



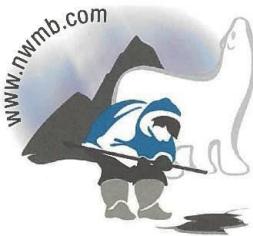
◀△ 06, 2020

σ?**Δ**γ^ησ**Δ**γ^ητ^η τ^η ἀντὶ ἡθούσιον
Γαρ οὐκ εἰπεν σε πει
μετέπειτα στηλής

ΓσήC γλαύCης

▷ L 4 C 0 2 9 8 4 6 8 c Δ r L c ▷ P 0 ^ r c

¹ Հյուրագանները համարում են այս պատճենը առաջին աշխարհական պատերազմի ժամանակաշրջանի ամենալավ պահպանված օբյեկտը (FQSS) և ամենահայտնի պատճենը Հայաստանում:



አንድርምና ደረሰኑንናይቅዎች ሌላውንና ብርሃን



ʌʌq'cΔcσr'v b ʌlq'vσ v ʌq'cΔcσr'v ΔoΔc v b ʌlq'cΔcσr'v ʌlq'c v b ʌlq'cΔcσr'v
Tammaqtailinahuarnirriit anngutighat atuqhugit Inuit qaujimajatuqangillu ilihimanillu ilitquhiaannin
Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

CL^bd^aC^D^b d^az^bC^DJ^b, Δ^abP^CD^bC^D^az^bL^c D^bC^bL^cC^D^az^bσ^aγ^aρ^c Δ^adR^bL^cγ^bL^d,
Δ^aC^bP^CD^b^az^b Δ^ad^b C^bz^aσ^bγ^aρ^c.

◀P^oPCD▶^o △PL^bK^oY▶PCD▶σ^oPC

ՀՆ 2020-ԱՌԵՎԵՐ, ԽՏԹԵՎԻՇՎԱՐԸ ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ, ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ



Ar⁴σ DPCP0⁴rc

ԱՐԴՅՈՒՆ

Daniel Shulman

ՀԾԴՐԸ ՀԾՎԱՅ
ԱՅՎՃԾՎՅ
ՄՁԳԻՐ ՇԼՇԸՆՎԵՎՃԾ
ԵՈԼՎԱՐԸ



ᓇᓱᕕᒻ ምጀᓂ ማጀጀ በጀጀ

Nunavummi Anngutighatigut Aulapkajitkut Katimajiat Nunavut Wildlife Management Board



◀▶ 10, 2020

ለፌዴራል ቅዱስ የሚከተሉት ስምዎች እንደሆነ ማረጋገጫ ሲሆን ይህንን ስም ለማቅረብ ይመለከታል

10

የኢትዮጵያ በበኩረንናኩል ደርሰ 6, 2020 ለተደረገውን ስራ ከሚከተሉ ይመሱ ይችላል
ይህንን ስራውን የሚከተሉ ይመሱ ይችላል.

ይጋዥልኩፌፋኖ ስፋት ልማትኩያስፌር ቅዱንጂ ልላጥኩያስፌር ከበደረሰር;

የሰነዱ የሚከተሉት ስልጣን በመሆኑ የሚያስፈልግ ነው፡፡

၁၀၅၄၃၄

Հ ԿԱՅԵՑՆ

Gamma C



July 06, 2020

**Honourable Joe Savikataaq
Minister of Environment
Government of Nunavut**

Dear Minister Savikataaq:

**Re: NWMB Decision Regarding the Proposal to Approve the Revisions to the
Interim Polar Bear Harvest Administration and Credit Calculation System**

NWMB Decision

At the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's (NWMB or Board) Regular Meeting, that was held virtually on June 10, 2020 (RM002-2020), your department requested the NWMB approve revisions to and implementation of the polar bear 2019 *Flexible Quota System* (FQS)¹. The FQS, also known as the *Harvest Administration and Credit Calculation System*, is used in Nunavut to administer the portion of the Total Allowable Harvest (TAH) allocated to a given community. The original 2005 *Flexible Quota System* allowed for credits to be accumulated when the annual allocation is under-harvested and for overharvested allocations to be subtracted from the next year's base allocation. In September 2019, the FQS was revised to accommodate a change in the Non-quota Limitation (NQL) to polar bear harvest across Nunavut from a 2:1 to a 1:1 male to female ratio. The revised FQS was approved on an interim basis in September 2019, pending further consultation with co-management partners. Your department sent out a letter to the Regional Wildlife Organizations and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. on October 16, 2019 requesting feedback. Having received no direct feedback on the FQS document, your department revised and re-submitted the FQS for consideration by the Board on May 8, 2020.

At the NWMB's In-Camera Meeting online on June 11, 2020 (IC002-2020), the Board considered your proposal and made the following decisions and recommendation:

RESOLVED that, pursuant to the Board's authority under Section 5.6.48 and 5.2.34(d(i)) of the Nunavut Agreement, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board extend the validity of the current 2019 Interim Flexible Quota System;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board will not make a decision at this time on the proposed revisions to the polar bear Harvest Administration and Credit Calculation System until further consultations have occurred;

¹ The revisions to the Flexible Quota System included the renaming of the *Flexible Quota System* to the *Harvest Administration and Credit Calculation System*.



FURTHER RESOLVED that the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board recommend that the relevant Inuit Organizations—Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) and the Regional Wildlife Organizations (RWOs, in consultation with their communities' HTOs)—provide feedback to the Government of Nunavut on the Flexible Quota System, and work with the Government of Nunavut to promptly resolve any disagreements regarding the Flexible Quota System, constructively.

Reasons for the NWMB's Decision

The FQS is integral to the implementation of two management frameworks: (1) the *Nunavut Polar Bear Co-Management Plan*, and (2) the change in the NQL sex-selective harvest ratio from 2:1 to 1:1. Under the current FQS, communities can accumulate large numbers of credits and then request and use these credits at any time. In September 2019, the NWMB approved the FQS for the 1:1 system for implementation by the Minister on an interim basis for the 2019/2020 harvest season, pending further consultation with co-management partners.

In May 2020, your department submitted a proposal to amend the FQS by (1) limiting the number of credits that can be used in a single year to 25% of the community's base allocation or 25% the subpopulation TAH, and (2) automatically converting and disbursing available credits into hunting tags to HTOs once they have accumulated more than ten male or female credits. These amendments aim to prevent the overaccumulation of credits and subsequent requests for credits, which may, in your department's view, generate conservation concerns for polar bears. These changes in the FQS may also limit the conversion of credits to tags and so introduces a potential limitation on Inuit harvesting of polar bears.

In October 2019, the Government of Nunavut sent the 2019 *Interim* FQS to the RWOs and NTI for comment. The Government of Nunavut did not provide any evidence of a follow-up engagement with the parties. The Government of Nunavut then proceeded to revise the 2019 FQS based on "internal and external" feedback. These revisions, which were not part of the October 2019 letter, were not shared with co-management partners before they were submitted to the NWMB for decision. As per the *Nunavut Agreement*, the NWMB considers the consultation process on the new FQS as incomplete as Inuit have not yet provided direct feedback on the FQS nor had an opportunity to review the latest FQS (the *Harvest Administration and Credit Calculation System*) proposed by your department. The Board requests that the Government of Nunavut invite further contributions from co-management partners and provide evidence of engagement. At the Board's Regular Meeting (RM002-2020), Inuit organizations consistently asserted that the Government of Nunavut has an obligation to conduct consultation and they suggested in-person consultations were required. The Inuit organizations also suggested that the October 2019 written letter format was insufficient in seeking feedback on such an



important matter. The Government of Nunavut should reconsider the format in which to engage its partners, whether through in-person consultations or through another process. The NWMB suggest that your staff contact co-management partners directly to determine a collaborative procedure for going through the FQS. The NWMB is not excusing a lack of response from the RWOs and NTI to the October 2019 Government of Nunavut's request for feedback. Still, the NWMB considers it important that this regulation undergo meaningful consultation, given that, in the Board's view, this regulation imposes potential limitations on the constitutionally protected rights of Inuit.

To allow more time for the Government of Nunavut to meaningfully consult relevant co-management partners, the Board has decided to extend the validity of the 2019 *Interim* FQS as it applies to the continued administration of the 1:1 harvest system for polar bears.

Other Considerations

In March 2020, the Sanikiluaq and Taloyoak HTOs, through the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB) and Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, respectively, requested all of their accumulated credits (29 and 53 credits, respectively) for immediate release as tags in February and March of the 2019/2020 harvest season. These requests led the Government of Nunavut to highlight in both cases that the use of these large proportions of credits over a short a period could lead to a conservation concern for the affected polar bear subpopulations. As an alternative, the Government of Nunavut offered to release a lower number of credits as tags to the HTOs to circumvent any possible conservation concern to the polar bear subpopulations. The limited disbursement of available tags appears to be the Government of Nunavut's compromise to ensure access to additional harvesting opportunities and to reduce the risk of a conservation issue.

The Board understands that instances where a request is made to use a high number of available credits, could pose a conservation issue, however, the Board also recognizes that the limited disbursements of the available tags is not inline with the terms of the current FQS. The Board therefore encourages the Government of Nunavut to work directly with the RWOs and HTOs as necessary, to resolve issues facing communities regarding polar bear harvest management under the current FQS. Presumably, a collaborative approach with co-management partners will also inform revisions to the FQS.



ᓇᓂᕗᒻᒧ ሪጀጀ ᐅጀጀ ᐃጀጀ ᐃጀጀ
Nunavummi Anngutighatigut Aulapkajitkut Katimajiat
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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

Conclusion

Significant changes to Nunavut's polar bear co-management system and its administration in 2019 highlight the need for all Nunavut co-management partners to contribute to its development. The Board would like to thank you, Mr. Minister, for your department's efforts to improve and administer the new polar bear harvest management system and we look forward to reviewing the contributions of co-management partners on your department's latest revisions to the administration system for polar bear harvest in Nunavut.

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

Sincerely,

Daniel Shewchuk
Chairperson
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

c.c. Drikus Gissing, Director of Wildlife Research and Management, Government of Nunavut
Jason Aliqatuqtuq, Director of Wildlife Operations, Government of Nunavut



August 10, 2020

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

**Re: NWMB Decision Regarding the Proposal to Approve the Revisions to the
Interim Polar Bear Harvest Administration and Credit Calculation System**

Dear Mr. Shewchuk:

Thank you for your letter dated July 6, 2020 regarding the decision on the proposal to approve the revisions to the interim Polar Bear Harvest Administration and Credit Calculation System (PB HACCS).

To reiterate the decision of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB):

- *RESOLVED that, pursuant to the Board's authority under Section 5.6.48 and 5.2.34 (d(i)) of the Nunavut Agreement, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board extend the validity of the current 2019 Interim Flexible Quota System;*
 - *FURTHER RESOLVED that the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board will not make a decision at this time on the proposed revisions to the polar bear Harvest Administration and Credit Calculation System until further consultations have occurred;*
 - *FURTHER RESOLVED that the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board recommend that the relevant Inuit Organizations – Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) and the Regional Wildlife Organizations (RWOs, in consultation with their communities' HTOs) – provide feedback to the Government of Nunavut on the Flexible Quota System, and work with the Government of Nunavut to promptly resolve any disagreements regarding the Flexible Quota System, constructively.*

My department will re-initiate this process as you suggested to try and solicit further feedback from relevant co-management partners. We will provide the October 2019 Interim Flexible Quota System (FQS), a revised document that presents the proposed PB HACCS (June 2020 submission to the NWMB), and plain-language summaries that outline each document's intent to all co-management partners with sufficient time to inquire and provide feed-back (i.e., mid-January 2021).

In the meantime, while the Interim FQS is still in effect we will work collaboratively with co-management partners to provide information on credit availability related to specific credit requests and to resolve issues where communities request credits that may pose a conservation risk to a polar bear subpopulation.

I thank you and the board for your comments and feedback, and I am looking forward to presenting a revised submission for decision in the New Year.

Sincerely,



Joe Savikataaq
Minister of Environment