

**Decision: X**

**Background:** The Nunavut Wildlife Research Trust (NWRT) funds research projects related to wildlife management carried out by government departments. NWRT project numbers identify the department associated with the project, the year of the original application and a project number. Projects starting with a '2' refer to the Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment, projects with a '3' refer to Fisheries and Oceans Canada, projects with a '4' refer to Environment Canada-Canadian Wildlife Service.

The NWRT policy indicates that: *“The NWMB will consider only a package of projects (ranked highest to lowest) that does not exceed 135% of the funds available for allocation”*. Based on the **\$953,000** available to allocate for 2015-2016, a package of proposals totaling **\$1,286,550** could be brought to the Board for consideration.

- Priorities / 25 (NWMB Priority 17.50 and Regional Priorities 7.50);
- Quality of research / 35;
- Funding and training / 25; and
- Consultation and reporting / 15

The NWMB's Wildlife Management and Research Priorities and the 2014-2017 Regional Priorities lists for the Qikiqtaaluk, Kitikmeot and Kivalliq Regions were used to evaluate the NWMB Priority and the Regional Priorities respectively (refer to **TAB 2**). When scoring

proposals, NWMB staff used the highest relevant ranked priority from the appropriate list that was listed in the application.

After having reviewed each proposal in detail, NWMB staff would like to note that 8 of this year's applications did not provide enough information to achieve the minimum score of 65%. In particular:

- 1) Many applications did not provide information on the proposed statistical or spatial analysis techniques which is required to evaluate the proposed methodology and approach;
- 2) Many applications listed old regional priorities from 2010-2013 or priorities listed from regions other than the one that the study area is located within;
- 3) The proposed time contributed to the project by the applicant and community members was often not specified; and
- 4) Many applications only provided details on the use of scientific information in the research design and methodology and did not provide details on how the researcher will incorporate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and/or traditional ecological knowledge.

In sending letters to notify applicants that their applications would not proceed to the second stage of the evaluation process, NWMB staff emphasized the importance of adhering to the NWRT Funding Guide when submitting applications. The NWRT Funding Guide is provided annually with the Call for Proposals and provides applicants with a clear breakdown of evaluation criteria, and stresses that the NWMB expects that as much detail as possible will be provided for all sections.

As such, 18 projects which met the requirements outlined in the policy are being brought to you for consideration (8 from the Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment and 10 from Fisheries and Oceans Canada), requesting a total of **\$942,500**

The annual allocation to multi-year projects cannot exceed 25% of the total amount available for allocation (**\$240,750 for the current funding year**). As there is **\$10,000** committed to multi-year project approved in previous years, only **\$230,750** is available for new multi-year projects proposed for 2015-2016. To be approved for multi-year funding a project must meet the following minimum scoring requirements under each of the four sections:

- Research Priority- 16.25 / 25 (65%);
- Quality of research - 24.50 / 35 (70%);
- Funding and training – 15/25 (60%);
- Consultation and reporting - 10.50/15 (70%).

Four of the project proposals that are being brought to the Board requested multi-year funding in their applications. Only one of these proposals<sup>1</sup> met the criteria above, requesting **\$50,000** in funding for 2015-2016 and **\$40,000** for 2016-2017. Given that the remaining three proposals did not meet the minimum scoring requirements, they are being brought to the NWMB for consideration for single year funding for the 2015-2016 funding period.

The maximum amount of preliminary study funding that can be awarded each funding year is 10% of the total funds available to allocate (**\$96,300 for the current funding year**). This year none of the project proposals being brought to the Board requested preliminary funding for the 2015-2016 funding period.

A summary of the scores and projects are provided in the table below. Project proposals and project reviews are included in **Tabs 6-23**.

**Prepared by:** Karla Letto, Wildlife Management Biologist

**Consulted:** Peter Kydd, Director of Wildlife Management

**Date:** February 19, 2015

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<sup>1</sup> 3-15-11 "Kivalliq Community Knowledge for Multispecies Harvest and Habitat Assessment"

New Nunavut Wildlife Research Trust Proposals for 2015-2016						
Project #	Multiyear or Preliminary	Title	Amount Requested	Score	Rank	Tab
2-15-04		Gulf of Boothia Polar Bear Genetic Mark-Recapture	\$75,000	94.00	1	6
3-15-11	Multiyear	Kivalliq Community Knowledge for Multispecies Harvest and Habitat Assessment	\$50,000	89.00	2	7
2-15-05		M'Clintock Channel Polar Bear Genetic Mark-Recapture	\$75,000	84.40	3	8
3-15-02		Bowhead Whale Movements and Ecology	\$35,000	81.90	4	9
2-15-01	Multiyear	Monitoring Wolverines – Noninvasive and Community-based Initiative	\$30,000	80.35	5	10
3-15-04		Jones Sound Narwhal Study	\$45,000	77.75	6	11
3-15-08		Determination of Stock and Climate Effects on Arctic Char Juvenile Growth	\$12,500	77.30	7	12
3-15-09		Northern Hudson Bay Narwhal Population Survey	\$65,000	74.80	8	13
3-15-07		Fishery Independent Biological Sampling of Cambridge Bay Arctic Char ( <i>Salvelinus alpinus</i> ) Stocks: Completion of the Jayko and Halokvik Rivers	\$20,000	74.00	9	14
3-15-03	Multiyear	Eastern Arctic Marine Multi-species Survey	\$75,000	73.90	10	15
3-15-01		Movement and Habitat Use of Greenland Halibut and Other Marine Fishes in Cumberland Sound	\$20,000	73.10	11	16
2-15-07		Genetic Sampling, Composition, and Demographics Survey of Prince Charles Island and Central Baffin Island Barren-ground Caribou	\$75,000	73.10	12	17
2-15-06		South Baffin Island Caribou Fall Composition/Demographic Surveys	\$75,000	72.60	13	18
2-15-02		Kivalliq Caribou Monitoring	\$75,000	71.20	14	19
2-15-03		Southampton Island Caribou Survey	\$75,000	71.02	15	20
3-15-12	Multiyear	Development of a Community-based Program for Monitoring and Early Detection of Aquatic Invasive Species in the Canadian Arctic	\$75,000	68.00	16	21
2-15-13		Kane Basin Polar Bear Genetic Mark-Recapture: Satellite Collar Recovery	\$15,000	67.20	17	22
3-15-10		Western Hudson Bay Beluga Survey	\$50,000	66.60	18	23
Total Funds Requested:			\$942,500			
Total Funds Available:			\$963,000			