



What do the proposed changes to narwhal management mean for hunters?



Why We Need to Make Changes to the Narwhal Management System

- Increased national and international interest in how narwhal are managed in Nunavut
- Need to strengthen narwhal co-management consistent with:
 - Nunavut Land Claims Agreement
 - Available science and Inuit knowledge
 - Sustainable harvesting and international trade requirements



Why We Need to Make Changes to the Narwhal Management System

- Proposed changes fall into three areas:
 - Managing narwhal harvest by known summering areas, taking into account harvests from mixed stocks during annual migration
 - Harmonize narwhal management with the NLCA
 - Additional management measures to address management issues and strengthen co-management of the fishery

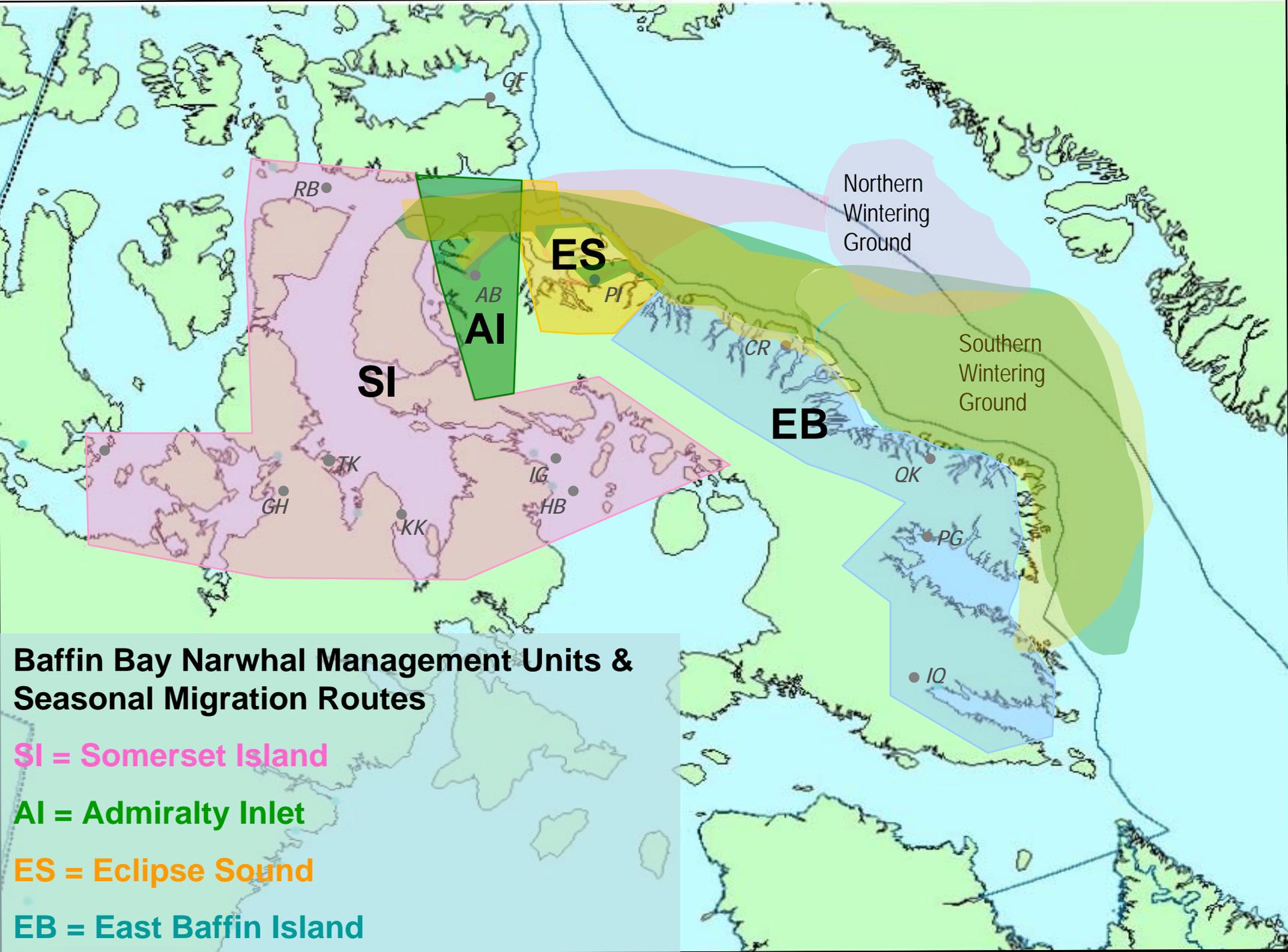


Outline

- The purpose of this session is to discuss:
 - Harvest limits in the new proposed Management Units
 - Management measures (existing and new) to support sustainable narwhal harvesting
 - When hunts would be closed
 - Harvest reporting procedures
 - Tusk certification procedures



Narwhal Migration



Baffin Bay Narwhal Management Units & Seasonal Migration Routes

SI = Somerset Island

AI = Admiralty Inlet

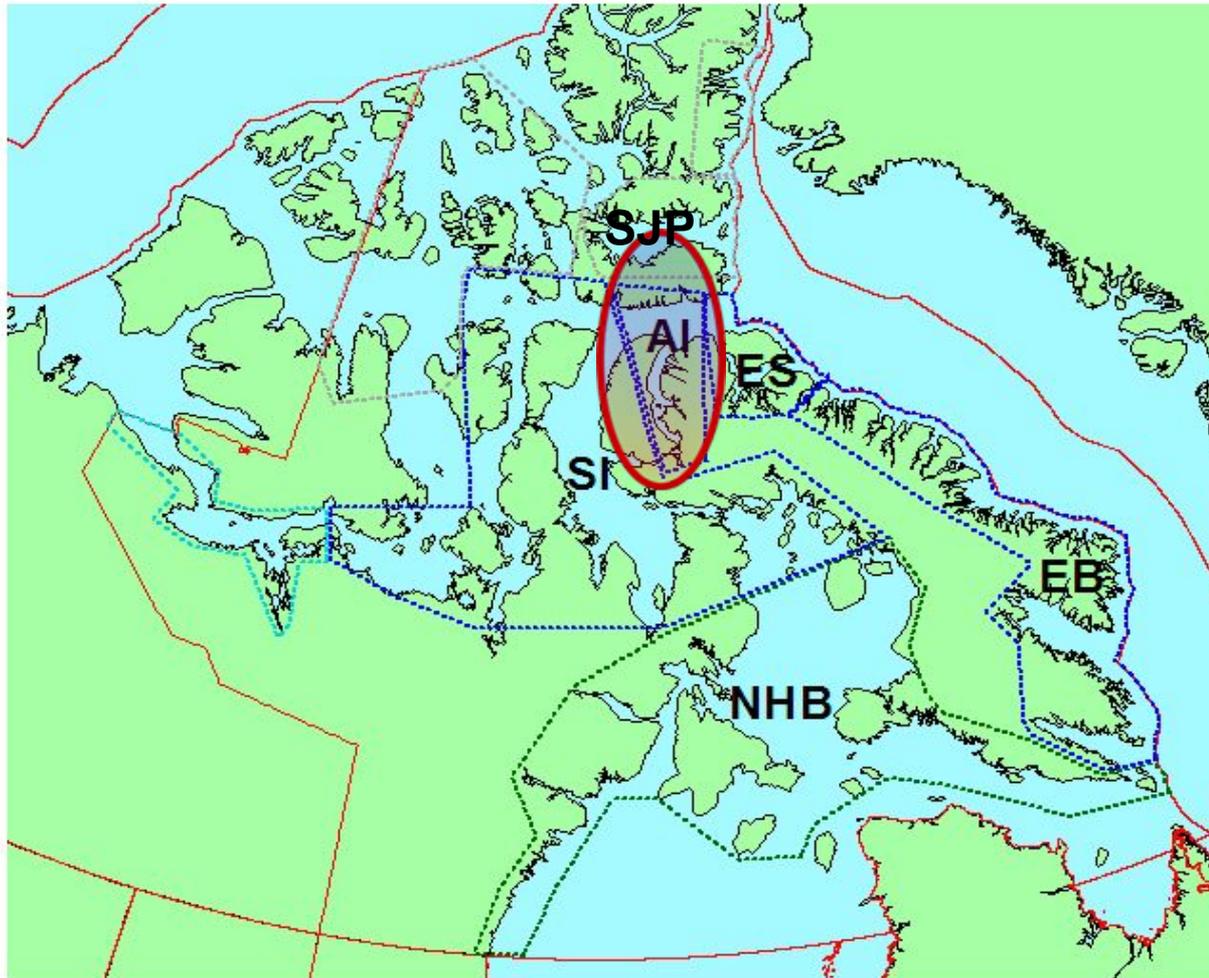
ES = Eclipse Sound

EB = East Baffin Island



How many narwhal can be harvested?

Proposed Boundaries for Narwhal Management Units



Baffin Bay Population

SI – Somerset Island

AI – Admiralty Inlet

ES – Eclipse Sound

EB – East Baffin

SJP – Smith and Jones Sound, Parry Channel

Northern Hudson Bay Population

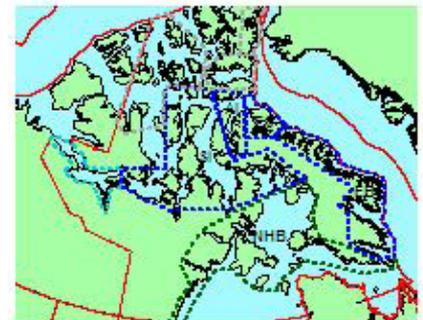
NHB – Northern Hudson Bay

Proposed Boundaries for the Admiralty Inlet Management Unit



Admiralty
Inlet
Community

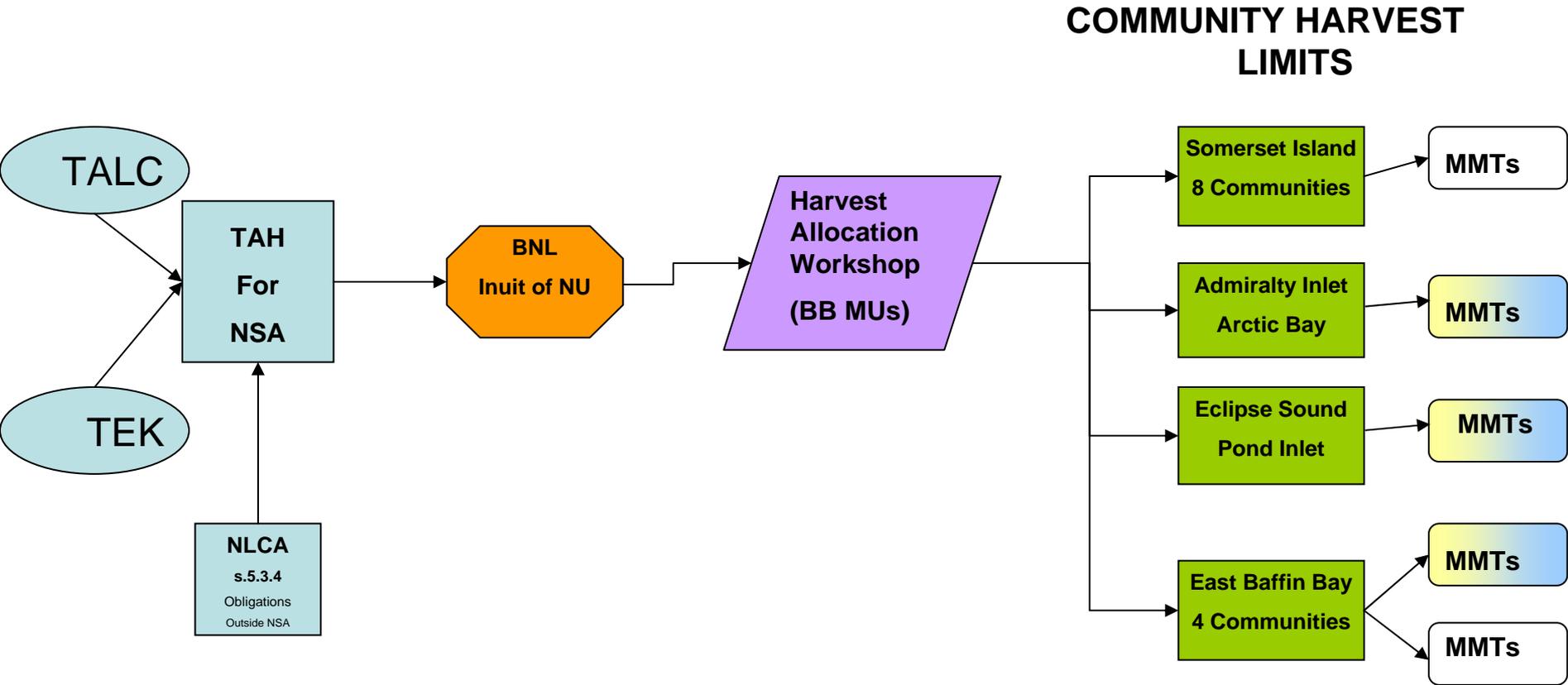
Arctic Bay



200 0 200 400 Miles



Harvest Allocation for Each Narwhal Management Unit



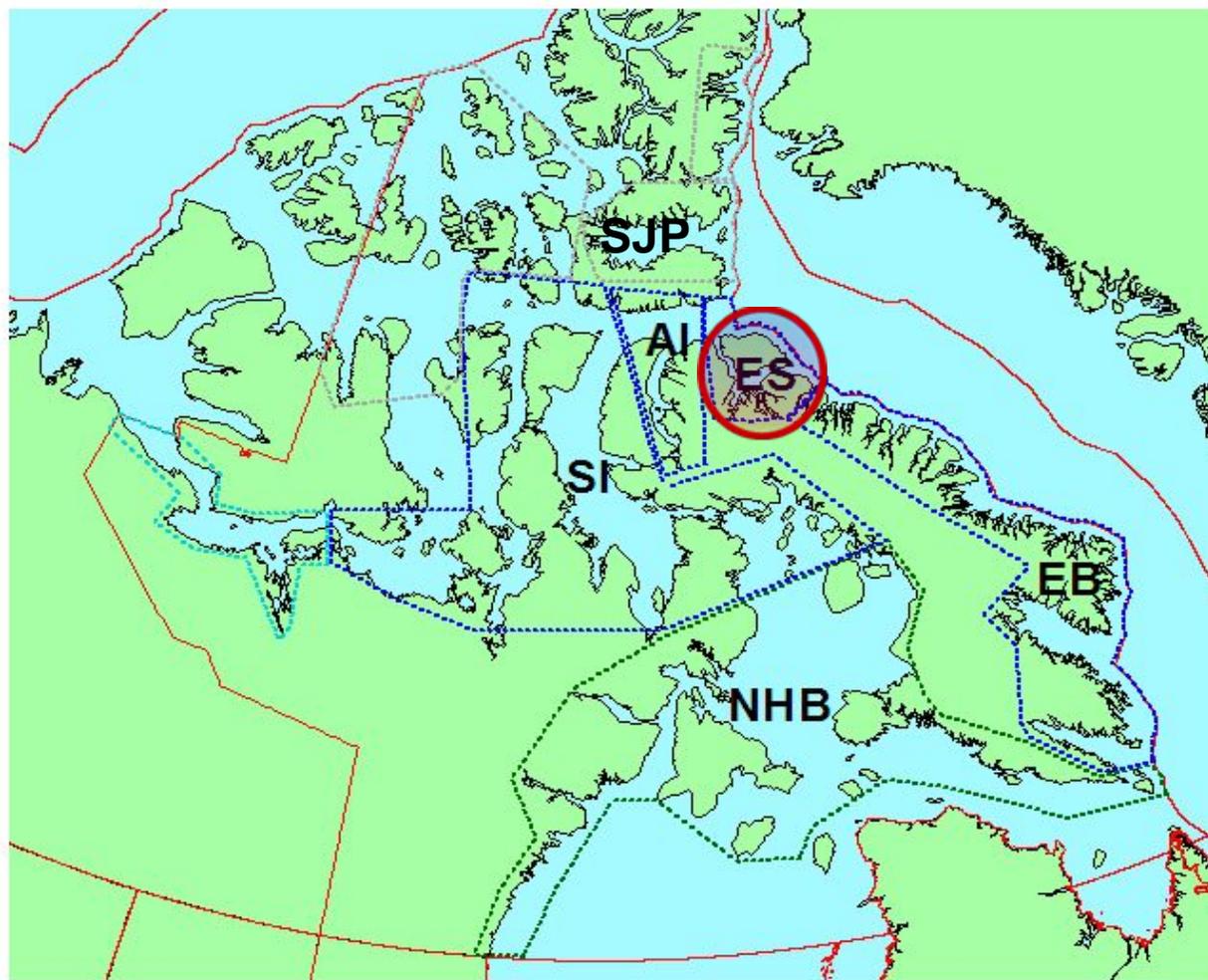


Community Harvest Limits

Management Unit	Community	Season*	Community Harvest Limit
Admiralty Inlet	Arctic Bay	Migratory (spring & fall)	A
		Summer	B

* Season dates will be determined by HTO

Proposed Boundaries for Narwhal Management Units



Baffin Bay Population

SI – Somerset Island

AI – Admiralty Inlet

ES – Eclipse Sound

EB – East Baffin

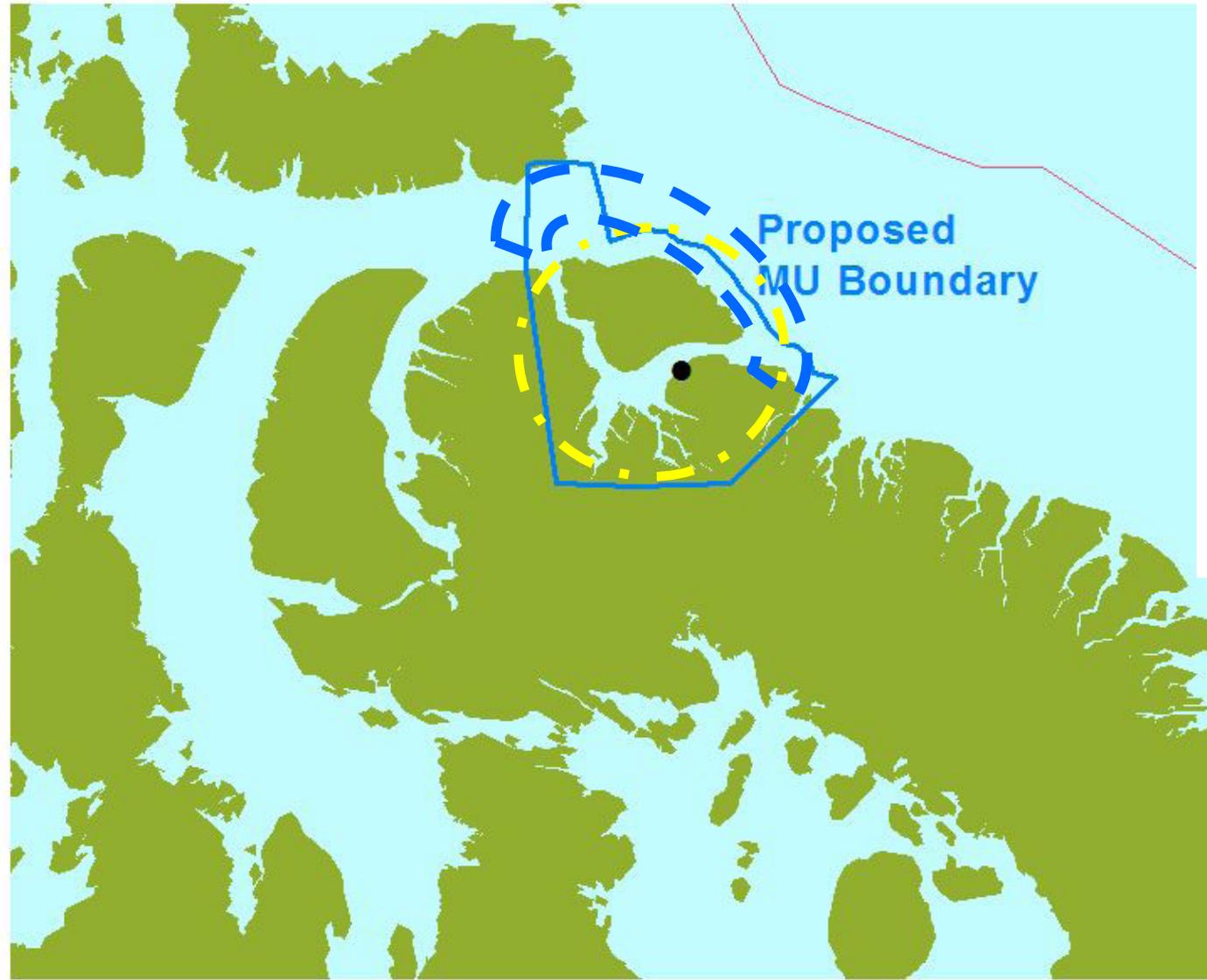
SJP – Smith and Jones Sound, Parry Channel

Northern Hudson Bay Population

NHB – Northern Hudson Bay

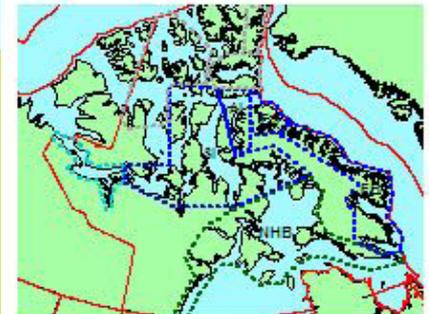
400 0 400 800 Miles

Proposed Boundaries for the Eclipse Sound Management Unit



Eclipse
Sound
Community

Pond Inlet

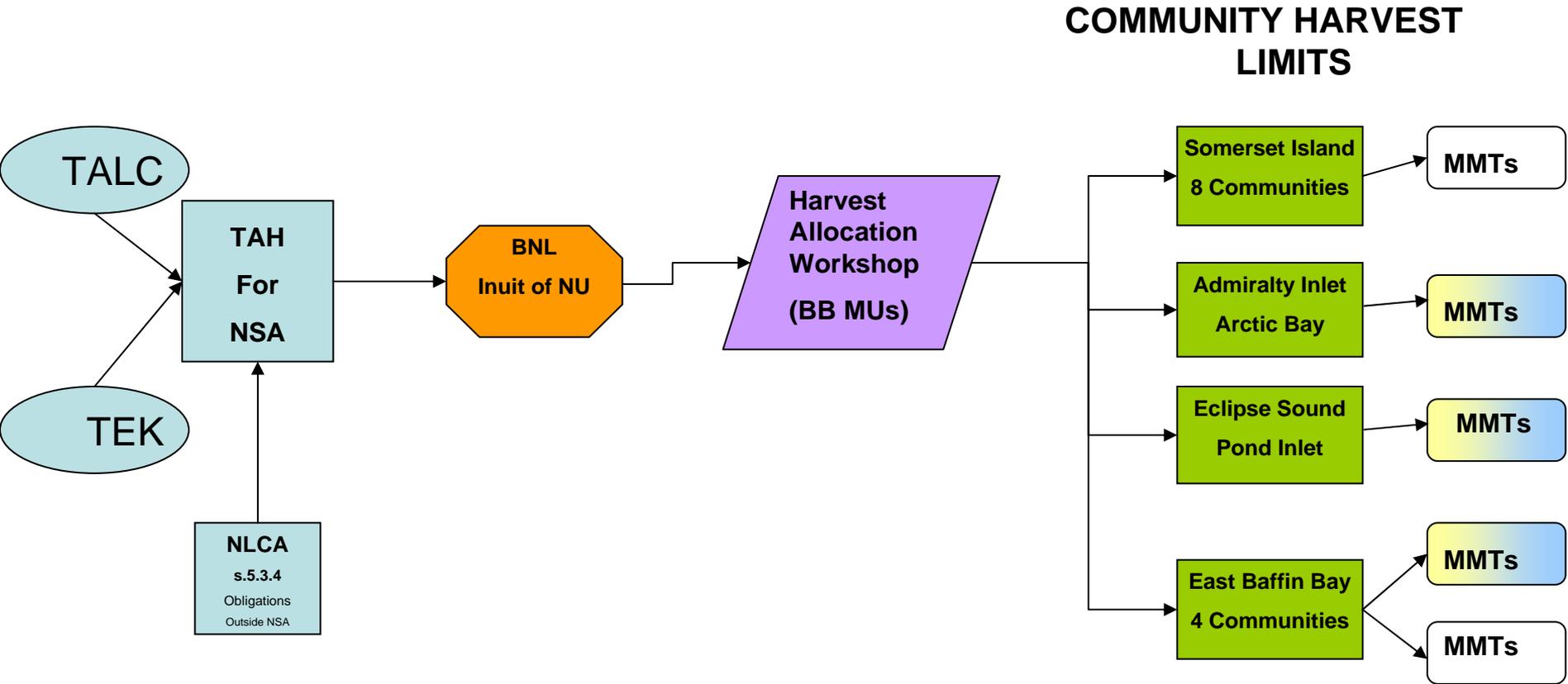


200 0 200 400 Miles





Harvest Allocation for Each Narwhal Management Unit



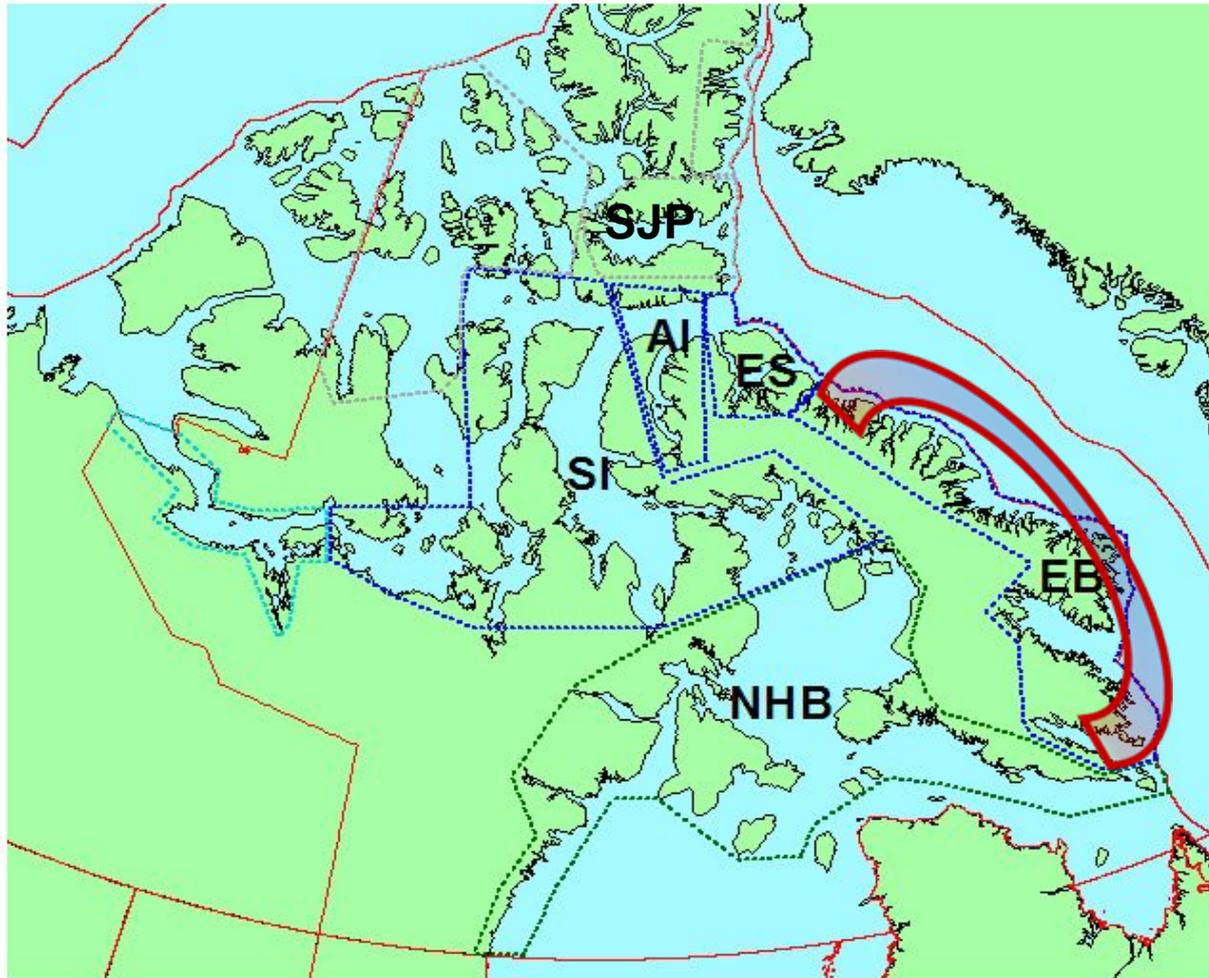


Community Harvest Limits

Management Unit	Community	Season*	Community Harvest Limit
Eclipse Sound	Pond Inlet	Migratory (spring & fall)	A
		Summer	B

* Season dates will be determined by HTO

Proposed Boundaries for Narwhal Management Units



Baffin Bay Population

SI – Somerset Island

AI – Admiralty Inlet

ES – Eclipse Sound

EB – East Baffin

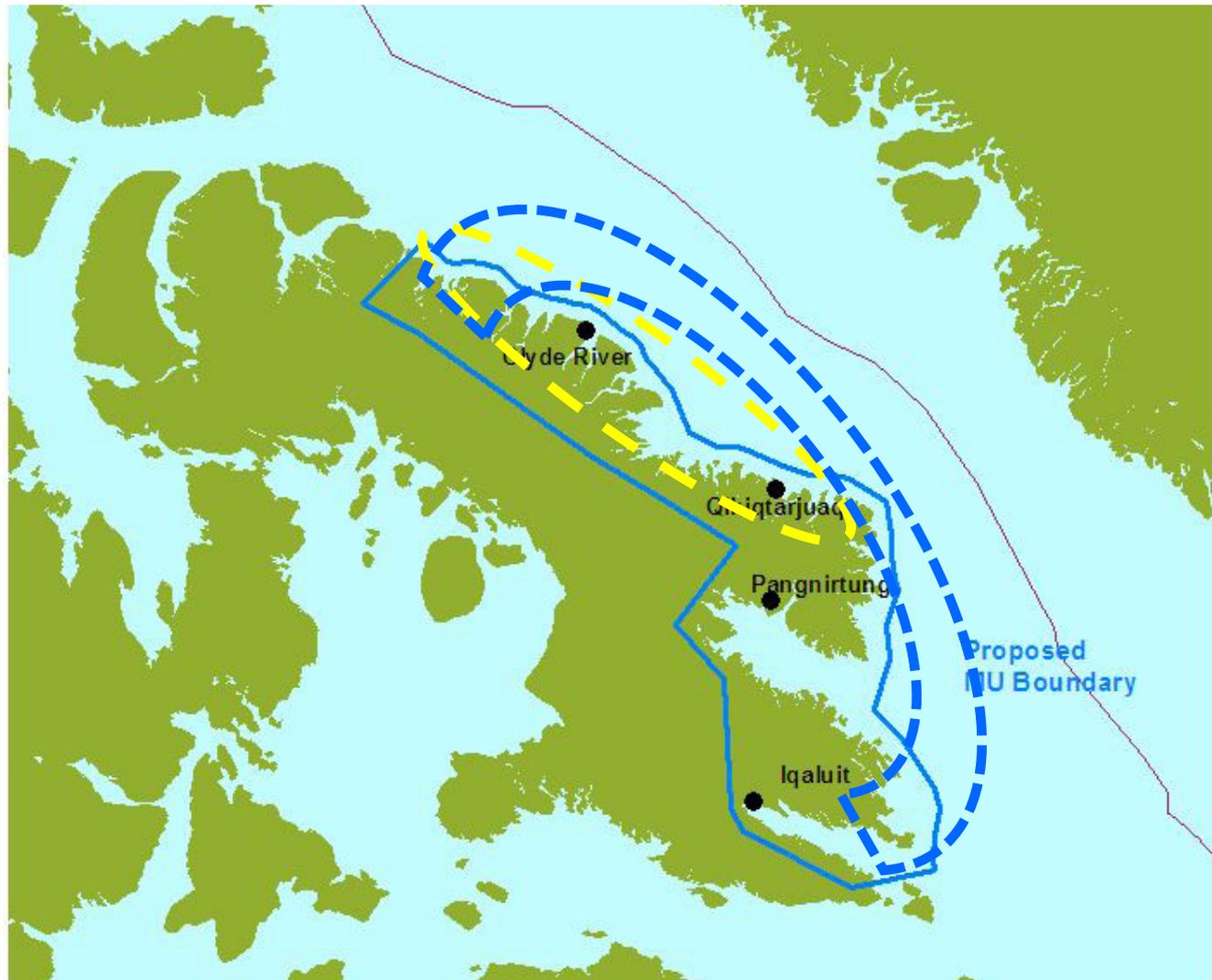
SJP – Smith and Jones Sound, Parry Channel

Northern Hudson Bay Population

NHB – Northern Hudson Bay

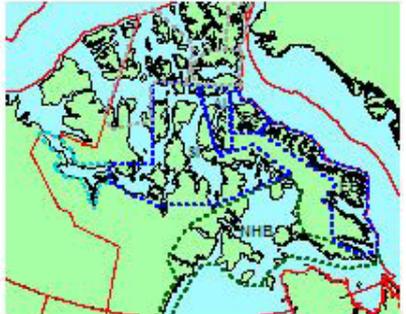
400 0 400 800 Miles

Proposed Boundaries for the East Baffin Island Management Unit



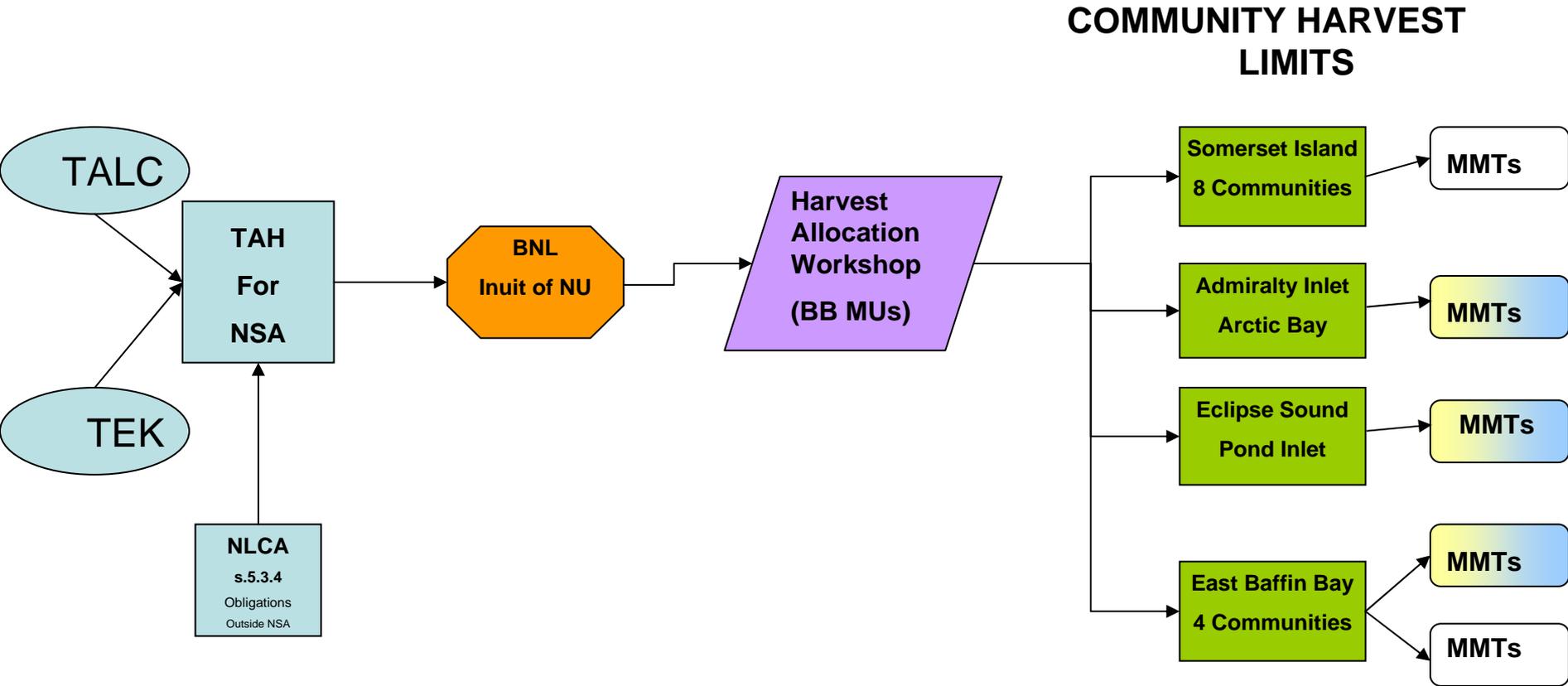
East Baffin Island Communities

- Clyde River
- Qikiqtarjuaq
- Pangnirtung
- Iqaluit





Harvest Allocation for Each Narwhal Management Unit





Community Harvest Limits

Management Unit	Community	Season*	Community Harvest Limit
East Baffin Island	Clyde River	Migratory* (spring & fall)	A
		Summer*	B
	Qikiqtarjuaq	Migratory* (spring and fall)	C
		Summer*	D
	Pangnirtung	All season	E
	Iqaluit	All season	F

* Season dates will be determined by HTO



What are the things that hunters need to do to ensure sustainable harvesting?



Marine Mammal Tags

- Narwhal hunters should pick up a Marine Mammal Tag from the HTO office prior to hunting
- Number of Marine Mammal Tags available will be equal to the Community Harvest Limit or regulatory quota



Marine Mammal Tags

When hunting narwhal,

- A Marine Mammal Tag is required to hunt narwhal (male and female)
- Each Marine Mammal Tag provides for harvesting of one narwhal (male or female)



Marine Mammal Tags

When Pangnirtung and Iqaluit are hunting,

- *Hunting can occur at any time during the year (April 1 – March 31)*
- *Hunting can occur only in the Management Unit identified on the Marine Mammal Tag.*



Marine Mammal Tags

When Arctic Bay, Pond Inlet, Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq are hunting narwhal,

- *If you have a Migratory Marine Mammal Tag, you can only hunt during the migratory period (spring or fall)*
- *If you have a Summer Marine Mammal Tag, you can only hunt during the summer period*
- *The dates will be clearly identified on the Marine Mammal Tag*
- *Hunting can occur only in the Management Unit identified on the Marine Mammal Tag*



Marine Mammal Tags

- Hunters need to return unused Marine Mammal Tags to the HTO at the:
 - end of spring hunt, and
 - end of summer hunt, and
 - end of fall hunt
- These dates will be established by the HTOs annually
- Once the unused seasonal Marine Mammal Tags are accounted for, the HTO will issue Marine Mammal Tags for the next hunt season



Management Measures to Reduce Loss Rates

- Hunters are required to have all necessary equipment on hand to retrieve a hunted narwhal
- Hunters that kill or wound a narwhal shall make all reasonable efforts to retrieve it without delay, and shall not abandon or discard it



Management Measures to Reduce Loss Rates

- Hunters are to use a firearm with the following restrictions:
 - A rifle and ammunition that is not full metal jacketed and produce a muzzle energy of not less than 1,500 foot pounds
 - A shotgun and rifled slugs that produce a muzzle energy of not less than 1,500 foot pounds
- Hunters shall not waste any edible part of a narwhal



Management Measures for Humane Harvest

- Hunters shall only kill a narwhal in a manner that is designed to kill it quickly



Management Measures to Protect Calves

- A narwhal calf or an adult narwhal accompanied by a calf cannot be hunted



When is narwhal hunting over for the year?



When is Hunting Over?

- Once the Community Harvest Limit (migratory, summer, all season) has been reached, no further hunting is allowed, unless authorized by the RWO, under the Marine Mammal Tag Transfer Policy
 - The RWO may approve transfer of Marine Mammal Tags between communities in the Management Unit
 - If approved, additional Marine Mammal Tags will be provided to the HTO, by the RWO, to allow hunting of additional narwhal



Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq – Summer Fishery Closed

For Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq, the summer hunt season will be closed when either of the following conditions is reached:

- The sum of the Summer Community Harvest Limits (for Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq) is reached, OR
- The summer hunt season established by the HTO is over



Clyde River – Migratory Fishery Closed

- The migratory season hunt will be closed when:
 - The Migratory Community Harvest Limit is reached (spring + fall = migratory Community Harvest Limit) OR
 - The migratory hunt season established by the HTO is over.



Qikiqtarjuaq – Migratory Fishery Closed

- The migratory season hunt will be closed when:
 - The Migratory Community Harvest Limit is reached (spring + fall = migratory Community Harvest Limit), OR
 - When the migratory hunt season established by the HTO is over



Pangnirtung and Iqaluit – Fishery Closed

For Pangnirtung and Iqaluit, the narwhal hunt will be closed when either of the following conditions is reached:

- The sum of the Community Harvest Limits (for all harvests by Pangnirtung and Iqaluit) is reached, OR
- The hunt season is over



Eclipse Sound Management Unit - Fishery Closed

- The migratory season hunt will be closed when either of the following conditions is reached:
 - the Migratory Community Harvest Limit is reached (spring + fall = migratory Community Harvest Limit) OR
 - the migratory hunt season established by the HTO is over
- The summer season hunt will be closed when either of the following conditions is reached:
 - the Summer Community Harvest Limit is reached OR
 - the summer season established by the HTO is over



Admiralty Inlet Management Unit - Fishery Closed

- The migratory season hunt will be closed when either of the following conditions is reached:
 - the Migratory Community Harvest Limit is reached (spring + fall = migratory Community Harvest Limit) OR
 - the migratory hunt season established by the HTO is over
- The summer season hunt will be closed when either of the following conditions is reached:
 - the Summer Community Harvest Limit is reached OR
 - the summer hunt season established by the HTO is over



How should narwhal harvests be reported and tusk certified?



Harvest Reporting and Tusk Certification

Once a narwhal is harvested the following procedures should be followed:

Narwhal without a tusk

- Marine Mammal Tag is filled out by the hunter
- Marine Mammal Tag is attached to carcass by the hunter
- Marine Mammal Tag return portion is returned by the hunter to the HTO office and all harvest information is recorded by the HTO



Harvest Reporting and Tusk Certification

Narwhal with a tusk

- Marine Mammal Tag is filled out by the hunter, leaving tusk length blank
- Tusk is removed from skull by the hunter
- Tusk and Marine Mammal Tag are brought to the Wildlife Officer or Fishery Officer for tusk measurement
- The Officer will measure the tusk, record the tusk length on the Marine Mammal Tag and then sign the Marine Mammal Tag for certification



Harvest Reporting and Tusk Certification

Narwhal with a tusk

- The Officer will attach the Marine Mammal Tag to the tusk using a permanent attachment device
- The hunter will then bring the tusk (with complete Marine Mammal Tag and permanent attachment device) to HTO office
- HTO will remove the return portion from Marine Mammal Tag and record all the harvest information



HTO Harvest Reporting

- The HTO records all harvest information from hunters and
 - Provides DFO with a completed summary of Marine Mammal Tag Returns monthly
 - Advises the RWO and DFO when the Community Harvest Limit is reached
- Returns all used Marine Mammal Tag returns and unused (if any) Marine Mammal Tags to DFO for verification and reconciliation once each hunt season is over



Exporting Tusks

- Possession of untagged tusks is illegal
- Tusks that are destined for export outside of the Territory need to be inspected and certified by a Wildlife Officer or Fishery Officer
- A Marine Mammal Transportation Licence is required to transport your tusk out of Nunavut. It is free and can be obtained from a Wildlife or Fishery Officer
- To export tusks outside of Canada, a CITES Export Permit is required. Contact the DFO CITES Management Authority (613) 949-8562



What do Hunters Need to do so Tusks can be Sold and Legally Exported?

- Demonstrate good stewardship
 - Don't harvest above established harvest limits
 - Follow Marine Mammal Tag requirements and management measures
 - Report all harvests (male and female) – timely and accurately
 - Respect local hunting rules as set by your HTO
- Adopt procedures for tusk certification



Information Booklets

DFO will develop an information booklet annually which will identify:

- Community Harvest Limits
 - Marine Mammal Tag requirements and procedures
 - Management Measures
 - Harvest Reporting procedures
 - Tusk certification and export procedures
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- HTOs should provide information booklets to all narwhal hunters prior to the hunting season



Narwhal Hunting in Nunavut

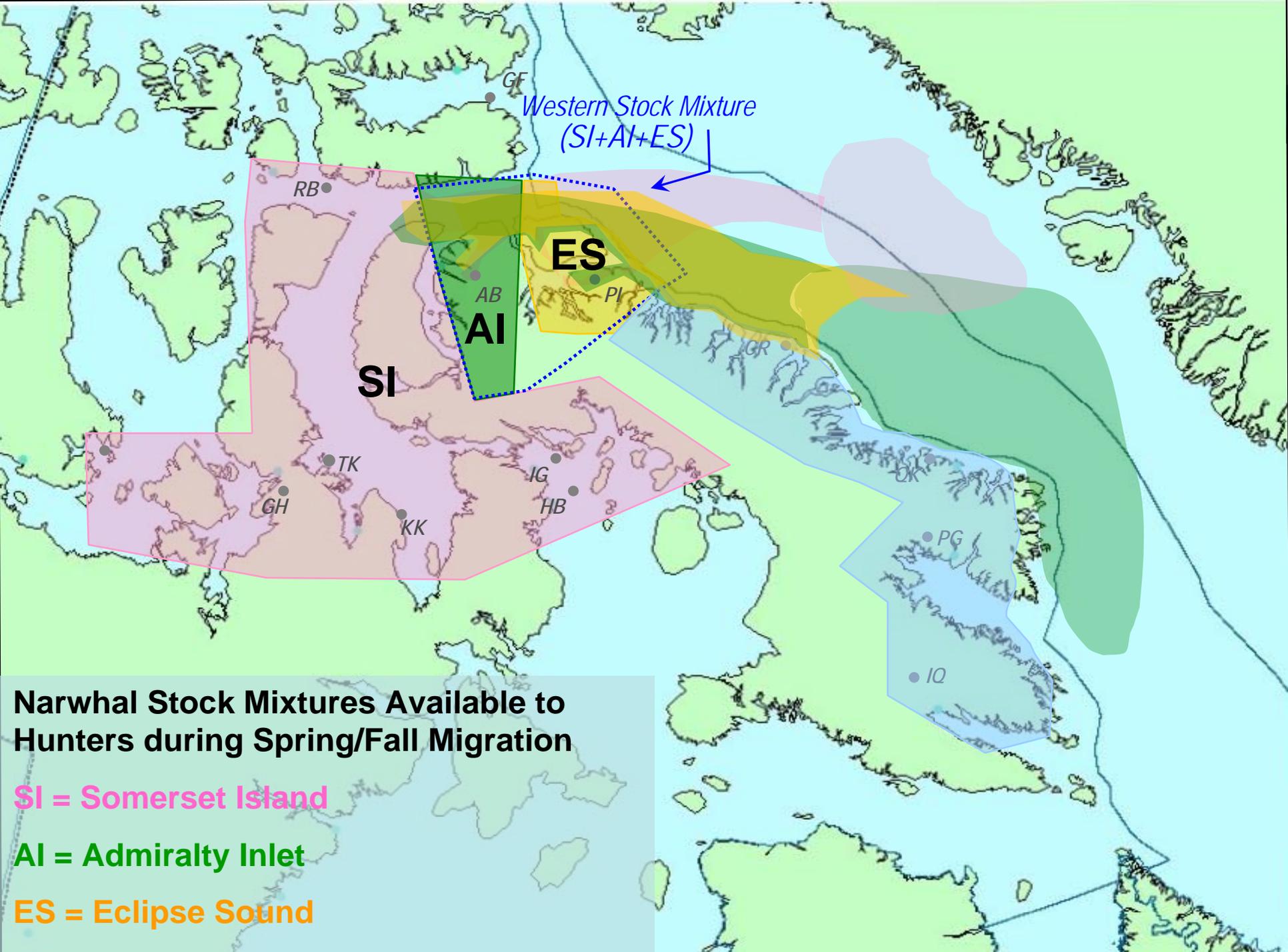
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Canada



- Comments or questions?

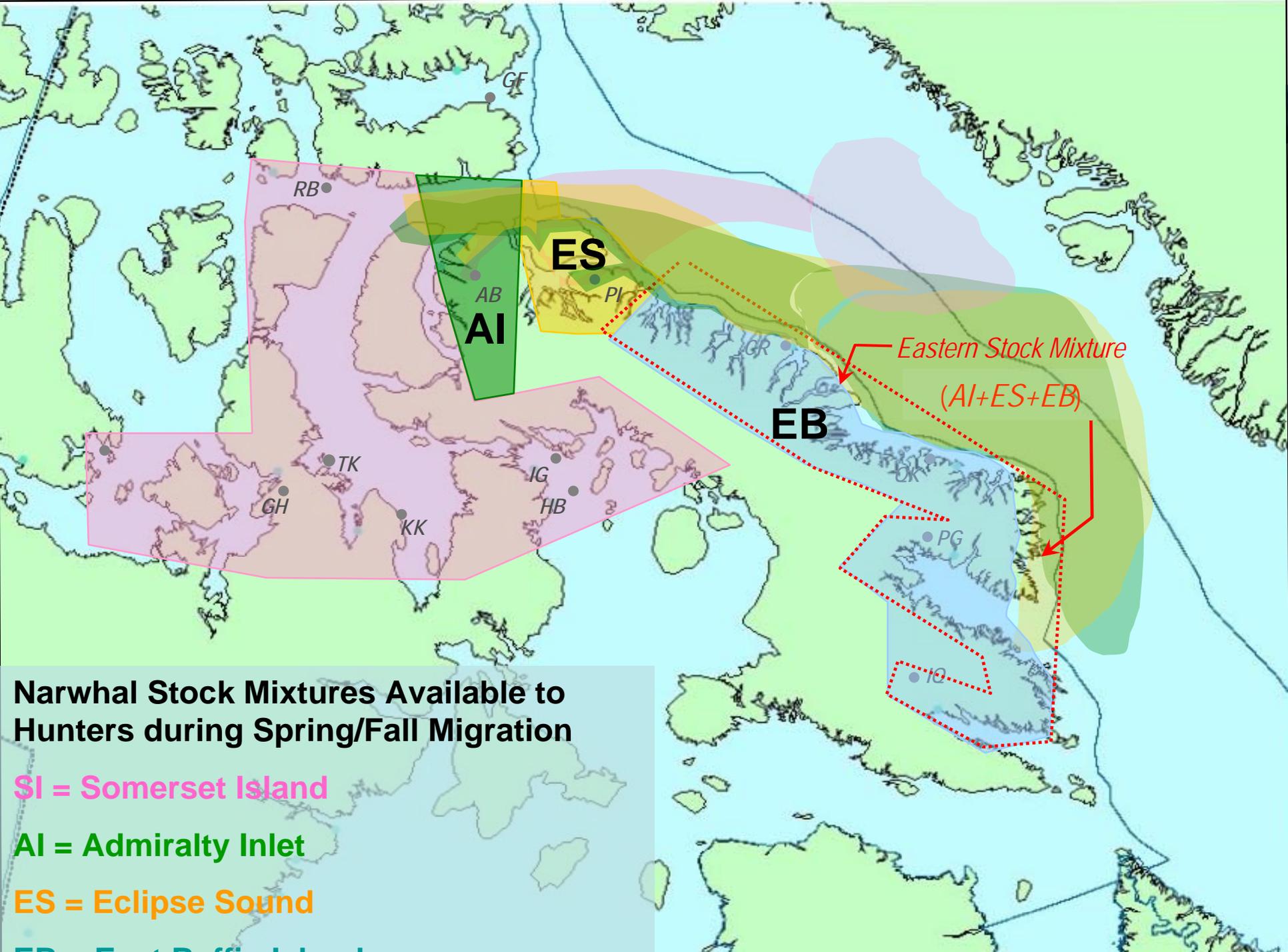


Narwhal Stock Mixtures Available to Hunters during Spring/Fall Migration

SI = Somerset Island

AI = Admiralty Inlet

ES = Eclipse Sound



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