife Species at Risk Under the Species at Risk Act*, when the Board is asked to make an approval decision as per Clause 3.9.

You are correct in noting that in the eventuality that any or all of Roundnose Grenadier, Acadian Redfish or Deepwater Redfish, be listed, exemptions for activities which involve incidental harvesting are possible. For both the Northern Bottlenose Whale and the Roughhead Grenadier, listing as special concern would not entail any automatic prohibitions and therefore no exemptions would be required for any activity.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

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