

representative organizations included: (a) the HTO Directors of Kugluktuk, (b) Cambridge Bay, (c) Bathurst Inlet, (d) Baker Lake, (e) Arviat and (f) Rankin Inlet. Through these consultation meetings the Board feels that the appropriate measures were taken to meet the two requirements set out by the Board, thereby the Board feels that an appropriate decision can now be made.

Rationale for the NWMB's Wolverine (Western Population) decision

The NWMB's decision to disapprove of the legal listing of the Wolverine (Western Population) as a species of "special concern" was based on information confirming that the Wolverine population in Nunavut appears to be increasing based on the best available information that has been provided. The main points that the Board reviewed to confirm this notion are the following:

- (1) Consultation meetings conducted by EC illustrated that the communities and representative HTO's generally disagreed with the listing as: 2 disagreed, 1 was indifferent, 1 did not give a position and 1 provided no response. The positions are listed below:
 - (a.) Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association (HTO): supported the listing but stated that current levels are sustainable. Concerns were due to lack of evidence and future changes (environment / human activity)
 - (b.) Ekaluktutiak HTO (Cambridge Bay): was indifferent to the listing.
 - (c.) Aqiggiag HTO (Rankin Inlet): did not give a decision. Concerns were related to lack of information and research. Suggested that more public consultations be done and that hunters be asked to participate.
 - (d.) Baker Lake HTO: disagreed with the decision. Suggested that more public consultations be conducted.
 - (e.) Arviat HTO: no formal written response
 - (f.) Kivalliq HTO's (3): disagreed with the decision. Stated that they were encountering more wolverines than previously.

Conclusion

The NWMB hereby forwards to you, Mr. Minister, its decision with respect to the Wolverine (Western Population) population within the Nunavut Settlement Area and its designation as a species of "*special concern*" under the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). Should you have any questions or concerns with respect to this decision or the rationale provided by the NWMB, please do not hesitate to contact the Board.

Yours sincerely,




Harry Flaherty
Acting Chairperson of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board