Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board
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Kitikmeot Nunaliit Avikhimaniani Angutikhaligiyit Katimayit

Kitikmeot
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Kitikmeot
Cambridge Bay
Ikaluktutiak
Gjoa Haven
Uqhuqtuuq
Kugaaruk
Kugaaruk
Kugluktuk
Kugluktuk
Taloyoak
Taloyoak

10 February 2023

Nunavut Planning Commission
Andrew Nakashuk

Re: 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

To prepare for submissions to the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) and public hearings hosted by NPC, the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board (KRWB), with support from Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) staff, held workshops from 10–12 November 2019 in Cambridge Bay, 21–22 October 2021 in Kugluktuk, 22 November 2021 in Cambridge Bay, and 6–7 May 2022 in Cambridge Bay, to review the current draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP) maps, map important areas, and discuss regional approaches to the DNLUP submission process. KRWB also met with Gjoa Haven, Taloyoak, and Kugaaruk HTO representatives in Kugaaruk from 19–20 August 2022. KRWB also discussed the land use planning process during their AGM on 3 November 2022. During some of these meetings, Kitikmeot Inuit Association staff were in attendance to present and share their experiences and perspectives with land use planning, and open dialogue with KRWB and HTOs.

KRWB recognizes the broad perspectives, experiences with the DNLUP process, and capacities that exist in the region and among their HTOs. Specific to caribou, Kitikmeot is home to Bluenose East, Bathurst, Dolphin-Union, Peary, Beverly, Ahiak, and potentially other herds that are known for different hunting and traditional land use practices, and population trends and/or health, depending on the herd. Every herd—and as a result the HTOs connected to them—is exposed to different intensities of research and/or management (e.g., herds with and without Total Allowable Harvests, Species-At-Risk designations, inter-jurisdictional management plans, etc.), as well as development occurring in their use areas.

KRWB acknowledges the diverse priorities and ideologies that exist in the region that have informed different organizations' positions on the DNLUP, as well as the sensitivities and political complexities in achieving balanced land use protection. Caribou protection measures must take into account—or at minimum respect—different cultural, spiritual, economic and/or political values in the region. In instances where there are competing interests or seeming lack of agreement on issues, perhaps more dialogue is needed for commonalities to emerge, to give attention to less dominant voices, and achieve greater agreement and common understanding.

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Taloyoak

KRWB is in support of mobile protection measures for Bathurst calving and post-calving areas. KRWB is also in support of the individual submissions that will be made by their HTOs, with hopes that attention to each submission will capture broad regional perspectives, while taking into account specificities, in the region; for example, Spence Bay Hunters and Trappers Association is in support of a Limited Use designation for calving grounds on the Boothia Peninsula, and Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization is in support of a Conditional Use designation for calving grounds on Victoria Island. KRWB continues to invite organizations participating in the DNLUP process that have the potential to affect the Kitikmeot to consult, communicate, and/or share their submissions directly to KRWB and the affected HTOs.

Yours truly,

Paul Ikuallaq
Chair

Prepared by:
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Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board

Cc:
Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association
Ekaluktuktiak Hunters and Trappers Organization
Omingmaktok Hunters and Trappers Organization
Burnside Hunters and Trappers Organization
Gjoa Haven Hunters and Trappers Association
Spence Bay Hunters and Trappers Association
Kurtairojuark Hunters and Trappers Organization

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