



**WWF-Canada**  
318 Creekside Village  
PO Box 1750  
Iqaluit, Nunavut  
X0A 0H0

Tel: (867) 222-1276  
blaforest@wwfcanada.org

August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Jonathan Savoy  
Senior Planner  
Nunavut Planning Commission  
PO Box 2101  
Cambridge Bay, NU  
X0B 0C0

Dear Mr. Savoy,

World Wildlife Fund Canada (WWF-Canada) appreciates the opportunity to submit expert reports in the Nunavut Land Use Plan (NLUP) process and thanks the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) for considering our submission.

We applaud the NPC for assigning Protected Area and Special Management Area statuses that prohibit incompatible uses for several marine areas in the 2016 draft, such as setback requirements of up to 5km around walrus haulouts, and seasonal shipping restrictions in two polynyas. However, we feel that additional sites warrant equivalent levels of protection to ensure effective land use planning of walrus haulouts and other marine areas in Nunavut.

Please find attached two expert reports commissioned by WWF-Canada:

- 1) A report outlining walrus haulouts in the Nunavut Settlement Area that includes and expands upon the R.E.A. Stewart et al. (2013) research from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans that was used to map the walrus haulouts in the 2016 draft of the NLUP. The location data for this database will also be shared with NPC to facilitate analysis, and shapefiles are available upon request. This report was compiled by Higdon Wildlife Consulting.
- 2) A report assessing the conflicting uses of marine environment in four areas of interests: Lancaster Sound, including Admiralty Inlet and Eclipse Sound; Foxe Basin; Chesterfield Inlet and adjacent areas of Hudson Bay; and Queen Maud Gulf and Coronation Gulf. The report presents an inventory of the significant ecological and cultural features in each region, assesses current and future marine operations, the risks and impacts resulting from industrial activities, and recommends mitigation measures. This report was compiled by Vard Marine Inc.

WWF-Canada will be the corresponding organization and the party present at future meetings to respond to questions and concerns surrounding these reports.

Sincerely,

Brandon Laforest  
Senior Specialist  
WWF-Canada  
Iqaluit, Nunavut