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NORTH AMERICAN PADDLEFISH CAVIAR

PRESS RELEASE: December 28, 2009

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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North Star Caviar grant application forms will **not** be made available in January 2010 as the public has become accustomed. Although the cleaning station enjoyed a successful season and good caviar production, the world wide recession devastated the global caviar market. Nearly all caviar has been sold, with total proceeds providing the company sufficient operating capital to fund the next season but insufficient to fund the grant program. This "belt tightening" has occurred several times in our seventeen years of business and we expect 2010 to be a better year.

The Management Committee would like to extend their appreciation to the staff, fishermen, and caviar customers for making the project possible.

North Star Caviar is joint venture between the Williston Area Chamber of Commerce and the Friends of Fort Union Trading Post. To date North Star Caviar has provided over *\$1,500,000* in grant support to more than 875 specific local projects, in addition to more than *\$500,000* for paddlefish research.