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Nunavunmi Anngutighatigut Aulapkaijitkut Katimajiat
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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

April 1st, 2016

Garry Bailey
President
Northwest Territories Metis
Nation

Annie Boucher
Executive Director
Akaitcho Territory
Government

Ron Robillard
Director
Athabasca Denesuline Ne
Ne Land Corporation

Chief Edward Sangris
Yellowknives Dene First
Nation (Dettah)

Chief Andrew Wandering
Spirit
Smith's Landing First Nation

Bill Enge
President
North Slave Metis Alliance

Chief Ernest Betsina
Yellowknives Dene First
Nation (Ndilo)

Grand Chief Edward
Erasmus
Ticho Government

Chief Frieda Martselos
Salt River First Nation

Chief Felix Lockhart
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation

Chief Louis Balsillie
Deninu Kue First Nation

Grand Chief Herb Norwegian
Dehcho First Nations

Grant Pryznyk
Chair
Wek'eezhii Renewable
Resources Board

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Public hearing of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board to consider a total allowable harvest for Nunavut harvesters of the Bathurst caribou herd

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) has scheduled an in-person public hearing to consider harvest management of the Bathurst caribou herd. The Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment has submitted a *Proposal for Decision* (Proposal) to establish a total allowable harvest for the Bathurst caribou herd.

Background

The Bathurst caribou herd, which numbered close to 500,000 in the 1980s, has shown significant decline over the last few years. The most recent population survey from 2015 estimates the current population to be 19,700, a 37% decline from the previous estimate in 2012, indicating an annual decline of 14%. In light of the steadily declining herd size and serious conservation concern, the Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment submitted the Proposal to recommend a bulls-only total allowable harvest

of 30 caribou, based on the 2015 Bathurst caribou herd population estimate of 19,700 caribou.

In-person public hearing details

The hearing will take place on June 13th and 14th, 2016, in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, at a location to be determined. The hearing will be conducted on each day from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. In addition, the NWMB may hold evening sessions from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Attached to this letter is a copy of the Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment's Proposal and the Rules for the NWMB hearing. These, along with a number of documents comprising the best available information to date, are available for download from the NWMB's website (www.nwmb.com) or by contacting the NWMB at the following coordinates:

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD
3rd Floor, Ikaluktuutiak Drive
P.O. Box 1379, Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
Phone: (867) 975-7300
Fax: (888) 421-9832
Email: receptionist@nwmb.com

Through this letter, the NWMB is providing notice to your department or organization that the Board is currently accepting written submissions and supporting documentation in response to the Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment's Proposal, or otherwise concerning the harvest management of the Bathurst caribou herd. Written submissions and supporting documentation must be filed with the NWMB, in Inuktitut/Innuinaqtun and English, by no later than 5:00 PM EDT on May 13th, 2016. The requirement for translation at time of filing is mandatory.

Subject to relevant confidentiality or privacy concerns, all submissions will be placed on the NWMB's website and will be available for download shortly after the submission deadline.

Please take careful note that, unless persuasive written and translated reasons are provided to the NWMB for late filing, the Board will not consider materials for this hearing that are not filed on time.

Initial submissions and their supporting documentation may be filed in person by courier or mail. They should be clearly marked as pertaining to the *NWMB Public Hearing for Bathurst Caribou*. 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, prior to the filing deadline, 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 submissions and supporting documentation are, the more weight they will be given by the NWMB in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* decision-making process.

Due to logistical constraints, the NWMB cannot extend party status to all Bathurst caribou user groups from the Northwest Territories. If your department or organization wishes to request party status, the Board will consider written and translated requests, submitted by the May 13th deadline, which should include a persuasive explanation of why party status should be granted.

If you require any further information, please visit the NWMB website or contact the Board directly.

Sincerely,



Daniel Shewchuk
A/Chairperson of the
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

c.c.

Lauren King, Wildlife, Lands and Environment Manager, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
Jeff Dixon, Lands Coordinator, Smith's Landing First Nation
Ursula Vogt, Executive Director, Northwest Territories Metis Nation
Laura Duncan, Tlicho Executive Officer, Tlicho Government
Jody Pellissey , Executive Director, Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board
Tina Giroux, Executive Assistant, Athabasca Denesuline Ne Ne Land Corporation
Dahti Tsetso, Resource Management Coordinator, Dehcho First Nations