

SUBMISSION TO THE NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR DECISION
Meeting 002-2026

Issue:

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) is proposing to repeal subsection 10(1), and amend subsection 18(2) of the *Northwest Territories Fishery Regulations* (NWTFR). Because this proposal could be seen as changing non-quota-limitations on harvesting in the Nunavut Settlement Area, DFO is seeking the Board's concurrence in accordance with the process established in the *Nunavut Agreement*.

Background:

A number of potential minor amendments to the NWTFR were identified by DFO following informal partner feedback and internal reviews.

The prohibition against the disposal of dead fish or any remains or offal in water or on ice found in subsection 10(1) of the NWTFR is proposed to be repealed. This provision has no current application because the disposal of dead fish or any remains on land can cause health and safety concerns.

Subsection 10(1) of the NWTFR reads as follow:

No person shall dispose of dead fish or any remains or offal of fish by leaving it in the water or on ice over the water.

The method to determine mesh size for nets, specified in subsection 18(2) of the NWTFR, is proposed to be updated by removing the requirement that the measurement be made after the net be immersed in water for at least 30 minutes. The requirement for immersion prior to measurement addresses stretching of cotton nets. However, cotton nets are generally no longer used. Subsection 18(2) of the NWTFR reads as follows. The provision would be amended by removing the requirement that the twine be immersed prior to measuring.

For the purpose of subsection (1) or any licence condition, the mesh size of a net shall be determined by measuring the distance between the extreme angles of a single mesh inside and between the knots ~~after the twine has been immersed in water for at least 30 minutes and extended until straight without stretching or straining the twine or slipping a knot.~~

Consultations:

No consultations were conducted given the low impacts of the potential amendments.

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