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

December 16, 2019

Honourable Joe Savikataag Minister of Environment Government of Nunavut

Re: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's Decision on the Proposal to Maintain the Total Allowable Harvest for Muskoxen in Management Unit MX-13 at 182

Dear Minister Savikataaq:

At the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's (NWMB or Board) December 4, 2019 Regular Meeting in Kugluktuk, Nunavut, the Government of Nunavut asked the Board to maintain the annual total allowable harvest (TAH) for muskox in management unit MX-13 at 182. Management unit MX-13 covers the central and southern Kivalliq Region and is accessible to the communities of Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake, Rankin Inlet, Whale Cove, and Arviat. The proposal is based on a new abundance estimate from a scientific survey carried out by the Government of Nunavut in July 2016. The abundance estimate is 4,437 adult and yearling muskoxen (95% confidence interval = 3,383-5,491). These results suggest that the population remained stable since 2012 when its abundance was estimated at 4,506 muskoxen (95% confidence interval of 3,558-5,454).

The NWMB considered this proposal during its In-Camera Meeting (IC004-2019) on December 05, 2019, and made the following decision:

RESOLVED that the NWMB establish, pursuant to Sections 5.2.33(d), 5.6.16 and 5.6.17(b) of the Nunavut Agreement, a Total Allowable Harvest of 182 for muskoxen in management unit MX-13.

In reaching this decision, the NWMB considered the following:

Results of the abundance surveys have shown a stable population size for MX-13 since the last study in 2012. The analysis indicates that the risks associated with maintaining the current TAH are acceptable.

(888) 421-9832

Box 1379



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Should you or your officials have any questions or concerns about the content of this letter, do not hesitate to contact the NWMB.

Sincerely,

Daniel Shewchuk

Chairperson

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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c.c. Drikus Gissing, Director of Wildlife Management, Government of Nunavut.