
**NMRWB Resolution #2025-06-03 (NMR)
#2025-06-09 (Cree/Inuit Overlap Area - Inuit Zone)
and #2025-06-10 (Cree/Inuit Overlap Area - Joint Zone)**



Resolutions of the NMRWB in relation to the Request for Decision to extend the application of the 2021-2026 Beluga Management Decisions, and all relevant subsequent decisions, until January 31, 2027

- WHEREAS** pursuant to Article 5 of the *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement* ("NILCA"), the Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board ("NMRWB") is the main instrument of wildlife management in the Nunavik Marine Region ("NMR"), has the sole authority to establish, modify or remove Total Allowable Takes ("TAT") and has sole authority to establish, modify or remove Non-Quota Limitations ("NQL") on harvesting in the NMR.
- WHEREAS** there is a portion of the NMR that overlaps with the Eeyou Marine Region ("EMR"). Article 28 of the NILCA and Chapter 30 of the *Eeyou Marine Region Land Claim Agreement* ("EMRLCA") provide for reciprocal arrangements between Nunavik Inuit and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee and incorporate therein the provisions set out in the *Consolidated Agreement relating to the Cree/Inuit Offshore Overlapping Interests Area between the Crees of Eeyou Istchee and the Nunavik Inuit* ("**Cree/Inuit Overlap Agreement**") defining authority over wildlife management in the area of overlap.
- WHEREAS** pursuant to section 7.3 and 4.5 of the Cree/Inuit Overlap Agreement, the NMRWB, with an observer appointed by the Cree of Eeyou Istchee, that is to sit in the place of a Makivvik appointed member to the NMRWB, has sole authority to make wildlife management decisions pursuant to their authority under the NILCA within the Inuit Zone.
- WHEREAS** pursuant to section 28.8 of the NILCA, section 30.6 of the EMRLCA, and sections 4.4 and 7.5 of the Cree/Inuit Overlap Agreement, in the Joint Inuit/Cree Zone ("Joint Zone"), the NILCA and EMRLCA provisions have equal application and the NMRWB and Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board ("EMRWB") have equal weight and authority. Further, the NMRWB and the EMRWB are to sit together when making decisions or recommendations and are to render the same decisions or

recommendations for the Joint Zone.

WHEREAS the 2021-2026 Beluga Management System (the "management system"), as decided by the NMRWB and EMRWB, and accepted in part, and varied by the Minister on November 26, 2020, is due to come to the end of its term on January 31, 2026.

WHEREAS on March 21, 2025, the NMRWB and the EMRWB received a Request for Decision from the Anguvigaq (RNUK) requesting an extension of the application of the management system. This extension was said to be necessary to allow for continued research and the collection of Inuit knowledge, essential for the next set of beluga management decisions.

WHEREAS the NMRWB, together with the EMRWB, concluded that legitimate concerns had been raised by the Anguvigaq in their Request for Decisions, and as a result decided to launch a joint written public hearing for the purpose of gathering information and determining the positions of the parties prior to the Boards making a decision on whether to grant an extension of the management system for one-year until January 31, 2027.

WHEREAS the NMRWB and EMRWB joint written public hearing on this matter began on April 14, 2025 and was concluded on May 19, 2025.

WHEREAS on June 5, 2025, the NMRWB and EMRWB, along with the observer appointed by the Cree of Eeyou Istchee for the purposes of the Inuit Zone, met in-camera in order to review the information gathered and submitted through the hearing and to deliberate and reach a decision.

WHEREAS the hearing record is available on the hearing website at <https://nmrwb.ca/2025belugamanagementsystemextension-hearing/> and the Boards' analysis and reasons for decision on this matter are summarized in the letter addressed to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, to which these resolutions will be enclosed.

WHEREAS after consideration of all the information and evidence before it, and in accordance with the terms of the NILCA, the NMRWB, with the inclusion of the Cree of Eeyou Istchee appointed observer, has rendered the foregoing initial decisions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the preamble and the letter to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, to which these resolutions will be enclosed, form an integral part of these

resolutions.

THAT the NMRWB hereby decides to extend the 2021-2026 Beluga Management System to January 31, 2027.

THAT this decision of the NMRWB is recorded through these Resolutions (Resolutions #2025-06-03 (NMR), #2025-06-09 (Inuit Zone) and #2025-06-10 (NMRWB Joint Zone)), and are to be read and implemented in conjunction with each other as well as the decision set out in the companion Resolution of the EMRWB #2025-01A (EMRWB Joint Zone).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the foregoing resolutions have been reviewed by members of the NMRWB and voted up as follows:

For the NMR excluding the Cree/Inuit overlap Area:

Moved by: Paulu Palliser

Seconded by: Jean-Pierre Savard

In favour: 5 Abstain: 0 Opposed: 0 Absent: 1 Vacant: 0

For the Inuit Zone portion of the Cree/Inuit overlap area:

Moved by: Paulu Palliser

Seconded by: Jean-Pierre Savard

In favour: 6 Abstain: 0 Opposed: 0 Absent: 0 Vacant: 0

Isaac Masty Cree of Eeyou Istchee appointee, in place of Zebedee Annahatak, Makivvik appointee.

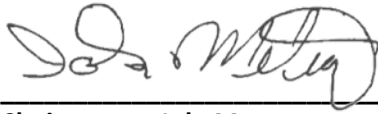
For the Joint Zone portion of the Cree/Inuit overlap area:

Moved by: Paulu Palliser

Seconded by: Jean-Pierre Savard

In favour: 5 Abstain: 0 Opposed: 0 Absent: 1 Vacant: 0

Date of adoption: June 5, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iola Metuq', positioned above a horizontal line.

Chairperson, Iola Metuq