

SUBMISSION TO THE
NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD
March 2018

FOR

Information: X

Decision:

Issue: Fisheries and Oceans Canada Update – *Oceans Act* Marine Protected Areas

Updates:

In June 2016, Canada announced a five-point plan to reach its national and international marine conservation targets (MCTs), which includes the establishment of additional Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The purpose of establishing MPAs is to afford protection to important fish and marine mammal habitats, endangered marine species and their habitats, unique features, and/or areas of high biological productivity or biodiversity. The first step in this process is to identify Areas of Interest (AOIs).

Consultations on AOIs:

- As was previously briefed to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB), an AOI Working Group carried out consultations with the Hunters and Trappers Associations and community members in the vicinity of the nine potential AOIs (three in each Nunavut region).
- As was previously briefed to the NWMB, Oceans staff provided overviews and updates at the Annual General Meetings of the Kivalliq Wildlife Board and the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board. Since the last briefing, the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board was also provided an overview and update presentation.
- In the fall and winter, Oceans staff provided similar overview and update presentations to the Kivalliq Inuit Association and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association Boards respectively. These presentations included Fisheries and Oceans' request for an Area of Interest Recommendation from the Boards, as suggested from the AOI Working Group. DFO is still working with the Regional Inuit Association Boards on next steps to receive the recommendations.
- A draft report summarizing these consultations has been updated to include the Rankin Inlet consultation that occurred in October 2017, and will be provided to the NWMB.

Prepared by: Central and Arctic Region – Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Oceans Program
Date: February 2, 2018