

**Qikiqtaaluk Musk Oxen Management Plan  
Consultation Summary  
March 13-20, 2012**

This round of consultations took place in March 2012 in the Qikiqtaaluk communities of Arctic Bay, Resolute, and Grise Fiord. The purpose of the consultations was to determine support for the draft management plan in general terms (as well as for a draft management plan for Peary caribou) and to obtain specific local knowledge to facilitate redrafting to include HTO input and concerns. These specifics include potential management unit boundaries, traditional and current use, and information on historic and current trends.

The sessions varied in length based on how prevalent Musk oxen (MX) were locally and by the number of Board members that could attend. The meetings were all positive with all HTO's expressing interest in participating in development of the management plan as well as an interest in ensuring long term sustainability of MX.

**Arctic Bay HTO**

March 13, 2012

GN - Chris Hotson, Peter Hale

HTO Board: Qaumayuq Oyukuluk, Adrian Arnauyumayuq, Josia Akpaliapik, Koonark Enoogoo, Paul Ejangiaq, Jack Willie Sec/Manager

Chris introduced the topic and gave a short PowerPoint presentation (attached) that introduces the management plan, the history of the initiative, the purpose of the plan, and an overview of content. This was followed by discussion and feedback.

Specific discussion took place around the following issues;

- 1) Do the proposed boundaries make sense?
  - Island groups make sense
  - general support from the board for boundaries
  - Discussion looked at needs for monitoring capability, so survey scale and harvest/use
  
- 2) Are musk oxen a preferred species to harvest or a species that is taken by opportunity?
  - They are taken opportunistically and Arctic bay has tags for Devon Island but it can be hard to get there.
  - Would like to be able to harvest more, particularly Somerset Island and small island at tip of Boothia Peninsula but Resolute will not give any tags. This is a traditional whale hunting area and Musk ox are seen here annually during whale hunts but currently they cannot harvest

- 3) Are harvest levels same now as in the past?
  - Historically Devon Island has been over hunted ( not clear on if this was Inuit or commercial harvest)
  - harvest is not currently meeting current TAH on Devon due to difficulty in access
- 4) Is there support for harvest reporting and sample submission?
  - Yes, may require some fee for sample
- 5) Is there interest in participating in community ground based surveys?
  - Yes (this would allow for combined surveys with Peary caribou) and potentially generate knowledge for other species
  -

Other issues suggested by HTO;

- Put in a status and trend table,
- Should we keep a caliber restriction? Answer, yes keep it in, .243 minimum
- Would like to see language included about commercial harvest

### **Resolute HTO**

March 16, 2012,

GN-Chris Hotson, Peter Hale

NTI-Glenn Williams

HTO Board: Jaypetee Akeeagok, Aksajuk Ningiuk, Charlie Noah, Larry Audlaluk, Jopee kiguktak, Mark Akeeagok Sec/Manager

Chris introduced the topic and gave a short PowerPoint presentation (attached) that introduces the management plan, the history of the initiative, the purpose of the plan, and an overview of content. This was followed by discussion and feedback.

Specific discussion took place around the following issues;

- 1) Do the proposed boundaries make sense?
  - Island groups make sense
  - general support from the board for boundaries
  - Western Devon maybe should be part of Bathurst Island group as MX move from Cornwallis to Devon on the ice.
- 2) Are musk oxen a preferred species to harvest or a species that is taken by opportunity?
  - Opportunistically now
  - Would like to be able to harvest more, particularly Cornwallis Island
- 3) Are harvest levels same now as in the past?

- In 1970's only 3 musk ox now there are too many on Prince of Wales and Somerset Island
- Report data from 2001-2003 is misleading, want a new count
- Proposed TAH at 3% harvest rate is too low
- Not currently using all tags

4) Is there support for harvest reporting and sample submission?

- Yes
- Glenn raised a point that sample submission and harvest reporting is not an imposition but a responsibility under the land claim

5) Is there interest in participating in community ground based surveys?

- Yes general support (in conjunction with concurrent Peary caribou surveys)

Other issues suggested by HTO;

- HTO will ask community how many MX they would like to harvest

### **Grise Fiord HTO**

March 20, 2012

GN-Chris Hotson, Peter Hale

NTI-Glenn Williams

Hto Board: Philip Manik Sr., Paddy Aqiatasuk, Allie Salluviniq, Norman Idlout, David Kalluk, Simon Idlout, Nancy Amarualik Sec/Manager

Chris introduced the topic and gave a short PowerPoint presentation (attached) that introduces the management plan, the history of the initiative, the purpose of the plan, and an overview of content.

This was followed by discussion and feedback.

1) Do the proposed boundaries make sense?

- Island groups make sense
- Should not be called Qikiqtaalik management plan as there are no MX on Baffin Island, however plan is named by the region
- Have seen increased numbers to the north

2) Are musk oxen a preferred species to harvest or a species that is taken by opportunity?

- They are a targeted species but hard to reach sometimes under current rules, and cannot hunt near town when they are there.

3) Is there support for harvest reporting and sample submission?

- No intention of creating HTO bylaws to gather harvest numbers
- Glenn raised a point that sample submission and harvest reporting is not an imposition but a responsibility under the land claim

- 4) Is there interest in participating in community ground based surveys?
- Yes but the use of personal skidoos is a concern as it is difficult to purchase and repair them

Other issues suggested by HTO;

- Include HTO in section 3.2 on research statement
- Edit to reflect NLCA, specifically section 5.3 should come from Sect 5.1.5 of the NLCA
- Narwhal where a bigger concern than MX at the time
- There are safety concerns with MX being too close to town, want to be able to harvest in this area