Habitat Management and Protection Workshop

Frobisher Inn, Iqaluit, Nunavut

January 16th and 17th, 2014



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Summary

In January, 2014, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) hosted a two day Habitat Management and Protection Workshop with participants from federal and territorial governments (Nunavut and Northwest Territories), Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Institutions of Public Government and Nunavut's three Regional Wildlife Organizations.

The purpose of the workshop was to help guide the development of the NWMB's Habitat Management and Protection Program and determine how to best coordinate it with those already established. Day one of the workshop consisted of numerous presentations from comanagement partners outlining their organizations' programs and initiatives regarding habitat management and protection, followed by a discussion on the benefits and challenges of each program and how they might best complement one another and the NWMB's responsibilities regarding habitat. Day two consisted of several focus group discussions to help identify information gaps, concerns and goals regarding habitat management, and generate ideas on how the NWMB's Habitat Management and Protection Program can address these and ultimately assist with meeting the identified goals for management and protection of wildlife habitat in Nunavut.

Overall, the workshop was successful in generating ideas to guide the NWMB's development of its *Habitat Management and Protection Program*.

List of Participants

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Chairperson Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board

Jason Mikki

Regional Coordinator Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board

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Agenda

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD Habitat Management and Protection Workshop Day 1 Thursday, January 16th, 2014 (9:00 AM to 5:00 PM) Frobisher Inn, Iqaluit, Nunavut

TIME of DAY	AGENDA ITEM	MAXIMUM TIME
9:00 AM	Introductions & Opening Prayer	15 minutes
9:15 AM	Nunavut Wildlife Management Board - Role and responsibilities for wildlife habitat and Workshop Objectives	15 minutes
9:30 AM	Presentation - Nunavut Impact Review Board	20 minutes
9:50 AM	Presentation - Nunavut Planning Commission	20 minutes
10:10 AM	Presentation - Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated	20 minutes
10:30 AM	MORNING BREAK	15 minutes
10:45 AM	Presentation - Fisheries and Oceans Canada	20 minutes
11:05 AM	Presentation - Government of Nunavut	20 minutes
11:25 AM	Presentation - Government of Northwest Territories	20 minutes
11:45 AM	LUNCH BREAK	90 minutes
1:15 PM	Presentation - Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada / Nunavut General Monitoring Plan	20 minutes
1:35 PM	Summary of presentations and questions	15 minutes
1:45 PM	Focused group discussion session: Identifying information gaps and areas requiring intensified management or protection ¹	75 minutes
3:00 PM	LATE AFTERNOON BREAK	30 minutes
3:15 PM	Focused group discussion session: Identifying goals for habitat management and protection in Nunavut ¹	90 minutes
4:45 PM	Closing Remarks for Day 1	15 minutes

¹ As several presentations included substantial follow-up discussion, these focused group discussion sessions occurred during Day 2.

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD Habitat Management and Protection Workshop Day 2 Friday, January 17th, 2014 (9:00 AM to 3:00 PM) Frobisher Inn, Iqaluit, Nunavut

TIME of DAY	AGENDA ITEM	MAXIMUM TIME
9:00 AM	Review of Day 1	15 minutes
9:15 AM	Focused group discussion session: How the NWMB's Habitat Management and Protection Program can assist with meeting the identified goals for management and protection of wildlife habitat in Nunavut*	40 minutes
9:55 AM	Focused group discussion session: How the NWMB's Habitat Management and Protection Program can work effectively with current co-management partner initiatives and programs*	35 minutes
10:30 AM	MORNING BREAK	15 minutes
10:45 AM	Perspectives and Experience of Regional Wildlife Organizations and Community Organizations	15 minutes
11:00 AM	Focused group discussion session: Regional Wildlife Organizations' concerns regarding habitat management and protection, and the needs of community organizations in response to activities posing risks to wildlife habitat in their regions*	45 minutes
11:45 AM	LUNCH BREAK	90 minutes
1:00 PM	Focused group discussion session: How the NWMB's Habitat Management and Protection Program can assist in addressing Regional Wildlife Organizations' concerns and the needs of community organizations	90 minutes
2:30 PM	Next Steps, Closing Remarks, and Closing Prayer	30 minutes
3:00 PM	End of Workshop (THANKS FOR COMING)	

Background on NWMB's Habitat Management and Protection Program:

Interest in exploration and development of mining, oil and gas, and energy production projects in the north is increasing and is expected to continue to grow in coming years, bringing with it the potential for serious consequences to terrestrial and marine wildlife habitat quality, connectivity, and contiguity in the Nunavut Settlement Area.

In addition to increasing development-related activities, there are other types of anthropogenic disturbance that have been brought to the Board's attention, such as increases in shipping traffic (Baffinland's Mary River project), ecotourism ventures (wildlife viewing and photography expeditions), ever-growing commercial enterprises (increased interest in sport hunts), and the resultant contamination and pollution of marine and terrestrial environments.

While the NWMB has in the past generally left habitat management and protection issues to its fellow land and resource management agencies, experience has demonstrated that reviews of proposed development and exploration activities regularly address issues affecting wildlife and their habitat. Such reviews would clearly benefit from receiving the informed views of the main instrument of wildlife management and the main regulator of access to wildlife in Nunavut.

There are a number of provisions in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* that give the NWMB authority to play an active role in the management and protection of Nunavut's habitat. These include: the provision of advice on mitigation measures to be required from developers who damage wildlife habitat (S. 5.2.34 (e)); the approval of the establishment, disestablishment and changes to boundaries of conservation areas related to management and protection of wildlife and wildlife habitat (S. 5.2.34 (a)); the approval of plans for management and protection of particular wildlife habitats (S. 5.2.34 (c)); and identification of wildlife management zones and areas of high biological productivity and the provision of recommendations to the Nunavut Planning Commission with respect to planning in those areas (S. 5.2.34 (b)). With this in mind, the NWMB has initiated the development of its *Habitat Management and Protection Program* to reinvest, and ultimately maintain the necessary role of the Board, in ensuring the sound management and protection of Nunavut's terrestrial and marine wildlife habitats.

Purpose and Overview of the Workshop:

The principal goal of the workshop was to bring together the primary managers of habitat in Nunavut to discuss current habitat management and protection programs, initiatives, and associated knowledge gaps. The purpose of the workshop was to assist the NWMB with the development of the *Habitat Management and Protection Program* and determine how to best coordinate it with those already established.

This workshop was used as a forum where co-managers could discuss, identify and review existing habitat management and protection programs, and associated information gaps; discuss options related to providing assistance to community organizations in responding to activities that pose potential risks to marine and terrestrial habitat in their regions; identify high level goals for the protection and management of Nunavut's wildlife habitat; and assess how best to integrate NWMB's *Habitat Management and Protection Program* with co-management partners' current initiatives. Specific objectives included:

- 1. Identify existing habitat management and protection programs in Nunavut.
- 2. Identify gaps in habitat management and protection in Nunavut.
- 3. Identify goals for the protection and management of Nunavut's wildlife habitat.
- 4. Identify areas that may require intensified management and/or protection.
- 5. Determine how NWMB's *Habitat Management and Protection Program* can assist with the management and protection of wildlife habitat.
- 6. Determine how NWMB's *Habitat Management and Protection Program* can be integrated with current co-management partner initiatives.
- 7. Identify Regional Wildlife Organizations' concerns in regards to habitat management and protection; identify opportunities for NWMB's *Habitat Management and Protection Program* to assist in addressing Regional Wildlife Organizations' concerns
- 8. Discuss options related to providing assistance to community organizations in response to activities posing risks to wildlife habitat in their regions.

To open the workshop, Rebecca Jeppesen, former NWMB Director of Wildlife Management, led a discussion on the definition of three key terms, "habitat", "protection" and "management", which would be used throughout the workshop. Some of the definitions included:

Habitat: The place where a plant or animal (terrestrial, avian, aquatic or marine) is found, which includes all the living and non-living parts of that environment. Anything that particular flora or fauna require to carry out its life processes.

Protection: The state of being kept from harm or loss. For habitat, preserving the natural make-up and function of an area, including the relationships between the living and non-

living parts of the environment. Preserving or protecting the productive carrying capacity of the ecosystem to sustain wildlife.

Management: The act or skill of controlling and making decisions (in this case, about habitat). Management is more active and hands-on than protection. For example, instead of preserving something in its natural state, managers work to control certain things in order to manage the effects of disturbance².

² Workshop participants also discussed the idea that not everything can be managed. Therefore, management might also be a decision-making process where a certain development or impact cannot be mitigated and therefore, cannot go forward. Part of management is ensuring the maintenance of the integrity of the ecosystem itself.

Summary of Workshop Presentations

The first day of the workshop consisted of co-management partner presentations outlining their organizations' experiences with programs and initiatives regarding habitat management and protection. A brief summary of each presentation is provided below; a copy of all presentations are included as Appendix 1.

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Presenter: Peter Kydd

Topic: The NWMB's presentation gave a broad overview of the NWMB's mandate and explained why the NMWB is reinvesting in habitat management and protection. The presentation described how the NWMB is legislated to manage and protect wildlife habitat by highlighting relevant sections of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. The presentation concluded by providing an outline of the goals and objectives of the workshop as well as possible workshop outcomes.

Nunavut Impact Review Board

Presenter: Peter Kydd on behalf of the Nunavut Impact Review Board

Topic: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's presentation gave a broad overview of who the Nunavut Impact Review Board are, their mission, their regulatory process, as well as their relationship with the NWMB as outlined in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. The presentation described the Nunavut Impact Review Board's Environmental Impact Assessment process, including the screening and review processes and monitoring. The presentation concluded by stating that the Nunavut Impact Review Board was interested in the outcomes of the workshop and may be able to utilize information from the NWMB on habitat and species at risk within its assessment of potential impacts from exploration and development projects.

Nunavut Planning Commission

Presenter: Michael Townsend

Topic: This presentation provided an overview of the Nunavut Planning Commission's mandate and responsibilities. It described the two currently approved Land Use Plans in Nunavut (North Baffin and Keewatin) and the Nunavut Planning Commission's conformity process. The presentation concluded with an overview of the process being taken to design and approve the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, including community engagement and timelines for the public hearing.

Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated

Presenter: Bert Dean

Topic: Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated's presentation focused on the portion of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Implementation Contract* which outlines the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement's* vision for a land and resource management system operating in the Nunavut Settlement Area. The presentation described the experience Hunters and Trappers Organizations have had with the environmental review process and emphasized challenges arising from capacity issues, funding and lack of support. The presentation concluded with an overview of what Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated is doing to assist Hunters and Trappers Organizations fulfill their environmental review responsibilities, which involve education on the Nunavut Impact Review Board process and research into funding opportunities (Participant Funding Program).

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Presenter: Tom Hoggarth

Topic: Fisheries and Oceans Canada gave a presentation on the updated *Fisheries Act* and associated policies, including the Fisheries Protection Policy and the Fisheries Productivity Investment Policy. The presentation elaborated on Fisheries and Oceans Canada's new policy for the management of fish habitat, including an overview of the fishery protection provisions, scope of application and framework for decision-making, and explained Fisheries and Oceans Canada's project authorization process.

<u>Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment</u>

Presenters: Lynda Orman and Mitch Campbell

Topic: The Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment gave a broad overview of the Department's involvement in habitat and wildlife research, highlighting priority habitat research issues in Nunavut. It also described the Department's role in reviewing environmental assessments and highlighted challenges in the review process. The presentation elaborated on the impacts of mining development in caribou calving and post-calving grounds and described the Department's research on caribou movement and how the results could be incorporated into the draft Nunavut Land Use Plan.

Government of Northwest Territories

Presenter: Karin Clark

Topic: The Government of Northwest Territories – Department of Environment and Natural Resources' presentation outlined the approach the Government of Northwest

Territories is taking to manage habitat through the development of species specific range plans to address monitoring and management of habitat disturbance from natural and human causes. The Department's habitat management initiative is seen as one component of a broader cumulative effects management regime. The presentation provided details on the Bathurst Caribou Range Plan, which is under development with partners from the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Presenter: Alain Grenier

Topic: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's presentation provided an overview of the Nunavut General Monitoring Plan (NGMP), which is a component of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* (Section 12.7.6). The presentation explained the Nunavut General Monitoring Framework and its valued ecosystemic components, gave a brief summary of funding and discussed current and future plans for outreach and engagement.

Identifying Information Gaps and Areas Requiring Intensified Management or Protection

To help stimulate discussion surrounding information gaps and areas that might require more dedicated time and resources, several questions were posed to workshop participants:

- 1. What are some challenges with the current programs and initiatives?
- 2. What issues are not being addressed by existing programs?
- 3. Are the current initiatives practical for on-the-ground implementation?
- 4. Do the existing programs address concerns of Nunavummiut?

Although it was initially scheduled to be a focus group, due to time constraints this issue was addressed as a round-table discussion. Below are the highlights of the discussion, which have been grouped into nine broad information and/or habitat management gaps.

1) The effective involvement of Hunters and Trappers Organizations, Regional Wildlife Organizations and community members.

Several workshop participants highlighted the Regional Wildlife Organizations' and Hunters and Trappers Organizations' lack of capacity (financial and personnel) to address local concerns. Due to capacity issues, these Organizations are unable to conduct research to address gaps in understanding impacts of development, comment on Nunavut Impact Review Board screenings or attend technical meetings and hearings to share their concerns regarding the management and protection of wildlife habitat. It was noted that there is a lack of participant funding available for the Organizations. Although processes, such as the Nunavut Impact Review Board review process and Nunavut Water Board permitting process, are working well within and between government agencies, there is a need for better community level incorporation in these processes. There was general agreement that emphasis needs to be placed on empowering Hunters and Trappers Organizations.

2) An effective system for consultation and communication with communities.

It was demonstrated on several occasions that communication between communities, Hunters and Trappers Organizations and all levels of government needs improvement. One recurring theme surrounds cruise ships and the lack of information that communities are given regarding when and where they will be sailing within the Nunavut Settlement Area. As well, communities are often not informed of contaminated sites, mine remediation and smaller research and exploration projects that are occurring in adjacent areas. There are numerous agencies and researchers conducting sound work, but there is a lack of a central agency focusing efforts to ensure information is being exchanged throughout communities and other northern agencies. It was noted that consultation requirements and expectations vary widely; without a mechanism for coordination, the demand for consultation with communities will become overwhelming.

3) Effective use of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Closely related to the gap in consultation and communication is the need for greater integration of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit in habitat research and management. Elders have a wealth of knowledge that could vastly improve research. Although there has been more emphasis placed on this issue in recent years, there was agreement that there is still room for improvement.

4) A lack of planning.

A lack of planning was also a concern for several workshop participants. Some examples that were brought up at the workshop included:

- Planning alternate shipping routes to avoid wildlife and significant habitat;
- Preparation and planning for oil spills, as the effects of, and responses to spills in sensitive Arctic ecosystems, are potentially more complex and unpredictable compared to spills that occur in the south;
- Financial planning to ensure that funding is readily available to help improve habitat that has been affected by disturbances in the area;
- Being prepared to provide habitat destruction compensation to communities; and
- Assessing the level of risk for potential disasters that have yet to occur in the Arctic environment.

5) A better understanding of the ecological impacts of development, including cumulative impacts.

Most research currently being conducted by the Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment involves counting animals. There is a lack of ecological and behavioural studies to examine the effects of disturbance (e.g., the impacts of low flying air crafts on caribou movement) on wildlife. There was a general agreement that more behavioural studies are needed to help understand cumulative impacts, but it is imperative that these studies are designed carefully and with close involvement of Inuit to ensure that the work is carried out in a respectful manner.

6) Improved education at all levels of management.

Workshop participants indicated a number of areas where education can be improved. For example, Hunters and Trappers Organizations have a lack of understanding of their roles and responsibilities as per the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* (largely due to high staff turnover), which could be addressed with more guidance from regulatory agencies. One suggestion was to hold regular environmental assessment and policy workshops to assist community members in gaining a better understanding of the regulatory processes. It was also noted that industry have a lack of knowledge on Inuit values, which could be improved with more education.

7) Inter-jurisdictional, inter-organizational and inter-departmental communication and partnerships.

Workshop participants agreed that there is a lack of communication on what data is being collected, what reports are being generated and what habitat initiatives are being undertaken by different jurisdictions, departments and organizations. Again, it was highlighted that there is a lack of a coordinating body or venue to discuss ideas and research regarding habitat. The gap between Regional Inuit Associations and Hunters and Trappers Organizations was also highlighted as a concern. In some cases, the Regional Inuit Organization have approved plans for mine development before the Hunters and Trappers Organization have reviewed the application.

8) Thorough review of Part 4 Nunavut Impact Review Board screenings.

Some participants raised concerns regarding the review of Part 4 project proposals. Due to the limited capacity of reviewing organizations, emphasis is placed on reviewing Part 5 and Part 6 project proposals. With limited resources and the large volume of Part 4 project proposals, some Part 4 projects that could cause serious environmental impacts are not being thoroughly reviewed. Often, these smaller projects raise more concerns for community members because they are not conducting the same level of community engagement as the larger projects. It is important that these small exploration projects are reviewed in the

early stages before the proponent invests unrecoverable time and resources into the project.

9) Approved Nunavut Fishery Regulations and lack of knowledge on where Aboriginal, Commercial and Recreational Fisheries, as defined in the *Fisheries Act*, are located.

Several times throughout the workshop, participants brought up concerns regarding the absence of Nunavut Fishery Regulations. Without regulations, it is difficult to enforce parts of the *Fisheries Act* concerning the protection of fish habitat. As well, there were concerns with the wording in the newly amended *Fisheries Act*, which now focuses on only managing threats to the sustainability of Canada's recreational, commercial and Aboriginal fisheries. It was noted that in Nunavut the identification of where commercial, recreational and Aboriginal fisheries are is a big information gap.

Identifying Goals for Habitat Management and Protection in Nunavut

Using the information gaps and areas needing increased attention, identified earlier in the workshop, participants were divided into three break-out groups to discuss and identify goals for habitat management and protection in Nunavut. Several questions that were posed to participants to help focus the discussion were:

- 1. What could the federal and territorial governments be doing differently?
- 2. How could the Institutions of Public Government improve their processes?
- 3. How could we address some of the challenges with the current programs and initiatives?
- 4. What are some goals we should be working toward in the short term (<5 years)?
- 5. What are some goals we should be working toward in the long term (10+ years)?

Below are several goals that were identified by the three break-out groups:

- Establish a co-management network that integrates all stakeholders, including educators and non-environmental experts, to improve communication and help guide habitat management and protection. The Nunavut General Monitoring Plan might be a good starting point.
- Initiate and incorporate more community-based monitoring in habitat management and protection. The Nunavut Wildlife Harvest Study is a good example of collecting information at the community level and incorporating community knowledge.
- Improve the consultation process to increase effectiveness, education and respect for elders and their roles in consultation. A tiered process that involves multiple community visits with an opportunity to review consultation reports in between generally works well.
- Include the protection of important habitat areas in the draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, which can be accomplished with mapping projects with elders and harvesters. The Nunavut Land Use Plan will be the foundation document for the other Institutions of Public Government (mainly Nunavut Impact Review Board and Nunavut Water Board) and their processes. It is important to get Hunters and Trappers Organizations' input into the Nunavut Land Use Plan.
- Develop a list of focus areas, such as (a) the increasing frequency of cruise ship presence, (b) contaminated sites and (c) food safety.

Group 2

- Identify and address the capacity issues of Hunters and Trappers Organizations and Regional Wildlife Organizations. It was agreed that this is a very large issue, and is too large to be addressed through the NWMB's Habitat Management and Protection Program. Addressing this issue might require permanent positions for wildlife biologists/technicians at the Regional Wildlife Organization level to coordinate the review and screening of applications and environmental assessments. Resolving this issue would have the single biggest impact.
- Incorporate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into research and reporting. Government
 agencies are attempting to incorporate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into ongoing
 initiatives, but it is not consistently included in research and reporting. Parallel
 scientific and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit research projects may help alleviate this
 problem.

- Develop a method of mandatory communication with Hunters and Trappers Organizations and Regional Wildlife Organizations. Communication through email, followed up with telephone and fax communication seems to be most effective.
- Provide support and guidance for Hunters and Trappers Organizations and Regional Wildlife Organizations with respect to their roles as outlined in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, which need to be respected.
- Implement fisheries regulations, which will address multiple issues, including those associated with tourism.

Summary of Discussion Surrounding Incorporation of Hunters and Trappers Organizations and Regional Wildlife Organizations' Interests

As one of the major themes throughout the workshop was the necessity of incorporating local interests in the management and protection of habitat, the final break-out group discussion was centered on how local interests of Hunters and Trappers Organizations and Regional Wildlife Organizations can be integrated into the program. Bert Dean, Senior Policy Advisor with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, started off the conversation with a short presentation focusing on some of the major challenges Regional Wildlife Organizations and Hunters and Trappers Organizations are faced with, which include a lack of participant funding and opportunities to hire technical experts to assist with reviewing Environmental Assessments. Through this discussion, several ideas on how co-management partners can work together to address these challenges were generated:

Group 1

- Focus on the work needed to involve communities; it takes a lot of work to create meaningful relationships, but the outcomes can be extremely beneficial.
- Effectively gather and distribute information.

- Develop an Environmental Assessment staff position (preferably with each of the Regional Wildlife Organizations) to focus on entry level proposals. This would directly address the Hunters and Trappers Organizations' capacity issues and inability to review all project proposals.
 - This position could focus on projects that are not assessed by other organizations typically focussing their attention on major projects.
- Using the NWMB's Regional Wildlife Research Priorities Workshops as a template, create a similar list of priorities for important wildlife areas or habitat in need of protection.
- Raise level of awareness for research focused on habitat disturbance; partner with Hunters and Trappers Organizations and Regional Wildlife Organizations to ensure that the methodology is respectful of Inuit values.

- There is a need for a comprehensive search and compilation of available wildlife and wildlife habitat information in Nunavut. The availability of a searchable database/library of all research conducted in the Nunavut Settlement Are would be immensely valuable.
- In the past, there have been projects permitted to proceed in Nunavut, followed by incorrect reporting in the press, which led to unwarranted confusion. There needs to be a review process to limit this in the future. In the permitting processes, it might be good to have NWMB review reports to ensure that the science and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is sound before they go to the public.

- There is a need for more direct communication with Regional Wildlife Organizations and Hunters and Trappers Organizations.
- There needs to be more community-based monitoring and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit gathering. Having an Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Coordinator in each community could help with organization and implementation of these initiatives.
- It would be beneficial to have Inuit monitors on all cruise ships to monitor and enforce regulations (e.g. overboard dumping of garbage).

Next Steps

Since February 2010, the NWMB has not been directly involved in the review of land and water use applications. The decision to not participate in these reviews was mainly due to limited human resources. However, with the creation of a new Wildlife Management Biologist position to focus on habitat issues, the NWMB intends to reengage in this process. During the workshop, participants highlighted two main gaps in this area: 1) the thorough review of Part 4 Nunavut Impact Review Board screenings of smaller projects; and 2) the direct involvement of Hunters and Trappers Organizations in the review of proposals. Considering this, a next step for the NWMB is the development of a policy on the Board's role in the evaluation of project proposals in the Nunavut Settlement Area. The NWMB plans to focus its attention on smaller projects and leave the larger, more controversial development projects to the "...appropriate government agencies and other related bodies as may be established in the Agreement" (Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Section 5.2.36). In addition, the NWMB plans to further discuss options on how the Board can provide assistance to Hunters and Trappers Organizations in responding to activities that pose potential risks to marine and terrestrial habitat in their regions.

The need for an effective management system that protects important habitat for mainland migratory barren-ground caribou herds was another topic that came up numerous times throughout the workshop. The current Caribou Protection Measures in Nunavut are dated and are not legally enforceable. To address this issue, the NWMB plans to host a co-management partner workshop to discuss the most current scientific research and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit on the impacts of anthropogenic disturbance on ungulates to generate recommendations on how to effectively manage and protect caribou habitat. Preceding the technical meeting, the NWMB plans on issuing a contract for a literature review on the effects of anthropogenic disturbance on caribou, an evaluation of the effectiveness of the current Nunavut Caribou Protection Measures and a summary of what other jurisdictions are doing to protect mainland migratory wildlife from disturbance.

Other suggestions which stemmed from the workshop will be discussed further, including the formation of a co-management network that integrates all stakeholders, (including educators and non-environmental experts) to improve on inter-organizational and interjurisdictional communication. The network could meet annually to discuss ideas, initiatives and research to help guide habitat management and protection in Nunavut.

Overall, the workshop was successful in bringing together the primary managers of habitat in Nunavut and has provided the Board with valuable advice to guide the development of the NWMB's *Habitat Management and Protection Program*.

Appendix 1 Workshop Presentations



Nunavut Wildlife Management Board – Mandate

- ➤ The NWMB is the main instrument of wildlife management and the main regulator of access to wildlife in the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA).
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Nunavut Wildlife Management Board – Mission

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- The NWMB mission is to conserve wildlife (and wildlife habitat) for the long-term benefit of all Nunavut residents while fully respecting Inuit harvesting rights and priorities.
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- The NWMB vision is "conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge."

- As the main instrument of wildlife management the NWMB is responsible for protecting wildlife and it's habitat and will perform various functions to do so (NLCA 5.2.34).

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board – Habitat Related Functions ספיר בּלנים ב

- Approve the establishment, disestablishment, and changes to boundaries of Conservation Areas, related to management and protection of wildlife and wildlife habitat (NLCA 5.2.34 (a)).
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- Identify wildlife management zones and areas of high biological productivity and provide recommendations to the Nunavut Planning Commission with respect to planning in those areas (NLCA 5.2.34 (b)).

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board – Habitat Related Functions ספיר וֹיברת מילס' ארבר אילס' ארבר של מונים ביינים בייני

- Approve plans for management and protection of particular wildlife habitats including areas within Conservation Areas, Territorial Parks and National Parks (NLCA 5.2.34 (c)).

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board – Habitat Related Functions ספיר בערים ערלי שבי שלים ערלי שבי שלים

- Provide advice regarding mitigation measures and compensation to be required from commercial and industrial developers who cause damage to wildlife habitat (NLCA 5.2.34 (e)).
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Habitat Management and Protection Workshop – Why?

- Increases in exploration and development of mining, oil and gas, and energy production projects.
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- Increases in shipping traffic, ecotourism, and commercial enterprises

Habitat Management and Protection Workshop – Why? ۵۲۵٬۵۲ ماکد^۲۲۵٬۶۱۲ م۱۲۶ مالات کا ۲۵٬۲۵۲ مالات **ΔC**⁶**σ**⁶**d**⁶**d**⁶**d** − d¹LC?

- Consequences to wildlife habitat quality, connectivity, and contiguity.
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- Increases in habitat contamination and pollution.
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Habitat Management and Protection Workshop - Why?

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- In the past the NWMB has generally left habitat management and protection to other land and resource management agencies.
- Maintain the necessary role of the Board, ensure sound
- management and protection of Nunavut's wildlife habitats.

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Habitat Management and Protection Workshop – Why?

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- Developing the program will help define the NWMB's role in the management and protection of Nunavut's wildlife habitat as set out in the NLCA.

Habitat Management and Protection Workshop – Goal

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- The principal goal is to bring together managers of habitat in Nunavut, to discuss habitat management and protection in Nunavut.

Habitat Management and Protection Workshop – Objectives

- Identify existing programs, initiatives, and associated knowledge gaps.
- Identify areas requiring intensified management and/or protection

Habitat Management and Protection Workshop – Objectives

- Identify goals for the management and protection of Nunavut's wildlife habitat.
- > a_a^5;_C D5°CD7° 4Dc°76°15° 4L_ 5>'F6°15° __a>°F DL74° a76°6°.
- Determine how NWMB's Habitat Management and Protection Program can help meet those goals.
- goals.

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- Determine how NWMB's Habitat Management and Protection Program can work effectively with current initiatives and programs.
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Habitat Management and Protection Workshop – Objectives

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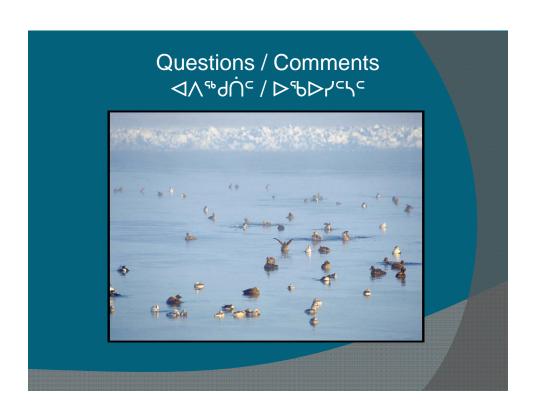
- Identify Regional Wildlife Organization and community concerns regarding habitat management and protection.
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Habitat Management and Protection Workshop – Objectives

- Determine how NWMB's Habitat Management and Protection Program can assist in addressing those concerns and needs.
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Habitat Management and Protection Workshop – Outcomes

- Written report summarizing workshop.
- Develop guidelines for NWMB's Habitat Management and Protection Program.



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NIRB Information Presentation for the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's Workshop on habitat management and protection in Nunavut

Iqaluit, January 16 & 17, 2014

לם *שפיי* בי של לפטרת אי פטראיני?

What is the NIRB?

- $\Delta \Delta^{\Gamma}$ Δ^{Γ} Δ^{Γ}
- The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) is an institution of public government responsible for environmental impact assessment of proposed projects in Nunavut







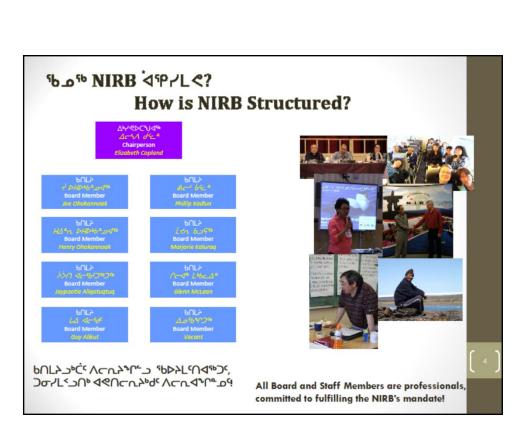
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What does NIRB do?

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NIRB's Mission is:

 To protect and promote the well being of the Environment and Nunavummiut through the Impact Assessment process



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- The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) is responsible to:
 - · Screen project proposals to determine whether or not a review is required
 - · Gauge and define extent of regional impacts
 - · Review ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts of project proposals
 - Determine whether project proposals should proceed, and if so, under what terms and conditions
 - · Monitor projects that have been approved to proceed







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- The NLCA (5.2.34) notes that the NWMB may provide advice to NIRB regarding mitigation measures and compensation to be required from commercial and industrial developers who cause damage to wildlife habitat
- Information made publicly available by the NWMB may help inform the NIRB's assessments





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What does NIRB do?

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NIRB's Mission is:

 To protect and promote the well being of the Environment and Nunavummiut through the Impact Assessment process



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What is Impact Assessment?

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- · Predict and understand potential effects of developments proposed
 - In the Nunavut Settlement Area
 - · All kinds of development
- · Provide ways to limit or reduce the impacts of proposed development

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What is Screening?

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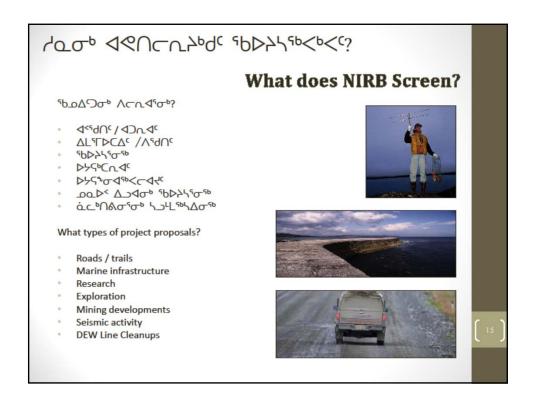
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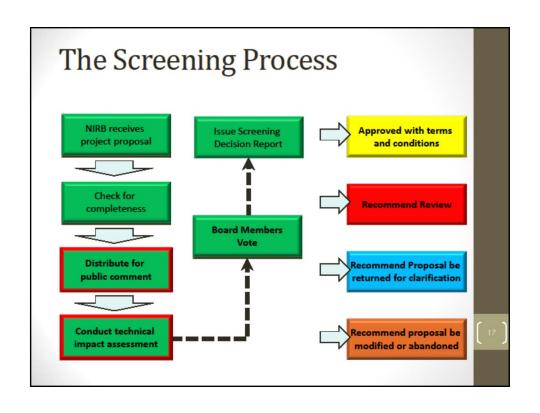
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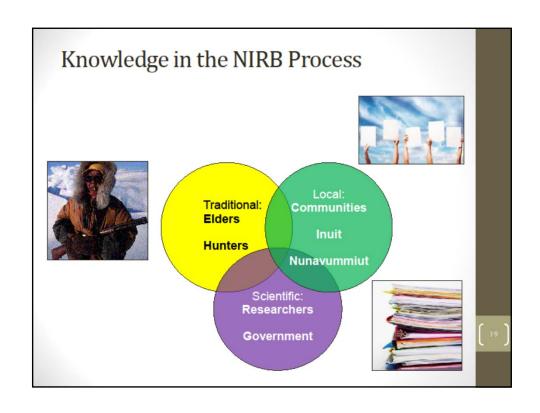
For the NIRB to determine whether or not a "Review" of the project is required – how?

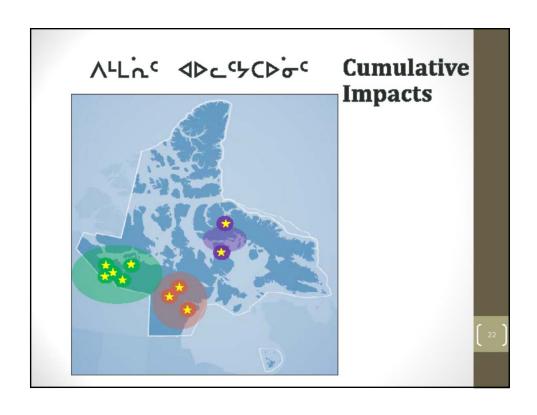
Main things to consider:

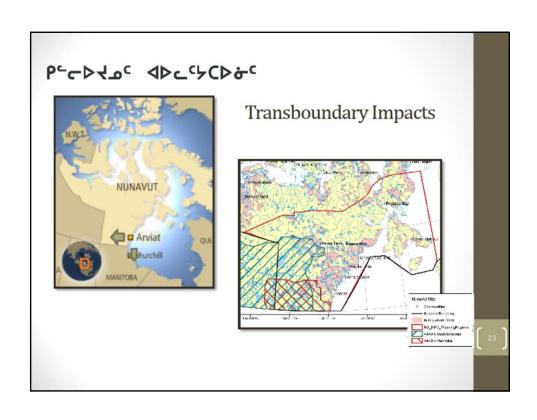
- Is there public concern?
 - Ask people in the communities, government, KIA
- Would there be impacts to Wildlife? Harvesting? People?
- Would the project use new technology that might have impacts we don't know much about?

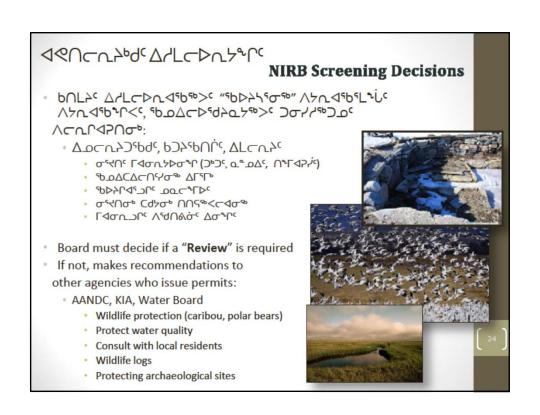


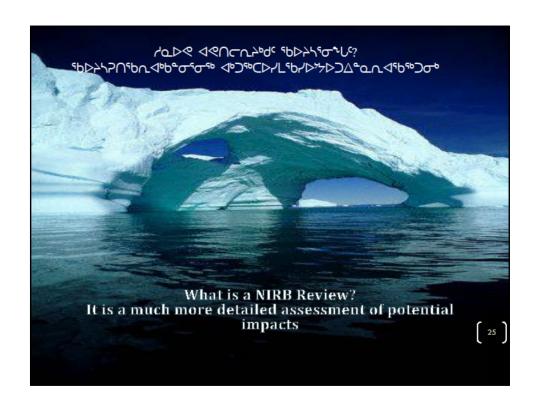


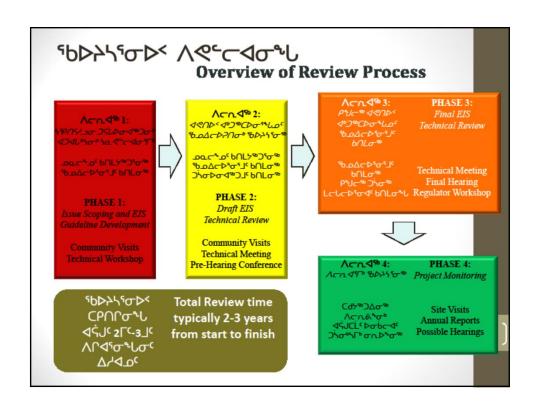
















NWMB and the NIRB

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- The NIRB may be able to utilize information from the NWMB on habitat or species

risk within its assessment of potential impacts

- Outcomes from this workshop are of interest to the NIRB













What we learn from other agencies and the public is very important to NIRB's Environmental Assessment process...

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Contact Us:

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NUNAVUT IMPACT REVIEW BOARD
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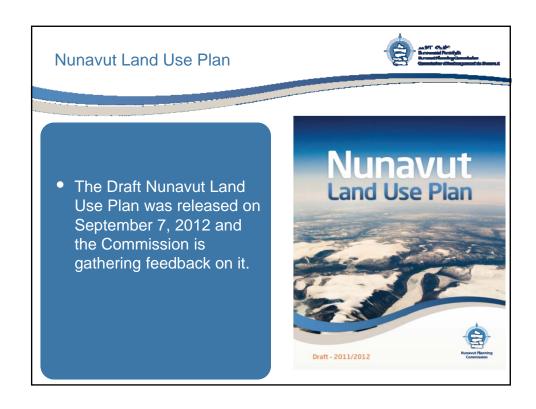
Presentation Overview

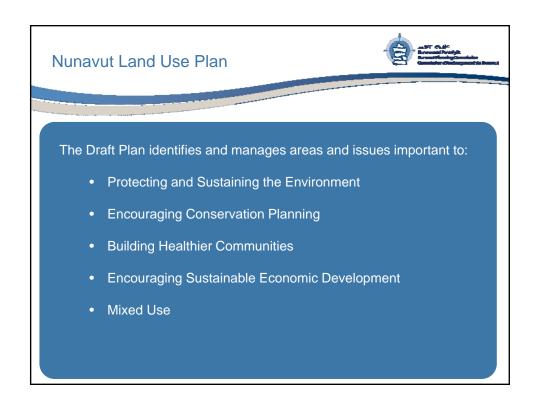


- Nunavut Planning Commission background info
- Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan
- Engagement/community meetings on the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan
- Key Dates









Engagement



The Commission has prepared two documents that outline how the Commission is engaging different groups:

- Community Engagement Strategy
 - How the Commission is engaging communities
- A Guide to Engagement
 - How the Commission is engaging government, NTI, RIAs, IPGs, industry, etc.

Community Meetings



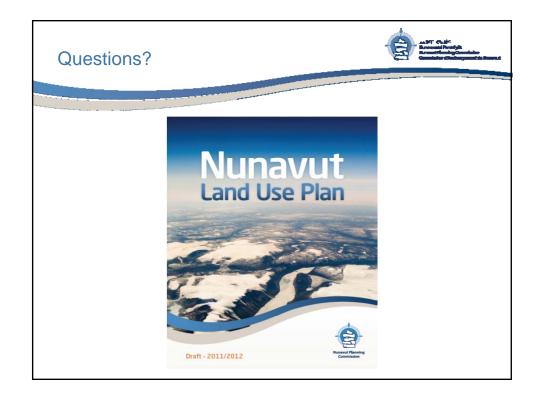
- The NPC is hosting workshops in every Nunavut municipality to gather feedback on the Draft Plan
- We have held community meetings and follow up visits in all 13 Qikiqtani Region communities, most of Kivalliq Region, as well as Nunavik.
- We will visit all Nunavut communities by the end of Spring 2014





In addition to community meetings, the following 4 phases were developed to guide the engagement of other interested parties: Phase 1: The Consultation Phase (September 2012 – May 2014) Meetings, workshops, and written submissions on the DNLUP Phase 2: Preparation for Public Hearing (June 2014 – November 2014) Revise Options and Recommendations document and circulate for review Phase 3: Public Hearing (November 2014) Discuss potential changes to the DNLUP Phase 4: Submission of a Final DNLUP (December 2014 – March 2015) Revise DNLUP in consideration of Public Hearing and submit for approval

Public Hearing Scheduled for November 2014 DNLUP Submission date March 2015



HUNTERS & TRAPPERS ORGANIZATIONS

Implementing the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement

Schedule 3 of the Implementation Contract

The Nunavut Final Agreement provides for the establishment of institutions of public government to fulfil lands and resources management functions related to wildlife management, land use planning, environmental assessment and the regulation of water use.

The Agreement provides for the creation of the NWNB, NPC, NIRB, NWB and SRT and also describes their functions, structures and interrelationships.

The Implementation Guidelines were prepared by the Implementation Planning Working Group (IPWG) to give initial guidance to those involved in the creation and early operations of the institutions of public government. In relation to the NWMB, the Guidelines are intended to provide an overview of the principles and objectives upon which the management of wildlife in the Nunavut Settlement Area is based, the mandate of the NWMB and its relationship to the other institutions of public government and to the Regional Wildlife Organizations (RWOs) and Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs).

The NWB, NPC, SRT, and NIRB, together with the NWMB, RWOs and HTOs all form part of a broader lands and resources management system operating in the Nunavut Settlement Area.

HTO Experiences with the Environmental Review Process

- Kugluktuk
- Baker Lake
- Rankin Inlet
- Pond Inlet
- North Baffin Communities
- Cooperation and Coordination
- Support from RIAs and NTI

Issues

- Participant Funding
- Caribou Protection Measures
- Monitoring and Enforcement of Land Use Permits
 - AANDC with Crown Land
 - RIAs with Inuit Owned Land
- Transboundary Issues
 - NWT
 - Manitoba & Saskatchewan

NIRB Process

- Community meetings and consultations
- Information Requests
- Intervener Status
- Technical Capacity
- Community Issues
- Impacts & Benefits

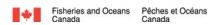


Fisheries Protection Program: an overview

January 2014

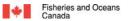
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Canada



Amendments to the Fisheries Act

- Amendments to the Fisheries Act passed through Parliament and received Royal Assent on June 29 and December 14, 2012
- All amendments have been in effect as of November 25, 2013
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is transforming its approach to fisheries protection in order to:
 - Focus the Act's regulatory regime on managing threats to the sustainability of Canada's commercial, recreational and Aboriginal fisheries;
 - Provide enhanced compliance and protection tools for these fisheries
 - Provide clarity, certainty and consistency of regulatory requirements through the use of tools such as standards and regulations; and
 - Enable enhanced partnerships with agencies and organizations that are best placed to provide fisheries protection services to Canadians.



Pêches et Océans Canada

Fisheries Protection Policy Statement

- Replaces the Policy for the Management of Fish Habitat
- Explains the fisheries protection provisions and outlines how DFO will implement these provisions, with emphasis on:
 - Serious harm to fish (Section 35 prohibition)
 - Scope of application of the prohibition
 - Framework for decision-making (Sections 6 and 6.1)
- Will be supported by more detailed policy and operational guidance

3





Pêches et Océans Canada

The new prohibition

- The 'Purpose' section 6.1 outlines the overarching purpose for decision-making under the Fisheries Protection sections:
 - to provide for the sustainability and ongoing productivity of commercial, recreational and Aboriginal fisheries.
- A new prohibition merges two previous sections (sections 32 and 35) into a single prohibition (section 35 (1)):
 - "No person shall carry on any work, undertaking or activity that results in <u>serious harm to fish</u> that are part of a <u>commercial</u>, <u>recreational</u> or <u>Aboriginal fishery</u>, or to <u>fish</u> that support such a fishery."

Canada

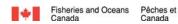
Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pêches et Océans Canada

Serious harm to fish

- The *Fisheries Act* definition of serious harm to fish is:
 - the death of fish, or a permanent alteration to, or destruction of fish habitat
- Authorization is required when projects are likely to result in a localized effect to fish populations or fish habitat in the vicinity of the project
- DFO's policy interpretation of serious harm to fish is:
 - the death of fish;
 - a permanent alteration to fish habitat that limits or diminishes the ability of fish to use such habitats as spawning grounds, or as nursery, rearing, or food supply areas, or as a migration corridor, or any other area in order to carry out one or more of their life processes;
 - the destruction of fish habitat that fish can no longer rely upon such habitats for use as spawning grounds, or as nursery, rearing, or food supply areas, or as a migration corridor, or any other area in order to carry out one or more of their life processes.

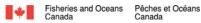
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Scope of application

- Most water bodies in Canada contain fish, or fish habitat, that are part of, or support, a commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fishery, and thus are subject to the prohibition against causing serious harm to fish
- Notwithstanding the above, some water bodies may be specifically excluded from the application of federal or provincial regulations
- Some water bodies may not contain fish or provide fish habitat that are part of or support commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fisheries. Such water bodies may not require authorization

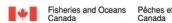


Framework for decision-making

- A new section 6 guides decision-making related to the Fisheries Protection Provisions
- Four factors must be considered by the Minister before making decisions:
 - a) the contribution of the relevant fish to the ongoing productivity of commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fisheries;
 - b) fisheries management objectives;
 - c) measures and standards to **avoid**, **mitigate or offset** serious harm to fish that are part of or support a commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fishery; and
 - d) the public interest.

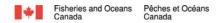
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Fisheries Productivity Investment Policy

- A proponent's guide to offsetting
- Purpose:
 - To provide guidance on undertaking effective measures to offset serious harm to fish that are part of or that support a commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fishery, consistent with the fisheries protection provisions of Canada's Fisheries Act and the Fisheries Protection Policy Statement.
- Emphasizes the hierarchy of measures for addressing serious harm to fish:
 - 1. Avoid
 - 2. Mitigate
 - 3. Offset



Authorization process

- Authorizations are required for projects that are likely to result in serious harm to fish
- A formal process for applying for authorizations follows information requirements and defined time limits set under Fisheries Act regulations
 - An information guide for proponents is available on the DFO website
- Authorizations will include conditions to avoid, mitigate and offset the serious harm to fish
- Failure to abide by these conditions will be a contravention of the Fisheries
 Act.

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Fisheries and Oceans Pêches et Océans Canada Pâches et Océans

Operational Approach

- Proponents encouraged to avoid and mitigate to the extent possible. Self assessment process on web: http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html
- Approach recognizes existing tools and technical resources to avoid impacts to fish and fish habitat
 - Provincial guides and Best Practices
 - Industry-based guidelines
 - Qualified Professionals

Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pêches et Océans Canada

Operational Approach

- Existing Protocols
 - Remain in place and should be referred to when needed.
- Contacting DFO
 - FisheriesProtection@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
 - 1 855 852-8320
 - http://www.dfo-mpo.qc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html

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Karin Clark Wildlife Biologist, Cumulative Effects, GNWT

NWMB Habitat Management and Protection Workshop Iqaluit, Jan 16-17, 2014



Habitat management

- Maintaining food, water, shelter and space for wildlife
- healthy habitat = healthy populations
- Challenge
 - other factors: predation, harvest, interactions with other species
 - changing environment: fires, thawing permafrost, new species, shrub growth
 - changing human land use: industry, community, individual

A number of factors drive the size and trend of wildlife populations



CE Management

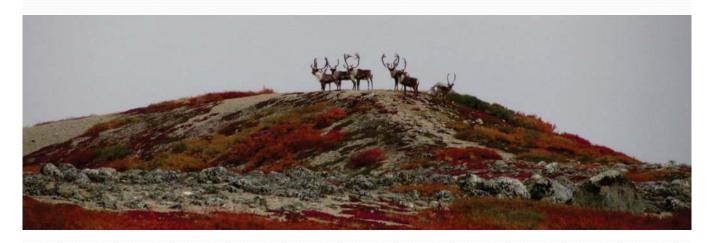
• CE outstanding action in a number of recent Environmental Assessments



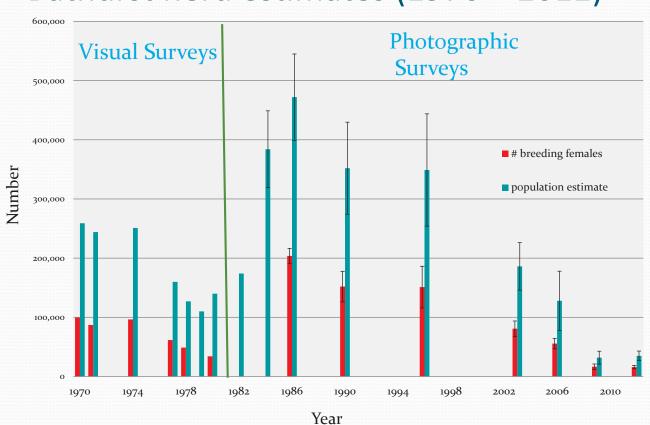


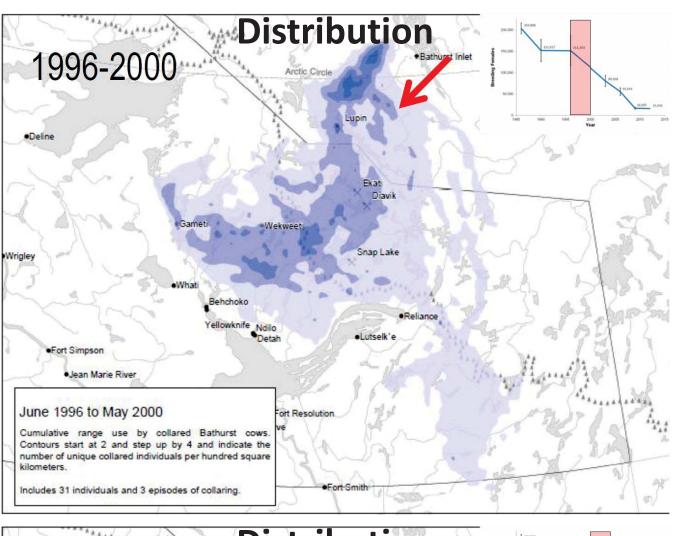
CE Management

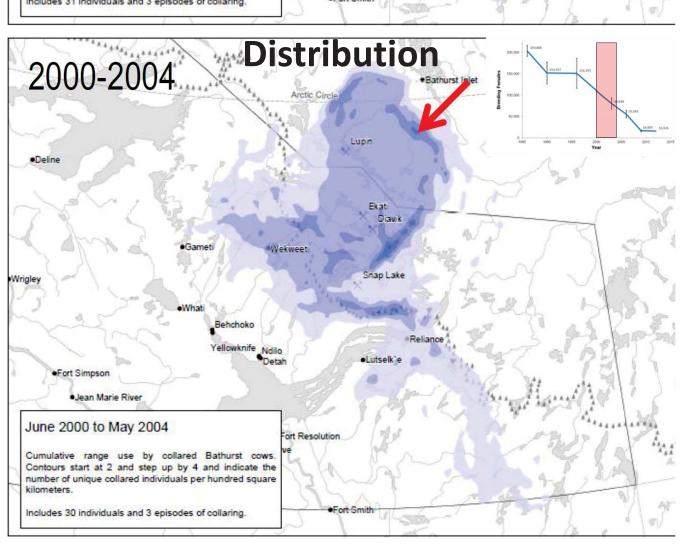
- March 2013 CE Workshop in Yellowknife
 - pilot project to develop CE management approach
 - Range of Bathurst caribou herd is priority
 - Focus on habitat related CE

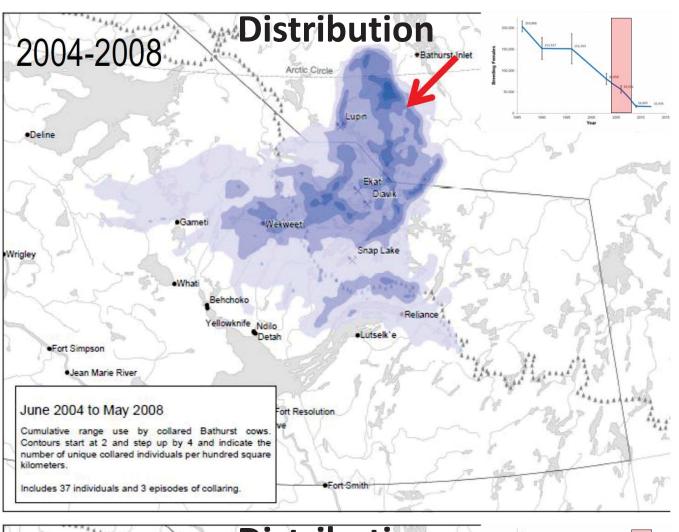


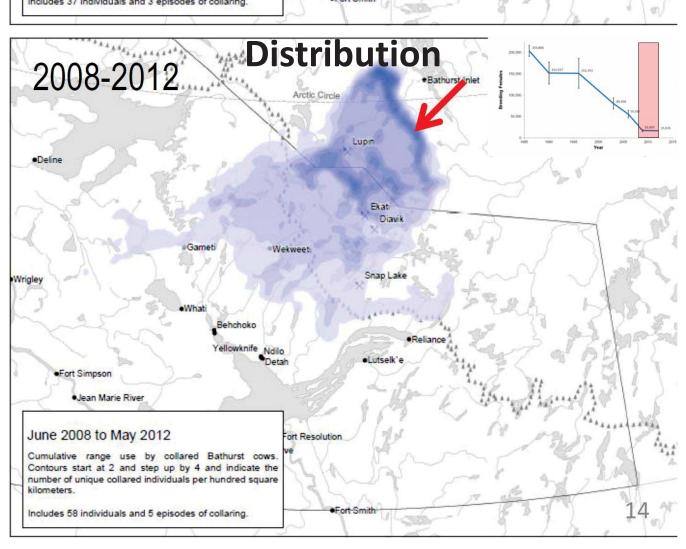
Bathurst herd estimates (1970 – 2012)

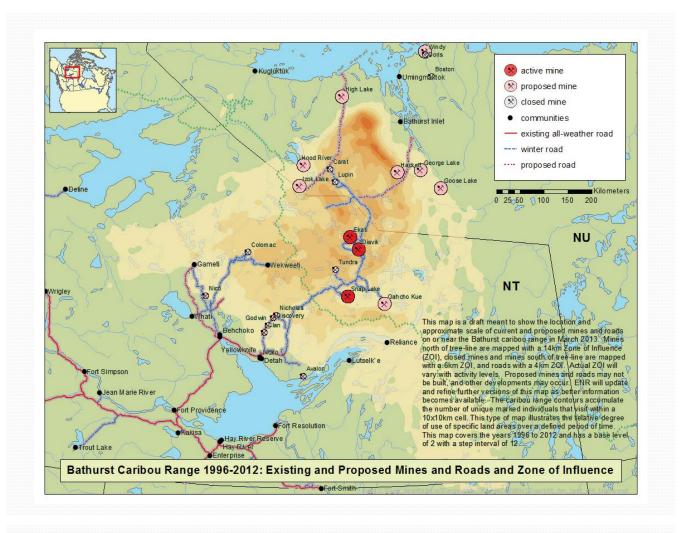












Wildlife Populations are Variable





Time

Range Plan

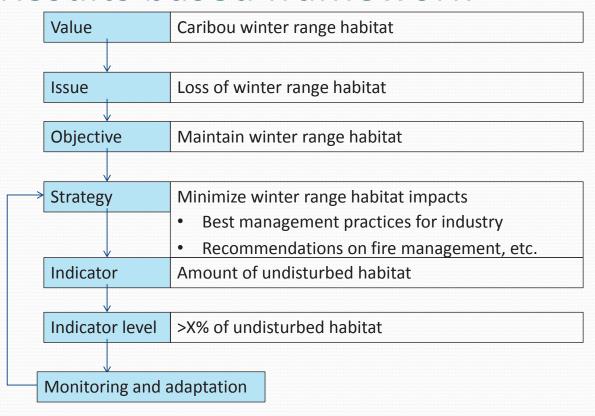
- Developed collaboratively
 - Industry, aboriginal governments, co-management boards, monitoring agencies, NWT/Nunavut Chamber of Mines, other government depts
 - GN, KHTO, KRWB, NTI participation
- Multi-year process
- Bathurst Range Plan completed by March 2016

Range Plan

- Guide monitoring and management of CE related to habitat disturbance on the range of the Bathurst herd.
- Results based



Results based framework



Range Plan

 May identify valued areas where particular strategies will be applied



Range Plan

- guide GNWT input into EAs and CEAs (including the calving grounds in Nunavut)
- increase certainty for developers operating on the range of the Bathurst herd.

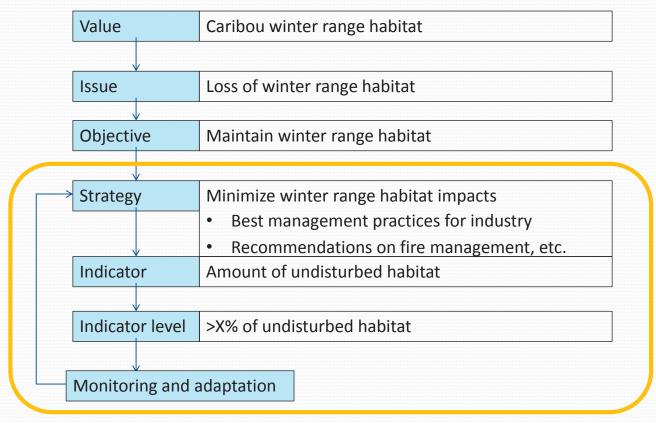


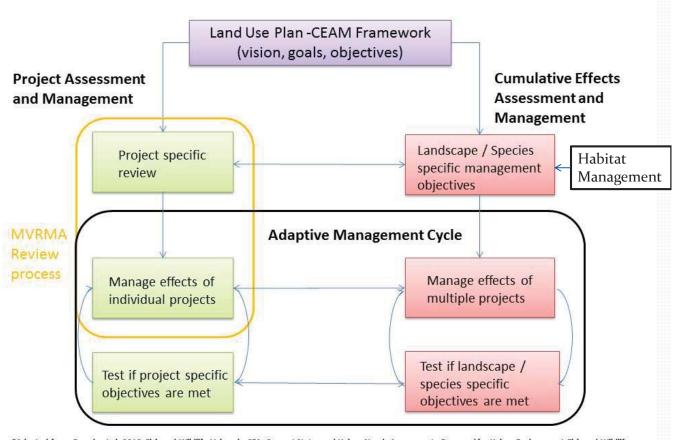
Other Processes

- Comprehensive Proposal for the Longterm management of the Bathurst caribou herd
 - Mechanism for shared management of the herd
- Industry site specific habitat protection plans
- Collaborative regional monitoring programs



Results based framework





^{*}Adapted from Francis et al. 2013. Fish and Wildlife Values in CEA: Current Status and Yukon Needs Assessment. Prepared for Yukon Environment Fish and Wildlife Management Branch. Whitehorse, 111 pp.

Conclusion

- Range/Habitat Management Planning – one component of GNWT approach to CE management
- shared wildlife populations = shared responsibilities
- continued partnerships and communications with Nunavut



Photo: J. Boulanger



Contact:

Karin Clark 867-920-3014 Karin_clark@gov.nt.ca



Nunavut General Monitoring Plan (NGMP)



Workshop on Habitat Management and Protection in Nunavut Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

January 16, 2014





What is NGMP?

A component of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement:

NLCA - Article 12.7.6 - Requirement that government, along with the Nunavut Planning Commission, develop and implement a general monitoring plan for the current and cumulative long-term state and health of the ecosystem and socio-economic environment of Nunavut.

Part of the Government of Canada's Action Plan to Improve Regulatory Regimes

An initiative overseen by a strong partnership:

Government of Nunavut

Nunavut Planning Commission

Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. Aboriginal Affairs and Northern
Development Canada











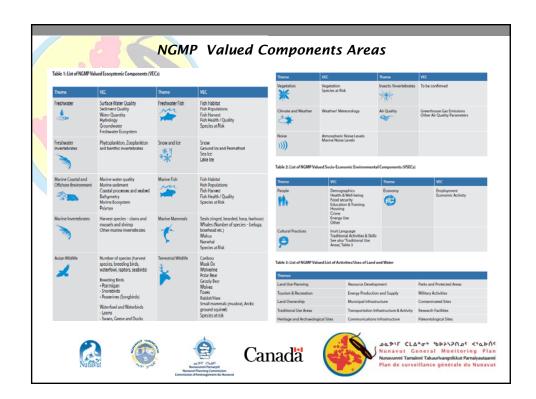
NGMP Data-capture, Collection and Sharing Components

- Nunavut General Monitoring Framework: Defining Nunavut's Ecosystemic and Socio-Economic Environment
 - Valued Ecosystemic Components
 - o Valued Socio-Economic Components
 - Valued Land Use/Water Use Components
- NGMP Inventory: the who, where, what, why, when and how
- NGMP Reporting: Summary of Knowledge, State of Nunavut's Environment











NGMP Data-capture, Collection and Sharing Components

- Projects Funded 2011-2012
 - o Total of \$1.165 million in funding
 - o 19 projects spanning all valued component areas
- Projects Funded 2012-2013
 - o Total of \$1.165 million in funding
 - o 15 projects
- Projects Funded 2013-2014
 - o Total of \$1.2 million in funding
 - o 19 projects







- · Outreach and Engagement
 - Validating local observations
 - Northern Environmental Monitoring System (CIMP & NGMP)
 - o Coming soon: www.ngmp.ca





Measuring Change in Nunavut through Monitoring



- · Setting development goals and objectives
- Applying knowledge obtained through monitoring in decision-making processes
- · Monitoring and measuring results
- Sustaining monitoring and evaluation efforts over time







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Thank you - ^ናძ৮° o. 广 - Merci



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