

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER MODIFICATIONS TO
TOTAL ALLOWABLE HARVESTS FOR THE ECLIPSE SOUND AND
ADMIRALTY INLET NARWHAL MANAGEMENT UNITS

November 28, 2016

PAGES 1 TO 25

HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL

POND INLET, NUNAVUT

VOLUME 1

BOARD MEMBERS:

Dan Shewchuk	Chair
Simeonie Keenainak	Member
Charlie Inuarak	Member
David Kritterdlik	Member
Caleb Sangoya	Member
David Igutsaq	Member

NWMB:

Jason Akearok	Executive Director
Eric Kan	Director of Finance & Administration
Danica Crystal	Wildlife Management Biologist
Erin Keenan	Wildlife Management Biologist
Eric Idlout	Communications Coordinator
Michael d'Eça	Legal Counsel
Evie Amagoalik	Interpreter
Leetia Janes	Interpreter
Adele Jones	Stenographer

GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT

Jason Etuangat

NTI

Paul Irngaut	Director of Wildlife
--------------	----------------------

DFO

Chris Lewis	Fishery Management Biologist
Patt Hall	Resource Management
Cory Matthews	Research Scientist
Stephan Romberg	Fisheries Resource Management

ELDERS

Jayko Allooloo

Ludy Padluk

Elijah Erkloo

Samson Erkoo

Sheatie Tagak

Boazie Ootoova

PUBLIC:

Joe Enook

Sam Omik

Mary Simonie

NTI

Ham Kadloo

NTI

Mary Amagoalik

Pond Inlet

Leo Maktar

Arctic Bay

Robert Aglak

Arctic Bay

Joemie Koonark

Pond Inlet

I N D E X

	PAGE
Introductions	5
NWMB Legal Counsel Instructions	12
DFO SUBMISSION	18
NWMB Questions and Comments	31
NWMB Staff Questions and Comments	52
Pond Inlet HTO Questions and Comments	64
Arctic Bay HTO Questions and Comments	98
NTI Questions and Comments	119
QWB Questions and Comments	141
ELDERS Questions and Comments	165
Public Questions and Comments	173
POND INLET HTO SUBMISSION	193
NWMB Board Questions and Comments	201
NWMB Staff Questions and Comments	220
DFO Questions and Comments	221
NTI Questions and Comments	222
QWB Questions and Comments	226
Arctic Bay Elders Questions and Comments	231
Stenographer's Certificate	237

1 (Proceeding commenced at 9:30 a.m.)

2 THE CHAIR: Good morning, everybody. I hope
3 everybody can hear me. First of all, it's a pleasure and
4 it's very happy to know that we all made it in here and
5 everybody's here for this public hearing on narwhal.

6 I'd first like to welcome everyone and thank the
7 community of Pond Inlet for having us and hosting us. It's
8 wonderful to be here.

9 With that, I think we'll start the meeting off
10 with a morning prayer. And, Caleb, can you give us that
11 honour? Thank you.

12 (PRAYER)

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

14 Okay. We'll start off again by making all of
15 our introductions, so I'll start off. My name is
16 Dan Shewchuk, and I'm the Acting Chairman of the Nunavut
17 Wildlife Management Board.

18 And we'll go this way. Charlie.

19 **INTRODUCTIONS**

20 MR. INUARAK: I'm from Pond Inlet. My name is
21 Charlie Inuarak. I'm an NWMB Board Member appointed by
22 NTI, and, also, I am mayor. I just want to welcome
23 everyone to Pond Inlet.

24 Pond Inlet people are welcoming. You can go
25 visiting and have tea. You can go to any house, and you

1 can be fed. Thank you very much for arriving, and we
2 wanted you to come here, so we're happy that it is
3 happening. Thank you.

4 MR. KEENAINAK: My name is Simeonie Keenainak.
5 I've been with the Board for four years to NWMB, appointed
6 by GN, and I'm happy to be here while we're dealing with
7 narwhal. Thank you.

8 MR. KANGO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 I'm from Iqaluit. I'm the chairperson of the
10 local HTO in Iqaluit, and I think it's been close to
11 20 years. I'm here on behalf of Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife
12 Board. When they had the AGM, I was appointed as a
13 vice-chair of the QWB. James Qillaq, our chairperson, was
14 busy, so I was asked to come here. Thank you very much for
15 welcoming us by Pond Inlet people.

16 MR. MIKKI: Jason Mikki. I'm the executive
17 director for QWB.

18 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Eric Ootoova from Pond Inlet. I'm
19 a board member for the local HTO. Thank you for inviting
20 me.

21 MR. KILLIKTEE: Jaykolassie Killiktee from
22 Pond Inlet, and I'm also a board member for the local HTO.

23 MR. P. SANGOYA: My name is Paniloo Sangoya. I
24 think everybody knows me. I'm an Elder, but I don't feel
25 that I'm an Elder yet, so you'll probably feel like that in

1 the future.

2 And I'm not going to say what I don't know, and
3 I'm not going to be reading anything that is written. So I
4 just want you to make -- but I'll try and say what I know
5 when my time comes around.

6 Welcome to Pond Inlet. Pond Inlet became a
7 community in 1965. That's when they first built the
8 buildings, so I've been living here since. I was raised
9 near Igloodik. Thank you.

10 MR. ATTITAQ: My name is Jobie Attitaq. I'm the
11 chairperson of Arctic Bay local HTO, and thank you for
12 including us from Arctic Bay; and, also, thank you for
13 welcoming us, Pond Inlet.

14 MR. NAQITARVIK: Roger Naqitarvik, and I was asked
15 to come here from Arctic Bay to this hearing, so thank you.

16 MR. QAUNAQ: Sakiasie Qaunaq from Arctic Bay.
17 I'm a local HTO board member in that community, and I've
18 been a board member for that body for one year. Thank you
19 for inviting us to this hearing to deal with the narwhal,
20 and I hope good things come out of this hearing regarding
21 the stuff that have been worked on about narwhal. Thank
22 you.

23 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you. I'm Paul Irngaut. I'm
24 the Director of Wildlife in NTI. And James Eetoolook, he
25 had to go down to Ottawa. He's the acting president right

1 now, so he's down in Ottawa. Thank you.

2 MR. MATTHEWS: *Ullaakuut.* My name is Cory
3 Matthews. I'm a research scientist at Fisheries and Oceans
4 in Winnipeg. Some of you know me from my killer whale
5 research here in Arctic Bay, but now I work mostly on
6 population assessment of belugas and narwhal.

7 MR. LEWIS: *Ullaakkut.* Chris Lewis, fishery
8 management biologist out of the DFO office in Iqaluit.
9 Thank you.

10 MS. CRYSTAL: *Ullaakkut.* My name is Danica
11 Crystal. I'm the wildlife management biologist for the
12 NWMB responsible for fish and marine mammals.

13 MR. D'EÇA: *Ullaakkut.* My name is
14 Michael d'Eça. I'm the legal advisor for NWMB, and I live
15 in Ottawa.

16 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Good morning. David Kritterdlik
17 from Whale Cove, and I've been appointed by the feds to be
18 a part of NWMB Board. And thank you for -- there is one
19 member that is arriving today. His name is also David.

20 MR. C. SANGOYA: Caleb Sangoya from Pond Inlet. I
21 was appointed by the Qikiqtaaluk Inuit Association. I
22 still have two years in term to be with NWMB.

23 MR. AKEAROK: My name is Jason Akearok,
24 executive director for NWMB.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

1 People in the public gallery in the rear.

2 MS. HALL: *Ullaakut*. Patt Hall is my name
3 I'm from Winnipeg. I'm with DFO. I feel welcome. Thank
4 you.

5 MR. ROMBERG: Stefan Romberg with Fisheries and
6 Oceans Canada. I'm a senior fisheries management biologist
7 based out of Ottawa.

8 MR. ETUANGAT: Jason Etuangat from Iqaluit with
9 GN Fisheries and Sailing Division. I'm also here as an
10 observer.

11 MR. KOONARK Joamie Koonark from Pond Inlet.

12 MR. TAGAK: Sheatie Tagak from Pond Inlet, and
13 I'm also from the local HTO.

14 MR. MAKTAR: Leo Maktar. I'm a local board
15 member. Please feel welcome.

16 MR. ENOOK: My name is Joe Enook. I'm the
17 MLA, and I just want to welcome everybody. If you allow
18 me, to our community.

19 Are you giving me a chance to say a few words?

20 THE CHAIR: Go ahead, Joe.

21 MR. ENOOK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Board
22 Members with NWMB and the staff and HTOs. Please feel
23 welcome to our community.

24 I know that you know the sun is not up, but we
25 are not sad here in Pond Inlet. Even when it's dark, we're

1 still alive. We still go out hunting in the dark, and we
2 work in the dark, and we have our fishery, and we are happy
3 together.

4 While you are here, please feel welcome. Even
5 when it's dark outside, you're always welcome. If you go
6 to any house in the community, you will be welcome to that
7 household. Even during the dark period, I just want to
8 say, Mr. Chairman, that you have hard work ahead of you,
9 all of you, and you will hear different stories from the
10 scientists and from the Elders, and they will have
11 differing ideas. That is how it is still at the
12 legislature. Mr. Shewchuk knows that.

13 But I just want to remind you. While you are
14 going to be dealing with this topic, can you remember why
15 you are doing that? Don't forget the people that you
16 represent. And we try to settle something that will be a
17 benefit to all of them. And.

18 I know you will try come up with the best
19 decision.

20 You will hear from the scientists, from
21 researchers, and also from the Inuit Elders who have the
22 knowledge. And they know everything just like the
23 scientists know. They've been living around for thousands
24 of years with assistance from the wildlife, birds, marine
25 mammals, or terrestrial mammals. They know that. If they

1 weren't able to consume the wildlife, they wouldn't have
2 lived. That was the only way that they could survive, and
3 I know you will be considering those, Mr. Shewchuk, because
4 I know you because we were also in the legislative
5 together. I believe you, and I know you will hear some --
6 please feel welcome to our community. Thank you for giving
7 me this chance.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Joe.

9 Okay. We're going to carry on, then. Before we
10 move on to our legal counsel just to give us all
11 instructions of how this is going to work, this public
12 hearing for the knowledge of all of us, there's a few
13 things: One, I would ask that all your cell phones be
14 turned off if you have any on you; secondly, the washrooms,
15 I believe they're right down the hall here if you need to
16 use the washroom; thirdly, on your headset and on your
17 microphone in front of you, the English channel is channel
18 number one, Inuktitut is channel number two, and the zero
19 is just for the floor channel, is whoever is speaking at
20 the time, you can hear that.

21 Our regular schedule is to meet from 9 to 12,
22 'til noon, every day and then from 1:30 to 5, and that's
23 what we're going to set out to do. But in the case that we
24 do fall behind or there is a reason we need to meet longer,
25 there is a possibility for evening meetings to happen too.

1 All right. With that, I'm going to turn it over
2 to Michael, our legal counsel, just to give everybody
3 information, instructions on how the procedure is going to
4 work. Thank you.

5 **NWMB LEGAL COUNSEL INSTRUCTIONS**

6 MR. D'EÇA: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

7 (Inuktitut spoken) if people have copies of the
8 rules for the hearing, but if you do, it's in tab 2 of the
9 binder, and I'm going to walk you through a few of the most
10 relevant rules to what's happening today.

11 But first by way of introduction, this NWMB
12 public hearing, if you haven't attended a public hearing of
13 the NWMB before, you'll find it to be quite similar to many
14 of the regular meetings that you do attend, but it's
15 somewhat more structured. That's one of the reasons why
16 I'll go through the rules.

17 What will happen is the Department of Fisheries
18 and Oceans, who has put a proposal to the NWMB with respect
19 to total allowable harvest for narwhal stocks will make a
20 presentation, an oral presentation, based upon what they've
21 already submitted in writing. And then we will
22 systematically -- you will all have a chance to ask
23 questions of the department, and then it will go to each of
24 the parties, and it will be the same thing; you will make
25 whatever statement you wish to make and then there will be

1 questions from the NWMB, from the other parties and so on,
2 and all of that will take place within the context of these
3 rules that I'm going to walk you through.

4 There's actually 18 rules, but no need to worry,
5 I'm not going to go through all 18 of them; I'm going to go
6 through about 10 or so. And first I want to just point out
7 that Rule 6 refers to all of the materials that have
8 already been presented to the NWMB, all of the written
9 materials. The Board makes the pledge that it will make
10 these publicly available subject to relevant
11 confidentiality or privacy concerns. I don't believe there
12 were any of those kinds of concerns, so everything that's
13 been filed with the NWMB is available to you through our
14 registry online, or you can request from the NWMB copies of
15 those materials.

16 Rule Number 7. The NWMB will provide
17 simultaneous English and Inuktitut translation at the
18 hearing, to the extent reasonably possible, and we're lucky
19 to have two excellent and highly experienced translators,
20 Leetia and Evie, and they will serve us well.

21 Rule 8. A quorum of the NWMB members shall be
22 present at the hearing, and that's a legal requirement. A
23 quorum for the NWMB is five members. We do have five
24 members, and a sixth will be showing up I think around
25 lunchtime today.

1 Moving to Rule 11. All parties and other
2 participants at the hearing, the public and so on, are
3 required to treat one another and the NWMB with respect.
4 And the reason we have that rule is that at many of the
5 hearings we're talking about fundamental issues that are
6 close to everyone's heart, and so, you know, passions can
7 get raised -- and that's fine. Be passionate. But you've
8 got to be respectful. We have to come into this room with
9 the expectation that everybody is here in good faith, even
10 if we hold different views, and we treat one another
11 accordingly.

12 Rule 12. And I'm repeating kind of what I said
13 at the beginning. The NWMB will provide a reasonable
14 opportunity for oral presentations from each of the parties
15 by their choice of whoever they wish to make those
16 presentations.

17 In terms of, once you've made your presentation,
18 Rule 13: Any member of the NWMB, the NWMB's director of
19 wildlife or the NWMB's legal counsel may ask relevant
20 questions of any party at the hearing.

21 And Rule 14, any party may ask relevant
22 questions of any other party at the hearing. You know,
23 what we're looking for is an exchange of information and
24 positions and clarity.

25 Rule 15. The NWMB will provide members of the

1 public a reasonable opportunity to make statements and ask
2 questions of the parties and the NWMB.

3 A couple of very practical matters. Rule 16.
4 Every person at the hearing wishing to speak or to ask a
5 question shall raise his or her hand and shall only speak
6 once the NWMB Chairperson has recognized him or her. So
7 that's just a practical in how we're going to organize
8 things. And I know Jason assists the Chair. If there's a
9 number of hands going up, he's going to make a list and so
10 on.

11 Also, another practical rule, Rule 17. The NWMB
12 Chair reserves the right to place reasonable time limits on
13 presentations, statements, and questions. You know, we
14 want to be fair, we want to be thorough, but there are
15 practical considerations, in terms of time, that the NWMB
16 has to take into account.

17 And finally, Rule 18. The NWMB will make an
18 audio recording of the hearing available upon request.
19 And, in addition, we have a very fine court reporter,
20 Adele, who is here. She'll be making a transcript of the
21 hearing, so we will have a very good record of what is
22 stated over the next couple of days.

23 Mr. Chair, I just wanted to mention one other
24 thing that I'm not sure if it's of concern to people but I
25 think it's something that I should put on the table, and

1 that is that two members of the NWMB are from this
2 community; Caleb, and Charlie. And a person might wonder,
3 well, should they really be on the tribunal? Aren't they,
4 you know, in some kind of conflict because they're from
5 this community? And the NWMB takes the position, no, that
6 is not so. They are not biased, they are not in a
7 conflict.

8 But like all of the members on the NWMB and,
9 really, all members of all tribunals across this country,
10 every member must maintain an open mind during a hearing --
11 and I'm talking about all of the members. The best analogy
12 to describe what they're doing is they're acting like
13 judges. Those judges are about to be presented with
14 evidence and arguments from a number of parties. That
15 evidence and arguments will be for or against a particular
16 proposal.

17 So all members are required to remain
18 open-minded when receiving the arguments and evidence. And
19 that doesn't mean that they have to set aside all of their
20 own experience and all of their own knowledge, because
21 that, too, is important. Every member brings certain life
22 experiences to their membership on a tribunal. But they
23 must impartially consider what they're hearing; and, of
24 course, they can ask questions and sometimes even tough
25 questions if answers are unsatisfactory.

1 What we are all striving for, both the NWMB
2 Members and all of the parties here today, is an open and
3 respectful discussion and investigation that will
4 eventually -- probably by March of 2017 -- lead to a
5 decision that will be based upon the most reliable and
6 persuasive evidence and arguments.

7 So with that, Mr. Chair, I'll end my remarks.
8 *Taima.*

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Michael.

10 Is there any questions or concerns about the
11 process? Joshua.

12 MR. KANGO: Not a question, but I'd like to
13 make a comment. I know the interpreters will be working
14 really hard to try and balance information in both
15 languages for those of us who are unilingual, in Inuktitut
16 and English, and sometimes when you are speaking in broken
17 language like English and Inuktitut, it kind of confuses
18 the discussion, and sometimes we don't understand what
19 they're trying to say. If you're going to speak English,
20 speak English. If you speak Inuktitut, speak Inuktitut.
21 The interpreter will convey the message.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Joshua.

23 Okay. Any other questions?

24 If not, I just want to quickly apologize to the
25 interpreters and to Adele for not giving the opportunity to

1 introduce yourselves so everybody knows who you are now.

2 Thank you very much.

3 Okay. With that, I think we're ready to begin.

4 So first on the agenda is the proposal delivered by

5 Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Chris.

6 **DFO SUBMISSION**

7 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

8 So I'd just like to start by thanking the Board
9 and the community for the opportunity to speak and
10 participate at this public hearing.

11 In June, Fisheries and Oceans submitted a
12 request for NWMB decision about proposed modifications to
13 the total allowable harvest levels for each of the
14 Baffin Bay narwhal management units.

15 The NWMB held a written hearing in August 2016
16 to consider the total allowable harvest modifications
17 proposed for Somerset Island, east Baffin Island, Smith and
18 Jones Sound narwhal. The presentation that we have
19 provided today focuses on the proposed modifications to the
20 levels of total allowable harvest for narwhal in the
21 Admiralty Inlet and Eclipse Sound management units. We
22 look forward to an open and fruitful discussion over the
23 next two days.

24 And DFO representatives attending today's
25 hearing, just a recap again. Myself, Chris Lewis, I'm a

1 fishery management biologist with Fisheries and Oceans in
2 Iqaluit; Cory Matthews, a research scientist from DFO
3 Winnipeg will be co-presenting with me today;
4 Stefan Romberg, a senior resource management officer from
5 DFO Ottawa; and Patt Hall, resource management officer from
6 DFO Winnipeg.

7 So the presentation today will be in three
8 parts. We'll start with some background and review the
9 current co-management approach for Baffin Bay narwhal
10 management units. Next we'll summarize the DFO science
11 advice and community response to it that informed DFO's
12 request for NWMB decision; and, finally, we will present
13 some possible next steps. Go to the next slide.

14 The narwhal management plan was finalized and
15 implemented in 2013. The management plan applies to both
16 Baffin Bay and northern Hudson Bay narwhal populations.
17 The map in this presentation shows the summer range of the
18 four Baffin Bay narwhal stocks, and the purple area at the
19 bottom of the map is the range of the northern Hudson Bay
20 population which will not be discussed at this meeting.

21 The narwhal management plan sets out management
22 units Somerset Island, Admiralty Inlet, Eclipse Sound, and
23 east Baffin Island. For each management unit a total
24 allowable harvest is included that was established by the
25 Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, the tusk certification

1 process, annual post-season reviews that are conducted by
2 DFO at each regional wildlife organization at their annual
3 general meetings each fall, and interim flex quota system.

4 The management plan notes the existing gaps in
5 our collective knowledge about stock relationships within
6 Baffin Bay and describes research designed to improve that
7 knowledge. Go to the next slide.

8 This graph shows narwhal community harvest
9 limits, the solid black line, and narwhal harvests, the
10 gray line, before and after the IFMP was implemented. IFMP
11 implementation was indicated by the solid red line. The
12 total number of narwhal available for harvest by Inuit has
13 risen each year since the IFMP was implemented, partially
14 due to the implementation of interim flex quota system
15 which allowed for the carryover of unused tags.

16 The total number of narwhal harvested has risen,
17 but it has not changed as dramatically. 2016 harvest
18 reporting is not yet complete, and the big --

19 THE INTERPRETER: I apologize, but I don't know
20 what you're reading from. We have different information.

21 Okay.

22 THE CHAIR: Okay. Are we good to go?

23 Okay. Carry on.

24 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

25 The 2015 harvest number includes narwhal taken

1 from the entrapment during last December in Eclipse Sound.

2 Next slide.

3 This graph illustrates the community harvest
4 limits, which are black lines for Eclipse Sound and
5 Admiralty Inlet, and the narwhal harvests, which are the
6 gray line for Eclipse Sound and Admiralty Inlet since the
7 introduction of the Integrated Fishery Management Plan.

8 Next slide.

9 In June 2016, DFO submitted a request for NWMB
10 decision. The request was supported by new 2015 science
11 advice about aerial surveys conducted in 2013. The 2013
12 aerial survey produced the total abundance estimate for
13 Baffin Bay narwhal higher than previous estimates at
14 approximately 142,000. The first abundance estimates were
15 produced for Jones Sound and Smith Sound stocks. New
16 estimates for Eclipse Sound and Admiralty Inlet suggest a
17 change in narwhal distribution and/or stock uncertainty.

18 And because narwhal movements between
19 Eclipse Sound and Admiralty Inlet have previously been
20 documented by satellite telemetry, the surveying design was
21 to survey these areas in quick succession. Admiralty Inlet
22 was surveyed in two days, with a four-day break in between
23 due to bad weather, and Eclipse Sound was covered
24 immediately after in two successive days. Next slide.

25 For each narwhal stock, the slide shows the

1 previous abundance estimate and updated estimate returned
2 from the 2013 aerial survey. The information for
3 Admiralty Inlet and Eclipse Sound is in bold. The previous
4 estimate for Admiralty Inlet was 18,049 whales from 2010.
5 The new 2013 abundance estimate was 35,043 whales.

6 For Eclipse Sound, the previous abundance
7 estimate from 2004 was 20,255 whales, and the newest 2013
8 estimate was 10,489 whales. Next slide.

9 For each narwhal stock this slide shows the
10 total allowable harvest established by the Nunavut Wildlife
11 Management Board and the new advice resulting from the 2013
12 aerial survey. Information for Admiralty Inlet and
13 Eclipse Sound is in bold. The current total allowable
14 harvest for Admiralty Inlet is 233; the new advice is 389.
15 For Eclipse Sound, the current total allowable harvest is
16 236; and the new advice is 134. Next slide, please.

17 In April 2016, community consultations took
18 place with HTO representatives from Arctic Bay,
19 Mittimatalik, Clyde River, and Qikiqtarjuaq and their
20 regional wildlife organization. Each community HTO meeting
21 was followed by a public meeting. The objectives were to
22 review the new science advice, explore narwhal management
23 options and implications, and discuss DFO's
24 responsibilities under CITES.

25 DFO summarized community feedback in a

1 consultation document. There were approximately 20 to 25
2 participants at each public meeting. Community members and
3 harvesters shared Inuit and local knowledge and expertise
4 related to the narwhal management and harvesting.

5 The feedback document was provided to NWMB,
6 together with the request for NWMB decision in June 2016.
7 Following consultations, NWMB also received consideration
8 from Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization to
9 which DFO responded. This HTO letter was also considered
10 in developing next steps for Eclipse Sound research. Next
11 slide.

12 During the HTO and community meetings we talked
13 a little bit about the harvest allocation model. This is
14 one of the examples that we displayed during those
15 meetings. This is one example only of what a sustainable
16 harvest could look like if we were to implement the new
17 science advice completely and maintain the current
18 nondetriment finding to allow the international export of
19 tusks.

20 This is an example only, and prior to making any
21 changes to tag allocations we expect to invite HTO
22 delegates to a second model allocation workshop similar to
23 what was done just prior to the implementation of the IFMP
24 management plan. This would allow us to work together to
25 revisit summer catch proportions and look at a number of

1 model output options.

2 This example would see a slight decrease in the
3 number of tags for Pond Inlet compared to the current base
4 allocations and also allow for a slight increase to some
5 other communities. Keep in mind this is an example only.

6 And on the next slide I'm going to turn it over
7 to Cory to talk a little bit about some of the recent
8 research initiatives.

9 MR. MATTHEWS: All right. Thank you, Chris.

10 So, yes, in response to the community concerns
11 that were raised in April, we conducted two additional
12 research programs here in 2016, just the past August, to
13 update the abundance estimate and also to get at the
14 question of connectivity between this stock and
15 Admiralty Inlet. So I'll go over the first set of research
16 here, which was our aerial survey. So you can see the map
17 on the presentation now shows all of the lines flown for
18 the entire survey, which was about two weeks. Our goal in
19 this survey was to count or to estimate abundance of both
20 the Admiralty Inlet and Eclipse Sound stocks at the same
21 time. Next slide, please.

22 So this slide now shows the different areas of
23 each survey that were completed over five days or in five
24 days over two weeks. Most areas were surveyed twice, and
25 the high-density areas like Milne Inlet and Tremblay Sound

1 were surveyed three times.

2 DFO discussed the aerial survey plans with the
3 HTO manager here in June. It was agreed that the survey
4 would increase coverage in areas where the community
5 regularly sees narwhals in August, such as Milne Inlet and
6 Tremblay Sound.

7 The survey team here and also in Admiralty Inlet
8 included local observers from the HTO. And at the end of
9 the survey, DFO provided the HTO here with a hard drive
10 containing all of the photographs taken along all of the
11 survey transects.

12 I think everyone here is aware, because I've
13 read that it was brought up about the surveys that LGL, the
14 consulting company, has been doing here over the last
15 several years, so we have an agreement with them, now they
16 provided data from those aerial surveys from 2012, '13 and
17 '15, I believe, and we're now in the process of starting to
18 analyze that data, along with the 2016 survey that we've
19 completed. And we expect to have those results reviewed at
20 our national marine mammal peer. Review I believe in
21 November of 2017 it's scheduled. Next slide, please.

22 So the second big research project that we did
23 here this year was again a continuation of stuff we've done
24 previously with our tagging program. And, again, we had
25 skilled locals participate in this project as well.

1 So in August we satellite tagged five killer
2 whales, and DFO has sent regular updates on the movements
3 of these animals since September, and we have a video on
4 this slide. I'm not sure if you can run the video. It's
5 showing -- or a little clip -- that shows the movements of
6 these animals.

7 Okay. Well, what the video shows is the
8 original location of the whales and then them leaving the
9 area to go into Baffin Bay.

10 The first video was one of the narwhals, and
11 unfortunately, we haven't received transmissions from this
12 tag since November 10th. And then we had two videos; the
13 second narwhal still transmitting tags, but they've both
14 left the area. So this project was one of our efforts to
15 get at how these two stocks might be connected and the idea
16 being that we wanted to see their movement. So after being
17 tagged, they remained in the area and then went east to
18 Baffin, Baffin Bay.

19 So I'll hand it back to Chris.

20 MR. LEWIS: The next slide, please.

21 Current listing for narwhal is on CITES
22 Appendix 2, which means a nondetriment finding decision
23 from the DFO scientific authority is required to obtain a
24 CITES export/re-export permit to export narwhal products
25 internationally. Harvested narwhals from Canadian

1 management units are not eligible for international trade
2 if the harvest exceeds the total allowable harvest
3 recommendation for a population.

4 We anticipated a review by the DFO CITES
5 scientific authority following the April 2016
6 consultations. No review has taken place at this time, and
7 it is not clear when the review will take place at this
8 moment. For this meeting, too, we've also brought along
9 some narwhal export information.

10 And we're going to switch back to Cory for some
11 next steps for science on the next slide.

12 MR. MATTHEWS: Okay. So this slide just
13 summarizes some of what we're doing over the upcoming year.
14 First of all, we're reviewing and working on a JCMB model
15 that we have for -- it's an allocation model. It's like a
16 next step of the allocation model you're familiar with.
17 We've reviewed that at the most recent national marine
18 mammal peer review meeting that we just had in Winnipeg in
19 October. It's going to be undergoing further review in
20 March 2017 at the JCMB meeting in Copenhagen.

21 A really big goal for us at DFO, actually, is to
22 continue research to increase the understanding of the
23 connection between the Admiralty Inlet and Eclipse Sound
24 narwhal stocks, and we can discuss this later during
25 questions, but in addition to the satellite tagging project

1 that we just did in August, we are going to be doing more
2 satellite tagging, or hope to be doing more, during the
3 late spring, so May or June, at the floe edge to both
4 satellite tag and collect skin biopsies; and that will
5 allow us to look at movements of the narwhals before the
6 summer period and also to conduct more genetics and
7 contaminants analysis to look at stock assessment.

8 We're also working on a study using trace
9 elements, so different types of metals, primarily, that
10 differ regionally. And an animal picks up those trace
11 element profiles or signatures in their tissue, and by
12 measuring those, much like the contaminants, we can start
13 to look at how their distributions differ. And, of course,
14 we want to finish up with the analysis of the 2016 aerial
15 survey that was just completed and include the LGL data
16 once we have a look at that and see how the data collection
17 and the two surveys compare.

18 MR. LEWIS: Next slide, please.

19 For resource management following an NWMB
20 decision we expect to host the second harvest allocation
21 workshop to consider tag allocation scenarios. We're also
22 anticipating a review of the existing CITES nondetriment
23 finding for Baffin Bay narwhal. Final slide, please.

24 *Qujannamiik.* Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Chris and

1 Cory.

2 Just before I go to the Board for questions, for
3 clarity for me and for the Board and for all the delegates
4 around the table, can you just reiterate DFO's request and
5 position on your recommended TAH so that everybody's clear
6 about that. Thank you. Go ahead, Chris.

7 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

8 I think probably if we go back to the slide that
9 shows the table with the 2013 aerial survey results and the
10 new total allowable harvest advice, DFO's recommendation is
11 to implement the science recommendations based on the 2013
12 aerial survey results.

13 So the column with the new total allowable
14 harvest advice and, specifically for this meeting, the
15 recommendation would be to increase the current total
16 allowable harvest for Admiralty Inlet from 233 to 389 and
17 to modify the current total allowable harvest for
18 Eclipse Sound from 236 to the new recommendation of 134.
19 Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you, Chris.

21 You have information here about sustainable
22 example, and then you have an example of tag allocation.
23 That's just a different scenario, I guess, that DFO is
24 proposing that may happen then, too -- just for
25 clarification?

1 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

2 Yeah, thanks for the opportunity to comment on
3 that again. Maybe if we could get this sustainable example
4 up on the screen, too, I can explain it a little better and
5 provide a little more detail there.

6 So just prior to the implementation of the
7 narwhal management plan where total allowable harvests were
8 established and put in place for the 2013-14 harvest
9 season, there was a harvest allocation workshop, and we
10 required input from communities that harvest from
11 Somerset Island, east Baffin Bay, Admiralty Inlet, and
12 Eclipse Sound. And for the communities Qikiqtarjuaq,
13 Clyde River, Arctic Bay, and Pond Inlet there was a two-tag
14 system that included a migratory season when the narwhal
15 are mixing from these Baffin Bay stocks and a summer
16 season. The summer season was a community harvest limit
17 that was established based on narwhal returning to that
18 area every summer.

19 At that point, we asked the HTOs what proportion
20 of their tags they wanted to see issued for the summer
21 season, and we used the model to establish these community
22 harvest limits, and the community harvest limits are a
23 little different than what the total allowable harvest
24 actually is, but it allows communities to access these
25 migratory mixed stocks in a sustainable manner and also

1 harvest from these localized summer stocks. It's a tool to
2 maximize sustainable harvest for communities and also allow
3 them to maintain an NDF for export of tusks
4 internationally.

5 So this example that we put up for Pond Inlet
6 specifically, if Pond Inlet -- again, this was just an
7 example for discussion -- if Pond Inlet was interested in
8 looking at a 50 percent harvest in the summer and a
9 50 percent harvest in the migratory season, you'd see a
10 total tag reduction from 190 base tags to 170. And again,
11 this is just one example, but that would be the point of a
12 harvest allocation workshop would be to explore a number of
13 other options and find something that works for everybody.

14 *Qujannamiik.*

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

16 Okay. I'll open the floor now for questions
17 from Board Members. Charlie.

18 **NWMB QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

19 MR. INUARAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have
20 a question and also make a comment.

21 You mentioned that Admiralty Inlet -- we don't
22 have (Inuktitut spoken), and when you're talking about
23 (Inuktitut spoken), it is in the Admiralty Inlet area, not
24 in Eclipse Sound.

25 My other question is the narwhal, when you

1 start considering the narwhal decreasing in Eclipse Sound.
2 Since when did you start noticing them? And
3 Admiralty Inlet is also included. As you mentioned,
4 according to the -- and you thought that -- my question:
5 When did you start noticing that the narwhal were
6 decreasing in the Eclipse area? Was there a certain time
7 when you really noticed that they had declined suddenly, or
8 have you noticed whether they have been declining for some
9 time?

10 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

12 Chris, Cory.

13 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

14 So the most recent abundance estimate was from
15 the 2013 survey, which was substantially lower than the
16 2004 survey, which was the previous survey for that area.

17 We've also heard a number of concerns from the
18 community about possible changes in distributions related
19 to killer whale activity and/or marine ship traffic.

20 Connectivity of Admiralty Inlet and
21 Eclipse Sound has also been questioned, and I'd like to
22 turn it over to Cory just to talk a little bit about some
23 of the things that DFO is working with the community to do
24 to try and address some of these concerns.

25 MR. MATTHEWS: *Qujannamiik, Charlie.*

1 Yeah, so some of the stuff that we're doing, in
2 terms of looking -- I had mentioned in terms of looking at
3 how these two stocks may be moving between the two areas --
4 involved collecting more tissue samples from hunters and in
5 a spring biopsy program to look at genetics, contaminants,
6 and trace elements.

7 The other thing I'd like to point out is our
8 survey from 2013 did include the Eclipse Sound area and
9 also Admiralty Inlet, so we should be able to come up with
10 a reestimate of those numbers. Even though Admiralty Inlet
11 wasn't completed -- completely surveyed, we do have our own
12 survey which was conducted three times, and I think when we
13 get into the LGL data from 2015 we'll have another year.

14 So although we only have two years, your
15 question was originally about, when did we notice a
16 decrease. We'll have, by the end of 2017, we'll have these
17 two more years to add to the series to be able to assess
18 that.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

20 Simeonie.

21 MR. KEENAINAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a
22 question for DFO.

23 There's different colours where the narwhal
24 stocks are in the map. Have you made that because they are
25 from different stocks? And my second question is: There

1 was an area where they didn't have any narwhal in the
2 Kugaaruk area in Kitikmeot, and we keep hearing that the
3 narwhal are shifting over to the central arctic. Do you
4 know whether the narwhal are moving westward, the ones that
5 used to be around here? I'm just wondering if you have
6 noticed whether the narwhal are moving west that used to be
7 around here.

8 Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simeonie.

10 Chris, Cory.

11 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

12 All I can really speak to is the most recent
13 survey that we completed in 2013 which recognizes that
14 maybe there are movements among regions, and so we tried to
15 conduct a whole-area survey all at once to try to account
16 for that. We recognize also that we've had a few tagged
17 whales move between areas that we didn't observe before.

18 But in answer to your question, I'm not aware of
19 any data that shows any massive western movements or
20 distribution change of narwhal.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory. Chris.

22 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

23 I think it was something, too, that we were also
24 asked about during some of the community meetings in April,
25 and one of the prime examples that we use is the area of

1 Kugaaruk where, I don't know the exact date, but there was
2 a point in time where there never used to be narwhal in
3 that area, but they come there on a regular basis now.

4 For the past five or six years, too, Cambridge
5 Bay is another area that has had a couple of years of
6 narwhal visitors to their area, so there has been some
7 evidence of expansion of the range, I guess.

8 But I hope that helps answer some -- and Cory's
9 got something else to add. Sorry.

10 THE CHAIR: Cory.

11 MR. MATTHEWS: Some of our research that we plan
12 on doing -- and, actually, it was part of our tagging
13 project, is to do some more behavioural assessments, maybe
14 similar to what LGL was trying to determine with respect to
15 shipping, but we are doing some drone work, we can observe
16 narwhal behaviour; of course, we'll have the tags and
17 looking at movement, and we'll be able to not be able to
18 get -- not just look at distribution or abundance, but
19 behavioural changes of these animals that might answer some
20 questions to that effect.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

22 I'd just like to welcome David Igutsaq. Nice to
23 see you. I'm glad that you made it. That's great.

24 That's our sixth Board Member on the NWMB.

25 Caleb, question?

1 MR. C. SANGOYA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 And thank you for your question.

3 The survey that you did, my first question is:
4 August 2016, according to the survey that you did, the
5 total allowable harvest -- are you trying to decrease the
6 total allowable harvest according to the August 7 to 21,
7 2016 aerial survey? And I know that the narwhal arrive in
8 May, and they stay around until October. Or were you just
9 considering those few days that you did an aerial survey?
10 If you're going to use that to decrease the total allowable
11 harvest just for a few days' survey, that wouldn't be good.

12 And, also, according to the survey, when leaving
13 here and the local HTO members in Mittimatalik, they have
14 been surveyed, and how many narwhal from Eclipse go over to
15 Admiralty Inlet? Because sometimes you start surveying
16 after they have moved over to Admiralty Inlet in September.
17 When they're returning from the Admiralty Inlet area, they
18 come through the waters of Pond Inlet, and I don't think
19 you surveyed those when they're migrating back down south.

20 Back in 1996, I've been going up there since
21 beginning of July to September, and I've been going up
22 there every summer. We have communications from survey and
23 others stay in Tulusiak (phonetic), and we all know where
24 the narwhal are every summer. Because when you're doing a
25 survey, we notice that as soon as we could hear that

1 aircraft, a whole bunch of narwhal dived, and probably you
2 probably only saw five of them, because once they hear the
3 aircraft, they all dive.

4 And I wonder if you can do a survey -- because
5 we always write down the number of narwhal we see every
6 day. Can't you use those numbers instead?

7 And so those are my two questions. Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

9 DFO?

10 MR. MATTHEWS: *Qujannamiik.*

11 So to answer your question from the beginning,
12 with respect to timing, the survey was conducted in
13 August when we're trying to capture the summer distribution
14 after they've arrived but before they've left, and I
15 believe it was the same time span as what was done for the
16 last survey.

17 To get to your question with animals diving,
18 we've used correction factors based on narwhal behaviour in
19 this area at the time of the survey, so it's our best
20 estimate of the behaviour of the animals that we would see
21 at the surface versus underwater, and we correct for that.
22 It's as best as you can do in terms of an aerial survey
23 from an airplane of marine mammal.

24 And, sorry, could you repeat the rest of your
25 question?

1 THE CHAIR: Caleb.

2 MR. C. SANGOYA: I don't think you answered my
3 first question.

4 You said you did an aerial survey August 7 to
5 21. Are you using those days, or are you using the ones
6 that are the aerial survey done from May to October or just
7 from August 7 to 21? Are you using those numbers to
8 decrease the total allowable harvest?

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

10 Cory.

11 MR. MATTHEWS: So the calculation comes from the
12 aerial survey that we conducted in August, yes.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Chris, do you have an
14 addition?

15 MR. LEWIS: Yeah, I think Caleb is asking
16 about the most recent. So, I think there's two parts,
17 yeah.

18 So the current science recommendation is based
19 on the 2013 aerial survey, and it is a recommendation to
20 reduce the total allowable harvest for Eclipse Sound.
21 That's the survey data that's being used, so yes, they are
22 doing it based on -- the recommendation is based on one
23 survey.

24 Given a number of concerns that were raised
25 during community consultations, DFO did go and do

1 additional surveys in August 2016, and this survey data
2 hasn't been analyzed yet, but it's -- what's the time line,
3 Cory?

4 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, we expect to have that
5 analyzed by the end of this year, so we'll present it at
6 the next marine mammal peer review, which is in -- it's
7 usually in October, but we're going to have it in November
8 in 2017. So it's a photographic survey, so it takes a bit
9 more time to do the analysis. We have two people counting
10 all the narwhal in the photos, and it will be ready by the
11 end of 2017, those estimates. Thanks.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you. And, gentlemen, just
13 slow down a little bit for the interpreters, too. Okay?
14 Caleb, go ahead.

15 MR. C. SANGOYA: I'll be very slow if I wait.
16 Yeah, I spent every summer up where we hunt
17 narwhal from 1996 to 2016. I'm up there every summer. And
18 from 2010 the narwhal have shifted to their summering areas
19 because of ship traffic and also the boat traffic, if
20 that's correct, but that hasn't been surveyed, that hasn't
21 been considered, the movement of ships or the boats before
22 that. From 1996 to 2009, the narwhal up in that area, they
23 would be playing, and they were playing with their narwhal.
24 I'm not sure if it's the ship traffic or the boat traffic
25 that has altered their behaviour. Have you studied that?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

2 Cory.

3 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, we definitely know that
4 shipping traffic can affect marine mammal distribution and
5 behaviour. There's been some work in the arctic on narwhal
6 and belugas, and I think they can hear the ship from about
7 50 to 75 kilometres away. They'll perhaps react.

8 I'm not sure of any direct research. I know LGL
9 was doing some data collection to look at narwhal
10 distribution with respect to shipping. That's not our goal
11 with the data. It's to look at abundance estimates.

12 With respect to our survey, however, we've
13 learned from locals and we saw from the last survey that
14 perhaps the distribution or the narwhals that were
15 distributed more in Eclipse Sound had moved more into
16 Tremblay Sound and Milne Inlet, so the survey that we just
17 did in 2016 has more transects and coverage of those areas
18 to better count those whales.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

20 Caleb.

21 MR. C. SANGOYA: Mr. Chair.

22 Do I understand that you have never studied the
23 effects of the shipping, or you didn't work with people
24 from Mary River or Milne Inlet, the ones when they did the
25 survey on their own? Did you work with them?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

2 Cory.

3 MR. LEWIS: We're going to ask Patt if she has
4 a little more history with the LGL files.

5 MS. HALL: Chris is being very polite. He's
6 not calling me old.

7 Caleb, I will try to answer your question.

8 When DFO flew its surveys in 2013 and then this
9 summer, the objective was to get an abundance estimate, and
10 the survey was done this year because DFO also noticed the
11 different abundance estimates that came out of 2013.

12 It's my understanding that Baffinland hired LGL,
13 a wildlife contract company, to look at differences in
14 narwhal distribution that might be related to shipping.

15 This year DFO has entered into an agreement with
16 Baffinland, and they have made their data available to DFO
17 so that it can be assessed along with the survey that we
18 flew this year, and give us more information to work with.
19 But we've only just received the information, so right now
20 Cory is starting to evaluate it and see how well the
21 information merges.

22 There was some work done by DFO several years
23 ago -- I want to say maybe late '90s, early 2000s -- and
24 there were DFO researchers that were looking at shipping
25 effects on narwhal. I think it was in Lancaster Sound, but

1 more recently, DFO has been focussing on abundance and
2 distribution through surveys and satellite tagging. *Taima.*

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Patt.

4 Caleb.

5 MR. C. SANGOYA: My last question. Because we have
6 noticed from international -- not from Canada, but from
7 Greenland, and they say that narwhal from Nunavut are not
8 smart, and they go -- and I notice, we notice that the
9 narwhal from Greenland area also come over this way now,
10 and I don't think you surveyed those narwhal. The ones
11 that go between here and Greenland, have you noticed that
12 or that our narwhal from this area also go over to the
13 Greenland side? Because we communicate with people from
14 Qaanaaq every day. Have you surveyed those narwhal that
15 cross over to Greenland side?

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

17 Patt.

18 MS. HALL: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

19 When we do our aerial surveys, what we're trying
20 to count is the number of narwhal that come back repeatedly
21 to the same summering areas; right? So the goal for our
22 surveys is to look at what we are calling management units,
23 and our collective thinking is that all of these animals
24 come back predictably to the same areas every year. But
25 narwhals are like people, you know, they change over time.

1 And we're also looking at the effects of climate change and
2 reduced ice.

3 So climate change may account for some of this
4 western shift in distribution that we're seeing where
5 people in Kugluktuk are now seeing narwhals, and also
6 sometimes in Cambridge. We heard in the springtime during
7 our consultation meetings that people are seeing different
8 narwhal now here that they suspect come from Greenland.

9 This could be because we think that these
10 narwhals share a common wintering area in Baffin Bay, and
11 it could be that some Greenland narwhal are following
12 Canadian narwhal back to summering areas. It could be that
13 they're chasing food. There is a lot of information yet to
14 acquire to improve our collective knowledge of these
15 narwhal.

16 It's my view that things don't stay the same
17 from year to year to year to year. So some of these new
18 observations that we're seeing could be due to changes in
19 habit, food supply. But I did want to emphasize that, when
20 we do aerial surveys, we focus in on summering stocks so
21 that we're providing the same estimates to the Board every
22 time we do a survey. It's always based on the same
23 principle, that we want to count the number of animals that
24 return to a specific area in summer.

25 When we start extending surveys too far into the

1 fall, then we don't really know which stocks we're counting
2 because narwhals are moving in mixed migratory groups;
3 right? So there's more chance that narwhal that don't
4 return back to Eclipse every year -- there's more of a
5 chance that these would be included. *Taima*.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Patt. Cory.

7 MR. MATTHEWS: If I could just go back to your
8 question about shipping, it's a little off topic, but we're
9 also doing a study on western Hudson Bay belugas that have
10 been satellite tagged, and we can get shipping data as
11 well. So what we're trying to do is look at where the
12 ships are going, overlap where the belugas are and what the
13 beluga responses are to when ships are in their area. So
14 with the data that we're trying to collect here with our
15 tagging data and the drone data that looks at behaviour, we
16 should be able to look at some of the questions you have
17 with respect to what the effects of shipping are by using
18 shipping data, as well, and combining that with our work
19 that we do here in the summer.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

21 Caleb.

22 MR. C. SANGOYA: Thank you.

23 You didn't quite answer my questions, I don't
24 think. 1997-2007 information I collected myself are quite
25 different from the information you have that you did with

1 an aerial survey. We were hoping that there would be
2 similarities and that you would survey on foot more than
3 you do on airplane.

4 That's all I have for now. I want to give other
5 people a chance to ask questions.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

7 Just before we go on here, at this time I know
8 there's more questions from the Board, and we'll go around
9 the table, so your turn will come. Don't worry about that.

10 But before we go on, we're going to take a
11 15-minute coffee break, and everybody will get a chance for
12 coffee. Thank you. 15 minutes.

13 (ADJOURNMENT)

14 THE CHAIR: Okay. We'll resume. Okay. We're
15 still with the Board for questions. Next on the list is
16 David K. Your questions, go ahead, David.

17 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 First of all, I'd like to talk or ask in
19 English. I'll make a statement first. I'm an Inuk, and my
20 dialect is Pondlumiut ^ sp and Inuktitut. The way I
21 understand in my dialect, in Inuktitut, I wouldn't be able
22 to interpret from my own dialect of Inuktitut even though
23 sometimes we misunderstand each other's dialect because one
24 word can mean another thing in another dialect, so I'm
25 going to be talking in English because my dialect is

1 different from the eastern arctic.

2 My question is very simple, I guess. In the
3 survey system that is used, just wondering what systems are
4 used: The tagging system, the aerial where you see, or the
5 sound? Do you use sound system of some kind, aerial, or
6 tagging system? And when we see the numbers on the
7 information, are those all put together -- do all those
8 different survey systems, do you put your numbers using all
9 those at different times or a certain time? Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

11 Cory.

12 MR. MATTHEWS: That's a great question. Thank
13 you.

14 So to answer the first part, this aerial survey
15 was a count of animals seen from airplanes, but we do have
16 a tagging proponent in there because, with the aerial
17 survey, there's two things that should be corrected for.
18 The first is that you don't see every whale. Even if it is
19 at the surface, you just don't see all of them.

20 A. Fso we have two viewers, and we're able to see what
21 they both count, and we're able to correct for that.

22 The second is there are a lot of animals
23 that are at depth that you can't see, so that gets to the
24 tagging question. We've used satellite tags of narwhal in
25 Eclipse Sound -- or Milne Inlet and Tremblay, actually --

1 to look at their diving behaviour during the surveys, and
2 from that we can estimate what proportion of animals are
3 visible and which ones are not, so we can correct our
4 counts for that. So the survey incorporated the tagging
5 data, as well, to make a correction.

6 And with respect to how we kind of put
7 together all the surveys, all the surveys in 2013 were done
8 the same way, and it's not necessarily the case for surveys
9 that are done over time, but if we have a different
10 correction factor, we usually go back to the raw counts and
11 redo all of the estimates so that they're comparable to the
12 most recent survey.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

14 Any other questions? David.

15 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Just an addition. Do you use one
16 system at a time, different survey? Thank you.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

18 Cory.

19 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

20 For the aerial survey and the satellite tagging
21 that we use to correct it, it's best if they're done at the
22 same time, and so we are trying to do that with all of our
23 surveys.

24 To get back to your acoustics question, we can
25 do work where we have a passive acoustic monitoring, which

1 is an instrument that can record whale calls and we can use
2 to that look at presence or absence of whales. It's a bit
3 more difficult to estimate numbers from the amount of calls
4 because you can have ten whales making a lot of calls or
5 maybe a hundred whales not making many, so it's hard to
6 count them. But there's research being done to use
7 acoustics, as well, but, yeah, we primarily usually use
8 aerial surveys combined with satellite telemetry.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

10 David, go ahead.

11 MR. KRITTERDLIK: *Taima*. Thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Any other questions from Board
13 Members? Charlie.

14 MR. INUARAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15 Supplementary question.

16 According to the written information, there was
17 an estimate number, and then you decreased that number, and
18 that proposal is from DFO. So how many years would this be
19 in effect if it was approved? When is the next time you're
20 going to do a survey on the particular whales that you want
21 to decrease? I know you're continuously doing surveys or
22 research according to your finances, but if this TAH was to
23 change the way you proposed it, when is the next time
24 you're going to do a survey, a count in these particular
25 areas? That's my question.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

2 Cory.

3 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, thank you, Charlie.

4 So we've just completed a survey in 2016, and we
5 have the LGL data from 2012, '13, and '15, and that should
6 be ready by the end of 2017. We should have all of those
7 estimates. And I'll let Chris comment to the TAH
8 calculations.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory. Chris.

10 MR. LEWIS: Yeah, once the publications come
11 out from the new survey that Cory's mentioned, and LGL
12 analyses, the process would likely start again, so I guess
13 as early as 2018, if there were some big differences seen
14 between the 2016 survey and the 2013 survey. Thanks.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

16 Any other questions from Board? Caleb.

17 MR. C. SANGOYA: One more. Last one from me.

18 The tagging that you do on whales when they're
19 diving, and their distribution, what I've observed from our
20 area, there's been two narwhals that have been harvested
21 had tags, and both times narwhal was very sickly and very
22 thin, no fat, just bones.

23 And it's obvious that the satellite tagging had
24 a detrimental effect on the whale. And we don't want to
25 eat them. It's not edible because of the deterioration of

1 the meat and the body. Inuit don't like to harvest whales
2 with boils. You can see visually a whale that has a boil,
3 that has the bump on the back because there's pus.
4 Obviously there's pus, and I'm wondering if DFO has
5 considered different technologies that would be less
6 harmful to the animal.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

8 Cory.

9 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you. That's a good question
10 as well. I've heard this with respect to polar bears and
11 other animals, too.

12 To take a step back, we do have photographs of
13 belugas and narwhals that have been tagged by us
14 previously, and the wound has healed and there seems to be
15 no problem with the whale.

16 We have done studies on killer whales where
17 we've satellite tagged them, and colleagues in Alaska have
18 done over 50 and have resighted them, and there's only been
19 one to have had a negative impact attributed to the
20 tagging.

21 That being said, yeah, we're always looking for
22 less invasive ways to study these animals. One of the --
23 the project that I mentioned about doing tagging at the
24 floe edge -- sorry, I'll just wait, maybe -- at the floe
25 edge would be to use a smaller type of tag that doesn't

1 penetrate as deep and that can be more easily applied
2 using, like, a jab pole, so you just jab it into, like,
3 like a harpoon. The tag would go into the blubber about
4 that deep, so you wouldn't have to capture or restrain the
5 animal, so it would be presumably less stressful. And I
6 don't think the tags would stay on as long. We'd be
7 interested in looking at where they're going into the
8 summer, so the tag would probably be designed to come off
9 within several months as opposed to a year or two, so it's
10 still tagging, but probably less invasive for the animal.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

12 Caleb.

13 MR. C. SANGOYA: Yes, that's exactly what I'm
14 trying to tell you. This particular technology you're
15 explaining is the ones that were used on those narwhal that
16 we harvested. Visually, they look okay. There seems to be
17 nothing wrong with them, but when you harvest them, the
18 insides are just diseased. That's what I'm trying to say,
19 and I'm just wondering if you can try and find technologies
20 that are less harmful. And, as hunters, as harvesters, we
21 should not just be picking up after DFO's harm.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

23 Cory.

24 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, it's a balance any time you
25 study any wild animal in how you tag them or, you know, how

1 much stress you're putting them under, and you balance the
2 types of answers you get from that research. It's a very
3 small number of whales that are tagged. Again, I can't
4 speak to what you're saying, I can only speak to what I've
5 seen myself and that the wounds heal up.

6 Yeah, but we're always looking for less invasive
7 ways to tag these animals, and again, it's a balance in
8 what type of research question we're asking. So that floe
9 edge tag, that is more of a jab pole type, and it's less
10 invasive, it doesn't stay on as long, we can use that type
11 of tag in that situation because we are looking at just
12 short-term movement, but if we want to look at long-term
13 movements, try to keep the tag on for a year or more,
14 there's limitations to what technologies we can actually
15 use.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

17 Any other questions from the Board?

18 If not, is there any questions from Board staff?

19 Danica, any questions,

20 **NWMB STAFF QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

21 MS. -- CRYSTAL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just
22 have one question for DFO.

23 In some reports produced by DFO, there's been
24 mainly reports that were assessing harvest sustainability.
25 There has been some analysis looking at combining

1 Admiralty Inlet and Eclipse Sound. So my question is if
2 you know of any quantitative risk comparison, so looking at
3 whether there's a higher risk of an unsustainable harvest
4 when you combine those two versus when they're looked at
5 separately as they are now, if that makes sense. Thanks.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Danica.

7 DFO. Cory.

8 MR. MATTHEWS: Thanks, Danica.

9 Yeah, to be honest, I'd have to go back and look
10 at C-SES (phonetic) documents on the assessments and the
11 allocation. But on a broader scale, I would say we don't
12 quite have the information yet to say whether or not --
13 there's indications that they're separate stocks, and until
14 we get more research to the effect that they're not so that
15 the trace element data, the contaminants, there's some
16 stable isotope data that Courtney Watt and other researcher
17 scientists has worked on that shows that Admiralty Inlet
18 and Eclipse Sound narwhal can be discriminated.

19 So I think in the face of not knowing, the more
20 conservative approach would be to treat them separately for
21 the more simple reason that, if you allocated a bigger
22 proportion of the harvest to the smaller component of the
23 shared stock when they're really not, then it's not
24 sustainable for the smaller stock but, yeah, we could maybe
25 go back and look at more detail to see what quantitatively

1 has been done.

2 And I don't know if Patt has anything to add to
3 that. Sorry, I don't mean to put Patt on the spot.

4 Maybe we can go back and double-check that, but
5 I would say just on a general scale until we have more
6 knowledge about how the stocks are combined or not, that it
7 would be more precautionary to treat them separately.

8 Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory. Danica, *taima*?
10 Michael, our legal counsel. Any questions, Michael?

11 MR. D'EÇA: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

12 I have two questions, and they're focused on
13 what went into the proposal for decision in 2016 that came
14 to the NWMB. And with respect to the first question, we do
15 know, thanks to Patt and Cory and Chris, that DFO is
16 reviewing that LGL data along with its own 2016 survey
17 data, and we'll get the results of that, it sounds like, in
18 about a year or so.

19 But as a layperson looking at the situation, I
20 see, oh, DFO did a 2013 survey, LGL did 2012, 2013, 2015
21 survey. And my question is: Was some or all of that LGL
22 data not available to the department at the time it
23 prepared and issued its 2016 proposal for decision to the
24 NWMB?

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

1 Cory.

2 MR. MATTHEWS: Okay. Thank you, Michael.

3 To be honest, I'm not sure of the time line of
4 how that all worked with the data sharing, but my
5 understanding is that it was brought up during the
6 community consultations in April, and then DFO started a
7 collaborative agreement with Baffinland who had hired LGL,
8 and now Baffinland has provided all the data. And I don't
9 know from their end what had happened with their own survey
10 plans this year, but DFO is providing the 2016 data to
11 them, so we do have the agreement, we have the data in
12 hand.

13 And, yeah, I haven't been able to do much with
14 it now, so the next step is to really sit down with it, see
15 where the surveys are comparable, how they differ, to do
16 the similar analysis on all years and then come up with --
17 to my understanding from their reports, they've only used
18 the data to look at density estimates.

19 With respect to ships, we obviously want to look
20 at abundance, so it will be a whole new analysis, and by
21 the time it's peer reviewed, it's expected to be available
22 by the end of next year, I would estimate.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

24 Michael.

25 MR. D'EÇA: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

1 What I understand from what you said is, as far
2 as you know, there wasn't an agreement to share the data.
3 That only came up, let's say, during the consultations,
4 there was discussion, oh, let's get in touch with LGL and
5 get that data shared.

6 So I'll leave that, Mr. Chair.

7 And my second question -- and just a bit of a
8 preamble to it -- that DFO has been clear that it
9 recognizes and it's investigating uncertainty around that
10 relationship between Admiralty Inlet narwhal and
11 Eclipse Sound narwhal, and we do know that in formulating
12 that proposal for 2016 the department conducted community
13 consultations, and it seems fair to say that those
14 consultations have influenced further investigations.
15 We're just talking about LGL, and, you know, you've done
16 your 2016 survey, you're going to review all of that and so
17 on. So they were very productive in that sense.

18 So my question is: Notwithstanding those
19 positive aspects, with respect to the current proposal
20 that's before the Board, did DFO take into account Inuit
21 *Qaujimaqatuqangit*, for instance, with respect to that
22 relationship between the two sets of narwhal; and if you
23 did take into account IQ, can you provide specific details
24 of how that found its way into your proposal?

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

1 Cory or Chris, go ahead.

2 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

3 One of the items that we had brought up during
4 the community consultations -- and that was also included
5 in the request for decision package -- was a *What We Heard*
6 document. So during our consultations we were very
7 diligent at recording community feedback and trying to
8 document a number of the concerns that we heard from HTOs
9 and the communities, and we wanted to make sure that this
10 was also written down and provided to the Board as part of
11 the decision-making package.

12 When the Integrated Fishery Management Plan came
13 into effect, there were similar documents provided to the
14 Board that, again, was a summary of the feedback that we
15 heard from communities and HTOs during community
16 consultations. There was also science consultations that
17 took place before the management plan consultations; and,
18 again, a summary document of the knowledge that was shared
19 with DFO during those community consultations was provided
20 to the Board as part of the initial management plan request
21 for decision.

22 I mean, this might be a good time, too, for Cory
23 to also just add on a little bit about how community input
24 also has a part to play in the research and development of
25 research projects within the community and, specifically,

1 the recent work that's been done in Pond Inlet.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris. And, Cory, just
3 slow down a wee bit. Okay?

4 MR. MATTHEWS: Okay.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

6 MR. MATTHEWS: All right. Thank you. I'll try.

7 With respect to -- beforehand with the decision
8 and all that, I can't really comment to that, but when we
9 design our aerial surveys -- and not just this one, but all
10 of them -- we communicate quite closely with the local HTOs
11 in terms of where we conduct the survey -- and tagging
12 projects, as well, where to look for the animals, where to
13 set up our camps.

14 For the aerial survey that we just completed
15 this August, I believe Patt was up here and consulting with
16 the HTO -- and Blair Dunn -- so they consulted quite
17 closely to look at areas. So when we do a survey, we break
18 it up into different regions, and we use a lot of the local
19 knowledge, in terms of expected narwhal density, and
20 perhaps shifts that were brought up were covered with our
21 survey design.

22 And speaking to the future, we've also heard the
23 concerns about narwhal behaviour with respect to shipping
24 and perhaps killer whale presence; and, again, all of our
25 research programs based out of Pond Inlet are sort of

1 focused on those questions as well. And I can speak to the
2 killer whale work. We often use local opinions and HTO
3 input from the planning stages to the hiring and data
4 collection. So it's the same with the surveys.

5 And I don't know if you have anything to add,
6 Chris.

7 I don't know if that answers your question with
8 respect to the decision that was made, but in terms of
9 designing the studies, I know it's careful consultation.
10 Thanks.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

12 Michael.

13 MR. D'EÇA: Thanks for that response. Tell me
14 if I have this correct, my understanding, that Inuit
15 *qaujimajatuqangit* was taken into account in developing
16 surveys, or at least let's say, community input, but IQ is
17 not directly reflected in the numbers, in the TAH numbers
18 that we're all, you know, sort of focused on. That's the
19 science part of this.

20 But I think what you're saying -- and
21 particularly Chris was indicating -- is that the proposal
22 in effect includes not only those proposal TAH numbers, but
23 a clear acknowledgement that relevant concerns were raised
24 by the community; and DFO, in its proposal package, wished
25 to acknowledge that and to bring it to the NWMB's

1 attention. Is that a fair characterization?

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

3 Chris.

4 MR. LEWIS: Yeah, for sure, that's a good
5 summary of it. Thank you, Michael.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Michael.

7 Okay. Our last questions for the Board. Jason,
8 do you have a question?

9 MR. AKEAROK: Thanks, Mr. Chair. I'm wondering
10 if you could clarify this: The current stocks,
11 Eclipse Sound and Admiralty and all the other stocks, just
12 wondering what's that based on? Genetic evidence or
13 movements?

14 *Qujannamiik.*

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

16 Cory.

17 MR. MATTHEWS: *Qujannamiik.*

18 I think the stock definition, based on summer
19 distribution, is primarily based on satellite tagging, to
20 some extent contaminants data that shows some differences
21 between different regions, and stable isotope data that
22 shows some difference. None of them -- and genetic
23 differences are quite vague. There's differences between,
24 say, northern Hudson Bay beluga which are different --
25 sorry -- narwhal, which are a different population.

1 Within the Baffin Bay population there are some
2 differences, but my understanding of the situation now is
3 we need more samples. To not get into statistics
4 terminology, but with more samples we could better tell the
5 differences between different groups. Right now we don't
6 have enough whales. There are suggestions of differences,
7 but with more samples we'd be able to say with more
8 certainty whether there are or not.

9 But, yeah, to answer your question: Satellite
10 tagging, genetics, contaminants, and stable isotope data,
11 to the best of my knowledge right now.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

13 Jason.

14 MR. AKEAROK: Thanks, Mr. Chair.

15 Thanks, Cory. Just wondering, too, if the
16 current recommendation by DFO is influenced by the sale of
17 narwhal tusks.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

19 Chris.

20 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

21 It's part of it; right? We are also bringing
22 forward the best available science information for the
23 Board to -- make available for the Board so that they can
24 make an informed decision.

25 During the consultations, we did raise concerns

1 about CITES, and we wanted to caution that harvested
2 narwhals from Canadian management units are not eligible
3 for international trade if the harvest exceeds the total
4 allowable harvest recommendation for a population.

5 And I think Cory wants to also touch on that as
6 well.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris. Cory.

8 MR. MATTHEWS: Sorry. I just want to make sure I
9 understood your question, and maybe this is a follow-up
10 answer if that was the answer.

11 The science advice for the quota has nothing to
12 do with whether or not it's a tusk or to provide meat; it's
13 based on the population abundance assessment and
14 uncertainty around that, which is why we used the potential
15 biological removal estimate. So that component of it has
16 nothing to do with where the end product of the dead
17 narwhal is ending up.

18 Thanks.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

20 Jason.

21 MR. AKEAROK: Thanks, Mr. Chair.

22 So thanks for that. So I understand, I guess,
23 then, the recommendation would remain the same, then.
24 There's no consideration of the sale of narwhal tusks.

25 Well, I'm wondering, I guess, the potential

1 biological removal is approximately about 2 percent, I
2 believe, the removal of the populations. Just wondering,
3 like, I guess in DFO's view, then, 2 percent removal does
4 affect the overall population negatively.

5 *Qujannamiik.*

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

7 Cory.

8 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you, Jason. That's a good
9 question.

10 So the PBR, by definition, is set out to be
11 quite conservative, and it's meant to recognize a situation
12 where we don't have a lot of information to assess a
13 sustainable removal from a population, so maybe not very
14 many abundance estimates, very little idea on reproductive
15 parameters or age structure of a population, all things we
16 don't have for these animals in the arctic generally.

17 So the PBR has been developed by researchers in
18 the United States where they have marine mammal populations
19 that have removals from fisheries and stuff like that, as
20 well. And there's been a lot of modelling studies that
21 show that if you take your population estimate, sort of a
22 minimum version of that, apply an estimated reproductive
23 parameter that looks at replacement and you get an
24 estimate, basically, it's a simple model that gives you the
25 number of animals that you can take from a population that

1 will either allow it to increase to a certain level or stay
2 at a certain level. And the level that we want to keep it
3 at is where its maximum productivity, is what it's called.
4 So it doesn't mean it's a maximum level that it can be
5 sustained; it's the maximum productivity level, so most new
6 whales produced in a year.

7 So, yeah, admittedly, it's quite conservative,
8 but that's by design to protect against unforeseen things
9 that we don't know in the population, like age structure
10 and age-specific reproductive rates.

11 So I don't know if that answers your question.
12 Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

14 *Taima?*

15 Okay. That concludes our Board questions, then,
16 and staff and all our questions from the Board completely.
17 So now we're going to go around the table and turn it over
18 to the communities and other jurisdictions that we have
19 with us.

20 So I'm going to open it up to questions from the
21 Pond Inlet HTO, and I just ask that you put up your hand,
22 and I'll recognize you to ask your question. So,
23 Pond Inlet, you're on the floor to ask questions of DF0.
24 Eric.

25 **POND INLET HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

1 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 First of all, my question to DFO when spring
3 comes around when the migratory birds start arriving and
4 the narwhal start arriving, my question is: How come
5 you're treating them -- you say that they're migratory
6 during the spring and the fall. They do pass through --
7 the ones that pass through here, are they not migratory,
8 even though you're calling them as migratory? Are the ones
9 that stay around here that go back and forth, are they not
10 migratory as well?

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

12 Cory.

13 MR. MATTHEWS: *Qujannamiik.*

14 So all of these narwhal would be migratory
15 because they're moving from Baffin Bay in the winter into
16 these summering areas. I'm not sure if I understand your
17 question. Is that when you're maybe at the floe edge,
18 you're hunting from -- so what we call a summer stock is
19 where they're coming in the summer, so we have
20 Eclipse Sound, Admiralty Inlet, and then Somerset Island.
21 So either through here or through Lancaster Sound whales
22 are passing by here going further west to Admiralty Inlet
23 and Somerset Island. So they're all migratory; it just
24 depends. They have a different summer destination.

25 I don't know if Patt has anything to add. No?

1 Sorry.

2 Does that answer your question?

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

4 Eric.

5 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you.

6 Yeah, the reason why I ask that is because you
7 give us different tags. When we use up all the migratory,
8 spring migratory and the summering stock and the fall
9 migratory -- there's yellow and blue. Can't you just give
10 us one colour tags that we can use any time of the year, or
11 do you need to have different tags for the summer or the
12 migratory ones for the spring and fall? Can't you just
13 give us one colour?

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

15 Chris.

16 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

17 So when the initial management plan came into
18 effect for narwhal in 2013, part of the implementation was
19 inclusion of those seasonal tags, so the blue migratory
20 tags and the yellow summer tags for the communities of
21 Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, Qikiqtarjuaq, and Clyde River. And
22 it was one way to account for the mixing of different
23 stocks during those migratory periods.

24 It also allows to maximize the sustainable
25 harvest in each of those communities or those areas. So

1 for Pond Inlet during that migratory period, there would be
2 harvest of some whales from Eclipse Sound, Admiralty Inlet,
3 and Somerset Island; and in the summer, there would be the
4 harvest of the summering whales that have that fidelity to
5 the Eclipse Sound area.

6 If the new science advice was implemented as is,
7 this system is something that would really benefit
8 Pond Inlet because there's an opportunity to have an
9 increased harvest during the migratory period but not see a
10 substantial drop in the tags for the community.

11 *Qujannamiik.*

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

13 Eric.

14 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 Okay. I'll have another question. The DFO has
16 said that there are stocks that are narwhal here, and also,
17 there's also stock in Admiralty Inlet. You're saying that
18 they're different. It's like part of it, one of them is
19 from Canada and the other one is from Japan. Can you tell
20 me exactly: Are they different, or are they just --
21 because I'm from Pond Inlet, and I know that when they
22 arrive here they are different that come over from
23 Admiralty Inlet, or are they also from this area? Because
24 they're connected together. Do they stay here all the
25 time, or do they move over to the other inlet and from the

1 other inlet to our inlet? Don't they do that? They stay
2 in one spot during the summer?

3 Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

5 Cory.

6 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you. I guess that's one of
7 the big questions that we're trying to answer now.

8 We operate under the assumption that these
9 animals are coming to specific summering areas consistently
10 over time, so we have these four stocks where we're saying,
11 yes, they always come to Eclipse Sound or, yes, they always
12 go to Admiralty Inlet.

13 We did have those tagged animals a couple of
14 years ago, I think three out of seven that did go over to
15 Admiralty Inlet and then I think some from Admiralty Inlet
16 that went over to Somerset Island. So there is some
17 uncertainty now in whether these narwhal are always coming
18 to this area and staying every summer. Until we know
19 differently, it's the most conservative or careful approach
20 to treat each of these summering stocks as separate.

21 And we have seen this with beluga stocks where,
22 if a local small stock is over-harvested, other stocks
23 don't come to that area to recolonize it. They will keep
24 swimming by, and so those communities that over-harvest,
25 they don't have any more beluga. So that's what we're

1 trying to prevent that from happening in an area like
2 Eclipse Sound or with the narwhal in general. Until we
3 understand better how these stocks may or may not be
4 connected, the most careful approach is to treat them as if
5 they're separate.

6 Thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

8 Eric?

9 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you.

10 Thank you for that answer. Yeah, I understand.
11 Even though you don't really understand regarding the
12 narwhal, you're saying that they stay around here, they
13 spend the summer over here, but they don't go anywhere
14 else. That's what you're saying.

15 And my last question is: You made a
16 presentation. We know that you're out doing surveys. From
17 2004, you did a survey here. In 2013, you did another
18 survey, and you told us that the narwhal are decreasing
19 here, that there are a lot fewer narwhal here. And the
20 total allowable harvest, you're trying to decrease the
21 total allowable harvest from Eclipse Sound.

22 I think it was Chris said, in Baffinland, the
23 LGL Baffinland, the ones that are doing survey there and
24 you'll be given the information from them and from LGL.
25 You'll be getting information from LGL.

1 Combining those results perhaps, are you going
2 to be changing the total allowable harvest once you have
3 the new information that you combine from the other surveys
4 that were done in Mary River area?

5 Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

7 Cory.

8 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, thank you.

9 So, yes, we have our 2004, 2013 surveying that
10 we did, and then there's the three years from LGL, which I
11 think is 2012, '13, and '15. It might be 2013, '14, and
12 '15, now that I think about it. And then we have our
13 survey from 2016.

14 So, yeah, as you say, we only have two surveys
15 from before. That's not a lot of data to go by, so within
16 a year from now we should have several more data points to
17 have an abundance estimate, and I would expect DFO would
18 update its total allowable harvest once that's been peer
19 reviewed and then the science advice is given again to the
20 managers.

21 I don't know if Chris wants to confirm that.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory. Chris.

23 MR. LEWIS: If there's new science
24 recommendations for a TAH, then we'd definitely go out and
25 consult on it.

1 *Qujannamiik.*

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

3 Eric.

4 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 Yeah, I recall one thing that I want to ask,
6 another one.

7 Okay. I've been with the local HTO for so many
8 years. We see the correspondence that are coming in.
9 We're always meeting, dealing with them during the
10 meetings. DFO wrote a letter to HTO in Pond Inlet. I
11 cannot say exactly what it said, but the changes from 236
12 to 134 to decrease the total allowable harvest, stating
13 that, if you don't agree with that, you won't be able to
14 sell the tusks. You sent us some correspondence that
15 stated that, to the local HTO. You are trying to warn us.
16 It seems like you were warning us. If we don't listen to
17 what you're suggesting, you told us that we won't be able
18 to sell the tusks or the *muktuk*. That's what the letter
19 stated. Do you have that kind of authority?

20 You put a proposal to NWMB to change the total
21 allowable harvest and while at the same time you're warning
22 the HTO, and that is unfortunate. I want to say that face
23 to face. Can you respond to me, please? Thank you.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

25 Chris.

1 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

2 Yeah, Eric, that's correct, in the letter, that
3 DFO did respond to the HTO in October, and it was also
4 mentioned during the community consultation meetings. So
5 in the letter it was emphasized that, if international
6 trade in Eclipse Sound narwhal products is to continue,
7 that the existing level of total allowable harvest would
8 need to be reduced so it is in line with the new science
9 advice based on the survey conducted in 2013.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

11 Eric.

12 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 I can ask on and on. Okay. Can I just ask a
14 last question? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 I want to say accurately -- it is very difficult
16 to say accurately when there's a lot of faces around the
17 table. You were here in 2004 and 2013. You did a survey
18 in those years, and then you wanted to change the total
19 allowable harvest right away. According to the *Nunavut*
20 *Land Claims Agreement* -- we do have a Nunavut agreement --
21 it stated there that the researchers had to do a survey
22 every five years, not before. Those that were done in 2004
23 and then in 2013, you came up with wrong information.

24 The advice, their proposal, shouldn't be
25 approved until they do a correct survey by DFO. That's it.

1 THE CHAIR: Cory, go ahead.

2 MR. MATTHEWS: I'd like to respond to that.

3 I don't think it's accurate to say that the
4 survey was incorrect. All the aerial surveys have
5 variability and error, not in terms of mistake, but error
6 in terms of just uncertainty in the estimate. With two
7 surveys, you could easily say that the first survey that
8 had 20,000 was incorrect, if you want to compare it to the
9 10,000.

10 So your point about doing it every five years is
11 a good one; you want to have as many abundance estimates as
12 possible. But the survey that was done in 2013 employed
13 correction factors that haven't been done. Specific to
14 that survey, we covered as wide an area as we thought
15 narwhals would be, we had strata to account for different
16 variation in different parts of their distribution or their
17 range in Eclipse Sound. So to say it was incorrect I don't
18 think is accurate.

19 I just wanted to say that. Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

21 Eric.

22 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 That's all the questions I have right now.

24 Thank you for allowing me to ask questions.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you for your questions.

1 And I encourage all delegates to ask questions
2 until they're happy with their answers.

3 So Jaykolassie, you're up. Go ahead.

4 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 I'm happy that my friends from DFO are here, so
6 I'm happy that they're here.

7 Yeah, we have concerns, what Caleb mentioned
8 that the ones that are tagged, the narwhal that are tagged,
9 they destroy the meat. It is not just the narwhal, not
10 just narwhal but also polar bears and caribou. You tag
11 them in the way that the Inuit don't want them. And I
12 think everybody from DFO is non-Inuk. Perhaps you should
13 have an Inuk employee and utilize the scientific knowledge
14 and also Inuit traditional knowledge, and I think you will
15 believe us more regarding the narwhal and other species if
16 you're going to do a survey.

17 I know that, Mr. Chairman, that DFO, yeah,
18 they're trying to protect the species of wildlife; but
19 according to the Inuit knowledge, us Inuit, it really
20 affects us Inuit and not just the harvesters but all the
21 Inuits -- affects it.

22 I've been wanting to ask this question regarding
23 the wildlife species, whether it's caribou, polar bear or
24 narwhal because the shipping traffic is increasing and,
25 also, the mining and the oil explorations; and I know

1 they're going to be increasing in the future. And I keep
2 asking, in my mind, are the wildlife species contaminated
3 on our land edible? Is that the only time that we'll be
4 able to harvest what we want if the meat of the species of
5 wildlife have been contaminated?

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jaykolassie.
7 Cory.

8 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, thank you.

9 So this point has been brought up earlier, and I
10 would say the same thing. As a scientist myself, when you
11 try to answer a question about an animal, you weigh the
12 costs and the benefits to the methods you use. Satellite
13 tagging has some short-term stress and you guys are saying
14 some long-term impacts that we don't see.

15 What I see with animals we've tagged in the past
16 is they have normal swimming behaviour and normal behaviour
17 compared to nontagged animals from what are observed. I
18 would say the number of animals that we're satellite
19 tagging is so small compared to the overall population
20 available for you to harvest, but the information that we
21 gain from those few animals is so available that it's worth
22 it to continue to do so.

23 Having said that, as I said earlier, we are
24 always looking for additional less invasive ways to study
25 these animals, aerial surveys being one of them if we're

1 interested in distribution. A new topic now is also using
2 satellite images, so they're detailed enough now that we
3 can look at animals using satellite imagery.

4 So we are always trying to move away from
5 tagging or use a substitute for tagging, when possible.
6 But I would continue to say that the number of animals is
7 small, the information we gain from them is great, and if
8 an animal has a tag on it, we prefer it's not harvested
9 either, so we want to get the information from that animal.

10 But that would be my response is it's valuable
11 data, and I would say everyone who studies animals is
12 always trying to figure out a less invasive way to do and
13 gain the same information. Thank you.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

15 Jaykolassie, we'll have one more question, and
16 then we'll break for lunch. Okay?

17 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 When you do a survey, we don't mind that. We
19 support your -- but perhaps you should do something else
20 other than make estimation. Have you ever done a survey
21 other than an aerial survey without just estimating the
22 number of animals that you see? Because when you fly over,
23 you go so fast that you only see a few of them. Have you
24 ever done a survey from the land when you're doing survey
25 of the ones that are passing through?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

2 Cory.

3 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

4 Yeah, certainly there's different ways to
5 conduct a survey. You can do land-based surveys if the
6 stock or the population -- if it works for them. The
7 animals in the arctic are so wide spread it would be
8 difficult to do a land-based survey of any of the stocks or
9 populations, so aerial surveys are probably the only
10 realistic means of generating a good estimate.

11 The planes do go fast, but the observers are
12 trained, and we can estimate, using front and rear
13 observers, the number of animals that are missed and
14 correct for that. And then using, again, mathematical --
15 models that I can't really get into here -- we can correct
16 for the estimate and apply what we're seeing on these, you
17 know, maybe 10 to 20 lines across an area and apply that to
18 a whole area I would say quite reliability.

19 With bowhead whales, for example, in the arctic,
20 we are using genetic mark recapture methods where we use
21 biopsies to get population estimates, and that would be
22 something we'll be interested in trying with narwhals using
23 our biopsies at the floe edge. But, for now, aerial
24 surveys are probably the only means to reliably survey an
25 area as large as where these narwhals are occupying.

1 Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

3 Okay. I think, in the interests of time, we
4 will break for lunch. We'll be back here at 1:30 with
5 continuation from Pond Inlet. *Matnaa*. See you at 1:30.
6 (Proceedings ended at 11:57 a.m.)

7

8 (Proceedings to recommence at 1:30 p.m.)

9

10 (Proceedings recommenced at 1:30 p.m.)

11 THE CHAIR: Welcome back, everyone. I hope
12 everyone had a good lunch.

13 Okay. We'll continue. When we left off, we had
14 Pond Inlet asking questions of DFO and, Jaykolassie, you
15 have the floor with any further questions you have. Go
16 ahead.

17 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for
18 having me back.

19 My question earlier was not answered. I really
20 want an answer. We want answers. I asked earlier: The
21 whales and marine mammals that were contaminated by
22 development, is it only then when they're completely
23 contaminated we'll be free to harvest them without quota?
24 That's what I wanted to know earlier.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

1 DFO, Chris.

2 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

3 I'm not really sure how to answer that. The
4 current management regime is to have the total allowable
5 harvest, which is -- and that's still in effect, and I
6 would expect that the total allowable harvest will remain
7 in effect, although it may be modified given new
8 information from traditional knowledge or science.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

10 Jaykolassie.

11 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 Although you didn't answer my question, my other
13 question is: Five months -- April, May, June, July,
14 September, and October -- have you ever done a survey in
15 those months, the months I just stated? If you have not
16 done a survey in those months, do you plan to have surveys
17 in those months?

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

19 Cory.

20 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

21 The goal of the surveys is to count the narwhal
22 in the summer aggregation, so where they're found in the
23 summer, and we've done both of the surveys here in August,
24 so not in those other months, but the goal is to count them
25 after they've completed their migration and settled in

1 their summer aggregations and before they leave for their
2 winter distribution.

3 Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

5 Jaykolassie.

6 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 You sort of answered my question. I think every
8 one of us from Pond are concerned about this, especially
9 from HTO level, because they concentrate in only one month,
10 month of August, and it's not a whole month, it's just a
11 portion of the month that they do the survey.

12 For that reason, I would like to recommend that
13 we improve the quality of our surveys because I was
14 recommending earlier that an Inuk become part of the staff
15 of DFO administration so that they have somebody in the
16 office who has Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit* knowledge and they
17 can give advice to the scientists, and that way maybe we
18 can get closer on agreement, agreeing to the statistics
19 that are presented.

20 Whenever DFO does a survey, it's always from the
21 top down and Inuit are always unhappy about the methodology
22 of the surveys done it. That's all I have for now.

23 Thank you for having me speak, Mr. Chairman.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jaykolassie.

25 DFO, would you like to comment on that? Chris?

1 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

2 Yes, this came up, I think, a couple of times
3 about having more Inuit staff employed and working with
4 DFO, so I did want to comment on that because I am part of
5 the Iqaluit office, and we do have Inuit employed with our
6 resource management program, our science program, fisheries
7 officers in our office as well.

8 And Cory also wanted to touch on, again, how the
9 science program will also hire community members to take
10 part in these types of surveys, if that's all right.

11 Mr. Chair.

12 THE CHAIR: Yes, go ahead, Cory.

13 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

14 Yes, so, again, I'd just like to say when we
15 plan our surveys we meet with the local HTO and get
16 feedback on when and where we should design our transects,
17 and for all the surveys I know of, we've hired locals, as
18 well, to be part of the survey team to assist with data
19 collection, but also to help understand the methodology.

20 And again, I'd like to reiterate that we time
21 the survey in August to estimate the abundance of these
22 summering stocks, so we can best do that by being
23 consistent from survey to survey, having the same time of
24 year, and it's not usually just one day; it's usually over
25 a couple of weeks, and we try to replicate the surveys.

1 Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

3 Okay. Pond Inlet HTO still has the floor. Is
4 there any other questions from anyone from Pond Inlet?
5 Eric.

6 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 Although I'm very glad and appreciate that DFO
8 comes here to do surveys and you try and accommodate what
9 we want in Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit*, but the way we see it,
10 you only hear what you want to hear from IQ, but you don't
11 put into practice the IQ principles that come with it. We
12 know that you don't utilize IQ.

13 I'm sure that you're going to keep saying that
14 Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay narwhal are different stock,
15 different population, but as our Elders have observed and
16 we keep saying at HTO, that is not the case; they're one
17 population. But you don't want to admit that, and we
18 cannot change your mind, because it's been conceived that
19 way. That's that one.

20 The proposal to decrease the number to 134 for
21 Pond Inlet, all the other communities' quota has been
22 increased. It's only Pond Inlet numbers that are proposed
23 to be decreased. It's from your numbers in your
24 presentation. If you look at all of Nunavut, 1,173
25 possible removal. Although your 1,140 is increased to that

1 much, there's an increase in your estimates and increase in
2 other communities, but the community of Pond Inlet has been
3 singled out to decrease the number. Why?

4 Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

6 Cory.

7 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

8 So in response to your first question, we've
9 heard this concern about the mixing of the stocks and
10 management of them as two separate stocks. I spent the
11 better part of this morning talking about the different
12 research programs that we're trying to look into that
13 question. So whether it be tagging or collecting more
14 samples, which I believe Pond Inlet's been involved with
15 this summer providing harvested skin samples to do
16 genetics, contaminants, and trace elements, stable
17 isotopes, different things that we can look at to look at
18 stock delineation. And, also, the aerial surveys that
19 we've done with photographs we can use to look at details
20 like presence of calves, yearlings, whether it looks like a
21 sexual segregation, mostly males with tusks.

22 We can even, in some instances, measure tusk
23 length or at least presence. So it will enable us to look
24 at whether there might be age or sex segregation in the two
25 areas. So, well, I can speak to the meetings that we have

1 at DF0. It's probably our number one priority with respect
2 to narwhal in this region is to get at that question.

3 Oh, and, sorry, your second question. Yeah,
4 it's not that Pond Inlet's being singled out; it's that
5 these stocks are all being managed as separate summer
6 aggregations, and it just happens that the survey result
7 for the Eclipse Sound in at 10,000, so the catch statistic
8 for that one was decreased according to the PBR
9 calculation.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory. Chris, you have
11 something to add.

12 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

13 I also just wanted to -- we brought it up a
14 couple times this morning, too, that even though the
15 current total allowable harvest is being recommended for
16 decrease, there's a lot of tools that we've been developing
17 in consultation with Inuit that should give especially the
18 community of Pond Inlet some flexibility.

19 So that sustainable harvest example that we
20 showed earlier today was one of those examples. Even
21 though you might see a decrease in some of the summer tags,
22 it's possible to see an increase in some of the migratory
23 tags, and we've seen, 2014 and '15, that there was a fairly
24 even split in the number of tags used for each season.
25 Again, it's just one tool that can be used. If there was

1 consideration given to harvesting more whales during the
2 migratory season, science advice was implemented, tag
3 number may only decrease by 20.

4 There's also the tag transfer policy, and we
5 talked a little bit about the flex quota system, and this
6 went forward to the Board as a request for decision, as
7 well. It's only been done on an annual basis the last
8 three years, but we're looking at implementing it fully so
9 that it would happen every year, and it would give, again,
10 more flexibility for communities to maximize their
11 sustainable harvest by allowing them to carry over unused
12 tags from one year to the next, and that decision is still
13 before the Board and going through the decision-making
14 process as outlined in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*.

15 Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

17 Eric.

18 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19 I've been asking the same question. I didn't
20 quite get my answers this morning, so that's why I'm
21 bringing up the same questions.

22 As I stated earlier, it's in the *Nunavut Land*
23 *Claims Agreement* under the constitution of Canada under
24 Article 5 -- 4 and 5 -- it states that they should have a
25 harvest study every five years. It specifically states in

1 the agreement, and you're breaking the agreement with Her
2 Majesty in Right of Canada. It's under the constitution
3 that as an NWMB you're supposed to be provided every single
4 year with any information deriving from any study. Article
5 5.4.9 specifically states that in the *Nunavut Land Claims*
6 *Agreement*.

7 So Department of Fisheries and Oceans is not up
8 to date in their mandate to do a survey. That's why they
9 don't have the most available information to convey to you.
10 And, if they have all the information according to the Land
11 Claims Agreement, they should have the answers to give to
12 you.

13 That's all I have for now.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

15 Would you like to comment, DFO?

16 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

17 Yeah, I'm not sure I have anything that would
18 add to the conversation on that. I've noted it as a
19 comment. So thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

21 Okay. Pond Inlet, Gamailie, go ahead.

22 MR. KILUKSHAK: I'm not a hunter anymore. I'm
23 just an Inuk.

24 Long before *Qallunaat* arrived, Inuit survived
25 solely on wildlife by daily hunting and harvesting, and as

1 observers of these wildlife and these whales, we know that
2 there's peaks and lows of the number of whales, both
3 migratory and summer stocks. And if in a particular year
4 they happen to migrate somewhere else, the department or
5 scientists would say that they decreased, but Inuit would
6 know that they're migrating through somewhere else or for
7 food. And Inuit know that. We Inuit have that knowledge.

8 Inuit are very in tune with the wildlife around
9 them. And I think that it's better if you connect with
10 Inuit at that level. You would understand what we're
11 talking about because it was our daily life, and when we
12 feel that there hasn't really been any change, and when
13 there's a proposal to decrease the number of the TAH, it
14 doesn't really make sense to us. That's what I wanted to
15 say.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Gamalie.

17 I think that was more of a comment, but if DFO
18 would like to comment, that's fine, too.

19 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik.*

20 And we did hear a lot of that same sort of
21 insights during the community meetings we held here in
22 April, and we documented that information and provided it
23 as part of the decision package to the NWMB.

24 So *qujannamiik.*

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

1 Paniloo.

2 MR. P. SANGOYA: My question: Do you know there's
3 now whales going up to Eureka area? Do you know that?
4 There was no whales going up there in the past. Now they
5 have whales, from what we hear. Do you know that
6 information?

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paniloo.

8 Cory.

9 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

10 No, I have not heard -- I have not heard that
11 before. Thanks.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

13 Paniloo, supplementary.

14 MR. P. SANGOYA: My younger brother Tagaloosie
15 Aloo (phonetic) went up to the army base in Eureka, and
16 he observed that there's a lot of narwhals up there. So
17 it's obvious they've migrated from here to Eureka area, and
18 that's how we observe the changes in their migration.

19 You know, Kitikmeot; they didn't have whales
20 migrating through there for quite a long time. Now they
21 have abundance of narwhal, and that's why we adamantly say
22 they're not decreasing; they're going somewhere else.

23 And there was trapped whales, quite a few, when
24 they started using explosives right here in Pond Inlet.
25 It's from that seismic activity going on they had to flee

1 somewhere else. That's why we were adamant, and we urge
2 you to stop the seismic activity going on because there's
3 detrimental effects going on with our wildlife. We have
4 asked repeatedly to DFO or Mary River project. And there's
5 these passive acoustic systems that are being sunk into the
6 seabed so the wildlife can flee away to make way for the
7 shipping companies. And there were lots of them that were
8 put north of us, and we heard that there's no more wildlife
9 in that path. Even migratory birds or sea birds have fled
10 from their usual places.

11 And there was a lot of haulout sites of walrus
12 right here in Pond Inlet, Lancaster Sound area. There's no
13 more walrus in the haulout site.

14 And my younger brother who went to Eureka stated
15 that all the different species of wildlife have gone north
16 to Eureka area. They have fled, obviously. If we did not
17 live here, we would not know that. Because we're observing
18 on a daily basis, we know they have fled this area because
19 of developmental activities. And that's what I wanted to
20 state since the beginning of this mining project.

21 I know you have lots to study and research, not
22 just the migration routes or the number of whales, but
23 different indirect evidence you'll find concerning our
24 whales, because that's what's happening.

25 And we're on the low side of caribou, as you

1 well know. There's peak times and low times, and every
2 living mammal is like that, too. They have their low times
3 and peak times. And when I heard that you only do your
4 survey in less than a month in that same month
5 continuously, you won't get the information you need. You
6 have to do it month by month, and if you were aware of that
7 information and due diligence, you would believe what we
8 have to say and that we're trying to tell you the truth
9 because we live here. Because we're an oral language and
10 every information we have is by using all our senses and
11 our eyesight, that's our information.

12 If you want to answer that, you can answer it.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paniloo.

14 Chris. Chris, go ahead.

15 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

16 I don't have a direct answer for this. I do
17 know these are concerns. Some of them we've heard
18 repeatedly, as well. I also think that's -- well, part of
19 the reason for the public hearing, too, is so that all the
20 scientific information and Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit* can all
21 be put out there for everybody to have the most relevant
22 information and I think for your Board to make the best
23 decision they can.

24 So I thank you for those observations.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

1 Is there any other questions from Pond Inlet HTO
2 to DFO from anyone? Eric?

3 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 Any kind of species, whether it be narwhal, when
5 the species of wildlife, the population explodes, they tend
6 to get unhealthy. Do you know that, when the species of a
7 population explodes, they get unhealthy and they start
8 dying off? Do you know that?

9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

11 Cory.

12 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, that sounds like you're
13 describing a response, as the animal population grows, it
14 only has a certain amount of resources like food, and it's
15 called a density-dependent effect. But, yeah, there's less
16 available for each individual, so the population eventually
17 reaches a maximum and should stay at that level. So, yeah,
18 there's not as much productivity or reproduction going on,
19 and you can have a population sort of outstrip where they
20 live and crash and regrow, so yes.

21 Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

23 Eric.

24 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you.

25 Not too long ago, you did a narwhal survey, and

1 you sampled the narwhal that was caught. There were ten
2 narwhal that were caught. There were three of them were
3 sick. They had a disease because the narwhal are
4 increasing too much where they're getting sick now. Have
5 you looked at that? And is that what you're trying to
6 collect, that kind of information?

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

8 Cory.

9 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

10 I don't know about the specific narwhals that
11 you talk about, but we do have a program where we look for
12 diseases like brucellosis and toxoplasmosis and different
13 diseases in our tissues, if we suspect it. So if you're
14 interested in those specific whales, get in touch with me
15 here, and I can find that information out for you. Were
16 they satellite-tagged whales here, like Jack Orr's project?

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

18 Eric.

19 MR. E. OOTOOVA: No, they were not tagged.

20 My question is: When the population of narwhal
21 are too many, they get tumors in their body. Out of the
22 ten that were caught, three of them had tumors because the
23 population is getting too many.

24 Looking at that and here in Pond Inlet, we feel
25 that Pond Inlet should be given more quota than the one

1 that is programed. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

3 DF0, would you like to respond? If not...

4 Cory.

5 MR. MATTHEWS: My response would be that the
6 quota is based on the aerial survey, so if there's diseased
7 animals and you have samples, we would be interested in
8 receiving those, but not in basing a population estimate on
9 that. I get what you're saying, but the quota is based on
10 the most recent aerial survey estimate.

11 And just to remind everyone, we have several
12 more years that are being analyzed over the next several
13 months, so they'll be ready for the end of this year.

14 Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

16 Eric, did you have a question before...?

17 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 I just want to make a clarification as to, when
19 the fox population increases, they will have rabies. Inuit
20 are also like that, and when there's too many Inuit in one
21 place and if somebody is sick, it will spread among the
22 Inuit. That will happen with the marine mammals too.

23 Thank you. I hope you understood.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric, for that.

25 Comment, Jaykolassie.

1 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 Before I ask, I just want to make a comment.

3 Inuit say, especially our Elders say that a species of
4 wildlife, they go everywhere. They don't have a specific
5 area where they call home. Yeah, they can go elsewhere in
6 another year and come back another year. They'll stay
7 there for -- they will stay around that area, but they will
8 leave it right away.

9 The DFO, when you do a survey, you say that the
10 Arctic Bay quota will increase over there because the stock
11 over there is increasing, and also in Eclipse Sound, that
12 narwhal are decreasing so that they're trying to decrease
13 their quota in Pond Inlet. That's what they put forward.
14 According to the scientific knowledge, do they just go to
15 Admiralty Inlet, and the ones that come to Eclipse Sound,
16 do they just come around here, or do they intermingle? I
17 hope I'm clear.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

19 Cory.

20 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

21 So, yeah, in our assessment of the population
22 abundance, we do mention the uncertainty in this potential
23 movement from Eclipse Sound over to Admiralty Inlet, but
24 I'd like to stress the fact that there's uncertainty. So
25 when you have uncertainty about a population or a stock,

1 the most conservative or cautious way to proceed is to go
2 based on your most recent population estimate. We have no
3 other information other than a previous one. We don't know
4 the reproductive rates or the age structure of the
5 population, and we don't know if whales moved over to
6 Admiralty Inlet.

7 As I mentioned earlier, we're implementing a
8 bunch of different research projects to try to assess that
9 and to what degree that occurs, but until we can figure
10 that out, the most conservative approach is to manage these
11 stocks as discrete summer units until we know otherwise.
12 Thank you.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

14 Jaykolassie.

15 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 This is the Inuit knowledge. Inuit know, here
17 in our own community, they arrive in April to the floe
18 edge, and from there, older ones that arrive first
19 follow -- and there are others, mothers with calves, that
20 arrive later. And we notice that the calf is small,
21 perhaps it was just a newborn, and they do have calves the
22 whole time that they're around, and they leave with the
23 small ones, as well, during the fall.

24 DFO should try and find out from the Inuit
25 before they do a survey according to the Inuit knowledge,

1 so that you will utilize Inuit traditional knowledge. And
2 when you don't stay around for a longer time to do a
3 survey, as Inuit, since we were kids we learn every day;
4 and if you do a survey, whether DFO or others, if you do a
5 survey in less than a month, you're not going to find out
6 the truth.

7 Inuit knowledge is not written, so it should be
8 written. But to the scientific knowledge seems to be
9 higher than the Inuit traditional knowledge here. When you
10 do a survey in the arctic, the Inuit has to be involved,
11 and the people that sit around with NWMB, they all know
12 that, especially our Elders. We didn't have any stores --
13 they were born before the stores came, so they know
14 everything about the wildlife, and they manage them
15 properly.

16 As the years pass, we keep being told that
17 everything is decreasing, whether it be narwhal or caribou.

18 That's all I want to say, Mr. Chairman.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, for those comments.

20 Any response from DFO?

21 Are any there any other questions from
22 Pond Inlet? Eric, go ahead.

23 MR. E. OOT00VA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 The DFO mentioned this morning that the
25 Mary River are doing a study, and LGL, they will be getting

1 information from them. Have you received the information
2 from those two bodies? When are you going to -- you
3 haven't got the final results yet combining the three
4 surveys; DF0, LGL, and Mary River.

5 Yeah, we now know that you haven't done a
6 complete survey, so I feel that this hearing should stop
7 because they haven't done a proper survey. They should
8 give a proposal to you after they had complete survey
9 results.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

11 Cory.

12 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

13 So we did do a proper complete survey in 2013.
14 We've done another one in 2016 that we're currently
15 analyzing. Along with the 2016 survey, we do have the LGL
16 data, so for three years previous to that.

17 There's some issues with looking at it to make
18 sure the data is collected the same, see where it's
19 different. It takes months to analyze this type of data.
20 We received it three weeks ago, and I've had just a quick
21 chance to initially look through what years we collected
22 data and over what time. So sometimes they've collected
23 data throughout the month of August and into September, so
24 I've been able to just have a brief look at it. It's going
25 to take probably the better part of next year to analyze

1 those three years plus our photographic survey, but it will
2 be ready November of 2017 is when it's scheduled to be
3 presented.

4 Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

6 Eric.

7 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 Yes, if you have done a five-year study, we will
9 find out new information. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric. Any other
11 questions from Pond Inlet? Jaykolassie, go ahead.

12 MR. KILLIKTEE: I just want to say thank you. I
13 have questions, but thank you for letting us speak. Thank
14 you, sir.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you all very much.

16 Okay. I think now then we're going to move on
17 to the next round of questions from the community of
18 Arctic Bay. So, Arctic Bay, the floor is yours for
19 questions to DFO. Go ahead.

20 **ARCTIC BAY HTO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

21 MR. ATTITAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 I have a question to DFO. Have you been given
23 authority by the minister to intimidate the communities
24 that they won't be able to sell the tusk and the *muktuk* if
25 they don't follow the recommended total allowable harvest?

1 Because it wouldn't be nice. When I was in Arctic Bay, the
2 community next to ours won't be able to sell their tusks.
3 It wouldn't be nice, according to me. I wouldn't like it.
4 Even if we can sell it in Arctic Bay, and even though we do
5 harvest the same stock of narwhal, it wouldn't be nice, to
6 me. So I'm just asking DFO: Has the minister given you
7 the authority to intimidate the community of Pond Inlet?
8 That's my first question.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jobie.

10 Chris, DFO, go ahead.

11 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

12 I'm just looking back to Stephan Romberg. One
13 of the reasons Stephan came up to be part of these meetings
14 was to help us out with some of the background on the CITES
15 stuff, and I think he'd probably be the best person to give
16 the most appropriate response to Jobie's questions.

17 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you, Chris. Come up
18 to the mic, please. Go ahead.

19 MR. ROMBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20 I think just to give a bit of context to the
21 background, so in 2013 when the most recent standing on
22 detriment finding that was done for narwhal within Nunavut,
23 the letter came that was sent to both the Board, NTI, the
24 Government of Nunavut, and the respective HTOs and RWOs, it
25 was stated at that time that the department would not be

1 conducting an annual review, much like it had been done in
2 the past, for the nondetriment finding until such time as
3 there was new science advice or there was a change in
4 management.

5 And so what we see now here in this proposal
6 being put forward, we have new science advice being put
7 forward for the Board's consideration. We've certainly
8 heard some concerns with that, but by no means is the
9 department trying to intimidate any community. I mean,
10 it's information we want the community to be aware of, of
11 the information and the possibilities out there. So, you
12 know, we're going through the process.

13 We've indicated that, as was indicated in the
14 letter in 2013, that there would be a review of the
15 nondetriment finding at some point. We've been told that
16 that review would hopefully take place after this entire
17 process with the Board finishes. So the scientific
18 authority back in DFO would then conduct a review of the
19 new science advice. By that time, it's not going to be so
20 new anymore; it's going to be three or four years out.

21 But there's a process in place, and that's
22 what's currently being followed. So by no means was the
23 letter that was originally referred to by Eric was there
24 any attempt to intimidate the community of Pond Inlet to
25 say that you need to accept this. It's just putting out

1 all the information and informing that whatever the
2 decision is made, there will be a review at some point, and
3 there may be some ramifications for that decision at that
4 point, which may entail that there may no longer be the
5 ability to export product outside of a particular community
6 if the science advice isn't followed. So, I mean, that's
7 just it. It was just putting out the information there for
8 everyone to be area of.

9 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Stefan.

11 Jobie.

12 MR. ATTITAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 Maybe somebody will have -- and also, the
14 summering tags and the migratory tags, those are the
15 examples that you put forward. I wonder can we -- there's
16 233. I think we only got 120 in Admiralty Inlet, and I
17 know that we harvest way less than the current TAH because
18 our *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, we have October 1 opens
19 for the migratory to March 31, and we don't have any
20 narwhal in those months, and we lose the tags. We're
21 always doing that, and I know that will be the case as
22 well. I just want to mention that because, as a board
23 member in the local HTOs, we don't agree with that. And,
24 you know, we try to teach the membership, but sometimes
25 they blame us. But we do educate our fellow members.

1 Can you set the months that are open for certain
2 tags, because I know that in Arctic Bay we don't harvest
3 all of our quota. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jobie.

5 Chris.

6 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

7 Yeah, I think some of the points that you made
8 and Arctic Bay's submission as part of this hearing process
9 is another good reason to hold an additional harvest
10 allocation workshop where we can look at or revisit some of
11 the summer catch proportions for communities with summer
12 and migratory tags. I know especially over the last couple
13 of years Arctic Bay has voiced some concerns, and there's
14 interest in making some changes.

15 When the management plan came into effect, it
16 also provided HTOs the mechanism to set their own migratory
17 season, so a spring migratory season and a fall migratory
18 season, based on observations made by harvesters in the
19 community.

20 One of the things we run into from an
21 operational issue is that we've got certain timelines, too,
22 that we need to work with in order to have communities make
23 decisions on the dates for the following harvest year,
24 because we want to make sure that we have tags ready to go
25 by April 1st, is our intended date, so that communities can

1 have those tags in hand to harvest narwhal and such.

2 So, yeah, again, I thinking it provides -- some
3 of your comments provide more reasoning to support a second
4 harvest allocation workshop, and then we can revisit those
5 things, revisit seasons again, and just make sure that
6 everybody is clear that we are -- DFO is looking to the
7 communities for advice on those seasons based on their
8 observations and local knowledge. So *qujannamiik*.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

10 Jobie.

11 MR. ATTITAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 THE CHAIR: Any other questions from
13 Arctic Bay? Go ahead, Olayuk.

14 MR. NAQITARVIK: My name is Olayuk Naqitarvik from
15 Arctic Bay. I have a few questions, but some have already
16 been responded to.

17 The questions I have, according to the Inuit
18 knowledge, if Inuit knowledge is going to be included, as
19 mentioned from the October 1 to March 31, we don't have any
20 narwhal between those dates, and when you have a two-tag
21 system in our community, we cannot use the migratory ones.

22 So we had 91 credits because we couldn't use the
23 tags because the migratory tags, according to the Inuit
24 knowledge, doesn't have benefit in our community. We know
25 that now. And the Somerset Island and Somerset tag was

1 given. Okay. Who's going to be harvesting those areas, or
2 can I go over into that area and harvest some narwhal from
3 there? Because they have lots of quota.

4 I think it was last year I asked that same
5 question, but I was not able to. Okay. Who's going to
6 be -- who are you going to allocate the tags to from the
7 Somerset stock? And when you have different management
8 units and also the summering and migratory tags, according
9 to the Inuit knowledge, if you're going to use Inuit
10 knowledge; so we don't really believe, according to my
11 knowledge as an Inuk.

12 And when DFO was involved and there were experts
13 and we were Inuk, yeah, we spoke about the migratory
14 narwhal, and we were told that the narwhal also go over to
15 Greenland, and the same ones come to our community.
16 Because of that, I asked, I asked people from Qaanaaq. And
17 our narwhal hunting system is different because they
18 harpoon the first -- I asked, they say that. And they say
19 that they observe the narwhals that were shot in Pond Inlet
20 and Arctic Bay, and the response I got was that they also
21 see -- they saw narwhal scars, gun shot wounds, that came
22 over from here. So we realized that the narwhal were
23 travelling everywhere. According to the Inuit knowledge,
24 the narwhal do travel everywhere, and I just wanted to make
25 that clear, the management units, the fall migratory, and

1 the summering stock tags to show that we can conserve the
2 narwhal. This is just an example.

3 And because there's five months that the narwhal
4 don't migrate around in front of us, so we're not going to
5 be utilizing those fall migratory tags. Are they just
6 trying to -- I'll have other comments to make after.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Olayuk.

8 Chris.

9 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

10 So, I guess, for the migratory tags there's also
11 the spring hunt which, based on the harvesting stats we
12 have for Admiralty Inlet, there's a number of tags that are
13 still used in that spring hunt. But you are correct that a
14 lot of the harvest does take place during those summer
15 months.

16 I still think that it really builds on what
17 Jobie was saying, too, that there is a need to have a
18 second harvest allocation workshop and revisit some of
19 these dates and again look at the summer catch proportions.

20 If there's something specific that I missed, I'd
21 be happy to try and respond as well.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

23 Olayuk.

24 MR. NAQITARVIK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 We're very happy that Arctic Bay TAH has

1 increased, but I know that if it's in a month that we can't
2 harvest them all, we're always going to have credits, and
3 although DFO has set the season for us for migratory and
4 summer stocks, and the second season that opens, we have no
5 more narwhal to harvest because they've already migrated
6 through, and they're not there anymore, and we wait for the
7 next year's season. And when they migrate through again.
8 The season is not open yet, so we're, in fact, losing out a
9 couple times in the fall and in the spring, and it is only
10 when they migrated through that we're able to harvest them.

11 I know that this is almost like it's a conniving
12 way to do it, but I know that we're not going to harvest
13 all of them because they've already migrated through during
14 the open season, the fall, and open season the spring.

15 And when we're trying to negotiate an agreement,
16 it's almost impossible when it's always one-sided and our
17 requests or our wishes are never followed.

18 Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Olyauk.

20 Chris.

21 MR. LEWIS: I have a response to part of that.
22 I just want to remind the Arctic Bay HTO that it is up to
23 your HTO with your membership to set those spring
24 migration, fall migratory periods, and the summer season.
25 And, again, those are things that we can have further

1 discussions about as far as, like, operationally and,
2 again, possibly at other tag allocation workshops. So
3 thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

5 Olayuk?

6 MR. NAQITARVIK: Oh, thank you for that
7 information. If it's at our discretion to change it as a
8 membership, but when we tried to follow what you're just
9 saying, we were penalized for doing that. They changed --
10 they have to take away from the summer stock in order for
11 us to harvest the migration. So we're just wondering
12 again: If we know that, when the season opens in the fall,
13 the migration has already gone through, can we use those
14 fall tags and use them simultaneously for the summer stock?

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

16 Chris.

17 MR. LEWIS: Thank you for those comments about
18 modifying the dates. You're correct; it is the HTO's
19 discretion, but we ask the HTO to make those decisions on
20 an annual basis, so we ask for them to make their decisions
21 for migratory seasons and summer seasons prior to April 1st
22 of that year. It's not meant to be changed within the
23 season, and I think that's what happened with the previous
24 example you were asking about is that there was interest in
25 changing the dates, but it was while to the season was

1 already underway.

2 *Qujannamiik.*

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

4 Olayuk.

5 MR. NAQITARVIK: One last question. So do you
6 believe us that these narwhal are migrating anywhere and
7 everywhere, to Greenland, to the high arctic, to Admiralty
8 and Eclipse Sound or any sound that is around here? Do you
9 believe that they migrate everywhere?

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Olayuk.

11 Cory. Chris.

12 MR. LEWIS: I believe the information that
13 have been shared that there is a lot of movement and
14 migration of narwhal, and we've heard from previous
15 discussions, too, about some of the connectivity and the
16 movement that hunters have observed between Greenland and
17 areas on Baffin and up near Grise Fiord as well.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris. Cory.

19 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, and, again, I would just
20 like to add that we have various research programs that
21 we're currently designing or have implemented in the past
22 to get at exactly this type of question, whether it be
23 satellite tagging or genetics analysis or contaminants
24 analysis. So a lot of those are ongoing. Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

1 Is there any other questions from Arctic Bay?

2 Sakiasie.

3 MR. QAUNAQ: I have lots of comments to make,
4 but like Pond Inlet delegates, I would like to give the
5 same opportunity and length of questioning like Pond Inlet.
6 It's really hard to talk about and discuss migratory
7 animals when they don't still sit in one spot and we're
8 trying to decide for them; and we are oral language, and
9 you are written language. And we do appreciate that we're
10 going to be -- you're going to be increasing our TAH.

11 I can talk about Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit* in the
12 process that we're going through right now. The
13 distribution and the migration that you use through
14 satellite system, we don't agree with it. And these
15 seasons that are open during the winter; we don't harvest
16 in the winter. It's not correct.

17 We just got a recent chair who's more observant
18 of what's coming when the summer stock tags were or the
19 spring tags were used, or credits were used to harvest more
20 narwhal, and as you stated, the season had already been
21 open during the summer stock, that when we harvested
22 additional whale, they removed it from the other stock
23 tags. We have to improve that migratory and summer stock
24 delineation, and I don't know how we're going to do that,
25 but it is a problem, it is an issue that we're continuously

1 having problems with migratory and summer stock tags
2 because we never use our tags during the fall or the winter
3 from summer and spring stocks.

4 Can I still speak? I want to talk about my
5 knowledge as an Inuk, Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit* in
6 Admiralty Inlet or Arctic Bay area.

7 I think it's around 1956 to 1970, we used to get
8 together around that time. When there was no quota and
9 there was no restrictions on harvesting any wildlife, we
10 only harvested during the open-water season. We wouldn't
11 harvest any narwhal on the floe edge, although we saw a lot
12 of narwhals playing with their tusks, and we would never
13 harvest them. They were waiting for the ice to break up.
14 And the first few, 12, we always observed there were about
15 12 of them that went ahead of the other stock or the other
16 whales when the ice broke up.

17 I'm sure it's the same, but the ice breakup is
18 earlier and earlier, and it used to be in July that ice
19 would break up. But now the ice is breaking up way before
20 July, even in June. We're being asked as hunters to be
21 careful about the early breakup, and we have to stop our
22 migratory harvest long before the ice breaks up because it
23 gets too dangerous. That's why we were trying to explain
24 to you, because of this early breakup, that we're losing
25 our tags because we can't harvest them all because it's

1 dangerous to be out there, and our public safety is more
2 important at that stage.

3 Although I do have a lot to say, I'll speak more
4 later, and that's all I have for now.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, very much, Sakiasie.

6 DFO, Chris, any response?

7 MR. LEWIS: Just to thank Sakiasie for sharing
8 his knowledge at this meeting. So thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

10 Olayuk.

11 MR. NAQITARVIK: My question is going to be, whose
12 stock on Somerset area -- it seemed to have increased, that
13 stock has increased. The TAH has increased for Somerset.
14 Who's going to have the privilege of harvesting those
15 Somerset whales?

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Olayuk.

17 Chris.

18 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

19 Within the Somerset Island management would be
20 the Kitikmeot communities: Resolute Bay, Igloodik, and
21 Hall Beach. And the tag allocations are decided by the
22 regional wildlife organizations, so Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife
23 Board in cooperation with the Kitikmeot Wildlife Board.

24 Your question, too, triggered another --
25 reminded me of another point that you made earlier, too,

1 about getting access to the Somerset Island tags. If an
2 Arctic Bay resident wanted to harvest within the
3 Somerset Island management unit, typically it would
4 probably be best to go HTO to HTO, with RWO approval, and
5 make arrangements to use some of these tags, but they would
6 still have to be used within the Somerset Island management
7 unit.

8 *Qujannamiik.*

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

10 Any other questions from Arctic Bay, Olayuk?

11 MR. NAQITARVIK: *Qujannamiik.*

12 Another question. Of course, we have separate
13 TAH, individual communities, and now we have restrictions
14 now to harvest in any community without the specific
15 consent of the local HTO. And we do have lots of whales at
16 one point or another, and I know some communities want to
17 come to our community to harvest whale.

18 Is there any way that one community can bring
19 their tag from their community and use it in another
20 community? Is it possible that we can come to agreement
21 between communities to harvest from either community if we
22 wanted to?

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Olayuk.

24 Chris.

25 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

1 It is possible. The communities -- let's use
2 Somerset Island as an example. As long as someone had a
3 Somerset Island tag, say, for instance, to harvest whales
4 in Kugaaruk, that tag could be used there. But you
5 couldn't -- under the current management regime, you
6 couldn't take an Admiralty Inlet tag and use it in the
7 Somerset Island management area and vice versa; a Somerset
8 island tag would not be used in Admiralty Inlet or
9 Arctic Bay area.

10 We talked a little bit about the tag transfer
11 policy earlier today, and, again, one of the things that
12 resource management had asked the science program for
13 advice on was we asked about the flex quota system, which
14 we've already talked about. But we also asked if it would
15 be sustainable for Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay to use
16 migratory tags from their respective management units or
17 transfer them between communities, and the advice we got
18 back was, yes, it would be sustainable.

19 So there would be opportunities if the NWMB was
20 to support it -- it's going through the Land Claims
21 Agreement process, as well -- but if the NWMB was to make a
22 decision to support that tag transfer policy, that would
23 allow the exchange of migratory tags. It's something that,
24 again, we're working on as another option, management
25 option that would maximize harvest for the communities,

1 sustainable harvest. So thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

3 Olayuk.

4 MR. NAQITARVIK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 Very last one. If we're going to be utilizing
6 the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, according to the Land
7 Claims Agreement I have the free will to harvest anywhere I
8 want in Nunavut, so that agreement is not enforceable
9 because, does DFO regulations supersede the Land Claims
10 Agreement? Because I have the right to harvest anywhere in
11 Nunavut as an Inuk for sustainability.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Olayuk.

13 Chris.

14 MR. LEWIS: So a couple points. The marine
15 mammal regulations were in effect prior to the Land Claims
16 Agreement being assigned, so there is a section in there
17 that does talk about regulations that were in effect. So
18 they were adopted with the signing of the *Nunavut Land*
19 *Claims Agreement*. So marine mammal regulations are a piece
20 of legislation that is still applicable to Inuit.

21 The other point I was going to make is that the
22 management plan, when it was approved and came into effect
23 for narwhal within the Nunavut Settlement Area, it went
24 through the process that's outlined within the *Nunavut Land*
25 *Claims Agreement*, and the Board made a decision, and it was

1 ultimately -- eventually the minister -- I think it went
2 back and forth a couple times, but eventually there was a
3 decision made, and that's where the management plan came
4 into effect. And that's where we established these
5 management units and the coordinates for these management
6 units of narwhal within the Nunavut Settlement Area.
7 That's where the total allowable harvest levels came from.

8 Eventually, there was an interim flex quota
9 system that was approved and put into place for the last
10 three years. So, again, these decisions are also following
11 the process that's outlined within the Land Claims
12 Agreement which is, again, exactly why we're here today to
13 discuss the new science advice.

14 *Qujannamiik.*

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

16 Any other questions from Arctic Bay? Sakiasie.

17 MR. QAUNAQ: Just a comment to your last
18 comment. Using tags in the Nunavut Settlement Area, when
19 we want to use our tags outside our communities, we usually
20 bring that up and discuss it.

21 There used to be migrants or people migrants
22 visiting to our communities who wanted to harvest a whale.
23 Of course we agreed because they were originally from our
24 community, but apparently even that is not so flexible
25 anymore. There's restrictions. Even though you originally

1 lived there, if you moved away, you still can't use our
2 tags because it's specific for the community residents.
3 And it's impossible for a Pond Inlet tag to be used in
4 another community. Same thing with Iqaluit tag can't be
5 used in Pond Inlet -- even though that person living in
6 Iqaluit is originally from Pond Inlet, they cannot utilize
7 a Pond Inlet tag because they migrate or move somewhere
8 else to live or work. And I'd like to get an answer on
9 that.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sakiasie.

11 Chris.

12 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik.*

13 If Iqalumiut had some relatives in Arctic Bay,
14 for example, and wanted to come back to Arctic Bay to visit
15 family and harvest narwhal, the current management regime
16 would require them to have an Admiralty Inlet tag, so they
17 would need to work with the HTO or family within the
18 community and the HTO to obtain a tag to harvest narwhal
19 within Arctic Bay or Admiralty Inlet area.

20 Thank you.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

22 Any other questions? Sakiasie.

23 MR. QAUNAQ: Now, I guess we misunderstood the
24 process. We were told that they couldn't do that. It was
25 the reasons why Keewaitin Arviat residents go to Nauguat,

1 Repulse Bay, and they have the freedom to do so. And they
2 have the same stock, I suppose. These boundaries that you
3 have set up for different delineation, I guess it's because
4 of those that we're not able to use tags from one place to
5 another. Is that correct? Do I understand you correctly?

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sakiasie.

7 Chris.

8 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

9 Yeah, the Keewaitin example that you mentioned,
10 the communities that you listed there, were all part of the
11 northern Hudson Bay management unit, so those northern
12 Hudson Bay tags can be used within any communities that are
13 part of that management unit.

14 Again, for Arctic Bay and Pond Inlet, for
15 instance, they're based on the summering stocks, so they're
16 separate management units. So only tags for
17 Admiralty Inlet can be used within Admiralty Inlet, and
18 only tags for Eclipse Sound can be used within
19 Eclipse Sound.

20 I hope that helps to clarify. *Qujannamiik.*

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

22 Any other questions? If there's no other
23 questions? Sakiasie, any more questions?

24 MR. QAUNAQ: Yes, I have another question. So
25 I sort of understand why there's confusion. So the request

1 from Arctic Bay, when can we talk about it? Tomorrow or
2 the next day?

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sakiasie.

4 Chris.

5 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

6 We can talk about that any time between the
7 Iqaluit office and the HTO.

8 I was just reminded, too, though, that I believe
9 Arctic Bay has residency requirements in their hunting
10 bylaws. And, again, that was one of the things I had is,
11 too, is somebody that was not a resident of Arctic Bay
12 would have to go to the HTO, so it's really the HTO who
13 manages and can say who can hunt locally.

14 But, again, if there's concerns or any confusion
15 with that, our Iqaluit office is always there to provide
16 some direction and try to assist where we can help out, and
17 I believe Jobie's also got my contact information as well.
18 So *qujannamiik*.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

20 Any other questions, Sakiasie?

21 MR. QAUNAQ: I understand that. What about,
22 can we go through the -- when are we going to do our
23 Arctic Bay submission? *Qujannamiik*.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sakiasie.

25 Chris.

1 MR. LEWIS: It's a question for the Board
2 about when the Arctic Bay submission would be on the
3 agenda. *Qujannamiik*.

4 THE CHAIR: Sorry, Sakiasie. Yeah, Arctic Bay
5 will be coming up. Next on the agenda to present is NTI,
6 so Arctic Bay will be shortly after that. Thank you.

7 Okay. If there's no other questions from
8 Arctic Bay, we're going to take a 15-minute coffee break,
9 and next up is NTI. Thank you.

10 (ADJOURNMENT)

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, everybody,
12 for coming back. We will continue.

13 Just to advise everybody, right now we are
14 behind schedule quite a bit, so we'll let everybody know,
15 but there is a possibility we might be meeting this evening
16 yet, too.

17 So we'll continue with questions from NTI, Paul,
18 to DFO. The floor is yours.

19 **NTI QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

20 MR. IRNGAUT: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 Before I go, I just want to mention that it will
22 be written hearing, the NTI what DFO mentioned in
23 October 14, after the local HTOs -- we have looked at that
24 matter. Even though they're saying that they might not be
25 allowed to sell the tusk or the *muktuk*.

1 NWMB shouldn't even consider that because there
2 are three areas. It states in the *Nunavut Land Claims*
3 *Agreement* that when you are setting a total allowable
4 harvest that you have to follow the 5.3.3 under the *Nunavut*
5 *Land Claims Agreement*, 5.3.3(a); and, also, the minister
6 has to follow the Land Claims Agreement, as well, from DFO
7 to either approve, disapprove, or vary the decision,
8 initial decision if NWMB sets the total allowable harvest.

9 And, third, the researchers from DFO, the
10 scientific information states that it's at their discretion
11 that they can look at the Admiralty Inlet and
12 Eclipse Sound. You can look at that as one population in
13 those two inlets, Admiralty Inlet and Eclipse Sound.

14 If that is the case, the recommended decrease
15 for the Pond Inlet quota shouldn't even be considered. And
16 the DFO scientific advice can do that. So you shouldn't
17 even be considering decreasing that quota for Pond Inlet
18 because the letter that was written on October 14, that is
19 not supported by the scientific body of the DFO. So that
20 will be written in this hearing.

21 I have a question to DFO. My question is,
22 first, looking at the narwhal, you said there are two
23 stocks in Baffin Bay, or there are different stocks in
24 Baffin Bay. First of all, my question is: Are they
25 threatened? Do you consider them threatened?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

2 Cory.

3 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

4 Just to get to your point, you said something
5 about the scientific advice considering them as one stock.
6 I believe we may have been asked to calculate a TAH as if
7 they were one stock, but we don't advise to proceed as if
8 they are. It was written up in the SAR, which is our
9 advice which comes from the science. We do provide an
10 estimate, but we're quite clear in saying that, due to the
11 uncertainty in the stock connectedness, it's best to
12 proceed as if they're separate. So I just wanted to make a
13 clarification on that.

14 And as far as threatened under the designation
15 by -- I'm not sure if you just mean in general or if they
16 have a specific designation under SARA. They're not;
17 right? No, they're not considered threatened under SARA.

18 Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

20 Paul.

21 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 My question now to DF0: Do you consider that
23 whether they are one stock or two separate stocks?

24 THE CHAIR: Cory.

25 MR. MATTHEWS: We currently consider them as two

1 stocks, and that's how they're managed by DFO.

2 Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

4 Paul.

5 MR. IRNGAUT: I have another question. Maybe

6 I'll speak in English.

7 Do you consider the narwhal stocks as a concern?

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

9 Cory.

10 MR. MATTHEWS: Do you again mean under SARA?

11 MR. IRNGAUT: *Qujannamiik.*

12 It was stated that there was 140,000 narwhals in
13 Baffin Bay. Is that a concern?

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

15 Cory.

16 MR. MATTHEWS: Sorry, I'm not sure I'm
17 understanding the question.

18 As far as I know, they have no designation under
19 SARA, and we've treated each -- so although that's an
20 overall estimate from that survey, we've treated each one
21 separately as a stock, and whether "concern" is the proper
22 term, or not, we've done PBR calculations to determine what
23 would be an appropriate removal level from each of those
24 stocks, and by "appropriate," what the PBR does is set a
25 limit that can be removed that still allows that population

1 to either exist at a current state or increase to a state
2 where it has a maximum reproductive potential.

3 Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

5 Paul.

6 MR. IRNGAUT: *Qujannnamiik, itsivautaaq.*

7 Let me restate my question. Is there a
8 conservation issue, a concern, I guess -- that was my
9 question -- for Baffin Bay narwhals? It's estimated at
10 140,000, if I'm correct. Is that a conservation concern?

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

12 Cory. I think that's deferred to Patt. Patt,
13 come forward, please. Thank you.

14 MS. HALL: *Qujannnamiik, itsivautaaq.*

15 I'll try and answer a couple of Paul's
16 questions.

17 I think you're referring to the COSEWIC
18 designation of special concern. All narwhal, Baffin Bay
19 and northern Hudson Bay, were designated by an independent
20 group of experts. They were designated at the species
21 level as special concern.

22 The chair of that committee is an NTI employee.
23 So COSEWIC is a group of subject matter experts. They made
24 that designation several years ago. But that process of
25 SARA listing has not been completed yet so narwhal do not

1 have a SARA status.

2 Paul also asked if the total Baffin Bay
3 abundance estimate of 140,000 narwhal was a conservation
4 concern. We don't look at it so much as a total abundance
5 estimate but for abundance estimates of individual stocks.
6 So when, as co-management partners, we agreed and the Board
7 and the minister approved the IFMP, one of the agreements
8 that all the co-management partners approved was that
9 narwhal would be managed on a stock basis, on a summering
10 stock basis.

11 So while there is 140,000, give or take, narwhal
12 in the Baffin Bay population, those estimates vary by
13 management unit, so we consider the abundance estimates and
14 the harvest recommendation on a management unit basis, not
15 on the whole population.

16 Does that answer your question, Paul?

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Patt.

18 Paul.

19 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20 Yes, we understand that, that the SARA's work --
21 I know NTI sits on that committee, but the agreement was
22 reached that you have to manage them stock by stock, and
23 from me, from what I think, I don't agree with that. But
24 looking at the whole population, there's lots of narwhal,
25 and I don't think there's a conservation concern.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

2 MR. IRNGAUT: Yes, they do meet in open water
3 during the winter.

4 I have another question. Is there a special
5 concern when there are lots of narwhal that meet in one
6 area during the winter? And disregard the different stock
7 that they came from. Do you consider them as a special
8 concern when all the population meet in one area during the
9 winter?

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

11 Cory.

12 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

13 I would say the concern there is that even if
14 the separate stocks comprise one population, if it's their
15 habitat or their culture, we would call it, to summer in a
16 certain area that's separate from others and it's the same
17 whales that keep doing that same migration, then it is of
18 concern to manage the stocks as a summer aggression as
19 opposed to a entire population. Because we've seen, for
20 example, as I mentioned this morning with beluga,
21 populations -- in this case, I guess, populations that were
22 genetically differentiated can go extinct or extirpated in
23 their area, and it's not recolonized by other animals. So
24 I get your point about these being one population, but if
25 they're comprised of separate stocks that do things

1 differently, based on what they're learning from other
2 whales in their herd or in their family unit, then, again,
3 the most conservative or cautious management measure would
4 be to manage them as a separate summer stock based on where
5 they're aggregating in the summer.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

7 Paul.

8 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 I have another question. In Eclipse Sound,
10 yeah, they want to decrease the total allowable harvest for
11 the summering stock to 134. When you are calculating
12 these, do you consider the ones that are struck and lost?
13 Is that the reason, one of the reasons why you want to
14 decrease the total allowable harvest in Eclipse Sound,
15 because of struck-and-loss?

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

17 Cory.

18 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

19 So the number in the TAH accounts for
20 struck-and-lost already, so the PBR is actually slightly
21 higher, and then the struck-and-lost is incorporated into
22 that to come up with the number of whales that you can
23 harvest in the TAH. So, really, the value in the TAH plus
24 struck-and-lost equals the PBR.

25 Thank you.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

2 Paul.

3 MR. IRNGAUT: Okay. You mentioned PBR, they
4 take the struck-and-lost. Is that why you called it 134 to
5 be PBR? That also includes the struck-and-lost rate? I
6 just want to make it clear for others.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

8 Cory.

9 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

10 The 134 does not include struck-and-lost, no.
11 It accounts for struck-and-lost, but the PBR includes
12 struck-and-lost.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory. Chris.

14 MR. LEWIS: I think Patt wants to add maybe
15 just a little bit to that, if it's all right. Thanks.

16 THE CHAIR: That's fine. Yeah, Patt, go
17 ahead.

18 MS. HALL: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

19 The total allowable harvest recommendation
20 accounts for struck-and-lost.

21 I'm sorry, Cory, I'm not sure what you're
22 referring to. Anyway.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Cory.

24 MR. MATTHEWS: Okay. So just to clarify, then,
25 the PBR for Eclipse Sound based on the survey is 171. The

1 TALC is 134, so the struck-and-lost in that case would be
2 37 animals. So the 134 accounts for struck-and-lost but
3 does not include struck-and-lost. The 171, which is the
4 PBR, includes the harvest plus the struck-and-lost. So
5 we're talking about 134. If you want to talk about PBR,
6 it's 171.

7 Thank you.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

9 Paul.

10 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 That is clear. The people from Pond Inlet, they
12 will have their own submission -- I'll ask the question
13 after their submission regarding the struck-and-lost if
14 that is true. When you decrease the quota because of
15 struck-and-lost and the struck-and-lost are considered when
16 they want to decrease -- they do decrease our quota even
17 regardless of a struck-and-lost. They don't consider that.

18 But my question, perhaps: Is that 30 percent
19 taken off because of struck-and-lost? Is it 30 percent
20 that you use to calculate the struck-and-lost?

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

22 Cory.

23 MR. MATTHEWS: I'm not too quick on the math
24 here, but we said it was 37 whales out of 171 would be the
25 percentage that's struck-and-lost.

1 Thank you.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

3 Paul.

4 MR. IRNGAUT: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

5 The reason why I asked this one, because I think
6 you use that percentage of the struck-and-lost, and was it
7 15 percent or 30 percent? Which one do you use, 15 percent
8 or 30 percent?

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

10 Cory.

11 MR. MATTHEWS: It equals approximately 21 or
12 22 percent.

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

14 Paul, did you catch that? They said 21 or
15 22 percent.

16 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

17 I forgot the other questions I was going to ask.
18 I apologize.

19 According to the Inuit knowledge, I don't think
20 that is included in this estimate. And they say that
21 there's only one stock, one stock of narwhal from
22 Eclipse Sound and Admiralty Inlet narwhal, one stock. But
23 DFO is considering they're two different stocks, and what
24 was mentioned that the -- are you going to be looking at
25 this when you have that workshop? I know that the

1 communities don't agree with that because you have
2 separated the two stocks. Are you going to be looking at
3 that during the workshop, whether it's one stock or two?

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

5 Chris.

6 MR. LEWIS: I just wanted clarification on
7 which workshop.

8 THE CHAIR: Paul.

9 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10 The allocation workshop, the possible allocation
11 workshop you were talking about. Would this be part of the
12 discussions?

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

14 Cory.

15 MR. MATTHEWS: So the workshop in Copenhagen, the
16 JCMB? Oh, sorry.

17 MR. LEWIS: No, I think it will depend on the
18 decision made by the NWMB and the final decision made by
19 the minister on the subject. If we continue to manage
20 based on the summering stocks in Admiralty-Inlet
21 Eclipse Sound are separate stocks, then I think we'd be
22 running allocation models based on that scenario. I'll
23 park it there for now.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

25 Paul.

1 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 We understand that you won't get the results
3 until November 2017, the survey that was done in 2016.
4 Because of that, why are you trying to give a proposal?
5 You should have given your proposal after you find the
6 results from the latest survey that was done in 2016. Why
7 are you giving the proposal right now? Because the survey
8 results haven't been -- you don't know the results yet.
9 Why have you given the proposal to NWMB already?

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

11 Chris.

12 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

13 We had new science advice that didn't just
14 include a new TAH recommendation for Eclipse Sound. It was
15 all part of one big survey. It was all done at the same
16 time. We're doing our due diligence by advising the Board,
17 we've gone in and consulted with communities about this, we
18 provided that feedback to the Board as part of this request
19 for decision. We've also taken some of the advice and
20 suggestions that were received from the community of
21 Pond Inlet during those consultations, and we've tried to
22 continue to expand the research program, especially this
23 past summer, to address some of those linkage questions
24 that were raised.

25 I think it's important, if we were going to

1 submit a request for decision based on a survey, that we
2 present it all; I don't think that we should just focus on
3 one or two areas. I think all the information needs to be
4 shared in that request for decision.

5 *Qujannamiik.*

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

7 Paul.

8 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 We're here to talk about Pond Inlet TAH that is
10 proposed to be decreased. I understand that you have to
11 look at all the best available information, but -- we're
12 particularly here for a Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay narwhal
13 population. I understand that, but you're saying that
14 you're only going to review, peer review the survey results
15 from 2016, and I know that you're going to be reviewing all
16 the information from Eclipse Sound.

17 How come you're not waiting 'til you have that
18 evaluation of all studies done in 2016-17 and then propose
19 to NWMB about a TAH after you have the best available
20 information?

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

22 Chris.

23 MR. LEWIS: We do have new recommendations
24 from science.

25 I don't know. Cory, do you want to talk about

1 the survey again and just...

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris. Cory.

3 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

4 I understand what you're asking. The most
5 available survey that we have is 2013, and we've calculated
6 an allowable harvest based on that abundance estimate, and
7 management is going based on that being the most recent
8 advice because that's the most recent abundance estimate
9 that we have.

10 And I think that lower estimate then dictated
11 our survey priority, which is why we now have done a more
12 recent one in 2016; but between 2013 being done on this
13 survey --

14 THE INTERPRETER: I can hardly hear you.

15 MR. MATTHEWS: -- abundance estimate being
16 available several years so --

17 THE CHAIR: Cory, you're going to have to put
18 the microphone closer when you're speaking.

19 MR. MATTHEWS: So, yeah, just reiterating that
20 that's the most recent abundance estimate that we have, so
21 that's the most recent calculation for a total allowable
22 harvest, and that's what made doing another survey a
23 priority; but in the mean time, until that data is
24 available, then management would proceed with that being
25 our most recent estimate.

1 THE CHAIR: Chris, you have something to add.

2 Go ahead.

3 MR. LEWIS: I think, Patt, did you want to
4 clarify?

5 THE CHAIR: Patt, go ahead.

6 MS. HALL: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

7 I would like to just make a few points about
8 process. DFO -- as Chris was saying, we need to do our due
9 diligence. Part of that due diligence is providing the
10 Board with the best available information, which we did in
11 June, but in order to have that submission for the Board's
12 June meeting, we submitted it. Like, that submission was
13 prepared in May and submitted to the Board for its regular
14 meeting.

15 While all that was going on, DFO was finalizing
16 logistics for the 2016 survey, and, really, we didn't know
17 that it was going to go ahead until about the end of
18 June or the beginning of July. So part of what you're
19 seeing here is DFO wanting to do its due diligence for the
20 Board and the rest of our co-management partners, at the
21 same time, recognizing the community concerns that we heard
22 during the April consultations and planning an approach
23 that would allow us to address those concerns.

24 So while the submission was prepared in May and
25 given to the Board for its June meeting, at that time we

1 didn't know that we were going to be able to have the 2016
2 survey, so we weren't really in a position where we could
3 make any decisions about waiting until next year or not.
4 This is all a result of the process that's going on within
5 DFO and within the Board and between all of us as
6 co-management partners.

7 *Taima.*

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Patt.

9 Paul.

10 MR. IRNGAUT: *Qujannamiik.*

11 I understand. I understand what you're saying.
12 I don't have more questions, but I'd like to comment -- or
13 ask a question.

14 So if you don't want to -- if Pond Inlet doesn't
15 want to change the TAH for their community, and if they
16 don't agree to the TAH as proposed by DFO, so you have
17 stated that they will no longer be able to sell the tusks
18 they harvest from narwhal. Is that correct, if they don't
19 agree with your proposed TAH?

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

21 Chris.

22 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

23 I'd like to ask Stephan to summarize some of the
24 CITES stuff again. *Qujannamiik.*

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris. Stephan, go

1 ahead.

2 MR. ROMBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

3 So as I stated earlier, when the new standing
4 nonjudgment finding came into play in 2013, there would be
5 no review until there was new science advice and there was
6 a change in management.

7 So in this particular case, Paul, to answer your
8 question, if the community was not wanting to change their
9 total allowable harvest and the Board agreed with that and
10 made that decision and sent it to the minister and the
11 minister accepted that, then I'm guessing based on past
12 practice with the DFO scientific authority, when they
13 conducted the review on the most -- you know, whether or
14 not the harvest is sustainable and they looked at the
15 science advice and the TAH was higher than the most recent
16 science advice, the recommendation would be coming back
17 that it would be a recommendation not to allow export of
18 narwhal products out from the community of Pond Inlet.

19 But I'm speculating based on past practice,
20 what's happened in the past, but that would be my best
21 guess. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Stephan.

23 Paul.

24 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Stephan.

25 I understand the process and the regulatory

1 process, but I re-asked the question because we have to
2 make sure it's understood in layman's language. Some
3 people don't understand your process.

4 This is not a question. I'm sure that
5 Pond Inlet residents remember when we were doing the polar
6 bear management consultation process and after the fact
7 that they decreased the number of tags for polar bear. And
8 I think they decreased it by ten tags, I'm not sure. Five
9 tags to ten tags. And they went to the NWMB process, and
10 they still stopped it. It's still like that today, same
11 process.

12 Once you stop the possibility of commercializing
13 hides or tusks, it's almost impossible to get it back to be
14 able to sell again. The moratorium on selling hides is
15 still in effect today. I'm just saying that the same thing
16 might happen with tusks, if you put a stop to selling tusks
17 and that will come into effect, and it will be almost
18 impossible to try and sell tusks again after the fact.

19 Because it's at least income coming in for some
20 people, it's a life and -- survival thing. It's a very
21 small amount of money to survive to get food. And I know
22 it's not nice to hear from this perspective, and we don't
23 want to see that, people going hungry. Even though we
24 don't want to listen to these kind of sob stories, but we
25 have to really think about what we're doing, what we're

1 doing to people, how this administrative process is
2 affecting the lives of people. That's why I asked earlier
3 whether these whales are special concern or threatened. Is
4 there a conservation concern?

5 Sometimes we really don't grasp the extent of
6 these regulatory processes, and even though we don't quite
7 understand them, we agree to them without being properly
8 consulted, and it's only after the fact when we put it into
9 practice it's too late for us to say that we should not
10 have agreed with it.

11 I just wanted to point that out.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

13 I think, Stephan, you wanted to make a comment.

14 MR. ROMBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15 I just wanted to point out that I don't think,
16 as Paul pointed out, the example with polar bears and the
17 trade restriction, that it's been the same with narwhal.
18 And I'll speak to, you know, sort of the unpleasant
19 situation we went through back in 2010 where the department
20 made a decision with regards to the nondetriment finding
21 for narwhal, and NTI launched a judicial review against the
22 department; and it was based on that finding where it came
23 out to be a negative -- or there was a number of
24 communities were no longer able to export narwhal products
25 based on the review in 2007.

1 That led to, as I said, the judicial review
2 launched by NTI. Subsequently, an agreement was reached
3 between the department and NTI, and that led to the large
4 narwhal survey in 2013. And based on now, this is the
5 science advice that we're bringing forward to the Board for
6 the Board's consideration.

7 But at that time, too, with the nondetriment
8 finding, we saw that there were communities -- and I'll
9 give the example of Grise Fiord that was particularly
10 impacted where they were able to export up until 2010. The
11 department then issued a negative nondetriment finding for
12 them, and they weren't able to export product until 2014;
13 based the results of this 2013 survey that showed that
14 there were a lot of narwhal.

15 There were a few other communities here in east
16 Baffin, as well, that weren't able to export, but the
17 department acted again. So whatever the decision is here,
18 I think the department has shown in the past, Paul, that we
19 can act relative quickly within a year or two as long as --
20 in the past, whether it's IQ or science shows that there's
21 a lot of narwhal, you know, the department can make that
22 change and change that nondetriment finding from negative
23 to positive.

24 And then the other thing I just wanted to
25 mention was that -- Patt reminded me here -- when we went

1 through the IFMP process in 2012, the minister did accept
2 the quota or the establishment of TAHs for Grise Fiord
3 entirely based on IQ. We had no science. I think that was
4 the first time that the DFO minister had done that. And I
5 thought that was a good thing.

6 And as I said, then the following year the
7 science survey was conducted up in the north, and now we
8 have the new abundance estimates for across. We recognize
9 that there was issues with the Pond Inlet one. We heard
10 that loud and clear in the community consultations in
11 April, and the department has acted, I think, accordingly
12 by going out and conducting a new survey.

13 And as Patt mentioned here, I mean, it's this
14 whole process thing now where we have -- we're bringing
15 forward for the Board's consideration science advice from
16 2013, but we're also under the process of reviewing new
17 science advice which will be done and, you know, completed
18 hopefully by the end of 2017, and we'll probably be back
19 here in front of the Board at some point in 2018 asking for
20 a modification once again to that total allowable harvest.

21 I'll leave it at that. Thank you.

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Stephan.

23 Paul, anything further?

24 Okay. Thank you very much, Paul, for your
25 questions.

1 We'll turn it over to the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife
2 Board questions to DFO.

3 **QWB QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

4 MR. KANGO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 Just a comment before I ask questions. I am so
6 defensive for Pond Inlet. The international community
7 stopped the trade of polar bear hides. Now they're
8 proposing to stop them from selling tusks. That is so
9 hurtful. I feel so much hurt for them, and when Arctic Bay
10 made their comments, asked questions, DFO turned around,
11 said that it's up to the HTO to decide only the open
12 seasons for migratory and summer stocks. That's the only
13 decision that they can make. But they cannot transfer
14 their credits from one stock to another or from winter or
15 summer stock to migratory stock. If I misunderstood,
16 please let me know.

17 My question is: I'm not quite sure who LGL is.
18 You keep coming up with their name. Is that a mining
19 company? How come they're not here to report their
20 findings as part of the public process where we're supposed
21 to hear from all organizations in reference to these
22 particular stocks? They have information on these stocks.
23 How come they're not here?

24 And how many wintering places are there for
25 narwhal? Can you answer that?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Joshua.

2 Cory.

3 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

4 So LGL is a consulting company that was hired by
5 Baffinland to -- I don't know if Patt wants to speak a bit
6 more to this -- but to determine that they were meeting the
7 requirements under environmental assessment for their
8 project. And I think their main data collection was to
9 look at how the narwhal are moving with respect to shipping
10 routes; but they did that with aerial surveys, and they
11 have completed a report. But in the report it's just
12 looking at density of animals, so how many animals per
13 square area, metre or per kilometre, not the overall the
14 number. We can use their data, however -- or I'm looking
15 at using their data -- to come up with an abundance
16 estimate much like we do with our surveys. So they're a
17 consulting company that was hired by the mining company.

18 And as far as I know, the overwintering
19 locations of the narwhals are in Baffin Bay and Davis
20 Strait, and they're in different -- there is some different
21 areas within there that they're overwintering. So
22 Baffin Bay and Davis Strait.

23 Thank you.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

25 Joshua.

1 MR. KANGO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 As an Inuk, automatically I would think it's one
3 and the same; all the narwhal goes to all the sounds and
4 inlets around Admiralty Inlet and Eclipse Sound and
5 Somerset Island are all one stock that come from the
6 wintering area. And when we were told by DFO that the way
7 I understood it is that the stock going from Baffin Bay
8 going to Eclipse Sound, Admiralty Inlet migrate through
9 from, and they told us that the high arctic narwhal could
10 not go to Eclipse Sound or Admiralty Inlet because they're
11 different wintering ground.

12 So do those narwhal that are in that high arctic
13 around Jones Bay area stay there all year round, or do they
14 winter in the same area where Admiralty Inlet and
15 Eclipse Sound stock winter? Do you know that?

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Joshua.

17 DFO. Cory.

18 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, as far as I know, we don't
19 know a lot about those narwhals, and it's been a priority
20 for the last couple of years of DFO to satellite tag
21 animals near Grise Fiord.

22 And to my knowledge -- Patt, do you know if they
23 were successful in tagging any? No.

24 So the two or three summers that they went up,
25 they were all unsuccessful in tagging any animals, so I

1 can't really speak to where they go, where they're
2 overwintering, in specific terms.

3 Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

5 Joshua.

6 MR. KANGO: *Qujannamiik*. Thank you.

7 My questions were brought up already by the
8 other delegates. Now I have a comment to make.

9 We did a consultation process to the community,
10 and DFO did a presentation on the proposed, did an
11 estimation of stock of narwhal. They asked Inuit whether
12 they agreed with it or not, but the Inuit did not agree
13 with it, and they wanted it changed to reflect the Inuit
14 traditional knowledge about their own wildlife, their
15 whales. But we found out later there was no changes at all
16 according to Inuit knowledge. The proposed delineation of
17 stock proposed by the DFO remained the same.

18 Please review it. Go back to the table and
19 really look at the narwhal population. They're not
20 separate. They're not a separate stock like Eclipse Sound
21 or Admiralty Inlet. If there was no more polar bear or
22 narwhal, we wouldn't be having this discussion or debate;
23 but fortunately, there are, so that's why we're talking
24 about summer and migratory stocks. So I give it back to
25 you to recommend to you to put it into one stock because

1 they're not separate.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Joshua for that
3 comment.

4 Any comments from DF0? Cory.

5 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, thank you for that.

6 And again, just to bring up what we said several
7 times today that we are collecting data and information to
8 try to look at the different stocks and how they might be
9 related and connected. We've got tagging data that show
10 it's not as rigid as maybe we say. So we're collecting
11 data -- genetics, tagging, contaminants, stable isotopes --
12 to try to look at how these different stocks are separated
13 or not.

14 Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

16 Jason, go ahead.

17 MR. MIKKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 The public hearing is being recorded, so we
19 would like a copy of the recording for QWB. We would
20 appreciate a copy of that recording.

21 First of all, the stocks for narwhal, you're
22 saying they're separate stocks, and we had a meeting in
23 February 2013 dealing with total allowable harvest. First
24 of all, how did you separate the stocks? On what basis?
25 By the genes, or by studying the genes, or by counting, or

1 how did you separate the stocks? On what basis?

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

3 Cory.

4 MR. MATTHEWS: So the summer aggregations started
5 to be the defining stock definition, and it's been based on
6 several different lines of research, so the first being the
7 satellite tagging. Genetics differences have been noted
8 among some components of the different stocks, but as I
9 said this morning, we really need a larger sample size to
10 have more statistical power to assess those differences
11 among the stocks.

12 There's been some contaminants analysis. So
13 different animals, depending on their diet and where they
14 live, pick up different profiles of contaminants, and they
15 can look different from each other if they're spatially
16 segregated or separated. The same thing with trace
17 elements. So we have a new study looking at trace elements
18 in these different narwhals from the different stocks.

19 And stable isotopes -- there was a recent study
20 done with Eclipse Sound and Admiralty Inlet. And, again,
21 stable isotopes are just another chemical marker in the
22 tissue, but they differed between the animals. So it
23 suggested, with the stable isotopes, in particular, that
24 they're not mixing during the summer. So there is a lot of
25 uncertainty. If everyone is saying that they're mixing,

1 there is evidence that suggests they're not. So currently
2 they're being managed on these distinct summer aggregations
3 based on several lines of evidence.

4 Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

6 Jason.

7 MR. MIKKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 So if that's the case, I'd like clarification:
9 Summer, summer stock. Exactly what months are you talking
10 about when you say summer stock? What month or months?

11 Thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

13 Cory.

14 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, so we consider this to be
15 well after the spring migration, obviously, so late --
16 early August into the middle of August is when we conduct
17 our surveys to try to capture all the animals when they're
18 aggregated in their largest aggregations before they start
19 to leave on their fall migrations. Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Chris.

21 MR. LEWIS: Yeah, just to add. So the
22 summering seasons, too, we said earlier, it's based on
23 observations seen within the communities by the HT0s. So,
24 typically, dates range anywhere from June to mid-July is
25 the start of the summer seasons, and they'll go as late as

1 the end of September, depending on the community.

2 Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

4 Jason.

5 MR. MIKKI: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

6 The presentation, you did earlier, for
7 clarification, and you did a survey for four days in
8 Admiralty Inlet and two days for Eclipse Sound, right, for
9 bad weather? You base that information on those dates of
10 survey?

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

12 DFO. Chris.

13 MR. LEWIS: I just want to -- for the 2016
14 survey or the 2013 survey?

15 THE CHAIR: Jason?

16 MR. MIKKI: 2013.

17 THE CHAIR: Cory.

18 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

19 So, yeah, Admiralty Inlet was surveyed over a
20 two-day period, and then there was a four-day break in
21 between due to bad weather, and then Eclipse Sound was
22 surveyed immediately after that four-day break, in two
23 days.

24 Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

1 Jason.

2 MR. MIKKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 My concern about this is, I listen to the
4 radio -- not your researchers but other research and study
5 being done -- and they were deceiving in getting their
6 research approved. I'm very concerned about that process
7 and the method that was done. How are you going to report
8 this? You don't have enough information because you didn't
9 have enough time to do additional survey because of bad
10 weather, or are you going to base your findings on those
11 two days each for survey, or are you going to do extra
12 survey? What are you going to say?

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

14 Cory.

15 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

16 So, yeah, ideally the surveys are replicated to
17 get a better idea of how they vary, but the survey itself
18 was a standard aerial survey with visual counts. It was
19 analyzed using standard statistical methodology. We
20 applied corrections for whales that were missed by
21 observers and corrections for whales that were under water
22 and not able to be observed. And in the SESAS (phonetic)
23 report that outlines the survey, we acknowledge that some
24 of the limitations that contribute to uncertainty, the
25 estimates can be clumping of animals, and the fact that it

1 was conducted over two days shouldn't really influence that
2 estimate in particular.

3 Thank you.

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

5 Jason.

6 MR. MIKKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 Although that's the case, the communities
8 affected by this will really scrutinize what you did
9 because it's their food.

10 And the other thing you commented about this
11 morning, Baffinland had consulted with LGL; and when you
12 started your survey, I would like to say, NWMB -- I can say
13 to NWMB that, on August 20 to 30, 2006, I had to meet with
14 the community. Before I left, I met with the board, right
15 after DFO did their survey. And also the consultants for
16 Baffinland just concluded their survey themselves, and the
17 two observers from HTO that were part of LGL survey did
18 their presentation to HTO. And I can give you a copy of
19 the aerial survey that was done. I have that information.

20 And the other thing I can say; in May 2014, we
21 had a request from DFO to hold a teleconference; and on
22 June 10, 2014, they wanted to do a presentation on the 2013
23 survey that they did. In that meeting in August 2013, I
24 came here to the community -- that there's going to be
25 independent surveyors working in your area. I asked them,

1 "Would you like to work with them?" And I have all the
2 backup information, even my airline receipt and the dates
3 we were here. I have all that information in reference to
4 the logistics of that survey process that you did in 2013
5 which you presented to HTO, and, also, LGL did observe was
6 presented to HTO in 2014.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

8 I think any information you can provide to the
9 Board would be helpful. Was that more of a comment, then?
10 Okay. Any other questions? Jason?

11 MR. MIKKI: Thank you.

12 I'll go to the numbers up there. Paul did ask
13 about these earlier, but I'd like to get more information.
14 You said in the tab at 513, 233 for Arctic Bay and
15 Pond Inlet 236. And on the right is the new numbers. Paul
16 did ask those questions, but I want to ask them again.

17 The current TAH, 532 and 236, were TAH
18 implemented by NWMB. That's correct. But why are you
19 giving the communities different information than you
20 present to NWMB?

21 And the PBR issue was brought up earlier. How
22 come you do the possible biological removal, and why do you
23 include struck-and-lost in the decrease of TAH even though
24 nobody did struck-and-lost yet? Even when they haven't
25 gone out to harvest and struck-and-lost, how come you

1 calculate that in the numbers before a struck-and-lost
2 happens? I hope you understand what I'm trying to say,
3 that this is 236 current TAH, and even though it's 233, you
4 automatically take off struck-and-lost from that number,
5 and you only give them 133. How do you calculate that?

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

7 Chris.

8 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

9 Patt's got a lot of experience with the history
10 of how the struck-and-lost rates were calculated, and I'm
11 going to ask if maybe she can talk a little bit about how
12 the rate was determined and how it came into effect, along
13 with the management plan. *Qujannamiik.*

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris. Patt.

15 MS. HALL: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

16 When the management plan was first developed and
17 the decision was made to make PBR equivalent to total
18 allowable harvest it was also agreed that it would be
19 easier for the communities if that value was adjusted to
20 take into account struck-and-lost, which is why the harvest
21 advice is presented as TALC; right?

22 At that time, the number used to account for
23 struck-and-loss came from the information that was reported
24 through community-based management which the Board
25 implemented in the early to middle 2000s with five

1 communities, and the HTOs in participating communities
2 documented the numbers of narwhal that were landed and also
3 the numbers that were lost.

4 If my memory serves me correctly, that
5 information was used to come up with a generic
6 struck-and-lost rate, and at that time, we all acknowledged
7 that there are differences in hunting losses between
8 seasons, between communities, even between individual
9 hunters. But that was the best information that was
10 available. And that value became incorporated into the
11 management plan, and that's why -- that's how
12 struck-and-loss is accounted for.

13 We continue to ask hunters to self-report on
14 landings and losses because I think it's important to
15 understand regional differences. It's a complex problem,
16 and if there are communities that are interested to explore
17 this further, I think DFO would be really happy to work
18 with them on this. And that's the history behind how the
19 numbers take into account struck-and-loss.

20 You'll remember -- when was that -- two years
21 ago, two three years ago now, NWMB hosted a struck-and-loss
22 workshop in Iqaluit, and we tried to explore that issue in
23 more detail.

24 I think it's true to say that it would be
25 helpful to have more consistent terminology as to what we

1 mean by being struck-and-loss. I don't want to go into too
2 much detail, but during community-based management, we
3 tried to -- we tried to identify how many animals might get
4 hit with a bullet and live -- like, swim away and and
5 escape, and how many animals would be hit with a bullet but
6 would be mortally wounded and then would die fairly shortly
7 afterwards. And in those days we would report loss rates
8 as a minimum and a maximum. We wouldn't use one number.
9 We would it was somewhere between a minimum and a maximum
10 number.

11 During development of the management plan, it
12 was decided to go with one single value, and if the
13 communities would like to get into that question in more
14 detail, then DFO would be happy to work with you on that.
15 I think it's a very important thing to understand regional
16 differences.

17 *Taima.*

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Patt.

19 Jason.

20 MR. MIKKI: Thank you. I'm not sure how
21 many -- I think there's five, and there's five that are
22 going to be increased and only one community decreased for
23 the total allowable harvest because of that difference.
24 The management plan that are in and what you've been
25 studying -- okay, are you going to increase the summering

1 tags and decrease the fall migrations? And I'm just
2 looking at this.

3 The numbers that are before us, the ones that
4 have been given to the current total allowable harvest
5 before they considered the struck-and-lost, and they are
6 given with different numbers from QWB. And when NWMB makes
7 its decision, they have to use the best available
8 information, and when you calculate the total allowable
9 harvest, you're already deducting the struck-and-loss.

10 I have other questions. Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

12 Chris.

13 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

14 Yeah, I think they're -- well, I remember, too,
15 Jason, some presentations to QWB that included a table that
16 had more information included the TAH or the TALC, as
17 referred to in the science paper, so the new TAH advice.
18 But we also presented some tables with potential biological
19 removals. This was done during the community
20 consultations, as well. And all this information was
21 included with the request for decision that included the
22 science paper that went to the Board as well.

23 I might have missed something, but I know you're
24 going to come back to me.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

1 Jason.

2 MR. MIKKI: Thank you.

3 And also, there was a question that was not
4 responded to, so I'll ask it again. When there is a
5 two-tag system and when you want to decrease the total
6 allowable harvest for -- which one are you trying to
7 decrease the total allowable harvest from? Is it from the
8 fall migratory tags or summering tags? Which one are you
9 going to decrease, the migratory tags or the summering
10 tags?

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

12 Chris.

13 MR. LEWIS: Yeah, *qujannamiik*, Jason. That's
14 the other question I was referring to, so thanks.

15 That's where that harvest allocation model
16 workshop would come into effect, and we could look at
17 developing a number of examples that would show you exactly
18 what would happen to the migratory tags that each community
19 receives and the summer tags that each community receives,
20 and it's based on community input on what percentage of
21 their tags they want to use during the summer season. For
22 instance, if they want to use 50 percent of their tags in a
23 summer season or 75 percent, that model workshop and those
24 examples that we developed in cooperation is where you're
25 really going to see how a change in those summer catch

1 proportions would affect summer tags and migratory tags.

2 And we did put up one example, and it was just
3 one example showing what a sustainable harvest output could
4 be from that model based on the current summer catch
5 proportions that are used. With the exception of
6 Eclipse Sound, we looked at what would happen if 50 percent
7 of the tags were migratory and 50 percent were summer. And
8 under that scenario, you'd see a total of 170 tags issued
9 to Pond Inlet instead of 190.

10 Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

12 Jason.

13 MR. MIKKI: Yeah, thank you.

14 This is my last question. How come I heard this
15 morning when you were doing your presentation you kept
16 saying that when you were asking for a decision for new
17 total allowable harvest advice, you said you wanted to give
18 the best available information, and I just heard that you
19 wrote in May to NWMB for their June meeting, and this past
20 summer, you wanted to do a survey this past summer.

21 Now that you did a survey this past summer, how
22 come you gave your proposal anyway even before you know the
23 results from this past summer surveys?

24 Thanks. That's all I want to know.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

1 Chris.

2 MR. LEWIS: I'm going to look over to Patt and
3 ask if she can just provide the timelines again because she
4 did a really nice job earlier. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIR: Patt, go ahead.

6 MS. HALL: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

7 In order to have the request for decision in to
8 the Board in time for its June meeting, the request for
9 decision was prepared in May right after we completed our
10 community consultations and wrote up the consultation
11 summary.

12 Then during June and the beginning of July, DFO
13 Science was able to finalize its plan to do a survey here
14 in Eclipse. DFO researchers were here in June doing seal
15 surveys. They met with the HTO manager and discussed
16 whether or not there would be support for such a survey.
17 There was agreement made on the terms under which the
18 survey would go ahead.

19 We subsequently wrote to Ikpiarjuk HTO asking
20 for their support of the survey, which we received, and
21 everything came together very nicely, and we were able to
22 come and do the survey this summer.

23 At the time that the DFO put its submission in
24 to NWMB we didn't have confirmation that we would be able
25 to do a survey in the summer. And as Chris pointed out, as

1 a co-management organization, DFO is mandated to provide
2 the most current information to the Board for its
3 consideration. In no way is that meant to diminish IQ.
4 It's simply meant to fulfill DFO's requirement to provide
5 the most current science advice available to the Board.

6 And as Chris also pointed out, the request for
7 decision doesn't focus solely on TAH for Admiralty Inlet
8 and Eclipse; the request for decision includes all of the
9 Baffin Bay narwhal stocks and, also, a decision on the tag
10 transfer policy.

11 And as you know, everything except the question
12 of Admiralty and Eclipse Sound was -- correct me if I'm
13 wrong -- was dealt with via written hearing, and today's
14 meeting is focussing on Admiralty and Eclipse. So we tried
15 to respond as best we could in real time -- some could say
16 for a government organization we did a pretty damn good
17 job -- and now we're going to do our best to provide
18 results to the Board as soon as we can.

19 I think that Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board brought
20 up a very good comment in its submission to the hearing,
21 and that is pointing to the difference between the LGL
22 survey and the DFO survey and how it's very important to
23 understand the differences between the two, and that is
24 what DFO is setting out to do at this point is to look at
25 the two surveys and to evaluate the similarities and the

1 differences and how that information can be combined.

2 *Taima.*

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Patt.

4 Jason.

5 MR. MIKKI: Thank you.

6 Just a comment. Why didn't DFO submit another
7 letter saying they want to postpone this public hearing as
8 soon as you guys knew the 2016 survey was going to be held,
9 and when you guys were informed of the LGL survey results?
10 I think that was enough time, sufficient time to type a
11 letter to NWMB asking to postpone this public hearing until
12 you evaluate the new information and the study that's going
13 to be happening this summer. Why? Why didn't DFO do that?

14 The reason I ask this is, Foxe Basin walrus;
15 there was going to be a public hearing last year in
16 Igloolik, and your department had provided full information
17 of recommendations, and then in the last two months, about
18 a month and a half prior to the public hearing your
19 department requested a postponement until the new
20 information can be evaluated, which NWMB accepted,
21 postponed the hearing, and then this spring it was
22 cancelled.

23 So, for me, it doesn't add up. From June 'til
24 November that's, what, four months? Like, why?

25 *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

1 *Taima.*

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

3 Chris.

4 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

5 I think it's important to keep in mind we don't
6 know what the results are going to be of the 2016 survey.
7 If the 2016 survey has similar results to what we saw in
8 2013, then we might be a couple of years kind of behind the
9 eight ball; right?

10 I still think that it's important to move
11 forward with this request for decision and for the hearing
12 to happen and for all the parties to share their insight
13 and for IQ to be shared and for the Board to be able to
14 make that decision. I think we're following the process as
15 best we can under the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, and
16 we've started the process, and I think it's important to
17 let it take its course.

18 *Qujannamiik.*

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

20 Jason. *Taima?*

21 Okay. That's it for Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board,
22 then? Any other questions? Joshua.

23 MR. KANGO: Once more. I just want to ask the

24 DF0: They never want to change their minds once they make
25 up their minds. My question is: COSEWIC, when they do

1 assessment, do you keep informing them? Is that the reason
2 they want to list the species as whatever category, because
3 you keep informing them after you do the survey from the
4 year?

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Joshua.

6 Chris.

7 MR. LEWIS: I'm -- yeah, I'm not exactly up to
8 date on the COSEWIC process. Mr. Romberg's coming to the
9 table, so I'm hoping that he can help out with this one.

10 Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris. Stephan.

12 MR. ROMBERG: Thanks, Mr. Chair.

13 I think as Patt mentioned, COSEWIC designated
14 narwhal back in 2005, I believe, as a special concern, and
15 it looked at the whole population. It wasn't split up.

16 I think in the next coming years -- I can't
17 remember how long down the road -- a few years, anyways,
18 three or four years -- it will be looked at at the more
19 stock level. And at that time it will look at each
20 individual stock and not the population level. And at that
21 time they'll make a recommendation, and we'll have to come
22 out and go and consult again.

23 I did want to bring up the one example, though,
24 where COSEWIC did recommend Baffin Bay high arctic beluga
25 as special concern. That was consulted on back in the

1 early to mid-2000s.

2 We went out, we consulted, we heard the feedback
3 coming back; said no, not to list. And that's what our
4 minister recommended. It was approved. So it did not get
5 listed under SARA.

6 So it's not that we don't listen. There have
7 been situations where we do listen, and, you know, I'm sure
8 they're few and far and between -- not as many as Inuit
9 would like, but there are examples where, you know, we have
10 proposed not to list a species, even though COSEWIC has
11 designated or recommended for designation, whether it be
12 special concern or threatened. So I just wanted to pass
13 that along. Thank you.

14 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Stephan.

15 Jason.

16 MR. MIKKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

17 Okay. For our submission to the hearing, it
18 says that -- I have a question. When they want to be
19 listed as a special concern, okay, what target are you
20 looking at? And it was mentioned that there's 140,000, and
21 you want to list them as a special concern. Okay. What
22 number are you looking at? Because it's not -- that's my
23 last question. What number are you looking at before they
24 are listed as special concern?

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

1 Stefan.

2 MR. ROMBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

3 I'll try and answer Jason's question, and if I
4 miss anything, Patt can supplement. But as I mentioned,
5 Jason, the population narwhal was assessed back in 2004.
6 So it was before -- '03, '04? It was around that time
7 frame. And it was before a number of DFO surveys, and as I
8 said, before looking any further, they're going to have to
9 do a reassessment based on the newest information. And so
10 what COSEWIC comes out with after that reassessment it's
11 hard for me to say. I'm not part of the process, and we
12 can only wait and see if they would come back with a
13 special concern, or maybe they say it's not at risk, I
14 don't know, but I would assume that there would be a
15 reassessment in the next three to five years.

16 Thank you.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Stephan.

18 *Taima?* Okay. Thank you very much, Qikiqtaaluk
19 Wildlife Board. We will move on.

20 The next up is GN. I guess that's you, Jason,
21 if you have any questions at all from the GN to DFO.

22 MR. ETUANGAT: I'm actually just an observer.

23 THE CHAIR: All right. Thank you. I don't
24 think we have anybody from the GN here, then.

25 We'll carry on, then, to the next questioners,

1 and that is Elders from the community of Pond Inlet or
2 Arctic Bay that are at the table. Is there any other
3 questions from the Elders to DFO?

4 **ELDERS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

5 MR. P. SANGOYA: Yes, my name is Paniloo Sangoya.

6 I understand now that you're missing a lot of
7 information, and this is not the best available
8 information, as it turns out, and I'm just wondering now
9 that you're just using us to approve what you want. And I
10 know that we want information that is the most current
11 information, and when you use information that is years
12 behind -- 2013 is a long time ago -- I don't want to hear
13 information from years ago that you're trying to use to
14 convince us. It seems as though Inuit are being used to do
15 your job.

16 And I guess we're always going to go over the
17 *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. When you decide to decide
18 on TAH, you just go through a consultation process just
19 because it says so in the Agreement, and nothing's going to
20 change when you decide. So I guess our Land Claims
21 Agreement doesn't have any teeth, and I know that when we
22 have to change regulations and acts to make sure they're
23 the most up-to-date and most current information, you said
24 earlier that you use the acts from way before Land Claims
25 Agreement. Now that's an example I can use that you have

1 to update that act because it's not useful anymore.

2 And I know that when I go back home I'm going to
3 go home to a whole different perspective, and it's only
4 when you update those acts that you were referring to
5 before Land Claims Agreement I'll start believing you after
6 you update them to the most available information.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paniloo. Gamilie. Go
8 ahead, question.

9 MR. KILUKSHUK: Although I'm not familiar about
10 *Qallunaat* culture, I myself, I know the Inuit and *Qallunaat*
11 culture are totally different from each other, especially
12 in reference to social issues and wildlife management
13 issues. They're two totally different things. And my
14 experts now are *Qallunaat*. It seems as though they know
15 more than me, just by hearing from you.

16 Inuit traditional knowledge from our ancestors
17 is not written down, and we do have very strict rules and
18 laws that we have to abide by as an Inuit society. I don't
19 understand why these strict rules that we've lived by
20 cannot be incorporated into management plans. And the
21 reason why we keep going up against you is because we would
22 not have survived if we did not practice our strict
23 conservation efforts that we do as Inuit because we had
24 strict rules and strict upbringing to respect our wildlife
25 and our environment to make sure that we conserve our

1 wildlife to be able to have food on the table. And what I
2 would recommend, if we want to write down our Inuit
3 *qaujimajatuqangit*, where do I get the funding? Are you
4 going to direct me for funding to write my culture down?

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Gamilie.

6 Would you like to comment, Chris?

7 MR. LEWIS: I think it's probably -- well,
8 there is an IQ coordinator that works with the Nunavut
9 Wildlife Management Board and some funding opportunities
10 through them, too, as well, but I think that would be
11 better elaborated on by NWMB, if that's all right,
12 Mr. Chairperson.

13 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you, Chris.

14 I think we understand, and it is a separate
15 issue here, but I think there is that type of funding and
16 different avenues, not only with the NWMB, but with the
17 Government of Nunavut also. So your point is well taken,
18 Gamilie.

19 Any other questions or comments from Elders that
20 are representing communities? Sakiasie.

21 MR. QAUNAQ: I myself am familiar with Inuit
22 *qaujimajatuqangit*. I grew up with Elders, male, female
23 Elders, and when you look at our traditional knowledge and
24 respecting our Elders and following their wishes, DFO has
25 become our Elder. According to our Inuit traditional laws,

1 DFO has become our Elder.

2 And the marine mammals are controlled by killer
3 whales and *aarluk* or killer whales are there to help us
4 because, if there were no killer whales, they would not be
5 forcing marine mammals to go into the sounds, which we
6 harvest from that. So we're intricately connected with the
7 wildlife who help us to eat, and the mammals go into the
8 sounds and inlets, being chased by killer whales.

9 And terrestrial animals and also our wolves are
10 there to help us in the food chain. Wolves are there to
11 help us to chase wildlife, terrestrial wildlife to come our
12 way, and that's why we're able to harvest them. If there
13 were no wolves, the wildlife would stay in one spot, and
14 that's why we were always taught that we have to respect
15 killer whales and wolves. And I know a lot of people are
16 unhappy about the biological removal from killer whales,
17 but they're there to help us.

18 There's narwhals in Kugaaruk, Cambridge Bay,
19 even by Resolute Bay. They never had narwhal before. And
20 I have no idea or I had never heard narwhals migrating from
21 Alaska to here, but I know that the wintering ground is
22 around Baffin Bay around Qikiqtarjuaq, and they congregate
23 in the winter there, and there's a lot more narwhal than
24 before. That's why almost all communities are seeing
25 narwhals, because of the overabundance.

1 And we have less beluga whales during the summer
2 because of early ice breakup, and every year, our ice
3 conditions are changing -- not from Inuit, though.

4 And I heard that ships are the ones that will
5 extinguish or extirpate the whales. It's the shipping
6 companies or ships going back and forth that is doing that.
7 And we used to worry that the ships would make the narwhal
8 flee, but they kept coming back. And we were able to
9 harvest from that stock, and sometimes we were able to
10 harvest all the TAH that we had because of the shipping.
11 When the shipping stopped during the winter -- or the
12 freeze-up, I'm not sure whether the whales are afraid of
13 ships or not, but I think I'm referring to narwhal that
14 have been tagged, that have satellite tagging.

15 And there's also some whaling being done using
16 nets, and my son had come across, that they caught a
17 narwhal with a net that had a tag on it. And when they
18 punctured the whale with a knife, when they punctured it,
19 the narwhal was so sick and contaminated from pus they
20 didn't want to get infected from the narwhal. They tried
21 not to touch the infected area, and what they wanted to
22 know; instead of putting a tag on the fin or the back of
23 the whale, why don't you put it on the tusk where it won't
24 get infected? Put the tag on the tusk of the narwhal. At
25 least it can stay on for months at end, and it will not get

1 sick or infected.

2 That's all I have. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sakiasie.

4 Chris. Cory.

5 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

6 The reason for the tag placement on the whales
7 is the dorsal ridge or the back comes out of the water for
8 the longest amount of time and gives the clearest
9 transmission. So I know sometimes the males' tusk can have
10 their tusk out of the water, but for the most part, they
11 wouldn't come out long enough when they breathe to transmit
12 locations.

13 MR. LEWIS: And I think a lot of the other
14 discussion was a number of really valuable comments that
15 will help with this hearing process.

16 So *qujannamiik*.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

18 Gamaillie.

19 MR. KILUKSHAK: I didn't finish my comment
20 earlier. The delegates around the table from community
21 HTOs, although I'm not officially on the HTO board, I am a
22 member from Pond Inlet, and I support them.

23 I know that we've heard from years and years
24 that the decisions that are made are from down south, way,
25 way down south. Maybe perhaps, if there's a problem, the

1 communities themselves should be deciding what's best for
2 them within their community instead of referring the
3 decision to way down south to DFO. And I know that we did
4 not have the total freedom to just harvest any old wildlife
5 we want. We had really strict rules by our Elders to
6 harvest a particular wildlife in a particular season.

7 And the reason why we're really going up against
8 this is because we don't want to be decided for anymore by
9 *Qallunaat* from down south. We want to be able to decide on
10 our own, because the way we approach our wildlife and our
11 environment are so different. And I know that all these
12 shipping companies and Ski-Doos and motorized vehicles are
13 very noisy, and they're contributing to the animals
14 fleeing. That's why there was so many whales being stuck
15 when they froze up because of all the noise that they heard
16 from the shipping, and they fled.

17 And I know for three years it was a really good
18 season, and there was a really good bunch of seal, and the
19 following year everything changed. And for that reason, we
20 don't know technical methods that you use as a basis of
21 your knowledge. We also have Inuit knowledge, as well,
22 that you don't know.

23 And in Pond Inlet we select our HTO board to
24 represent our membership, and we work together diligently
25 when there's something major that will affect our

1 traditional laws, and we support our HTO board that
2 represent us.

3 For example, the first time there was a narwhal
4 stuck in the ice, we requested two Elders from HTO to
5 support us and to ask their advice on what we can do to
6 protect and conserve the narwhal from Inuit's perspective.
7 And when we advised those Elders what the situation was, we
8 didn't go to the elected body of our organization; we went
9 to our Elders to get advice on the best way to deal with
10 those stuck narwhal. And that's how our process works
11 because our Elders know every single wildlife that is in
12 our environment. That's why it's most important that you
13 should be referring to Elders versus a certified person.

14 And our HTO is there and always support our
15 community. They even do organized hunts for us for food by
16 our elected members of our HTO.

17 And they know, HTO knows their own membership.
18 No matter how much we dislike what is being proposed by
19 HTO, they know the membership will abide by it because they
20 utilize the traditional practices for conservation, and
21 we'll probably do the same because it seems as though we
22 really don't have a choice.

23 And that's all I have for now. Thank you.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

25 Did you want to comment, Chris, or anybody from

1 DFO, on those comments?

2 MR. LEWIS: Just, again, thank you for sharing
3 your observations and stuff. And, again, I think this is
4 one of the reasons we're holding a public hearing is so
5 that all the information can be put out on the table, not
6 just science, but Elders' experts, and all the delegates
7 can share their information and provide it to the Board as
8 part of the hearing process as outlined in the *Nunavut Land*
9 *Claims Agreement*.

10 *Qujannamiik*.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

12 Is there any other questions from Elders that
13 are at the table? If not, we're going to go to our last
14 round of questions, and that's from the public.

15 Is there anybody from the public that has
16 questions from the public? Joe Enook. When you come up
17 from the public, please state your name and who you are.
18 Thank you.

19 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

20 MR. ENOOK: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq*.

21 Mr. Chairman, I thank NWMB for -- my name is
22 Joe Enook from Pond Inlet. Mr. Chairman, I just want to
23 say that the harvest that I have, I don't know anything
24 about Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit*. I'm not a hunter. Those
25 are the ones that are hardship for me, but I can represent

1 my fellow Inuit, and I've agreed that our Land Claims
2 Agreement has to be followed.

3 And when I was here today, I remember I think it
4 was during this time of the year -- our fellow Inuit, he's
5 going to be in the Supreme Court just -- for the Inuit
6 language has to be involved. We have to -- so he's going
7 to the Supreme Court to fight for the Inuit. And the
8 Inuit, as mentioned, has to be included in everything,
9 every decision, not just heard and forgotten. So can we
10 remember that?

11 And also, Mr. Chairman, when I was here I was
12 thinking, us Inuit and our Elders that have the knowledge.
13 Their knowledge may seem unreal, but the scientific advice,
14 it seems that we have to keep believing the scientific
15 advice. Do you ever notice that, too? But the Elders that
16 have the knowledge, and they know what they know, they
17 cannot be believed just as the scientific advice.

18 Because we're dealing with wildlife, and how
19 many species of wildlife has the Inuit extirpated, the
20 species in the arctic? I have no idea. I don't know
21 anything, any wildlife species that the Inuit have
22 extirpated. How many thousands, how many thousands of
23 species, whether they are marine or terrestrial or avians,
24 and how many thousands? How many thousands of species has
25 the Inuit overhunted, according to the Inuit knowledge,

1 because we have to believe the Elders' knowledge. They've
2 managed their wildlife very successfully, and they have
3 never depleted any of the species of wildlife because they
4 followed their own system of wildlife management.

5 And I have a question, Mr. Chairman. The survey
6 that was done that kept being mentioned today, after the
7 survey was done, they came to Pond Inlet to consult with
8 the community to inform the -- and to get -- yes, it was
9 nice that they wanted to hear from the Elders. But DFO
10 nowadays they're saying they want to include Inuit
11 traditional knowledge. My question is: After you did your
12 survey, according to your survey plans and when you came to
13 Pond Inlet and spoke with the people from Mittimatalik, and
14 also you heard the Elders, and so you could include the
15 Inuit traditional knowledge, okay, did you include the
16 Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit* in your proposal, in your request
17 for a decision? Did you include the Inuit traditional
18 knowledge?

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Joe.

20 Chris.

21 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq, and*
22 *qujannamiik, Joe.*

23 Following the consultations that took place in
24 April, we summarized the information and the feedback we'd
25 received from the HTO and community members. This

1 information was included in the request for decision to the
2 Nunavut Wildlife Management Board in the package that we
3 submitted in June.

4 *Qujannamiik.*

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

6 Joe.

7 MR. ENOOK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 After you did your survey and you suggested that
9 this is the kind of information we want; after you came to
10 Pond Inlet and after speaking with our Elders that have the
11 knowledge -- because you wanted to include Inuit
12 traditional knowledge -- okay, did you change your proposal
13 after you heard from the Elders? Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit*,
14 did you include what they said to you? Thank you.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Joe.

16 Chris.

17 MR. LEWIS: The request for decision was not
18 changed, but the information was provided, and that's the
19 information that we relayed during the community
20 consultations. However, the science program did go out to
21 explore some additional linkages between Admiralty Inlet
22 and Eclipse Sound, which was also feedback that we had
23 received from the community, and the additional aerial
24 survey was also flown in August of 2016.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

1 Joe.

2 MR. ENOOK: Thank you.

3 Are you telling me and are you telling the
4 people that Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit* and what you hear from
5 the Inuit you considered them? You considered them, but
6 did you change them and you give different information with
7 your proposal? Is that the case?

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Joe.

9 Chris.

10 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

11 The request for decision still went forward to
12 the Board. That was the direction we were given by senior
13 management within the department. That was the
14 communication we had with the HTO and the community during
15 the April consultations. We did provide a summary of the
16 feedback we'd received so that the Board was fully aware of
17 the discussions. During a presentation to the Nunavut
18 Wildlife Management Board in June for that request for
19 decision, we were asked point-blank if Pond Inlet had
20 supported it, and I was the one presenting the request for
21 decision, and I said, no, they hadn't. And it was very
22 evident that we had documented, to the concerns.

23 Thank you.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

25 Joe.

1 MR. ENOOK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 I'm looking for a straightforward answer. What
3 changes did you make to what you heard from the people of
4 Pond Inlet? Can you tell me the exact -- you had this idea
5 before. After you heard from the people, did you make any
6 changes to your proposal to NWMB including what you've
7 heard from the people of Pond Inlet?

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Joe.

9 Chris.

10 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

11 The proposal -- no, there was no changes made.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

13 Joe.

14 MR. ENOOK: Thank you.

15 To another topic. Mr. Chairman, it was
16 mentioned by people from Arctic Bay representative, I heard
17 that because you know and we all know, there were people
18 that went to Greenland, and when they hunt the narwhal,
19 they harpoon them first, and they've noticed that there
20 were narwhal with gunshot wounds. I wonder where they came
21 from.

22 And you say that they are different stocks.
23 Yes, and you considered that, and you responded by saying
24 that's what -- people knew where those came from because
25 they go back and forth between Canada and Greenland, and we

1 already know that they're going back and forth.

2 And you're saying that you need research funds
3 to do that because you don't believe us. So you're looking
4 for other survey funds because you don't believe what the
5 Inuit know already, our knowledge holders. It is very
6 difficult as Inuit that our knowledge holders, they're not
7 believed by the scientific body in your departments,
8 because you said you never changed the proposal after what
9 you heard this past spring, and now you're going to say
10 that you're including the Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit*.

11 NWMB Board, please consider that.

12 The last one I want to say, because I just need
13 an opportunity. What I've been concerned about since I
14 heard about it, the DFO have done two surveys, and I
15 think -- and I agree with consensus here because they're
16 not using the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* as it was
17 mentioned that -- and it was mentioned that you need
18 five-year survey before you come up with -- and our Land
19 Claims Agreement is -- you're not using it even though
20 you're a signatory party to the agreement. Because you
21 have to follow the DFO, you're not following the Land
22 Claims Agreement when you decide by yourselves because your
23 department was one of the signatories to the agreement. So
24 that doesn't affect you.

25 And, also, we heard today the survey results by

1 LGL, they also have -- and you've been given the
2 information, and you haven't even evaluated them, and you
3 come before us. Is that true? And you come before us
4 without being prepared so because you already mentioned
5 you're still evaluating the information.

6 Mr. Chairman, I want to say to the
7 Chairperson -- I say to you, Mr. Chairman and the Board
8 Members, you'll have to make a decision, and the kind of
9 decision you're going to give to the minister, it will be
10 up to you. I just wanted to say to you, the proposal from
11 DFO, you should just forget about the proposal, what I
12 said, and go by what you heard today from the others,
13 because they're not following the Land Claims Agreement.

14 And it was mentioned you have only one decision
15 to make and not to make any changes because you need the
16 most available information when you make your decision not
17 to change what you decided before.

18 Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Joe.

20 DFO, any comments, or you're fine? Okay.

21 Any other questions from the public? Come
22 forward and -- yeah. Please, just state your name and
23 questions to DFO.

24 MR. OMIK: My name is Sam Omik. I'm just a
25 hunter.

1 And during the Land Claims Agreement process '72
2 to '79, right through to the end of the ratification of the
3 agreement what Joe Enook talked about. When I'm listening
4 to the response to DFO to these guys over there, in
5 Arctic Bay and Pond Inlet and QWB, your responses to
6 them -- when I'm listening to you, I'm embarrassed for the
7 Canadian government, according to what I'm hearing.

8 And when Arctic Bay and Pond Inlet were making
9 comments, you give them a TAH that has calculated that the
10 PBR is already removed. I keep hearing that over and over
11 again. I want to comment that, as a hunter and from
12 Pond Inlet, our elected officials; we are really proud of
13 our elected HTO members because we know they're going to
14 represent us as a membership on issues that we face.

15 I go boating to Devon Island, and I go to areas
16 camping to all the sounds and inlets that you've never been
17 to. Every single one of those sounds and inlets have
18 whales, and all summer long in August there's a sandy area
19 around the corner there. The Canadian Forces had moved me
20 there -- sorry about that; I'm rich -- I was asked by
21 Canadian Forces to observe around Arctic Bay area corner
22 what will be coming in. And all summer through Devon
23 Island I observed that through Devon Island narwhal and
24 bowhead are constantly migrating through Devon Island to
25 Admiralty Inlet. And you keep talking about Eclipse Sound.

1 And we know that they're migrating through Kugluktuk to
2 Kingait and to the eastern arctic.

3 And where you did your survey and LGL study that
4 was done, LGL's survey did not even come close to our area.
5 They're always in one spot. They use high-powered scopes
6 to observe the migration of the whales to find out whether
7 the shipping companies are disturbing them or what they're
8 doing to them, and that had nothing to do with our area.

9 And the agreement in principle, the prime
10 minister signed the Land Claims Agreement in 1999 in
11 Iqaluit. Prime minister. And I know if you don't support
12 the prime minister signing the Land Claims Agreement, that
13 gives them a mission to these HTO members because you're
14 going against the prime minister of Canada. And they're
15 going to respond the same way.

16 I know even if I try to ask you a question,
17 you're going to give me the same answer because I can say
18 I'm so glad that the presentation that has been put forward
19 to NWMB as a proposal is not the best available
20 information, and it's missing a lot of other information
21 needed, like IQ, and from NTI and NWMB are all at this
22 table in Pond Inlet with our residents in the gallery
23 listening to everyone because DF0 cannot answer your
24 questions completely because they're not finished with the
25 surveys. And Arctic Bay made a comment earlier today that

1 there is a spring and summer stock, probably wintering
2 stock as well.

3 Some years ago when I was still chair for HTO,
4 we started working on whales. What used to happen was the
5 DFO gave to the HTO, this is the number that you are going
6 to be given to harvest. And that caused a lot of
7 frustration and arguments. And we've never depleted our
8 wildlife ever.

9 And there is always the issue of climate change.
10 It has nothing to do with climate change.

11 And even the information that is brought forward
12 is inaccurate, and that's not right. Why not give
13 Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay information and let them decide
14 for themselves for their communities? And they can then,
15 in turn, let their membership know what kind of regulations
16 they should follow to conserve the whales. And it's our
17 responsibility as Inuit to conserve and be humane about
18 harvesting and not to bother wildlife.

19 And what I take from this discussion is that
20 you, as the DFO, do not abide by the *Nunavut Land Claims*
21 *Agreement* that was signed by the prime minister and that we
22 have something to work with as an HTO membership.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much for your
24 comments, Sam.

25 DFO, go ahead. Chris, do you have comments?

1 MR. LEWIS: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

2 I guess I brought it up a lot of times before,
3 and I understand it's just not going to be a sufficient
4 answer, but we are following the process that's outlined in
5 the Land Claims Agreement through this public hearing, and
6 this is part of it, so thank you.

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Chris.

8 Any other members from the public? Questions or
9 comments. Come forward, please. Please just state your
10 name for our record.

11 MR KADLOO: I'm Kadloo. I'm so glad you're
12 giving me a chance to speak, and I thought it was only the
13 people around the table who were able to speak, and I'm so
14 glad you give us a chance to speak from the gallery.

15 Of course, I have a mind of my own, too, just
16 like you guys, each and every one of you. And I like to be
17 believed, too, by *Qallunaat*. Reason why I say that; as
18 Inuit, it was mentioned earlier that we don't document our
19 traditional laws, and *Qallunaat* write everything down. And
20 I've worked with *Qallunaat* while being a guide, take them
21 out. They're always constantly noting everything down to
22 make sure that they're believed. The reason why that
23 happens, from our perspective, is you write everything down
24 because there's liars out there. You need to prove to them
25 that you're right. That's the only reason why you have to

1 prove something wrong is when you believe that somebody is
2 lying to you.

3 And, also, the surveying; I don't particularly
4 like the methodology because you count what you see and
5 what you don't see. And we heard from the Inuit that
6 there's a lot of migratory animals other than narwhals that
7 migrate back and forth, constantly migrating back and
8 forth, and they have not been depleted. I'm trying to tell
9 you the truth. I'm not lying to you.

10 And there's been a decline in our caribou
11 because the vegetation was depleted, and they have only
12 migrated somewhere else. They're waiting for the
13 vegetation to grow back so they can come back. And we know
14 that, and it seems as though we're speakers, we
15 communicate, we seem to be dumber than wildlife because
16 they don't talk to each other; they can migrate somewhere
17 else. Instinctively they know when to move and when to
18 stay. Do you understand that? Do you believe and
19 understand what I'm saying? I'm not lying to you. I'm
20 telling you the truth.

21 And it was also mentioned that in Arctic Bay
22 there used to be whales going back and forth from the
23 shipping routes. I myself think that the whales like to
24 follow the shipping route to the mining company in the
25 Strathcona Sound.

1 They were young lads when that was happening in
2 Arctic Bay. During the spring around June, around July, we
3 used to have to travel only by dog team. There was no loud
4 noises at the time, only the sound of the rhythm of the dog
5 team.

6 And now it comes to a point where I've been part
7 of a survey when they sink a recorder into the water to
8 record the sound from the sea. You can actually hear the
9 sound of footsteps on ice, and we could hear all kinds of
10 wildlife in the sea. And according to my knowledge, Inuit
11 knowledge, they used to come in early spring because there
12 was no loud noises. It's totally different today. And the
13 sound of Ski-Doos, loud noise, is one of the main reasons
14 why they fled because sound travels far in water.

15 I wish all this knowledge would be considered so
16 DFO can adequately work with Inuit to come up with the best
17 tool that they can use and both agree on it, balance Inuit
18 IQ and scientific information, because they're always
19 one-sided. Do you understand what I'm saying?

20 I wanted to say that, and I really appreciate
21 and thank you for giving me a chance to speak so you
22 understand better. Sometimes as Inuit or *Qallunaat*, we
23 give an answer without really thinking about the
24 consequences.

25 I don't understand the English language, your

1 traditional knowledge as *Qallunaat*. I don't understand
2 them. And on the other hand, you don't understand Inuit
3 *qaujimajatuqangit* because you didn't grow up with it.
4 Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit*, when an Elder is speaking, those
5 of us Elders, when we hear from Elders as Elder to Elder,
6 we completely understand what they're trying to say versus
7 a younger person might not quite understand what an Elder
8 is trying to say, so there's all these different
9 communication dynamics.

10 Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much for that
12 information and your comments.

13 We have time for -- is there anybody else from
14 the public? Come forward. Please state your name.

15 MS. AMAGOALIK: I was mentally ill before, but,
16 fortunately, I was able to be helped.

17 I can use as an analogy where you treat Inuit
18 like that, like they're not really all there or dumb. And
19 as I observed that the reactions of everybody around the
20 table, and I know that when some people were speaking, out
21 of respect for Elders, it's obvious that *Qallunaat* don't
22 want to listen to Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit* because they
23 don't understand it. On the other hand, there are some
24 really good pros that you brought with you, like warm
25 houses and stores, but we're always treated like we don't

1 know anything.

2 And I grew up on the land with my parents and
3 what they did out on the land, and we were always told to
4 tell the truth and not tell fibs or white lies. We only
5 report and tell what we observed, not what we heard or
6 read, but what we observed ourselves because we have to
7 tell the truth, and what you presented are all estimations
8 and not accurate information.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mary.

10 Please state your name.

11 MR. ERK00: Samson Erkoo.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sam.

13 MR. ERK00: You said that DFO did a survey for
14 four days, and another area, two days. So when you do a
15 survey and when you're going to a community, perhaps you
16 should consult with the HTOs first, and perhaps the HTO can
17 take part in where to do the survey and take some pictures
18 and write everything down.

19 Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Samson.

21 State your name. Thank you.

22 MR. TAGAK: It seems as though we're missing
23 people. Arctic Bay and Clyde River. And I used to live in
24 Clyde River, and I recognize narwhals that were migrating
25 through Clyde River are one and the same stock that go

1 through Pond and Arctic Bay. And we used to harvest from
2 it because our wildlife are one. Just to let you know that
3 we're missing Clyde River delegates. Maybe they're very
4 happy with the increase in their TAH. Maybe that's why
5 they felt they didn't have to come here. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

7 Please state your name.

8 MR. B. OOTOOVA: Boazie Ootoova.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

10 MR. B. OOTOOVA: I have a question. Do you use
11 nets to do study or tagging? I guess when you saw it for
12 the first time, how many narwhal were there? And you're
13 saying you must have observed a decrease because of the
14 sound that is coming from ships. And my question is: Can
15 you use other than nets to do survey?

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

17 DFO? Cory.

18 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, so that's our -- thank you.
19 That's our standard protocol for tagging is to use nets to
20 capture the narwhal. I mentioned earlier today several
21 times that we're trying to start a pilot program where we
22 use jab sticks almost like a spear, so a stick with a tag
23 at the end, and do our tagging from floe edge or cracks in
24 the ice as they travel through them, which would be less
25 invasive than capturing them in nets and taking them on the

1 beach.

2 So it does depend on the research question. So,
3 in that case, if we're able to tag them in the spring and
4 we want to see where those whales are going in the summer,
5 the tags don't need to last as long because jab stick tags
6 won't stay on the whale as long as the ones that we put
7 with the pins through the dorsal ridge. So it does depend
8 somewhat on the research question that we're trying to
9 answer.

10 Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

12 Okay. We have time yet for question from the
13 public, if there is. Anybody else from the public that
14 would like to ask DFO questions or make comments? If
15 not -- yeah, come forward, please. State your name for our
16 record. Thank you. Sam.

17 MR. OMIK: I already said my name. Sam Omik.
18 I'm from Pond Inlet.

19 I have a question. I was going to wait until
20 tomorrow, but that's a long way off. My question for DFO:
21 We are told by our elected delegates when DFO is going to
22 do a survey, and the survey summaries information is given
23 to us as to the distribution of narwhal. And you should
24 know by now that the narwhals migrate to Greenland, too.

25 My other question is, I worked for a brief

1 period of time in Winnipeg DFO with DFO in Admiralty Inlet
2 and Kugluktuk area using gill nets. My question: When you
3 tag them on the dorsal fin, I observed that it seemed to
4 hurt them when we're tagging them. The dorsal fin is their
5 navigation. That's the only way they can navigate through
6 waters. So, please, if you're going to tag them, can you
7 at least put it somewhere else and not on the dorsal fin,
8 because it affects their navigation -- or is that the only
9 way it can stay on? When they come up for air, sometimes
10 the whole body shows up. Can you try to tag them somewhere
11 else other than the dorsal fin?

12 And the other question I have is: When they
13 harvested a tagged narwhal, they tried to give you the tag,
14 and they didn't get paid for it, so that idea hasn't taken
15 off because they don't get paid for returning a tag.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sam.

17 DFO. Cory.

18 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

19 So I wasn't involved with any of the tagging
20 development for narwhals. I'm not sure if any of my DFO
21 colleagues here have been, but I have tagged other whales,
22 and I've been involved with tagging narwhals, and the tag
23 position is on the part of the whale that is out of the
24 water for the longest period of time. I understand what
25 you're saying; if they come out like this or their tusks

1 sometimes come out, but consistently it's their dorsal
2 ridge on the back that comes out the longest amount of
3 time, and we need several seconds for that tag to be dry to
4 transmit to the satellite to get locations that we can
5 depend on.

6 Yeah, so that's outside of my experience. I'm
7 not involved with that, but if that's your concern, we
8 could definitely get you in touch with people who are.
9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory.

11 Okay. I think in the interests of time, supper
12 is going to be on at 6:00, so we are going to have to meet
13 this evening if we can. I hope everybody is in agreement
14 with that. We are quite a bit behind, so in the lieu of
15 time it would be good if we could meet back here at 7:30.
16 That would give everyone time to have supper and get back.

17 So we'll adjourn the meeting until 7:30, and
18 then we'll wrap up the meeting with the public and go on to
19 the next presenters, which would be Pond Inlet HT0.

20 Thank you. See you at 7:30.

21 Oh, I should say, just quickly, can the Board
22 stay here? We need to have a little in camera meeting to
23 discuss an issue. And we can't do that until everybody
24 leaves, but I'd ask the Board to stay. Thank you.

25 (ADJOURNMENT)

1 THE CHAIR: Welcome back, everybody, and thank
2 you very much for coming this evening.

3 So I think we have concluded DFO's initial
4 proposals and all the questions from all the parties,
5 involved to them, including the public.

6 We'll now move on to Pond Inlet and their
7 presentation to the Board, and then after they're done
8 we'll have questions to the Pond Inlet HTO.

9 Pond Inlet, Eric, would you like to lead us off?
10 Thank you.

11 **POND INLET HTO SUBMISSION**

12 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for
13 giving us a chance to speak, and we've heard from DFO's
14 proposal, so I'm going to be talking about our proposal,
15 and I'm not sure if you're going to agree to all of them,
16 but we could appreciate you listening to us. If we can't
17 answer you right away, we'll get back to you.

18 Our presentation is very brief. One of the
19 things is what I asked this morning, these migratory
20 species -- in English -- that migrate through spring and
21 fall, the narwhal that migrate through are migratory
22 species.

23 First of all, I would like to -- DFO doesn't
24 consider the migratory species, so when an HTO decide for
25 themselves as to how much -- they don't consider what we

1 think would be appropriate for our own communities, and
2 they only give us a number of TAH; and so we would like to
3 make it summer and migratory stock and make one stock. Is
4 that clear?

5 And the DFO gave a presentation with a table
6 stating how many narwhal there were. In 2013 DFO did a
7 survey by plane count. They determined that narwhal were
8 no longer plenty and were bounded by foul weather. And
9 when they were doing the survey, there were various reasons
10 why they were not able to observe. Sometimes there were
11 killer whales that were making them flee so they were no
12 longer there; and they had bad weather, and various
13 species -- did not spot the whales as they were passing
14 through. They did not spot other whales that were
15 stragglers that haven't arrived yet, and foggy weather
16 prevented them from flying, what I'm trying to say, which
17 made zero count those days and did not do an accurate
18 count.

19 And our Elders keep saying that whales are
20 continuously moving, and I believe what they're saying
21 that, when there was a whale harvested with a harpoon -- in
22 Arctic Bay there was a harpooned narwhal, and that narwhal
23 had moved down to Pond Inlet and was harvested from Pond.
24 So there's also narwhals that have nice tusks, and some
25 don't. And our Elders are very aware of the significant

1 numbers of whales that come here, and I'm sure that you
2 heard from them earlier. They often move to different
3 places, and they don't go to the same channels or the same
4 sounds or inlets.

5 And it seemed to indicate that your 2013 survey
6 was only one year, since the number of whales that come
7 here are not ours, the same, and they arrive at different
8 times of the year to year. So that's why we could not
9 agree with the DFO's findings. And our narwhal go back and
10 forth between Arctic Bay and Pond Inlet. And when we have
11 a lot of narwhal in Pond Inlet, there's nothing in
12 Arctic Bay; and when they're through Arctic Bay, there's
13 nothing here in Pond Inlet.

14 So I urge you to listen to that comment from our
15 Elders, and that is coming from Inuit knowledge. And the
16 number that was brought up, I think it was proposed 134.
17 Do you know, is that correct? 134 is not enough at all for
18 a TAH for the size of our community; and, I guess, since
19 Arctic Bay are our very good friends, we could request from
20 them. We are waiting to utilize some of their tags; but
21 they have hunters, too, that have to feed their families.
22 And when you remove struck-and-loss in total, that would be
23 about 80, 90 narwhal that we are allowed to catch according
24 to the calculation, and that's not enough for the size of
25 our community.

1 But you say that there was an increase in the
2 overall population, 132,000 in one year and then more the
3 other year, and the PBR is usually always 2 percent of that
4 estimated population, and they f.

5 A. Keep increasing, but there's a decrease for our
6 community.

7 We're going to keep saying, during our
8 meetings, that there's not enough information. We're not
9 agreeing between us, and it has come to a point that we
10 can't even work together at the present time. And we tried
11 to ask. During the spring, we asked already, you're trying
12 to make a proposal with hardly any information, and we kept
13 asking, "Why are you trying to change the TAH when you have
14 hardly any information to go by?" We asked them, "Can you
15 use the Land Claims Agreement process so that you can come
16 back to the table to our community and we can discuss it?"

17 You said that you don't have all the
18 information. You partner with LGL. I don't think they're
19 doing a lot of surveys, but I think they use more sonars
20 than anything else, and they pick them up in the
21 wintertime.

22 And there's Mary River project. You
23 mentioned that you agreed with their findings. Perhaps if
24 you gave us all the information at once instead of a little
25 bit of information here, little bit of information there.

1 By stating there's probably more information, that's not
2 the best available information.

3 And we told you this morning that DFO had
4 written a letter to the HTO board by way of an intimidation
5 letter. And if we don't agree with it, this is what will
6 happen. And they responded like it was not intimidation or
7 warning, like, in responding like they're angels. And when
8 I look at the letter, when we read it, automatically you
9 get the feeling that it's an intimidation letter, "If you
10 don't listen to what we want, you cannot sell your tusks.
11 If you agree with our TAH, everything is going to be just
12 fine."

13 I'm sure you have a copy of the letter. I
14 would like to submit it to NWMB. I read it out earlier
15 because it's an intimidation letter. And their proposal to
16 NWMB. And the letter that was sent to us was not signed by
17 the minister, and it's not signed. This letter that felt
18 like intimidation letter, they should apologize to us for
19 even writing a letter. Can I submit it to NWMB, this
20 letter that was sent to us from DFO? And it's translated.

21 Please listen to what I'm saying. This has
22 no authority because it's not signed by the minister. It
23 doesn't indicate what is the wish of the minister. It
24 should not be even considered as an authoritative letter.

25 Lastly, humans are not the only ones that

1 harvest from the wilds. There's lots of killer whales. We
2 have observed that the killer whales are removing from
3 those stocks, which is considered a top predator in
4 English. Being a top predator like a polar bear, the only
5 harvesters of polar bear are Inuit, and if there's too many
6 polar bears, our seal population is in great decline
7 because polar bears are top predators. They are consuming
8 a lot of baby seals, and there is a significant decline in
9 ring seal, and there's a lot of polar bears, abundance of
10 polar bears all over. And same thing with killer whales;
11 they're just consuming more than humans.

12 Yes, killer whales are like a beautiful
13 animal to look at, and they're just like polar bears; they
14 kill for fun.

15 I think that's about all I have. And
16 perhaps my colleague board member would like to add
17 something. Thank you.

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Eric.
19 Jaykolassie.

20 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 I'm so intensely in this discussion I feel like
22 I'm coming down with something. But I would like to thank
23 you for giving a chance to speak.

24 What we decided as a board, we wanted to do a
25 submission to NWMB Board because we have come to the

1 conclusion that the survey is not complete, and it was
2 proven today that it's not complete.

3 And it states in the letter that we request that
4 we keep our TAH as is until they finish reviewing the most
5 recent survey information and all the information that was
6 presented today has been reviewed. And we talked about
7 this already. Because there's been different various
8 surveys and research done from what we heard today, and it
9 doesn't sit well with HTO. And that's why we decided as a
10 board that we recommend that the TAH for Pond Inlet remains
11 status quo until there's better information from the most
12 recent surveys, including the PBR by killer whales and that
13 include narwhals that go back and forth between Arctic Bay
14 and Pond Inlet. Like we mentioned, when there's hardly any
15 polar bear in Arctic Bay, there's over here in Pond Inlet,
16 and vice versa. This has been going on for generations,
17 even long before we were born, and our forefathers already
18 knew this.

19 And, also, we recommend that DFO do a better
20 consultation process where they give all the information to
21 Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay. These are information that the
22 Pond Inlet hunters have tried to arrange themselves.

23 And I wonder why the surveys are also being used
24 when they are inefficient. When DFO did their survey,
25 there was some bad weather, and they could not get all the

1 survey done because of bad weather. And, also, killer
2 whales can be detected miles away by whales, and they're
3 very fearful of killer whales. They flee somewhere else.

4 And I remember down by Eclipse Sound, when they
5 were fleeing killer whale, the narwhals had gone to the
6 shallow waters fleeing from killer whales. Even the
7 hunters were able to get off the ship and touch the
8 narwhal. That's how scared they were of killer whales. We
9 were even able to touch them. That's what I wanted to add.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Jaykolassie.
11 Gamailie?

12 MR. KILUKSHAK: My name is Gamailie. I don't have
13 anything from myself, but we only say what we know and
14 observe as a truth, a fact. And as a membership of HTO, we
15 tend to support our HTO board because we are one and the
16 same, and they seek our assistance whenever we need to help
17 them. And I've never really been a board member, and I
18 know I've been on committees, several committees; and Inuit
19 are usually one, but there's always different committees,
20 working groups, boards, on the *Qallunaat* structure. So I'm
21 sure that -- where can we make complaints if we're not
22 happy with what's being presented? Who do we complain to?
23 Where do we give our grievance to? From HTO board to
24 Wildlife Board? Who do we go to for support if nobody's
25 listening to us?

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much. Is that the
2 presentation? I know there's a question there, but is your
3 presentation completed, then, by Pond Inlet HT0? Okay.
4 Thank you very much.

5 We're going to start off, then, by going around
6 the table and having questions for the Pond Inlet HT0, and
7 the first is NWMB Board. Is there any questions?
8 Caleb.

9 **NWMB BOARD QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

10 MR. C. SANGOYA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 To Pond Inlet HT0, I have a question while we're
12 in the public hearing. The surveys done by biologists or
13 surveyors was done only in August. And April, May, June,
14 July, September, October, every other month -- do you feel
15 that we need to do other surveys in those other months, not
16 just in August?

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

18 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19 I have a question to DF0: April, May, June,
20 July, August, and September was asked by one of my
21 colleagues earlier this morning. He asked: You did not
22 survey in those months, and you're giving us this
23 information. And in August they did one survey for I don't
24 know how many days, and that was it.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

1 Caleb.

2 MR. C. SANGOYA: So the survey of wildlife,
3 narwhal, we have heard that DFO requests HTO first and asks
4 them if they can do the survey. So the survey done, when
5 they do the tagging and they take specimens from narwhal,
6 so you agree with the way they do the survey?

7 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

8 Pond Inlet, Eric or Jaykolassie?

9 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you. I'll go first.

10 Everybody knows now that survey was not long
11 enough. I was part of the survey observer during the
12 survey. We did grid where we're going to go back and
13 forth, we predetermined the places we wanted to survey, and
14 I know that we only did the areas that were on the map.
15 And along the way to our destination we saw narwhals along
16 the way which were not being counted.

17 And when they do an autopsy of a narwhal, they
18 said that there's too many whales. That's why they're
19 getting diseases -- when an autopsy was done. We know that
20 these scientists who do the survey are observing a
21 minuscule part of the population, even though on paper it
22 says that they've done all the survey according to their
23 process.

24 My colleague would like to say something else.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric. Caleb.

1 MR. C. SANGOYA: My last question to Pond Inlet.
2 According to Inuit *qaujimajatuqangit*, we're able to do our
3 own Inuit survey. Have you been provided any funding at
4 all or have you made proposals for IQ funding to do your
5 own survey?

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.
7 Eric.

8 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
9 I can say no. All I can say is we have stated
10 that there is IQ funding available to the public, but
11 nobody has come forward to apply for the fund. And perhaps
12 because of the outcome of the survey coming forward from
13 DFO, maybe perhaps Inuit will now come forward to do their
14 own survey, and I'm expecting more people to come forward
15 to apply for funding.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.
17 Simeonie.

18 MR. KEENAINAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
19 My question is to HTO and to your Elders. First
20 of all, to the Elders first. You've always lived here all
21 your life in Pond Inlet. Do you think there's more
22 narwhal, or do you think there's been decrease in narwhal
23 ever since you can remember living in Pond Inlet area? My
24 first question.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simeonie.

1 Gamailie.

2 MR. KILUKSHAK: I can't speak for others. Long
3 before *Qallunaat* came, all I can talk about is the
4 traditional laws that I had to abide by from my Elders, and
5 we had no choice but to follow it; for example, arctic char
6 or caribou.

7 If you treat animals well, have respect for
8 animals and take only what you need, they will increase.
9 Caribou, same thing. If you don't leave the carcass
10 around, or use every part of the caribou and share it with
11 other people, it will always come back. I think every
12 species of wildlife, every species has their own
13 traditional laws.

14 We were taught to respect the wildlife, and if
15 we only take what we need to help feed others, and if we
16 respect the process of not leaving anything on the land,
17 then the animals, in turn, will offer themselves to you.
18 That was our traditional law.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

20 Simeonie.

21 MR. KEENAINAK: *Qujannamiik, itsivautaaq.*

22 To HT0 board, Pond Inlet HT0, you stated that
23 they didn't survey very long, and it was only in August.
24 Have you observed anything that would contribute to the
25 decline of the narwhal? And we heard at that time that,

1 ever since the shipping route was established, they've been
2 going back and forth and the loud noise coming from the
3 shipping companies and the blasting from the mine; do you
4 think that has contributed to the decline or the movement
5 of the narwhal?

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Simeonie.

7 Eric.

8 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 Yes, yes, before the Mary River project went
10 underway, there was more narwhal, and when the survey is
11 being done, when I'm out hunting, I usually go to
12 Eclipse Sound to Helena Suvic (phonetic). When we hear
13 airplanes doing survey back and forth, we can actually see
14 the narwhal that we're trying to harvest fleeing from the
15 plane, ships, helicopters, boats. We know because of the
16 sound they make, they chase the wildlife away.

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

18 Simeonie. Charlie?

19 Jaykolassie.

20 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 I just want to add to what my fellow board
22 member said. When Simeonie asked, the board member
23 mentioning earlier when there was a survey it was, as he
24 mentioned, yeah, he was part of the surveyors, and the
25 killer whales had scared off the narwhal in certain area.

1 And, yeah, they do a survey transect, but they don't count
2 the ones that are outside of the transect.

3 And that was the case; when the killer whales
4 were around, the narwhal were gone somewhere else when they
5 did the survey area. And I think it was the Inuit
6 traditional knowledge that the species, no matter what
7 kind, they are born where there's no noise, so they don't
8 like the noise pollutions. When they hear that, they tend
9 to get away from the noise because they are born into a
10 noise-free area.

11 Thank you.

12 THE CHAIR: Charlie.

13 MR. INUARAK: I have a question. DFO has made a
14 proposal that, back in 2004 when they did a survey, and
15 they have given us their report, and in 2013 there was
16 another aerial survey; and when they did the survey they
17 noticed that they saw fewer narwhal in Eclipse Sound. And
18 they started saying that to NWMB and to you local HTOs that
19 we had to do something about it.

20 But you mentioned in the spring they wrote a
21 letter to you or they came to you, I'm not sure quite what
22 happened, but when they notified you, what did you do after
23 you received that correspondence? Because I would like to
24 know what you did after you received the correspondence
25 because, yes, they have to see and understand, and we have

1 to know the reason why they think the narwhal are
2 decreasing in a certain area. Have you done any work on
3 this one? That's my first question. What did you do about
4 the correspondence?

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

6 Jaykolassie.

7 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 DFO came in this past spring and we met as a
9 board, HTO board. We met with them, and we found out that
10 the quota for Pond Inlet was to be reduced. When we met
11 with them as HTOs, we already said we wouldn't be able to
12 agree with that right away. And we noticed that there will
13 be a hearing, we heard that there will be a hearing to deal
14 with that. So we were discussing; and according to the
15 response we got from DFO and what we recall, we wanted to
16 produce a letter that we would give that this is our
17 position because the survey was incomplete, so we didn't
18 want the total allowable harvest to be reduced, because the
19 survey was incomplete.

20 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jaykolassie.

22 Charlie.

23 MR. INUARAK: I have another question.

24 You felt that the information that they gave you
25 was wrong, was incorrect, when you went to Qikiqtaaluk

1 Wildlife Board, according to the *Nunavut Land Claims*
2 *Agreement*. And I'm not sure if they have a legal advisor,
3 but when you met with them when you were dealing with the
4 correspondence and also knowing that the letter was
5 incorrect, the information, did you deal with that?

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

7 Eric.

8 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 If we agreed with them, we weren't going to say
10 anything. I know that the information they gave us were
11 all wrong, until they gave it to us, because the survey
12 hadn't been complete, and they came before us, and they
13 wanted to reduce the total allowable harvest for
14 Pond Inlet. We couldn't change their mind. Even if we say
15 it, they would hear it, and it went out the other ear, and
16 then they had a public meeting.

17 Yeah, they followed the Land Claims Agreement.
18 They come to Pond Inlet, and they wanted to reduce our
19 total allowable harvest because our narwhal were
20 decreasing, and then right after that they had a public
21 meeting. Yeah, they followed what they have to do up 'til
22 now. They did follow to the Land Claims Agreement, but.

23 The information that are before us is not wrong,
24 and we wrote to Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board for their
25 support. We wanted the support of the QWB to deal with

1 this.

2 THE CHAIR: Charlie.

3 MR. INUARAK: Thank you for responding. That's
4 what I wanted to know, what you had requested, and I know
5 that everything has to be written down. We know that the
6 letter that you wrote, we have that, and we have the Land
7 Claims Agreement. And that's not going to be right for the
8 community. Did you have a public meeting to voice your
9 concerns to the people of Pond Inlet?

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie.

11 Eric.

12 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 We didn't hold a public meeting regarding this
14 what the local HTO wanted. We didn't hold a public
15 meeting.

16 THE CHAIR: Thank you Eric.

17 Charlie.

18 MR. INUARAK: Lastly, I have another question
19 from the Elders, and they mentioned that sometimes the
20 narwhal will move elsewhere so there will be fewer narwhal,
21 but other times they will increase again when they move
22 back. Have you noticed anything, according to being an
23 Elder? Do we have fewer narwhal, or is it just a natural
24 cycle regarding the narwhal stocks?

25 THE CHAIR: Gamilie.

1 MR. KILUKSHAK: What I mentioned before, and I
2 told you that I didn't know anything, but I did mention
3 before the white man came around we had a management
4 system, so I believe that the management system that Inuit
5 had -- I'll use polar bears as an example; I'll end up with
6 narwhal.

7 And we used to hunt polar bears just by dog
8 team. Even when they started coming around, we still
9 hunted with dog team. If we lost the polar bear, the
10 hunter would become unhappy because the polar bear heard
11 the noise, so he wouldn't be able to produce any offspring,
12 because he heard the noisy barks of the dogs. So that
13 would affect their reproduction system. And then they
14 started having collars put on them, the polar bears, but
15 using up helicopter; and being in the arctic, I feel sorry
16 for the polar bear, that they would be drugged, and shortly
17 after that there was a mauling of an Inuk, and the dog team
18 was killed by a polar bear.

19 When you're handling the polar bears too much,
20 they'll respond because that broke the law of the arctic
21 using the helicopters, and nowadays I still believe, even
22 though it's not written in the arctic, the narwhals are
23 being spoken to.

24 And if it was back then, our forefathers -- so
25 they might be of special concern because we're speaking

1 about them too much. We're discussing them too much.
2 That's not the way of the arctic tradition. So, for me, I
3 feel that the communities want them. If they're not going
4 to follow what the communities want, we will come across
5 where it won't be -- and I believe that traditional
6 knowledge law is not written in the arctic.

7 I have nothing much else to say, but that's what
8 I think, anyway. Something drastic will happen to the
9 narwhal now that we're discussing them too much, if that is
10 clear what I'm saying.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Gamilie. Eric, do you
12 have something to add?

13 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 Kugluktuk was for the Elder (verbatim), but us
15 younger generation, can we respond to that, too? Thank
16 you.

17 I'm also a hunter. Since I was a little boy,
18 the guns used to still be too heavy for me, so I would go
19 to the floe edge every single year, when the ice was
20 getting thinner so that I would be very happy because I
21 would go down to the floe edge, and I would go there every
22 single year. And there are different -- some springs they
23 would arrive in droves; in another year there would be
24 fewer narwhal.

25 We used to stay on the floe edge for many days

1 when there was water here already, and we were still at the
2 floe edge when people from Pond Inlet were already
3 harvesting narwhal. Because we were at the floe edge, we
4 didn't see the ice breakup over this way, and we hardly saw
5 any narwhal in the floe edge, and we found out that the
6 people of Pond Inlet were already harvesting narwhal in the
7 open water. Sometimes there are fewer, other times there
8 are lots. And that is the same case in the summer, too.

9 That's all I wanted to say. Even though I'm a
10 younger generation, that's what I've noticed. Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric. *Taima*.

12 David K.

13 MR. KRITTERDLIK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 We're not too aware of changing from the
15 Kivalliq, but according to what I've heard, from April
16 until there's narwhal around between April and October, and
17 we know that these months in between, when they do a survey
18 they only do part of the month of August to do their survey
19 for a few days, and this is being used in the proposal.

20 I know that the days that they do the survey are
21 too few, and if the DFO are doing a survey, the people of
22 the community should be involved in the aircraft.

23 That's another question, not in helicopter. Get
24 the people of the community involved in the survey, not
25 flying over the water even using a boat or off the land.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

2 Eric.

3 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 DFO, there are some people, the surveyors, they
5 also do surveys in Mary River, they get involved, and when
6 they install satellite tags, they also use the satellites
7 to trace them; and when they're arriving here through Devon
8 Island, there's no studies being done when they're
9 migrating through there.

10 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric. Jaykolassie.

11 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 When they're using nets to tag the narwhals,
13 Inuit are involved. And as HTO members, they ask us our
14 permission to do a survey, whether it be narwhal or other
15 species. We keep mentioning that as local HTO, only if
16 we're going to be involved in the actual survey in the past
17 years. Before there used to be all non-Inuit that did the
18 tagging. And we didn't like that. So we made sure that
19 they get Inuit involved in the actual survey. And when
20 they do tagging using nets, they do have Inuit as
21 assistance, and also to know how to minimize the
22 disturbance to the animal. That's all I wanted to say.
23 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jaykolassie.

25 David K.? David Igutsaq.

1 MR. IGUTSAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 I heard this morning, and I didn't like it, and
3 Caleb mentioned it as well: Using the satellite tags, that
4 ruins the meat and the fat of the narwhal. That is not the
5 Inuit way. That's not the Inuit tradition. And in our
6 area -- maybe here, too -- the Inuit, when we were growing
7 up, we were not to harass any species of wildlife while
8 they were still alive.

9 So we should stop, and we have to let the
10 younger generation know that we're not to harass the
11 species. And we tried to voice the concerns that whether
12 they are marine mammals or terrestrial, we shouldn't be
13 handling them or harassing them too much and making them
14 suffer. So that has to be -- we have to get away from
15 that. Inuit know, and you have to do less handling of the
16 species. Use the Inuit knowledge. Yes, you have to follow
17 the Inuit tradition. Don't handle the species.

18 And that's what I wanted to mention.

19 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

21 Jaykolassie.

22 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 Yes, we noticed that as local HT0, when the tag
24 is done on the dorsal fin, it harms the animal, and
25 according to the Inuit knowledge, that is not good. If I

1 prick myself with a needle, it hurts. And the narwhal must
2 go through a lot of pain when they put those pins through
3 the dorsal fin.

4 The people that do the tagging of the narwhal,
5 they wrote to the HTOs that they wanted to do another
6 tagging system in the summer for the satellite tagging of
7 the narwhal. We didn't say yes right away. We responded
8 by: Before you do that, before the summer comes around,
9 you and the HTO, local HTO has to discuss how that tagging
10 of the narwhal through the dorsal fin, we have to try and
11 figure out the best way so that will be less harmful to the
12 animal. And the ones that are tagged with the satellite
13 tags, there's also when you do tagging, satellite tagging,
14 they also benefit us because we know where they go.

15 And when the ships were arriving, whether they
16 are tourists or the cruise ships, and it benefits us when
17 we use the satellite tags because we know -- because we
18 know -- but we have to find a way to tag the narwhals that
19 are less invasive to the animal.

20 And we also had narwhal entrapments last year.
21 None of them were tagged that were entrapped. We heard
22 them from their breath and also hydrophones. We only found
23 them through using hydrophones and through their breathing.
24 We noticed that, as Inuit, there were local HTOs, the tags,
25 satellite tags is beneficial, too, but also because where

1 you put the tag fin the dorsal fin. So we will be meeting
2 with DFO again, before the sun comes around, to decide to
3 see how we can tag the narwhal with a less invasive
4 techniques.

5 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jaykolassie.

7 David.

8 MR. IGUTSAQ: There was another comment I wanted
9 to make, Mr. Chairman.

10 The DFO, when they do the tagging, they take
11 away the potential sustenance of the Inuit because they end
12 up being unhealthy or getting sick, and they get sick or
13 they get cysts. Because we know that they also use the
14 tags that were to be used for harvesting even though we
15 could not consume that animal that has been made sick with
16 the tag. And it also takes up the use of the tags when
17 they're harvested.

18 Has anybody asked the DFO when the narwhal are
19 tagged, if they are killed and being unable to be consumed,
20 can you use another tag to make sure that they are counted
21 for?

22 THE CHAIR: Thank you, David.

23 Eric.

24 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 The DFO, they come to the local HTO all the time

1 before they do any survey or tagging, so they always ask
2 us, and so we accept for that.

3 But your question whether the diseased animal,
4 when it's killed, is using the tag; and I can say, no, it's
5 not going to affect the tags.

6 And there was another question earlier that they
7 suffer. They do suffer. Yes, and they asked us where it
8 was best to do the tagging, and we didn't like where they
9 installed the tags in the dorsal fin, and we agreed with
10 one of the -- that it's the best area to install the tag
11 because that's the longest area that is on the surface,
12 yes, so we agreed with that.

13 And, yes, there have been harvested that were
14 tagged, and also they're abscessed. And I think we've
15 already seen that, and we've seen skinny ones and sick
16 ones. Even the arctic char, when they're being tagged,
17 yes, some fish get deformed after they've been tagged.

18 I hope I answered your question: It doesn't
19 affect our tags. Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

21 Caleb.

22 MR. C. SANGOYA: I know the answer, but the
23 utilization of narwhal, so it's not written in your report,
24 you don't eat *muktuk* anymore, you don't use the tusk? You
25 don't eat the meat? How come it's not reported in your

1 presentation?

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Caleb.

3 Eric.

4 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 I can't really answer that because, the schools,
6 they do have these school curriculum, but there's nothing
7 from HTO, there's no written IQ knowledge at HTO level, and
8 everything that can be used, even the sinew, the back of
9 the muscles are used for sinew for thread. But we haven't
10 really produced a readable book stating what can be used
11 from these wildlife.

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

13 Okay. Any other questions from the Board? If
14 not -- Jaykolassie.

15 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 Just to add that to Caleb. We apologize we did
17 not include it in our presentation on how we utilize every
18 part of the narwhal. We use everything.

19 During the summer there's a harvest being done
20 according to our traditional knowledge. We cache our meat
21 and the *muktuk* in the ground, and we bring back the *muktuk*
22 and the meat to anybody who wants it in our community, and
23 we sometimes don't even get anything for ourselves when we
24 harvest a narwhal because we share it with everybody. And
25 when we cache our *muktuk* and meat towards winter, we go

1 pick it up and share again with everybody. Unfortunately,
2 our caches are being dug up by polar bears, and that's so
3 regrettable. And whether it's *muktuk* or the meat, we eat
4 it all, especially when it's fermented.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jaykolassie.

6 Charlie.

7 MR. INUARAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 Last year, the year before when we were talking
9 about public hearing on caribou for the whole Baffin region
10 and the HTOs, Inuit organizations, and *Qaujimaniliit* Elders
11 were all there at the workshop, and we gave everybody a
12 chance to speak. And during that time they reiterated
13 everything we know. By having everyone on the same table
14 we were able to reaffirm our traditional knowledge and the
15 use of every part of the whales.

16 So I'm wondering if you can put something
17 together for the benefit of your presentation. We have a
18 lawyer here who always helps us with the terminology and
19 technical words that need to be put together for the Board,
20 so I'm wondering if you can put something together to be
21 viewed by our lawyer.

22 And, unfortunately, we do have Inuit
23 *qaujimajatuqangit* coordinator who couldn't be here. She
24 had to travel for medical reasons down south, and I know
25 that this would have been really a good time for her to

1 present the IQ research fund that you can apply for. You
2 can call her to the office or try to get her to help you on
3 how you can apply for that fund.

4 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Charlie, for that
6 information.

7 Is there any other questions?

8 If not, then from our NWMB staff, any questions
9 Danica.

10 **NWMB STAFF QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

11 MS. CRYSTAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 Just a quick one. I just want to confirm with
13 the Mittimatalik HTO the proposals that were included in
14 your written submission, so just tell me if I'm wrong, but
15 I heard that you're proposing removing the season, so
16 having just one kind of tag and combining the
17 Admiralty Inlet and Eclipse Sound management areas. Is
18 that correct? Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Danica.

20 Eric.

21 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 Yes.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

24 MS. CRYSTAL: Thank you.

25 THE CHAIR: Danica, *taima*? Our legal counsel?

1 Fine? Okay. Thank you very much, then, to the Board and
2 to the staff.

3 Next on the list for questions is DF0 to
4 Pond Inlet. Chris, go ahead.

5 **DF0 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

6 MR. LEWIS: No questions right now. Actually,
7 sorry, Cory does have one.

8 THE CHAIR: Okay. Go ahead, Cory.

9 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

10 Yeah, so there was a lot said there, but I think
11 we covered a lot of it with our presentation and questions
12 and answers.

13 But one thing, Eric, you said earlier on, I just
14 wanted to clarify because it came up with the
15 struck-and-loss and the PBR and the new estimate. The
16 estimate of 134 has already accounted for struck-and-loss.
17 It would have been 171, so it's 171 minus struck-and-loss
18 equals 134. You had said something about just being able
19 to harvest 80 or 90, but the number is 134, so that already
20 accounts for struck-and-loss. Thank you.

21 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Cory. I think that was
22 more of a comment than a question. Thank you. That's it
23 for from DF0?

24 Okay. Next on the list for questions is
25 Arctic Bay HT0. Do you have any questions for Pond Inlet

1 at all? Go ahead, Jobie.

2 MR. ATTITAQ: They're very clear and precise, so
3 I don't have any questions for them. Thank you,
4 Mr. Chairman.

5 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you very much from
6 Arctic Bay.

7 Next on the list is NTI. Paul, any questions to
8 Pond Inlet?

9 **NTI QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

10 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 I have a question for Pond Inlet. First of all,
12 the document that you presented for consultation, it was
13 already answered earlier by NTI by fax machine sent to DFO
14 and cc'd, copied to NWMB, QWB. And the letter you produced
15 from DFO, we're not in agreement with it, and it should not
16 even be considered as information because it's stating, if
17 you don't agree with it, that you won't be able to sell
18 your tusks. Because it can't intimidate Inuit.

19 And when you look at the numbers, 134 TAH, so
20 DFO just stated that they automatically remove
21 struck-and-loss PBR, and if you look at the numbers, they
22 removed 37 from 171. Originally, it was 171 TAH, so they
23 automatically removed 37 for PBR.

24 So my question to you now is: Do you strike and
25 lose 37 narwhal a year? That's my question.

1 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

2 Jaykolassie.

3 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 I want to talk so much I always miss the mic.

5 Spring and summertime, the HTO usually records
6 and provides the information on struck-and-loss. We always
7 report to the HTO office. There's hardly any
8 struck-and-loss, only a very few that sunk. This year
9 there was accidentally some sinking from the harvest, but
10 there's hardly any struck-and-loss, way below 37.

11 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 Eric, any comment?

13 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 Just to supplement his comment. The DFO has
15 stated that walrus, the process for calculating the PBR for
16 walrus or any other species, narwhal; I just wanted to say
17 it's the same process for every species for the possible
18 biological removal, but we always report our
19 struck-and-loss.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

21 Paul.

22 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you for your response.

23 My other question now is, everyone is aware that
24 there's been a lot of ships going back and forth in your
25 area, in particular, after the Mary River project was

1 established, and they're always surveying by Baffinland.
2 What about in Pond Inlet? How has the shipping affected
3 your narwhal?

4 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

5 Jaykolassie.

6 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7 I don't know who I mentioned this to, but I will
8 reiterate myself. When there were shipping for goods and
9 services on an annual basis for Pond Inlet and when there
10 were no other ships coming in, other than the supply ships,
11 there was no significant observation on our wildlife. But
12 when we observed, and when the shipping started, I think it
13 was about a couple years that there was a big change in the
14 narwhal, and they come in when the ice starts breaking up,
15 and they go further north, and then, as we realize, there
16 was a lot of narwhal coming when the ice first breaks up.
17 But last couple years, that has not been the case, and it
18 is obvious that it has to do with the Mary River project,
19 and that has really affected the distribution of narwhal.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jaykolassie. Eric.

21 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 Just to supplement that. When there's early ice
23 breakup, the Lancaster Sound to Kitikmeot area, when we
24 didn't have narwhal in our area we heard from Kitikmeot
25 that they have lots of narwhal now.

1 And it's not only the shipping traffic that is
2 contributing to the movement of narwhal. It's early ice
3 breakup that it's obvious they're going further into the
4 western area. Especially this summer, we observed it.

5 It depends year to year, as we keep saying, ever
6 since I can remember as a child, every year is different.
7 And I know that what we're presenting might be of some use.

8 Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

10 Paul.

11 MR. IRNGAUT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 Last one. What is more important; selling the
13 tusk or food? The DFO keeps saying about trading the
14 tusks, putting a stop to trading. They keep mentioning
15 trade, so which is more important for you; trade, selling
16 the tusk or the food, the *muktuk* and the meat?

17 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Paul.

18 Jaykolassie.

19 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20 In the recent years in the past Inuit preference
21 was meat, according to what we know. Even if it didn't
22 have a tusk, we harvested it. But nowadays we harvest it
23 for both reasons, to trade the tusk and for the meat and
24 the *muktuk*.

25 And now because we're in an environment, well,

1 economics and money is prevailing in the socioeconomics, we
2 have no choice but to make money to be able to buy what we
3 need, and we can't solely rely on country food anymore.
4 And because of the early ice breakup, when we can't really
5 harvest when we want to, we have to have money to buy food.
6 We need money since money is the most prevalent thing right
7 now, so we need the money to buy food.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jaykolassie.

9 Paul, *taima*?

10 Okay. Next we'll go to Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife
11 Board. Any questions for Pond Inlet HT0? Joshua.

12 **QWB QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

13 MR. KANGO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 When you finally get around to me, my questions
15 are all already asked, most of them.

16 I haven't read through all the document, but
17 does it say in your letter, narwhal consultation to NWMB,
18 that you want the TAH to remain the same? And if they were
19 to implement that TAH according to the tables, there's been
20 a decline in about 120 narwhal. And has the community of
21 Pond Inlet estimated in numbers on how much they're going
22 to be losing in terms of compensation for how much you are
23 going to lose if that TAH is lowered by 120?

24 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Joshua.

25 Jaykolassie.

1 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 I can't really answer the other half because we
3 haven't had time to calculate anything.

4 And your other question on your letter that we
5 wrote that we requested that the TAH tags remain the same,
6 we don't want to decrease the number until we get the best
7 available information after their review of this year's
8 survey.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.

10 Jason.

11 MR. MIKKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12 I have one question. We heard today that
13 beluga, their reproduction is quite far between because
14 they don't increase the way they think they should increase
15 because of reproductivity. So when we're talking about
16 narwhal -- and they use belugas as example in
17 reproduction -- are they the same? Do they reproduce in
18 the same way? Is it their biological structure in the same
19 way that they produce in the same way?

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason.

21 Jaykolassie.

22 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 We don't know very much about beluga whales
24 because once in a long while we'll see a beluga up here,
25 and I know that more than once beluga was used as an

1 example.

2 And when narwhal come through, the narwhal come
3 through in April-May, and they're the oldest ones. And
4 then right afterwards, the female and calves come through,
5 and some of the calves have very small, newborns. And all
6 summer to the fall they're continuously producing calves
7 while they're in our inlets. Around Ikpiarjuk when we
8 start losing daylight, I was there before, camping there
9 before. I noticed that there was a narwhal that was
10 constantly there. We thought it was sick or struck or had
11 been struck, so we went to see, and then we observed that
12 it was producing a calf. It was way in the fall.

13 So all spring, summer, and fall they produce
14 calves. That's what I can say.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jaykolassie.

16 Eric.

17 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 Just to add a little bit. When there were
19 narwhal frozen over around Pond Inlet area last year, we
20 were harvesting a narwhal, and there was one biggest hole
21 and the two smaller holes, and the biggest hole were where
22 the calves, and very newborn just while they were stuck
23 there. They were newborn while they were still stuck. And
24 I guess they congregate to rest. And I observed that,
25 like, human beings, we can give birth any time of the year.

1 Same thing with narwhal, they're producing calves any time
2 of the year. We observe it.

3 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

4 Jason.

5 MR. MIKKI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 Just for clarification. Killer whales, have you
7 observed more killer whales? Are there more arriving to
8 your communities? And I probably know the answer, but I
9 have to ask you: Are they just killing off narwhals? As
10 top predators, compared to 1990s, is there more killer
11 whales, and are they just killing for fun?

12 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jason. Eric.

13 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 I talked about it earlier. There is more and
15 more killer whales, and they come in more often. When I
16 was growing up, my Elders used to tell me stories. Like,
17 it was a traditional story, and that's what I heard from my
18 Elders. And it was when I became adult I started noticing
19 the killer whales. First time I ever seen one, when I
20 became adult.

21 Yes, killer whales kill for fun, not just
22 narwhals, and they won't eat it. They just kill it just
23 for the sake of killing. Just like polar bears, they
24 sometimes will not eat what they kill. They just do it for
25 fun.

1 And one of our Elders stated that killer whales
2 are there to help us, and I never observed that; and, of
3 course, in the old days the Elders would harvest by a
4 kayak, and of course, killer whales just kill narwhals, and
5 I thought about this so that the whale can beach and the
6 hunter can harvest that beached whale. I just made that
7 connection.

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric. Jaykolassie.

9 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10 Just to add a little bit to that. When I was a
11 young lad growing up, I hardly ever saw killer whales. We
12 came here in 1960s. It was when we moved here we started
13 observing killer whales, and in the past there was hardly
14 any killer whales. And, yes, we can say that there's an
15 abundance of killer whales, and it's not only narwhals do;
16 the polar bears do that as well.

17 Last year when I was out camping there was a
18 polar bear that had killed a seal, and I thought it was a
19 live seal, but I went up, and just dead. It was killed by
20 a polar bear, not eaten. And killer whales are not the
21 only top predators who do that. They can even harvest a
22 bowhead whale just for fun.

23 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

24 Jason. *Taima*? QWB.

25 Next on our list for questions is the GN, and

1 there's nobody here from the GN -- there's representation,
2 but no questions.

3 The next on the list is Elders from Arctic Bay.
4 Is there any questions for Pond Inlet HT0?

5 **ARCTIC BAY ELDERS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

6 MR. QAUNAQ: Your total allowable harvest in
7 Pond Inlet is considering to be reduced, and there doesn't
8 seem to be a good reason. As we mentioned, maybe the
9 narwhal were elsewhere when they did that survey, so they
10 shouldn't have used that.

11 Do you feel that the narwhal were moved
12 elsewhere when they did the survey? Maybe do you think
13 that is the reason why they want to reduce the total
14 allowable harvest?

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sakiasie.

16 Jaykolassie.

17 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 Yes, yes.

19 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we have been
20 saying, there are a lot of killer whales around when they
21 did the survey. During the month of August, killer whales
22 were around, so the narwhal had to move elsewhere to get
23 away from the killer whales. And perhaps, if there were
24 less killer whales you would have seen more narwhal. Yes,
25 that is the reason why the narwhal were not around because

1 the killer whales were around too much.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you.

3 Eric.

4 MR. E. OOTOOVA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 Just to add. Yeah, I agree with my fellow board
6 member. I just want to add: August 2013 when they did a
7 survey, there were no other records that they did back
8 in -- there was nothing from 2012, 2014. And we keep
9 saying that they do come back, and they move away. And
10 they do the survey for only a few days in a month, and then
11 they give us a result saying that our narwhal are
12 decreasing so we have to change the total allowable
13 harvest. That's what they told us.

14 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Eric.

16 Any other questions, Sakiasie?

17 MR. QAUNAQ: Yes. From what I remember, in our
18 community we start hunting for narwhal in August, and we
19 were told that there were no more because there were a lot
20 of killer whales, and when the killer whales came around,
21 there were a lot of narwhal that came close, and they
22 travel far away.

23 It's not a question. I feel that it is too soon
24 to reduce the total allowable harvest for Eclipse Sound,
25 and I agree with the people from Pond Inlet that it is too

1 soon to ask for a reduction in the total allowable harvest.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Sakiasie.

3 Any other questions from Pond Inlet? Olayuk?

4 MR. NAQITARVIK: I have a question. Their new
5 total allowable harvest advice is not sufficient. Will it
6 happen to our community, too, if you find out that the
7 narwhal have moved elsewhere so as it is the case with
8 Pond Inlet. So you're not happy with information that
9 you're getting when they say that your narwhal are
10 decreasing according to what the DFO is proposing.

11 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Olayuk.

12 Jaykolassie.

13 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 Yes, what we mentioned earlier, some hunters,
15 there are a lot of harvesters. Their income comes only
16 from the harvested animals, whether it be seal pelts or
17 others. The hunters in Pond Inlet, even the local Inuit,
18 there are a lot of members in the local HTO. Yeah, we
19 really -- it really affected us. If we are not going to be
20 able to sell our tusks from the narwhal that we catch, that
21 will only affect our economy. There will be a lot of
22 people that are going through hard times in Pond Inlet if
23 that happens.

24 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jaykolassie. Any other

1 questions?

2 If not, Jobie.

3 MR. ATTITAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 In other communities, the ones without the
5 narwhals -- so you get orders from the other communities
6 that don't have narwhal? From the other communities do you
7 get orders?

8 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jobie.

9 Jaykolassie.

10 MR. KILLIKTEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11 Yes. Yeah, we get orders from all over,
12 especially after we have harvested entrapped whales. So we
13 get orders from other communities because a lot of
14 people -- not just from Nunavut. We even get orders from
15 the people in the south. They always want some *muktuk* any
16 time. The *muktuk* is very useful, not just in Pond Inlet.
17 It's important everywhere.

18 MR. ATTITAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19 Yes, we now know it won't be just the people
20 from Pond Inlet, especially the ones that don't have
21 narwhal. That will affect them as well. It will affect
22 everybody because we also get orders, we get orders from
23 several communities who want fermented meat, narwhal meat,
24 and the communities that don't have narwhal will also be
25 affected.

1 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 THE CHAIR: Thank you, Jobie. I think Gamalie
3 has a comment.

4 MR. KILUKSHAK: It is responded. But in
5 Clyde River, yeah, there were people that came from
6 Clyde River to buy *muktuk* from the HTOs. I just wanted to
7 add to that.

8 And what was mentioned before, I've noticed here
9 in Pond Inlet, in September we hardly had -- in September
10 we usually get lots of narwhal when they pass through, but
11 we didn't get as many in September as we usually do. I
12 thought maybe those sail boats and others, there were a lot
13 of sail boats in this past summer. I'm not sure if they
14 were the cause that the narwhal didn't come around. This
15 is the first time that's happened for many years, so we
16 didn't get as many narwhal in September. I'm not sure what
17 was the cause -- maybe the ships -- and I just want to add
18 to that response that was given.

19 Thank you.

20 THE CHAIR: Thank you very much, Gamalie.

21 Okay. If no questions from the Elders of
22 Arctic Bay anymore, our last questions to Pond Inlet would
23 be from the public.

24 Is there anybody in the public or the gallery
25 that has questions of Pond Inlet HT0? If you do, you can

1 step forward.

2 If not, if there is no questions from the
3 public, that concludes, then, our round with Pond Inlet.
4 Thank you for your presentations and answering the
5 questions.

6 And I think in light of the time, next to
7 present is Arctic Bay HT0. I think we will do that in the
8 morning. So we'll call it a night tonight and be back here
9 for 9 a.m., 9 a.m. tomorrow morning. Thank you very much,
10 everybody. Good night.

11

12 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED TO 9:00 A.M., November 29, 2016

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 Certificate of Transcript

2

3 I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing pages 1
4 to 237 are a complete and accurate transcript of the
5 proceedings taken down by me in shorthand and transcribed
6 from my shorthand notes to the best of my skill and ability.

7

8 Dated at the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta, on the
9 28th day of December, A.D. 2016.

10

11

12

"Adele Jones"

13

Adele Jones

14

Official Court Reporter, CSR(A)

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25