



AUG 29 2016

Mr. Dan Shewchuck
A/Chairperson
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Mr. Josepi Padlayat
Chairperson
Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board

Dear Mr. Shewchuck and Mr. Padlayat:

Thank you for your correspondence of June 30, 2016, regarding the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) and Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board (NMRWB) decisions and recommendations on *Pandalus borealis* and *Pandalus montagui* shrimp in the Eastern and Western Assessment Zones. I have addressed each of the decisions and recommendations separately by assessment zone herein for simplicity.

Western Assessment Zone

I agree with the NWMB and NMRWB recommendations to maintain the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 6,138t for the *P. montagui* species and 2,080t for the *P. borealis* in the Western Assessment Zone.

I accept the Total Allowable Take levels in the Nunavik Marine Region for *P. montagui* (3,069t) and *P. borealis* (1,040t) shrimp for the Nunavik West management unit.

I also accept the modified shrimp quotas for the Nunavut Settlement Area for *P. montagui* (3,069t) and *P. borealis* (1,040t) shrimp for the Nunavut West management unit.

Eastern Assessment Zone

I agree with the Boards' recommendation to maintain the TAC of 840t for *P. montagui* and increase the TAC for *P. borealis* in the Eastern Assessment Zone to 9,488t which represents a TAC increase of 1,238t from last year's level.

I accept the modified Total Allowable Take level in the Nunavik Marine Region for *P. borealis* (53t) shrimp for the Nunavik East management unit.

I also accept the modified shrimp quotas for the Nunavut Settlement Area for *P. borealis* (210t) shrimp for the Nunavut East management unit.

.../2

In the allocation of the remaining 1,204t of *P. borealis*, I have given careful consideration to the harvesting activities both within and outside the Nunavut Settlement Area and Nunavik Marine Region as well as obligations under relevant land claims provisions and have determined that Nunavut will receive 90% (1,083.6t) and Nunavik will receive 10% (120.4t).

In light of the mixed fishery (*Borealis* and *Montagui*) in the EAZ and the exploratory nature of Davis Strait East, DFO will work with the Boards and respective industry on developing a fishing plan for the harvest of these quotas in Davis Strait West. The appended table illustrates the overall quotas for each management unit based on my decisions herein.

I appreciate the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) and the Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board (NMRWB) collaboration and cooperation in the sustainable management of the shared shrimp resource in the north. I understand that the shrimp fishery is underway in the north and interim quotas were made available to facilitate fishing in the area.

I look forward to continued collaboration with the Boards in the management of this important resource.

Yours sincerely,



Dominic LeBlanc, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

Appendix 1

Eastern Assessment Zone	<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>TAC</u> <u>P. montagui 840t</u>	<u>TAC</u> <u>P. borealis 9,488t</u>
	Davis Strait West -Offshore	410t	4813
	Davis Strait East -Offshore		1604
	Davis Strait West -Nunavik	-	120.4*
	Davis Strait West -Nunavut	-	1083.6*
	Davis Strait East - Nunavut	-	1604
	Nunavut East	301t	210
	Nunavik East	129t	53
Western Assessment Zone	<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>TAC</u> <u>P. montagui 6,138t</u>	<u>TAC</u> <u>P. borealis 2,080t</u>
	Nunavut West	3,069t	1,040t
	Nunavik West	3,069t	1,040t

* DFO will work with the Boards and respective industry on developing a fishing plan for the harvest of these quotas in Davis Strait West.