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√ਰ 20, 2018

Γσ'ς Γρ4α:

ערביא איבט:  $^{\circ}$ ליבעלי  $^{\circ$ 

Ċ°ם ארכאיני אורכאיני אין כשמה אישביאיטי אורסיד (IC002-2018) איס איס איס איס איטביאיטי אורבאיני איף ארכאיני איף ארכאיריי:

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(867) 975-7300 (888) 421-9832 Titiqqap Turaarvia 1379 Iqaluit, NU XOA 0H0



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David / futteralle

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June 20th, 2018

The Honourable Catherine McKenna Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada Government of Canada

Dear Minister McKenna:

RE: NWMB decision on the proposed final draft Management Plan for the Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary

At the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's (NWMB or Board) Regular Meeting (RM 002-2018) on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Board received a Proposal for Decision (Proposal) from the Ahiak Area Co-management Committee. The Proposal was submitted by your department on the Ahiak Committee's behalf. The Proposal was on the final *Ahiak (Queen Maud Gulf) Migratory Bird Sanctuary Management Plan* (Management Plan or Plan). Section 6.2.6 of the Management Plan also outlined restrictions for commercial fishing operations to avoid bottom trawling within 10 km of bird colonies, which is also subject to a NWMB decision as per section 5.6.48 of the *Nunavut Agreement*.

This request was considered by the NWMB at its In-Camera Meeting (IC 002-2018) on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018, where the Board made the following decision:

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Subsections 5.2.34(c) and 5.2.34(d)(i) of the Nunavut Agreement, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board approve the Ahiak (Queen Maud Gulf) Migratory Bird Sanctuary Management Plan.

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 5.6.48 of the Nunavut Agreement, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board require all commercial fishing operations to avoid bottom trawling within 10 kilometres of bird colonies in the Ahiak (Queen Maud Gulf) Migratory Bird Sanctuary.

In addition to carefully reviewing the best available science and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, the Board also took into consideration the following:

- The Plan was developed jointly by Inuit from nearby communities (Cambridge Bay, Gjoa Haven and Umingmaktok) and the Canadian Wildlife Service;
- Affected communities, government organizations, and additional stakeholders were invited to consultations in Cambridge Bay and Gjoa Haven;
- Those included in the consultations were given the opportunity to provide input on the written version of the Management Plan; and



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The Plan does not impose any restrictions on Inuit harvesting rights.

As per Section 5.3.17 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, the NWMB is hereby forwarding its decision on the approval of the proposed final Management Plan for the Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary to you for your consideration.

If you or your officials have any questions or concerns regarding the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB.

Sincerely,

David Kritterdlik

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A/Chairperson of the

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

cc. Jennie Rausch, Vice-chair, Ahiak Area Co-Management Committee for the Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H3

AJG 1 4 2018

Mr. David Kritterdlik Acting Chairperson Nunavut Wildlife Management Board P.O. Box 1379 Iqaluit NU X0A 0H0

Dear Mr. Kritterdlik:

Thank you for your letter of June 20, 2018, concerning the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's decision on the proposed final draft management plan for the Ahiak Migratory Bird Sanctuary.

I accept the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's decision in this matter. I am very pleased that the Board has approved the first management plan to be developed by an area co-management committee under the Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement for National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries in the Nunavut Settlement Area.

Please accept my best regards.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.



