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Nunavunmi Parnaiyiit
Nunavut Planning Commission
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

Master Comments from Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Comment ID	Organization Name	Date of Submission	Document Referenced	Section Referenced	Theme of submission or Location /ID# Referenced	Comment	NPC Response
NWMB-01	Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB)	5/22/2014	DNLUP	2.1.2	Caribou	The NWMB does not think that this recommendation fully recognizes the economic, social and cultural importance of caribou to Inuit; nor does it fully acknowledge the sensitivity of caribou to disturbance and habitat alteration during the calving and post-calving period. In the NWMB's opinion, disturbance during the calving period and destruction of this important habitat should be prohibited. Furthermore, the NWMB is also concerned about the cumulative effects of development in caribou calving and post-calving grounds and how this may affect productivity and herd size.	The caribou section of the land use plan has been revised. Protected Areas and Special Management are use to protect the areas where there are no existing rights. Existing rights are protected under NUPPAA. Areas with existing rights or high mineral potential are designated Special Management. The DNLUP has been revised to address calving and post-calving areas. Changes were made to some of the recommendations to reduce fragmentation of calving and post calving areas when possible.
NWMB-02	Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB)	5/22/2014	DNLUP	2.1.2	Caribou	The NWMB recommends that the NPC reevaluate their classification for caribou calving and post-calving grounds, and that the NPC assign these areas a Protecting and Sustaining the Environment Land Use Designation which prohibits all mining exploration and development.	The DNLUP has been revised to address calving and post-calving areas.
NWMB-03	Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB)	5/22/2014	DNLUP	2.1.2	Caribou	The NWMB urges the NPC to use the maps outlining the caribou calving and post-calving core ranges (provided by the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment) when identifying caribou calving and post-calving grounds in the Draft Plan.	Comment addressed above.
NWMB-04	Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB)	5/22/2014	DNLUP	Schedule A	Marine Designation	It is the NWMB's view that designation of these Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas would contribute to more effective protection of marine wildlife and fulfillment of the Draft Plan's goal of Protecting and Sustaining the Environment. The NWMB is also concerned with the existing designations in the marine areas of the Nunavut Settlement Area. Areas such as the North Water Polynya, the Belcher Island Polynyas, and several Marine Conservation Areas are designated as PSE-3 in the Draft Plan. This designation allows for "Tourism, Recreation, Research, Marine Infrastructure, Marine Communications and Electrical Cables." These areas…are sensitive to human activity and should be designated as such. Thus, it is the NWMB's view that these areas should be designated PSE-2.	The DNLUP has been revised to take into account the importance of EBSAs, polynyas and other important marine habitat.
NWMB-05	Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB)	5/22/2014	DNLUP	Definitions	Land Use Designation	A missing component in the Draft Plan is a complete list of what "uses" the NPC is considering. The NWMB suggests that the Draft Plan include detailed descriptions of all "uses" considered for each designation, as the scope of many of these uses is currently unclear. For example, definitions of "research" and "recreation" would be useful in understanding the potential impacts of these uses. Also, in the current Draft Plan it is unclear if exploratory activities, such as seismic testing, would be considered "research". Finally, under certain designations prohibited uses are listed as "all other uses". Without a complete list it becomes difficult to assess what constitutes "all other uses" and how this may impact wildlife.	The Land Use Designations have been simplified. The Plan identifies project proposals that contain prohibited uses only. This will simplify Plan implementation and addresses the management of the key species identified during community consultations.
NWMB-06	Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB)	5/22/2014	DNLUP	2.1.2	Caribou	The NWMB supports the 11 primary recommendations by the BQCMB in their February 14, 2014 submission to the NPC. In particular, the NWMB agrees that the NPC should develop land use designations that prohibit any new exploration and development in caribou calving and post-calving grounds. Caribou cows, calves are most sensitive to disturbance during the calving and post-calving season. Therefore, the NWMB is concerned about the effects of exploration and development in these areas and how this may affect productivity and herd size.	The DNLUP has been revised to address calving and post-calving areas. 15% of the NSA under the Protect Area land use designation.