

# **SUBMISSION TO THE NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD**



## **NWMB's review of the Government of Nunavut's Interim Decision Regarding Harvest Management of the Dolphin and Union Caribou Herd**

### **Issue**

In September, 2020, the Government of Nunavut's Minister of Environment informed the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) and co-management partners that an Interim Decision has been implemented to establish a Total Allowable Harvest of 42 caribou for the Dolphin and Union herd pursuant to *Nunavut Agreement* Section 5.3.24:

*Nunavut Agreement* s. 5.3.24:

*"When urgent and unusual circumstances require an immediate modification in harvesting activities, the Minister or the Minister's delegated agent may make and implement any reasonable interim decision. The NWMB shall conduct a full review as soon as practical thereafter."*

The Board is in the process of conducting a **full review** of the Minister's decision pursuant to *Nunavut Agreement* Section 5.3.24.

NWMB invited Government of Nunavut staff to present information to the Board on the status of the Dolphin and Union herd, including the urgent and unusual circumstances that led to the interim decision, and any other relevant information.

In addition to today's presentation from the Government of Nunavut, NWMB staff have prepared a decision briefing note to be presented to the Board during In-Camera Meeting IC004-2020.

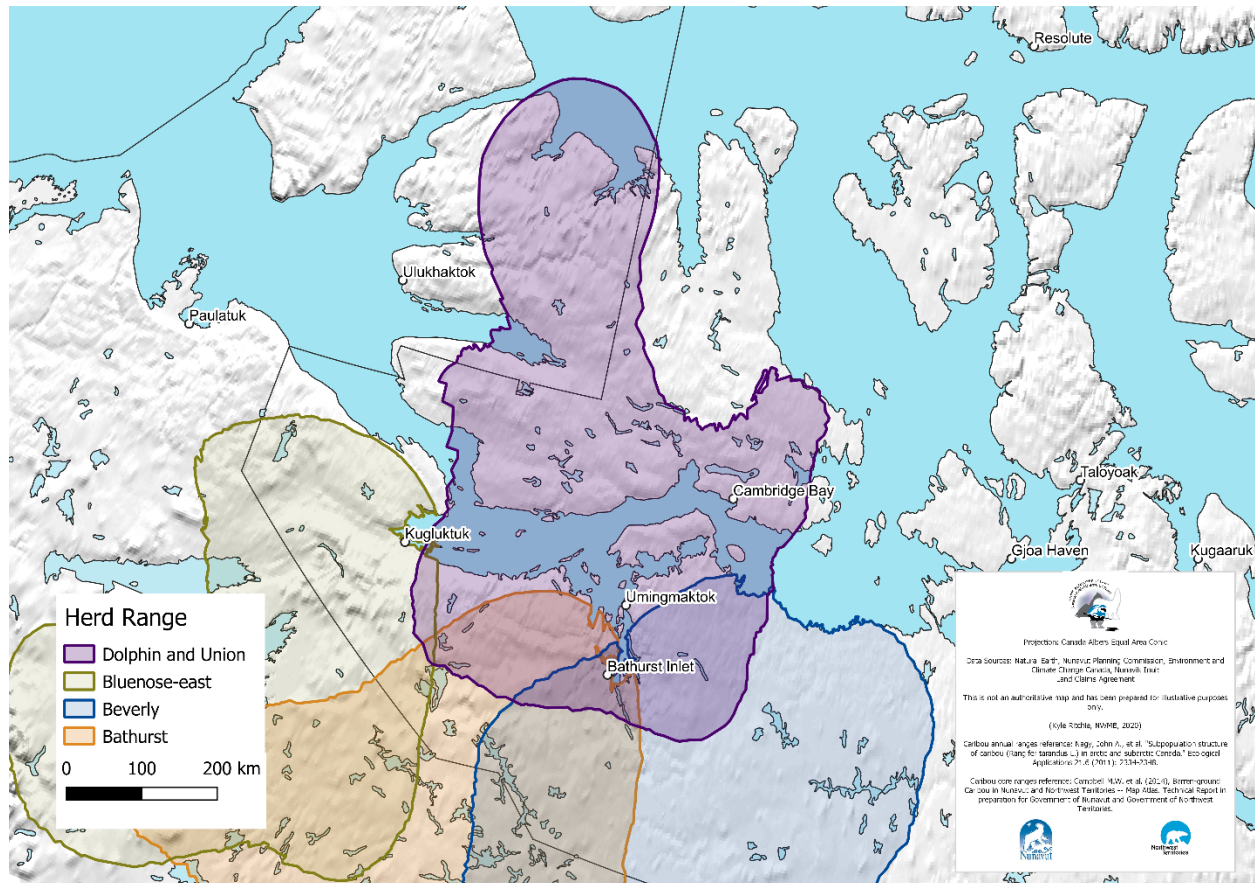
### **Background**

On June 22, 2020, the Minister of Environment informed the Board that they are "recommending an interim decision for urgent and unusual circumstances, as outlined in Section 5.3.24 of *the Nunavut Agreement*". The Government of Nunavut requested that the NWMB, "make a decision on this matter in time for implementation prior to the start of harvesting in the Fall of 2020."

On July 28, 2020, the Board wrote to the Minister, stating that the Board will "review the Minister's (or the Minister's delegate) decision as soon as practicable thereafter." The Board further noted that for the Board to make a decision on the management of the

Dolphin and Union caribou herd that it would require a summary of consultations from Inuit, including the results of the consultations and what accommodations, if any, were made by the Government of Nunavut.

The Government of Nunavut staff will provide their presentation and answer any questions. In preparation for this meeting the Government of Nunavut provided a submission to the Board on this issue including the science and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and results of community consultation.



The Range of the Dolphin and Union caribou herd in Nunavut. Range map is based on collared data