

**YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT BOARD**



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March 24, 2020

Honourable Pauline Frost, Minister of Environment
Government of Yukon
Box 2703
Whitehorse,
Yukon Canada,
Y1A 2C6

Minister Frost,

Re: Non-Resident Wolf Bag Limits

In 2015, the Board recommended a Yukon *Wildlife Act* regulation change to enable the Minister to vary bag limits for wolves under an adaptive management framework. This recommendation was made in accordance with implementation measure #10 of the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan.

The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board and the Alsek Renewable Resources Council have combined three adaptive proposals and therefore wish to recommend – as per the Adaptive Management Framework, that:

1.1 The Minister raise the non-resident bag limit of wolves from two (2) per licence year to seven (7) per licence year.

Rationale:

When bag limits were assigned for wolves, it was based upon a Board recommendation. In that recommendation, a Yukon resident should be able to harvest up to seven (7) wolves per licence year, and a non-resident up to two (2) wolves per licence year.

At the time the initial recommendation was accepted, there was a perception that non-resident hunters could not manage more than two wolves within a licence year. However, Yukon outfitters now offer specialized wolf guided hunts and have access to the knowledge, equipment, and infrastructure necessary to properly handle up to seven wolves per non-resident hunter, within a single licence year.

This new proposal (see 1.1. above), is viewed by the proponents as an opportunity for Yukon Outfitters to more effectively manage wolves within their Outfitting Concessions. These guided wolf hunts could very well result in improved ungulate populations – a management outcome that would directly benefit all resident harvesters.

As this is an official recommendation under 16.8.0, we will keep this matter confidential until you decide to waive confidentiality or present a response to the proponents.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact our Executive Director, Graham Van Tighem, at (867)-667-5835.

Sincerely,

John Burdek, YFWMB Chair

cc: Ryan Hennings, Acting Director – Fish and Wildlife Branch, Department of Environment