

The NWMB is of the position that if the Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment (GN-DoE) considers that the current target number (2074), defined in the *BB Polar Bear Management Memorandum of Understanding (BB MOU)* as the “management goal for the population size of the BB population” (p. 4) is no longer a realistic management goal then the GN-DoE should take the necessary steps to revise this management goal.

As per Section 1.11 of the *BB MOU*, the agreement “*may be reviewed anytime there is new information or a management issue. If one of the signatories wishes to revisit some aspect of the MOU, they shall provide notification to all other parties, and allow 90 days for a response.*” An NWMB recommendation or decision is not required to make amendments to the polar bear MOUs but is rather a duty and responsibly of the signatories of the MOUs.

The NWMB encourages the GN-DoE or the other signatories of the *BB MOU* to start the process of making amendments to the *BB MOU* if that is the desire of any of the signatories. The NWMB recognizes that if begun, this process may not be completed by the submission deadline of **September 1st, 2009** for the upcoming public hearing. However, the NWMB recommends that a progress update on this initiative, if started, be submitted by the submission deadline for Board consideration when making its decision on the recent RFD.

If you require further information, or if you have any questions arising from this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB at your convenience.

Yours sincerely,



Harry Flaherty
A/Chairperson of the Nunavut
Wildlife Management Board