

Interim Project Report

NWRT Project Number: **#2-13-33**

Project Title: **Nunavut Coastal Resource Inventory**

Project Leader:

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Summary

The goal of a community-based coastal resource inventory (CRI) is to gather and record information on coastal resources and coastal activities found in and around the community. This would include information gained from community interviews and IQ, scientific research, visual surveys, reports, etc., and would help build Nunavut's coastal knowledge-base.

This project focuses on the completion of coastal resource inventories for remaining communities in Nunavut. Such an inventory will assist in advancement of management and conservation and economic development priorities, primarily in the areas of fisheries and marine mammal management and conservation, tourism, and fishery and marine resource development and diversification. The additional information on coastal resources, available for use in easy to use map format, will help to identify management and conservation needs and potential community economic development projects that could in turn lead to the furthering of community capacity through training and employment generation.

Project Objectives

The overall objective is to complete a CRI in all Nunavut communities. As of March 31, 2013, a total of 12 communities were completed, with three more facing completion in 2013/14. Plans are to complete additional communities at a rate of two to three per annum, depending on costs.

Other NCRI objectives include:

1. Identify and obtain existing information and sources about coastal resources from reports, documents, maps, and from agencies, organizations and departments (such as Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB), Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Department of

Culture Language Elders and Youth (CLEY), Department of Economic Development and Transportation (EDT), Department of Environment (DOE), Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI), National Research Council (NRC), scientific institutes, etc).

2. Identify and record IQ through discussion and documentation from local residents.
3. Produce a useable database of coastal resources, utilizing GIS (Geographic Information System) capabilities, for resource management, economic development and conservation.
4. Identify information gaps in the existing knowledge base and determine opportunities for future research and economic development.
5. Attempt to integrate IQ and modern science using overlays, reference points, and data collaboration.
6. Produce and publish informational materials, on the project including methodology, results, and analysis of the information collected.

Materials and Methods

With support received from the NWRT, a CRI is scheduled to be completed in Coral Harbour in February 2014. Additional funding from DFO and the GN DoE will also allow for CRI's to be completed in Clyde River and Taloyoak in the 2013/2014 fiscal.

To complete a CRI, the main source of information and knowledge will be collected by community interviews. The interview personnel usually consist of the following: the interviewee (a local hunter or elder knowledgeable in marine species), a local interpreter, one interviewer, one to two note takers and a local student intern. There is a standard list of questions to answer as well as any and all information community members feel is important to note. Interviews involve collecting both spatial and anecdotal species information from the interviewee by means of drawing areas of occurrence, migration routes, etc. on a large base map of the coastal area surrounding the community and by taking detailed notes. Community members will also be asked to locate locations of specific activities such as species breeding grounds, hunting routes, etc, and to comment on trends in distribution, abundance, predation, animal behavior, etc. With permission from the interviewees, all interviews are recorded using both video and audio. All information is then mapped spatially and summarized in a final report.

Project Schedule

The project is currently on course to be completed by the NWRT deadline. Date changes to milestones and status updates are outlined in the table below.

	Start date (dd/mm/yyyy)	End date (dd/mm/yyyy)	Status
1. Community Identification for 2013/14 – Coral Harbour	01/09/2013	30/09/2013	Complete
2. Community Consultation – Coral Harbour	01/11/2013	25/11/2013	Complete
3. Literature Search	01/10/2013	31/01/2014	In progress
4. Community-based Interviews - Coral Harbour	10/02/2014	14/02/2014	Scheduled February 10-14, 2013
5. Data Analysis and GIS	20/02/2014	15/05/2014	TBC following interviews
6. Report Preparation	16/05/2014	15/09/2014	TBC following interviews
7. Final Financial Report to NWMB		30/06/2014	TBC by June 30, 2014
8. Delivery of Final Report to NWMB		30/09/2014	TBC by September 30, 2014
9. Presentation and Delivery to Community	01/11/2014	04/11/2014	TBC following report completion

Preliminary results/discussion

The community identified for a CRI with NWRT funding was Coral Harbour. To date, community consultations have taken place and community support has been obtained. Interviews are scheduled to take place in Coral Harbour February 10th-14th, 2014. Following the interviews, all data will be entered into an electronic database, map digitization will take place and species maps will be created. Following this, a final report summarizing this data will be composed and presented to NWMB by September 30th, 2014 as per NWRT funding guidelines.

Reporting to communities/resource users

Please see the below table for an updated schedule of consultations.

Community / HTO	Before research	During research	Completion of research
Community identified: Coral Harbour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Initial HTO contact made-Community project support received Nov 25, 2013-Continued communications with HTO prior to interviews	-In-community interviews scheduled for February 10 th – 14 th	-Post-project presentation (date TBD following report completion)