

Muskox distribution and abundance in Muskox Management Unit, MX09, West of the Coppermine River

**Kugluktuk HTO** 

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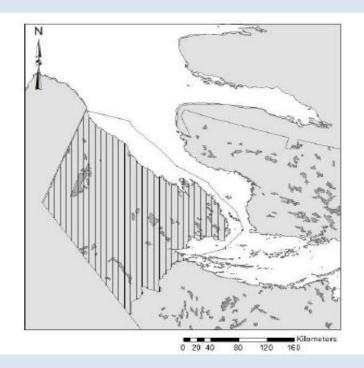
The Government of Nunavut would like to:

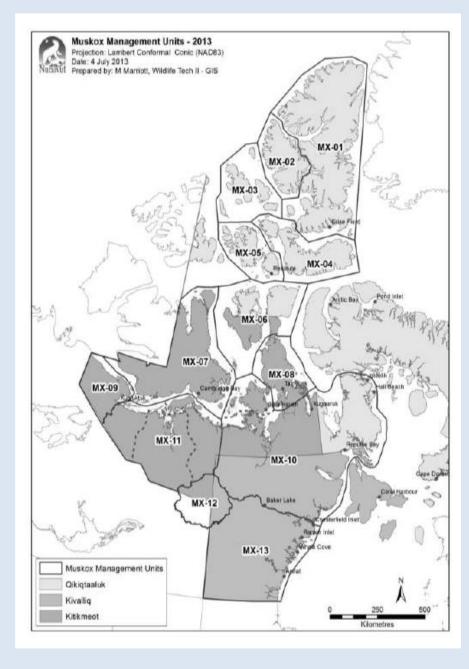
### GN-DoE would like to inform the Board of the progress in research and monitoring on the Muskox Management Unit MX-09 in 2017, and provide current management recommendations



# **Survey Area**

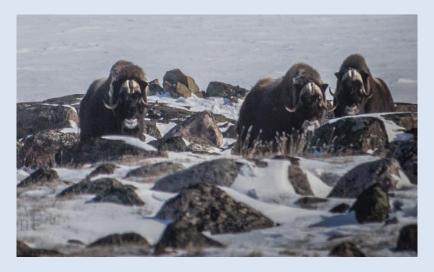
- MX-09, last estimate of 2007 was 598 muskoxen, with 159 adults on transect.
- Concerns, hunters seem to go harvesting muskox in the area to compensate for the lack of caribou.

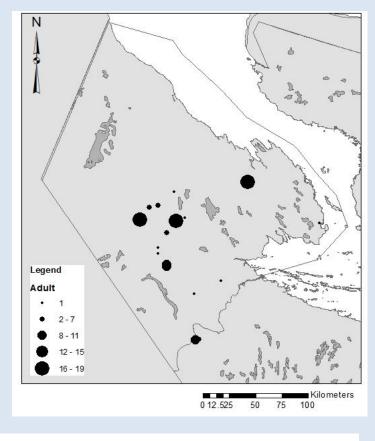




# Monitoring

- Survey completed on August 25 to September 02, 2017 (16% coverage)
- 103 adults counted and 87 on transect
- 58% of the groups were small groups, of 2 to 11 adults
- The calf to adult muskox ration was 38 calves/100 adults





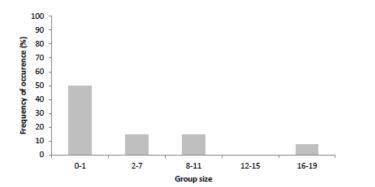
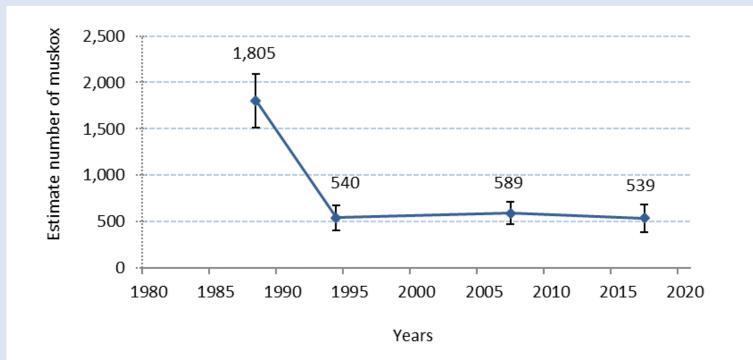


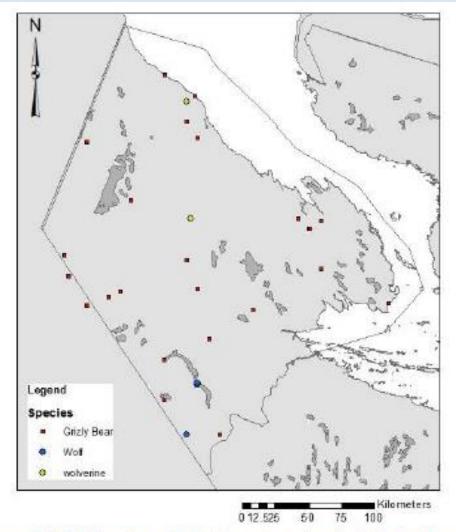
Figure 5: Frequency of occurrence (%) of adult muskox number per group size, grouped as follow 0-1, 2-7, 8-11, 12-15, and 16-19.

## MX09, 2017 population estimate

#### Muskox number seems to be stable, since 1995, with an estimate of 539 ± 150 SE



### **Predators**





## **Managements - Discussion**

What is the HTO's management objective?

Are all tags being filled?

What is the community need?





#### **Government of Nunavut recommendations**

Based on survey results and community and HTO consultations, the following, current recommendation is made for managing muskoxen in Muskox Management Unit MX-09:

The Department of Environment is recommending to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board to maintain a TAH of 20 for the Muskox Management Unit MX-09.