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Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

### August 19th 2011

Lootie Toomasie Chairperson, CEO Arctic Fishery Alliance George Qulaut Chairperson Qikiqtaaluk Corporation

Hezakiah Oshutapik Chairperson

Pangnirtung Fisheries Ltd.

Roger Alivaktuk Chairperson Cumberland Sound Fisheries Ltd. & Pangnirtung Fisheries

Jacopie Maniapik Chairman and President Baffin Fisheries Coalition Johnny Mike

Chairman and President Niqitaq Fisheries Ltd.

James Qillaq Chairperson of the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board

Ltd. Partnership

Eric Kan Area Director, Eastern Arctic Members of the Fisheries Advisory Committee

Wildlife Board Dept. of Fisheries & Oceans

Chairpersons of the Amarok, Pangnirtung, Nattivak, Namautaq, Mittimatalik, Ikajutit, Resolute Bay, Iviq and Mayukalik Hunters and Trappers Organizations

### Dear Colleagues:

Re: 2012 commercial marine fishery allocations, and revisions to the "Nunavut Wildlife Management Board Allocation Policy for Commercial Marine Fisheries"

#### 1. 2012 COMMERCIAL MARINE FISHERIES ALLOCATIONS

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) is seeking your input into whether to roll over all 2011 commercial marine fishery allocations to 2012. The NWMB is inclined to make such a decision for relevant fisheries in the Nunavut Settlement Area, and to recommend the same regarding offshore fisheries, for the following reasons:

- The consultation process leading to a revised "Nunavut Wildlife Management Board Allocation Policy for Commercial Marine Fisheries" (Allocation Policy) is still ongoing, and it would be preferable to consider changes to the status quo only after the new Allocation Policy has been finalized;
- In preliminary consultations, a majority of the members of the industry have indicated their preference to maintain the status quo for at least another year; and

The NWMB has not yet completed its investigations and consultations into allegations by some members of the fishing industry that the recent hiring of a former member of the Fisheries Advisory Committee by the Baffin Fisheries Coalition is prejudicial to them in the commercial marine fisheries allocation process.

The NWMB is holding its next quarterly in-person meeting during the week of September 12<sup>th</sup> 2011, and is planning to make its decision regarding the proposed rollover at that time. Accordingly, you are invited to provide submissions concerning the proposed roll-over, in writing and accompanied by reasons, by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Daylight Time) on Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup> 2011.

Written submissions may be filed with the Board in person, by courier or by mail. They should be clearly marked as pertaining to the NWMB consideration of a roll-over of 2011 commercial marine fisheries allocations to 2012. Delivery of the submissions may also be made through fax or electronic transmission, but only if you or your organization confirms by phone with the NWMB – by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Daylight Time) on September 8<sup>th</sup> 2011 – that a complete and legible copy of the transmission has been received by the Board.

# 2. PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR COMPLETING CONSULTATIONS ON, AND REVISIONS TO, THE ALLOCATION POLICY

In addition, the NWMB would like to receive your views regarding the following proposed schedule to complete the Allocation Policy consultation and revision process:

- (a) The week of September 19<sup>th</sup> 2011, the NWMB provides formal notice to the fishing industry and relevant co-management partners that it is planning a November 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 2011 workshop to consider further revisions to the Allocation Policy, and requests written submissions on specific revisions<sup>1</sup> by October 21<sup>st</sup> 2011;
- (b) Taking into careful account the results of the November workshop, the NWMB prepares draft revisions to the Allocation Policy by no later than the week of January 16<sup>th</sup> 2012, for distribution to, and comment by, all interested parties;
- (c) The NWMB holds a follow-up workshop with the fishing industry and relevant comanagement partners on February 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 2012;
- (d) The NWMB considers proposed final revisions to the Allocation Policy at its March 2012 in-person meeting, and approves the revised Allocation Policy at that time; and
- (e) Shortly thereafter, the NWMB publicly issues the Allocation Policy, and proceeds with the commercial marine fisheries allocation process for 2013.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> At the same time as it sends out the notice, the NWMB will provide a list of policy areas where revisions are being contemplated, and that require further consultation and consideration.

The NWMB requests that you provide your views in writing concerning the above proposed schedule by no later than September 8<sup>th</sup> 2011 - that is, at the same time as all written submissions regarding the 2012 commercial marine fisheries allocations are due.

Should you or your officials have any follow-up questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB at your convenience.

Yours sincerely.

Mikidjuk Akavak,

Chairperson of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

c.c. David Akeeagok, Deputy Minister, Nunavut Department of Environment, Gabriel Nirlungayuk, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., and Richard Connelly, Executive Director, Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat