

Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association  
Hunters' and Trappers' Organization  
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September 20, 2011

**Briefing Note Submission to NWMB (AMENDED)**

**Request for Temporary Exemption Permit  
To the Wolf Hunting Season in the Kugluktuk Area**

**Information:**

**Decision: X**

**Issue:**

The Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association is seeking a temporary exemption to extend the wolf hunting season to the whole year. The areas would be the West side of Victoria Island (N/2) and the West side of N/3 surrounding the Kugluktuk area. This motion was passed by the Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association Board of Directors MOTION # M/C # 060/10 dated September 9, 2010. The motion was set to assist in the caribou management plan that Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association is building.

**Background:**

During public consultations in Kugluktuk held in December 2009 and February 2010, this concern was brought forward by residents of Kugluktuk, Nunavut. The public made requests to see a temporary assistance program to assist the caribou from further decline.

The following were points that were made by the residents of Kugluktuk with regards to the wolf:

- ✓ The wolf population is too high, and killing off the caribou in high numbers.
- ✓ There are high numbers of wolf packs and high number of wolves in the packs.
- ✓ This means there are larger litters being noticed in the packs.
- ✓ Wolves and wolf packs have expanded over the years from inland (mainland) to the shorelines and islands and are traveling as far as Victoria Island, north of Kugluktuk. The wolves hunting range has increased.
- ✓ Harvesters or hunters are not hunting wolves as much anymore, and if they are hunting, it's the families who continue to teach their children hunting skills.
- ✓ The younger generations are not educated to hunt wolves, therefore do not know how to hunt wolves.

There were concerns that the wolf population has increased to a point where there are too many wolves that are not being harvested like they were in the past. There were concerns brought forward many times by the elders that the wolf population is too high and killing off the caribou in large numbers. That the younger generation is not being educated on wolf hunting and the

wolves are not being hunted like in the past, when there were more wolf hunters. The elders have noticed how much the wolves have increased their hunting or traveling range, traveling as far north as Victoria Island, and that they have come closer to the community of Kugluktuk and there have been more sightings too close to the community and there is concern for safety of community residents.

How the wolf/carcasses will be utilized (due to off season condition of pelts):

- ✓ To utilize the wolf for the pelts, the wolf carcasses can be used as teaching tools to teach the younger generation how to skin the wolf, and to dry the wolf.
- ✓ Educate on how to make use of the pelt for clothing through the schools and the Brighter Futures Program.
- ✓ The carcass can be used as a teaching tool at the school level(s) when teaching animal anatomy.
- ✓ The carcass and pelt can be used as education tools when teaching traditional knowledge, i.e. animal anatomy, skinning, drying, and sewing, storytelling.
- ✓ The carcasses can also be used for important research and monitoring programs.

### **Current Situation:**

The wolf hunting season begins on September 1 and ends May 15 in the N/2 zone while the hunting season begins on August 15 and ends May 31 in the N/3 zone (as per the Nunavut Hunting Regulations 2011-2012).

This year, the wolf/wolverine carcass program to collect samples on the diet of both animals was started up by the Department of Environment. The Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association is still waiting on the results of the program. The Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association (HTO) assisted with the program by providing the payments to the local hunters for each carcass.

### **Recommendation:**

The Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association is seeking a temporary exemption permit to lift the wolf hunting season and allow wolf harvesting year round in the Kugluktuk area, which includes West of N/2 and West of N/3. In a recent consultation with the Department of Environment (DOE), Wildlife Manager in Kugluktuk, there is support from the department to our request as long as the HTO ensure that no wastage results from it and that the wolf pelts and/or carcasses are used for traditional or educational purposes.

Regards,

Barbara Adjun  
Manager

c.c. DOE, Kugluktuk  
Kugluktuk HTO Board