

SUBMISSION TO THE
NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD
July 2017

FOR

Information: X

Decision:

Issue: Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada Updates

Updates:

Marine Mammals:

1) Narwhal:

- The 2017/18 narwhal tags (including carryover tags) and information packages have been distributed to all communities

2) Walrus:

- A total of 17 Walrus Sport Hunt licences have been issued for this season.
- Four licences for Hall Beach; 11 for Coral Harbour and two for Iqaluit.

3) Cumberland Sound Beluga:

- The Aerial Survey crew arrived in Pangnirtung on July 25th and the survey is scheduled to run until August 20th.
- A sampling contract was also created between the HTO and DFO to collect biological samples in an effort to obtain genetic evidence of the second group of whales, which is thought to enter Cumberland Sound

Arctic Char:

1) Pangnirtung Fishery

- An exploratory license was issued to the HTO on May 3, 2017
- Anticipated Start date of the summer fishery is the beginning of August

2) Pond Inlet Emerging Arctic Char Fishery:

- The Pond Inlet Exploratory Arctic Char Fishery was licensed on July 28, 2017. Fishing was planned to start mid-July.
- DFO Fisheries Technician will be participating with this year's summer sampling

Greenland Halibut (Turbot):

1) Cumberland Sound Turbot Fishery

- Turbot fishing began on February 3, and the final landing at the fish plant was on May 16. 449 tonnes (t) was harvested by 60 fishers. This is more fish than was harvested in the 2015 or 2016 ice Turbot fisheries.
- The licence for the 2017 Cumberland Sound small vessel Turbot fishery was issued on July 28, 2017. The licence is for 50.605t of Turbot, which is the remainder of the 500t Total Allowable Harvest after the ice fishery. As of July 28 there is one vessel on the licence.

2) Offshore Fishery:

- Baffin Fisheries Coalition fished some of their Division 0B Greenland Halibut quota in January 2017; apart from this, fishing in Division 0B began in late May for trawlers and mid-June for gillnetters. As of July 28 fishing had not begun in Division 0A.
- The 0B Competitive fishery for the Division 0B 900t Fixed Gear Quota opened on June 28 and closed on July 8. The reported catch was 860t. This number is preliminary and may change once landings reports are received by DFO. Based on previous years, the number is expected to increase slightly.

Northern Shrimp:

- For Nunavut fishing industry in shrimp fishing areas adjacent to Nunavut: fishing in Management Units Davis Strait East and West began in late June; fishing in Shrimp Fishing Area 1 began in late July; and as of July 28 fishing had not begun in Management Units Nunavut East and West.

Prepared by: Central and Arctic Region – Fisheries and Oceans Canada

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