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በረለ_{19th}, 2017

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Dda nnsprace: Craig Machtans, Manager, Northern Region (Whitehorse), Canadian Wildlife Service



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December 19th, 2017

Honourable Catherine McKenna Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada

Re: Environment and Climate Change Canada's request for an NWMB decision on the proposed listing of the Torngat Mountain caribou as an Endangered Species under the federal *Species at Risk Act*, and its potential occurrence in Nunavut

Dear Minister McKenna:

At the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's (NWMB or Board) December Regular Meeting (RM-004-2017), Environment and Climate Change Canada presented a *Proposal for NWMB Decision* regarding the Board's involvement in the listing of the Torngat Mountains caribou as an Endangered Species under the federal *Species at Risk Act.* The Board considered this request at its In-Camera Meeting (IC-004-2017) on December 7th, 2017 and passed the following resolution:

RESOLVED that, the NWMB write to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada relaying that the Board does not have any decision-making authority in this case as the Torngat Mountains caribou population occurs outside of the Nunavut Settlement Area.

In making its decision, the Board considered that there are currently no known occurrences of the Torngat Mountains caribou in the Nunavut Settlement Area. If future surveys confirm the presence of Torngat Mountain caribou in the Nunavut Settlement Area, consultation with affected Nunavut communities and NWMB approval will be necessary as part of Environment and Climate Change Canada's development of recovery documents.

If you have any questions regarding this decision, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB.

(888) 421-9832

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Sincerely,

Daniel Shewchuk

Acting Chairperson of the

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Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

c.c.Craig Machtans, Manager, Northern Region (Whitehorse), Canadian Wildlife Service

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H3

MAY 1 5 2018

Mr. Daniel Shewchuk Acting Chairperson Nunavut Wildlife Management Board P.O. Box 1379 Igaluit NU X0A 0H0



Dear Mr. Shewchuk:

Thank you for your correspondence of December 19, 2017, concerning the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's determination that it does not have decision-making authority in relation to two of the species (the Torngat Mountains population of caribou and the transverse lady beetle) that are now eligible to be added to Schedule 1 (the List of Wildlife Species at Risk) to the *Species at Risk Act*. I regret the delay in responding.

The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) assessed the Torngat Mountains population of caribou as endangered and the transverse lady beetle as special concern. I received these assessments, along with those of 54 other species, from COSEWIC on October 24, 2017.

I recognize that the Board's determination is consistent with the absence of known occurrences in Nunavut for these two species. Should these species be added to the List, and if at some future date they are found to occur within Nunavut, the Board will be consulted in the development of the recovery documents as you requested.

In addition, I understand that the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board recently shared its Policy Concerning the Crown's Duty to Consult and, Where Appropriate, Accommodate Indigenous Groups, which expands upon the circumstances of species for which the Board may choose to exercise its discretion to exclude itself from decision-making functions, consistent with the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. Environment and Climate Change Canada is currently reviewing this information and will provide you with feedback shortly.

I appreciate your sharing the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's determinations with respect to the Torngat Mountains population of caribou and the transverse lady beetle.







Please accept my best regards.

Sincerely,

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