



FISHERIES JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Fisheries Joint Management Committee

Issue Number

Dear Kayla,

3

Well it's issue 3 already! I just wanted to take this opportunity to give my appologies for the delay in the June/July newsletter. It has been a busy couple of months and some technical difficulties have caused me to fall a little behind in my editorial duties. I will aim to be on the ball better in the future. This issue will include articles on some of the FJMC's major dealings in the past months, some of which include the FJMC recommendation to the Senate Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans regarding the management of fish, marine mammals in the ISR, the Inuvialuit - Inupiat Beluga Whale Commission meeting and the FJMC June Tour overview. Hope you all enjoy the read!!

Sincerely,
Kayla Hansen-Craik
Joint Secretariat

In This Issue

[FJMC speaks to the Senate](#)
[I - IBWC Meeting](#)
[June Tour Wraps Up](#)
[Next FJMC Meeting](#)

June Tour Wraps Up

The June Tour of the FJMC brought the members to the Aklavik, Tuktoyaktuk and Sachs Harbour where they updated the communities on ISR wide issues, community specific topics and various projects currently in process for the FJMC. The tour got off to a busy start with a visit to Aklavik and meetings with the AHTC and West Side Working Group and Community consultation in collaboration with the GRRB on the Dolly Varden Integrated Fisheries Management Plan. Then it was off to Tuktoyaktuk! The major topics discussed in the community included the re-designed Beluga Monitoring Program now known as the Fish and Marine Mammal Community Monitoring Program and the

FJMC Heads to Ottawa

FJMC Speaks to the Senate



Senate meets with residents of Inuvik

One of the benefits of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement is that it gives the FJMC the responsibility for providing advice and recommendations on fisheries and marine mammals directly to the federal government. In May of 2010 the Senate Sub-Committee on Fisheries and Oceans issued a report on the fisheries of the western Arctic. On October 6th, 2009 FJMC Chair Vic Gillman, Inuvialuit Member Max Kotokak and Canada Member Burton Ayles met with the Senate sub-committee and made several recommendations related to fish and marine mammal issues in the ISR. The FJMC input was very well received and several of the recommendations in the Senate report came almost directly from the FJMC.

Recommendations that the Senate committee has made to the government and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans that are particularly important to the ISR and to Inuvialuit hunters and fishers include:

- Incorporate traditional knowledge into government decision-making processes including assessments made by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada.
- Implement an adequately funded cumulative effects monitoring program for the Mackenzie River as proposed by the Mackenzie Gas project Joint Review Panel.
- Develop an agreement giving the Inuvialuit a key role in deciding on any future commercial fishing activity in the ISR including the allocation of commercial quotas.
- Develop, in concert with the Inuvialuit, a policy regarding future commercial fishing in the Beaufort Sea.
- Fund a multi-year, multi-species ecosystem research program and a fisheries assessment program for the Beaufort Sea.
- Discuss co-operation with the United States on a common approach to fisheries and ecosystem studies in the US and Canadian portions of the Beaufort Sea.

This recognition of Inuvialuit input into this report shows how the IFA has given the FJMC and Inuvialuit special opportunities and responsibilities for protection and management of fish and marine mammals in the ISR.

Copies of the FJMC input to the Senate committee are available from http://www.parl.gc.ca/40/2/paribus/commbus/senate/Com-e/fish-e/11evb-e.htm?Language=E&Parl=40&Ses=2&comm_id=7

Copies of the Senate report are available from <http://www.parl.gc.ca/40/3/paribus/commbus/senate/com-e/fish-e/rep-e/rep04may10-e.pdf>

Photo courtesy of Lawrence Norbert, Communications Coordinator, Gwich'in Tribal Council. Image can be found at: <http://www.parl.gc.ca/40/3/paribus/commbus/senate/com-e/fish-e/subsitemay10-e/images/images/medium/enr3.jpg>

Inuvialuit and Inupiat talk Beluga

Representatives of the Alaskan Inupiat and Inuvialuit of the Settlement Region met in Tuktoyaktuk the week of July 26 - 31 to talk Polar Bear and Beluga. They came together to share harvest information and to discuss the management of these shared resources that have high cultural value to both groups. The week kicked off with the Inuvialuit - Inuit (Nunavut) Polar Bear Commission followed by the Inuvialuit - Inupiat Polar Bear Commission meetings and ended the week with the Inuvialuit - Inupiat Beluga Whale Commission meeting which was a success. The Beluga Whale Commission meetings start with the presentations from the

Beluga sampling program off Hendrickson Island. The visit to Sachs Harbour and the meeting with the SHTC included discussions on Commercial Fisheries and communications. All in all the June tour was deemed a great success with much feedback from the Hunters and Trappers Committees. The FJMC relies on these meetings to effectively do its job and appreciates all the comments and suggestions of the HTC's.

Quick Links

- [FJMC Website](#)
- [FJMC Blog](#)
- [Email Kayla Hansen-Craik](#)

What Comes Next?

The next meeting of the FJMC will be the newly established "October Meeting". This October meeting will bring together the six HTC presidents of the ISR to Inuvik for a one day meeting with the FJMC to discuss fisheries/marine mammal issues of importance to the beneficiaries of the ISR and to develop a list of research priorities that will be used in the FJMC's decision process of allocating funds to research projects in the ISR. The FJMC would like to encourage the HTC's and community members to start thinking about the issues of importance or concern to their communities for discussion during this meeting. The FJMC is excited about meeting again and will contact your HTC office with further details.

Till we meet again!

Technical Committee, a committee formed of scientists who specialize in Beluga whales from both sides of the border then moves into the actual Commission meeting. The Canadian and United States scientists on the technical committee updated the Commission on the research being done on Beluga in their respective countries along with past and present harvest information to enable the Commission to make sound recommendations to the technical committee on research priorities and the management of the stock. The Commission is comprised of Inuvialuit and Inupiat hunters who culturally depend on Beluga for subsistence use. Some recommendations made to the Beluga whale technical committee by the Commission were:

- i. Recommend to FJMC to maintain jawbone collection under the beluga monitoring program in the Inuvialuit region and that the teeth analysis be done expeditiously.
- ii. Commissioners and relevant staff to conduct a review of the Agreement and make any recommendations for amendments to be considered at the next meeting.
- iii. Recommend developing consistent sampling techniques across the border to ensure that information is comparable.
- iv. Recommend that information on contaminants be presented to the public in such a way so as not to create panic or unnecessary concerns about it. It would also be prudent to have comparable nutritional information for store-bought foods to put the information into context.

The next meeting of the Inuvialuit - Inupiat Beluga Whale Commission will be held in Alaska, date to be announced.

Minister Prentice also visited the I-I BWC meeting and commended everyone in attendance on the important work being done by the group. Seen in picture at right with I-I BWC members.



Minister Prentice with the members of the Inuvialuit - Inupiat Beluga Whale Commission

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