



SUBMISSION TO THE NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD
FOR

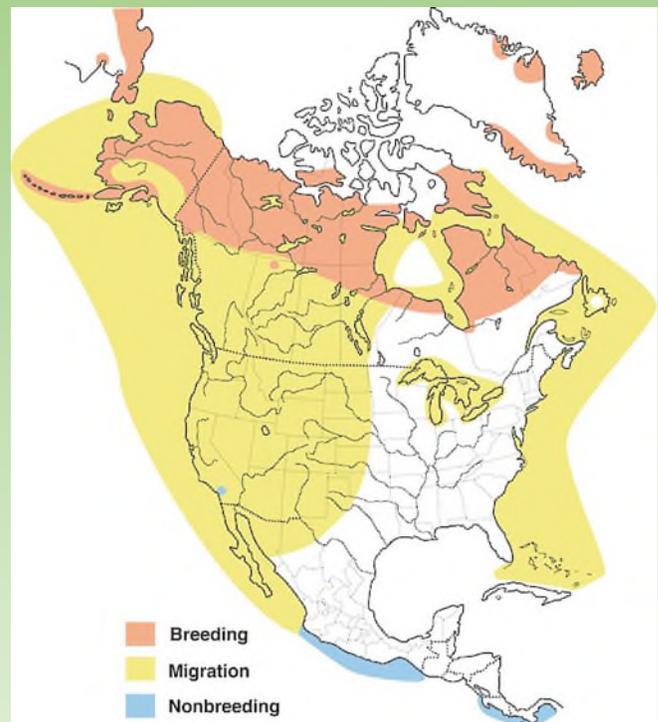
Information:

Decision: X

Issue: Request for decision to approve the *Management Plan for the Red-necked Phalarope (Phalaropus lobatus)*, in Canada under the federal *Species at Risk Act (SARA)*.



Female Red-necked Phalarope ©Willow English



Distribution of the Red-necked Phalarope (from Cornell Lab – Birds of North America's Website, Rubega et al. 2000)

Background:

- The Canadian range of the Red-necked Phalarope spans most of Northern Canada (southern Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, Yukon, northern Saskatchewan, northern Manitoba, northern Ontario, northern Quebec and northern Labrador). Within Nunavut, it is found in all three regions (Kitikmeot, Kivalliq and Qikiqtaaluk).
- The Red-necked Phalarope is currently listed as Special Concern (2019) under the federal *Species at Risk Act (SARA)*. In 2014, The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) assessed the Red-necked Phalarope as Special Concern in 2014 mainly due to long-term population declines at an important staging area. The species also faces threats from climate change related degradation of breeding habitat, and exposure to pollutants and oil during migration and winter. NWMB

approved the designation of the Red-necked Phalarope as Special Concern under SARA in 2016.

- As required under SARA for species listed as Special Concern a management plan was developed (Appendix A). A summary of this document can be found in Appendix B.
- Management plans do not contain a description of critical habitat as it is not required for species listed as Special Concern.

Consultation:

First Jurisdictional Review (First Draft)

- The draft Management Plan for the first Jurisdictional Review was distributed in March 2020 and included a factsheet in both English and Inuktitut to:
 - Aiviit HTO
 - Aiviq HTO
 - Aqigiq HTO
 - Arviat HTO
 - Baker Lake HTO
 - Bathurst Inlet HTA
 - Ekaluktutiak HTA
 - Amaruq HTA
 - Issatik HTO
 - Agiggiaq HTO
 - Kugluktuk HTA
 - Mayukalik HTO
 - Omingmaktok HTA
 - Pangnirtung HTA
 - Sanikiluaq HTA
 - Gjoa Haven HTA
 - Hall Beach HTA
 - Igloodik HTO
 - Ikajutit HTO
 - Kurtairojuark HTA
 - Spence Bay HTA
 - Mittimatalik HTO
 - Nangmoutaq HTO
 - Qikiqtarjuaq HTA
 - Government of Nunavut
 - Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board
 - Kivalliq Wildlife Board
 - Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board
 - Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
- In March 2020, QWB responded that they were not able to provide comment on the Management Plan due to competing priorities
- In April 2020, Arviat responded that the Board did not have any feedback/comments
- In May 2020, a NWMB staff member responded with comments and edits to the plan
 - Comments received by NWMB Staff were mainly editorial in nature and were incorporated into the document as appropriate
- The Government of Nunavut responded in November 2020 they had no issue with the document being posted for public comment period
- Appendix C contains communication records and documents shared during the first Jurisdictional Review

Proposed Posting (90-Day Public Comment Period)

- The [proposed recovery document](#) was posted on the Species at Risk Registry on January 20, 2022 for a 90-day public comment period, which ended on April 20, 2022. The typical 60-day comment period was extended in light of the on-going COVID-19 pandemic to allow more time to gather input.
- On February 9th, 2022, an email containing the proposed management plan, as well as a summary factsheet in both English and Inuktitut, was provided to all recipients who received the document at the first jurisdictional review as well as:
 - Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
 - Kitikmeot Inuit Association
 - Kivalliq Inuit Association
 - Qikiqtani Inuit Association
 - Hamlet of Arctic Bay
 - Hamlet of Clyde River
 - Hamlet of Resolute Bay
 - Hamlet of Grise Fiord
 - Hamlet of Pond Inlet
 - Hamlet of Cambridge Bay
 - Hamlet of Gjoa Haven
 - Hamlet of Kugaaruk
 - Hamlet of Taloyoak
 - Hamlet of Arviat
 - Hamlet of Baker Lake
 - Hamlet of Chesterfield Inlet
 - Hamlet of Rankin Inlet
 - Hamlet of Nauyasat
 - Hamlet of Whale Cove
- On February 9, 2022, Kurtairojuark HTA requested all materials be sent in Inuktitut. ECCC provided a translated copy of the Management Plan to Kurtairojuark HTA on March 30 2022, with an extension provided to the end of May 2022. Kurtairojuark HTA did not have any comments or concerns.
- Appendix C contains communication and records from the public comment period (emails).
 - Few comments were received during the public comment period (none from Nunavut) and none resulted in major changes to the document. Minor changes were made to the conservation measures section to include additional language around addressing climate change and reduction of plastic pollution

Next Steps:

- Environment and Climate Change Canada is now prepared to post the recovery document on the Species at Risk Registry as final.
- Environment and Climate Change Canada is providing the recovery document to the NWMB for final approval decision as per the NLCA s. 5.2.34

Recommendation:

- That the NWMB approve the final Management Plan for the Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*), in Canada under the federal Species at Risk Act as per the NLCA s.5.2.3