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Nunavunmi Anngutighatigut Aulapkaijitkut Katimajiat
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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Tammaqtailinahuarniriit anngutighat atuqhugit Inuit qaujimajatuqangillu ilihimaniillu ilitquhiannin
Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

June 28, 2019

Honourable Joe Savikataaq
Minister of Environment
Government of Nunavut

Dear Minister Savikataaq:

Re: Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board's Proposal to Increase the Regional Grizzly Bear Sport Hunt Quota from 10 to 15 Tags

At the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's (NWMB or Board) June 2019 meeting, the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board (KRWB) requested an increase in the non-Inuit sport hunt limit for grizzly bears in the Kitikmeot regional from 10 to 15 tags, until there is more information on grizzly bear population size in Nunavut.

The NWMB considered this proposal during its in-camera meeting (IC002-2019) on June 20, 2019 and made the following resolution:

Resolved that the NWMB approves, pursuant to section 5.6.16 of the Nunavut Agreement, an increase to the annual level of grizzly bears harvesting in the Kitikmeot region—by non-Inuit sport hunters—from 10 to 15 tags, until there is more information on grizzly bear population size in Nunavut.

In reaching this decision, the NWMB considered the following:

- In September 2017, the NWMB established an annual level of harvesting in each of the Kivalliq and Kitikmeot regions of 10 grizzly bears for non-Inuit sport hunters.
- Grizzly bears are listed as *Special Concern* under the Species at Risk Act (SARA).
- There is no total allowable harvest or mandatory non-quota limitations on Inuit rights to harvest grizzly bears in the Nunavut Settlement Area.
- There is no conservation concern with the current level of grizzly bear harvesting in Nunavut (on average 32 grizzly bears per year were harvested in Nunavut between 2014–2018. This removal rate is close to the Department of Environment recommended sustainable harvest rate of 2%).

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- In 2018, only seven of the 10 tags available to Kitikmeot communities were used.
- The Ekaluktutiak HTO will use income generated from the grizzly bear sport hunt to offset income loss due to community harvest restrictions on the Dolphin and Union caribou herd.

The NWMB looks forward to your prompt reply and completion of the Nunavut Agreement Article 5 decision-making process.

Should you or your officials have any questions or concerns about the content of this letter, please contact the NWMB

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Shewchuk
Chairperson of the
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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