

# ロロタット トレイー トゥートゥート Nunavunmi Anngutighatigut Aulapkaijitkut Katimajiat Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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√ਰ 19, 2018

لحر ح<ږ؞:

Λ'ጔJ: ΔΦ&Γ ÞLלĊሲትናלላ bበLትኄቦር ΔረLCÞʔበኄሁ Λ'ጔቦና ላሪነትʔሰና Þdኌኄሁ ጋየቦታÞበርኄ ሷጎÞበር-ሀና 4 Þ&Ժ 'C'CL' ሷጎÞሰና ላ"ረ"ህላታ ለታናጎታ Δናበና/ታና፤ና Lcሁና

 $\dot{\alpha}$ ΡΥ  $\dot{\alpha}$ ΡΥ

ΠΡΡΠ΄ ΔΠ΄ τός Τ΄ Δ/L ΕΡΡΊ, ΘΠΕΚ΄ Δ/LΓΥΊΘΕΡΟς 16ΡΑΥΠΉ ΕΛΕ σΕ ΟΝΓΊΛσΕ ΟσΤΡΠΕΡΟ ΔΕΓΡΟ ΤΑΠΑΘΕ ΑΕΓΡΟ ΤΑΝΕΚΑ ΑΕΓΡΟ ΤΑΝΕΚΑ ΑΕΓΡΟ ΤΑΝΕΛΑ ΑΕΓΡΟ ΤΑΝΕΚΑ ΤΑ



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حرا<sup>ل</sup>,

David / Sutteedlike

۸، לשכי: אַכן ביּאֹ, אַמְיִטיּזְבלָּה אַבירָא, אַנירַאַכרָתִּאִי שׁבַּכַר; אַבירָא, אַמְיַטיּרַגלָּה יַּשְּׁפִילִיּשׁ אַנירַאַכיּקאַניִּשּׁ אַבירָאָקיַני שׁבָּי, אַנירַאַכרָתָאִי

כאת כא, אביראכרת אף איכיאר אאביריים, אביראכרת לי שעכר.



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June 19th, 2018

The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard
15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Centennial Towers
200 Kent Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0E6

#### Dear Minister LeBlanc:

RE: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board Decision on changes to the interpretation of point number four of the 'Five-point narwhal quota carry-over rule'

At the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's (NWMB or Board) June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Regular Meeting (RM 002-2018), Fisheries and Oceans Canada presented a *Proposal for NWMB Decision* (Proposal) seeking to modify point number four of the 'Five-point narwhal quota carry-over rule' from the *Narwhal Flexible Quota System* (Flexible Quota System) of the *Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for Narwhal in the Nunavut Settlement Area*. The NWMB considered the Proposal during its In-Camera Meeting (IC 002-2018) on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018, and made the following decision:

RESOLVED that the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, pursuant to Nunavut Agreement Sections 5.2.34(d)(i) and 5.6.16, modify point number four of the Narwhal Quota Carry-over Rule from the Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for Narwhal in the Nunavut Settlement Area, as follows: 'As soon as a Total Allowable Harvest for a Management Unit is modified downwards pursuant to the co-jurisdictional decision-making process set out in Article 5 of the Nunavut Agreement, no remaining unused Marine Mammal Tags from the previous season can be applied to narwhal harvests in the subsequent harvest season.'

In arriving at the above decision, the Board considered scientific information provided by Fisheries and Oceans Canada as well as input provided by Regional Wildlife Organizations, Hunters and Trappers Organizations, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. The current Flexible Quota System consists of a 'Five-point Narwhal Quota Carry-over Rule' where point number four states "The system resets to zero whenever the Total Allowable Harvest (TAH) for a Management Unit is modified by the NWMB (i.e. unused quota in a Management Unit prior to the TAH modification cannot be carried-over into the subsequent harvest season under the *new* TAH)." Co-management organizations questioned whether point number four of the policy was also intended to apply when TAHs



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are modified upwards (i.e., increases to the TAH), or if the intention of this policy provision was to apply only for those stocks where the TAH was modified downwards (i.e., decreases to the TAH) to effect a valid conservation purpose. There was general agreement between co-management organizations that resetting the carry-over to zero in situations where the TAH is modified upwards does not effect a valid conservation purpose, and therefore point number four of the policy should be modified accordingly.

Additionally, a Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) science advisory process meeting was held in October 2014 to provide peer-reviewed science advice on the sustainability of the Flexible Quota System. The October 2014 advice states that such a management approach is sustainable as long as the total narwhal mortality from harvesting over the five-year period does not exceed five times the annual sustainable harvest recommendations.

As per Section 5.3.17 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, the NWMB is hereby forwarding its decision concerning modifications to the existing Flexible Quota System point number four of the 'Five-point narwhal quota carry-over rule'. Should you or your officials have any questions or concerns regarding the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB.

Sincerely,

David Kritterdlik

A/Chairperson of the

Daisel / Sutteelle

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

C.C.

Allison McPhee, Regional Manager, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Paula Smith, Regional Senior Fisheries Management Officer, Fisheries and Oceans Canada;

Larry Dow, Director of Northern Operations, Fisheries and Oceans Canada.