



October 07, 2022

Hon. Steven Guilbeault
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada
Government of Canada

Dear Steven Guilbeault:

Re: NWMB decision on the proposed final Management Plan for Red-Necked Phalarope in Canada under the Federal *Species at Risk Act*

NWMB Decision

At the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's (NWMB or Board) Regular Meeting (RM003-2022) on September 9, 2022, Environment and Climate Change Canada requested an NWMB decision on the approval of the proposed final *Management Plan for the Red-Necked Phalarope in Canada* under the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). The NWMB considered this request at its In-Camera Meeting (IC003-2022) on September 10, 2022, where the Board made the following decision:

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 5.2.34(d)(i) of the Nunavut Agreement, the NWMB approve the Management Plan for the Red-Necked Phalarope in Canada under the federal Species at Risk Act.

Reasons for NWMB Decision

In reaching its decision to approve the *Management Plan for the Red-Necked Phalarope in Canada*, the Board considered that there is a requirement for a management plan to be created for red-necked phalarope following its listing as special concern in 2019. The Board also considered that the conservation strategies in the proposed management plan may help red-necked phalarope to recover and that Environment and Climate Change Canada carried out consultations with affected hunters and trappers organizations.

In September 2016, the NWMB approved the listing of the red-necked phalarope as special concern under SARA following a written hearing. The Board's decision at the time considered persuasive written evidence and arguments about identified threats and risk of the species becoming threatened or endangered. The red-necked phalarope was



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Nunavunmi Anngutighatigut Aulapkaijitkut Katimajiat
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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

listed under Canada's *Species at Risk Act* in 2019. The Board is aware of the mandatory requirement to collaboratively develop a national management plan for species listed as special concern.

The proposed final management plan for the red-necked phalarope outlines strategies, conservation measures, and timelines for achieving and measuring progress towards the management plan objective. The objective of the red-necked phalarope management plan is to have stable or increasing population trends by 2040. The proposed conservation measures, such as habitat conservation and contaminant prevention, may help red-necked phalarope recover and help other wetland species. The measures proposed to improve population monitoring will also help monitor the status of red-necked phalarope more effectively in the future.

The Board also considered and appreciates the efforts by Environment and Climate Change Canada to consult with affected hunters and trappers organizations and other co-management partners from March 2020 to May 2022. The Board noted that there were no objections to the proposed management plan from Nunavummiut.

Conclusion

As per Section 5.3.17 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, the NWMB is hereby forwarding its decision approving the proposed management plan for red-necked phalarope to you for consideration.

Should you or your officials have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact the NWMB.

Sincerely,

Daniel Shewchuk
Chairperson
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

cc: Michael Svoboda, Canadian Wildlife Service.

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JUL 14 2023

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Mr. Iola Metuq
Chairperson
Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board
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Mr. Fred Tomatuk
Chairperson
Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board
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Dear Messrs. Shewchuk, Metuq and Tomatuk:

Thank you for your correspondence of October 7, 2022, and March 10, 2023, regarding the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's (NWMB), and the joint Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board's (EMRWB) and Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board's (NMRWB) decisions on Environment and Climate Change Canada's request for approval of the proposed final Management Plan for the Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*) in Canada under the federal *Species at Risk Act*. I regret the delay in responding.

I am pleased that the NWMB, the EMRWB and the NMRWB approved the proposed final management plan pursuant to subparagraph 5.2.34(d)(i) of the Nunavut Agreement, subparagraph 13.2.2 (d)(i) of the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claim Agreement and subparagraph 5.2.4(d)(i) of the Nunavik Inuit Lands Claim Agreement.

I welcome your comments in your correspondence. As provided in subsection 5.3.20 of the Nunavut Agreement, section 15.4 of the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claim Agreement and section 5.5 of the Nunavik Inuit Lands Claim Agreement, I accept the decisions of the NWMB, the EMRWB and the NMRWB. As such, the final Management Plan for the Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*) in Canada will be posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry shortly.

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I appreciate the NWMB's, the EMRWB's and the NMRWB's interest in this important matter. Please accept my best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steven Guilbeault", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, P.C., M.P. (il/lui/he/him)