

**Summary of Community Consultations conducted on March 21-22, 2012 about the
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for Narwhal in the Nunavut Settlement Area**
Prepared by: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board Staff

Management Unit: Smith Sound, Jones Sound, Parry Channel
Host Community: Grise Fiord
HTO Representatives: Grise Fiord
Other Organizations: Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Regional Wildlife Organizations, Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat, Government of Nunavut.

Administration / Logistics:

- Attendees were glad to have the consultations, and thanked DFO and representatives from other organizations for taking the time to hear the community's concerns.
- It was noted that by coming to Grise Fiord that DFO and the other organizations have shown their commitment, but cautioned that it also raises the community's hopes and expectations.
- Concern was expressed with some of the references listed in the management plan – information was included from students, priests, and an archeologist for example.
- There was concern about the Inuktitut names for narwhal as presented in the management plan. DFO asked to have this clarified after the meeting.

CITES / Exporting of Tusks Outside of Canada:

- The ban on tusk export in the region resulted from a complete lack of scientific information from the population. DFO said that CITES relies only on science and did not feel that there was enough information for them to assess whether or not the harvest was sustainable.
- Grise Fiord asked DFO for clear direction on what they can do to proceed with having the export ban lifted. DFO responded that only scientific surveys will be considered by CITES. DFO stated that conducting a survey in the region is high priority for the Department but noted that it often takes 2-3 years following a survey for the results to be analysed. Grise Fiord understood that there won't be a change in the next month or even year but asked what they can do to help with having the ban lifted.
- There was concern about the plan being developed in a rush and that it seemed DFO was more concerned about Canada's reputation and CITES than it was about the people in the communities who rely on narwhal for subsistence.
- It was expressed that there wasn't a need for new rules and regulations and management plans if it wouldn't help lift the export ban.
- The community first heard about the tusk ban through the news. This is not acceptable – it should have been communicated to them directly.

Harvest Limits / Total Allowable Harvest / Quotas:

- The quota of 20 was a number that was picked randomly in the past based on harvest levels at that time – there is no science to back this up.
- The current quota of 20 is very small for the large number of narwhal that pass through the area, and is low compared to the needs of the community.
- The DFO recommendations in the narwhal management plan for other populations are that the total allowable landed catch is about 1% of the estimated population size. Grise Fiord's current

quota of 20 would be 1% of 2000 narwhal. Residents agreed there are many more than 2000 narwhal that pass through the area.

- The HTO expected a question would be asked about why the community needs more narwhal tags if they don't always fill their quota. The reason is because of the incident a few years back when there was an accidental over harvest everyone is very scared about going over again. The community now does a draw for one narwhal tag at a time to make sure they don't go over This means that sometimes they don't have a chance to fill the quota during the season if because they aren't always caught right away, especially since the community most often targets males to leave the females in the population. The quota is also not always filled because the community is only taking what they need at any given time, not what they might need later.
- It was noted that Grise Fjord residents have even more of a reliance on narwhal for subsistence than many other communities because of the long periods of cold and darkness when they rely on these nutrients. This is especially true since food is not given priority any more since Nutrition North came in meaning that the CoOp does not always have what is needed.
- DFO representatives recognized the lack of scientific information. They said that if the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and traditional knowledge were documented they would put together a proposal for their superiors and an increase in total allowable harvest could be considered.
- Grise Fjord indicated that they would be more than happy to be involved in an assessment.
- It was noted that communities would like to see an increase in quota that would allow them to share their catch more than they can now.
- The narwhal harvest is about subsistence harvesting, not just for the commercial aspect.

Population Size / Factors Affecting Population Size:

- There is no scientific information about this population of narwhal. The community is paying the price for DFO's lack of science research. DFO said that getting this information is a very high priority for the Department.
- Recording and documenting Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and traditional knowledge is very important for this population – it is all of the information available for this stock. There are many examples of when IQ and science have had different conclusions, and science has later determined that the IQ was correct.
- DFO should make use of the IQ when there is no science available. DFO said they would like to have information from the community on when and where to conduct future surveys, and have recommendations on local experts they can talk to about this.
- The narwhal in this population are not close to endangerment – the narwhal come through on their migration in a pod that is kilometers long and a kilometer wide. There are so many at times that you have to hold on to the sides of your boat because they rocking it back and forth.

Tagging / Reporting:

- Paper tags are easily lost.
- One harvester could miss the opportunity to harvest a narwhal if someone else has the tag, or if the HTo is closed when you want to go out harvesting.
- There was concern that the flexible quota system means that if there is an overharvest in one year the tags are taken from the next year's quota, but that unused tags have to be returned and the community is not given any "credit" for this. DFO explained that during Phase I of this plan, there would be no carry-over of tags.

Distribution / Stock Boundaries / Migration:

- There are three types of narwhal that are seen by harvesters in Grise Fiord:
 - The first group of narwhal that came through the area last year were scratched up, and had a lot of minor injuries that were in the muktaq. The community believes that the injuries were from ice and that these narwhal came from Norwegian Bay. Every inch of the first four narwhal caught in summer 2011 were cut up from the ice. Despite being cut up, the narwhal were healthy.
 - The second type is very large and wide, with short tusks that are often broken. This type has double tusks more often than the others, and comes from Baffin Bay.
 - The third type tends to be smaller and more slender. These narwhal have longer tusks that are not broken very often. They are easier to catch in deep water, and always been in the Jones Sound area at certain times of year. These sometimes come through the area with the second type, and sometimes they come through separately.
- It was suggested that Hells Gate and Cardigan Strait may provide an overwintering area for narwhal – these areas do not freeze over during the winter.
- Last winter there was a pod of narwhal and beluga in Craig Harbour.
- There are narwhal here in the dead of winter – they push up ice and can air from air pockets under the ice and make their own agluit.
- Narwhal also overwinter near Cone Island, about 47.4 kilometers from Grise Fiord.
- Narwhal summer between Grise Fiord out to Conan Island between July and September.
- We've been harvesting them here at the same time they are seen in Resolute Bay which means they are likely different stocks.
- DFO suggested that it would be good to have samples of these different types of narwhal to determine the identity of the narwhal in the area. It was communicated that samples have been being sent for close to 30 years now and that the community has not heard of any results. DFO said they would follow up on the samples (jaw bones, skin samples, liver, fat, measurements) that have been submitted and report back to the community on the status and results.

Community Management:

- Grise Fiord hunters follow many different rules and regulations – those from the government and those from our elders. Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit is its own management plan.
- The management plan DFO is presenting would be improved if the Inuit system of management was incorporated.
- Meeting participants stressed community has very low struck and lost rates
- In most cases, there is no wastage. Inuit have been taught by their ancestors to conserve wildlife, to take only what is needed, and to use every part of an animal that is harvested. This will be passed down to future generations.
- When the quota is reached, the whole community stops harvesting. There are very high compliance rates. About 5 years ago there was an accidental over harvest of 5 narwhal and within 24 hours there were 14 fisheries officers in town and charges were laid. The community had never seen an officer before then and this was a very difficult time for the community. After that narwhal were scarce.
- The above example shows that our cultural practice is true - you shouldn't argue or say negative things about the wildlife; if you do they will leave the area.
- The catch is always reported and there are very low struck and lost rates.

Other Comments and Concerns:

- Section 3.7.5 of the regulations says to kill the animal quickly, but it should be noted that a narwhal cannot be killed instantly. The next section says that a full metal jacket should not be used, but a .303 soft point takes longer to kill the animal – the regulations contradict themselves. Also, the regulations mention shotguns but nobody would use shot to harvest a narwhal. The regulations also use “foot pounds” instead of calibre which is not a commonly used term for measuring rifle size.
- Safety always has to be considered in hunting practices.
- Community harvesters have noticed changes in the sea ice in recent year. Last year the ice broke off at Broom point right through to Conan Point in June. This normally doesn’t happen until August. From Broome Point harvesters weren’t able to get to open water because the wind had blown the broken ice in.
- DFO encouraged community members to express their concerns by writing to the Minister.
- The NWMB representative said she would inform the Board on community input from consultations, and would keep the community up to date on the hearing process through the HTO. NWMB encouraged the community to prepare submissions for the hearing.
- The NWMB representative will contact DFO science regarding the possibility of a community-led survey designs or research that would be acceptable to CITES authorities and/or for consideration in increasing TAH. She will be in touch with the HTO and will encourage them to apply for funding to formally collect and document IQ on narwhal in the area.
- It was noted that narwhal management could offer habitat protection for many species from exploration and development activities.

Grise Fiord’s Proposed Approach:

1. The community will support scientific research if a) there is a veterinarian observer to monitor the stress to the animal, and b) contact between the animals and the researchers is minimal and is not on-going;
2. The community will provide support to a biopsy study;
3. Grise Fiord residents will provide Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit when the government is prepared to listen;
4. Grise Fiord HTO will be requesting a quota increase of 15 narwhal for subsistence harvesting in the first year and 20 for the second year. These numbers can be re-visited after the surveys;
5. These conditions of support for the Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for Narwhal will be followed by a formal letter.

**Summary of Community Consultations conducted on March 21-22, 2012 about the
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for Narwhal in the Nunavut Settlement Area**
Prepared by: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board Staff

Management Unit: North Hudson Bay
Host Community: Repulse Bay
HTO Representatives: Repulse Bay, Hall Beach, Igloolik, Kimmirut, Cape Dorset
Unable to Attend: Rankin Inlet, Coral Harbour, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake, Whale Cove, Arviat
Other Organizations: Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Regional Wildlife Organizations, Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat, Government of Nunavut.

Administration / Logistics:

- Attendees were glad to have the consultations, and thanked DFO representatives for taking the time to do consultations and take the time to listen to concerns.
- The material presented in the consultations was the first that many community members heard of the Management Plan. The documents should have been circulated before the meeting.
- There was concern about the length of the presentations - there was a lot of new information being presented and not enough time to spend on all of it.
- There was concern about the plan being developed in a rush. There should be more consultations with the harvesters and other members of the public. The use of a working group similar to that used for walrus management was also suggested.
- It was noted that coming to the community to do consultations after the surveys were done poorly and after the management plan has been developed is not acceptable – the consultations should have taken place before this stage.

CITES / Exporting of Tusks Outside of Canada:

- The ban on tusk export in North Hudson Bay resulted from scientific surveys that indicated the population was being overharvested. It was noted that Repulse Bay and Hall Beach cannot export while Igloolik can. DFO said that CITES only considers scientific information. DFO said they will send more information from the CITES assessment to the communities.
- The tusk trade was a relied on by these communities – there are very few employment opportunities in the community, social assistance is hard to come by, and housing and food is expensive.
- The community first heard about the tusk ban through the news. This is not acceptable – it should have involved consultations and should have been communicated to them directly by the government.
- Poor science conducted by DFO is responsible for the ban on tusk trade.

Harvest Limits / Total Allowable Harvest / Quotas:

- Repulse Bay is not happy with the proposed total allowable harvest of 57 narwhal from North Hudson Bay, which has to be split between 9 communities. This was stated repeatedly during the consultations and was supported by the other community representatives present.
- 57 narwhal is not enough for Repulse Bay – narwhal are used for food, and shopping for food is so expensive. It was suggested that some harvesters would be tempted to harvest without a tag for food if the quota is too low. In recent years, narwhal muktaq had to be brought in from other communities so the elders could have some.

- It was noted that communities would like to see an increase in quota that would allow for distribution and sharing between communities.
- The proposed total allowable harvest of 57 narwhal is based on one poorly done survey and this is not acceptable.
- One community representative suggested a quota of 100 would be good.

Population Size / Factors Affecting Population Size:

- The community strongly voiced that there were problems with the recent surveys conducted in the area and that the results are incorrect. Weather and ice conditions prevented the survey from being done properly.
- The only available information is from 2000, which is out of date and did not account for migrations routes or timing.
- A large pod of whales came through town right after the DFO officials left Repulse Bay, and tide levels were not accounted for. In all of the surveys since 2000 DFO was not in Repulse Bay at the right time of the summer – the whales have never been counted correctly.
- It was recommended that a new survey be done for this population. DFO stated that they are hoping to have the results of the 2012 survey ready by spring 2012.
- It was noted that a population model for narwhal and recommending harvest levels was developed by DFO, but that this new model can't be applied to North Hudson Bay because there is not enough information available on the stock.
- It was suggested that DFO conduct a boat-based assessment near Repulse Bay through the summer.
- It would be ideal if DFO could be in the area from June through until September to properly assess the population. Surveys are only conducted for a short period of time in a small area and do not reflect the real picture of the narwhal population.
- More recent surveys are needed before quotas are changed.
- It was suggested that all of the current information could be erased, and new surveys could be started – it is not acceptable to use poorly done surveys to make regulations that affect people's lives.
- The number of killer whales in the area is increasing, and they regularly kill narwhal. Killer whales will sometimes force narwhal into polynyas for the winter. We don't harvest them when they are there because they are fine except for sometimes when they get trapped in the ice. The increase in killer whales makes narwhal move to new areas or locations where they can't find enough food.
- The number of narwhal seen in the summer near Repulse Bay has not changed in at least the last 40 years.

Tagging / Reporting:

- It was clarified that if a tusk is found DFO will issue a letter to "approve" the tusk once they are informed of where and when it was found. DFO said they would look into the paper work for a Repulse Bay hunter who has been trying to have a letter issued for a tusk he found.
- Different coloured tags will only be issued to communities that harvest from more than one management unit, so that they will know which unit the narwhal was harvested from.
- Paper tags are easily lost. Harvesters are often given a copy of the original tag so that it is not lost, but this means that these regulations are being broken.
- There was concern that when tags are issued before going on the boat, harvesters don't want to return them to the HTO if they did not catch a narwhal.

- It was noted that it is not always possible to enforce the requirement of issuing tags before the hunt is started because the HTO office is only open during certain hours, and sometimes it is closed when there are narwhal going by in the Bay and you can see them from your window.
- For narwhal without tusks, it is difficult to know where to put the tag. DFO said to leave it with the carcass, but this is hard when all parts of the narwhal are being used. DFO advised to leave it with some pieces of bone or other parts that aren't used. The community noted that it is impossible to leave the tag with the muktaq when it is being shared with family and friends in other communities – it isn't all in one place.

Distribution / Stock Boundaries / Migration:

- Hall Beach harvesters occasionally travel to Lyon Inlet, but this has not happened in recent years. Some Repulse Bay harvesters were not happy with Hall Beach being included if they harvest in the area only occasionally. It was suggested that a group hunt between different communities might be an option.
- North Hudson Bay narwhal sometimes swim as far north as Igloodik, and other times they go northwest to Steensby Bay.
- In September 2009 North Hudson Bay narwhal were seen around the islands near Hall Beach – they were healthy and heading back South.
- Representatives indicated that North Hudson Bay and Somerset Island stocks mix – it is not a clear boundary between the two. There was consensus that the boundaries for the stock have to be corrected. DFO said that the boundaries are only being proposed – they can be changed.
- It was suggested that there are no narwhal near Arviat or Whale Cove, and that Coral Harbour harvesters normally travel to Repulse Bay to harvest narwhal. DFO said that reports of narwhal further south have come in over the last couple of years.

Community Management:

- The communities have good management measures and hunting practices and procedures that they implement themselves. A Repulse Bay resident suggested that the communities should be working on their own policies instead of having rules handed down to them by the government. Another suggested that the Region should have its own body to conduct research.
- Meeting participants stressed that they continually work to reduce already low struck and lost rates – this is based on traditional harvesting practices. A narwhal is always harpooned first with a buoy, and then all the boats work together to kill it quickly. This is done for only one narwhal at a time to keep the loss rate as low as possible.
- In most cases, there is no wastage. HTOs and elders do not approve of harvesters who are only interested in the tusk. Inuit have been taught by their ancestors to conserve wildlife, to take only what is needed, and to use every part of an animal that is harvested. This will be passed down to future generations.
- The regulations use “foot pounds” instead of calibre which is not a commonly used term for measuring rifle size. Rifle requirements are already contained in HTO hunting policies.
- Narwhal and all wildlife are harvested in a way that makes sure they are killed quickly and do not suffer.
- When the quota is reached, the whole community stops harvesting. There are very high compliance rates.
- The HTO in Repulse Bay is very good – they keep the harvesters informed, they track the harvest, and the secretary-manager does a lot of over time that she is not paid for to help make sure the tags are issued and harvests are reported right away.

- Kimmirut noted that narwhal are not common in their area, but the regulations would be similar to those for beluga.
- Calves and yearlings are not normally harvested because they have no tusk, but when narwhal are traveling in a large group it's hard to tell which adult a calf is traveling with. In the past, sometimes the mother is harpooned accidentally, then the calf is harvested too because it won't swim away and it won't survive on its own. DFO agreed that in these cases it would be considered a humane harvest.
- This management system is creating a rift between Inuit – having paper tags that say where and when you can harvest and quotas are causing people to argue.

Other Comments and Concerns:

- Repulse residents have seen nets used in the area around Lyon Inlet – this should not be permitted. Residents have been doing patrols in the area to discourage this.
- The catch is always reported and there are very low struck and lost rates. Repulse Bay invited DFO to the community to witness this for themselves.
- Handling animals and tagging them can disrupt the subpopulation. Putting satellite tracking tags on animals can have negative effects. One resident saw a narwhal that was tagged that was skinny and in obvious pain. Another said that the muktaq is damaged because putting the tag on opens up the skin to the salt water
- Communities traditionally share their catch and the use of tags and quotas causes arguments instead of sharing which is against traditional teachings.
- There are more polar bears than in the past and this means that the community is losing their traditional food as the bears are digging up the cached meat.
- Nunavut has had its own government now for close to 20 years. The territorial government and organizations formed under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement have a better understanding of Inuit. The federal government, including DFO, should be trying to catch up.
- The surveys that were done are not the best available information – the Inuit Qaujimaqatugangit and Traditional Knowledge in the communities is the best information.
- It was suggested that the NWMB public hearing be held in Repulse Bay. The NWMB representatives said she would pass this request on to the Board.

**Summary of Community Consultations conducted on March 20-21, 2012 about the
Department of Fisheries and Oceans**

Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for Narwhal in the Nunavut Settlement Area

Prepared by: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board Staff for Community and HTO Review and Comment

- Management Unit:** Somerset Island
- Host Community:** Kugaaruk
- HTO Representatives:** Kugaaruk, Hall Beach, Igloodik, Resolute Bay, Taloyoak, Gjoa Haven, and Cambridge Bay
- Other Organizations:** Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Regional Wildlife Organizations, Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat, Government of Nunavut –Fisheries and Sealing and Conservation Officer.

Administration / Logistics:

- Kugaaruk residents were glad to have the consultations in their community, and were happy to have the opportunity to provide their input on narwhal management.
- The material presented in the consultations was the first that many community members heard of a potential CIES up-listing, or of the Management Plan. It was suggested that the documents should have been circulated in advance of the meeting. There was concern about the length of the presentations - there was a lot of new information being presented and not enough time to spend on all of it.
- There was concern about the plan being developed in a rush – it is very important, and time should be taken so that it is done well. Communities would like to keep participating in the development of the plan as long as possible.
- It was noted that the consultations should be about DFO listening to the community, not the other way around.
- Concern was raised about the other communities not having the opportunity to be involved in public consultations (only representatives were present in Kugaaruk). DFO encouraged representatives to distribute the management plan in their communities, and said that comments can be given to DFO directly or to the NWMB during the public hearing process.
- The meetings were originally scheduled to last for 2 days, but were reduced to one because of weather delays. As a result, a lot of issues were skipped by DFO during the presentation, and there was not enough time to look at issues others participants were interested in hearing about. Overall, the meeting and presentation were too short.

CITES / Exporting of Tusks Outside of Canada:

- It was indicated that community representatives who harvest narwhal should attend the 2013 CITES conference as observers as part of a larger delegation from Nunavut.
- It was suggested that CITES representatives be invited to Nunavut to observe the narwhal migration and harvest.

Harvest Limits / Total Allowable Harvest / Quotas:

- The tag system has caused problems - people traditionally only hunted what was needed, but now it is often about reaching the quota.
- The narwhal harvest is about subsistence harvesting, not just for the commercial aspect.
- Communities are happy to see an increase in quota.

Population Size / Factors Affecting Population Size:

- The number of killer whales in the area is increasing, and they regularly kill narwhal. Little information on the number of narwhal killed by killer whales is available. DFO said they have requested science advice on the impacts of killer whales on narwhal but that the model used for narwhal account for natural deaths, including those by predation. DFO said they will send killer whale sighting forms to the communities.
- The population size isn't necessarily changing, but the migration routes are.

Tagging / Reporting:

- It was clarified that a tusk with a tag from one year and can be sold in another year, as long as the tag year is the same as the year that the narwhal was harvested.
- There was a question about how the tag is to stay with the tusks when it's used by carvers who make the tusk into smaller pieces. DFO said that the tag is put on the tusk as soon as it is harvested, but this did not answer the question.
- Tags often have to be traded with other communities in the region. RWOs will be in charge of distributing the tags.
- Near Prince of Wales the narwhal are on one side of the land, and we have to be careful about tag allocations in this area when the migration is going on.
- In the Kitikmeot, the HTO Chairs met with the RWO executives to allocate the tags.
- Paper tags are easily lost. Suggestions included giving the harvester a token instead of the tag before the hunt and issuing the real tag once a narwhal is landed, and getting a deposit on the tag to be returned when the tag was returned unused or a narwhal was caught. Some communities suggested that giving the tag out before the harvest would be good once the number of tags available gets low. DFO said they would look at each lost tag separately and decide then how to address it, but said that having the tag before you go on the boat is an existing regulation.
- Narwhal hunts are often opportunistic so it is often difficult to get a tag before you get on the boat. In areas with shallower waters the hunt is often easier. In a community with shallow water and a low quota it is more practical to get a tag before you go on the boat. It was suggested that the HTO should be allowed to decide when and how to issue the tags.
- There was concern that when tags are issued before going on the boat, harvesters don't want to return them to the HTO if they did not catch a narwhal.
- For narwhal without tusks, it is difficult to know where to put the tag. DFO said to leave it with the carcass, but this is hard when all parts of the narwhal are being used. DFO advised to leave it with some pieces of bone or other parts that aren't used.
- There was a question about how to tag and report on a double tusk narwhal. DFO said they would discuss this and come to a solution.
- Many communities do not have fisheries officers. It was noted that GN Conservation Officers and even RCMP officers can act as fisheries officers when required. It was suggested that temporary arrangements for more designated people to sign off on the tags should be put in place ahead of time in case the officers are out of town.
- There was concern that the flexible quota system means that if there is an overharvest in one year the tags are taken from the next year's quota, but that unused tags have to be returned and the community is not given any "credit" for this. DFO explained that during Phase I of this plan, there would be no carry-over of tags.
- There was some concern that a tag can only be used in the management unit it was assigned to. For example, it wouldn't be possible for a harvester living in Igloodik wanted to go back to Pond

Inlet where he was raised and harvest a narwhal there since these are different management units. He would have to ask the Pond Inlet HTO for a tag.

Distribution / Stock Boundaries / Migration:

- Narwhal near Igloolik show up in different numbers in different years.
- Near Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay narwhal arrive starting in the Spring, but others would also go past headed for different destinations.
- Climate change is affecting narwhal migration routes and timing. For example, near Melville, there isn't as much multi-year ice as in the past which may affect migration routes.
- Taloyoak residents see narwhal that migrate around Resolute Bay.
- Some narwhal that swim past Kugaaruk are from Foxe Basin while others are from south of Baffin Island. There are a lot of narwhal in the area in December.
- The boundaries of the management units in the plan now should be extended south.
- Some residents were not comfortable with the boundaries being proposed – communities traditionally share their catch and animals don't stay within those boundaries.
- DFO said they would email maps of the boundaries to representatives.
- Increased shipping traffic in Lancaster Sound will cause a change in migration routes because of the noise and disturbance. Kugaaruk residents reported that there are fewer narwhal around when there are more boats in the area. There was concern about more use of the North West Passage in the future because of increasing development and climate change.
- Submerged moorings may be impacting migrations routes. DFO has no record of moorings but encouraged the community to gather pictures or evidence of sonar devices if possible so that DFO can follow up.

Community Management:

- Traditional knowledge says that you can harvest from any population if it is well managed.
- Inuit have been taught by their ancestors to conserve wildlife, to take only what is needed, and to use every part of an animal that is harvested. This will be passed down to future generations.
- A number of the HTO representatives indicated that their organizations have their own hunting regulations. DFO asked the HTOs to send them these rules.
- You shouldn't argue or say negative things about the wildlife; if you do they will leave the area.

Other Comments and Concerns:

- Handling animals and tagging them can disrupt the subpopulation. Putting satellite tracking tags on animals can have negative effects. One resident showed a tracking device that he found in the muktaq of a narwhal – the wound was healed over.
- The Taloyoak HTO would like to see science stop tagging narwhal.
- The regulations use "foot pounds" instead of calibre which is not a commonly used term for measuring rifle size.