Proposed Modifications to the Total Allowable Harvests for Eclipse Sound and Admiralty Inlet Narwhal Management Units

Presentation to NWMB Public Hearing
November 28-29, 2016
Pond Inlet, Nunavut



Presentation Outline

1. Background: Review current co-management approach for Baffin Bay narwhal stocks.

- 2. Request for NWMB Decision
 - Science Advice to support DFO's proposal
 - Community Consultations

3. Next Steps (winter 2016/2017).

Background: Narwhal Management Plan (2013)

Baffin Bay Population <ペ° <△Γ いんしょくしょ

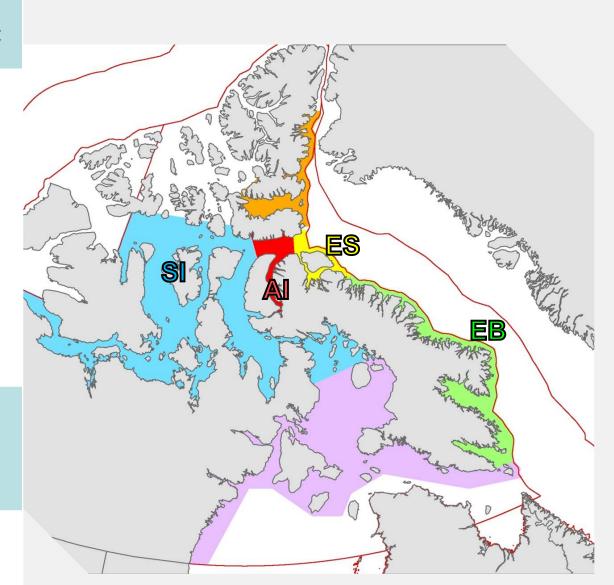
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 Somerset Island

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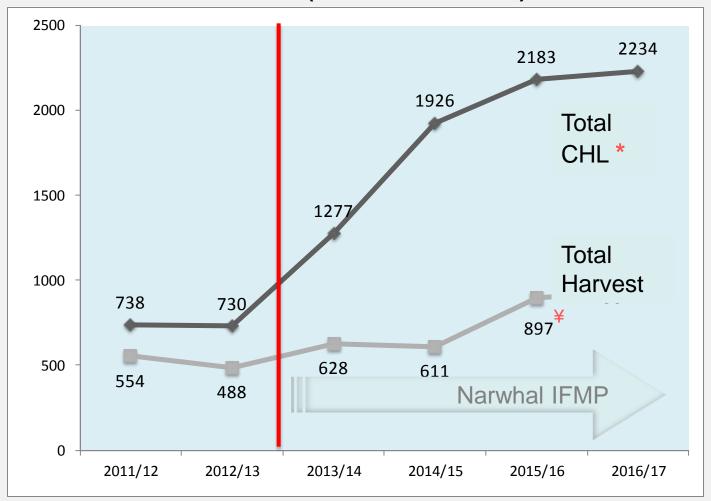
ES Cイクケ% 「「COLCー%」「Eclipse Sound

EB ხჲ∿ჲ∿Ⴑσ ˤρρˤⴰᢏ៎ລ< East Baffin

NHB トイペーペレケ Cイトゲイイ Northern Hudson Bay



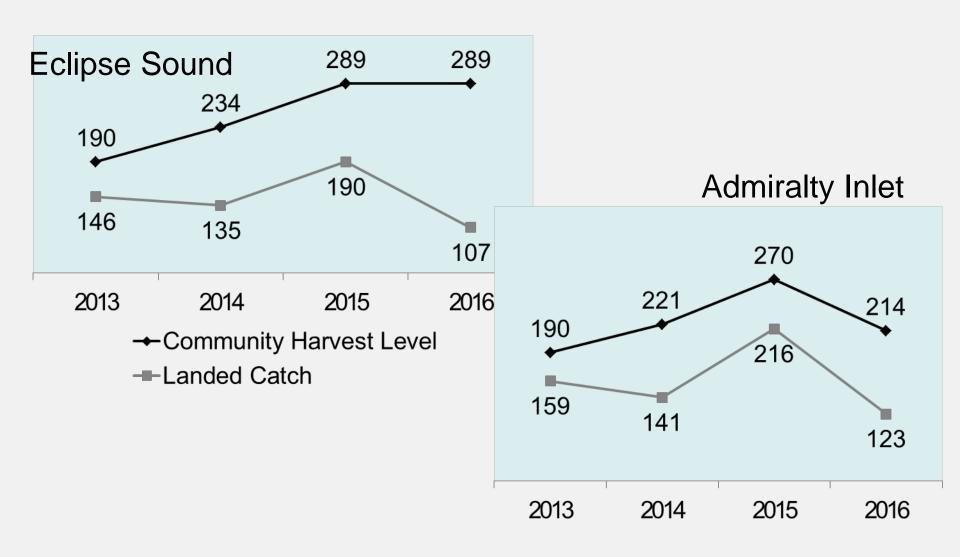
Background: Total Harvest of Baffin Bay Narwhal in Nunavut (2011-2015)



^{*} Community Harvest Limits (CHL) for 2014, 2015 and 2016 include carryover numbers of 649, 906 and 947, respectively.

[¥] Includes humane harvest of 229 entrapped narwhal in Eclipse Sound, December 2015.

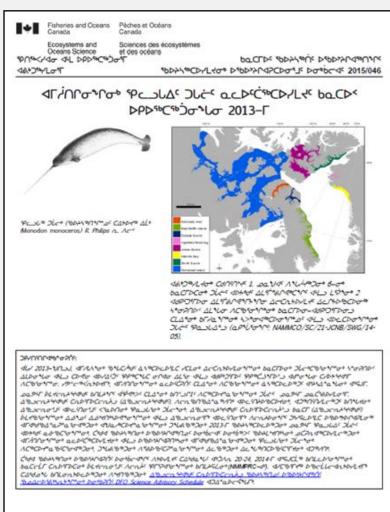
Background: Narwhal Harvests from Eclipse Sound and Admiralty Inlet (2013-2016)



Request for NWMB Decision: Supporting Science Advice

2013 Aerial Survey

- Total abundance estimate for BB narwhal is higher than previous estimates – ~141,900
- First abundance estimates for Jones Sound and Smith Sound stocks
- New estimates for Eclipse
 Sound and Admiralty Inlet
 suggest a change in narwhal
 distribution and/or stock
 uncertainty



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2013 Aerial Survey Results: Baffin Bay Narwhal Stock Abundance

Narwhal Stock (Management Unit)	Previous Abundance Estimate (year)	2013 Abundance Estimate
Somerset Island (SI)	45,358 (1996)	49,768
Admiralty Inlet (AI)	18,049 (2010)	35,043
Eclipse Sound (ES)	20,255 (2004)	10,489
East Baffin Island (EBI)	10,073 (2003)	17,555
Unassigned (Jones Sound)	n/a	12,694
Unassigned (Smith Sound)	n/a	16,360

2013 Aerial Survey Results: Baffin Bay Narwhal Stocks – new TAH advice

Narwhal Stock (Management Unit)	Current TAH*	New TAH Advice
Somerset Island (SI)	532	658
Admiralty Inlet (AI)	233	389
Eclipse Sound (ES)	236	134
East Baffin Island (EBI)	122	206
Unassigned (Jones Sound)	50 **	76
Unassigned (Smith Sound)	50 **	77
TOTAL	1173	1540

^{*} established by the NWMB in 2013 and approved by the Minister of DFO

^{**} while there is no TALC, the Minister did approve a TAH of 50 for both areas

Community Consultation April 2016



- □ HTO representatives from Ikajutit (Arctic Bay), Mittimatalik (Pond Inlet), Nangmautaq (Clyde River), and Nattivak (Qikiqtarjuaq) and their RWO (Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board)
- □ Each HTO meeting was followed by a public meeting

Community Consultation April 2016

- □ Approximately 20-25 participants attended public meetings in each community.
- ☐ Community members and harvesters shared Inuit and local knowledge and expertise related to narwhal management and harvesting.

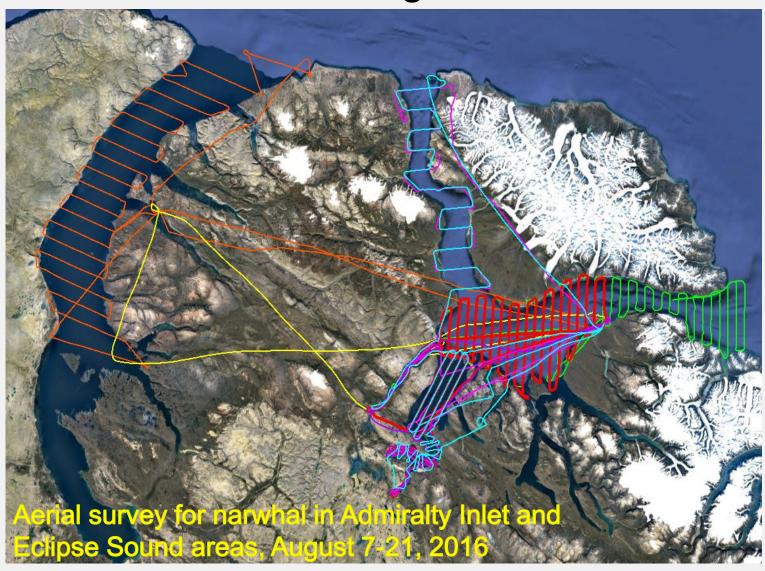




Sustainable Example

Management Unit	2015 Summer Catch Prop.	EXAMPLE Summer Catch Prop.	2015 Base Tag Allocation	EXAMPLE Tag Allocation
Somerset Island	N/A	N/A	450	500
East Baffin Island: Pangnirtung and Iqaluit	N/A	N/A	60	60
East Baffin Island: Qikiqtarjuaq	35%	35%	Summer: 42 Migratory: 78	Summer: 47 Migratory: 88
East Baffin Island: Clyde River	60%	60%	Summer: 42 Migratory: 28	Summer: 51 Migratory: 34
Admiralty Inlet: Arctic Bay	66%	66%	Summer: 125 Migratory: 65	Summer: 145 Migratory: 75
Eclipse Sound: Pond Inlet	72%	50%	Summer: 137 Migratory: 53	Summer: 85 Migratory: 85

DFO Response to Community Concerns: Additional Research August 2016



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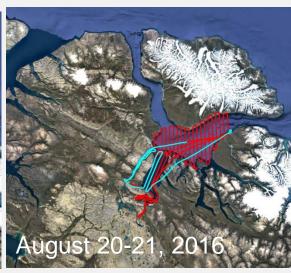
 Aerial survey for narwhal in Admiralty Inlet and Eclipse Sound areas



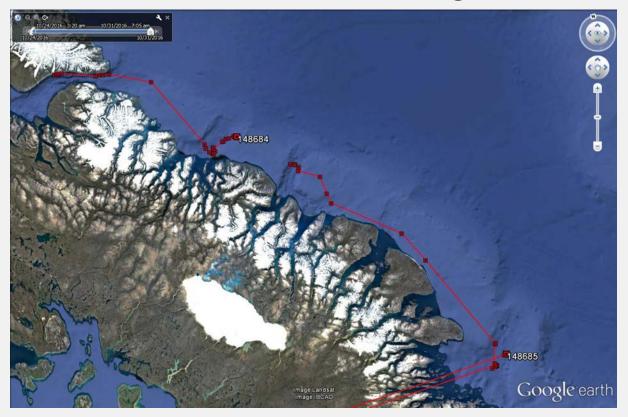








DFO Response to Community Concerns: Additional Research August 2016



 Satellite tagging of narwhal in Tremblay Sound August 2016.

CITES Non Detriment Finding (NDF)

- □ Current listing CITES Appendix II
 - A non-detriment finding (NDF) decision from the DFO Scientific Authority is required to obtain a CITES Export/Re-export permit to export narwhal products internationally.
 - Harvested narwhals from Canadian management units are not eligible for international trade if the harvest exceeds the Total Allowable Harvest (TAH) recommendation for a population.
- ☐ Scientific Authority review and Non-Detriment Finding (NDF) expected.

Next Steps – Winter 2016/2017

Science:

- □ Refine JCNB Narwhal Metapopulation Model
 - NMMPRC Review (completed Oct 2016)
 - JCNB SWG meeting (March 2017)
- Continue research to increase understanding of connection between Admiralty Inlet and Eclipse Sound Narwhal.
- Analyse the 2016 aerial survey and tagging results.

Next Steps – Winter 2016/2017

Management:

Harvest Allocation Workshop to consider tag allocation scenarios.

- NWMB Decision on DFO Request for Decision.
- □ Review of the existing CITES non-detriment finding for BB narwhal.

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