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Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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

March 7th 2012

Honourable Peter Kent
Minister of the Environment
Government of Canada

Honourable James Arreak
Minister of Environment
Government of Nunavut

Cathy Towtongie
President of Nunavut
Tunngavik Incorporated

James Qillaq
Chairperson of the
Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board

Chairpersons of all of the Baffin
Hunters and Trappers Organizations

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Written hearing of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board to consider the proposed listing of Atlantic Cod, Arctic Lakes population as a species of "special concern" under Schedule 1 of the federal Species at Risk Act

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) has scheduled a written hearing to consider the proposed legal listing, pursuant to the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA), of the Atlantic Cod (Arctic Lakes population) as a species of "special concern" in the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA). If a wildlife species is listed as "special concern", it means that the species may become threatened or endangered in the future because of a combination of biological characteristics and identified threats.

A written hearing is one in which all submissions are filed in writing, and the hearing does not have an oral component. If you have an objection to the NWMB holding a written hearing only for this species, please respond in writing by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Iqaluit time) on **March 28th 2012**, providing the reason or reasons for your position. If any of the hearing parties raise one or more objections that convince the NWMB of the need to hold an in-person hearing, the Board will do so and will inform all hearing parties shortly following the **March 28th 2012** deadline.

Attached to this letter is a copy of the Government of Canada's Department of Environment-Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) *Proposal for NWMB Decision* (CWS Proposal). CWS has also filed all of the best available information pursuant to the SARA/NLCA MOU, which is available for download from the NWMB's website (www.nwmb.com), or by contacting the NWMB at the following coordinates:

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD
Parnavik Building
P.O. Box 1379, Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0
Phone: (867) 975-7300
Fax: (867) 975-7320
Email: receptionist@nwmb.com

Through this letter, the NWMB is extending an invitation to your department or organization to provide written submissions and supporting documentation in response to the CWS Proposal, or otherwise regarding concerns with the proposed legal listing of

the Atlantic Cod (Arctic Lakes population) as a species of "special concern". The NWMB requests specific information on additional lakes containing, or believed to contain, members of this species. All written materials must be filed with the NWMB –in English and Inuktitut –by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Iqaluit Time) on **May 7th 2012**. Unless persuasive written and translated reasons are provided to the Board for late filing, the NWMB will not consider materials for this hearing that are not filed on time.

Materials may be filed with the Board in person, by courier or by mail. They should be clearly marked as pertaining to the NWMB Hearing for Atlantic Cod (Arctic Lakes population). Delivery of materials may also be made through fax or electronic transmission, but only if your department or organization confirms by phone with the NWMB –by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Iqaluit Time) on May 7th 2012 –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.

Shortly after the deadline for delivery of the written submissions, the NWMB will consider all of the relevant evidence and arguments filed, and will make a decision whether or not to approve the listing of Atlantic Cod (Arctic Lakes population) as a species of "special concern."

Please keep in mind that the more thorough, reliable and persuasive supporting evidence and justifications put forward in your submissions, the more weight they will be given by the NWMB in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement decision-making process.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to visit the NWMB website or contact the Board directly.

Yours sincerely,



Mikidjuk Akavak
Chairperson of the
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

c.c. Gabriel Nirlungayuk, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.;
Virginia Poter, Director General, Environment Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service;
Eric Kan, Area-Director-Eastern Arctic Region, Department of Fisheries and Oceans;



Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3

DEC 12 2011

Mr. Mikidjuk Akavak
Chairperson
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
P.O. Box 1379
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

RECEIVED
DEC 13 2011

Dear Mr. Akavak:

I am writing to advise you what the Minister is considering with respect to his recommendation to the Governor in Council regarding a listing decision for the Atlantic Cod, Arctic Lakes population on Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act*, and to request the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's approval decision. This request is being made in accordance with subsection 3.9 of the Memorandum of Understanding to Harmonize the Designation of Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species Under the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* and the Listing of Wildlife Species at Risk Under the *Species at Risk Act* (MOU).

In April 2010, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada assessed the Atlantic Cod, Arctic Lakes population as special concern. In accordance with this assessment, the Minister is considering recommending to the Governor in Council that the Atlantic Cod, Arctic Lakes population be added to Schedule 1 of the Act as a species of special concern.

Your response will correspond with subsection 3.14 of the MOU. To help inform your decision, please find attached the following best available information.

1. Excerpt of COSEWIC status report, English and Inuktitut;
2. Response Statement, English and Inuktitut;
3. Consultation Summary, English and Inuktitut;
4. Socio-Economic Analysis, English and Inuktitut; and
5. NWMB information briefing notes presented to the Board last year.

I hope the Board will be able to provide public notice at its March 2012 meeting, with public consideration as per clause 3.13 at its subsequent meeting. The Board would then begin its decision making process immediately thereafter. Please let me know if these timelines are acceptable.

EcoLogo® Paper / Papier Eco-Logo®



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I appreciate the Board's ongoing participation in the species at risk listing process.

Sincerely,



Virginia Poter
Director General
Canadian Wildlife Service

Enclosures

cc: Sharon Ashley – Director General, Ecosystems Management, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Eric Kan, Area Director, Eastern Arctic Area, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Dale Nicholson, Regional Director, Ecosystems Management, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Ray Ratynski, Regional Manager, Species at Risk, Fisheries and Oceans Canada



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Nunavummi Anngutighatigut Aulapkajitkut Katimajiat Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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Tammaqtailinahuarnirriit annngutighat atuqhugit Inuit qaujimajatuqangillu ilihimaniiullu ilitquhiannin Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

Lv 7, 2012

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 የሚከተሉት ዝግጁ ይዘጋል፡ receptionist@nwmb.com

«**କାନ୍ତିର ପାଦମଣି**» ପାଇଁ ଏହା ପରିବାରଙ୍କ ଅଧିକାରୀ ଶବ୍ଦରେ ପରିଚାଯିତ ହୁଏଥିଲା ।

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W. A. Ogle

Γράφεις Διάλογοι

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DEC 15 2011

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በበኩፋርኩ,

JR

הנְּצָרָה

אַתָּה־בְּנֵי־