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Nunavunmi Anngutighatigut Aulapkaijitkut Katimajiat
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

ᐱᓗᐊᑦᑕᐃᓕᓂᖅ ᐆᒪᔪᖅᓂᒃ ᐊᖅᑯᑎᒋᓗᒍ ᐊᑐᖅᑎᑕᐅᓂᖏᑦ ᐃᓄᐃᑦ ᖃᐅᔨᒪᓂᑐᖅᑲᖏᑦ ᐊᒻᒪᓗ ᖃᐅᔨᓴᖅᑎᒻᒪᕆᑕ ᖃᐅᔨᒪᓂᖏᑦ
Tammaqtailinahuarniriit anngutighat atuqhugit Inuit qaujimajatuqangillu ilihimaniillu ilitquhiannin
Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

February 4, 2020

Hon. Jonathan Wilkinson
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada, Government of Canada

Hon. Joe Savikataaq
Minister of Environment, Government of Nunavut

Aluki Kotierk
President of Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

Bobby Klengengberg
Chairperson of the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board

Larry Adjun
Chairperson of the Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association

Stanley Anablak
President
Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Joseph Judas
Chairperson of the Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board

Peter Kapolak
Chairperson of the Bathurst Inlet Hunters and Trappers Organization

Connie Kapolak
Chairperson of the Bay Chimo Hunters and Trappers Organization

Brett Elkin, Director of Wildlife, Environment and Natural Resources, Government of Northwest Territories

Boyd Warner
President
Adventure Northwest

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board In-person Public Hearing to Consider the Government of Nunavut's Proposal to Decrease the Total Allowable Harvest for Bathurst Caribou from 30 to 0.

Introduction

On December 13, 2019, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) provided public notice that it will hold an in-person public hearing to consider the Government of Nunavut's proposal for a decision to:

- Modify the total allowable harvest (TAH) of Bathurst caribou from 30 to 0.

The hearing will take place in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut, on March 5 and 6, 2020, with evening meetings, if necessary, at the Cambridge Bay Community Hall. If necessary, the hearing will continue on the morning of March 7, 2020.

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Parties to the hearing and submissions

In an earlier correspondence to your organization about the public hearing to consider the Government of Nunavut's proposal to modify the TAH for the Bathurst caribou herd, the NWMB identified a tentative list of hearing parties and asked other organizations wishing to become parties to the hearing to apply to the NWMB by January 31, 2020. Following this deadline, the NWMB has updated the list of those with full-party status to include the following:

- Government of Nunavut
- Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association
- Bay Chimo Hunters and Trappers Organization
- Bathurst Inlet Hunters and Trappers Organization
- Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization
- Kitikmeot Inuit Association
- Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board
- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
- Government of the Northwest Territories
- Wek'èezhìı Renewable Resources Board
- Adventure Northwest

The NWMB invites all parties and interested non-parties to provide written, translated submissions and supporting documents for the in-person public hearing. All written materials must be filed with the NWMB—in Inuktut and English—no later than **5:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) on February 14, 2020**.

Documents with more than 10 pages do not require translation, but must be accompanied by a concise summary in Inuktut and English. Please note that the NWMB will only consider materials for this hearing that are submitted before the deadline unless persuasive reasons are provided to the Board in writing for late filing before the deadline. Subject to relevant confidentiality or privacy concerns, all submissions and supporting documentation will be placed on the NWMB's website and will be available for download.

For scheduling purposes, please indicate the length of time required to present your submission. Note that while we will work to accommodate all requests, the NWMB reserves the right to schedule as necessary, especially given that we have two consecutive hearings planned for the same week.

To ensure that submissions include the most relevant information for Bathurst caribou harvest management, we encourage parties to focus their written and oral submissions on the list of issues identified by the NWMB that are relevant to the Government of Nunavut's proposal to modify the TAH for Bathurst caribou. These include but are not limited to:

- Responses and feedback on the most recent science population abundance estimate for Bathurst caribou, particularly about:
  - the recent decline in the population abundance estimates from 19,769 in 2015 to 8,207 in 2018
  - feedback on the assumptions associated with the statistical models used to estimate the current population abundance
  - the area covered and the duration of the aerial surveys
  - the level of Inuit involvement in the study and use of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit in the population assessment.

- Any information which is used in demographic models including indices of cow and calf productivity/survival, and collar movement data.

- Habitat conditions and potential impacts from human activities in the range of the Bathurst caribou herd.

Information regarding the relationship between environmental variables and health of Bathurst caribou.

- The Government of Nunavut's proposed TAH and any alternative recommendations, if any, and why.

- Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit of the Bathurst caribou, related to:
  - Inuit approaches to caribou management in times of decline
  - the socio-economic and cultural value of the Bathurst caribou herd to Inuit
  - knowledge of caribou behaviour, especially about the location of calving grounds and changes over time

- Inter-jurisdictional considerations when setting management actions for shared herds.

We look forward to seeing you in Cambridge Bay and to work collaboratively to sustainably manage the Bathurst caribou herd using the best available western science knowledge and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

If you require further information concerning the hearing, please do not hesitate to contact the NWMB.

Sincerely,

Daniel Shewchuk,
Chairperson of the
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

c.c. Drikus Gissing, Director of Wildlife, Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment;
Paul Irngaut, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated;
Paul Emingak, Executive Director, Kitikmeot Inuit Association;
Caroline Ladanowski, Director, Wildlife Management and Regulatory Affairs, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment and Climate Change Canada;
Ema Qaggutaq, Regional Coordinator, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board;
Amanda Dumond, Manager, Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association;
Beverly Maksagak, Manager, Ekaluktutiak Hunters & Trappers Organization
Jody Pellissey, Executive Director, Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board;
Deborah Simmons, Executive Director, Sahtú Renewable Resources Board;
Edward Sangris and Band Council, Yellowknives Dene First Nation;
William Enge, President, North Slave Métis Alliance;
Chief Darryl Marlowe and Band Council, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation;
Bruno Croft, Superintendent, North Slave Region, Environment and Natural Resources, Government of Northwest Territories;
Michael Birlea, Manager, Lands Protection and Renewable Resources, Tłı̨chǫ Government;
Rosy Bjornson, DKFN Resource Management Coordinator, Deninu Kue First Nation;
Dave Poitras, Salt River First Nation;
Tina Giroux, Biologist, Athabasca Denesuline.