

Pilattik Committee of Kuujjuaraapik
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To: Bobby Ipoo

Fax Number: 819-254-8816

From: Salamiva Weetaltuk Jimmy Paul Angutiguluk

Willie Novalinga Alec Tuckatuck Samwillie Quara

Other: _____

Re: Responses to Beluga hearing

Date: March 20, 2014

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS ONE; 6

Urgent _____ For Review _____ CONFIDENTIAL _____ other _____

COMMENTS: Tried to send couple of weeks ago

Note: SOME LETTERS, MEMOS, AND OR DOCUMENTS MAY CONTAIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS FAX BY MISTAKE, PLEASE DISCARD OR CALL THE NUMBER LISTED ABOVE, THANK YOU

Kuujuaraapik
Local H.F.T.A. Committee
Box 309
Fax 3723
phone 3722

February 24, 2014

To: MDDEPP QUE

RE: Public hearing on quotas for S.H. SUB. POP. Of polar bear that can be harvest by coastal communities. Zone SH.

To whom it may concern,

First of all we board of directors welcomes that Quebec's Dept. of MDDEPP involvement in dealing with white bears (polar).

Requesting: that Quebec ask for Sankiluaq harvesters sampling studies reports. What they have been studying samples from polar bears parts?

Our main question is if they study heavy metals contents in bears system. That Inuit of Nunavik be informed A.S.A.P. since very large Nunavik Inuit consume its meat. This is important for our people's health.

Since divided zones in Nunavik are three (3) and will lead to different numbers for each zone. Example: zone S.H. has 3 Inuit Nunavik Communities to harvest 26 bears along with Quebec Cree's and Ont. Cree's. Zone FB has 4 Nunavik Communities and might be given more for their communities also third zone D>S> come up with different numbers may or will lead unfair quotas per community with higher and lower numbers while harvesting same animal that can move from one long distances like country to country and has no boarder lines.

Recommendations:

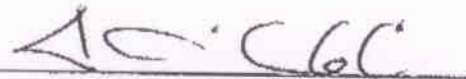
1. That Nunaviks polar bear harvesters be given quota according to today's harvest. This means study each Nunavik Community what they know about polar bear and how many they harvest each year and history of passed to today's. This would also mean to study the other two zones F.B. and D.S. that are touching Nunavik along with our zone S.H. same time. This would also be fair to very Nunavik Communities.
2. Nunavik not be divided into 3 zones but 1 zone. Since those animals are known to travel long distances in a day and during counting they can move from one zone to the others and not be counted for. This would also means that Canada redo zones for Nunavik into one zone.

For your information polar bears are coming back to our region after staying away for 50 year plus. Elders have always said, saying that they would come back and in. Last 20 to 30 years they really are coming back today. This goes to other games that state away for long time and comes back. Also elders of past say that warming up to snow free region would happen, now its getting faster in warming up. This could be better for polar bears to survice who knows..

We thank you in advance for at least reading this concerns and recommendation letter.

We remain,

Salamiva Weetaltuk- President



Alec Tucaktuck- Committee member + rep. elder

c.c. N.M.R.W.B. ATT: Robbie Tookalook
Inukjuaq H.F.T.A. ATT: Billy Pallsier
Umiujaq H.F.T.A. ATT: Simon Tookalook
Makivik corporation ATT: Adamie Delisle Alaku
N.H.F.T.A. ATT: Paulasi Novalinga
Sanikiluaq ATT : Luxassie Arragutainaq
Kuujjuaraapik mayor : Lucassie Inukpuk
Sakkuq L.H,C. ATT :Raymond Mikpegak
Cree Trappers ATT: Isacc Masty
Inukjuaq: Shaomik Inukpuk

Kuujuaarapik H.F.T.A
Box 309
819-929-3722
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March 4, 2014

To: Nunavik Marine Region wildlife board
Box 433
Inukjuaq, Quebec
JOM-1MO

RE: Resposes to hearing in Inukjuaq

Chairman Robbie Tookalook and board members,

We thank you for giving us a chance to speak our concerns and thoughts on question of polar bear harvesting quotas for the southern Hudson Bay polar bear subpopulation.

First, the studies shows that number of bears are at stable at the time of aerial survey by the study group. Might have missed out inland polar bears and female, also the one that were under trees during warm days.

Secondly, they are known to travel long distances like from one region to another or country to country. Short history: Today's climate not same as 30 years ago. This area has been warming up since ice-age but slowly. Today it faster and can turns into too warm at wrong times and too cold at wrong time also with ice unstable between here and Belcher Islands.

Our ice and salt water have changed also. The ice used to start forming in October and now it's at November and December. Then ice break-up used to be in July and now March or April.

Since 30 years or so, no one has cross on salt water ice from here to Sanikiluaq but before dog teams used to cross with out having to worry about ice. Then ski-doo's started this crossing up until early 1980's.

Back then we used to hunt polar bears beaks at South end of Belcher Islands. Now with today's ice we harvesters of polar bears and seals cannot hunt them even if we wanted to with ice breakings at any time today.

Salt water used to be very salty and seals used to float on surface of water, when they are shot. Today they sink but floating under water some few inches, some 1 or 2 and more feet under we can still get them since we use harpoon.

This kind of water has lots of fresh water on top of salt water and when ice finally forms on top of ice becomes no-snow ice unless it's rough and snow builds up on them. But if its smooth sheets of ice no snow, it just drifts away with the wind. This kind of ice is not used by seals to make breathing holes for their winter use this means no polar bear close by unless they go by the shore. Polar bears would prefer to walk on snow not glass like ice also we hunters also prefer to travel on snowed ice but now we have no choice but to travel on glass like ice and sometimes its costly for our snow machines and kamutiks when hitting block of fresh water ice its same as hitting rock meant at high speed.

This kind of behavior of ice and water reduces our food source by 80% plus. The animal in question (polar bear) has been around since way back when. This animal has and had been pushed around in last century in our region but not by us nor the Cree's.

At our age groups this time in 1940's, 50's, 60's + king of ice and snow (Polar bear) was just a story told by the elders up until Peter head boat arrives and used for long distances hunts not only polar bears when you go that far in one trip. When snow machines came along very able hunters can go hunt the polar bears further South even reaching South-Belchers Islands from late 60's and 70's, in 80's the ice begins to act in differently that halted our rote to the Belchers Islands since then no hunt took place. We redirect main food today to inlands food sources in winter today but still catching some 20% close by and in the sound .(seal hunting)

In late 80's the polar bears begins to show up from South of community. In 90's they came to our door steps. Right up today still coming and some even have reached next community (Umiujaq).

Our recommendations after Inukjuaq hearing quotas of subpopulation and organizations in puts is as following:

1. Environment Canada be approached by Makivik Corporation and Inuit Tapirit Kanatami to include zone F.B. and W.H. for whole Nunaviks Communities requested quotas on polar bears. This would be meaningful solution to our ways of understanding of this animal in Nunavik (polar bear).

Impacts of divided Nunavik quotas may or might lead to dispute, if one region get more while harvesting same polar bear that can move from one contented to contented. They have no border lines or gates.

2. Study on questioned animal (polar bear) in all communities A.S.A.P. before quotas are set up according to N.M.R.W.B. future recommended to the minister of environment .This must include studies on heavy metals, mythle mercury and other contaminants .

A large of Inuit consume their meat (polar bear). We need to know A.S.A.P. what makes polar bears are loosing weight most likely leads to heavy metals impact.

There are plenty of seals in James Bay in which polar bears consumes, then seal consumes small fishes and so on coming from James Bay waters and enlarged Fort George River and rivers of Ontario and Manitoba, seems to arrive and here to stay.

Upon Conditions that: A each study result be given to consumers and Makivik + K.R.G.

B .Each study group hires Inuit students to their limitations.

3. Request be made Nunavat that Sanikiluaq polar bears harvesting study results be make available to Nunavik Inuit for our well beings.

We thank you in advance for your taking into account of our concerns recommendations.

We remain,

Salamiva Weetaltuk- President

Alec Tucaktuck- Committee member + rep. elder

c.c.

Inukjuaq H.F.T.A. ATT : Billy Palliser
Umiujaq H.F.T.A. ATT: Simon Tookalook
Makivik Corporation ATT: Adamie Delisle Alaku
N.H.F.T.A. ATT: Paulasie Novalinga
Cree Trappers ATT : Isaac Masty
Kuujuaraapik Mayor : Lucassie Inukpuk
Sakkuq L.H.C. ATT: Raymond Mikpegak
Minister of the environment ATT: Peter Kent Minister
Quebec M.D.D.E.P.P. ATT: Sue Milburn- Hopwood
Original Inhabitant of Inukjuaq. Shaomik Inukpuk
Nunavut Government.
N.W.M.B. ATT: Ben Kovic
Nunalat Tunngavik ATT: James Eetoolook
Qikiqtaaluk wildlife board ATT:
Sanikiluaq Hunters + Trappers ATT: Lucassie Arragutaninaq
Ontario Ministry of natural resources ATT : Leith Hunter
Inukjuaq: Shaomik Inukpuk