

**NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD
REGULAR MEETING No. 002-2013 HIGHLIGHTS
Rankin Inlet, Nunavut**

1. Regular Meeting No. 002-2013 of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) was conducted in Rankin Inlet on June 11, 2013.
2. Environment Canada presented a briefing note regarding the overabundance of Ross's Geese. Environment Canada recommended that Ross's Geese be declared as overabundant and recommended opening the species to a spring hunt.
3. Fisheries and Oceans Canada presented a briefing note to inform the Board of updates to Fisheries and Oceans Canada, touching on issues including staffing, the upcoming marine mammal harvesting season, and the Fisheries' Protection Program.
4. Fisheries and Oceans Canada presented a briefing note with updates to the Arctic Char Monitoring and Research Programs, the purpose of which is to develop, validate and test new methods for the assessment and monitoring of Arctic Char resources in Nunavut.
5. Fisheries and Oceans Canada presented a briefing note for decision to the Board regarding the Pond Inlet emerging arctic char fishery application. The application was requested by Mr. Charlie Inuarak. Fisheries and Oceans Canada recommended that the fishing plan should be approved in two separate phases.
6. The Pangnirtung Hunters and Trappers Organization made a presentation to the Board requesting a change to the Cumberland Sound fishery boundaries for turbot fishing.
7. The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board requested of the Board an increase in the Total Allowable Harvest for the Foxe Basin polar bear population. The polar bear tags were applied against nuisance bears, and therefore the communities requested an increase in the Total Allowable Harvest.
8. The Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board requested of the Board an increase in the Total Allowable Harvest for the M'Clintock Channel polar bear population. From 2001 to 2003 there was a moratorium on hunting polar bears of the M'Clintock Channel population. Since 2003, a Total Allowable Harvest of three bears has been shared between Cambridge Bay and Gjoa Haven.

9. The Nattivak Hunters and Trappers Association of Qikiqtarjuaq requested a modification to the conditions for harvesting the 100 tonne inshore exploratory turbot quota in Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization Division 0A for 2013 to permit the fishery to be conducted in the area adjacent to Qikiqtarjuaq but outside of the Nunavut Settlement Area.
10. The Iviq Hunters and Trappers Organization of Grise Fiord requested the support of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board for its proposal to undertake a 10-day exploratory fishery for turbot in Jones Sound in 2013.
11. The Government of Nunavut Department of Environment presented to the Board results of the South Baffin Island Caribou Abundance Survey of 2012. The survey results were consistent with community and hunter reports – caribou abundance on south Baffin Island is critically low, with a population of less than 5,000 animals. The Department of Environment recommended the development of interim, short-term and longer-term caribou conservation measures.
12. The Government of Nunavut Department of Environment presented to the Board a request to change the boundary of a muskox management zone in the Northern Kivalliq and Eastern Kitikmeot region and to change the total allowable harvest within the new muskox management zone.
13. Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. made a report to the Board concerning the lack of, and need for Nunavut-specific fishing regulations.
14. The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's Terrestrial Wildlife Biologist presented a briefing note to the Board regarding the Community Based Monitoring Network Co-Management Partner Workshop held in Iqaluit in March, 2013. The purpose of the workshop was to provide co-management partners with a summary of the pilot study, to have focused discussions on data collection and data usage, to find common ground in community based monitoring, and to discuss ways to optimize opportunities for co-management partners to share resources.
15. The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's Terrestrial Wildlife Biologist presented a briefing note to the Board about the Bathurst Caribou Gathering held in Behchoko, Northwest Territories in January, 2013. The meeting brought together harvesters from Saskatchewan, Manitoba, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut to gather information which will be used to write a management plan for the Cape Bathurst caribou herd.

16. The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's Terrestrial Wildlife Biologist presented a briefing note to the Board regarding the January 2013 meeting of the Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management, held in Yellowknife Northwest Territories. The purpose of the meeting was to work on management plans for the Bluenose and Cape Bathurst caribou herds.
17. The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's Terrestrial Management Biologist and Habitat Management Biologist presented a briefing note to the Board regarding the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board's May 2013 meeting held in Fort Smith, Northwest Territories.
18. The next Regular Meeting of the NWMB will be held in Iqaluit in September. Please refer to the NWMB's website (www.nwmb.com) for updates.

For further information please contact:

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