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≺د∆ 13, 2018

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July 13<sup>th</sup> 2018

Honourable Jeannie Ehaloak Minister of Environment Government of Nunavut

Dear Minister Ehaloak:

Re: NWMB decision and recommendation concerning the limitation of sport hunting on the Qamanirjuaq, Beverly, Ahiak, Lorillard and Wager Bay Caribou herds.

## 1. NWMB DECISIONS

On December 22, 2017, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) provided public notice that it would be conducting a written public hearing to consider the Government of Nunavut - Department of Environment (Department of Environment) proposal for NWMB Decision (Proposal) for the limitation of sport hunting on the Qamanirjuaq, Beverly, Ahiak, Lorillard, and Wager Bay caribou herds. Following a request for deadline extension from the Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) and Naujaat Hunters and Trappers Organisation (HTO), the NWMB provided public notice on February 5, 2018, that the Board will extend the hearing submission deadline to April 27, 2018.

The NWMB did not receive any written submissions by the deadline of April 27, 2018.

During the NWMB's In-Camera meeting in Iqaluit, on June 07, 2018 (IC002-2018), the NWMB carefully reconsidered the Proposal. The Board also considered Naujaat HTO request for additional Department of Environment consultations in two Nunavut communities—Igloolik and Hall Beach—that harvest from the Wager Bay caribou herd, and made the following decisions:

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 5.6.16 of the Nunavut Agreement, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board establishes an annual level of harvesting of 175 tags for non-Inuit sport hunters on the Qamanirjuaq Caribou herd.

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FURTHER RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 5.6.16 of the Nunavut Agreement, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board establishes an annual level of harvesting of 150 caribou sport hunting tags in total for the Beverly and Ahiak Caribou herds.

FURTHER recommend that the Department of Environment carry out additional consultation with the Igloolik and hall Beach HTOs on the proposal to set a limit of 100 sport hunt tags in total for the Lorrilard and Wager Bay Caribou herds, and provide a written consultation report to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board as soon as possible.

FURTHER recommends that the Department of Environment work with Co-Management Partners to consider amending its wildlife legislation (Nunavut Wildlife Act) to include provisions for administering caribou sport hunting.

With respect to your request that the NWMB decide on the allocation of sport hunt tags between the two Nunavut regions for shared caribou herds, the NWMB has authorized its staff to work with the Kivalliq Wildlife Board (KWB) and the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board (KRWB) to decide the appropriate number of tags for each region once the NWMB receives your response to the Board's decision.

## 2. RATIONALE FOR THE NWMB DECISION AND RECOMMENDATION

The NWMB considers the proposed levels of harvesting as reasonable given the evidence provided in the Proposal and is convinced that at a time when most caribou herds in Nunavut are in a state of population decline, limiting non-Inuit sport hunting activities has the potential to mitigate further population decline without limiting Inuit harvesting rights.

Naujaat HTO informed the NWMB in January 2018 that the communities of Igloolik and Hall Beach do harvest from the Wager Bay Caribou herd. If this information is accurate, the NWMB cannot consider the recommendation to set sport hunting limitation on these two herds until evidence of direct consultation with the two communities is provided.

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## 3. CONCLUSION

As per Section 5.3.8 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, the NWMB is hereby forwarding its decision on the Nunavut Caribou sport hunt limitation to you for your review and 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 Huland

Daniel Shewchuk Chairperson of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

cc - Drikus Gissing, Director of Wildlife Management, Nunavut Department of Environment

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# The Honourable Jeannie Ehaloak

## JUL 2 4 2018

Mr. Daniel Shewchuk Chairperson Nunavut Wildlife Management Board PO Box 1379 IQALUIT, NU X0A 0H0

Dear Mr. Shewchuk;

Thank you for your letter of July 13, 2018 outlining the decisions of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) regarding the limitation of sport hunting on the Qamanirjuaq, Beverly, Ahiak, Lorillard, and Wager Bay caribou herds.

The NWMB has submitted the following final decision(s) and recommendations:

- RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 5.6.16 of the Nunavut Agreement, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board establishes an annual level of harvesting of 175 tags for non-Inuit sport hunters on the Qamanirjuaq Caribou herd.
- FURTHER RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 5.6.16 of the Nunavut Agreement, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board establishes an annual level of harvesting of 150 caribou sport hunting tags in total for the Beverly and Ahiak Caribou herds.
- FURTHER recommend that the Department of Environment carry out additional consultations with the Igloolik and Hall Beach HTOs on the proposal to set a limit of 100 sport hunt tags in total for the Lorillard and Wager Bay Caribou herds, and provide a written consultation report to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board as soon as possible.
- FURTHER recommends that the Department of Environment work with Co-Management Partners to consider amending its wildlife legislation (Nunavut Wildlife Act) to include provisions for administering caribou sport hunting.

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In the letter of May 9, 2018, addressed to you from the former minister, the Honourable Joe Savikataaq, sport hunters (as referred to in the GN proposal and which is the basis for this decision) are non-residents and non-resident foreigners. Therefore, I accept the decision to limit the *non-resident* and *non-resident foreigner* hunting of the Qamanirjuaq caribou herd (175 tags) and the Beverly and Ahiak caribou herds (150 tags). I will ask the department to proceed to implement this decision without delay and this hunting limitation will be put into regulation.

I will also ask the departmental staff to consult with the hunting and trapping organizations in Igloolik and Hall Beach regarding the proposal to set a limit of one-hundred (100) sport-hunting tags for the Lorillard and Wager Bay caribou herds and submit a written consultation report to NWMB.

Thank you for your letter and I appreciate the careful consideration of this important conservation and management issue.

Yours truly,

Shaloch

Jeannie Ehaloak

cc: Mr. Pauloosie Suvega, Deputy Minister, Department of Environment

Mr. Drikus Gissing, Director - Wildlife Management Division, Department of Environment