



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada
Pêches et Océans
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Central and Arctic Region

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June 2, 2014

Subject: Public Consultations Regarding an Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for Atlantic Walrus in the Nunavut Settlement Area

The Department of Fisheries & Oceans Canada (DFO) and Co-Management Organizations have been developing an Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (or Management Plan) for Atlantic Walrus in the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA). A consultation process is currently being undertaken to obtain the views of Inuit, co-management organizations, interested stakeholders and the general public on the draft Management Plan.

Walrus Working Groups, made up of members for local Hunter & Trapper Organizations, Regional Wildlife Organizations, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and DFO, were established for the High Arctic and Foxe Basin to initiate the development of the Management Plan. The Management Plan will identify the main objectives and requirements for the Atlantic walrus fishery in the Nunavut Settlement Area, as well as the management measures that will be used to achieve these objectives. It will provide a common understanding for the sustainable management of walrus stocks.

The Management Plan will propose some changes to management for four walrus stocks where there is new science advice. In-person consultations are planned for May 28-June 4, 2014 for the communities that harvest walrus from these stocks.

Currently, there are no changes being proposed to walrus management for the South and East Hudson Bay or the Hudson Bay-Davis Strait stocks, as there is no recent science advice. Therefore, a written consultation process is underway to give other Nunavut walrus harvesting communities, stakeholders and the general public opportunity to provide their views and comments to inform the final draft Management Plan and the proposed changes to the walrus management regime.

Consultation process for Nunavut Walrus Harvesting Communities

Public consultations regarding the draft Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for Atlantic walrus in the Nunavut Settlement Area will have both an in-person and a written component as identified in Table 1.

Table 1. Consultation process for the draft Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for Atlantic Walrus in the Nunavut Settlement Area.

Population	Stock	Proposed Management Unit	Nunavut Walrus Harvesting Communities	Type of Consultation Process and Date of Meeting
High Arctic	Baffin Bay	AW-01	Grise Fiord	In-person; May 31, 2014
	West Jones Sound	AW-02	Grise Fiord	In-person; May 31, 2014
	Penny Strait-Lancaster Sound	AW-03	Resolute Bay	In-person; May 30, 2014
			Arctic Bay	In-person; May 29, 2014
			Pond Inlet	In-person; May 28, 2014
Central Arctic	Northern Foxe Basin	AW-04	Igloolik	In-person; June 2, 2014
	Central Foxe Basin		Hall Beach	In-person; June 3, 2014
	Hudson Bay-Davis Strait	AW-05	Clyde River Qikiqtarjuaq Iqaluit Pangnirtung Arviat Cape Dorset Chesterfield Inlet Coral Harbour Kimmirut Rankin Inlet Resolute Bay Whale Cove	Written
Unknown	South and East Hudson Bay	AW-06	Sanikiluaq	Written

Through this letter, we invite your community members to participate in this consultation process. Please provide your written responses (see below for email, fax and address options), in English and Inuktitut, by no later than 5:00pm (DST) on July 15, 2014. Please clearly mark your comments with “Walrus Consultations 2014” so that we are sure to receive them.

If you have questions, comments, or require further information, please contact me directly.

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Attachment: Public Consultation Workbook for the Proposed Integrated Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Walrus in the Nunavut Settlement Area)

c.c.: Jim Noble, Chief Executive Officer, Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
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Gabriel Nirlungayuk, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Scott Gilbert, A/ Regional Director Fisheries Management, C & P, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
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