Narwhal Hunting in Nunavut – 2016/2017

Management Unit: Admiralty Inlet **Community**: Arctic Bay

Community Harvest Limit:

Community	Season	Dates	Community Harvest Limit
Arctic Bay	Summer	July 20 to Sept. 30, 2016	84
	Migratory	April 1 to July 19, 2016 Oct. 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017	130

Marine Mammal Tags

A Marine Mammal Tag is required to hunt narwhal (male or female) (Marine Mammal Regulations (*MMR*) *s. 5*).

The Marine Mammal Tag provides for harvesting of one narwhal from the Management Unit during the harvest season identified on the Marine Mammal Tag.

Hunting can only occur in the Management Unit identified on the Marine Mammal Tag.

The Marine Mammal Tags will be distributed by the HTO, to its membership prior to the hunting season.

Narwhal Management Measures

When hunting narwhal, the following measures are in place:

- Hunters are required to have all necessary equipment on hand to retrieve a hunted narwhal (*MMR s.9*)
- Hunters shall not waste any edible part of a narwhal (*MMR s.10(2)*)
- Hunters that kill or wound a narwhal shall make all reasonable efforts to retrieve it without delay, and shall not abandon or discard it (*MMR s. 10(1)*)
- Hunters shall only kill a narwhal in a manner that is designed to kill it quickly (MMR s.8)
- A narwhal calf or an adult narwhal accompanied by a calf cannot be hunted (*MMR s.18*)

- Hunters are to use a firearm with the following restrictions (*MMR s. 19*):
  - a rifle and bullets that are not full metal jacketed and produce a muzzle energy of not less than 1,500 foot pounds
  - a shotgun and rifled slugs that produce a muzzle energy of not less than 1,500 foot pounds
- Once the Community Harvest Limit has been reached, no further hunting is allowed unless authorized by the RWO, under the Tag Transfer Policy.
- The migratory season hunt will be closed when either of the following conditions is reached:
  - the Migratory Community Harvest Limit is reached (spring + fall = Migratory Community Harvest Limit) OR
  - the migratory season established by the HTO is over.
- The summer season hunt will be closed when either of the following conditions is reached:
  - the Summer Community Harvest Limit is reached OR
  - the summer season established by the HTO is over.
- Hunters are encouraged to respect local hunting rules as set by the HTO

When a Whale is Harvested

- Narwhal without a tusk
  - Marine Mammal Tag is filled out by the hunter.
  - Marine Mammal Tag is affixed to carcass by the hunter (*MMR s. 24*).
  - Marine Mammal Tag return portion is returned by the hunter to the HTO office and all harvest information is recorded by the HTO.
- Narwhal with a tusk
  - Marine Mammal Tag is filled out by the hunter, leaving tusk length blank.
  - Tusk is removed from skull by the hunter[1]
  - Tusk and Marine Mammal Tag are brought to the Conservation, Fishery, or RCMP (Designated) Officer for tusk measurement. This is an important step toward eliminating tusk length irregularities which may prevent some tusks from being sold/traded.
  - The Designated Officer will measure the tusk, record the tusk length on the Marine Mammal Tag and then sign the Marine Mammal Tag for certification.

[1] Harvesters wishing to have the tusk remain in the skull must have this reported on the Marine Mammal Tag Return portion and harvest reporting form. For example "tusk was measured while in the skull."