



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

April 1st, 2011

Honourable Peter Kent
Minister of the Environment
Government of Canada

Honourable Dan Shewchuk
Minister of Environment
Government of Nunavut

Honourable Ross Wideman
Minister of Environment
Newfoundland & Labrador

Nathalie Normandeau
Ministère des Ressources
naturelles et de la Faune
Gouvernement du Québec

Cathy Towtongie
President of Nunavut
Tunngavik Incorporated

Pita Aatami
President of Makivik
Corporation

Joshua Kango
Vice-Chairperson of the
Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board

Johnny Oovaut
Chairperson of the
Nunavik Marine Regional
Wildlife Board

Bruce Roberts
Chairperson of the Torngat
Wildlife and Plants
Co-management Board

Chairpersons of Nunavut's
Hunters and Trappers
Organizations
c/o Richard Connelly
Executive Director of the
Nunavut Inuit Wildlife
Secretariat

Nick Lunn, Chairperson
Federal-Provincial-
Territorial Polar Bear
Technical Committee

Drikus Gissing, Chairperson
Federal-Provincial-
Territorial Polar Bear
Administrative Committee

Gerald Butts
President and Chief Executive Officer
World Wildlife Fund

Re: Public hearing of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board to consider proposed modifications to the current Total Allowable Harvest for the Davis Strait Polar Bear Subpopulation

Dear Colleagues:

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) has scheduled a public hearing to consider proposed modifications to the current Total Allowable Harvest (TAH) for the Davis Strait Polar Bear Subpopulation in the Nunavut Settlement Area.

A “Total Allowable Harvest” is the overall amount of a stock or population of wildlife that the NWMB decides can be lawfully harvested in accordance with the terms of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*.

The hearing will take place from May 16th to 17th in Iqaluit, Nunavut. The hearing will be conducted each day from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The NWMB may also hold one or more evening sessions from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Attached to this letter is a copy of the Government of Nunavut's Department of Environment- (GN-DoE) *Proposal for NWMB Decision* (GN-DoE Proposal) seeking a decision to consider modifications to the current Total Allowable Harvest for the Davis Strait Polar Bear Subpopulation. Also attached are the *Rules for the NWMB's Public Hearing to consider proposed modifications to the current level of Total Allowable Harvest for the Davis Strait Polar Bear Subpopulation*. The GN-DoE Proposal, the hearing rules, and a number of additional documents comprising the best available information to date are available for download (<http://www.nwmb.com/english/meetings/march2011.php>), or by contacting the NWMB at the following coordinates:

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Parnaivik Building

P.O. Box 1379, Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Phone: (867) 975-7300

Fax: (867) 975-7320

E-Mail: receptionist@nwmb.com

Through this letter, the NWMB is extending an invitation to your department or organization to provide written submissions and supporting documentation in response to the GN-DoE Proposal, or otherwise regarding conservation concerns with the level of Total Allowable Harvest for the Davis Strait Polar bear Subpopulation. All written materials must be filed with the NWMB – in English and Inuktitut – **by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) on May 2nd 2011**. Unless persuasive written and translated reasons are provided to the Board for late filing, the NWMB will not consider materials for this hearing that are not filed on time.

Materials may be filed with the Board in person, by courier or by mail. They should be clearly marked as pertaining to the NWMB Public Hearing on the Davis Strait Polar Bear Subpopulation. Delivery of the materials may also be made through fax or electronic transmission, but only if your department or organization confirms by phone with the NWMB – by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Stand Time) on May 2nd 2011 – that a complete and legible copy of the transmission has been received by the Board. Materials are deemed to have been filed on the actual day of receipt by the NWMB.

Please keep in mind that the more thorough, reliable and persuasive supporting evidence and justifications are, the more weight they will be given by the NWMB in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* decision-making process.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to visit the NWMB website or to contact the Board directly.

Yours sincerely,



Mikidjuk Akavak,
Chairperson of the
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Attachments (2)

c.c. Gabriel Nirlungayuk, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.;
Bert Dean, Senior Policy Advisor, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.;
Jason Mikki, Qikiqtaaluk Regional Coordinator, Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board;
Simon Awa, Deputy Minister, Nunavut Department of Environment;
Basile van Havre, Director-Population Conservation and Management, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada
Rachel Vallender, Scientific Advisor, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada;
Siu-Ling Han, Head of Eastern Arctic, Environment Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service;
Mark O'Connor, Director of Wildlife, Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board;
Rebecca Willcott, Director of Renewable Resources, Nunatsiavut Government;
John Blake, Director-Wildlife Division, Government of Newfoundland & Labrador
Rehaume Courtois, Chef du service de la biodiversité et des maladies de la faune, Government du Quebec;
Jamie Snook, Executive Director, Torngat Secretariat; and
Stas Oplinski, Science and Policy Advisor, Makivik Corporation.