



AUG 27 2014

Mr. Ben Kovic
Chairperson
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Mr. Josepi Padlayat
Chairperson
Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board

Dear Mr. Kovic and Mr. Padlayat:

Thank you for your correspondence of June 30, 2014, 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 note that the joint decision letter contains both final and initial Board decisions pursuant to the land claims agreements. I also note that the NWMB has provided separately on May 9, 2013 a related decision on the management regime in the Western Assessment Zone and on May 7, 2013 its recommendations on the sub-allocation of Nunavut's share of these shrimp resources. 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 establish a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 5860t for the *P. montagui* species and 2,080t for the *P. borealis* in the Western Assessment Zone at an exploitation Rate of 10% for each species.

I accept the Total Allowable Take levels in the Nunavik Marine Region for *P. montagui* (2,930t) 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* (2,930t) and *P. borealis* (1,040t) shrimp for the Nunavut West management unit.

Eastern Assessment Zone

I agree with the Boards' recommendation to establish a TAC of 840t for *P. montagui* and 8,250t for *P. borealis* in the Eastern Assessment Zone which will reduce the TAC for *P. montagui* by 1,410t and 750t for *P. borealis* from last year's levels.

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In the allocation of the TAC reductions for 2014/15 season, 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 decided to maintain the current distribution of the TAC levels for each shrimp species between the management units in the Eastern Assessment Zone (i.e. Nunavut/Nunavik East, Davis Strait West and Davis Strait East) and the current shares percentages. As a result, the TAC reduction will be applied proportionately to respective quotas in each management unit.

I therefore; accept the Total Allowable Take levels in the Nunavik Marine Region for *P. montagui* (129t) and *P. borealis* (46t) shrimp for Nunavik East management unit; and accept the modified shrimp quotas for the Nunavut Settlement Area for *P. montagui* (301t) and *P. borealis* (183t) shrimp for the Nunavut West management unit. The appended table illustrates the 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 needed to be made available to facilitate fishing in the area. I encourage the Boards to continue to work with my officials on processes to inform co-management decision making to ensure timely receipt of the Boards' decisions and recommendation for my consideration to avoid delays in fishing operations.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Shea". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Gail Shea, P.C., M.P.

Appendix 1

Eastern Assessment Zone	<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>TAC</u>	<u>TAC</u>
		<u>P. montagui 840t</u>	<u>P. borealis 8,250t</u>
	<u>Davis Strait West -Offshore</u>	410t	4813
	<u>Davis Strait East -Offshore</u>		1604
	<u>Davis Strait East - Nunavut</u>	-	1604
	Nunavut East	301t	183
	Nunavik East	129t	46
Western Assessment Zone	<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>TAC</u>	<u>TAC</u>
		<u>P. montagui 5,860t</u>	<u>P. borealis 2,080t</u>
	Nunavut West	2,930t	1,040t
	Nunavik West	2,930t	1,040t