

**SUBMISSION TO THE**  
**NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD**  
**March 2014**

**FOR**

**Information: X**

**Decision:**

**Issue:** Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Operational Updates.

**Updates:**

**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT:**

**Staffing:**

- Jenna Kayakjuak joined Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) in January as a Senior Zone Officer, Licences Delivery.
- Joanna Panipak also joined DFO in November 2013 as a Fisheries Technician.

**Marine Mammals:**

**1) Narwhal:**

- Implementation of year 2 of the Narwhal Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) was discussed during post-season reviews at each of the three Regional Wildlife Organization's (RWOs) Annual General Meetings in October and November 2014.
- DFO Staff presented material to guide the conversation which included: reviewing harvest reporting requirements, issues and concerns from the 2014 harvest season, the tusk certification process, the interim flex-quota system and planning for the 2015/16 narwhal harvest season.
- In general there were far fewer issues than during the first year of implementing the new narwhal management regime; however, a number of Hunters and Trappers Organization (HTO) representatives stated that they would appreciate continued and increased in-person support from DFO officials.
- This is very busy time for our marine mammal technician, who is continuing to work with HTOs and RWOs to verify the harvest statistics from the 2014/15 narwhal season.

**2) Walrus:**

- Coral Harbour, Igloolik, Hall Beach, and Pangnirtung were approved for a total of 66 walrus sport hunts in 2014. A total of 13 licences were issued to sport hunters.

### **Arctic Char:**

#### 1) Pangnirtung Arctic Char Fishery:

- The 2015 Arctic Char Winter Fishery in Cumberland Sound commenced in January.

#### 2) Cambridge Bay Arctic Char Fishery:

- The Integrated Fisheries Management Plan Working Group continued to work towards meeting the objectives and addressing the issues identified in the IFMP through an annual post-season meeting in January 2015.

#### 3) Exploratory Arctic Char Fisheries:

- We are expecting active exploratory Arctic Char Fisheries in Pangnirtung, Qikiqtarjuaq, Igloolik, and Coral Harbour in winter 2015.

### **Greenland Halibut:**

#### 1) Cumberland Sound Turbot Management Area:

- The licence for the Cumberland Sound ice fishery was issued to the Pangnirtung HTO on January 8, 2015.
- DFO and fish plant staff met with ice Turbot harvesters, representatives of Cumberland Sound Fisheries, Pangnirtung Fisheries, Pangnirtung HTO, and Government of Nunavut in Pangnirtung on January 14, 2015 for a preseason meeting to discuss management of the fishery. The meeting was well attended and fish harvesters raised many questions and comments.

#### 2) Offshore:

- In 2014, 7939t of Greenland Halibut (Turbot) was harvested by Nunavut allocation holders in NAFO Division 0A (Baffin Bay). In accordance with the Quota Reconciliation program, a 42t overrun will be reconciled against individual organizations' 2015 allocations.
- In NAFO Division 0B (Davis Strait), 3250t of Greenland Halibut were harvested by Nunavut allocation holders. In accordance with the Quota Reconciliation program, a 36t overrun will be reconciled against individual organizations' 2015 allocations.

### **Northern Shrimp:**

- About 2t of *Pandalus borealis* shrimp was harvested in Shrimp Fishing Area
- (SFA) Davis Strait east of 63°W, by recipients of Nunavut Shrimp sub-allocations.
- In SFA Nunavut east of 66°W (Resolution Island Area), about 216t of *P. montagui* shrimp was harvested by recipients of Nunavut Shrimp sub-allocations; the quota is 301t. About 163t of *P. borealis* shrimp was harvested as by-catch; the by-catch limit is 183t.

- In SFA Nunavut west of 66°W (Hudson Strait), about 2929t of *P. montagui* shrimp, and about 391t of *P. borealis* shrimp, were harvested by recipients of Nunavut Shrimp sub-allocations; quotas are 2930t and 1040t, respectively.
- SFA Nunavut quotas have been harvested in SFA Nunavut as well as in SFA Nunavik, as per the joint Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) and Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board (NMRWB) recommendation for a three year term. The season for these fishing areas is April 1 – March 31; however, no fishing has occurred since November 2014.
- The Nunavut sub-allocations in SFA Nunavut east of 66°W (Resolution Island Area) and SFA Nunavut west of 66°W (Hudson Strait) were decided for 2014 only, so a new sub-allocation decision will be required for 2015.

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