

Integrated Fishery Management Plan for Walrus in the Nunavut Settlement Area



What do the proposed changes mean for hunters?

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Outline

The purpose of this session is to discuss:

- Development of the Walrus Management Plan
- Management measures:
 - Existing
 - New
- What do the proposed changes mean for hunters?

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Why do we need changes to walrus management?

- Increased national and international interest in how the walrus fishery in Nunavut is managed.
- Demonstrate sustainable harvesting.
- Strengthen walrus co-management consistent with NLCA wildlife harvesting and management provisions
- Incorporate best available scientific and Inuit knowledge.

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Development of the Management Plan

Walrus Working Groups were formed to lead the development of the Management Plan. Members include:

- Regional Wildlife Organization (QWB): Co-Chair
- Local Hunters & Trappers Organizations (HTO): Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, Hall Beach, Igloolik, Pond Inlet, Resolute Bay
- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
- Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (participants)
- DFO: Co-Chair
- Other invited participants: Elders, Industry, QIA



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Walrus Working Groups

- The goal of the Working Group is to develop a Management Plan that identifies the main objectives, management measures and requirements for a sustainable walrus fishery in the Nunavut Settlement Area.



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Management Measures for Sustainable Harvesting:

New Measures

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Proposed Boundaries for Walrus Management Units



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Stewart, B., and Higdon, J. (authors of draft COSEWIC Status Report on Atlantic Walrus in Canada – draft report in preparation 2014)

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Proposed Harvest Levels and Allocation System

Recommended Harvest Levels (Total Allowable Landed Catch)

Population	Stock(s)	Management Unit	Survey year	Abundance estimate highest adjusted	PBR/TAR highest adjusted	TALC Range of struck and lost rates		
						15%	23%	30%
High Arctic	Baffin Bay	AW-01	2009	1,251	11	9	8	8
	West Jones Sound	AW-02	2008	503	8 (17)	7 (14) ¹	6 (13) ¹	6 (12) ¹
	Penny Strait-Lancaster Sound	AW-03	2009	727	12 (24) ¹	10 (20) ¹	9 (18) ¹	8 (16) ¹
Central Arctic	Northern Foxe Basin	AW-04	2011	10, 379 (13, 452)	135 (166) ²	115 (141) ²	104 (128) ²	95 (116) ²
	Central Foxe Basin							
	Hudson Bay-Davis Strait	AW-05	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	South and East Hudson Bay	AW-06	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Using a Recovery Factor of 1.0 in the PBR calculation.² Assuming the tagging data from a single haul-out was representative of other haul-outs in Foxe Basin.

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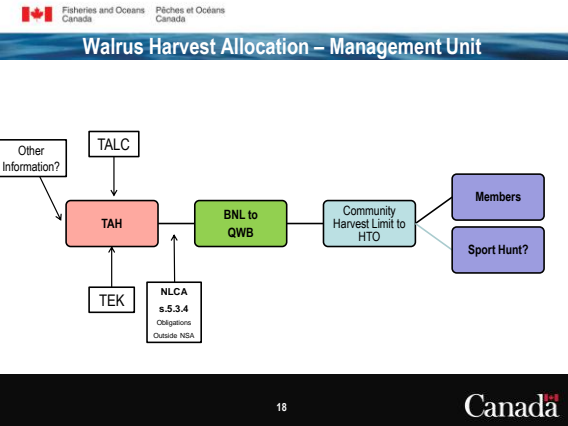
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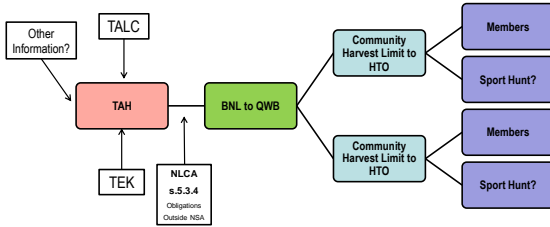
Landed Catch (Subsistence Harvests and Licensed Sport Hunts) of Walrus in Nunavut, 1997-2012

Landed Catch (Subsistence Harvests and Licensed Sport Hunts) of Walrus in Nunavut, 1997-2012																						
Community	Quota		2003/04		2004/05		2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13	
	Sp	Sb	Sp	Sb	Sp	Sb	Sp	Sb	Sp	Sb	Sp	Sb	Sp	Sb	Sp	Sb	Sp	Sb	Sp	Sb	Sp	Sb
Groise Fjord	-	-	7	-	0	-	2	-	0	-	4	NR	-	7	-	2	-	4	-	NR	-	NR
Total AW-01 & AW-02	-	-	7	-	0	-	2	-	0	-	4	NR	-	7	-	2	-	4	-	NR	-	NR
Arctic Bay	-	-	0	-	1	-	NR	-	0	-	1	-	NR	-	0	-	1	-	0	-	0	-
Pond Inlet	-	-	1	-	0	-	1	-	0	-	0	-	NR	-	NR	-	3	-	0	-	0	-
Rosolute Bay	-	-	6	-	4	-	1	-	0	-	1	-	NR	-	2	-	3	-	0	-	2	-
Total AW-03	-	-	7	-	5	-	2	-	0	-	2	-	0	-	2	-	7	-	2	-	2	-
Hall Beach	-	-	1	87	NR	100	3	75	4	100	-	36	-	33	NR	70	0	36	2	33	1	107
Iqloolik	-	-	14	87	10	NR	12	100	2	104	NR	54	11	74	-	89	-	141	6	95	4	107
Total AW-04	-	-	15	174	10	NR	12	100	2	104	NR	54	11	74	-	89	-	141	6	95	4	107

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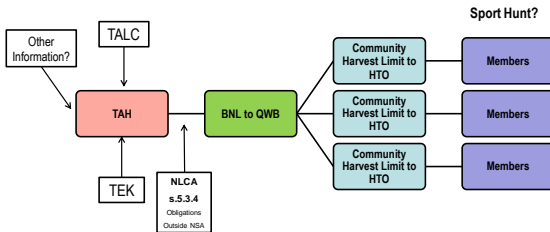
Walrus Harvest Allocation – Management Unit



SUM Community Harvest Limits = Basic Needs Level

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Walrus Harvest Allocation – Management Unit



SUM Community Harvest Limits = AW-03 Basic Needs Level

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Walrus Harvest Tags

- Walrus Working Group discussed options for ensuring effective management/allocation of new harvest levels.
- A type of harvest tag was suggested.
- A Walrus Harvest Tag would be similar to that currently used for other species.
- A Walrus Harvest Tag would not be a licence to hunt and would be issued without fee or administrative charge.

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Walrus Harvest Tags

- Walrus Harvest Tags would be provided to the RWO for each Management Unit.
- The RWO would allocate the Walrus Harvest Tags to the HTOs.
- The HTOs would allocate the Walrus Harvest Tags to their members.

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Walrus Harvest Tags

- Walrus hunters would pick up a Walrus Harvest Tag from the HTO office.
- Each Walrus Harvest Tag would provide for harvesting of one walrus (male or female or calf) in a specific Management Unit.
- Hunting could occur at any time during the year established by the HTO (e.g. Jan.1-Dec. 31 or April 1- March 31)

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WALRUS HARVEST TAG: AW-01-2014-001	WALRUS HARVEST TAG: AW-01-2014-001
Keep for personal record (MMR s. 17)	Return to HTO for validation
MANAGEMENT UNIT: AW-01	MANAGEMENT UNIT: AW-01
This Walrus Harvest Tag validates the harvest of one (1) walrus at any time between Jan 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015 for Management Unit AW-01.	This Walrus Harvest Tag validates the harvest of one (1) walrus at any time between Jan 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015 for Management Unit AW-01.
Sex: Male Female	Sex: Male Female
Age: Adult Juvenile Calf	Age: Adult Juvenile Calf
Struck & Sunk: No Yes Number:	Struck & Sunk: No Yes Number:
Date Harvested:	Date Harvested:
Location Harvested:	Location Harvested:
Hunter Name:	Hunter Name:
Hunter Signature:	Hunter Signature:

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Closures

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When is Hunting Over?

1. Once the Community Harvest Limit has been reached, no further hunting is allowed, unless authorized by the RWO.
 - The RWO may approve the transfer of Walrus Harvest Tags between communities in the same Management Unit.
 - If approved, additional Walrus Harvest Tags will be provided to the HTO, by the RWO, to allow hunting of additional walrus.
2. When the sum of the Community Harvest Limits for a particular Management Unit is reached, no further hunting is allowed; **or**
3. When the Hunt Season is over

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Harvest Reporting

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Harvest Reporting

Once a walrus is harvested the following procedures would be followed:

- Walrus Harvest Tag is filled out by the hunter
- Hunter returns the appropriate portion of the Walrus Harvest Tag to the HTO office.
- Hunter keeps the appropriate portion of the Walrus Harvest Tag.
- Other information required?

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HTO Harvest Reporting

- The HTO records all harvest information from hunters and:
 - Provides DFO with a completed summary of Walrus Harvest Tag Returns (monthly and at the end of each hunt season)
 - Advises the RWO and DFO when the Community Harvest Limit is reached
 - Returns all used and unused Walrus Harvest Tags to DFO for verification and reconciliation once the hunt season is over.

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Information Booklets

DFO will develop an information booklet annually which will identify:

- Community Harvest Limits
- Walrus Harvest Tag requirements
- Management Measures
- Harvest Reporting procedures
- Export procedures
- HTOs should send out these information booklets to all walrus hunters prior to the hunting season and with Walrus Harvest Tag allocations.


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Walrus Hunting in the Nunavut
Settlement Area

DRAFT

EW-01

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Comments or questions?

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