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Tabled Documents

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Thursday, October 11, 2018

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board PO Box 1379, Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0

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RE: POLAR BEAR MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC HEARING:

Arviat Hunters & Trappers Organization Board of Directors met with many of delegates from Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, Department of Environment, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated for a Western Hudson Bay polar bear consultant. The consultation went very well. The aerial survey combined with a final survey results of this study produced an estimate of eight hundred and forty-two (842) bears in the year 2016.

The Arviat Hunters & Trappers Organization is requesting the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board to set the Total Allowable Harvest by July of 2018 in place for the year 2018. The Arviat Hunters & Trappers Organization holds its Annual General Meeting at the end of October/first week of November, where the Western Hudson Bay tags allocated to Arviat are discussed and drawn. The Arviat Hunters & Trappers Organization would like the Total Allowable Harvest numbers set before the Annual General Meeting and look forward to future meetings to allocate the future Total Allowable Harvest.

For the year, 2018, the Arviat Hunters & Trappers Organization Board of Directors' goal is to ask for 60 Polar Bear Tags if that makes it easier for Arviat Hunters & Trappers Organization.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please contact the Arviat Hunters & Trappers Organization's chairperson, Thomas Alikasua or Secretary Manager, Andrea Ishalook.

Signed

Thomas Alikasua Arviat HTO Chairperson

CC: NIWS, KWB, Kivalliq HTOs, NTI



Polar Bear Management Plan Written Submission

Introduction

Issatik Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs) are among the most important bodies created under the Nunavut Agreement (NA). They represent and provide service to Inuit in the communities on wildlife management and harvesting, program delivery, and are responsible for the implementation of several sections of the Nunavut Agreement.

The Board of Directors recommendations and comments;

- 1. Page 49 #1 in the Draft Polar Bear Management Plan states, "all human caused mortality to polar bears will be taken from the TAH of the nearest community..." The board of directors feels that the tags are not taken from the closet community, for 2 reasons; one being Whale Cove have major issues and concerns for it is a migrating route when the polar bears are migrating from south to north and nuisance bears come across the community; and the other is asking for a chance to harvest a bear of our choice and traditionally.
- 2. Page 50 #4 in the Draft Polar Bear Management Plan states, "when a Nunavut beneficiary kills a bear, the tag will come from the person's home community if that community has a TAH in the population that the bear was harvested from, otherwise, the nearest community must provide the tag."...the Board of Directors are asking for Page 49 #1 and Page 50 #4 to be observed more closely.