



Fisheries and Oceans
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July 27, 2018

Mr. Daniel Shewchuk
Chairperson
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
P.O. Box 1379
Iqaluit, NU
X0A 0H0

Dear Mr. Shewchuk:

Re: Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization Scientific Council total allowable catch recommendations for Greenland Halibut in Subarea 0 +Div. 1A Offshore and Div. 1B-1F for 2019 and 2020

The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) Scientific Council has provided the Department with its Total Allowable Catch (TAC) recommendations for Greenland Halibut in Subarea 0 +Div. 1A Offshore and Div. 1B-1F for the 2019 and 2020 fishing seasons. The Scientific Council advises that there is a low risk of Greenland Halibut in Subarea 0 +Div. 1A Offshore and Div. 1B-1F being below B_{lim} if the TAC for 2019 and 2020 does not exceed 36,370 tonnes (t). This is an annual increase of 4,070 t from 2018.

The Scientific Council also states that there is no scientific basis with which to provide separate advice for Div. 0A +1AB and Div. 0B+1C-F for 2019 and 2020, differing from their approach in 2016. The Scientific Council advises that consideration be given to the distribution of effort in each area to avoid localized depletion.

The Department is seeking the advice of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board on the recommended NAFO Scientific Council TAC, and the distribution of TAC between Divisions 0A and 0B.

The NAFO Scientific Council report can be accessed online at:
<https://www.nafo.int/Portals/0/PDFs/sc/2018/scs18-19.pdf> [NAFO Scientific Council Summary (SCS) Documents; 2018; SCS Doc. 18/19, Report of the Scientific Council June Meeting, 01-14 June 2018] with relevant sections found on pages 78-80 and 127-134.

I look forward to hearing from the Board on this matter. Your prompt response is appreciated to allow for any required follow up discussions and a timely opening of the fishery. I can be reached at Diana.Trager@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Sincerely,



Diana Trager
A/Regional Director, Fisheries Management

Cc: Scott Gilbert, A/Regional Director General, Central and Arctic Region
Larry Dow, Director, Northern Operations
Adam Burns, Director General, Fisheries Resource Management