



SUBMISSION TO THE

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

FOR

Information: X

Decision:

Issue: The inter-jurisdictional agreement between Nunavut and Manitoba for the Western Hudson Bay Polar Bear Population.

Background:

The inter-jurisdictional agreement process began in 2005 through discussions of the Polar Bear Administrative Committee (PBAC).

The discussions identified a need for cooperative management of polar bear populations that are shared between jurisdictions, including allocation of the resource and combined efforts at research and monitoring.

Negotiations of an inter-jurisdictional agreement for the Western Hudson Bay Polar Bear (WH) Population have been underway for some time. Because the WH population occurs in Wapusk National Park, the plan was to include the Government of Nunavut (GN), Manitoba (MB), and Parks Canada (PCA) as signatories.

Current Status:

There is presently no harvesting of polar bears in Manitoba.

Harvesting rights for polar bears and other wildlife and resource management in northern Manitoba are under discussion as part of the negotiations for the Kivahiktuq Settlement Area (These negotiations are between Manitoba, NTL and the Kivalliq Inuit Association, the Sayisi Dene First Nation, and the Northlands Dene First Nation, with the GN sitting as an observer). These discussions are confidential, but may impact WH polar bear management.

The GN supports inter-jurisdictional cooperation for the management of polar bears, and will continue to work with Manitoba to identify the best way forward.