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 Nunavunmi Anngutighatigut Aulapkaijittkut Katimajiat
 Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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 Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujijimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

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June 28, 2019

Honourable Joe Savikataaq
Minister of Environment
Government of Nunavut

Dear Minister Savikataaq:

Re: Government of Nunavut’s Proposal to reduce the Total Allowable Harvest of Southampton Island Caribou from 1,600 to 1,000

At the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board’s (NWMB or Board) June 2019 meeting, the Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment (Department of Environment) asked the Board to reduce the annual total allowable harvest (TAH) for caribou on Southampton Island from 1600 to 1000.

The NWMB considered this proposal during its In-Camera meeting (IC002-2019) on June 20, 2019, and made the following resolutions:

Resolved that the NWMB approves, pursuant to sections 5.2.33(d), 5.6.16 and 5.6.17(a) of the Nunavut Agreement, a Coral Harbour community total allowable harvest of 1000 for caribou on Southampton Island, until new information (science or Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit) becomes available.

Further resolved that the NWMB approves, pursuant to section 5.2.33(k) of the Nunavut Agreement, a non-quota limitation (NQL) prohibiting the harvest of females with calves (cow/calf pairs).

In reaching these decisions, the NWMB considered the following:

- Most barren-ground caribou herds—including the Southampton herd—are in decline.
- The Department of Environment population survey results suggest that the population size for Southampton Island caribou declined from 12,297 to 8,436 caribou between 2015 and 2017.
- Coral Harbour is the only community that harvests from the herd. The Coral Harbour Hunters and Trappers Organization is in support of the proposal and is already voluntarily harvesting at 1,000 caribou per year.



- The Department of Environment plans to conduct another population survey of Southampton Island caribou in 2019.

The NWMB looks forward to your reply and prompt 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



July 2, 2019

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

Dear Mr. Shewchuk:

Re: Government of Nunavut's Proposal to reduce the Total Allowable Harvest for Southampton Island Caribou from 1,600 to 1,000

Thank you very much for your decision concerning a reduction to the Total Allowable Harvest (TAH) and Non-Quota Limitations (NQLs) for Southampton Island Caribou.

To reiterate the decision of the NWMB:


- *“RESOLVED that the NWMB approves, pursuant to Sections 5.2.33(d), 5.6.16 and 5.6.17(a) of the Nunavut Agreement, a Coral Harbour community total allowable harvest of 1000 for caribou on Southampton Island, until new information (science or Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit) becomes available.*
- *Further resolved that the NWMB approves, pursuant to section 5.2.33(k) of the Nunavut Agreement, a non-quota limitation (NQL) prohibiting the harvest of females with calves (cow/calf pairs).*

I hereby accept your decision to approve a reduction to the TAH in the Nunavut settlement area of Southampton Island from one thousand and six hundred (1600) to one thousand (1000) caribou. I also accept the decision to prohibit the harvest of female caribou with calves as a non-quota limitation.

I will implement this TAH decision effective July 1, 2019 and the TAH will be put into regulation and be implemented as a final decision. This decision will remain in place until I receive a new NWMB decision following the submission of updated population information.

I trust that our collaborative work will continue in the implementation of this management decision and I appreciate the efforts that have been put forth in its creation.

Sincerely,



Joe Savikataaq,
Minister

Cc. Jimmy Noble Jr. - Deputy Minister, Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut (GN)