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EYYOU MARINE REGION WILDLIFE BOARD
CONSEIL DE GESTION DES RESSOURCES
FAUNIQUE DE LA RÉGION MARINE D'EYYOU
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Purpose and Rules for Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board and the Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board's Joint Written Public Hearing to Consider the listing of three species of whales (Bottlenose Whale, Bowhead Whale, Killer Whale) as "Special Concern" under the federal Species at Risk Act.

THE PURPOSE is to conduct a joint review of the request for decision and proposal from the Government of Canada to the Boards to list three species of whale (Bottlenose Whale, Bowhead Whale, Killer Whale) as "Special Concern" status under the federal *Species at Risk Act* ("SARA") in accordance with their respective authority under s. 5.2.4(f) of the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement ("NILCA"), s. 13.2.2 (f) of the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement ("EMRLCA"), and Part IV of the Agreement relating to the Cree/Inuit Offshore Overlapping Interest Areas.

The purpose of this hearing is specifically the following:

To consider approving the designation of Bottlenose Whale, Bowhead Whale, and/or Killer Whale as species of "Special Concern" under the SARA within the Nunavik Marine Region and the Eeyou Marine Region.

The Proposal, along with other documents comprising the best available information to date, is available for review or download from the NMRWB's website (nmrwb.ca/bottlenose-bowhead-killer-whale-written-hearing/).

HEARING RULES:

1. The hearing shall be conducted by way of a joint written public hearing. Information may be filled by any member of the public. However, participation, such as posing questions and filing submission is limited to Parties with Standing.
2. Parties with Standing include those identified in the ss. 5.6.24, 27.6.4 and 29.3.9 of the NILCA and ss. 14.6.2 of the EMRLCA.
3. Individuals or organizations that demonstrate an interest in the decision to be made, may make an application to the Boards to have Party Status.
4. Late filing of applications, documents, or submissions will not be accepted unless persuasive written and translated reasons are provided to the NMRWB or EMRWB explaining late filing. Materials for this hearing that are not filed on time will not consider.

5. The requirement for translation of submissions and supporting documentation filed with the NMRWB and the EMRWB does not apply to individual members of the public.
6. For all others who file supporting documentation with the NMRWB and the EMRWB, the requirement for translation does not apply to such documents over ten (10) pages in length, if each supporting document that is not translated is accompanied by a concise, translated summary (English and Inuktitut) at least two (2) pages in length.
7. The NMRWB and the EMRWB shall ensure that all materials filed with it or produced by it are made publicly available, subject to relevant confidentiality or privacy concerns.
8. The NMRWB/EMRWB will allow for the filing of questions in relation to the Proposal/request for decision. Parties as well as board members may put forward questions. Answers to the questions will be provided by the organizations that submitted the request for decision and proposal. All answers will be made publicly available, subject to relevant confidentiality or privacy concerns.
9. The NMRWB and the EMRWB will conduct all meetings and deliberations on the matter jointly. Those with observer status under NILCA 5.2.2 and the EMRLCA 13.1.2, may have technical advisors attend such meetings and deliberations. The NMRWB and the EMRWB reserve the right to hold in-camera meetings with their legal counsel, with the exclusion of observers, at any time throughout the hearing and the decision-making process.
10. Although the process is being conducted jointly, the NMRWB and the EMRWB will independently exercise their respective authorities under the respective Land Claims Agreement. However, for the Joint Zone, as defined in the Cree/Inuit Offshore Overlap agreement, the NMRWB and the EMRWB will jointly and equally exercise their authority. Further, within the Inuit Zone the Cree Nation government appointed member will sit and decide with the NMRWB and for the Cree zone the Makivik appointed member will sit and decide with the EMRWB.